

The New York State Retired Teachers' Association, Inc.



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YORK

State

Summer 2018

NO. 2 VOL. 66

WORKING TOGETHER TO SUPPORT AND STRENGTHEN
THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RETIRED EDUCATORS,
THEIR FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES.

A word from our President: Angelo Grande



*Angelo Grande *CR
President*

After a short spring we have embarked upon a hot and sticky summer. I guess we have no choice but deal with the weather as it comes along.

NYSRTA is alive and well. We continue to make progress with our financial situation. Our President's Appeal has raised over \$260,000 in the past three years to help our financial position. We are working toward a balanced budget.

Membership is still our primary concern. We must increase and retain membership in our organization. Please ask a friend to join. Just think, if each of our current members brought in one new member, how successful our organization would be.

Our Annual Convention is coming up shortly. It will be held at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino from October 17th to October 19th. **Kevin Mulligan** and his Committee have worked throughout the year to make this a wonderful convention.

Bill Tenity, chairman of the Bylaws Committee will give an update on the status of the Bylaw changes in the Summer *York State* as of the July, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting. **Gayla LePage**, Chair of the Resolutions Committee will also give a report on the status of the Resolutions as of the July, 2018 Meeting.

The Sign-up for the trivia contest will be until 12:45pm on Thursday, Oct. 18th. The sign-up will be in the Mohawk Room. Each zone can sign up for one table with a team consisting of 1-8 people. The Syracuse Trivia Company will run this event on Thursday night beginning at 8:15pm.

Reflection on the work of the 2018 Committee: Kevin offered many words of thanks to the committee members for a job well done. He said "The Western Zone has had everything together since our first meeting on Nov.1st (They are definitely the Best in the West), a High Bar." **Jim Newell**, time-keeper **Diane Hahn*CR**, and note-taker **Pat Newell** also recognized Kevin for another "spectacular job." Committee members thanked Kevin for his leadership in guiding the work of this committee.

To quote **Kevin Mulligan**, chair of the Workshop Committee "The Hay is Officially in the Barn! Yahoo!! Gold Stars for Everyone".

Angelo Grande



Turning Stone Resort and Casino, Verona, NY, October 17 through 19, 2018
Hosted by the Western Zone —Best in the West



Athenaeum Hotel



Holiday Valley



Shea's Theatre

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Registration and Vendor Exhibits
2:00 – 5:00 PM

Welcome Reception – Coffee, tea, and Danish Pastry

4:00 – 5:00 PM – New Delegate

Workshop – Presented by **Kevin Mulligan** (Senior Vice President) - This workshop is geared for first time delegates and alternatives and will provide a brief overview of what to expect at the Convention and Annual Meeting.

6:30 PM Dinner

8:15 PM Certificate of Recognition Awards will be Presented

Keynote Speaker: John Baronich
Title: Freedom to Paddle
John is a retired industrial arts teacher and retired principal from Springville/Griffith Institute Central

School District. He also has been a historical reenactor for years, under the guise of Jacques B., a French fur trapper and voyageur. John celebrated his first day of retirement in 2013 by taking off on a twelve day canoe paddle from Buffalo to Albany via the Eric Barge Canal, wearing the clothes of an 18th century frontiersman and eating only the food that would have been available at that time. This is just one of the adventures of this retired educator who does not want to ever stop exploring. John realized that once he retired, he had the freedom to...

Introduced by **Michelle Claus**

Thursday, October 18, 2018
Breakfast Buffet Starts @ 7:00 AM
Registration 9:00 AM – Noon

First Session – Thursday, October 18, 2018 @ 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM

1. **Aging Optional: Presented by Tom Schiltz**

Description – Have you tried the usual gym/fitness programs and found that your particular needs or interests were not being met? Many traditional “older adult” and “senior fitness” programs are often not well designed. Tom Schiltz, a Certified Personal Trainer and Functional Aging Specialist, will explain short, simple but proven techniques to help decrease pain, increase strength and improve balance at any age or functional level. The mission of functional fitness is to help people realize that they can keep doing all the things they need to do, like to do, and want to do for a very long time.

Introduced by **Doris Kirsch *CR**

Continued on next page

2. The Very Nostrils of Hell: Buffalo's Canal District in the Nineteenth Century: Presented by Mike Vogel

Description – After the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, Buffalo vaulted to national commercial prominence and grew quickly from a frontier village to the eighth largest city in the nation. The canal's Western Terminus quickly developed a reputation for more than trade and immigration though. The link between canal and lakes quickly fostered what was considered the third roughest waterfront in the world. This talk looks at the colorful history of a red-light district now being repurposed as a heritage themed family entertainment zone known as Canalside.

Introduced by **Nancy White**

3. The Legacy of Robert H. Jackson and the Robert H. Jackson Center: Presented by Gregory L. Peterson, Esq.

Description – Justice Robert H. Jackson, a resident of Chautauqua County in western New York, was a recent answer to a Final Jeopardy question – "Who was the only person to be an Attorney General, Solicitor General, and United States Supreme Court Justice?" We will review his legacy, including serving as Chief U.S. Prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials and his final Supreme Court appearance before his death when the historic *Brown v Board of Education* decision was handed down, as well as the work of the Robert H. Jackson Center located in Jamestown, NY.

Introduced by **Maria Hager**

4. The Family Love Letter: Presented by Greg Ronneburger of AXA Equitable

Description – Have you ever had to help a family member or friend sort through financial and legal documents due to sudden health issue or premature passing? Did you have to make decisions that made you think "I wish they told us what they wanted to

happen". Did you leave the experience thinking "I won't let this happen to me". If so, this seminar is for you. The Family Love Letter helps you coordinate all of the important estate planning strategies if sudden incapacitation or death should occur, so that an emotionally trying time doesn't become unduly burdensome.

Introduced by **Kevin Mulligan, Sr. Vice President/Workshop Committee Chair**

5. Cooking with The Farm House Kitchen Chef:

Presented by Boo Wells

Description – Boo Wells is the chef and owner of The Farm House Kitchen, a catering company and cooking school in Sackets Harbor, New York. She believes that "Food is Love" and feeding your family and friends is the best gift you can give them. Mrs. Wells will demonstrate light and healthy 30 minute meals for 1-2 people.

Introduced by **Pat Newell**

Second Session – Thursday, October 18, 2018 10:30 – 11:30 AM

1. The Made in America Store: Presented by Mark Andol

Description – In the wake of losing many American jobs to foreign manufacturing competition, Mark Andol opened the *Made in America Store*, the only "brick and mortar" store in the US that exclusively sells 100% American-made products, in 2010. The store (which has now grown to seven in the Buffalo/Niagara Falls area) helped to create the consumer demand for "Made in U.S.A." which has fueled steady employment growth in retail, distribution, management, marketing, tourism, and technology at this company. This is truly an American success story.

Introduced by **Judy Farmer**

2. National Comedy Center – The Story of Comedy Lives Here: Presented by Journey Gunderson

Description – The National Comedy Center is dedicated to the art of comedy. Featuring more than 50 immersive and interactive exhibits, the Center celebrates comedy in all of its forms. The museum has something for every sense of humor and, through the use of technology, each visitor's experience is personalized to fit their own. Opening less than three months ago in Jamestown, New York, the Center embodies Lucille Ball's vision for her hometown to become a destination for the celebration of the comedic arts – a vision already begun to be realized via the programming of the National Comedy Center's dialogues, the renowned Lucille Ball Comedy Festival, and the Lucille Ball Desi Arnaz Museum.

