



This will be my last *York State* message since my term as President ends on October 31, 2024. My wife reminded me to keep my message short, and I have every intention of doing so or at least, keeping it shorter than some of my previous messages. Speaking of my wife, Patricia; she has been so very supportive of me during my 3 years terms as Senior Vice-President and President. She has been very gracious and willing to travel with me to many parts of New York State. She has offered wise counsel even when I wasn't especially eager to receive it. She has helped me maintain a positive outlook year in and year out. She has been a great teammate, and I am most grateful.

I am also grateful for the kind visit invitations extended to my wife and me by Zone Presidents Michelle Claus, Ray Pitcher, Mary Beth Tyndall, Janice Mullins, Kevin Mulligan*CR, Mary Lou Wood, Vince Smith*CR and of course, North Central Zone President, Rick Morris. I have also enjoyed working with Donna Harness, Eileen Holmes*CR, and Gayla LePage.

Pat and I learned many things from our visits, greeted many friends and met many new people. We were impressed by the work being done in the zones for retired teachers, active teachers, students, and community members. Our visits took us to many beautiful cities, villages, and towns, some of which we had never visited. We thoroughly enjoyed every minute of our visits. I need to credit **Kevin Mulligan*CR** for initiating this great idea. Although his intention to visit the zones was short-circuited by the Pandemic of 2020-2021, he has given his full support to our visits and enjoyed hearing about them.

Many thanks are also due to RENY members who sent me emails or handwritten notes. I cherished these notes, and they helped me keep on track.

I also need to thank our excellent office staff: Kathi Bassett, Executive Office Manager and Kristen Valentine, Executive Assistant. We are fortunate to have such dedicated, caring, and proficient employees. They make all of us better.

During the last three years, with the assistance of the officers of RENY, **Gayla LePage**, **Mary Lou Wood**, **Leigh Powell*CR**, the Finance and Budget Committee Chair **Diane Bonenfant**, Committee members **Vince Smith*CR**, **Carol Lord*CR** and **Marilyn Dominick** and the entire Board of Directors, we have accomplished the following:

- Wrote an investment policy to guide the BOD in managing the endowment.
- Changed the investment advisor which has resulted in better returns with lower fees.
- Increased membership dues from \$30 to \$39 annually.
- Promoted and emphasized the importance of the President's Appeal as a source of income to RENY.
- Moved RENY closer to a balanced budget without the addition of funds from the Insurance Trust and the endowment.
- ♦ Introduced a Code of Conduct for the Board of Directors and required all BOD members to sign it.
- Prepared and proposed a resolution to remove federal taxes on Social Security benefits.
- Began a process to refresh and upgrade the RENY website with more images and less text.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the members of this great organization. Looking ahead, I would ask that you give your full support and cooperation to our new incoming President, **Gayla LePage** and Senior Vice-President, **Judy Farmer*CR**. I am sure that under their leadership RENY has a bright future.

Sr. Vice President Report By Gayla LePage and Judith Farmer*CR

This will be my last VP report. You will now see my name under the President's message in the next edition. I am excited about my new role.

As you all know our convention is one area of RENY that could use some changes. We also want you to know that trial and error is what most of us function under as we go through these changes. If we try something that doesn't work, we can always reevaluate.

On October 22, Kathi Bassett, Judy, Ray Pitcher, and I had a Teams meeting to discuss the final proposal for the 2025 convention. I got off this meeting with a very positive and exciting feeling. The final proposal is listed below.

Structure of the 2025

- Management team will be Judy Farmer*CR, Kathi Bassett, and Kristen Valentine. They will be available for any
 problems that occur during the convention.
- Ray Pitcher will be an ad hoc member of management team. Central Zone will be honored this year as they are the Zone who was scheduled for next year and are willing to let us try this new format to save money as saving money for all of us is our ultimate goal.
- TRS will be the Keynote. (I know that this is not the entertainment we usually have, but it is a topic that everyone should hear, and is way less costly.)
- There will be four workshops with the Association team securing two and Central Zone securing two.
- In 2025, Central Zone will sell the raffle tickets for the baskets.
- The Central Zone will take care of providing dining table centerpieces and will sell the raffle tickets at dinner to defray the cost.

