



THE SAGE

SPRING-SUMMER
2007

The Newsletter of The Association of Teachers of Social Studies / United Federation of Teachers

ATSS/UFT, C/O UFT, 52 BROADWAY, New York, NY 10004, Phone: (212) 510-6389, FAX: (212) 510-6334

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MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING ATSS/UFT PRESIDENT/ CHAIRPERSON, ROZELLA KIRCHGAESSNER

Thank you for electing me the new ATSS/UFT President/Chairperson. I was happy to serve in this capacity in 1987-1989, and I am looking forward to serving again. There have been a lot of changes in the world and in ATSS/UFT in the past twenty years, and I too, have grown and changed professionally. Particularly, there have been major changes in the use of technology. Our Past-President / Chairperson, Levi Anthony started us along in using technology and I plan to continue using technology to better serve our membership and our profession. Some programs I have in the planning stages include a fall trip, a pre service teacher educator network open house, a SMART technology seminar, a black history month workshop, a women's history month workshop, a holocaust studies program with the American Society of Yad Vashem, and, of course, our Greater Metropolitan New York Social Studies Conference (GMNY) in the winter. Also, we will continue to work with the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS), the New York State Council for the Social Studies (NYSCSS) and the Middle States Council for the Social Studies (MSCSS). I am proud of our status as a committee of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT), which offers us so much assistance.

MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING ATSS/UFT PRESIDENT /CHAIRPERSON, LEVI ANTHONY

It has been a pleasure to have served you as President/Chairperson of ATSS/UFT, 2005-2007. I have had an opportunity to do so many things and meet so many people as your representative. I am particularly pleased that during my administration, we advanced in our use of technology through the UFT website: www.uft.org (go to member_services, then go to union committees, then go to ATSS/UFT) and my own website, edusolution.com. We had two wonderful GMNY conferences, and several other programs. I wish to thank the officers and executive board members of ATSS/UFT and the staff of the UFT for all their help and encouragement, and wish all the best to our incoming President/Chairperson, Rozella Kirchgassner.

The MISSION of the Association of Teachers of Social Studies / United Federation of Teachers is to provide a network wherein Social Studies educators and related professionals may advocate for Social Studies education and share scholarship, information, strategies and practices related to the issues important to Social Studies instruction.

**ATSS/UFT AND THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR YAD VASHEM SPONSOR
HOLOCAUST STUDIES PROGRAM**

On Sunday, March 10, 2007, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, ATSS/UFT co-sponsored a program on TEACHING THE HOLOCAUST with the American Society for Yad Vashem. This series of workshops centered on the teaching of the Holocaust and the use of resources to teach the lessons of the Holocaust. Materials were provided. Every participant got a huge curriculum book with documents and learning strategies and a video of holocaust survivors' testimonies. ATSS/UFT Past President/Chairperson Carolyn Herbst greeted the participants on behalf of ATSS/UFT President/Chairperson Levi Anthony. A kosher breakfast and lunch were served. The program took place at the Pratt Mansions, 1027 5th Av. bet 83 & 84 Sts. The program was free. For more information about the American Society for Yad Vashem call: 212 220 4304.

ABOUT ATSS/UFT

ATSS/UFT was founded in 1937 as The Association of Teachers of Social Studies. In 1978, the organization merged with the United Federation of Teachers. Today it is one of the UFT's most active professional committees. From the time ATSS/UFT merged with the UFT, there have been no membership dues. If you work in New York City as a Social Studies professional, and if you are a UFT member, and / or participate in our programs, you are a member of ATSS/UFT. Members receive information through UFT *New York Teacher*, our web page at www.uft.org.

ATSS/UFT is the largest local Social Studies professional council in the National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS). Our representatives sit in the House of Delegates and serve on committees. Other area councils affiliated with ATSS/UFT and NCSS are the New York State Council for the Social Studies (NYSCSS) and the Middle States Council for the Social Studies (MSCSS). Besides running excellent conferences they also provide members with very worthwhile professional publications on social studies content, lesson planning and educational research.

Even though you are automatically a member of ATSS/UFT, we highly recommend you pay the annual dues to join these other social studies councils too. (see forms on page 4)

Several members of the ATSS/ UFT Executive Board also serve, or have served, on the Executive Boards and committees and have presented workshops at NCSS, MSCSS and NYSCSS conferences. As a member of any and all of these councils, you may also want to more actively participate in them above and beyond taking advantage of the publications and conferences they offer.

GMNY CONFERENCE 2008 – SAVE THAT DATE !

Tentative Date: Saturday, February 9, 2008.

Theme: Redefining Social Studies: 2008 and Beyond. Place: UFT, 52 Broadway.