Introduced by **Judy Klug**

3. The Buffalo Story: Presented by Paige Melin

Description – The story of Buffalo is the story of an American city that has risen by overcoming obstacles through ingenious strategy, occasional good luck, and most importantly, an overwhelming determination to succeed. This presentation will provide a virtual tour of many of Buffalo's most important landmarks and historic sites, which combine to tell the story of the city. From the opening of the Erie Canal, to the building of the magnificent Art Deco City Hall, to the restoration of the Darwin Martin House, Buffalo's proud story will be told.

Introduced by **Audrey Seidel**

4. Creative Small Space Gardening: Presented by Catherine Bullwinkle

Description – Participants will learn how to design and maximize their small garden space using low or no cost creative container methods, square foot grids, raised bed gardening techniques and vertical gardening enhancements to maximize gardening space.

Introduced by **Diane Hahn *CR**

Second Session 10:30 —11:30 AM (continued)

5. TRS Pension 2018: Presented by Richard Young and the TRS Team

Description— As in the past years, representatives from TRS will give a complete explanation of the current status of the NYS Teachers' Retirement Pension.

Introduced by **President Angelo Grande *CR**

Noon — 1:00 PM Lunch

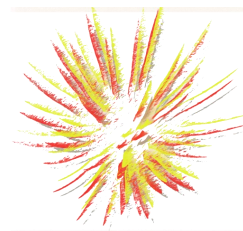
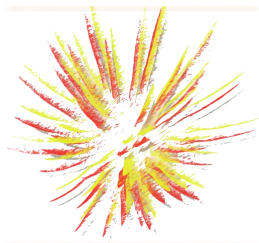
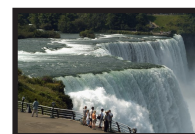
1:15 — 5:00 PM Session 1 Annual Meeting

6:15 — 7:00 PM Cocktail Party
(cash bar)

THEME: Cheers! Best of the West!
(Western NY)

Meet and greet other zones, introduce yourself to host zone representatives, NYSRTA officers, and personnel.

7:00 — 8:00 PM Dinner
(cash bar)



THURSDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT 8:15 PM

Trivia Night by DJ's-R-Us Entertainment of Cicero, New York — Mohawk Room

Join us for an evening of friendly competition as teams try to correctly answer the most trivia questions. Teams can be made up of 1 to 8 people and up to 15 teams can be accommodated. Pre-registration with team name and name of participants is required by 12:45PM on Thursday. Each zone is guaranteed a table and the other 5 spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Mixed zones are also accepted. Prizes will be awarded to those placing in 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Also, a cash bar will be available.

Friday, October 19, 2018

7:00 — 9:00 AM Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM Annual Workshop Committee Breakfast Meeting

Includes a representative of Western Zone, Southern Zone and the 2020 host, Long Island Zone, as well as members of the 2018 Workshop Committee.

9:15 AM Session 2 Annual Meeting



Memories of Conventions Past...

*Eastern Zone gift to delegates
Picture submitted by President Emeritus
Terry Trudeau *CR*

Central Zone

Mary Radloff, Public Relations Chair

The NYSRTA Ross Hudson Memorial Grant of \$1000 for 2018 was awarded to Cynthia Covey, a sixth- grade teacher at Afton Elementary School, Afton, NY. **Project: Creation of textbook and materials of two different reading levels for Social Studies students with a variety of skills and reading levels.**

CZ Vice President **Bill Cline** made the presentation at the Afton SCD Moving-Up Day on June 21. PR Chairs from the local units used a blind evaluation of the 17 applications which were all remarkably well written and showed a wide range from commercial products to original creative plans for student benefits. Evaluators included **Vera Wolczek**, Cayuga; **Chris Granan**, **Mark Granan**, Chenango; **Jane Hicks**, Madison; **Johnnie Jones**, Oneida/Herkimer; **Dell Ford Jordan**, Onondaga; **Michelle Lonergan** Oswego.

In addition to this program, these PR chairs have done an excellent of keeping their members as well as the public informed of their activities. Newsletters, local newspapers, publicity of participation in local walks for good causes, election of officers, community service projects – all contribute to keeping NYSRTA in the public eye.

Central Western Zone

Phyllis Dunlap, Public Relations Chair

Ann Czajkowski, chair of the Barrie Fleegel Memorial Active Educator Grants reported from Orleans County. **Carol Lord *CR**, **John Hogan *CR** and **Gene Czajkowski** graciously agreed to serve on the Grants Committee with me again this year. **Mariann Holcomb** passed away in January 2018. She had served on the Committee since the inception of the CWZ Active Educator Awards in October of 2005. She will be missed. This is a great way to get our NYSRTA out to the public domain, help active educators and have our CWZ members receive some monetary rewards. This award is in memory of one of our past presidents at CWZ.

One hundred eighty-eight Split Club tickets at twenty dollars each plus and additional forty dollar in donation for a total of \$3,800 funded the 2018 CWZ Barrie Fleegel Memorial Active Educator Grants, Split Club winnings and expenses. Seventeen hundred fifty dollar was awarded in Grants this year. At least \$100 is awarded to a fulltime active educator pursuing a graduate level degree or certificate in each of our Zone 9 counties with an eligible applicant.

Sixteen hundred ninety-five dollars was divided among fifteen Split Club members at \$113 each. Three hundred fifteen dollars was set aside for printing cost, stationery, certificates and postage.

Joan Handfield, Community Service Chair from Ontario County Retired Teachers reports: "Our Community Service project for 2017-18 is the House of John, a hospice home in Clifton Springs. This facility provides wonderful hospice care to terminally ill and their families. Last fall they were delighted to receive our cash donations as well as our paper products and personal care items. We would like to continue our generosity.

Some of the items from the House of John's wish list are: paper products, copy paper, stamps, Swiffer Wet Jet pads, clear 13 Gallon garbage bags, dishwasher detergent, and medium vinyl gloves, HE laundry soap for front loading washing machine, Keurig cups and gift cards.



From L-R:

Cornelia Johnson, Lynn Hefferon, Barb Rosecrans, Lynn Patti, Carol Westlake, Carol Lord*CR, President Emerita Judie Byndas*CR and Norma Cayward.

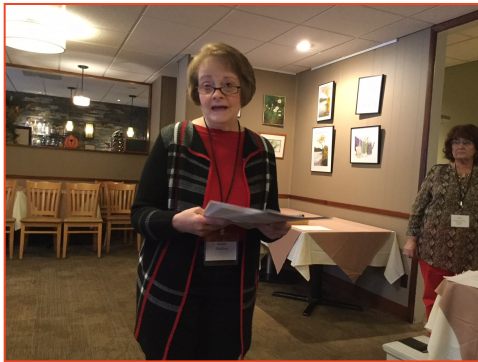
Seneca County Retired Teachers' Executive Board met to plan the autumn meeting at Café XIX in Seneca Falls, Birthplace of Women's Rights. The café is named after the 19th Amendment which gives women the right to vote. A small group of women and men met in Waterloo, also in Seneca County to write up the Declaration of Sentiments to be voted on at the 1st Women's Rights Convention held in Seneca Falls in 1848.



