



February/March 2024

CALENDAR

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

DIRECTORY

Acting PresidentJo 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
Friendly Service Chair..... open
Health Advocacy Chair..... 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 in order to receive **WERTAnews** directly!

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

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

While snow is beautiful, let's hope it is behind us for this winter....

Welcome new members!

The current membership consists of Life Members (who paid a lump sum years ago), those who are 90 or older (if we have their birthday info), and **retirees who took advantage of our 50% off sale!** Thank you to those who sent in their check! Instead of the usual \$20 annual dues, just \$10 enrolled members for all of 2024! We shall continue the dues reduction program for another month, so if you haven't yet participated by sending in \$10 in 2024, here's your chance: mail your \$10 WERTA check to **WERTA Treasurer Leigh Powell, PO Box 433, Centerport, NY 11721-0433.**

We're hoping 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.** Meanwhile, we would like to add a few volunteers to the directory at left. Willing to help? Contact Jo Anne at WERTAnews@gmail.com

Several other units around the State are folding. Let's keep WERTA vibrant, so that we are able to support our goals!

On the other hand, if you are not interested in WERTA news, 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 send us an email at WERTAnews@gmail.com and we will delete your contact information.

Legislative Action

N.Y.S. Senate bill S8388A and Assembly bill A 07866 would prohibit public employers from diminishing health insurance benefits provided to retirees and their dependents. The bill is currently in the Senate Civil Service and Pensions Committee. The Assembly amended it last month. Please write or call in support of these bills to your state assemblyman (nyassembly.gov/mem/search/), state senator (nysenate.gov/find-my-senator) and Governor Hochul (518-474-8390).