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THE TIME IS NOW
Welcome to 2018-2019 AAUW-NYS year! As I step into this role, I find I am already strengthening my ties with other members. I have met and corresponded over the summer with many members, and I have learned a lot about how our organization runs behind the scenes. My days have been filled with numerous conference calls, collaborating with other non-profits, and speaking at other engagements.

There is so many exciting things happening in the world of AAUW from the National organization to our local branches. This will be a great year of supporting gender equity for women and girls through education, research and advocacy. During this administration, we will support the strategic vision of the national organization with a focus on economic security, leadership and education & training. This is the right time to act on all the work that has been started to make the lives of women in girls better in New York State. Overall, we will be working hard to find the next opportunity to reshape the lives of women in New York because:

Many branches have already started their programming and from branch newsletters, I see many exciting things happening. Have a wonderful year and mark your calendar for the state convention “Women Leaders: Facing the Future Together”, April 26-28, 2019 at the Otesega Resort Hotel in Cooperstown and remember, “the time is now”.

Janice Brown
AAUW-NYS President
YOU ARE PART OF SOMETHING BIG

In case you didn’t know it, when you join a branch, you become part of AAUW New York State.

In addition to your local branch activities, AAUW-NYS offers programs which enable you to meet AAUW members from Buffalo to Long Island.

What a wonderful group of educated and accomplished women we are! Each year in April, we come together to celebrate and update the activities of the branches at our annual New York State Convention. The next convention will be held in Cooperstown, NY. The convention will encompass general fun activities, inspirational speakers, and exciting workshops.

Also a fun Summer Leadership Conference is held each year at Cazenovia College near Syracuse, NY. You get to take part in all of the same types of activities in a very relaxed environment, while staying in a dorm room.

Our branches are organized into districts based on geographic proximity. Each District offers a yearly program, providing another opportunity to meet other AAUW members outside of your branch. So you see, you are “part of something bigger”.

Barbara Sarver
AAUW-NYS Membership VP

Jump Start program receives the MetroFund Grant

Kim Blanchet
AAUW-NYS Secretary/Bylaws

Earlier this year, the AAUW-NYS Board submitted an application for a Metro Fund grant to support a Professional Jump Start event developed in conjunction with AAUW-NYS Student Advocate, Liz Brady. Liz is a recent Colby College graduate who has served on the state board for about a year and whom has provided insight into the current day struggles facing new college graduates. Inspired by her story and upon reflection of our own current or past career experiences, we began to discuss ways in which to address the challenges emerging female professionals face as they “jump” into the workforce and how the beginning of one’s career can greatly impact their life-earning trajectory. We saw a need to provide these young women with important information surrounding the wage gap, while also providing them with effective skills to move forward into the career world with confidence.

The end result was the development of a day conference incorporating salary negotiations, motivational speakers, and skills sessions on professional and effective use of social media, developing ones resumes, interviewing, and preparing oneself for the expectations of the workplace.

We are pleased to announce that the Professional Jump Start program has received a MetroFund grant in the sum of $19,500 and we are planning to host the inaugural event at Hunter College’s The Roosevelt House in NYC on October 20, 2018. With the timing of the event falling around the same time as the district conferences, District 5 has partnered with AAUW-NYS to implement and host the event.

Over the summer, a group of AAUW members from both the Board of Directors and District 5 have been meeting regularly to finalize key...

Kim Blanchet “With a little more than one month to the special day, members are working hard to solidify plans”.

(continue page 6)
Great start by our District coordinators

District chairs have been meeting regularly by conference calls and emails. This promises to be a terrific Fall around the state with District conferences thanks to all the planning of each district chairperson.

District 1 is presenting its conference on “Youth Mental Wellness: A Whole Community Approach”. Keynote speaker and a panel discussion on youth mental wellness in response to the new policy enacted in NYS regarding mental health instruction in schools. The conference is on October 27 from 9:30 to 2:30p.m. at Jamestown Community College. For more information contact Christina Marsh christina.alesia@gmail.com.

District 2 is presenting its conference on “Emerging Political Leaders: Preparation and Process.” This event is intended to honor the late Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, a strong supporter of women’s issues and mentor of other legislators. The keynote address will be given by a recent student graduate, who served on the Rochester City School District Board of Education. The conference is on October 27 from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Monroe Community College. For more information contact Gaynelle Wethers@ gwether9@gmail.com.

District 4 took place on August 26th, Women’s Equality Day. See page 5 for more.

District 5 plans are underway. The conference will feature the AAUW Work Smart Program which is designed to help women negotiate for a new job, raise, or promotion, and also, training for the Start Smart program geared towards women just starting out in their careers. Through a grant from the Metro Fund, District 5 branches will serve as volunteers and participate in both the Work Smart and Start Smart programs. For more information contact Suzanne Young-Mercer@ smym5225@aol.com

District 6 conference will focus on “Fraud, Medicare & Immigration”. The keynote speakers include experts from AARP Fraud Watch, Medicare, and Medicaid services. The conference will be held on Saturday, October 13 from 10:00 -2:00.m. It will be held at Farmingdale State College. For more information contact Cynthia Katz @ckj1988@optonline.net

We hope that you will attend as well as encourage others to support these conferences with timely and current topics!