Eastern Zone

Pamela Love, Public Relations Chair

Janice Mullins is our Eastern Zone Legislative Action Committee Representative and has been providing leadership for a while. This year, she and three other advocates from Eastern Zone visited eleven of the fourteen legislators slated to visit during two full days in March of this year. The other advocates included **Ken Bollerud**, **Jane Miller** and **Tom Mullins**. They visited the legislators at their Capital and LOB offices. Some of the issues discussed at their meetings with legislators included minimum Pension Bump Up and raising the base benefit amount upon which the COLA is computed from \$18,000 to \$21,000. This is still a priority of NYSRTA since legislation was introduced in 2016 at the request of NYSRTA. Eastern Zone is very fortunate to have Janice and her team of advocates and we thank them for their time and effort.



Janice Mullins

Rosalind Carron, representing the Upper Montgomery Unit, has sent me the following information concerning her unit. This unit offers a yearly scholarship of \$500 to a graduating senior. They prefer a senior planning to enter the field of Education. At their business meeting last fall, Ashlee Jones of Fonda-Fultonville Central High School was announced the winner of the scholarship. This unit also donates \$250 to an active teacher project that will help enhance his/her students' education. This money is awarded to a school district on a rotating basis. Last year, the \$250 went to a 5th. grade special education teacher from the Fonda-Fultonville School District for materials and incentives involving four stations to be used in a multiplication lunch group. This year, it was presented to St. Johnsville-Oppenheim-Ephratah Junior High School which helped fund a two day field trip to the Adirondacks. The Upper Montgomery Unit is comprised of retirees from four central schools districts: Canajoharie, Fonda-Fultonville, Fort Plain and St. Johnsville-Oppenheim-Ephratah. All programs are funded by raffle tickets sold at two yearly meetings.

Long Island Zone

Eileen Holmes, Public Relations Chair

The Long Island Zone announced the winners of the 2018 NYSRTA Hudson-Kramer award: **Malynda Nichol** and **Shawn Keane**, science teachers at Dawnwood Middle School, Middle Country School District, Cerntereach, Long Island. Their innovative project involves creating an agricultural unit and curriculum that will benefit all students by enhancing the STEAM and science research initiative in their school district and specifically, the grant money will be used to build a heated greenhouse.

The Zone held its Spring Luncheon/Meeting at The Irish Coffee Pub in East Islip. It was well attended and door prizes were raffled off to raise money to donate to "Helping Makes U Happy", a local non-profit organization. LIZ Vice President Eileen Holmes distributed 12 page booklets on organizing important documents, keeping records, understanding wills, trusts, and proxy care choices and ways to declutter all the papers you don't need. These booklets were sent to LIZ from RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program), a non-profit group that gives lectures and seminars at libraries and senior meetings throughout Suffolk County.

The WestEnd unit held their annual scholarship luncheon on June 12th and honored **Samantha Antoine**, a graduate student at Adelphi University, with a \$500 award. Samantha earned a bachelor's degree in childhood education and is now working on her Master's degree in the 5 year STEP program at Adelphi University's School of Education. Her goal is to become a pre-school teacher.



WERTA scholarship winner Samantha Antoine with WERTA officers Evelyn Paola, Emily Caristo and Candy Misner



Hudson-Kramer award winners Shawn Keane and Malynda Nichol with LIZ PR Chair Eileen Holmes and Dawnwood Middle School Principal Kristi Leonard

After the scholarship presentation, Theresa from Voegler's Florist demonstrated techniques for designing and arranging flowers. She created four lovely samples while enthralled guests looked on and then donated these flower arrangements to be raffled off to help raise money for WERTA's projects.

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Luncheon guest **David Keefe**, president of the New York State Teachers Retirement System spoke to the gathering about the security of our pensions and about labor and pension issues in NY and across the nation. As retirees, his information and insight are always welcomed to keep us 'in the know'.



LIZ President Fred Conway*CR with Barbara Nagelberg, Leslie Conway and Mark Nagelberg

Tai Chi movements and had the audience join in for a short workout. Special thanks to EERTA VP Agnes Dansereau for arranging this lovely luncheon and to members **Ginny and Val Stype** for their generous donations of flower baskets at LIZ and EERTA luncheons that are used for raffles for raising Community Service funds.



Mary Armbruster



Don and May Griffith

North Central Zone

Nancy Roberts & Patricia Newell, Public Relations Co-Chairs

North Central Zone seemed to go almost directly from winter in April this year to summer in May. We have had some wonderful events this spring with participation from many NCZ members.

Ready, Set, Fun 2018 Book Fest, sponsored by WPBS-TV, and held this year on May 12th at Salmon Run Mall in Watertown, was well attended. Under the guidance of Community Service Chair, **Patricia Dietrich**, NCZ manned two tables. Children of all ages were delighted to select new books and also to participate in a book exchange. We had many NCZ volunteers who enjoyed greeting the children. Those present, but not pictured were: **Alicia Bach, Joan Carlo, Anita James, Marianne & Joe Malatino.**

Our June Scholarship luncheon was very successful with 72 members and guests in attendance. NCZ, in partnership with the Northern New York Community Foundation, awarded \$1,000 scholarships to **Lesley J. Aucter**, a 2018 graduate of Beaver River High School, and **Michaela A. VanWormer**, a 2018 graduate of South Jefferson High School. NCZ President, **James Newell**, and **Mary Perrine** from NNYCF presented the awards. We are very proud of these outstanding future educators. We thank Chair **John Gaffney** and his committee for their dedicated work for the Scholarship Fund.

This year NCZ was honored to award the New York State Retired Teachers' Association Hudson-Kramer \$1,000 grant to active teacher, **Carla D. Clayborne**. Carla is a 6th grade teacher at H.T. Wiley School in Watertown. She will use the grant to implement her Save the Sea Bird project. Attending the luncheon with Carla was her principal, **Lynn Gaffney**.

Laura Foster, executive director of the Frederic Remington Art Museum in Ogdensburg was the featured speaker at our luncheon. She told many interesting anecdotes about Remington's life from his childhood to death, along with photos of his life, paintings and sculptures. The museum is one of our genuine treasures in the North Country.

