A Message From Our President...

According to the NYSRTA Bylaws Article VIII (Elections) Section 5 – “The term of an elected officer shall begin on November 1st…” At the time I am writing this report it is November 2, and I have survived my first day as the new President for NYSRTA. In anticipation of this day, I have found myself, for the last few weeks, having some restless sleep. It reminded me of those restless nights I had before the start of a new school year. As a teacher, my mind was thinking of new and unique lesson plans. Later, as a principal, I was thinking of motivational ideas for my faculty and the students. Whatever it was, it was my creative mind, and the more fruitful ideas stayed with me when I woke up several hours later.

One of the “restless night” ideas that has surfaced is providing some overdue recognition and incentive to our struggling Zone Membership Committees. For years, our declining membership woes have been dumped on the laps of our Membership Committees. At the April, 2019 Board of Directors meeting, I plan to bring an idea for motion and approval that will provide some monetary incentive for our Zone Membership Committees, as well as an annual recognition for achievement.

The Insurance Trust Committee has, in recent years, provided some much appreciated financial support to NYSRTA by providing monetary assistance for our York State Newsletter. They are governed by the IRS Tax Code provisions found in 501.C9 that provides direction for our Insurance Trust to be able to financially assist all members of NYSRTA, not just a Zone or a person or persons. Following that guidance, the Insurance Trust Committee has very recently given me their approval to procure a professional marketing firm to assist NYSRTA with improving our name recognition and membership strategies. It is hoped by the New Year a professional marketing firm will be in place to assist NYSRTA with membership attraction.

A Health Insurance Survey was recently given to all Zone Presidents to share with their Unit Presidents, Healthcare Committee Chairpersons, and membership as deemed necessary. The purpose of this survey is threefold: 1. Ascertain what areas of NY State provide school district health insurance to retirees, 2. What management organization do the school districts use to provide that health insurance? Do they have a consortium of school districts, or do they individually manage it, and 3. Who, in each Zone or Unit, are the “Watchdogs” of school district (s) provided health insurance? With this information, I would like to move NYSRTA in the direction of providing our members with a new, important benefit that would provide updates on the status of school district retired health insurance benefits. In this edition of York State, you will find a copy of the Health Insurance Survey. Please consider completing it and mailing the survey to: NYSRTA, 8 Airport Park Blvd., Latham, NY 12110-6414. The greater the response, the sooner we can get this new benefit initiated.

In closing, I very much look forward to serving you as President of The New York State Retired Teachers’ Association. I hope to sleep better tonight as I have just completed my first assignment as President – The York State Article. May the spirit of the Holidays provide joy and enlightenment to you and your family, and a very Healthy New Year in 2019.
**Workshop Report: Dr. Jim Newell, Chair**

**WORKSHOP COMMITTEE SPRINGS INTO ACTION**

Scouting for and lining up presenters for the annual convention is one of the most important functions performed by the NYSRTA Workshop Committee. Obtaining an interesting and engaging keynote speaker as well as quality session presenters is essential in order to provide memorable learning experiences for all convention attendees. NYSRTA members attend the annual convention in order to grow as individuals, to learn more about the many beautiful regions on the Empire State and to expand their horizons.

The NYSRTA Workshop Committee is composed of five permanent members and additional members from the zones responsible for the upcoming convention and the subsequent convention. The permanent members of the Workshop Committee are Diane Hahn, CR, Lois Thornberg, Mary Lou Wood, Pat Newell and Jim Newell, Chair. The Southern Zone will be responsible for the 2019 Convention, while the Long Island Zone will be heading up the 2020 Convention.

The work of the Workshop Committee for the 2018-19 year began with a face to face meeting at the Turning Stone Resort following breakfast on the convention’s last day. Incoming NYSRTA President Kevin Mulligan opened the meeting and turned the operation of the committee over to newly elected NYSRTA Senior Vice-President and Workshop Chair, Jim Newell.

Twenty NYSRTA members were present and participated freely in wide ranging discussions about the workshops presented during the recently concluded convention as well as plans for next year’s convention. The number of people willing to work on this committee and the energy and enthusiasm shown, is a testament to the vital importance of this committee. It also highlights the excellent leadership provided, and the commendable work accomplished by all members of this committee.

Many favorable comments were made about the excellence of the presenters obtained by the Western Zone for the 2018 Convention. There was wide spread agreement that the workshops were engaging, appealed to varied interests, and provided valuable information to convention attendees. Special note was made of the National Comedy Center, Farmhouse Chef, the Buffalo Story and the Family Love Letter. Convention attendees also enjoyed themselves participating in the Trivia Contest and socializing at the cocktail party. Congratulations and special thanks were given to Doris Kirsch*CR, Beth Green, Michelle Claus, the Western Zone and the NYSRTA Workshop Committee for the outstanding success of the 2018 Convention.

The Southern Zone under the leadership of Mary Lou Wood has tapped a great group of people to organize and conduct the 2019 convention including Vince Smith*CR, Don Cutton*CR, Linda Moore, Gerry Tagliaferri, Mary Suffern, Nancy Spaulding and Lynne Hunkovic. This group hit the ground running and came to the first meeting with a suggested keynote speaker and several potential session presenters. The Southern Zone started off strong and promises to continue that momentum throughout the year. NYSRTA members should make their plans now to attend a great state NYSRTA Convention. See you next year at the NYSRTA Annual Convention at the Turning Stone Resort!

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**Friendly Service Report: Judith Corigliano, Chair**

The new year of 2019 will have many of us working on keeping our New Year’s resolutions...for me it’s being faithful about meeting my deadlines, downsizing to make my life simpler, to reach out more often to my own family and friends with cards and calls. Texting and emailing has become the mode for our children and grand-children and many of my own generation (the war babies) have fallen into the same pattern. We do love the convenience of the electronics, but don’t we all enjoy sorting through the mail and finding a personal written communication. There is a bit of a good feeling we get, when we stop to enjoy those personal messages. So do it today, send a card, a note, a call, an email ... surprise someone, reach out, share time, news or maybe a symbolic hug or thank you... and there’s that bit of a good feeling, again.