Maybe have Trivia again. (It seems that people really enjoy this. I enjoyed it even though NZ was dead last.)

On November 8, we held a BOD meeting to discuss this where this proposal passed unanimously. Judy and I thank all of you for supporting this. Let's have fun and see how this goes.





Robert R DeCormier Memorial Trust Report By Joseph Russo, Trustee



As we go through life all of us from time to time wonder how we ended up here. This is my feeling right now as I write this report. I recently turned 83 years old; this is a wonder in itself. I graduated from Oneonta High School in 1960 where I lettered 12 times in Football, Wrestling and Baseball. I graduated in 1964 as a Physical Education Major from Cortland State. Took a science job at Clifton -Fine Central where after 6 years I was able to switch to gym teacher, and retired in the year 2000 after 36 years of coaching and teaching. How after so many years of sports could I now be writing this report?

The reason being that in 1974 a group of dedicated teachers and administrators decided to form a unit, Clifton-Fine-Edwards of the Northern Zone of now RENY. A much loved teacher Mrs. Rogene Henrie was President of this unit in 2000, and asked me if I would take over for her. I was very hesitant and asked if I could have a year of retirement. She didn't forget. Our unit this August celebrated its 50 years of service locally and to RENY.

A number of years ago I was humbled when I was asked to become a member of the DeCormier Trust Committee, to fill in for another great leader **President Emerita Agnes Hudson*CR** of the Northern Zone. I have truly enjoyed being a member of this committee with **Anne Flansburg*CR** as chair, and other committee members, **Collette Astoria**, **Richard Brogowski**, **Mary Lou Davis**, and **Beth Green**.

What do we do? We give monthly stipend grants and special needs grants for those in need of hearing aids, dental work, home maintenance and whatever is needed. According to Anne, our total disbursements for 2023 was \$54,543. We are here for you, contact **Anne Flansburg*CR** by phone 716-863-3631 or email anneflanswz@aol.com. Thank You.



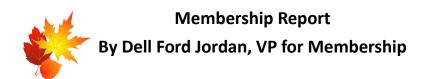
Many members of RENY live in areas that been devastated by the recent hurricanes. If you or any RENY member that you know has been adversely affected financially by these storms, the **Robert R. DeCormier** Memorial Trust Fund is here to help.

Robert R. DeCormier was the first president of RENY, and a dedicated advocate for retired educators. In memory of his service and to honor his commitment to past, present, and future colleagues, the Robert R. DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund was established. This fund provides monetary assistance to RENY members who are in financial need and certainly this is one of those times.

You can receive additional information and download a Special Grant Application on the website <u>retirededucatorsny.org</u> by clicking on this link. It will take you to the financial assistance section of the website.

You may also obtain an application for a Special Grant by calling the Chair of the Trust, **Anne Flansburg at 716-863-3631** or by emailing her by clicking <u>HERE</u>. The grants not only help those who are affected by the recent storms, they may be able to help you in various other ways. Please visit our site for more information.

Our prayers and thoughts are extended to all who were affected by these hurricanes. As retired educators, together, we can and will get through this!



It's holiday season time. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanzaa are right around the corner. We have a little over 61 days to give that last push to increase our membership in 2024. We had 9,784 members on September 30, 2024 going into the 2024 Annual Convention. This number included 708 90-year-olds and 111 100-year-olds. Our stats also showed a total of 59 new recruits for Fiscal Year 2024. We are saddened at the loss of 369 members. Currently our non-paid members are at a 365. No matter the membership category you fall within, we appreciate you!

We had a Membership team meeting on Monday, October 7, 2024 at the Annual Meeting & Convention and had a representative from every Zone in attendance. Our Theme for 2025 is "Reconnect, Reclaim, and Recruit" (Reconnect with retired members, Reclaim inactive members and Recruit new members). Let us re-sell RENY, re-sell the Zone, and re-sell the Unit by talking about our organization and our benefits. You should contact your unit Membership chair or your Zone Membership Chair for the updated application, welcome letter and a list of RENY's key services/benefits.

Many great ideas came from our brainstorming sessions. You will hear more about those in the next few months.