Future Dates to Remember:

Board of Directors Meeting Thursday, August 2, 2018 10 a.m. BOCES Wellness Clinic

NCZ Fall Business Meeting Tuesday, September 18, 2018, Ramada Inn, Watertown



NCZ President Jim Newell, Michaela VanWormer, Lesley Aucter, Winners and Mary Perrine, Northern New York Community Foundation Representative



Jim Newell, with Carla Clayborne, Grant Winner, Lynn Gaffney, Principal of H. T. Wiley School



Krista Juczak, JoAnn Clark, Sally Scott, Diane Ferrucci, Judy Gilligan, Pat Dietrich and granddaughter Aurora, Pat Newell



Kathy Allan, Sandy Geiss, Marcia and David Schryver

Northern Zone

Linda Crosby, Public Relations Chair

On May 1, the Northern Zone Board of Directors met to resume planning membership meetings and activities for 2018. **Linda Crosby** and **Rae Louise Tate** provided information about the April meeting of the State Board of Directors in Liverpool. The whole NZ board discussed membership issues at length. The recipients of the high school scholarship awards have been determined; photos and information will be in the next York State. **Eileen Holmes** (LIZ) was recognized as our new State Chair for Community Service. Our historian, **Jean Theobald**, is working on a new scrapbook; contact her about any photos, newspaper clippings or specific information you may have gathered about our NZ members (or yourself!). Healthcare Chair **Joe Russo** read the names of our NZ walkers; he asked that members keep reporting to him your mileage and the amount of any money collected for any special walking events; he reported that our award-winning walkers club members have trekked over 3,342 miles. Clifton- Fine Unit members are planning their August annual meeting. State by-laws, 2018 state resolutions, and legislative action were also discussed. **Alice Galvin** reported on the 2018 State Convention workshop details and the exciting activities the workshop committee and Western Zone (host zone) are planning for October 17-19; please join us! We also worked on preparing the NZ Spring newsletter and the Spring membership meeting invitations for mailing to NZ members. **Linda Crosby**, PR Chair, President **Gayla LePage** and President Emeritus **Terry Trudeau*CR** will attend the July meeting of the State Board of Directors in Liverpool.

In our Spring newsletter, Editor **Jean Theobald** acknowledged new members **Keely Dunshee** (Malone C.S.D.) and **Susan Shave** Clifton-Fine C.S.D.). Welcome from all of us! She highlighted the details of the DeCormier Trust's financial help for NYSRTA members. Jean recognized the sad passing of our fellow NZ retired teachers: **Eunice Harney**, **Ruth Griswol**, **Faye Hopper**, and **Elizabeth Quesnel**. We will remember them for their past fellowship and wish their families peace and happy memories. We must also express our sympathy to former, long-time NZ board member, **Holly Chorba**, who suddenly lost her dear husband, Ron; A Clarkson University professor emeritus revered by his students, Ron was Holly's enthusiastic partner in many exciting adventures and travels for over 30 years. Condolences to all of their family members.

Congratulations go to long-time NYSRTA-NZ member **Vedora Maloney** of Chateaugay, N.Y.!! Vedora celebrated her 100th birthday in March 2018 with family, friends and just about the whole village of Chateaugay at

a huge birthday party at the American Legion. We wish the beginning years of your second century to be as happy as your first. NZ members were thrilled to visit the Frederic Remington Museum in Ogdensburg, N.Y. for their spring membership meeting on May 23. Vice-President of Meetings and Programs **Alice Galvin** did her usual exceptional job in making all the arrangements for the meeting, a guided tour of the museum, and a delicious gourmet sandwich box lunch. **Laura Foster**, Museum Director/Curator(2017 NYSRTA Convention presenter) treated us to a pictorial power point introduction to the museum. Two museum docents, including **Laura Desmond**, Museum Education Specialist, and **Kathie Wade**, provided an engrossing guided tour of their amazing museum. What gracious, accommodating hosts we found in this world-famous museum! Enjoy some photos from our meeting.



L to R:
President Emerita Agnes Hudson*CR, Roxann Finley, Jean Theobald and Betty and Tom Cook



L to R:
Laura Desmond, Alice Galvin, and Gayla LePage



President Emerita Agnes Hudson*CR and Marjorie McCollough

Southeastern Zone

Maureen Coffey, Public Relations Chair

The first weekend in June, I put my insecurities aside and jumped back into the pool that is Fordham for my 50th college reunion --- and I'm so glad I did! The memories I would have missed are just too numerous to count. The university prepared a History of Fordham yearbook for all its new Golden Jubilee Rams. I don't know why, but I was one of 15 graduates asked to participate in a question/answer session about 1968. It was during that interview that the seeds for this column were planted. At our next SEZ meeting I asked our members to share any memories or reflections they might have about what was one of the most turbulent years of the 20th century. (And since we are still finishing up the activities

we included in our last column and we're only beginning to plan our fall/winter calendars, some personal memoirs seemed perfect!)

As I shared my idea with our members, **Jackie Gerken** pointed out that if we went back 100 years, we'd find ourselves at the end of World War I. Jackie was not even born while the war was being fought, but she has vivid memories of the adults in her family talking about "the war to end all wars" when she was a little girl. Likewise, Ed had a great Uncle Charlie --- truly one of the kindest and most interesting men I've ever met --- who suffered from the effects of mustard gas poisoning during World War I. But now 100 years later, as we sat together having lunch and sharing updates from our various units, Jackie wondered out loud, whether we had learned anything over the years or if anything had changed.

Patti DeLeo was in 9th grade in 1968 and her priorities were buying the latest Beatles or Simon and Garfunkle albums (\$3.98) from her babysitting money (\$.50 an hour). But no matter how old we were, life began to change as the year went on and America found itself coping with an unpopular war, racial inequalities, campus unrest, and multiple assassinations. But Patti found relief most evenings as she kept up with the antics in "I Dream of Jeannie", "Bewitched", "Laugh-In" and "The Mod Squad". Early to bed night for Patti was Thursday, when the adults in her house would tune into the very popular, X rated "Peyton Place". To this day, its theme song can still lull her to sleep!

Helen Hoering offered sweet recollections of her college days. Her 50-year reunion from Oneonta brought back memories of curfews and girls' dorms on one side of the campus while the guys were on the other side. Twice a semester there was an open house and the guys could go to the girls' rooms, but they had to "keep the door open wide and four feet on the floor!" Each corridor had only one phone, so when your boyfriend called, you had to go to a pay phone in the lobby to call him back. By her sophomore year there were rotary dial phones in their dorm rooms, which they secured with locks, so no one could make calls without their knowledge. Helen also remembers a dress code for education majors: no slacks or pants in education classes. Thinking about today's co-ed dorms, non-existent or lax dress codes, and cell phones, it's hard to believe Helen's recollections only go back 50 years!

Mary Ellen Colombo reminisced about her mom -- my Aunt Marie. (My mom, Dorothy, and my Aunt Marie were sisters; Mary Ellen and I are cousins -- really more like sisters ourselves) Anyway, Aunt Marie was born at the end of World War I, lived through the Great Depression, fell in love with and married an Army soldier, sent him off to Europe during World War II, had Mary Ellen, and welcomed back my Uncle Fred after he survived The Battle of the Bulge in Germany -- all before she was 30 years old! It makes Mary Ellen very grateful for her life!

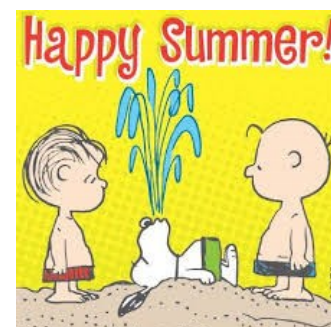
Nineteen Hundred Sixty-Eight saw demonstrations both in support of and against the war in Viet Nam. Many of us who were still in college remember the political divide we were suddenly seeing on our campuses. In 1968, my brother was in Khe Sahn during the TET Offensive. Although weeks went by where my family had no idea if he was dead or alive, he did in fact survive and came home the following October. What he couldn't survive however, were the effects of Agent Orange. My brother, Bob, a US Marine, died from Agent Orange related cancer in 1980. He was only 32.