While you are at it... Let us be appreciative and thankful for RTA’s thoughtful Friendly Service Chairs, Unit Chairs and key workers; may they continue their commitment to our retired friends and meet their reporting deadlines in the new year.

From all of us in the Friendly Service group...A huge thank you to Harriet Beers*CR. who has faithfully served RTA with her thoughtful and timely emails and newsy letters of the workings of State committees. She kept all of us, the Regional FS VP’s, informed and urged us to meet those deadlines, to share regional successes and new ideas. Her warm communications always encouraged us with the underlying message to continue to keep Friendly Service moving forward with its mission of service. Thank you, Harriet.
Robert R. DeCormier Memorial Trust, Anne Flansburg, Chair

Many thanks to the attendees of the annual meeting, who visited the DeCormier booth, picked up brochures, admired our posters, and those who donated. A total of $880 was raised through the generosity of zones, units, and individuals.

The Robert R. DeCormier Trust Fund is designed to help NYSRTA members who are in need of financial assistance. If a member has an unexpected expenditure, such as a house-roof replacement, dental work, medical bills, or a utility bill that extends beyond the planned budget, know that grant funds are available to help you.

Thus far, in 2018, seven zones have contributed, namely: CZ, EZ, LIZ, NEZ, NZ, SZ and WZ. Eighteen units have contributed, namely: CARTA, Columbia Co. RTA, Eastern Broome, Eastern Erie RTA (LIZ), Eastern Erie RTA (WZ), Eastern Niagara, Fulton Co., Livingston Co., Newburgh RTA, Ontario Co. RTA, Orleans Co., Rensselaer, Saratoga Springs, Schoharie Co., Springville RTA, Upper Montgomery Co., and Wyoming Co. In addition, BJ’s Wholesale Club, Buffalo Retired Administrators’ Association, CWZ Friendly Service, Horseheads RTA (NYSUT group), and SZ Friendly Service sent donations. Many of our members have also been very generous, and we appreciate this support. We urge those who have not donated, to please consider doing so. You may send a check made out to Robert DeCormier Trust Fund, to: David Mapes, Treasurer, 6163 Vista Hill, Dansville NY 14437.

If you, or any member of NYSRTA you know, has a financial need, please contact DeCormier Chair Anne Flansburg at (716)-863-3631. All requests are confidential, and shared in the spirit of our first NYSRTA President, Robert R. DeCormier.

Certificate of Recognition for Distinguished Service: Jackie Moller, Chair

Every year it has been an honor to present the Certificate of Recognition for Distinguished Service Award to members of The New York State Retired Teachers’ Association to recognize members of our Association who have shown outstanding leadership and accomplishments in the field of education and service through retirement. This year, on October 17, 2018, at the NYSRTA Convention, it was our privilege to once again recognize members — Judith Farmer (WZ) and Leigh Powell (LIZ) with this award. We thank the Zone Presidents who took the time to send in the application earlier this year.

Judith Farmer

....in recognition of her service and dedication to The New York State Retired Teachers’ Association. She is the NYSRTA secretary and is currently a candidate for re-election in October. Judith has been a delegate to the Annual meeting for 9 years. At the Zone and Unit levels you will find her as corresponding and recording secretary and President of EERTA of WZ at the Unit level. Judith was awarded the WZ Citation Award for Outstanding Service in 2014. Her dedication to the Association, Zone, and Unit has distinguished her as a leader.

Leigh Powell

....in recognition of service at all levels of our Association where he has been active since 2002 when he joined NYSRTA as a life member. Over the years, he has been on the Site Committee for 12 years and currently Chair, and on the Finance and Budget committees. He also has been a convention delegate and Chair of the Site Committee. His leadership as an active member and chair of many other committees at the State, Zone, and LIZ of EERTA. We consider him as one member we could not do without as a “valuable person to The New York State Retired Teachers’ Association”.

L-R: Jackie Moller*CR, Leigh Powell*CR, Judy Farmer*CR and President Angelo Grande*CR
DIRECTORY 2018 - 2019
THE NEW YORK STATE RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
8 Airport Park Blvd., Latham, NY 12110-6414 Tel: 518•482•3509
www.nysrta.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NEZ – President: Kevin Mulligan (518) 846-7855
NCZ – Senior Vice President: James Newell
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NEZ – Vice President for Friendly Service:
Judith Corigliano (518) 834-9915
NEZ – Vice President for Legislative Action:
Gary Germain (518) 492-2274
LIZ – Vice President for Membership:
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WZ – Secretary: Judy Farmer*CR (716) 652-9210
NZ – Treasurer: President Emeritus
Terry M. Trudeau *CR (518) 529-7269
LIZ – Immediate Past President:
Angelo Grande *CR (516) 922-6747

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CWZ – Mary Ellen Morgan (315) 536-8440
Robyn Ballard (607) 243-5619
EZ – Rosie Ogol (518) 235-8707
LIZ – Fred Conway *CR (631) 476-6558
NCZ – Dr. James Newell (315) 773-5862
NEZ – Bonnie Gregware H (518) 563-0795 C (518) 578-7118
NZ – Gayla LePage (483) 483-5014
SEZ – Anthony Cokkalo (631) 584-3477
SZ – Mary Lou Wood H (607) 962-0527, C (607) 329-0332
WZ – Alphonse Marabella (716) 635-9330

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NCZ – Editor, YORK STATE: Kathi Bassett (518)
482-3509
Associate Editor, YORK STATE:
Kristen Cecala (518) 482-3509 x211
EZ – Assistant Treasurer: Jack DeWeese *CR
(518) 835-4129 or (386) 441-3592