REMINDER: There are three (3) incentives out there for the remainder of 2024 –

- 1. \$50.00 will be paid to a member enrolling five (5) new RENY members during the year.
- 2. \$500.00 incentive will be given to the Zone who enrolls the largest number of new retirees by December 27, 2024.
- 3. \$500.00 incentive will be given to a Zone enrolling the largest percentage of new retirees by December 27, 2024.

The date may change if our Administrative staff is not able to process applications by the date given. This date will be confirmed in December.



Zones who added new members from August 1, 2024 up until the printing of this publication - Congratulations to the **Northeastern Zone** who added fifteen (15) new members to their Zone. The **Western Zone** added eleven(11) new members, **Central Western Zone** added eight (8) new members, The **Central Zone** added four (4), as did the **Eastern Zone** and the **Long Island Zone**. **North Central Zone** increased their numbers by two (2) and the **Southeastern Zone** added one (1) new member to their roster **Congratulations!! WE THANK YOU ALL FOR A JOB WELL DONE!**



Friendly Service Report By Judith Corigliano, VP for Friendly Service

We're RETIRED and now, what's on YOUR agenda?

If you are reading this, you are a member, new or older, and somewhat interested in what's going on, anything new or same.... well, you guessed correctly it but, please read on....

Newly retired or experienced at this phrase of your life? Now, we sleep later. No early classes. We can be more relaxed, well almost. We walk the dog, feed the kitty, plan travel, revise your bucket list, finish fall cleanup and think, wow! I'm enjoying lunching with friends, experiencing grandkids activities, caring for family, agreeing to tackle a new job, continuing maintenance of my physical space, my body, mind and soul. Pause, have a cup 'o joe and start on that agenda for the day or week.

First on my agenda as I return to a State job with Friendly Service, to send a note of appreciation. This is the ending and beginning of the new year with a changing of the guard, we wish to acknowledge and express a sincere thank you to **Lois Thornburg*CR** for her second act as a VP for Friendly Service, after a previous volunteer role as State VP for Membership. We appreciate her organized reporting and thoughtful writing and her effort to move Friendly Service into the internet world, and less paper. She continued to support the Zones VPs in their local roles and key workers who write those greeting cards, send emails and make phone calls. We wish her good health and good luck as she moves forward to new adventures.

I'm excited to again work with a great group of dedicated members who continue to be supportive of our members. I was reinforced with positive vibes during the Friendly Service meeting at the Oct Annual Meeting and Convention. Zones "VP's" /representatives were present to warmly share their year of successes and concerns. Many of these volunteers have given more that 15 years to Friendly Service.

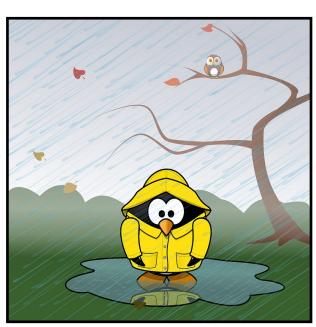
When you attend zone and unit holiday luncheons, remember to personally thank your FS people and consider supporting them with clean unused cards with envelopes, information about members who have a status/address change, and extra stamps. Yes, receiving a physical card in our land mailbox is a joy for all of us!

A hearty applause, maybe a standing ovation is for Kathy Caron (NEZ), Betty Cook (NZ), Debbi Deats (SZ), Thomas Giambra (WZ), Donna Harness (SEZ), Linda Holley (NCZ), Dell Ford Jordan (CZ), Marge Leibowitz (EZ), Dee McKinnon & Alicia Winowsky (LIZ), and Mary Beth Tyndall (CWZ). A special thank you to Barbara Rosencrans for her many years of service to her zone, CWZ, as the past Friendly Service Chair.

If you know of a member in financial stress, please contact your Zones officers, who can reach out to assist with possible solutions through a FS small grant and/or the **Robert R** . **DeCormier** Memorial Trust Fund.

One of the pleasant observations at the convention was to see our older members still attending the annual meeting and workshops, who have given so much to RENY, it was on their agenda to safeguard, and still give service to others. Living longer has a lot of positives, although they may be navigating slower, maybe with aids, but gracefully still moving.