That same year, two assassinations occurred which indirectly and then directly affected me personally. On April 4th, **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr** was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee. I remember going home on the subway that afternoon. There was no violence, no rioting, just people of all races and nationalities openly crying. We were all trying to process yet another senseless murder of a great leader. Now fast forward to June and I'm getting ready to graduate. **Bobby Kennedy** was scheduled to give our commencement address. Instead, that was the day his body went by train from NYC to Arlington Cemetery in Virginia. And, my dad, who was NYPD at the time, was assigned as a personal escort / bodyguard for **Coretta Scott King**, Dr. King's widow! He would be on RFK's funeral train instead of at my graduation! I was devastated, but as I processed in, I heard someone calling my name. It was my dad. At the last minute, with Mrs. King's assistance, they were able to arrange an assignment switch and my dad joined my family at my graduation! (Thank God I took my mom's advice that day!)

So here we sit --- 50 or 100 years later. Going back to Jackie's questions --- I'm not sure. Some recollections speak to a more innocent and less complicated time in America. Others make me think of the saying, "The more things change the more they stay the same." And the reality is, both are true!

So, there you have it. A different kind of column, but one I hope you enjoyed.

"Til next time...



Western Zone

Michelle Claus, Public Relations Chair

It's our turn...to plan the 68th Annual NYSRTA Convention. As a board member, I was counting down the years until it was our turn to help plan. This assignment seemed too large for one zone. Yes, I (and some of my member friends) was anxious and concerned years before we were given the task. I'm not sure why we were anxious, our zone has hosted 10 prior state conventions. We feel that our turn to host is a way for other zones to get to know our zone. When it is your zones turn to serve as host, there is plenty of help both from your zone and the Association. A seasoned committee meets with the three zones involved, Northern Zone (2017 previous host), Western Zone (2018 current host), and Southern Zone (2019 future host). We meet with the Standing Committee including **Kevin Mulligan**, Vice President, and **Kathi Bassett**, Association Executive Office Manager. As the hosting zone, we were given the topics we are responsible for and deadlines. We went straight to work. Teamwork made short work of our assignment.

Our Western Zone workshop planning team, led by Beth Green, has six varied workshops that will enlighten you on Thursday, October 18, 2018. The other four workshops are provided by the standing committee.

Plan to socialize on Thursday at our "Cheers" Cocktail Party. Meet and greet other zones, introduce yourself to host zone representatives, NYSRTA officers, and personnel. After dinner, join us for Trivia Night competition. Details of the Trivia Night and sign-up sheet, has been given to your zone president. Take a minute to fill out the registration form in this YORK State and send it today. We want to meet you this year!

PLANNING A MOVE?

Please include us in the moving plans! Call us at (518)482-3509 to update your address. Returned mail results in additional costs to the Association. Plus you miss out on YORK STATE magazine!



The passing of two of our Western Zone Presidents... **Leonard Sikora*CR** passed away in June, 2018 and was encouraged by Anthony to join Western Zone and become an active member. Len was Western Zone President from 1997-1999 and during his years with WZ, he served as Chair of the Founders' Fund. Other responsibilities were member of the Finance, Legislative and Community Service Committees. Len received the Citation Award at the zone level and later received the Certificate of Recognition State Award.

Anthony Vetrano*CR, our Western Zone President from 2003-2005, passed away on March 10, 2018. While President of WZ, Tony revamped health insurance benefits that could be provided to WZ members. He became chair of the Health Services Committee and custodian of the WZ health insurance program, which was unique among the ten zones. Our zone travel component was created by Tony, also. He was on our Board of Directors for sixteen years. At the state level, he has served as the Credentials Chair for several NYSRTA State Conventions. Tony encouraged socialization among the zones. At our state conventions, he organized bridge tournaments and other activities. We miss **Leonard Sikora** and **Anthony Vetrano**; men of ideas that we, as members, have benefitted.

YORK STATE

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Latham, New York 12110-6414**

For a complete listing of NYSRTA contacts, please visit our website:

www.nysrta.org



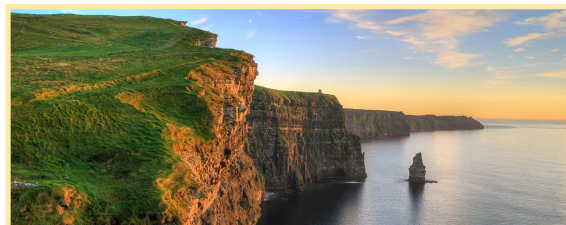
NYSRTA presents...

Shades of Ireland

10 days, 13 meals ~ **June 1-10, 2019** ~ **Booking#850658**

Highlights: Dublin, Irish Evening, Kilkenny, Waterford, Choices on Tour, Blarney Castle, Killarney, Ring of Kerry, Farm Visit, Jaunting Car Ride, Limerick, Cliffs of Moher, Galway, Castle Stay

Double: \$3,799*



Imperial Cities

11 days, 15 meals ~ **August 12-22, 2019** ~ **Booking#852166**

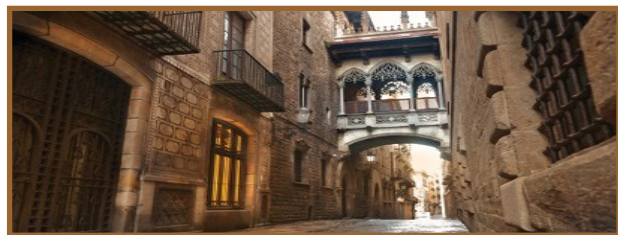
Highlights: Prague, Prague Castle, Lobkowitz Palace, Choice on Tour, Cesky Krumlov, Vienna, Grinzing Evening, Classical Music Performances at Lobkowitz Palace and Schoenbrunn Palace Orangerie, Danube River Cruise, Bratislava, Budapest, Matthias Church, Fisherman's Bastion, School Visit, Visegrad, Renaissance Dinner

Double: \$3,999*



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For your convenience, we offer airfare for purchase with all tour packages. If you purchase an air-inclusive program, your airfare will be quoted inclusive of all fuel, taxes and fees. Your rates are subject to change until paid in full. Seats are limited and may not be available on every flight or departure date. Land rates are per person, double occupancy, unless otherwise noted. Availability of departures at the prices noted in the brochure is limited. For current prices, please see our website. Government taxes and fees are additional. Land rates are guaranteed at time of deposit.

Resolutions Committee Report, July 2018; Gayla LePage, Resolutions Chair

The Resolutions Committee reviewed the nine proposals that were submitted by five different zones. (There were originally ten, but two were combined prior to our July meeting by the zones presenting them as they were almost the same.) Eight resolutions are recommended for consideration by the delegates at the 2018 Annual Meeting, and one is not recommended. All NYSRTA members should review these proposals and make their feelings about them known to their zone president, Resolutions chair, and delegates. A complete listing of the resolutions that have already been adopted can be found on the NYSRTA website.

Resolution B-5-1: School Safety (Western/Central Western Zones)

WHEREAS, school safety is imperative for educational learning to take place; and

WHEREAS, school safety is necessary for students, educators, and parents for educational purposes; and

WHEREAS, public and private schools throughout the United States have experienced loss of life and property due to vicious armed attacks; and

WHEREAS, students, teachers, and parents have joined forces in active demonstrations to protest against gun violence and demand positive legislation for a safer educational climate in all schools; now

Be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA take a strong public stand in the outcry against violence in our schools, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA voice support for greater safety through various state, zone, and unit publications, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA members, as are able, shall take an active part in reasonable and legal demonstrations against school violence.

