President’s Article

Hello all. I hope you have survived the horrendous winter and am looking forward to a warm and sunny spring season. Our beloved Penny Coyle is on the mend after spending most of the winter in hospitals. Please drop her a line or send her a card. She is recouping at the Medford Multicare Center, 3115 Horseblock Rd., Medford, N.Y. 11763 Unit 1C Rm. 166. She can only communicate by e-mail (sparkyrv17@yahoo.com). She has no phone and can’t talk since she has a trach in her throat and is on a respirator. But she looks good and is starting to eat sparingly. Penny won't be coming home until the end of August.

Look elsewhere in this newsletter for our important dates for this upcoming year. The first Board of Directors meeting will meet in executive session on April 15th (yes that’s tax day) at the Suffolk County National Bank in Riverhead. Our first luncheon will be held at the Cooperage Restaurant on Sound Avenue in Calverton on May 6th. Riverhead Town is sponsoring this event thanks to Rosemary Schulenburg and Joan Troyan. The Hamptons luncheon hosted by Larry Strickland and Carrie Gilbert (the Annual Flag Day event) will be held on June 24th with our own author, Joel Reitman, as the guest speaker for his book “B is for Brooklyn - D is for Dog”.

Sheila Jones, our immediate co-president, has moved to Ames, Iowa to be with her daughter and grandchildren. She will return in a few months. Her new e-mail address is: sheiladjones@gmail.com.

We're looking forward for the return of our snowbirds to our glorious island paradise. Thank you to the Jessups for all their help from Key Largo, to Eileen Holmes for her updates with LIZ and NYSRTA as our P.R. chair and substitute secretary, and to Bob Svoboda for his continuing work as our community chairman.

In closing, please keep Penny in your prayers for a successful recovery. I will see you all in the not to distant future.

Fred Conway - President

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2015 CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15 Wed.</td>
<td>6 Wed.</td>
<td>24 Wed.</td>
<td>26 Wed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Meeting</td>
<td>Luncheon</td>
<td>Annual Flag Day Luncheon</td>
<td>Summer Board of Director’s Meeting</td>
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<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>12 noon</td>
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<td>Suffolk County National Bank, Riverhead</td>
<td>Cooperage Inn, Riverhead</td>
<td>Southampton Publick House</td>
<td>Fred &amp; Leslie Conway’s House</td>
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<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<td>9 Wed.</td>
<td>4 Wed.</td>
<td>2 Wed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Back to School Luncheon</td>
<td>Southampton Luncheon</td>
<td>Southold Luncheon</td>
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<td>11:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Vineyards, Aquebogue</td>
<td>Southampton Publick House</td>
<td>Soundview Restaurant</td>
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| 9 Wed. |
| Shelter Island |
| 11:30 am |
| Virginia Schultze’s House |
Directory

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Luncheon Updates
by Penny Coyle

**September**

Our Sept luncheon at the Vineyards had Father Peter Garry from St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Southold as the guest speaker. He worked with Sister Maureen in Huntington. She was a real nun, who brought in homeless people to feed them and give them shelter. Maureen's Haven is the name given to the homeless program out East. Father Garry spoke about how he knew her. Several members described the way their church was involved. Mattituck Episcopal Church works with Mattituck Presbyterian Church on Thursdays. They provide a hot meal and cots for them to sleep on. I. Penny, work with Southold Presbyterian Church. Father Garry helps there also for dinner. Then he walks the overflow down to sleep in his church. He and my minister alternate weeks to say grace. Here they sleep in the old manse where they also can take showers and do a wash. One night I saw a man carrying his clean clothes upstairs with his nose sniffing them. Living in the woods doesn't let you get clean. We give them a hot breakfast and a bag lunch. Agnes participates in St. Agnes Catholic Church in Greenport on Tuesdays. Their overflow goes to an Orient church. At this time every night is covered. The guests are screened for drugs and alcohol. If they are not clean, they are given a blanket and sent back to the woods.

**December**

Our December luncheon was hosted by Soundview Restaurant. We invited Pastor Richie King to speak about a One Week Mission trip to Cuba taken many years ago. The purpose of the trip was to get involved with the Presbyterian Church and their families. Larry Strickland, myself, 30 Students from the Southampton Presbyterian Church along with a

Luncheon Updates continues next page

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**EERTA May Luncheon**

**When:** Weds., May 6th

**Where:** Cooperage Inn

727-8994

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Cost:** $27 per person

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**May Luncheon, Weds., May 6th, 2015**

Member's Name ________________________________ Member's Tel. ________________________________

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Member's Entrée ________________________________

Guest's Name ________________________________ Member's Tel. ________________________________

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Guest's Entrée ________________________________

Send your registration & check payable to EERTA for $27 per person a week before each event with your choice of entrée to:

John Ruggiero, P.O. Box 517, East Moriches, NY 11940. Questions? Please phone John at 631-878-1898

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eerta 3 news
Hi to all.