With thoughts of gratitude, "It can be helpful to remember that not everyone gets the chance to age as far into life as others, and that we should cherish the time as we have it." (A borrowed thought)



CENTRAL ZONE

By Mary Ann Luciano, Public Relations Chair & Ray Pitcher, Zone President

The Central Zone representatives met and discussed their role for 2025 next year's convention with ideas for a theme. More information will follow. The Annual Meeting and Convention is scheduled for October 15, 16, and 17, 2025 at Turning Stone Resort, near the geographic center of New York State. If you are willing to help, please contact **Ray Pitcher** at rpitcher1@twcny.rr.com or by calling him at 315-717-1286.

Central Zone Delegates (pictured) at the 2024 RENY Convention were Ray Pitcher & Dell Ford Jordan (state officers), Stella King & Gwynne Bodle (zone officers), Vera Wolczek & Peg Reading (Cayuga County), Mary Ann Luciano & Kathy Pfeifer (Chenango County), Marilyn Dominick, Lee Beals and Colette Astoria (Onondaga County), Darlene Jarvis & Lynn



Grandjean (Oswego County), **Bill & Liz Cline** (Primary Alternates) were terrifically pleased that **Bill Tenity*CR** (Cayuga County and state & zone officer) was recognized for his work at all RENY levels. He is the unit president, zone executive vice-president, and chair of the Bylaws Committee. Bill also still has time to substitute teach at his local high school. Congratulations to Bill, well deserved.

The Certificate of Recognition for Distinguished Service Award is presented each year at the annual convention to members who have shown outstanding leadership and accomplishments after retirement for The New

York State Retired Teachers' Association and their community. Pictured lower left with **Bill Tenity*CR** is committee members **Carol Lord*CR**, **Judy Farmer*CR** and **Vince Smith*CR**.

Two units from the Central Zone contributed to the state convention basket raffles. RENY -



Cayuga provided something different—a piece of glass artwork from a county artist. RENY - Chenango crafted a Breakfast at Tiffany's with a Maple Twist basket. Proceeds from the basket raffles are divided amongst RENY's ten zones.



Bill Tenity*CR and Zone President Ray Pitcher







At their September annual meeting, Central Zone members met in the Half-Shire Historical Society's home in a former country school that some of their members attended. Hosted by RENY - Oswego, the school now has a genealogy exhibit, an old classroom, and other enticing exhibits. RENY members were entertained by a string quartet during a delicious catered lunch and a talk about the school and the Half-Shire Historical Society.

See more from the Central Zone on the next page....



CENTRAL ZONE

By Mary Ann Luciano, Public Relations Chair & Ray Pitcher, Zone President

Central Zone officers elected were **Raymond Pitcher**, President; **Bill Tenity*CR**, Executive Vice President; **Stella King**, Treasurer; **Colette Astoria**, Secretary; **Dell Ford Jordan**, Membership Chair and Friendly Services Chair; **Gwynne Bodle**, Legislation Chair and Health Chair; and **Mary Ann Luciano**, Public Relations Chair & Community Service Chair.



A sincere thank you is given to the Hudson and Kramer Memorial Grant Review Committee with the award provided to Julie Zick, pictured at left, Teacher/Librarian of the Greene Central Primary and Intermediate School for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) materials and activities. The award will increase to \$2,000 in 2025 from the current 2024 \$1,000.

Dell Ford Jordan thanks all the Key Workers for Friendly Service as she collaborates with each unit's Friendly Service Committee. This past fall, she met with the RENY - Chenango's unit orienting the new Friendly Service Chair of the Onondaga Unit. Information is flowing between the Central Zone's units by sharing newsletters, community service ideas, and brainstorming ways to increase RENY

membership. Unit members are becoming more aware of the Zone's initiatives and support.

Unit annual meetings were held throughout the fall. New officers were elected, and incumbent officers were reelected. The Onondaga unit awarded their future educator scholarships to deserving students along with honoring their 90-year -old members who offered advice to these future educators. Chenango County highlighted the officers' and committee members' contributions and had a local author, Lu Dick, present.

RENY - Chenango held an Election Day Buffet with door prizes to encourage current members to "bring a friend." In November, they announced the food bank recipient of their 2-year community service project and in December will hold a holiday "high tea" especially inviting their 90+ members to share their teaching stories.

In the spring, RENY - Onondaga will prepare for their 2025 trifecta of member meetings around the county and encourage their members to volunteer for a variety of activities between these meetings. RENY - Oswego donated \$794 to their Blessings in a Backpack community service project and enjoyed hosting the Zone's annual meeting with their unit members attending.