THEREFORE, the New York State Retired Teachers' Association resolves to challenge our state legislators to fully fund mandates for school safety in every school building in New York State to its fullest extent.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objective 4

**The Resolutions Committee voted
"To Recommend."**

Resolution A-8: Loss of Retiree Benefits (Western Zone)

WHEREAS, retirees are persons who have left employment after numerous contractual years; and

WHEREAS, retirees have left employment with the intention of enjoying life and doing various activities, long desired; and

WHEREAS, retirees are to be revered and respected for the dedicated work and service, they have rendered throughout the years before retirement; and

WHEREAS, because they are retired, they should not be ignored and their benefits and health insurance be removed or changed, since they are no longer unionized nor employed; and

WHEREAS, no Board of Education shall group all retirees as one and place them in Medicare Part D, where their benefits have increase deductions; and

WHEREAS, their income is reduced, their medications are changed, and

they can no longer get their usual prescribed medications; and

WHEREAS, payment for their prescriptions is based on their retirement income and results in an increase in the cost of prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, retirees cannot be used as pawns to save a school district money; now

Be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA act on behalf of these retirees to have their health insurance and benefits returned to their prior commitment, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA seek legislation that protects and covers these retirees from discrimination due to retirement.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 1 and 3

**The Resolutions Committee voted
"To Recommend."**

Resolution D-22: Gun Safety (Central Western Zone)

WHEREAS, firearm assaults continue to threaten school students and educators; and

WHEREAS, assault weapons are readily accessible in most areas; and

WHEREAS, weapons have been used as toys by young children and teenagers;

WHEREAS, educators should be armed with books, not weapons, now

Continued on next page

Be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA requests the State Senate and Assembly members enact regulations banning assault weapon sales to citizens who are not security officers or armed servicemen, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA requests the State Senate and Assembly members increase the age limit for purchases of all firearms to age 21.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objective 4

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Resolution D- 23: A Resolution in Support of Greater Protection and Safety for Educational Employees (Central Zone)

WHEREAS, there continues to be numerous incidents of violence against school employees by students and adults; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) Act 2000, addresses "violent and disruptive incidents; and

WHEREAS, the NYS Commissioner's Regulation - 8CCR-NY 100.2 (1) (2) Code of Conduct deals with school violence, now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA supports the enforcement of legislation dealing with the issue of violence against school employees, and be it further

RESOLVED that the NYSRTA supports the enforcement of the information in the NYS Compilation of School Discipline Laws and Regulations, and be it further

RESOLVED that the NYSRTA supports the enforcement of the Commissioner's Regulations dealing with the issue of violence against school employees, and be it further

RESOLVED that the NYSTRA supports further legislation and Commissioner's Regulations that address the safety of school employees from violent acts.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 1 and 3.

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Resolution D-24: A Resolution in Support of Greater Protection and Enforcement of Legislation and Regulations Against Gun Violence in Schools (Central Zone)

WHEREAS, the number of violent acts committed in schools and on school grounds with the use of guns to be national tragedy; and

WHEREAS, the Gun Free School Zone Act of 1990 deals with the issue of guns on school grounds; and

WHEREAS, the SAFE Act is designed to keep the public, including our children, safe from gun violence; and

WHEREAS, NYS prohibits the carrying of guns or concealed carry of guns in K-12 schools, colleges, and universities; and

WHEREAS, some members in the NYS Senate called for stronger gun-control laws in NY state and proposed legislation to ban the allowing of teachers to carry gun in schools, now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA supports current legisla-

tion regarding the issue of gun violence in schools, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA supports the efforts of legislators to press for further legislation regarding the issue of gun violence in schools, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NYSRTA supports the efforts of the NYS Commissioner of Education and educators to press the further regulations and legislation with regard to the issue of gun violence in schools.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 1 and 3.

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Resolution D-25: A Resolution Concerning the Need for Metal Detectors in our New York State Public Schools (Northeastern Zone)

WHEREAS, the safety of all students, staff, and teachers in our schools is the preeminent concern of parents, educators, and all citizens including NYSRTA members; and

WHEREAS, the incidents of school shootings has increased drastically across our nation; and

WHEREAS, controlling points of entry into all school buildings is an obvious way to prevent weapons from entering educational spaces; and

WHEREAS, the presence of metal detection systems is an economical, sensible, and attainable step toward school safety and such systems have been proven effective where implemented, now

Resolutions Committee Report, July 2018 *(continued)*

WHEREAS, the presence of metal detection systems is an economical, sensible, and attainable step toward school safety and such systems have been proven effective where implemented, now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the members of NYSRTA will endorse and support the funding and installation of metal detection systems in our state's public schools, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Legislative Action Committee for NYSRTA will communicate our endorsement of the implementation of metal detection systems to our elected representatives at the State and Federal levels.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 3 and 4.

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Resolution E-20: A Resolution for Raising Concern with AARP about their Excessive Solicitation and Marketing Practices with the Elderly (Northeastern Zone)

WHEREAS, the NYSRTA and the AARP have shared a common history of over fifty years and serving the retirees and the elderly in New York State; and

WHEREAS, NYSRTA and AARP continue to have a strong relationship for the common good of the retiree as well as addressing the unique needs of the elderly; and

WHEREAS, NYSRTA had utilized many of the marketing ideas provided by AARP in addressing recruit-

ment practices and membership concerns; and

WHEREAS, both NYSRTA and AARP deal with an elder clientele that tend to be sensitive to and overly concerned with paying bills in a timely fashion and responding to mailings of a solicitation nature. Clientele who suffer from memory loss may be burdened with anxiety and unnecessary financial debt due to over zealous solicitation efforts; and

WHEREAS, these solicitations for membership by AARP have significantly increased in the last few years, causing members of AARP to have multiple, unneeded memberships in AARP and/or benefits AARP advertise for; and

WHEREAS, the Glens Falls Post Star on April 6, 2018 wrote the article titled "AARP Accused of Hounding Seniors" that questioned the over solicitation practices of AARP. The article stated that "angry members say AARP's barrage of solicitation letters and social media posts can mislead or confuse aging consumers, some of whom struggle with memory and managing their financial affairs," now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors for NYSRTA craft a letter to the leadership of AARP, addressing the aforementioned concerns raised about over solicitation and marketing tactics that lead to confusion and overreaction by the elder recipients, and be it further

RESOLVED that the Legislative Action Committee follow up with further communication to AARP and

address the areas of concern and work towards possible resolution.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 1, 2, and 3.

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Resolution F-5: Convention Locations (Southeastern Zone)

WHEREAS, the ten zones in the NYSRTA are separated by long distances; and

WHEREAS, the choice of location for the Convention causes a travel hardship for many Zones; and

WHEREAS, the travel distance causes some Zones to be unable to fill their quota of delegates, now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that we urge the NYSRTA to choose a more central location at which to hold the annual convention, or alternate the location of the Convention each year to accommodate all Zones more fairly.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objective 3.

The Resolutions Committee voted "To Recommend."