NYSRTA COMMITTEE MEMBERS
ANNUAL WORKSHOP
NCZ Chair: James Newell (C) 315-773-5862
EZ – Diane Hahn *CR (H) 518-477-6156 (C) 518-221-6156
NCZ – Patricia Newell (315) 773-5862
SZ – Mary Lou Wood H (607) 962-0527, C (607) 329-0332
LIZ – Lois Thorberg (631) 583-5277
LIZ – Fred Conway *CR (631) 476-6558

BYLAWS
CZ Chair – William Tenity (315) 253-6315
CWZ – Bruce Croucher (315) 462-3067
NCZ – President Emeritus
Carlyle T. Canway *CR (315)-686-3098
SEZ – Helen Hoering (845) 482-4154
NEZ – Pete Atkinson (518) 834-7432
NZ – Rae Louise Tate (315) 848-2581

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION
WZ – Chair: Anne G. Flansburg *CR (716) 863-3631
CWZ – Carol Lord *CR (C) (315)-719-2163
CWZ – John Hogan *CR (585) 425-1487

CREDENTIALS
LIZ Chair: Fred Conway *CR (631) 476-6558
CWZ – Phyllis Dunlap (315) 539-2060
NZ – Marti Martin (518) 593-5072

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LIZ Chair: Eileen Holmes (631) 722-4504
CZ – Janice Hedgion (315) 363-6516
CWZ – Joan Handfield (315) 986-2956
EZ – Joyce Notarnicola (518) 929 6151
NCZ –
NEZ –
NZ – Alice Galvin (H) 315-848-2312
SEZ – Cheryl Fischer (845) 566-7339
SZ – Mary Suffern (607) 739-0167
WZ – Ann Marie Wilk (H) 585-599-3651 (C) 716-228-2414

FINANCE & BUDGET
EZ Chair: Jack DeWeese *CR (518) 835-4129 or
(386) 441-0815 (winter)
CWZ – Carol Lord *CR (C) (315) 719-2163
LIZ – Leigh Powell *CR (631) 289-9752
SZ – Vincent J. Smith *CR (607) 785-3169
NZ: Ron Wilson (518) 834-5104
Ex-Officio:
NEZ – President: Kevin Mulligan
NZ – Treasurer: President Emeritus Terry M. Trudeau *CR
(518) 529-7269
Ex-Officio member without vote:
NCZ – Senior Vice President: James Newell (315) 767-7801
Resource person without vote:
Executive Office Manager: Kathi Bassett (518) 482-3509

FRIENDLY SERVICE
NEZ Chair: Judy Corigliano (518) 834-9915
CZ – Dell Ford Jorden (315) 464-9323
CWZ – Barbara Rosecreans (315) 539-9178
EZ – Marjorie Leibowitz (518) 238-2782
LIZ – Dee McKinnon (631) 585-4370 Alicia Winowsky (631) 588-8951
NCZ – Linda Holley (315) 782-5646
NZ – President Emerita Agnes B. Hudson *CR (315) 287-0745
SEZ – Donna Harness (845) 707-3152
SZ – Imogene McKendrick *CR (607) 962-0072
WZ – Thomas A. Giambra (716) 877-7796

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LIZ – Mary Ella Moeller *CR (631) 324-0471
CZ – Gwynne Bodle (315) 440-4233
CWZ – Elisabeth (Betty) Weber-Worden (585) 247-2093
EZ – Doris Bedell (518) 482-5372
NCZ – Toni Giglotti (315) 376-3890
NEZ – Robert Joyce *CR (518) 563-314
Rodney Sherman (518) 561-4332
NZ – Joseph Russo (315) 848-5326
SZ – Sue Pierce
SEZ – Joan Schauer (845) 482-3563
WZ – Elizabeth Browne (716) 646-2372 May - Oct.,
HISTORIANS
CWZ Chair: Carol Lord *CR (C) (315) 719-2163
CZ – Michelle Lonergan (315) 688-6744 & Darlene Jarvis (315) 343-2989
CWZ – Phyllis Dunlap (315) 539-2060
EZ – Virginia G. Madore (518) 237-0237
LIZ – VACANT
N茨Z – Shirley Parker *CR (315) 782-3295 or (315) 649-2541
NEZ – Dick Brogowski (518) 561-6573
NZ – Jean Theobald (315) 265-9155
SEZ – Joan Schauer (845) 482-3563
SZ – TBD
WZ – Sandra Kelley (716) 772-7807

LEGISLATIVE ACTION
NEZ – Chair: Gayle Germain (518) 492-2274
SZ – Sub Committee Chair Mary Johnson (607) 797-3225
CZ – Wynne Shaw (315) 697-2636
CWZ – William Lesniak (315) 483-8061
EZ – Janice Mullins (518) 272-1719
LIZ – Kathryn Grande (516) 676-7436
NCZ – Richard Bushnell (315) 232-4258
NEZ – Rod Driscoll (518) 643-2735
NZ – Rae Louise Tate (315) 848-2581
SEZ – Leon Harrold *CR (845) 252-6903
SZ – Mary Johnson (607) 797-3225
WZ – Judith A. Klug (716) 632-6251 (State)
   Gallipolis (716) 688-9339 (Federal)

MEMBERSHIP
WZ Chair: Lois Thornberg (631) 783-5277
CZ – Mark Graman (607) 563-1503
CWZ – Jane Crosby
EZ – Rosalind Carron (518) 863-4229
LIZ – Mary Armbruster (631) 957-4366
   Lois Thornberg (631) 783-5277
NCZ – Burt Phillips *CR (315) 788-259
NEZ – Sandy Lusha (518) 643-8862
NZ – (vacant)
SEZ – Geraldine Gouras (845) 358-4025
SZ – Vincent Smith *CR (607) 785-3169
WZ – VACANT

