**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE, KATHRYN GRANDE**

Friends, another season is passing very quickly. We must take the time to enjoy nature, family and friends. NYSRTA is a very important part of our lives, as we think back to those wonderful days in our classrooms. We must try to reach out to our former colleagues to join with us. We need to increase our membership. This is vital for our Association. WE NEED MEMBERS!

We will be attending our Annual Convention from October 27-29, 2015 at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino. It is very important that all the delegates attend our luncheon on September 16th at Captain Bill’s. LIZ gives a stipend to the delegates, but you must support LIZ by attending our luncheons. We only have two a year. Please plan to attend. Unfortunately, if you do not attend, we will have to decrease the delegate stipend.

Our speaker will be Lois Lutwin, a docent at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County in Glen Cove.

June Torns, our Vice President works diligently in planning our luncheons and securing speakers.

We are happy that June Torns and Penny Coyle are feeling better. Despite their ill health, they continue to work for us.

I attended the NYSRTA Executive Board Meeting in Utica in July. All the zone Presidents and Standing Committee chairs were in attendance.

President Judie Byndas is completing her three year term. LIZ would like to thank her for all her work during her term of office.

Doris Kirsch, NYSRTA Resolutions Chair, reported the committee is recommending seven out of ten submitted resolutions for 2015. They will be on the NYSRTA Website and York State.

1. A-15-1 Increasing COLA Cap to Reflect inflation
2. D-15-1 Common Core
3. D-15-3 Charter Schools
4. D-15-4 S.O.S Support Our Public Schools
5. D-15-6 UNITY to Save New York’s Public Education System
7. E-15-1 Bullying as a Crime

Emily Castine, NYSRTA Nominations Chair, reported Nominations for the following positions for 2016.

President, Angelo Grande
Senior Vice President, Kevin Mulligan
Vice President for Friendly Service, Harriet Beers
Vice President for Legislative Action, Brian Sherman

The following officers have agreed to continue in their current positions for 2015-2016: Vice-President for Membership, Salvatore Sadita and Treasurer, Terry Trudeau. Nancy Roberts, Secretary has agreed to stay on until we find a replacement.

A reminder, I’m still waiting for my advocates to send in their response sheets from their legislators. I need to send them to our State Office. Thank you for all your help.

Hope to see you all at our luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. at Captain Bill’s on September 16th. We will be presenting our Distinguished Service “Silver Tray” Award.
LIZ Directory

President | Kathryn Grande | 516-922-6747 | aigrande@yahoo.com
Vice President | June Torns | 631-842-4517 | jtorns@gmail.com
Secretary | Eileen Holmes | 631-722-4504 | elo2@optonline.net
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Awards Chair | Mary Ella Moeller | 631-324-0471 | maryellamoeller@gmail.com
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ERTA President | Fred Conway | 631-476-6558 | fgconway@optonline.net
WERTA President | Evelyn Paola | 516-221-0654 | ejp2161@gmail.com

LIZ 2015 Calendar

August 2015
26 Wed. EERTA Exec Bd. Meeting 12 Noon
   Fred & Lesley’s Home

September 2015
9 Wed. EERTA Back to School Luncheon 11:30 AM
   The Vineyard, Aquebogue
10 Thurs. LIZ Officers & Exec. Bd. Mtg. -10:00 AM
   Hauppauge Diner
16 Wed. LIZ Luncheon Meeting, Captain Bill’s
29 Tues. WERTA Exec. Bd. Meeting-10:00 AM
   North Bellmore Library

October 2015
27-29 Tues.-Thurs. NYSRTA Convention

November 2015
4 Wed. EERTA Southampton Luncheon-11:30 AM
   The Publick House, Southampton
10 Tues. WERTA Luncheon Meeting-11:30 AM
   Carlyle-on-the Green, Bethpage Black 1
16-17 Mon.-Tues. NYSRTA Exec. Bd. Mtg. in Utica
19 Thurs. LIZ Officers and Exec. Bd. Mtg 10:00 AM
   Hauppauge Diner

December 2015
2 Wed. EERTA Southhold Luncheon-11:30 AM
   Soundview Restaurant
9 Wed. EERTA Shelter Island Luncheon-11:30 AM
   Virginia Schultze’s Home

January 2016
19 Tues. WERTA Newsletter Deadline

February 2016
2 Tues. WERTA Exec. Bd. Mtg. 10:00 AM
   North Bellmore Library

March 2016
8 Tues. ERTA Luncheon Mtg. 11:30 AM
   Carlyle-on-the Green-Bethpage Black 31
31 Thurs. LIZ Officers & Exec. Bd. Mtg. 10:00 AM
   Hauppauge Diner

April 2016
1 Fri. LIZ Newsletter Deadline

May 2016
12 Thurs. LIZ Officers & Exec. Bd. Mtg. 10:00 AM
   Hauppauge Diner
18 Wed. LIZ Luncheon
Minimum Pension Bump Up
The bill would extend the minimum retirement allowance provided to long standing retired members of the New York State Teachers’ Retirement System, who retired prior to July 1, 1980 and increase the minimum retirement allowance for all such retirees to $550 per year of NYS service up to a maximum of $19,250.