Continued on next page

Resolution E-21: Free-Range Parenting (North Central Zone)

WHEREAS, "Free-range parenting" is defined as the concept of raising children in the spirit of encouraging them to function independently and with less parental supervision, in accordance with their age development and with reasonable acceptance of realistic personal risks; and

WHEREAS, advocates of "Free-range parenting" believe it allows children to grow in imagination, creativity, decision-making, and problem-solving skills in turn allowing them to lower their anxiety and increase their self-confidence; and

WHEREAS, the concept of Free-range parenting" has been growing in the past decade as a counterweight to "Helicopter parenting" and increasingly strict government discipline against perceived child abuse and neglect; and

WHEREAS, the state of Utah passed the first "Free-range parenting" law in the United States in the spring of 2018; and

WHEREAS, several other state legislatures have introduced or will introduce such legislation in the coming year, now

THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED that the NYSRTA urges the New York State Legislature to introduce and pass a bill legalizing "Free-range Parenting" in our state.

Reference: NYSRTA Bylaws, Article II, Objectives 2 and 4.

The Resolutions Committee voted "Not To Recommend."

The reason behind the decision was that the committee believed that this infringes too much on parents' parenting choices and not something we support.

Any proposal that is not recommended by the committee may be brought up for consideration to be resubmitted to the committee by a 2/3 approval of the delegates.

Lastly, the Resolutions Committee is required to review annually the adopted resolutions in the "Be It Resolved" document and recommend for rescission for those which are no longer legal, timely, relevant, or have been accomplished. This was done and the following resolutions were rescinded or changed.

B-4 REMOVAL OF PENALTY ON SOCIAL SECURITY (2000) This will be replaced and renumbered by resolution passed in 2017 as the wording is clearer.

C-3 "that NYSRTA strongly support prescription drug benefit program as part of the Medicare reforms" (2002) This was rescinded as Medicare Part D has been instituted since then.

E-1 "that the president of the NYSRTA, by letter or personal contact, commend the Attorney General's Division for its excellent action program in Consumer Fraud during 1998. That the president also urge the new Attorney General to continue at the same level of service to the NYS consumers in 1999 and during his term of office" (1999) This was rescinded because of the mentions of the years.

E-3, E-17, and E-19 were rescinded as they all referred to the 2017 NYS

Constitutional Convention, and this was accomplished.

F-1 "that the delegates at the NYSRTA Annual Meeting encourage the President and the State Executive Committee of NYSRTA to limit the appointments to State Chairs and Committee members of our state organization to a period of service not to exceed nine years" (1998) This was rescinded as the Executive Committee wording is wrong.

Long-Term Care Insurance Program

The NYS Retired Teachers' Association has approved a discounted Long Term Care Insurance Program to be offered to its members and their family members.

This program is designed to help protect you, your family and your retirement security. Protection is available should you need care at home, in an assisted living facility, or nursing home.

**To request information on this program visit
www.nyltcb.com/nysrta/
or call**

(800) 695-8224, ext. 154.

This program offers special discounts not available to the general public for you and your family members including:

spouse / partner
children
parents
Grandparents

**Brian M. Johnson, CLTC ,
NYLTCB 11 Executive Park
Dr.,
Clifton Park, NY 12065
bjohnson@nyltcb.com**

Already a member? Please detach this application and give to a friend who may be interested in joining. There is strength in numbers! NYSRTA needs YOU to stay involved! Thank you!

NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT FORM AND PROFILE

Name (circle one) Mr. Miss Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (____) _____ Date of Birth _____ Email _____

(Circle one) Retired Educator Active Educator Associate (non-certified support staff) Year Retired _____

County of Residence _____ School Dist./College/Univ Retired

From _____

Subject Area _____ Level Taught _____ Level of Admin if Applicable _____

Spouse Enrollment

Spouse Name (circle one) Mr. Miss Mrs. Ms. Dr. _____

Date of Birth _____ Email _____

Retired Educator? Yes No (year retired) _____ Active Educator? Yes No State Retired From _____

School Dist./College/University Retired From _____

Payment Options

I have enclosed my check or money order made out to NYSRTA in the amount of: _____

Charge my: (circle one) VISA Mastercard Credit Card # _____

Print your name clearly as it appears on your card _____

Authorizing Signature _____



The ONLY statewide organization which works solely on behalf of retired educators!

Now that you are retired, we are here to help

Your voice and support for Legislation

Social and fun opportunities abound throughout the year

Retirees working for your retirement

Travel insurance and shopping discounts

Annual conference with aspiring workshops

Robert R. DeCormier Memorial Trust; David Mapes, Treasurer

For many of you readers the name DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund is very familiar yet you may not know some the people who are behind the scenes and their reasons for being part of the Trust. There are six trustees elected to the board of directors of the DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund. They form a group that finds great reward in serving members of the NYSRTA who are in need of assistance. Each member of the board brings with him or her a vast knowledge of educational experience and leadership qualities, that when added together are a powerful force for helping others. In our midst are former Presidents of NYSRTA, former Editors of YORK magazine, Legislative leaders, NYSRTA Executive Board members, some of us former administrators, all of us former teachers who still have the desire to share knowledge. With this combined force of knowledge we hope to give of our collective group (all NYSRTA members included) the resources needed, to members, who would like a hand up.

Each month, I have the opportunity to interact with several members of NYSTRA who are receiving assistance from the DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund. Letters are sent to each receiving member and correspondence comes back from our stipend recipients to us, on a regular basis. In the letters we write to our members it is always our goal to be positive in our outlook on daily activities and the future. Our letters are full of thoughts and ideas to encourage and motivate. In this way we hope to keep spirits uplifted and to share our mutual love for education and life.

The letters we receive in return are the most amazing of all as they are filled with the hopes of each member, regardless of financial situation and health concerns, as they tell of their children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren, whose lives they share and the wonderful family experiences they have.

Continued on page 20

Bylaws Committee Report; William Tenity, Chair

The Bylaws Committee is presenting three proposed bylaw changes for consideration at the 2018 Annual Meeting in October. One of them was approved by the Executive Board at it's July meeting. Two of the proposed bylaws were not approved by the Board. Each of the three proposed bylaws must be voted on by each zone and at the Annual Meeting in October. A summary of the three propositions, along with the results and rational of the Board's votes follows. The 2018 propositions have been posted on the web site at www.nysrta.org/bylaws, along with an updated copy of the complete NYSRTA Bylaws and on the NYSRTA face book page. I wish to thank the members of the committee for all of the hard work and time they have put into preparing these propositions and welcome new members **Peter Atchinson** of NEZ and **Rae Louise Tate** of NZ. They replace **Diane Hahn*CR** and **Burt Phillips*CR** who resigned from the committee after many years of service. The Association owes them a big thank you.