Please pass this on...

Source: Letter to the Editor - Newsday - 3/19/15. Thomas K. Lee is the writer. He is Executive director and chief investment officer of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System.

The story "Top pensions in the N.Y. State" (News, March 11) implies that state pensions are financed solely by taxpayers. Nothing could be further from the truth when it comes to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, which is one of the best-funded public pension plans in the nation.

Investment earnings accounted for 87 percent of the teachers' retirement system income between 1994 and 2014. Another 2 percent came from member contributions, and the remaining 11 percent from employer contributions, which are taxpayer-funded. In 17 of the past 20 years, employer contributions to the pension fund were in the single digits by percentage.

Employers contributed $16.3 billion, and the retirement system paid out $78.1 billion in benefits over this period. This is a remarkable ratio in itself, if it were not for the fact that the market value of our assets also increased from $40 billion to $108 billion.

We hope this information clarifies the sources of the teachers' retirement system.

Thomas K. Lee, Albany

(Thought this was something all retired teachers should know.)

May and Don Griffin, retired teachers and members of EERTA (We have saved the article in case anyone wants to read it or refer to it.)

few adults attended. I remember using a walker. The Communists didn't bother with it, instead they went for the computer that Richie had. Richie kept the cables and was told to pick up the computer on the way home. I was carrying two pieces of blue glass to be used for a cross on the front of the church as no windows had glass. We lived out of our carry-ons because our big suitcases were filled with all kinds of stuff to be given to our Presbyterian friends in Cuba. We brought truck parts for a '56 vehicle, clothes, medicine, toothbrushes and a computer. The people there were happy people. They have their families and their church nearby. Larry had no trouble speaking Spanish as he teaches it. All of us were expected to speak it. One time I said "I have a gate(cat)". In English "gateau" means cake. We brought lots of cash with us, hidden in bras or wherever we could hide it. Presbyterians packed the church every night as they had a small organ and people sang songs. We also brought money to the Catholic Church which had about 20 people there. They needed an organ. This trip was a life changing experience.

What's new...

Agnes Dansereau is working on resolutions for submission to NYSRTA. Her deadline for submission is June 1st. Anybody else who has a resolution can submit it to me by that due date.

See everybody at the Board Room of the Suffolk County National Bank in Riverhead on Wednesday, April 15th (yes tax day) at 10:00am for our spring BOD meeting.
EERTA Annual Flag Day Luncheon

**When:** Weds., June 24th

**Where:** Southampton Publick House
283-2800

**Time:** 11:30 a.m.

**Cost:** $27 per person

**Guest Speaker:** Joel Reitman, discussing his book “B is for Brooklyn D is for Dog”

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**Annual Flag Day Luncheon, Weds., June 24th, 2015**

**Member’s Name**

**Member’s Tel.**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**Member’s Entrée**

**Guest’s Name**

**Guest’s Entrée**

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY**

**Member’s Tel.**

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**Unclaimed Funds**

NYSTRS holds thousands of dollars in unclaimed funds and abandoned accounts. Click on the “Unclaimed Funds” tab at the bottom of NYSTRS.org page to see if you or someone you know may have any forgotten funds.

Contacting us by e-mail?

Please, please, please

include EERTA in the subject line!

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**Some discounts for seniors: YOU must ASK for your discount!**

**RESTAURANTS**

- Burger King: 10% off (60+)
- Subway: 10% off (60+)

**RETAIL & APPAREL**

- Banana Republic: 30% off (50+)
- Big Lots: 30% off

eerta 5 news
EERTA Annual Back to School Luncheon

When: Sept. 9
Where: Vineyard Caterers
       631-722-3200
Time: 11:30 a.m.
Cost: $27 per person

Back to School Luncheon, Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2015

Member’s Name_________________________Member’s Tel._________________________

Member’s Entrée___________________________

Guest’s Name_________________________Member’s Tel._________________________

Guest’s Entrée___________________________

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Please visit our website at LI-zone.org