Gaynelle Wethers
AAUW-NYS District Director
District IV kick off year with a Parade for Women’s Equality

by Nan Scinta, AAUW Adirondack Branch

District IV started off their program year with a parade for Women’s Equality Day on August 26 on Glen Street in Glens Falls, New York. The events were organized by a committee of Adirondack AAUW members. About 125 AAUW members, other women’s organizations, and community participants walked the city block twice, behind 7 members of the Glens Falls city band. Adults and children made posters on the Equality theme, had them judged by John Strough, Queensbury Supervisor, and were awarded prizes.

Three young women won. Two candidates running for office did short speeches from the Library steps.

Following the parade, there was a brunch at the Queensbury Hotel where state AAUW President Janice Brown spoke on pay equity. Also, Alice Paul and Inez Mulholland made an appearance as well as an anti-suffragette doctor. Our district IV AAUW members were part of an audience of 79 enjoying the brunch.

The third event for the District IV conference took place at the Hyde Collection, our world famous art museum where 66 folks heard Dr. Carolyn Stanfanco, President of the College of St. Rose in Albany, spoke on Women’s Equality, especially overcoming challenges. Dr. Roberta Reardon, Director of the Department of Labor employees, talked about pay equity. The day finished with Docent tours of the Jane Peterson collection and Women Landscape artists, women who painted in the early 1900’s and were virtually forgotten as artists by their male peers. AAUW Adirondack sent the district attendees home after lemonade and cookies. All who attended had fun and were challenged by the information and possible programming ideas were presented.

2019 AAUW-NYS Convention:

The Otesaga Resort Hotel by Jean Havens

Ready for a huge helping of New York State history and culture complete with a thriving contemporary art scene and beautiful rolling hills thrown in for good measure? Plan now to soak up the elegant atmosphere at Cooperstown’s Otesaga Hotel, site of the 2019 AAUW New York State Convention, April 26-28.

This legendary 132 room hotel occupies 700 feet of lakefront on the southern shore of Lake Otsego. Made famous as “the Glimmerglass” in James Fenimore Cooper’s Leatherstocking Tales, the nine-mile-long lake is the source of the Susquehanna River.

Built by brothers and Cooperstown benefactors Edward Severin Clark and Stephen Carton Clark, the Otesaga opened in 1909 and from the start provided gracious hospitality, first-class accommodations, and fine dining. The resort boasted the latest in modern conveniences and engineering. There was, for example, a refrigerator cooled with 30 tons of ice, a telephone in each room, central heating that could be individually adjusted, and 400 windows from which visitors could admire the area’s lush surroundings.

The Clarks were no strangers to building prominent structures. They owned, for example, the famous Dakota apartment building in Manhattan’s Central Park West. Their Grandfather, Edward Cabot Clark, a lawyer, had amassed the family’s fortune by partnering with Isaac Singer, founder of the Singer Sewing Machine Company.

Today, the Otesaga resort…

(continue page 6)
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Public Policy VP – Cynthia HerrioQ, cherri4849@aol.com
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Student Advisory Chair- Elizabeth Brady, e.demingbrady@gmail.com

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AAUW-NYS Board
Mission
To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Vision
Equity for all.

Values

Attention postmaster: Dated material. Please do not delay.
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The Otosaga Hotel

... is also home to the 18-hole Leatherstocking Golf Course, rated by Condé Nast Traveler as one of the finest on the East Coast.

Stepping from the hotel’s front portico with its massive 30-feet columns, you can explore all that Cooperstown has to offer. Attractions range from the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum and the Fenimore Arts Museum to, in season, the annual Glimmerglass Festival with its rich schedule of operas and musicals.

In describing all that the area has to offer, the Sunday Times of London called it "the most magical of settings". Come to join us at the Otosaga next year to share the magic of AAUW with branch members from around the state. We’ll see you at the Farmer’s Museum’s Empire State Carousel.

Jump Start

... points of the program secure speakers and workshop presenters, hire a photographer for professional headshots, and organize a busy day to promote the future of women. The topics being presented during the event are directly correlated with AAUW National and State initiatives, including the National goal of educating 10 million women in the StartSmart program, which has been included in the one day conference.

With a little more than one month to the special day, members are working hard to solidify plans. We are always happy to have extra hands for the event to help ensure everything runs smoothly. Therefore if you are interested in volunteering for the event, please let us know! We will also need help promoting the event! Be on the look-out for information coming through our social media outlets. We ask everyone to SHARE and LIKE our event, as it will help in the distribution of information.

It is events like this one, in which everyone comes together, that shows the strength and power of our organization. With every event, we make a difference. The time is now.