

New York State Division

The Seventies

The decade 1970-1980 can be characterized as "Women On the Move" in the New York State Division of ANW. The decade focused on NCFEN beginning with the US sponsored International Decade for Women, the U.S. Conference for Women in Houston, and ANW support for radicalization of the ERA. Because of the changes in personal life styles women were experiencing in the 70's, and which were reflected in their commitments to volunteer work, ANW members pressed for emphasis upon action programs related to ANW's Topics and Legislative Program.

During this decade nine new branches were formed; three were disbanded, and three effected name changes. These developments attest to member mobility and changing roles in society.

In an effort to assist new branches, both during their organizational process and first year of operation, the Division Board approved two major measures for aid to new branches. First, a sum of \$30 is given to help defray organizational expenses. Second, the charter president's travel expenses to her first Division Convention are defrayed. Attendance at State Conventions enhances Division/Branch report, and fully justifies this encouragement.

In the summer of 1977, two hundred ANW members joined other women from throughout the State in Albany to prepare for participation in the upcoming Women's Conference in Houston. The main purpose of the meeting in Albany was to suggest agenda items and elect delegates for the Houston meeting. ANW played a leadership role in these deliberations and two ANW members were elected official delegates from New York. There was a large attendance of ANW members at this historic Women's Conference in Houston.

Discussion and evaluation of TRW and ANW relations which took place at various branch and division meetings resulted in greater understanding of ANW's effective relationship with TRW. Several branches in New York were chosen each year to host African women as part of the African Educators program co-sponsored by ANW and the U.S. State Department.

In this decade the Association launched two Educational Foundation projects: (1) a Centennial Fund (to raise one million dollars between 1971 and 1981) and (2) the establishment of Research and Projects Grants. The New York Division strongly responded to and supported both of these challenges. The Division established a New York State Research & Projects Program and formed a Centennial Club, which individual members could join by a contribution of \$100 to the Centennial Fund during the '71-'81 decade. Also, in this decade, a Division Educational Foundation project of selling a carved crystal plate was launched to raise funds for the Division's annual contribution to the Educational Foundation.

Several NYSD branches, as well as individual members, received grants from the Educational Foundation, under the provisions of the Research & Projects Grants program. Project Names, another new Educational Foundation project, has begun to help ANW members whose last degrees were earned at least five years

previously return to a university to complete degrees. New York Division members sought and received this financial aid, which also gave them moral support and the facilities to return to the working world.

The death of the 70's saw a number of organizational changes in the New York Division: (1) the 1971 Convention voted to change from a biennial to an annual convention. The first annual Convention was held in Blydenham in 1972. (2) The election of Stuart Effingham Jones, the President, Program Vice President, a Corresponding Secretary to be elected in two years, and the Executive Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer in all years. The 1975 Convention voted to elect the Corresponding Secretary from the number of elected officers and to begin the practice of an appointment by the Division President of an Administrative Committee to serve cooperatively with the President. (3) In 1979, a highly President's Council was formed--one Branch President from each Division Area to serve on the Council each year--for the purpose of increasing communication between the branches and the Division Board. (4) The Division Area was revised in 1979 to 01, 02, and in 1976 to 02, 03. (5) In compliance with the regulation system, a Corporate Relations Requirement was added as a marking of the Division Board.

In this decade, the Division and members participated in several Division projects: (1) The theme for this decade was Public Mobilization and Education Program, which focused upon specific subjects. Persons participated by making WELLING their own projects, to provide the kinds of educational programs available, and financing this information to the State Department of Planning. This was followed up by legislative support for bills providing funding for improved housing and educational programs in the State's prisons.

(2) In 1977, a project called Women's Involvement in Evaluating Effectiveness was begun. The program included:

- (a) Publishing branch correspondence.
- (b) Publishing branch correspondence.
- (c) Transcribing group effectiveness.
- (d) Employment of class and resources.

This project was funded by a grant from the Educational Foundation as part of the Research and Projects Grants program, supplemented by the NYSD Travel Fund. Originally thirty-seven women from across the State were selected to lead the workgroup. This program proved to be so successful that it expanded into the 80's.

(3) In 1979, the Division began providing grants at the annual Convention in a project called, The Name of Women in the Field. The project grew out of a resolution adopted at the 1977 Convention in Blydenham. The purpose of this project was to give recognition to the women who contribute to the growth and vitality of our programs, and to organizations that do the same in their own way. Branch members participated by submitting names of programs and identifying students knowledgeable about the field (education, sciences, children's programs, church members) and providing articles. Among the first award recipients were U.S. Sen. J. Earl Ray for a series on Women, ABC for The Incredible Journey of Dr. Ray, and Dr. Ray for the special program, Consciousness, a series of group activities, and Dr. Ray for the special program, Consciousness. This project was given recognition at the 1979 International Convention, and it has carried on into the 80's.