Our Zone is active with meetings both in person and via Zoom, future educator scholarships, community service projects that raise funds and contribute volunteer services. We look forward to working together in 2025 for all that RENY can contribute to retired educators, education, and our communities.



CENTRAL WESTERN ZONE

By Mary Beth Tyndall, Zone President

The fall season began with our Annual Meeting at King's Catering & Party House in Canandaigua on September 12th. There were 35 in attendance plus 25 entertainers! Our time together was filled with a delicious picnic BBQ lunch, beautiful raffle baskets, lots of photos from the past and the Oasis Tappers! More from Central Western Zone on the next page...



Oasis Tapper Jeanne & Betty Worden



Mabel Deal



Betty Worden, Virginia Konz, Joan Handfield, Marshall Handfield, & Jane Crosby



CENTRAL WESTERN ZONE

By Mary Beth Tyndall, Zone President

CWZ was well represented at our RENY Convention at Turning Stone in October. We always enjoy ourselves with many thanks to the hosting zone and RENY staff! We especially had fun at the Black Fly Ball and the Trivia competition!



CWZ Delegation



Delegates dress for the Black Fly Ball



Barb & Dave Bush



Sue Nellany and John Hogan*CR in the background





Sandy Hill & Deb Dorgan



EASTERN ZONE

By Pamela Love, Public Relations Chair

During this summer, Jack DeWeese*CR resigned from being Eastern Zone's Treasurer, a post he has held for many years,



due to health issues. He has served in many capacities for his local unit including President, and at the state level including Assistant Treasurer. The Executive Board of Eastern Zone will miss him. Marjorie Leibowitz has taken over his duties as treasurer of Eastern Zone. Pictured at left is Jack DeWeese*CR in July.

Donna Rose French, reporting for President, Joan Mattson of the Columbia County Unit said that Joan Burger passed away in October. She was active until her death. She was

honored this year along with a group of 90+ year old members for her many years of dedication during her teaching career and during her retirement.

Delaware County Unit President Pat Reynolds reported that they had their Fall Meeting in September. Their community project was a monetary donation toward Food Backpacks for elementary children. During their meeting they had a representative from Delaware County Historical Association tell stories from two books she had written; 'Buried Treasures of the Catskills' and 'Murder in the Mirror' based on the newspaper reports found in 1852 - 1871.

Upper Montgomery Unit President Rosalind Carron reported that their unit had the Fall Meeting on September 25th at The Holiday Inn in Johnstown. Canajoharie retirees were the host of the meeting. Their scholarship committee reported that they were able to award two \$500 grants to two Fonda Fultonville H.S. students; Brady Menelious and Kyle Kearns. The Outreach committee will present a \$250 stipend to a district teacher for a proposal of an educational nature not

funded by the school district. The unit members are very happy to report that a former Fonda Fultonville student, Jenny Bucas, is now Co-Director of the National STEM Festival which was recognized by Project Management Institute as one of the top 20 most influential projects of 2024 in the world.

Joyce Notarnicola, pictured at right, Eastern Zone Community Services Chairperson held three volunteer days this year at The Regional Food Bank in Latham, NY.





Janice Mullins was elected as the next RENY State Vice President for Legislative Action.

Love, and Rosalie Oliver. During the Convention,

Pictures of the Convention include: Lisa Devaren and Carolyn Bovee, Joyce and Mark Notarnicola, Janice and Thomas Mullins and Albert and Gloria Ciejka and Gloria Ciejka, Marjorie Liebowitz, Pamela Love and Rosalie Oliver.

See more pictures from Pamela on the next page...

EASTERN ZONE

By Pamela Love, Public Relations Chair



Jan & Tom Mullins and Al and Gloria Ciejka during the Black Fly Ball



Joyce and Mark Notarnicola



ZONE NEWS ZONE NEWS

LONG ISLAND ZONE

By Eileen Holmes*CR, Zone President

The Long Island Zone has been blessed with beautiful Autumn weather: sunny days, blue skies and crisp, clear nights. We count our blessings that our island hasn't been hit by hurricanes this year. We have many LIZ retirees in Florida and the Carolinas and we send our thoughts and prayers to those impacted by this season's deadly storms.