NOMINATIONS
NEZ Chair: William Cline (607) 204-0193
CZ – William Cline (607) 204-0193
CWZ –
EZ – Doris Bedell (518) 482-5372
LIZ – Jola Ann Marcario (631) 324-4653
NCZ – Shirley Parker *CR (315) 782-3295
NZ – Robert Lawontaine *CR (518) 563-0587
NZ – Rae Louise Tate (315) 848-2581
SEZ – Raymond Leguc (845) 226-7624
SZ – Donald Cuddy *CR (607) 594-252
WZ – Mary V. O’Leary (716) 667-0241

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
NEZ – Chair Kevin Mulligan (518) 846-7855
CWZ – John Hogan *CR (585) 425-1487
NCZ – James Newell (C) 315-773-5862
NZ – President Emeritus Terry M. Trudeau *CR (518) 529-7269
LIZ – Immediate Past President: President Angelo Grande *CR (516) 922-6747

PUBLIC RELATIONS
NŽ Chair: Linda Crosby (518) 483-4312
CZ – Mary Radloff (315) 364-7439
CWZ – Phyllis Dunlap (315) 539-2060
EZ – Pamela Love (518) 456-1046
LIZ – Eileen Holmes (631) 722-4504
NCZ – Nancy Roberts (315) 782-5217
Patricia Newell (315) 773-5862
NEZ – Marti Martin (518) 593-5072
NZ – Linda Crosby (518) 483-4312
SEZ – Maureen Connolly (for Zone News) Patti DeLeo
   Mary Ellen Colombo silverstreamec@gmail.com
SZ – Debbi Deats (607) 776-7159
WZ – Theresa Pope (716) 838-3193

RESOLUTIONS
NŽ Chair: Gayla LePage (518) 483-5014
CZ – Johnnie Jones (315) 865-6357
CWZ – John A. Roy (607) 583-4139 &
   President Emeritus Judy Byndas *CR
EZ – Mark Notarniccio (518) 703-0397
LIZ – Bob Svoboda (631) 866-2036
NCZ – Elwood "Woody" Lyndaker (315) 788-6344
NEZ – Beverly Kie (518) 563-1543
NZ – Gayla LePage (518) 483-5014
SEZ – Leon Harrold *CR (845) 292-903
SZ – Vincent Smith *CR (607) 687-2888
WZ – Theresa E. Pope (716) 838-3193
Advisors:
CZ – William Tenity (315) 253-6315
NCZ – Gay Germain (518) 492-2274

SITE
LIZ Chair: Leigh Powell *CR (631) 289-9752
CZ – William Tenity (315) 253-6315
NEZ – President Kevin Mulligan (518) 846-7855
NZ – Treasurer: President Emeritus Terry M. Trudeau *CR (518) 529-7269
WZ – Anne Flansburg *CR (716) 863-3631

TRUSTS
THE INSURANCE TRUST
NEZ – Robert Joyce *CR (518) 563-6314 (Term Expires 12/31/20)
EZ – Tom Reed, Asst. Treasurer (Term Expires 12/31/21)
EZ – Diane Hahn *CR (Term Expires 12/31/20)
NEZ – Robert LaFontaine *CR (Term Expires 12/31/19)
NCZ – President Emeritus Tom Campeny *CR (Term expires 12/31/21)
Secretary/Treasurer: Kathi Bassett, Executive Office Manager

ROBERT R. DECOROMER MEMORIAL TRUST
WZ – Chair: Anne G. Flansburg *CR (716) 863-3631
CZ – Secretary – Jackie Miller *CR (315) 363-1153
CWZ – Treasurer – David Mapes (585) 335-6643
EZ – Trustee – Alexander Bosch (518) 843-3247
NZ – Trustee – President Emeritus Agnes B. Hudson *CR (315) 287-0745
SZ – Trustee – Imogene McKenzie *CR (607) 962-0072
# The New York State Retired

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<th>BUDGET CODE</th>
<th>REVENUES</th>
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<th>2018 REVISED BUDGET</th>
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**TOTAL REVENUES** | $324,535.07 | $311,900.01 | $321,616.67 | $318,566.68

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<tr>
<th>EXPENSES</th>
<th>2017 ACTUAL</th>
<th>2018 PROPOSED</th>
<th>2018 REVISED BUDGET</th>
<th>2019 PROPOSED BUDGET</th>
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<td>ADMINISTRATION</td>
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**TOTAL** | $285,552.73 | $292,960.19 | $293,696.86 | $292,960.19
## Teachers' Association Budget

### OFFICERS

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>2017 ACTUAL</th>
<th>2018 PROPOSED</th>
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<td>President's Travel</td>
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### MEETINGS

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### EXPENSES

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GRAND TOTAL EXPENSES: $354,724.98

GRAND TOTAL BUDGET: $380,260.19

GRAND TOTAL ADJUSTED: $384,998.86

GRAND TOTAL ADJUSTED BUDGET: $390,260.19
Membership Report: Lois Thornberg, Vice President for Membership

The members of the combined Membership Committee and Marketing Committee are continually working to notify any members that have fallen though the gap to come back, along with encouraging the new retirees to join our community. They continue to attempt to contact these members on a monthly basis from a list we receive from the Albany office. Personal contact and interaction has proven to be the most beneficial. An important task for every member in NYSRTA is to work on educating not only each other, but any possible future retirees; what we do, and why, is essential to past, present, and future retirees. Sharing the task of teaching any prospective member why a membership in NYSRTA is important to them will be to our advantage. Remind them not only of the benefits that are offered to members, but also of the work that is constantly being done to enhance all facets of their retirement.

At the July Board of Directors meeting a sub-committee was created to include representatives from marketing, legislation, and health to provide information to retirees on the health insurance benefits that are provided by various school districts throughout the State. The expectation is to inform retirees of the changes in health care and encourage them to join NYSRTA, especially those between the ages of 55-65 that are not eligible for Medicare yet. Finally, funds have become available for the Marketing Committee to proceed to research and interview marketing companies to aid us in creating and implementing a strategy to increase NYSRTA’s exposure and membership.