1977-78 saw the inclusion of awards for excellence of branch newsletters presented each year at Convention. Branch newsletters are evaluated according to size of branch, program content, general format, and for inclusion of branch community projects and legislative news. The award-winning newsletters are displayed at Convention. This project also continued beyond the 70's.

Through collaborative legislative effort and branch participation between 1970 and 1972 ANW members were appointed to all New York State Regional Health Services Boards. NYSO ANW members supported and participated in the Governor's Conference on Libraries, Seminars, workshops, and open forums related to ANW program topics were held by many branches in their communities across the State. These activities greatly increased public awareness of ANW and its purposes.

During the decade of the 70's, five sets of ANW Program Topics were studied and implemented by the NYSO branches. Two of these topics focused exclusively on Women and were both timely and productive in terms of individual growth and community impact. During the 1977-79 biennium one of the topics chosen was Women As Agents of Change; and earlier in '73-'75, Women Searching for Self had been selected. Focusing on these topics reinforced the Association's decision at Convention to add Women as a Standing Committee and an area of ANW Program. Many other topics emphasized in the NYSO in the 70's were Politics of Food, which led into state and nation-wide programs and legislative action, and redefining the Goals of Education which focused upon changing values and the needs of a technological society. Late in the decade, in 1979, the Topic Families Facing Change, led eventually to the Division Project on Women and Work and to ANW's participation in the White House Conference on Aging.

Throughout this decade, as for many years previously, NYSO members were appointed to serve on Association Standing and Topic Committees, and Committees of the Educational Foundation. A member from New York also served the Association as an elected officer during this decade in the capacity of Regional Vice President and as a member of the Educational Foundation Board of Directors.

The 1970-80 decade witnessed growth, commitment, and involvement by the New York State Division and its members, and set the stage once again for continued activity in and contribution to ANW's goals and purposes.

1970-1980 Annual
Statistical Summary

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

- 1967-1971 Dr. Anne Gary Pennell
- 1971-1975 Dr. Anne Goughell
- 1975-1979 Dr. Margerie Bell Chambers
- 1979-1981 Mary Greff

ASSOCIATION CONVENTIONS

- 1971 Dallas
- 1972 Washington, D.C.
- 1973 Seattle
- 1974 Minneapolis
- 1975 Albuquerque
- 1976 Boston

NEW YORK STATE PRESIDENTS

- 1970-1972 Louise Biederstedt
- 1972-1974 Betty Darling
- 1974-1976 Carey Howard
- 1976-1978 Carol Skull
- 1978-1980 Harriet Edwards

NEW YORK STATE CONVENTIONS

- 1970 Rochester
- 1972 Glens Falls
- 1973 Binghamton
- 1974 New Paltz
- 1975 Buffalo
- 1976 Garden City
- 1977 Syracuse
- 1978 Albany
- 1979 Binghamton
- 1980 Jamestown

BRANCHES in CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
BY YEAR OF QUARTER

- Palmyra 1970
- Putnam County 1972
- Farmingdale 1972
- Salttown 1973
- Gouverneur 1977
- Jefferson County 1977
- Brooklyn 1979
- Bronx 1980

BRANCHES DISBANDED

- Brookport
- Danville
- Newburgh

BRANCH MAKE CHANGES

- Kt. Kisco to Northern Westchester
- Westchester to Southern Westchester
- Westfield to Chautauque-Westfield

THE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The first Fellowship awarded by AUV was in 1928 and since that time over 4,200 women in 95 countries have received financial aid in obtaining advanced degrees. In the early 1960's few women were admitted to college and even fewer were able to enter graduate studies. The growth and development of this original program has followed a steady path of innovative offerings to complement the expanding opportunities for women in education, the professions, art and the business world.

In 1968 the Educational Foundation was established as a separate administrative body to oversee the various grant and award programs. In addition to actively seek additional funding from other philanthropic foundations and corporations to augment member contributions. One example is the annual matching grant from IBM of \$12,000 for women seeking a MBA. Each year two women have received business management skills as an entry to executive positions.

The 1971 AUV convention ratified the Centennial Fund which had a goal of \$10 million dollars by 1981 to commemorate the centennial. Its three objectives unrelated the ever changing adaptation of AUV's charter purposes to societal conditions. For many years there had been a strong desire within the membership for some kind of financial aid programs below the graduate level as topic studies and legislation focused on action there was a definite need for related project funding. Not only had educational costs increased there were many existing endowments that had remained static for years and were not at the stipend producing level.

New York branches actively participated by raising thousands of dollars yearly through book sales, house tours, lecture series and a host of other local fund raising events. The Division also established a New York Endowment, formed the Centennial Club with contributions of \$100 to the foundation and offered a hand carved crystal plate as a sales item.

As Centennial Funds began to accrue the objectives were gradually expanded by additional programs. RESEARCH AND PROJECTS address themselves to the first two objectives. Project grants offers seed money to members who want further training to prepare for a new career, enhance their opportunities within a chosen field, or update their career skills in order to reenter the work force. This latter course was particularly dominant throughout the 70's. Project grants are for individual members, branches and state divisions. State division legislation on such issues as juvenile justice, legal rights of women, battered and abused children have been effected through these projects. During our country's bicentennial many divisions carried out extensive research on pioneering women in such fields as medicine, law and the arts. One project dealt with Indian women in the region. These records now form an integral addition to the state libraries.