LIZ held its Fall Annual Meeting on September 25th at the Irish Coffee Pub in East Islip. Highlight of the get-together was the awarding of the LIZ Silver Pin Award which recognizes exemplary service to the zone. Long time member **Alicia Winowsky** received the award for her many years of service as zone secretary, friendly service chair for both the zone and the East End unit, her excellent attendance at meetings and her overall enthusiasm and commitment to supporting our organization!

Pictured at left is Silver Pin award winner Alicia Winowsky with Leigh Powell*CR and Mary Ella Moeller*CR.

More from Eileen and the LIZ on the next page....

LONG ISLAND ZONE

By Eileen Holmes*CR, Zone President

On October 28th LIZ Community Service Chair **Angelo Grande*CR** arranged a donation ceremony at The Warrior Ranch in Calverton, NY. The Warrior Ranch Foundation rescues abused and abandoned horses. With trained staff and volunteers, working with the horses provides therapy for veterans and first responders who are suffering from mental stress and suicidal inclinations. Angelo was accompanied by his wife **Kathryn Grande*CR**, EERTRA president **Dom LiCausi** and his wife **Sue LiCausi** and LIZ president **Eileen Holmes*CR**. They enjoyed talking with the staff, visiting the stables and seeing the horses at this beautiful, peaceful location.



The East End unit held their annual Back-to-School luncheon and Fall meeting on Wednesday, September 4th at The Birchwood of Polish Town Restaurant in Riverhead. This luncheon has been a tradition since EERTA was founded and is always held on the first Wednesday after Labor Day: active teachers go back to their classrooms for their first full day with students and we go to lunch to celebrate retirement! EERTA officers were elected for 2024-25: **Dom LiCausi**, President, **Val Stype** and **Agnes Dansereau**, Co-Vice Presidents, **Sue LiCausi**, Secretary and **Eileen Holmes*CR**, Treasurer.



LIZ sent 13 delegates to the 2024 RENY convention and everyone enjoyed the workshops and the camaraderie. We were lucky to win a lot of great raffle prizes and very fortunate to have a great bus driver to get us to Verona and back to Long Island in comfort. Pictured is LIZ delegates at the RENY 2024 Convention: Alicia Winowsky, Angelo Grande*CR, Lois Thornberg*CR, Kathy Grande*CR, Agnes Dansereau, Eileen Holmes*CR, Marilyn Runyan, Mary Ella Moeller*CR, Leigh Powell*CR and JoAnne Powell. Missing from photo is Robert Svoboda.



JoAnne Powell will spoil her 2 adopted cats with the treats from her prize raffle basket!



Kathy and Angelo Grande*CR: Happy winners at the convention



Happy raffle winner Agnes

Dansereau with her wine
and Billy Joel music basket

NORTH CENTRAL ZONE

By Patricia Newell and Nancy Roberts*CR, Public Relations Co - Chairs

renynez.org

"Adventure is worthwhile." Aesop



NCZ Membership Chair, **Jackie Maloney**, had an opportunity to test Aesop's statement. It all began on a cold January day when she saw a Collette Travel ad in York State. Just for fun, Jackie called for information. Before she knew it, she booked a trip to Hawaii for March 2024. Her good friend signed on as a traveling companion. Seven plane rides...4,816 miles...and a few time zones later, they arrived in Honolulu for the start of their tour of three Hawaiian Islands.

On the island of Oahu, they visited the Iolani Palace, Pearl Harbor, and the beaches of Waikiki. Next, they explored the Big Island of Hilo with its volcanoes and black sandy beaches. They had an opportunity to visit a coffee plantation in

the morning and swim with the sting rays at night. Their favorite destination was the island of Maui where they enjoyed a hotel room with an ocean view balcony. They were treated to a sumptuous luau. On this island, they swam with the sea turtles and fish right off the beach. The top-notch accommodations, experienced tour guide, and amazing sights made for a memorable Hawaiian Adventure. For Jackie and Debbie, it was truly a "Trip of a Lifetime."