Proposition NP (Non Partisan) 2018

This proposition says, as part of its mission statement that NYSRTA being a not-for-profit 501 C4 organization

does not support any political candidate or party. The Association shall not be used for the dissemination of partisan principals for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office. The Association could be in danger of losing its not-for-profit status. **The Bylaws Committee unanimously recommended this proposed bylaw and the Board of Directors voted in favor of it.**

Proposition CVPFLMFS (Co VP For Legislation, Membership & Friendly Service) 2018

Currently we have Co-Vice Presidents for Legislative Action. That seems to be working well for them and their committee. The Bylaws currently do not address this situation. At the November Board of Directors meeting the desire was expressed that the concept be expanded to include co-VPs for Friendly Service. It was also suggested that we consider dividing the State into 2 regions (East and West) for Membership. The East Region would be Long Island Zone, Eastern Zone, Southeastern Zone, Southern Zone and Northeastern Zone. The West Region would be Western Zone, Central Western Zone, Central Zone, North Central Zone and Northern Zone. There would be a Membership VP

each region. **The Bylaws Committee voted 3 to 2 to not recommend this proposed bylaw. At the July Board of Directors meeting the proposed bylaw was defeated by a vote of 12 to 3 with 2 abstentions.**

Proposition EOD (Election Of Officers) 2018

Members of the Eastern Zone petitioned the Board of Directors of NYSRTA to change the terms of the elected officers of the Association. The current wording states that "The elected officers of the Association shall hold office for a term of one (1) year. Elected officers are limited to not more than three (3) consecutive terms except for the Secretary, whose service cannot exceed six (6) consecutive terms." They petitioned that the provision be changed to: "The elected officers of the Association shall hold office for a term of two (2) years. Elected officers are limited to not more than two (2) consecutive terms except for the Secretary, whose service cannot exceed three (3) consecutive terms." **The Bylaws Committee voted 5 to 0 to recommend this proposed bylaw with reservations. At the July Board of Directors meeting the proposed bylaw was defeated by a vote of 13 to 4.**

*If you would like to attend the Annual Convention as a Day Guest
please fill out the form below*

REGISTRATION FORM – DAY GUEST ONLY
TURNING STONE RESORT CASINO
THE NYSRTA 68th ANNUAL CONVENTION
ANNUAL WORKSHOP & ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 17 – OCTOBER 19, 2018

NAME _____ TELEPHONE # _____

ADDRESS _____

Please check the appropriate meals.

WEDNESDAY ☐ Dinner (\$70)

Dinner Choice:

Chicken Francaise with Lemon White Wine, Fennel Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

OR

Braised Short Rib with Roasted Shallot Jus-lie, Fennel Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

THURSDAY ☐ Breakfast (\$30) ☐ Lunch (\$25) ☐ Dinner (\$70)

Dinner Choice:

Fennel Crusted Supreme of Chicken Breast with Rosemary Jus-lie, Marquis Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

OR

Filet Mignon with Cabernet Demi-Glace, Marquis Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

FRIDAY ☐ Breakfast (\$30)

***Please clip this form and mail with a check made out to NYSRTA
for the total amount to:***

**Mary Kathleen Bassett, EOM
NYSRTA
8 Airport Park Blvd
Albany Airport Park
Latham, NY 12110**

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 14, 2018**

THE NYSRTA 68th ANNUAL CONVENTION

Hosted by Western Zone

Turning Stone Resort Casino

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday October 17– 19, 2018

Registration Wednesday, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 14, 2018

Tower rooms are limited and are on a first come first served basis. Once tower is full, guests will be placed in the hotel

Wednesday: REGISTRATION BEGINS 2:00pm

- * Welcome Reception – Coffee, Tea, and Danish pastry @ Registration
- * Vendor Exhibit
- * Dinner
- * Certificate of Recognition Presentation
- * Keynote Speaker

Thursday

- * Breakfast
- * Workshops
- * Lunch
- * Annual Meeting – Session 1
- * Cocktail Party (cash bar)
- * Dinner
- * Entertainment

Friday

- * Breakfast
- * Annual Meeting – Session 2

REGISTRATION FORM – ANNUAL CONVENTION — OCTOBER 17 – 19, 2018 - NYSRTA

NAME _____ TELEPHONE # _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ SHARING ROOM WITH _____

ACCOMMODATIONS

FULL PACKAGE - Wednesday and Thursday Nights

(Includes dinner Wednesday evening, all meals Thursday, breakfast on Friday)

TRIPLE: \$350 Per Person _____ DOUBLE: \$409 Per Person _____ SINGLE: \$598 Per Person _____

All rates include applicable sales tax and dining room gratuities.

A CREDIT CARD WILL BE MANDATORY UPON CHECK-IN

NON-SMOKING _____ SMOKING _____ HANDICAP _____

DAILY RATES - Daily Rates include overnight accommodations, plus dinner, breakfast, lunch

TRIPLE: \$175 Per Person _____ DOUBLE: \$204.50 Per Person _____ SINGLE: \$299 Per Person _____

ARRIVAL DATE _____ DEPARTURE DATE _____

PLEASE MAKE DINNER SELECTIONS AND RETURN WITH YOUR RESERVATION FORM

Wednesday Dinner – Chicken Francaise with Lemon White Wine, Fennel Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

OR

Braised Short Rib with Roasted Shallot Jus-lie, Fennel Roasted Fingerling Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

Thursday – Fennel Crusted Supreme of Chicken Breast with Rosemary Jus-lie, Marquis Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

OR

Filet Mignon with Cabernet Demi-Glace, Marquis Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetable Medley _____

Please clip and mail completed form to:

Turning Stone Resort Casino

Attn: Accommodations Dept. 5218 Patrick Road, Verona, NY 13478

Upon receipt of a confirmation letter from Turning Stone Resort Casino, please call 1-800-771-7711 with your confirmation number to guarantee your room with credit card.

Cancellations must be made prior to October 8th to avoid penalty of forfeiture of the food and beverage portion of the package.

When you, your unit or zone meet please consider helping the DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund with your donation. Every penny you give goes to help members. There are no administrative fees for this organization as we, like many of you, give our time, and materials without cost, for the purpose of supporting retired educators. No one expects to be in financial need but it could happen to any of us; that is why our giving to the Trust Fund is like an insurance policy for each. As a gift, an honorarium, or a memorial, it just makes sense to donate to the DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund through the central office in Latham, NY. The Central Office will transmit all donations to the Trust Fund Trustees, and from there your money is put to work. Through the 30,000 of us the strength of education is still felt.



Some of our recipients are still very active in community organizations, religious outreach and counseling programs; all have been or still are volunteers in their communities. How fortunate we are to get to know these extraordinary individuals and in some small way help them navigate the concerns financial hardship.

The New York State
Retired Teachers' Association
8 Airport Park Blvd
Latham, NY 12110-6414
PH: (518)482-3509

Dated Material – Do Not Delay

**Submission Deadlines
For
York State**

Spring (electronic) April 30th
Summer (mailed) July 7th

Fall (electronic) August 25
Winter (mailed) November 4

We're changing...for the better!



**TO ENROLL
OR REQUEST
INFORMATION
518-640-8100**

Our name has changed from Pearl Carroll & Associates to Pearl Insurance.

We're becoming more integrated with our parent company, Pearl Insurance, which will allow us to offer you more holistic solutions.

Don't worry, no action is required on your end. But changes will occur with our website and branding

- | | |
|--|---|
| ⇒ <i>Senior Life Insurance</i> | ⇒ <i>Vision Insurance</i> |
| ⇒ <i>Hospital & Home Care Recovery Insurance</i> | ⇒ <i>Home/Auto/Umbrella/Renters Insurance</i> |
| ⇒ <i>Dental Insurance</i> | ⇒ <i>Pet Insurance</i> |