As a final thought, remember that it is the task of ALL members to recruit new members. Personal involvement such as a phone call, or quick chat is the most powerful method to spike the interest to join any organization. Invite someone to your next event and spend the time to share what and who NYSRTA is with them. “Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success” - Henry Ford.

Resolutions Report: Gayla LePage, Chair

At the 2018 Annual Meeting several Resolutions were presented, discussed and voted upon. The following resolutions were passed by a majority vote by the membership in attendance:

**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

(continued on page 9)
Resolutions Report, (continued)

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, 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

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 NYSRTA 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.

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 legislation 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.

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
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.  
(Continued on next page)
Resolutions Report, (continued)

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 recruitment 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.
CENTRAL: Ray Pitcher, President
The Central Zone is in the process of reorganizing after its general election in September at the Oswego meeting. At that election the following were elected to new rolls on the Zone Executive Board:

President - Ray Pitcher from Ilion
VP for Legislation - Wynne Shaul from Canastota
Secretary - Collette Astoria from Oswego

The Zone reelected:
Senior Vice President - William Cline from Binghamton
VP Friendly Service - Dell Ford-Jordan from Syracuse
VP Membership - Mark Granan from Sidney
Treasurer - Stella King from Morrisville

We currently having openings in the following positions: Public Relations/Newsletter, Robert R. DeCormier Trust Fund and Certificate of Recognition Committee and Auditing.

As a zone we wish to thank past President Barb Finley for her leadership and years of service.

Our next zone meeting is scheduled for April the Eighteenth in Canastota.

CENTRAL WESTERN: Phyllis Dunlap, PR Chair
In collaboration with Lynn Hefferon

Linda Snyder reports: Our Yates County unit has recently been celebrating our members’ donations of their time, talents and resources to many areas of local community service. In addition to the various causes that we support as a Unit, through proceeds of 50/50 drawings, donations of books, clothing and other items to various agencies, we have found that our members also volunteer in close to forty local endeavors. Four of our members were highlighted in local newspapers for their charitable efforts in their communities. From Dundee, Ann Shepardson and our past president, Robyn Ballard, were both honored for the many ways they volunteer to make their community better. From Penn Yan, Richard Ahaver was recognized for the work he does at Literacy Volunteers helping people work toward their citizenship, and our Friendly Service Chair, Elaine Gleason was honored for the friendly service she provides and much more, as she keeps in contact with notes and cards not just with retired teachers, but many of her past students. It is safe to say that our community would be at a loss without our retired teachers!

Retired Penn Yan Elementary teacher, Elaine Gleason stays in touch with former students by sending greeting cards, checking in with them on social media and attending their weddings, bridal showers, baby showers and other milestone events.

Sandra Kushner reports:
This picture was taken on Wednesday, September 5, 2018 at our “Not Back to School” fall meeting held in Letchworth State Park at the Glen Iris Inn. As you see by the sign our organization was celebrating 70 years as a group.

The organization received a record setting amount of donations to their three ongoing community service projects organized by Claudia Cerasan, Community Service Chairman.

Wyoming County Angel Action also received five large boxes of school supplies and non-perishable food items for the backpack programs in area schools.
Eastern: Pamela Love, PR Chair

Eastern Zone held its Annual Meeting at the Turf Tavern located in Scotia, New York on September 20, 2018. The Officers for Eastern Zone include President, Rosalie Oliver; Vice-President, Janice Mullins; Secretary, Patricia Reynolds and Treasurer, Jack DeWeese *CR. Committee Chairpersons include: Membership, Rosalind Carron; Friendly Service, Marjorie Leibowitz; State Legislation, Janice Mullins; Federal Legislation, Al Ciejka; By-Laws, Rosalie Oliver; Nominations, Janice Mullins; Community Service, Joyce Notarnicola; Finance and Budget, Rosalind Carron; Health Care, Doris Bedell; Historian, Virginia Madore; Public Relations, Pamela Love and Resolutions, Mark Notarnicola.

Those members who attended the 68th Annual Convention of NYSRTA held at Turning Stone Casino in October included Jack DeWeese *CR as a Delegate At Large and was also the time keeper during the meetings. Other Delegates from Eastern Zone included; Carolyn Bovee, Al Ciejka, Gloria Ciejka, Patricia DeWeese, Diane Hahn *CR, Irene Hauser, Marjorie Liebowitz, Pamela Love, Virginia Madore, Joyce Notarnicola, Mark Notarnicola, Patricia Reynolds and Ann Stafford.

Long Island: Eileen Holmes, PR Chair

Congratulations to the Western Zone for hosting a great 68th NYSRTA convention! Sixteen LIZ members attended and were very impressed with the workshops, speakers and Trivia Night. It was a lot of fun for the LIZ team to go from middle place into the final round of Trivia to wind up winning first place!

Congratulations to NYSTRA Site Chair (and life-long Long Islander) Leigh Powell *CR on being awarded a well-deserved Certificate of Recognition for his years of service to our organization. Leigh joins Angelo Grande*CR, MaryElla Moeller*CR and Fred Conway*CR to the list of active LIZ members who are honored with this recognition and we are proud of them!

North Central: Nancy Roberts & Patricia Newell, Public Relations Co-Chairs

North Central Zone hosted a very successful luncheon and annual meeting on September 18th with 83 paid reservations and several guests. We enjoyed a spectacular song and dance presentation by 13 talented students from “Stage Notes” directed by Ticia Aumell. We were thrilled with their performance!

The following officers for NCZ were elected: President, Dr. James Newell; 1st Vice President, Elwood “Woody” Lyndaker; 2nd Vice President, Lorraine Wiggins; Secretary, Kathy Allan; Treasurer, John Gaffney.

