



January 2024

## CALENDAR

Looking forward to a spring/summer activity to be announced in the new monthly **WERTAnews**.

## DIRECTORY

Acting President .....Jo Anne Powell  
 Acting Vice President..... David Keefe  
 Acting Secretary ..... open  
 Acting Treasurer ..... Leigh Powell  
 Acting Awards Chair.....Mary Ella Moeller  
 Bylaws Chair..... open  
 Community Service ..... open  
 Finance & Budget Chair ..... open  
 Friendly Service Chair..... open  
 Health Advocacy Chair..... open  
 Historian..... open  
 Legislation ..... open  
 Membership Chair ..... Leigh Powell  
 Newsletter Editor, Website...Jo Anne Powell  
 Nominations Chair..... open  
 Public Relations Chair..... open  
 Scholarship Chair..... open

Now that we have an email service, sending out bulletins has been facilitated. If you are reading this on the RENY website, please send your email address to [WERTAnews@gmail.com](mailto:WERTAnews@gmail.com) in order to receive **WERTAnews** directly!

Send one-time, half-price, \$10 dues for 2024 to Leigh Powell, WERTA, PO Box 433, Centerport, NY 11721-0433. Thank you!!

# We're Back! - at half the dough!!

After a long silence from the West End Retired Teachers' Association during COVID and beyond, *WERTA's health is being restored!*

We're sending this newsletter to those on the Retired Educators of New York list who live or may have worked in Nassau or Western Suffolk Counties. Because the current membership consists only of Life Members (who paid a lump sum years ago) and those who are 90 or older (if we have their birthday info), we are hoping to encourage those members who did not send dues during COVID, as well as potential new members, by **offering a 50% off sale! Instead of the usual \$20 annual dues, just \$10 will hook you up for all of 2024!** At that one-time price, please encourage your retired teacher friends to join!

What are we doing with that moola? We're going to try to set up a **light lunch with a reduced price visit to a local museum** this spring or summer. We would like to present a **scholarship to an outstanding student going into the education field**. And once the Legislation Chair is filled, we would like to be **proactive in the specific support of retired teachers and education in general**.

If that doesn't appeal, simply hit unsubscribe at the bottom of this communiqué and you will not receive another. That action will not remove you from our database, however. For that, simply shoot us an email at [WERTAnews@gmail.com](mailto:WERTAnews@gmail.com) and that will be the end of our short, but sweet, relationship!

Since we are starting from scratch - not really, let me explain.... Due to the extremely unfortunate demise of our beloved treasurer, Candy Misner, our bank accounts were about to be swallowed up by the state. Jo Anne Powell, Candy's assigned back-up, jumped in and rescued the funds for our WERTA treasury.

But we *are* at the starting line for workers. Jo Anne talked the Retired Educators of New York Treasurer (admittedly her husband) into managing the accounts and updating the 3x5 cards to a database. Dave Keefe, President of New York State Teachers' Retirement System into serving as Vice President. Mary Ella Moeller has served for decades in various offices on the state level and as chairs on the zone level. Jo Anne herself has served on the NYSRTA Board, LIZ Board, and as Vice President, Secretary, Editor, as well as Chair of Awards, Bylaws, Health Advocacy, Public Relations, and Website over the years for the Units. So it's a great start with experienced workers, but *we would love to have others join us on the Board*, until an election can make it all official.

**Meanwhile, won't you show your support by sending in the half price \$10 dues for 2024 to Leigh Powell, WERTA, PO Box 433, Centerport, NY 11721-0433?**