In addition to the existing American and International Fellowships several new ones were developed. Since 1970 Fellowships have been granted to exceptional women training for selected professions-- law, medicine, architecture, dentistry, veterinary medicine and business administration. All directed toward to areas in which women's participation has been low. As an example of Corporate contributions has been the annual grant of \$12,000 from IBM for women to earn a MBA. Thus enhancing their upward mobility to executive positions.

Centennial funds have also been allocated to existing endowments to raise them to stipend producing level. Standards for the establishment of new endowments have been stipulated. Awards vary in amount according to the type of study being pursued. For example, science Fellowships usually require fairly large sums for laboratory experimentation while those in art may need travel expenses to outstanding galleries and museums.

In rounding out the third objective two additional Awards are granted annually. The Achievement Award is presented to a woman whose record of outstanding accomplishments in a scholarly or professional field span 10 or more years. Both Rachel Carson and Dr. Hellen Taussig have been recipients. A Recognition Award for Young Scholars is granted to a woman under 35 years of age who through outstanding contributions to her academic and/or professional field shows potential for significant future achievement.

All in all the Educational Foundation is the "heart" of AUV created in the latter part of the nineteenth century and is moving into the twentieth century with the same principles of furthering the progress of women in society. The "heart" comes from the membership whose contributions are mainly responsible for for the foundation to have assets exceeding \$25 million, including endowments of over \$16 million.

1970-1980 Agenda
DIVISION OFFICERS

1970-1972

President
1st. Vice-Pres.
2nd. Vice-Pres.
Record. Sec.
Corres. Sec.
Treasurer

Louise Biederstedt, Herkimer County
Betty Dearing, Albany
Mary Plath, Syracuse
Helen Kraus, Queens
Mary Kayes, Herkimer County
Hazel Smith, Yates County

ByLaw Changes 1970-1980

1970
1972

Statement on Use of Name
1-Annual dues raised to one dollar and twenty-five cents
2-Rotation of election of division officers: president, first vice-president (program), corresponding secretary in even years. Second vice-president (membership), recording secretary and treasurer in odd years.
Clarification of dual membership dues and voting rights
1-Annual dues raised to two dollars
2-Members-at-Large to pay annual dues of two dollars
3-Delineation of the composition and responsibilities of the nominating committee
Further delineation of nominating committee responsibilities
1-Recording Secretary to serve as ByLaws Chairman
2-Voting procedures for Members-at-Large clarified.

1972-1974

President
1st. Vice-Pres.
2nd. Vice-Pres.
Record. Sec.
Corres. Sec.
Treasurer

Betty Dearing, Albany
Margaret Lordi, Schenectady
Mary Plath (1972-1973), Syracuse
Joanne Frolich (1973-1974), Rochester
Helen Kraus (1972-1973), Queens
Elva Holman (1973-1974), Ithaca
Eleanor Galant, Saratoga Springs
Elizabeth Knapp, Southern New York

1974
1976

1978
1980

Further delineation of nominating committee responsibilities
1-Recording Secretary to serve as ByLaws Chairman
2-Voting procedures for Members-at-Large clarified.

1974-1976

President
1st. Vice-Pres.
2nd. Vice-Pres.
Treasurer
Record. Sec.
Corres. Sec.

Carey Howard, North Shore
Charlotte Pederson (1974-1975) Rome
Harriet Edwards (1975-1976), Mid-Island
Joanne Frolich (1974-1975), Rochester
Eileen Carmer (1975-1976), Seneca Falls
Elizabeth Knapp (1974-1975), Southern New York
Margaret Coe (1975-1976), Schenectady
Erna Westwig, Corning
Barbara Stark, North Shore / Garden City

1976-1978

President
1st. Vice-Pres.
2nd. Vice-Pres.
Treasurer
Record. Sec.

Carol Stull, Buffalo
Harriet Edwards, Mid-Island
Eileen Carmer (1976-1977), Seneca Falls
Judith Pegg, (1977-1978) Southern Westchester
Margaret Coe (1976-1977), Schenectady
Barbara Knapp (1977), Fairport
Diane Boyce (1977-1978), Jamestown
Sonya Smith, (1976-1977) Cortland
Veronica Chmura (1977-1978), Kingston

1978-1980

President
1st. Vice-Pres.
2nd. Vice-Pres.
Treasurer
Record. Sec.

Harriet Edwards, Mid-Island
Marjanne Huggard, Queens
Judith Pegg (1978-1979), Southern Westchester
Sandra Bernard (1979-1980), Victor
Diane Boyce, Jamestown
Veronica Chmura (1977-1978), Kingston
Marjorie Loveland (1979-1980), Mohawk Valley