



NYSAWAnews

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN ADMINISTRATION

Volume 3 • Number 1 • June 2009

The 19th Annual NYSAWA Conference was a Huge Success



NYSAWA Chair Dr. Susan Sciascia (right) with Keynote Presenter Juliette Powell who presented *33 Million People in the Room*

The 19th Annual NYSAWA Conference was a huge success due to the hard work and commitment of the board and affiliate members. In particular our conference chair, Brenda Harrington ensured that we had high quality presenters and a smooth-running conference. Our awards chair Kathleen Denaro made sure that we had excellent educators to recognize and our sponsorship chair, Barbara Goldammer garnered a great deal of support from our sponsors. Our affiliate members from Central New

York and Capital regions were excellent hosts for this year's. These members included Cindy Bird, Heidi Bromley, Phyllis Danks, Kathleen Denaro, Tammy Farrell, Sally Feinberg,



Dr. Suzanne Gilmour, Executive Director, NYSAWA; Consuelo Castillo Kickbush, U.S. Army Retired, President & CEO, Founder of the Family Leadership Institute, presenting *on Journey to the Future*, and Brenda Harrington, Conference Chair

York and Capital regions were excellent hosts for this year's. These members included Cindy Bird, Heidi Bromley, Phyllis Danks, Kathleen Denaro, Tammy Farrell, Sally Feinberg,



Ms. Shelia Evans-Tranum, Associate Commissioner, New York State Education Department here presenting *Reflections on Leadership and Implications*



Jean Stevens, Associate Commissioner for Instructional Support and Development, New York State Education Department

Deborah Glisson, Randi Ludwig, Linda Rae Markert, Marna Meltzer, Betsy Primo and Mary Thomas-Madonna. Many board members pitched in as session facilitators or presiders or when we needed an extra person to help with a session

or with our career consultants. Thank you to everyone for an excellent conference and we look forward to seeing you at the 20th!



NYSAWA former Board Member Dr. Mary Kinsella (right) and NYSAWA Executive Director, Suzanne Gilmour.



Legal Updates presented by Bethany Centrone, Attorney, Harter, Secrest and Emery.



A Special Thanks to our Sponsors

- Christa Construction Management
- Educational Support Services
- Harter Secrest & Emery LLP
- Hunt Engineers
- Northwest Evaluation Association
- SUNY Oswego Superintendent Development Program.

*6 Ce-le-brate good
times, uh huh ...da
da, da da, dah
dah...uh huh...*

Plans are well under way for an exciting event – thanks to you, NYSAWA is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2010! We think a celebration is in order! What do you think?

Although it will be hard to top the success of the 2009 conference, we aim to provide the same excellent caliber of programs with a few surprises to help us kick off our next 20 years. Your NYSAWA board is already planning an event you won't want to miss, so mark your calendars for Sunday and Monday, May 2-3, 2010 at the Desmond, in Albany. Watch for more information in upcoming editions of the NYSAWA newsletter.

Participants in a planning meeting held prior to the 2009 conference provided many helpful ideas and information--as is typical of NYSAWA members! We'd like to keep the dialogue going, so please send your thought contributions to Dr. Donna Moss at dmos@hbschools.us or Rita Lashway at rita.lashway@nyssba.org -- and let's plan to celebrate together!



Dr. Suzanne Gilmour,
Executive Director

Message from the Executive Director

Don't Miss "Leadership for the 21st Century: the Promise of Tomorrow"—NYSAWA's 20th Anniversary Conference and Celebration!

We are seeking your suggestions and memories and vision for the celebration. Please email them to Donna or Rita. If you have any photos to share, please let us know. We can scan them and return if that helps! We hope you can join us for this gala celebration.



Dr. Susan Sciascia,
Chair

Message from the Chair

Dear Colleagues,

Kudos to all who worked to make this year's Annual Conference held at the Desmond Inn, in Albany on May 3 and 4th, a success. The camaraderie, networking, inspiration and information afforded through your participation, the workshops, career consultation opportunities and distinguished guest speakers are the pillars of the longevity of the association, which celebrates its 20th year Anniversary next May. With everyone's participation and the hope that old-time, long-term and new members and friends will add to the festivities, including the compiling of photos and other memorabilia of the twenty year span, the event will simultaneously commemorate the past and signal the future.

In President Obama's remarks on a complete and competitive American education he says, "Every so often throughout our history, a generation of Americans bears the responsibility of seeing this country through difficult times and protecting the dream of its founding for posterity. This is the responsibility that's fallen to our generation."

Those women in school leadership, over the past years, in nurturing the dream of equity of opportunity for all qualified candidates regardless of gender, color, or ethnicity founded and sustained NYSAWA. Today's women in leadership have the responsibility to see the organization and its mission through these difficult times and to continue to advance a foundation for sustaining the gains already made for women and building upon them until the percentage of women in leadership positions reflects the percentage of women in the teaching ranks. High expectations are the prerequisite for success.