A.6867 Abbate S.04117 Libous

Improve Pension COLA
Improve COLA law to more accurately account for increases in inflation by raising the base amount or by allowing for higher CPI percentage to be applied (RPEA statement).

Elder Abuse
The proposed legislation would expand the limited definition of caregivers in Penal Law 260.31 to include anyone who “voluntarily assumes responsibility for providing care for a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person”. This change would make it possible to hold all abusive caregivers accountable.

A.3891 Morelle S.641 Valesky

It is time to remove the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) from the school aid formula and allow school districts to begin the reduction recovery process so that our students have access to all programs necessary for quality education.
(related legislation: A.02271A Woerner S02743A Gallivan)

Social Security 2100 Act
To protect our Social Security System and improve benefits for current and future generations.
S.731 Sanders H.R. 1391 Larson

Observation vs. inpatient for coverage under Medicare
To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S.843 Brown H.R -1571 Courtney

Student Testing Improvement and Accountability Act
To amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify when certain academic assessments shall be administered.

S.1025 Tester H.R.452 Gibson

NYSRTA is opposed to any reduction to Social Security COLA or Social Security benefits.

We are opposed to any attempt to privatize Social Security.

NYSRTA supports legislation that:

*Strengthens principal and teacher preparation programs.

*Maintains and enhances school based programs in literacy education, vocational preparation, technical training, art and music.

*Protects our youth in elementary and secondary schools from any and all bullying, harassment and violence.

Health
Penny Coyle, Chair

- Claustrophobia is more likely in women than men, with unclear reasons.
- FDA wants food labels to quantify the amount of added sugars.
- A new drug, Praulent, sharply lowers cholesterol, but it is costly.
- Shopping for a doctor who fits, has become a routine practice.
- People with chronic back, neck, or joint pain, commonly seek acupuncture and chiropractic care, but don’t tell their doctors, a new study reports.
EERTA News  
Fred Conway, President  
EERTA is welcoming home our VP Penny Coyle from a very long hospitalization. EERTA is holding its summer Executive Board Meeting on August 26th at the home of Carol Joynes in Riverhead. Our annual “Back To School Luncheon” is being held at the Vineyards in Aquebogue on September 9th. The Southampton Town Luncheon will be at the Public House in Southampton on November 4th. The Annual Christmas Luncheon (Southold-Greenport) will be held at the Soundview Restaurant in Greenport on December 2nd and the Shelter Island Luncheon will be held at Virginia Schultz’s home on December 9th. Yours in the interests of EERTA, LIZ and NYSRTA.

Public Relations  
Eileen Holmes  
The EERTA Flag Day Luncheon was held at the Public House in Southampton. It was organized by the Hamptons town directors and well attended with over 40 people. Dee McKinnon won the 50/50 raffle on her 70th birthday. Guest speaker was Joel Reitman of Southold, a retired teacher and former journalist for two LI weekly newspapers, (Smithtown Messenger and Southold Traveler Watchman) who spoke about his recently published book “B is for Brooklyn D is for Dogs”. Larry Strickland, EERTA Scholarship Chair introduced Robert Chituk of Aquebogue as the EERTA Scholarship winner. Robert is an education major at LIU.

Friendly Service  
Alicia Winowsky and Dee McKinnon Co-Chairs  
Hello fellow retirees. Hope you are enjoying a wonderful summer. Friendly Service has been hard at work this season as usual. Dee and I have summer birthdays and we both received LIZ birthday cards right on time. In appreciation, we are sending a salute out to our unsung heroes, our workers who are keeping the spirit of Friendly Service alive and well! Thank you all so much for all you do.

Shout to Penny Coyle and June Torns! Hope each day gets better and better.

WERTA News  
Evelyn Paola, President  
Members gathered on June 16, 2015 for the Final Luncheon of the year, held at Guy Anthony’s Restaurant, North Merrick. The Annual Scholarship was awarded to Alexandra Cimino, a student in the STEP Program at Adelphi University. Alexandra’s parents and Carolyn Phillips, Director of the STEP Program were in attendance.

David Keefe gave his usual informative report about the “goings-on” in Albany. Angelo Grande provided an update on the NYSRTA Convention to be held October 27-29 at the “Turning Stone Resort and Casino” and LIZ President Kathryn Grande spoke about legislative visits. Vice-President Emily Caristo presented the final plans for our trip on September 1st. This year WERTA will tour the FDR Estate, Hyde Park, after a special Luncheon at the Culinary Institute. Many members signed up for the event.

Our next meeting will be held on November 10, 2015 at “Carlyle –on- the Green”- Bethpage Black. Many thanks to the WERTA officers, and to the Executive Board for their usual commitment and dedication through the year. Special thanks to the loyal Members who attend our functions. WERTA needs and appreciates your support! See you in November!

Vice President – June L. Torns  
The May 20th luncheon was held at Lombardi’s on the Bay for the second year. The guest speaker was Sue Shiebler, the daughter of Jack Ellsworth, a fixture of Long Island Radio and known as the “Silver Fox”. He was especially notable for favoring the Golden Era of popular music on his program called “Memories in Melody”. Sue assisted her late father with the book of the same name.