(continued on page 13)
**North Central, continued...**

We honored Community Service Chair, Patricia Dietrich, as she retires after many years serving both NYSRTA on the State level and NCZ at the local level. We thank her sincerely for her tireless work with the many community service projects she initiated including: Coats for Kids, Love Your Public Library, NYSRTA Walkers, Food Pantry collections and organizing our volunteers for the WPBS Book Fest. We thank you, Pat, for your dedication to our communities and North Central Zone.

Enthusiastic volunteers manned a NYSRTA booth at Senator Patty Ritchie’s Senior Health & Wellness Fair on October 5th. The fair was held at the McVean Student Center on the JCC campus in Watertown. North Country attendees were greeted by Dick Bushnell, Dr. George Forbes*CR, Pat & Jim Newell, and Marcia & David Schryver. These NCZ members passed out candy, bookmarks, and smiles to almost 1,000 people who turned out for this popular event! They also offered membership forms to retired teachers and encouraged them to attend the NCZ June and September luncheons.

Our new Travel and Leisure Committee, chaired by David Schryver, has taken off with a very enjoyable trip to Salmon River Falls near Altmar in July. Fifteen people attended the Ogdensburg Command Performance of “3 Red Neck Tenors” on October 11th. We enjoyed a leisurely dinner at Gran View Restaurant on the St. Lawrence River, a chat time with the 3 personable tenors, and then a wonderful musical and comedy show by these three talented opera singers turned “red necked” for our enjoyment. Laughing is certainly good for the soul!

In October, NCZ member Hope I. Marston announced publication of her new book, The Walls Have Ears—A Black Spy in the Confederate White House. This is her first e-book, and is available in Kindle version as well as Barnes & Noble NOOK book format as well as in paperback. Hope has authored more than 30 books and received many notable awards for some of her books. We congratulate her for this most recent publication!

We sent six delegates to the NYSRTA Convention in October. We congratulate Dr. James Newell, our own NCZ President, who is the newly elected Senior Vice President of NYSRTA. We wish you success in your new role on the NYSRTA Board of Directors.

**Future Dates to Remember:**
- Executive Council Meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 2019
- BOCES Wellness Clinic: 10-noon, Thursday, May 16, 2019
- Spring Scholarship Luncheon: Tuesday, June 11, 2019
- Ramada Inn: Watertown

**Northeastern: Marti Martin, PR Chair**

The winner of the NEZ Kramer Educator $500 Award is Kathryn Brown, 7th Grade English teacher from the Chazy Rural Central School. Her students will have their cumulative writing professionally published, entered in the Library of Congress, and assigned an ISBN number. Each student will receive a copy of the book and the community will be able to purchase the book. The school and town libraries will receive a copy for their collections and NEZ will receive a complimentary copy as well. What a fine way to motivate students to write! We are thrilled to sponsor her class project and are looking forward to reading the students’ literary work. This award is made possible by member contributions.

Runner-up, Heidi Mather, second grade teacher at Saranac Elementary, has created a reading ‘library’ with a pond theme in her classroom to promote reading as a leisure activity. Our members donated $93 toward her project at our Fall meeting held at The Barracks Golf Club, four members received the Distinguished Service Award; Rita Cote Bedard, Sandy Lashua, Robert ‘Bob’ Mosso and Lois Wilson have devoted 88 collective years to the local chapter and each has served in various capacities of membership and leadership both at the local and State levels.  

(continued on next page)
Northeastern, continued...

Rita Cote Bedard taught in the Altona school years before it merged with Lyon Mt and Ellenburg to become Northern Adirondack Central School. When she retired from teaching in 1980 she became a LIFETIME NEZ member!!!! She served in the capacity of Historian for ten years.

Sandy Lashua joined NYSRTA in June Of 2001 after 34 years in the Plattsburgh City School District. She immediately joined the Membership Committee and after a few years, assumed the title of VP of Membership. Sandy attends the yearly NYSRTA Convention sharing ideas with other zones about how to attract and maintain active membership. Sandy participated in the Adopt-A-Highway cleanups most years, co-chairs the annual Book Sale held as a Scholarship fundraiser, and she heads up the local Food Drive in her town of Peru.

Robert Mooso joined in 2002 when Paul Vogan came to him and told him of the organizations goals. Bob stepped into a leadership position of Exec VP in the local chapter right away and would follow Ron Wilson*CR as President the following year. Under Ron’s tutelage, Bob took on the responsibility of Resolutions Chair. Bob volunteered to Chair the State Public Relations Committee and served for four years. After a hiatus, he returned to chair the ad hoc committee to determine the criteria for evaluating the applications for the $1000 Hudson Kramer Scholarships that are given to active teachers.

Lois Wilson retired from the Peru School District in 2001 and was introduced to NYSRTA by her husband Ron. Since then she has assisted with registration at Fall conferences, taught several quilting workshops and has been a delegate. Lois served in many NEZ capacities. In 2006, she led the Community Service committee. Lois assumed the role of NEZ’s Secretary in 2004 and continues to serve in this capacity today.

NEZ sent 9 representatives October 17th-19th to the NYSRTA Annual Convention. Several members of our NEZ Board of Directors are Chair people of State Committees; Gary Germaine-Legislative, Bob Joyce*CR-Insurance Trust, and newly elected Judy Corigliano-Friendly Service as well as our President, Bonnie Gregware and Glenda Rowe were in attendance. Sandy Lashua, Marti Martin, Barbara Mulligan and Glenda Rowe served as delegates.