As we modify our curriculum, strategies and plans to educate students with 21st Century skills that demand higher order thinking, creativity, independent divergent thought and the evaluation of importances we need to infuse a global perspective into the efforts of our local affiliates and State organization. Bringing authors on women's issues to our affiliate meetings including NYSAWA's own Suzanne Gilmour, Diane Reed, Jan Hammond, Marilyn Tallerico and Suzanne Tingley will help to

broaden perspectives and engage women in finding solutions to be shared beyond local and State boundaries.

With greater impact than any communication and transportation innovations of the past, the immediacy of the Internet creates real time communication, trade and research around the globe. Thus, our perspective is widened, responsibility increased, quest for solutions accelerated and possibilities seemingly limitless. To call upon the words of the President, "It's that most American of ideas, that with the right education, a person (child) of any race, any faith, any station, can overcome whatever barriers stand in their way and fulfill their God-given potential," and sustain a parallel premise of the promise of NYSAWA that we can continue to promote gender equity so that some day (soon) the barriers for those traditionally not in the pipeline will be eradicated providing equity of opportunity for all qualified candidates.

The continuance of this work is upon us not just for ourselves, or those among us most inclined to lead, nor for the children we teach but because of the world-wide connection it is incumbent that we, as Americans, be the pathfinders for we have resources unmatched anywhere in the world. I believe each individual can make a difference. Working together we decrease the odds and accelerate the process. Stay connected to your local affiliates for support. Join us through NYSAWA to celebrate the past and create a better tomorrow. I am honored to be affiliated with you. Thank you for this opportunity.

Visit the NYSAWA Website

For more information on events and the conference, please visit www.nysawa.org and select the **Events** tab (forms & publications).

Superintendent Development Program

For more information on the Superintendent Development Program and other offerings such as fiscal navigation and successful negotiations please visit their website at:

<http://www.nyssuperintendentdevelopmentprogram.com/>

Membership Renewal...

Your continued support of NYSAWA is needed. Many who did not or were unable to attend the 18th Annual Conference have not yet submitted their membership renewal fee of \$50. Please submit your membership fee of \$50 payable to NYSAWA to Suzanne Gilmour, Executive Director, 303 Park Hall, Oswego, NY 13126. Membership form is available at <http://www.nysawa.org/docs.cfm>

Mid-Hudson WEL and Suffolk NYSAWA nominee Joanne Loewenthal received the Ann Myers Award at the NYSAWA Annual Conference.

Joanne Loewenthal, Superintendent of Hampton Bays UFSD for the past six years, was also an administrator in several Hudson Valley districts, which is why the two affiliates jointly sponsored her nomination.

Joanne Loewenthal served in Marlboro, Poughkeepsie, and Kingston City School Districts, prior to becoming the youngest female superintendent in NYS when she assumed her first superintendency in Webutuk CSD; she then served for five years as Superintendent of Highland CSD before going to Hampton Bays.

Joanne has mentored teacher leaders and administrators in each of the districts in which she has served. As Superintendent, she has encouraged teachers to become leaders, including assuming positions as grade level coordinators, team leaders, and department chairs. Interns and administrators she has mentored hold superintendent, assistant superintendent, and building administrator positions throughout NYS. She also is responsible for the formation of SACI (School Alliance for Continuous Improvement), which was originally funded through a SED Goals 2000 Grant that she submitted; SACI has

trained teachers and administrators throughout NYS to use data to analyze the strengths and weaknesses of districts. One caveat of SACI is that those who are trained agree to train others in their district, as well as go to one other district as a part of a SACI analysis team. Over the last 8 years, hundreds of teachers and administrators have participated in SACI and have been trained to be leaders. Congratulations Joanne!!!

Affiliate Updates

Capital - Marna Meltzer talked about their initiatives this year and their cooperative arrangement with CASDA for more details, please visit their website at <http://www.casdany.org/CDAWA.htm>. The Capital affiliate worked closely with Central New York as hosts for the annual conference.

Central New York - Sally Feinberg and Deb Glisson shared about the fall meeting with a lawyer who is now in higher education and talked about resiliency. This spring they had a panel about resiliency (taking care of self and district) in these difficult times. They have had several networking meetings throughout the year at a local restaurant that had a nice turnout. Dr. Donna DeSiato, East Syracuse-Minoa Superintendent, Ms. Sandy Sherwood, Dryden Central Schools, and Suzanne Slack, Chief Financial Officer, Syracuse City Schools were the panelists.

Finger Lakes - For their last event Barbara Goldammer indicated that they had well over 100 attend. Career consultants were a big draw. They invited the sponsors and that was well-received. Doctoral programs were highlighted. A panel was fabulous and responded to questions from participants. They are happy to share the format of this highly successful event with other affiliates.

Long Island - Nassau - Juanita Sherwood & Gloria Dingwall talked about their 2 doctoral fairs, and 2 panels to talk about their career paths etc. It was a highlight of the year. Constance Clark, Superintendent, Westbury UFSD and Susan Sciascia, NYSAWA Chair and Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum Instruction and Personnel Instruction, Greenburgh #7 CSD participated. Their awards dinner will be in the fall.