The September 16th luncheon will be held at Captain Bill’s in Bay Shore again this year. The speaker will be Lois Lutwin, a Copiague School District retiree. Lois is a docent at the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, located on the Welwyn Preserve in Glen Cove.
Awards
Mary Ella Moeller & Jo Anne Powell, Co-Chairs

Be sure to attend the Long Island Zone Annual Meeting on Wednesday, September 16th, so that you will be present when the highest award for service to LIZ will be presented to a member of the zone.

In the past years, a silver tray was presented to the recipient. After much discussion in the committee with input from others, it was decided that in lieu of the actual silver tray a gold-on-silver pin representing the silver tray would be awarded, so that it could be worn proudly at any time. A framed Distinguished Service “Silver Tray” Award Certificate, personalized with all the awardees, accompanies the distinctive pin.

Come to the September 16th luncheon and you will find out who this very special person is this year.

Membership – Mary Armbruster, Chair

I hope everyone had a good summer. Thank you to all members who paid 2015-2016 dues that were due as of July 1st 2015. You may still mail payments and cards. Thank you! I appreciate receiving the 2015-16 cards confirming and updating your information. A special thank you to those who contributed to the Scholarship Fund. PLEASE! PLEASE! bring a new retiree to the fall luncheon meeting as well as the EERTA and WERTA Luncheon Meetings. It takes one to bring one. New members are needed and welcome.

Workshop Committee Report
Angelo Grande-Chair

The 2015 Annual Convention will be held from October 27th to October, at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino in Verona, New York

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27th
Registration and Vendor Exhibits 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Welcome Reception – Coffee, Tea and Danish Pastry
Theme: “The 65th Anniversary”- The color is “Sapphire”.

4:00 – 5:30 p.m. NYSRTA Workshops: All New Delegates are encouraged to attend. Each presenter will give a ten minute summary of what his/her committee does.
New Delegate Orientation: Angelo Grande *CR, Senior Vice President
Bylaws: Charles Peszynski *CR, Chair
Membership: Salvatore Sedita, Vice President for Membership
Community Service: Pat Dietrich, Chair
Health: Gwynne Bodle, Chair
Public Relations: Robert Mooso, Chair

6:30 p.m. Dinner

8:15 p.m. Certificate of Recognition
Immediately following the Certificate of Recognition

Keynote Speaker – Tor Shekerjian

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28th
Breakfast Buffet-Starts at 7:30 a.m.
Workshops- Session #1 9:00 a.m.-10:00
Session #2 10:15 a.m.-11:15

Silver Sneakers
Archeological Excavation of Dutch Ft. Orange in Albany
Drilling for Hope
Teacher Retirement Service
Columbia County Historical Sites
Writing History for Kids
Body Intelligence
Armchair Tour of Rensselaer County
Public Education Enemy #1
Munson Williams Art Presentations

11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Vendor Exhibits
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
Luncheon Speaker - Thomas DiNapoli, New York State Comptroller

1:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Session 1 Annual Meeting
5:45 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. Cocktail Party:
65th Anniversary, the color is “Sapphire”.
Wear apparel to match the color blue.
7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Dinner
8:15 p.m. Musical Entertainment
William Locke

Thursday, October 29th

7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Annual Workshop Committee
Breakfast Meeting to include a representative from Eastern Zone, Central Western Zone, Northern Zone, as well as the 2015 Workshop Committee.
9:15 a.m. Session II Annual Meeting
Annual Meeting Ends
Executive Board Meeting

11:30 a.m. Box Lunch pick up. Eat at hotel or take and go.
Join the Long Island Zone of the NYSRTA (Dues-$30/year or $450/Life) by contacting Membership Chair, Mary Armbruster, 120 South High Street, Lindenhurst, NY 11757

FALL ANNUAL LUNCHEON MEETING

Directions:
Southern State Parkway to exit 42 south.
Cross over Montauk Highway.
Continue down to Clinton Avenue.
Turn left on Bayview Avenue.
OR Sunrise Highway to Fifth Avenue.
South which becomes Clinton Avenue.
Turn left on Bayview Avenue.

Menu includes: Champagne Punch, Soda, Coffee
and Tea
Appetizer: Cheese Tortellini with Peas (Pink)
Tomato Cream Sauce
Salad: Spinach Salad with Warm Bacon Dressing
Entrees: Roast Prime Rib Au Jus, Salmon Filets
with Ginger Sauce, Stuffed Chicken Breast with
Proscuitto and Mozzarella in a Marsala Wine Sauce.
All served with Fresh Seasonal Vegetable and Potato
plan Fresh Baked Rolls and Butter
Dessert: Ice Cream Sundae

Join us Wednesday, September 16th at 11:30 A.M. at our Fall Luncheon at Captain Bill’s Restaurant, 122 Ocean Avenue, Bay Shore, NY 11706

Send a check payable to: NYSRTA/LIZ for $30.00 per person to: June Toms, 40 Pleasantview Court, Copiague, NY 11726 (631) 842-4517 before Sept. 4th.