

## **AAUW NYS Membership – September 14, 2011 Teleconference**

7:00 pm – 7:45 p.m.

### **I. Introduction & Opening Remarks by Maria Ellis, AAUW NYS Membership VP.**

a) Welcomed all branch members and announced that there will be a monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month from 7:00 pm to 7:45 pm. The teleconference minutes will be taken and distributed to all the AAUW NYS membership vps, presidents and treasurers and they will also be posted on our AAUW NYS website under the Membership Section. **The next scheduled meeting: October 12 at 7 pm.**

b) Maria gave a membership summary of the 7 Districts and all the branch membership numbers broken down according to total members including new members and renewals. **Maria stated that renewals are down by one-third and encouraged all the membership vps to send the branch renewal forms to Phoebe Forbes asap.** Please see attached membership renewal report prepared by Phoebe Forbes. Exhibit I.

c) Maria talked about the 7 AAUW NYS Districts and mentioned that she will be inviting Joan Monk, District Council Director to join us at our October Membership Teleconference to join efforts and to encourage branch members to actively participate and recruit new members and renewals at the upcoming Fall Conferences. Please see attached the Fall District Conferences report summary prepared by Joan Monk, District Council Director. Exhibit II.

### **II. Claudia Richards, AAUW Senior Branch Relations Manager.**

a) Mention was made about additional web tools that members can use to access on the web from home.

b) November 28<sup>th</sup> will be the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of AAUW. AAUW will continue special membership rates through June 30, 2012. For example, if a college or university joins, they will get a special \$130 rate (new members only). Please refer to the College & University Partner Membership Application to view renewal fees. There is also free membership available for undergraduate students once the college or university becomes an AAUW member. This information is available electronically with all the details. There is also a special grad student membership fee of \$18.81 through June 2012.

c) Claudia mentioned the different membership programs including (1) Shape the Future; (2) Gift a Grad a Gift of membership; (3) 50 Life Honorary Membership, etc.

d) Click the link below if you want a copy of the membership starter kit:  
[http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/branches\\_states/StarterKit.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/branches_states/StarterKit.cfm)

Site Resources link: <http://site-resources.aauw.org/>

Link to Chapter Leaders Playground: [http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/tools/playground.cfm](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/tools/playground.cfm)

e) Change in AAUW By-Laws. It is now only required that each branch have a President or Administrator, Treasurer/Financial officer and Secretary.

f) Each year AAUW does an audit to see that the branch paid their dues and to inquire if they need assistance. Branch dues report in is critical.

g) AAUW will help create a website for your branch for a nominal fee through Wordpress. The cost is about \$33 for three months for tech assistance.

### **III. Comments from Teleconference participants included:**

1. A Comment made by a member that they are losing members because of the increase in dues. People are finding it difficult to pay because of the economy.
2. A Comment was made that many members don't have computers to access the web.

### **IV. Wrap Up:**

Maria wrapped up the meeting and mentioned that the next teleconference meeting is scheduled for October 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 – 7:45pm. Maria urged to make sure each branch sends in the membership renewal reports and works hard to maintain current membership numbers and/or to increase their membership by at least 5% over the previous year.