Contact: Robert Dytell, Conference Chair: rdytell@yahoo.com

2007 GMNY CONFERENCE

The 2007 GMNY, the 46th Annual Greater Metropolitan New York Social Studies Conference, was held on February 10th, at UFT Headquarters, 52 Broadway, Manhattan. About 400 Social Studies professionals attended. Social Studies professionals from all levels K-12 and college, teachers as well as supervisors attended, with an increasing representation from elementary schools.

There were over 60 exhibitors and sponsors whose booths were swamped by enthusiastic participants searching for materials for their classrooms. The program included a very worthwhile group of workshops and most interesting afternoon panels. The John Bunzel Social Studies Awards were presented at the Bernard A. Cohen Memorial Breakfast and at lunch, the Rosa Parks Memorial Award was presented to The Tuskegee Airmen, which was accepted by John B. Patterson, Eastern Region President. Gus Hatzidimitriou received the ATSS/UFT Special Presidents 's Award.

The Hubert H. Humprey Humanitarian Award was presented to Juan Gonzalez, columnist for the *New York Daily News*, who gave the keynote address at the seated and served hot luncheon. He spoke on New York City Education Issues. He was proud to announce he was a high school student in the social studies classroom of the UFT's George Altomare at Franklin K. Lane High School, and was much influenced by him.

Participants went home with bags of materials, new ideas shared with professional colleagues, and the satisfactiolum of having a wonderful day in most congenial surroundings. This year's conference theme was "The Triumph and Tragedy of Eras."

Pearson Prentice Hall sponsored the breakfast, The Gilder Lehrman Foundation sponsored the cocktail hour and the United Federation of Teachers and Harcourt School Publishers sponsored the luncheon.

Special thanks to the GMNY Planning Committee which made the GMNY Conference a huge success: Robert Dytell, Chairperson, and Levi Anthony, Dr. Brenda Parnes, Deborah Straughn Moore, Patricia Urevith, Carolyn Herbst, Ron Campana, Michael Collazo, Rozella Kirchgaesner, Helen S. Settles, Arthur Brown, Arlyne Steiner, Steven Steiner, Mark Willner. Alice Skinner Williams, Wanda Daniels, Mary Ann O'Grady, Rosemarie R. Armetta, L. Zenzele Magwood, Ollie Fields Thacker, David Brown, Herbert "Jimmy" Schwarz, Frank Pedone, Jonathan Barnett, Jeffrey Winograd, , Nyree McCray, Armando Mandes, , Christine Camerlingo, Joshua Zuckerberg, and especially George Altomare.

JOHN BUNZEL AWARD WINNERS

The John Bunzel Awards for excellence in teaching Social Studies are given each year. Next year the awards will be renamed the Bernard A. Cohen Awards. The 2007 awards were presented at the Greater Metropolitan New York Social Studies Conference Awards Breakfast on February 10th, at UFT Headquarters. The Bunzel Award winners this year were: High School Teacher: Jeffrey Schneider; Intermediate/Middle School Teacher: Yvonne Bossone; Social Studies Supervisor: Barbara Haravay. The Bunzel Awards Chairperson is Mark Willner.



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SOCIAL STUDIES PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS MEMBERSHIP FORM

ATSS/UFT has created this form to help you join the various professional associations. If you have any questions, or want additional information, feel free to call ATSS/UFT at (212) 510-6389. Weekdays, 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Send this form and a separate check for each council you wish to join payable to the organization as stated.

Remember, you are a member of ATSS/UFT without paying a membership fee if you are a New York City Social Studies profession and/or participate in our programs.

Send to: Treasurer, ATSS/UFT, 52 Broadway, 12th Floor, New York NY 10004

ENCLOSED IS/ARE CHECK(S) FOR JOINING:

/ / NCSS / / NYSCSS / / MSCSS

MY LEVEL OF INTEREST IS:

/ / PRE-K / / ELEMENTARY / / MIDDLE/ INTERMEDIATE/ / HIGH SCHOOL
/ / COLLEGE / / OTHER _____

NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP _____

SCHOOL _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____

_____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

I WISH TO JOIN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES (NCSS)

/ / FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP, SPECIAL PRICE, REGULAR CATEGORY (JOURNAL AND NEWSLETTER). MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NCSS. \$32.50

/ / RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP, REGULAR CATEGORY (JOURNAL AND NEWSLETTER). MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO NCSS. \$60.00

/ / FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP, SPECIAL PRICE, COMPREHENSIVE CATEGORY (ALL PUBLICATIONS). MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NCSS. \$38.00

/ / RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP, COMPREHENSIVE CATEGORY. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NCSS. \$70.00

I WISH TO JOIN THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES (NYSCSS)

/ / FIRST YEAR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO NYSCSS. \$50.00

I WISH TO JOIN THE MIDDLE STATES COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES (MSCSS)

/ / FIRST YEAR OR RENEWAL. MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO MSCSS. \$25.00