

Message from the Chair



Dr. Susan Sciascia,
Chair

As the summer concludes we look to the activities for the 2009-2010 school year. Among these will be finalizing plans for the celebration of NYSAWA's 20th Anniversary in the early spring. Reminiscing about the past is unavoidable as plans are made for contacting

and inviting founding leaders

and members to the 20th Year event. Local affiliates, many whose history started before the State Organization was formed, are invited to document their own history for a state-wide sharing at the Annual Conference. Information about the local founders, the first meetings, the speakers, programs and participants will be compiled, once sent, by Rita Lashway and Donna Moss, Conference Co-Chairs, and Suzanne Gilmour, Executive Director.

Your participation in this will result in a state-wide reflection of the accomplishments that have enabled NYSAWA to sustain its presence as a beacon of gender equity for these past 20 years. The 20th Year celebration will be a balance between this high regard for the founding steps and the promise of the future.

Many people helped to shape what was originally a vague idea of an association for women administrators. It will be a pleasure to acknowledge these founders and continue to stand upon their shoulders for the purpose of opening leadership opportunity for all qualified candidates until the leadership numbers reflect the numbers of women in classrooms as teachers which represent approximately 77% of the teaching force. The celebration will try to knit together strands from the early days with hopes for tomorrow making the

celebration appropriate for looking both back and forward.

Special mention must be made of the visionaries from all levels of leadership whose support has been sustained, for it has taken a paradigm shift to permit the entry of those traditionally not in the pipeline to take their rightful place in the leadership hierarchy.

Besides the coaching, mentoring and networking that supporters provide, scholarship grounds the reasons that equity is important and continues to serve as a virtual mentor for those aspiring up the career ladder. The worlds of academics and social awareness have served as persuasive and powerful promoters of equity of opportunity, from which the next generation of leaders will benefit.

It has been my privilege to be an active member of local affiliates and NYSAWA over the course of my administrative career. The 20th Celebration will be a repository of lessons and alternatives for the future. I look forward to seeing you at the Annual Conference.

We invite your active participation in our compilation of achievements including your personal history, affiliate's history and future aspirations of both! Please plan your attendance now and incite your dearest colleagues and friends.

Plans Underway for Annual Spring Conference!

Plans are well under way for an exciting event – thanks to you; NYSAWA is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2010!

An excellent caliber of programs is being planned with a few surprises to help us kick off our next 20 years. The conference, "Leadership for the 21st Century: The Promise of Tomorrow" has invited speakers outstanding and women leaders

who have impacted education in New York State and internationally.

The conference will focus on the implications of “the promise of tomorrow” for educational leaders, staff, and students in NYS, including the major role and impact that technology currently and will play, and how we, as leaders, can prepare and implement it successfully in our personal and professional worlds. State-of-the-art technology and applications will be shared.

As part of the 20th anniversary celebration, space will be available for local affiliates to share their own history. Start planning now, and as you collect, send some photos (with captions) to Suzanne Gilmour at the address below or email to SLGilmour@aol.com, who is working on a historical representation of our collective accomplishments.

The dates for the 20th Annual NYSAWA Conference are currently being revised due to the release of dates for state assessments during our previously scheduled time. The conference will be held at the Desmond, in Albany and we will have a new date as soon as possible. Registration rates are:

- \$ 275 for full conference registration (\$195 for Educational Leadership students or Retirees)
- \$ 175 for Sunday only
- \$ 175 for Monday only
- \$ 55 for Sunday Anniversary dinner only
- \$ 45 for Monday Awards luncheon only.

To **register now** and capture any professional development money you may have for this year, please send a check or purchase order made out to NYSAWA to Dr. Suzanne Gilmour, Educational Administration Dept., 303 Park Hall, Oswego, NY 13126.

NYSAWA has a FACEBOOK Page Thank you Darlene Westinghouse

Due to the efforts of Darlene Westinghouse, Instructional Technology Specialist at Ulster BOCES, Model Schools we now have a FACEBOOK page for NYSAWA. Thank you Darlene! The url is listed below or you can go to your own FACEBOOK page and type NYSAWA in the search field. We look forward to hearing from all of you who use FACEBOOK.

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?%23/pages/NYSAWA-New-York-State-Association-for-Women-Administrators/83138067579?ref=ts>

NYSAWA Thoughts from the Executive Director



Dr. Suzanne Gilmour,
Executive Director

There will be many challenges facing leaders and aspiring leaders this year. However, with these challenges there is great opportunity for growth. You will make a difference in the lives of those whom you serve on a daily basis. This service reflects the mark you will make in lives of students, adults and organizations.

I've often thought that our success as leaders means that we live very much in the future. We are either planning for something to happen or taking steps so the wrong things don't occur. Unless we are intentional, we will live our entire professional careers looking forward with little time spent living in the moment. Our legacy will reflect the deeds we have done, but it should also reflect the person we have grown to be. The legacy we leave will have impact long after we have left our current leadership positions for both the organization and ourselves.

Jim Kouzes and Barry Posner, authors of the best-selling *A Leader's Legacy*, speak to this notion as they explore the importance of the legacy we will leave and the critical questions any leader must ask herself in order to leave a lasting impact.

The authors have compiled 22 short essays in four areas including significance, relationships, aspirations, and courage. Kouzes and Posner explore the tricky and often ambiguous issues that today's leaders grapple with including why:

- people don't commit to plans, they commit to causes.
- it's not the leader's vision, it's the shared vision.
- there is no silver bullet.
- leading changes who you are.
- the legacy you leave is the life you lead.

It's not just about the leader's vision but how leaders serve and sacrifice for others. Leaders can't take trust for granted; they understand why it takes courage to “make a life”.

It is this courage that we will need to continue to provide the best possible educational experiences for our students this year. We will know it best by living as much as we can moment by moment...

struggling as we try to live in the moment when one foot is already beckoning us down the hall to whatever comes next.

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> (Membership is free with your Annual Conference registration).

Superintendent Development Program

For more information about the next cohort group that is currently being formed for the Superintendent Development Program, please contact Program Director Dr. Glenn Wachter at glenn.wachter@oswego.edu

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

Visit the NYSAWA Website

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

We are looking forward to your participation at "Leadership for the 21st Century: the Promise of Tomorrow" - NYSAWA's 20th Anniversary Conference and Celebration!"

Affiliate Updates:

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For up to date information, please visit their website at:
<http://www.casdany.org/CDAWA.htm>

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The FINGER LAKES website is now linked with the state organization.
<https://nysawafingerlakes.wikispaces.com/> They will register online for the spring meeting.

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