Long Island - Suffolk - Kathy Corbett talked about their growth. Two meetings were held in different regions of the county. At the fall meeting Rita Lashway presented a great program. Sheila was scheduled to present at another meeting but a huge traffic jam precluded her getting there. They had another meeting titled "Women behind the Money \$\$\$". They talked about career paths for assistant superintendents for business. Shelia will be there for the next meeting.

Lower Hudson - Margie O'Brien presented the background on Leadership for Girls. "*Women helping girls with choices.*" This is a terrific approach of women helping girls through literature and goal setting. They will present this at the October Affiliate Retreat.

Mid-Hudson - The Mid-Hudson Women in Educational Leadership (MHWEL) had a successful winter and spring. A meeting was held on 23 February 2009 at Cappucino's in Poughkeepsie that 50-60 women attended. The theme was "*Leading in Difficult Times: How To Do More With Less*". Three area superintendents presented: Fern Aefsky (Supt. of Beacon City Schools), Eileen Camasso (Supt. of Rondout Valley Central Schools), and Maria Rice (Supt. of New Paltz Central Schools). The last meeting's topic was entitled "*Emotional Wellness and Coping with Stress*". The presenter was Sil Reynolds-Nurse, a local family nurse practitioner and counselor. Eileen Camasso (Supt. of Rondout Valley Central Schools) and Trudi Melamed Turck

(Administrator at Rondout Valley CSD). Eileen is past Chair and a founding member of MHWEL and Trudi has been involved since the organization was formed. They received plaques of appreciation from MHWEL for their contributions.

New York City - Margaret Bing-Wade indicated that New York City is engaged in conversations to make this affiliate more formalized. Congratulations to Sharon Simmons who has opened her own art gallery.

Western - Maureen Fernandez indicated that they are restructuring. They have set up programs for next year and hearing ideas from other affiliates is very helpful. Diane Reed mentioned that some people came to the Rochester meeting from the western region so this would be a great topic for them.

Calendar of Events

July 8-9, 2009 -- Mid-Hudson Principals' Center Summer Leadership Institute 2009. See pages 6 - 10 of newsletter.

[Registration is limited. Priority will be given to Principals' Center members and opened to others based on availability. You may register at www.ulsterboces.org, choose the *Principals' Center* option.]

You received this message because you are a member of the New York State Association for Women in Administration (NYSAWA).

Affiliate Contacts

Please contact the following Affiliate Representatives for the latest NYSAWA events in your region.

Capital

Heidi Bromley hbromley@mohonasen.org or heidijbromley@gmail.com
Marna Meltzer meltmhs@bcasd.neric.org
Lisa Mulhall lmulhall@mulhallassociates.com

Central New York

Sally Feinberg sfeinber@twcnyc.rr.com
Deborah Glisson dglisson@mcs.cnyric.org

Cortland/Ithaca WEL

Holly Kazarinoff hkazarinoff@mail.tstboces.org
Jane O'Brien jobrien@tstboces.org

Finger Lakes

Barbara Goldhammer
barbara_goldhammer@websterschools.org
Brenda Harrington Brenda.Harrington@RCSDK12.org

Long Island -Nassau

Gloria Dingwall gdingwall@westburyschools.org
Juanita Sherwood jsherwood@westburyschools.org

Long Island Suffolk

Kathleen Corbett k_corbett@hotmail.com

Lower Hudson

Margie O'Brien mobrien@greenburgh7.com
Susan Sciascia ssciascia@greenburgh7.com

Mid-Hudson

Donna Moss dmoss@hbschools.us

New York City

Margaret Bing-Wade mbingwa@aol.com
Sharon Simmons ssimmons68@aol.com

North Country

Lisa Parsons lparsons5@frontiernet.net

Suffolk

Kathleen Corbett k_corbett@hotmail.com

Western NY

Maureen Fernandez mfernandez@lackawanna.wnyric.org
Margaret Jones-Carey mjones-carey@e1b.org

NYSAWA Board Members

Officers

Ann Myers
Founding Chair

Susan Sciascia
Chair

Randy Ann Ehrenberg
Jan Hammond
Barbara Nagler
Diane Reed
Kirsten Ruglis
Linda Tinelli Sheive
Robin Zymroz
Past Chairs

Rita Lashway
Chair Elect

Jane Bullowa
Martin Ruglis
Co-Treasurers

Board Members

Mary Balme
Judith Belfield
Margaret Bing-Wade
Adele Bovard
Heidi Bromley
Constance Clark-Snead
Kathleen Corbett
Deborah Decker
Gloria Dingwall
Shelia Evans-Tranumn
Sally Feinberg
Maureen Fernandez
Deborah Glisson
Barbara Goldammer
Brenda Harrington
Margy Jones-Carey
Holly Kararinoff
Marna Meltzer
Donna Moss
Lisa Mulhall
Jane O'Brien
Margie O'Brien
Lisa Parsons
Juanita Sherwood
Sharon Simmons

Executive Director

Suzanne L. Gilmour