Northern: Linda Crosby, PR Chair

Members of the Northern Crosby enjoyed friendly comradery, good food, great conversation and a wonderful guest speaker at the Fall 2018 membership meeting on September 25. NZ member Fran Goodrow, with technical assistance from her husband, Paul, (NZ member, also) did a presentation on what life was like in Nazi-occupied France during WWII for French citizens and her mother, Germaine Bessard, who was a heroic member of the French Resistance. Fran brought signed copies of her book, The Resistant, in which she wrote her mother’s story. Also, at the fall meeting, President Gayla LePage asked for help from everyone with membership; please ask retired educators to join us! She said that, this year, NYSRTA will focus on ways to protect current health care benefits for retirees. Community Service Chair Alice Galvin asked for reports from NZ members about their activities that help their communities and for new C.S. ideas that NZ could support. She said that members generously donated $330 at the meeting for our scholarship fund.

Health Care Chair Joe Russo reminded members to keep reporting their mileage for walking/biking; he distributed copies of “10 Challenges To Quick Start Your Path To Great Habits”, which was full of helpful, commonsense suggestions. Bylaws Chair Rae Louise Tate said we will soon align our NZ Bylaws with the recent changes in the NYSRTA Bylaws. NZ members also voted on the 2018 resolutions that will be presented at the NYSRTA convention at Turning Stone Casino. NZ Treasurer Roxann Finley reported that a $100 donation was sent to The Robert D. DeCormier Trust fund. All members are welcome to attend the next NZ Executive Board meeting on November 14 (snow date-Nov. 20). Delegates for the 2018 convention were Gayla and Phil LePage, Tom and Betty Cook, Roxann Finley, Alice Galvin, Rae Louise Tate, and Linda Crosby. They enjoyed terrific convention activities thanks to the super efficient efforts of host Western Zone. WZ folks lined up many fascinating workshops, an extraordinary keynote speaker who spoke on his adventures canoeing the Erie Canal from Buffalo to Albany and a friendly competition at the Trivia Night. The workshops highlighted the Western Zone from “The Very Nostrils of Hell” in Buffalo (depicting the transition from wild frontier town to U.S. 8th largest city where trade, immigration, a rough waterfront and a red light district exploded due to the construction of the Erie Canal) to the exciting new museum, The National Comedy Center, in Jamestown, N.Y. My book club (five of us are NZ members) saw first-hand the streets of Buffalo in a wonderful three day trip there after reading The City Of Light by Lauren Belfer. It’s a city that heroically and carefully works very hard to preserve its history, its art and architecture, and its character. Don’t forget to join us for the 2019 convention hosted by the Southern Zone. We always have a great time.
Northern, continued...

Thank you to the NZ members who donated items for our convention raffle baskets: Alice Galvin, Joe Russo, Tom and Betty Cook, Agnes Hudson*CR, Linda Crosby, Roxann Finley, Anne Ray, Fran Goodrow, Holly Chorba and Gayla LePage.

Southeastern: Maureen Coffey, PR Chair

Well, the clean crisp air of autumn finally arrived and signaled many familiar rituals, one being our annual convention. Southeastern Zone would like to take a minute to thank the Western Zone for a fantastic three days. Catching up with colleagues from all over the State is just plain fun! Many of our business resolutions focused on ways to improve safety in schools. I’m sure most of us would agree that when we began our careers in education we never could have imagined the world we live in today ... but here we are! NYSRTA will continue to support the wellness, education and safety of all students and teachers.

Fall also ushers in new activities for our SEZ members and this year is no exception. Art classes, bridge lessons, hiking, bowling, lectures, breakfast meetings, lunch get togethers, lunch and classic movies, Broadway plays, day trips, ... no matter where your interests lie, there’s something for you. Grab your planner, sign up, and watch the fun begin!

And, we can never forget that November 11th is Veterans’ Day. It’s a day that’s very special to many of us so I asked some of our members to share stories. Patti DeLeo shared a story about her dad: "My father, Joseph Rohme, was in WWII and served in active duty in Italy. He received a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star after rescuing a soldier from a POW camp; he would never talk about that. He did, however have one "enjoyable" assignment. He was Cary Grant’s chauffeur for two weeks when Cary visited the troops. He posed for a picture that was sent home to my mother along with a note and autograph. He always said he was a true gentleman and very respectful of the men. He personalized lots of things for mothers, wives, and girlfriends: previously sent letters, envelopes, scraps of paper."

My dad was also in WWII in the Navy Air Corps. He was on a bomber plane that flew missions in Europe. He too wouldn’t discuss that, but his favorite memories were being stationed in Casa Blanca in Morocco, Africa. He loved it there. Of course one of his favorite movies was ... you guessed it ... Casa Blanca. The first time Ed and I watched it we were with my dad and it quickly became one of our favorites, too. A thrill for us happened in 1996 when we got to visit Casa Blanca and Marrakech.

Mary Ellen Colombo shared a story about her dad: "My dad served in WWII but rarely would speak about it. The only story I remember is about the bridge at Remagen. It was captured by US forces in March of 1945 enabling our forces to cross the Rhine and hasten the end of the war. However, to save the bridge from the Germans trying to destroy it, our forces constantly fired above the bridge to protect it. Because of the constant vibrations, the bridge collapsed just ten days after it was captured killing 33 US engineers and injuring 63. The Germans tried everything to destroy the bridge but we had it long enough to build alternates and cross many troops to end the war earlier. Dad was there. They made a movie about this bridge. By the way, that was the only story he ever told us. He loved the irony of it."

Harriet Beers*CR’s hubby was in the infantry in 1944 and 1945 and active in the cleanup operations in France and Germany. He was awarded the Bronze Star for bravery so she knows he must have had some hand to hand and artillery combat on his way across Europe. Harriet wrote, "Who knows what he must have seen at 18 years of age? He never wanted to talk about what went on or what he did to earn the Bronze Star."

My hubby, Ed Coffey was in the Navy, in fact he was a member of the original crew of the USS WS Sims, a Destroyer Escort equipped with some of the Navy’s earliest sonar equipment. He has a harrowing tale of being at battle stations while chasing a Russian submarine out of Miami Harbor! In May we plan to attend a Sims’ reunion in Virginia. As an original crew member on the Sims, Ed is a plank owner which will make this reunion truly special.

My brother, Bob, was a U.S. Marine who served in Vietnam. He was stationed in Khe Sahn during the TET Offensive. Like so many before him, we never heard his stories. These are but a few of the brave people we have to honor and thank on Veteran’s Day. To all of our NYSRTA members, God Bless all who served and God Bless all of the families and friends who supported them! And God Bless America!

MOVING?

LET US KNOW!

Call us at 518-482-3509— Please help defray the costs of returned mail!
Southern: Debbie Deats, PR Chair

Eleven Southern Zone members attended the 68th Annual NYSTRA Convention October 17-19. The planning by the Western Zone hosts was exceptional. On the last morning, the Southern Zone convened with the members of the out-going Western Zone planning committee to help us continue our design for hosting the 2019 Convention. Also included were the steering committee from Long Island for the 2020 convention.

Southern Zone has chosen “A Journey Through the Southern Tier” for our theme. This will cover our Corning Museum of Glass (CMOG), our Mark Twain connection, the wineries and breweries, the Finger Lakes, and many more sites too numerous to mention. Our group has many initial plans and welcomes any additional suggestions.

The officers for the SZ remain the same for 2019 as for this year. They include Mary Lou Wood, President; Vince Smith*CR as VP for Membership; Bonnie Stratton for Secretary; Lois Cutton for Treasurer; and Debbi Deats as Public Relations VP.

Western: Michelle Claus, PR Chair

In Collaboration with Irine Denis Zinter

Without a doubt, the 68th Annual Convention has proven to be one of the BEST IN THE WEST, according to the verbal and written evaluations. Our co-chairs, Doris Kirsch*CR and Michelle Claus began planning, with the core committee, in 2017. Day 1 began with the welcome reception and registration. A special new delegate meeting was planned for this afternoon. Other committees also scheduled afternoon meetings on the first day. That evening, a delicious dinner was served followed by the awarding of the State Certificate of Recognition Awards. These two recipients received the awards because of their Distinguished Service to NYSRTA. Our own Judith Farmer*CR, State Secretary, received one of the awards. The second recipient was Leigh Powell*CR, State Site Committee Chair. The keynote speaker, John Baronich, a retired industrial arts teacher and administrator from our unit- Springville-Griffith Institute Central School District, presented a canoe trip on the Erie Canal under the guise of Jacques B, a French fur trapper.


The Annual Meeting commenced with reports from officers and standing committees. Election of officers was voted on by the delegates. Of the resolutions discussed, the following were accepted by the membership: School Safety B-5-1, Loss of Retiree Benefits A-8, Resolution in Support of Greater Protection and Safety for Educational Employees D-23, A Resolution in Support of Greater Protection and Enforcement of Legislation and Regulations Against Gun Violence in Schools D-24, A Resolution Concerning the Need for Metal Detectors in our NYS Public Schools D-25, A Resolution for Raising Concern about Excessive Solicitation and Marketing Practices with the Elderly E-20.

During the convention, we had winners in the split club each evening, basket raffle winners on the second day, and centerpieces given to one lucky person at each table. Our cocktail party, “Cheers to Our Friendship”, was a great success. We ended the convention with an evening of Trivia Teams Competition. Special thanks to our chairs, committees, and attendees. Great things are accomplished by the perfection of details.

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.

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Health Care Report: Mary Ella Moeller, Chair

NYSRTA Health Insurance Survey

The purpose of the survey is threefold: 1. Identify who is covered by school district health insurance, 2. Identify who manages health insurance for your school district (consortium of several districts etc.), 3. Identify the person(s) in your unit/zone that have a good working knowledge of area district insurance. Who are the “watchdogs” for your district’s health insurance. I hope that those instructed to complete the Health Insurance Survey have done so. If not there is still time to do so.

Directions: Zone/Unit Presidents and Zone/Unit Health Care Program Chairperson(s) are asked to complete and/or distribute this survey to those Zone and/or Unit members who have a good working knowledge of their managed health care plan. Please return all COMPLETED SURVEYS TO THE ATTENTION OF Kevin Mulligan, President of NYSRTA; 8 Airport Park Blvd.; Latham, NY 12110-6414

NAME____________________________

Position in NYSRTA____________________________

Question #1. What Zone and/or Unit do you belong to? ________________________________

Question #2. As a retiree, do you have school district provided health insurance? ________________

IF NO, SKIP TO QUESTION 3

If YES – What school district do you receive health insurance from? ____________________________

Did the school district health insurance plan provide coverage for you BEFORE you became Medicare eligible? ____________________________

Did the school district health insurance plan provide coverage for you AFTER you became Medicare eligible? ____________________________

Question #3. Who manages your school district health insurance plan? ____________________________

Example: In Northeastern Zone there are 17 school districts with the same health insurance plan(s). The 17 school districts belong to The Clinton, Essex, Warren and Washington BOCES Consortium which manages the Excellus Blue Cross/Blue Shield Health Care Plan. So, NEZ would answer CEWW BOCES Consortium.

Question #4. Who in your Unit or Zone has a good working knowledge of your school district provided health insurance plan(s)? Please provide name(s), email address(s) and phone number(s). It is hoped that the names provided will make up a network of information specialists we are seeking at NYSRTA.

Name____________________________
Zone or Unit____________________________
Email____________________________
Phone____________________________

Name____________________________
Zone or Unit____________________________
Email____________________________
Phone____________________________

Name____________________________
Zone or Unit____________________________
Email____________________________
Phone____________________________

Thank you for your cooperation and attention to the request. NYSRTA truly wishes to serve retired educators, therefore we need to focus our attention to health insurance.

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Summer (mailed) July 7th
Fall (electronic) August 25th
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