David Schryver, NCZ Travel & Leisure Chair, knows how to plan a day of adventure for our members. Monday, July 22nd was one of those days. David, the co-author of the book *Waterfalls of New York State*, developed an itinerary of seven waterfalls all located in Jefferson County. Nine brave souls answered the call to go in search of wonder and discovery. Surprisingly enough, the first stop on the journey was Great Falls located right in the heart of Watertown. From there, the group explored Beaver Falls on the outer edge of the city. Traveling south, they were able to view Totman Gulf in the town of Lorraine and Monitor Mill Falls in Ellisburg. The adventurers stopped for a hearty lunch at Diane's Diner in Dexter. Rested and refueled, they proceeded north to Buttermilk Creek Falls, Catfish Falls, and Sperrys Falls all in the Depauville/Clayton area. As the tour guide, David provided a brief introduction to each waterfall and background on the surrounding area. This created a very interesting and informative trip. The waterfalls varied in size, but each was unique and breathtakingly beautiful. The sunny day was



capped off with ice cream treats at the Lickety Split in Dexter. Want a perfect day?...Fill it with nature, sunshine, friendship, and laughter!



Our Fall Business Luncheon was held on September 11, 2024 at the Hilton Garden Inn, our fresh new venue in Watertown. We were delighted to have 46 NCZ members and guests in attendance. Officers for 2024-2025 were elected. Our own dynamic NCZ member, **Diane Ferrucci** gave us two tips on "Aging Gracefully." Kimberly Maercklein from the NYS Division of Consumer Protection spoke on Fraud Prevention. Her power point presentation and hand-outs gave us important insights and helpful information on this crucial topic. Pictured at left is the 2024-2025 NCZ board; L to R: **Elwood "Woody" Lyndaker**, Secretary; **Barbara Cole-Russell**, Treasurer; **Rick Morris**, President; **Toni Gigliotti** & **Patty Corey**,

Co-First Vice-Presidents; **Patricia Newell**, 2nd Vice-President.

NORTH CENTRAL ZONE

By Patricia Newell and Nancy Roberts*CR, Public Relations Co - Chairs renynez.org

NCZ community service projects had a big day. Attendees were able to support "Coats for Kids" by placing their contribution in decorated mason jars set on the tables by **Patty Corey** & **Toni Gigliotti**. Under the supervision of **Pat Dietrich**, "Love Your Library" also had a successful day. Five libraries in Jefferson & in Lewis County will each receive \$50 to add resources & help build literacy. The luncheon proved to be a truly enjoyable and informative event.



The Convention is always a time of excitement, learning, fellowship, and fun. This year was no exception. After hosting duties last year, the NCZ delegates to the 2024 RENY Annual Meeting and Convention at Turning Stone were definitely in a more relaxed mood. They were ready to "Hit the Adirondack Trail." Our delegates dressed to go to the Ball... that is the Black Fly Ball!! They were eager to participate and try their skills at the Trivia Challenge Game. They chose to be known as the "Northern Lights." Their teamwork paid off when they earned the No #2 spot in the contest. Pictured at left are Zone President Rick Morris, Jackie Maloney, Barbara Cole Russell, Association President Dr. James

Newell and his wife Pat Newell.

Yes, there were many memorable moments during this 73rd Annual Convention. **Gayla Le Page** was elected as our new RENY President. As **Dr. Jim Newell** concludes his term of office at the end of October, he will be remembered for his leadership skills, his financial insights, and his trips to personally visit RENY members throughout NYS. We thank him for his service that has made a positive impact on RENY. He has made NCZ proud.

ZONE NEWS ZONE NEWS

NORTHEASTERN ZONE

By Cindi LaFountain, Public Relations Chair

The RENY Convention of 2024 was a true example of the "...It takes a village..." mentality of a little zone like our Northeastern Zone. It all started with **Kevin Mulligan*CR's** leadership

through the year leading up to our very successful team effort!

Our team was led by **Bonnie Gregware** and **Marti Martin** (co-chairs), both long time members of our NEZ group. While the team had many committees, all stepped up to help each other. From budget to fundraising and programs to decorations, our members shined. Buffalo plaid will never look the same to any of us!

More from the NEZ on the next page.....



NORTHEASTERN ZONE

By Cindi LaFountain, Public Relations Chair



With the help from community businesses and NEZ members, donations flooded in from all directions which served to fill our baskets for the convention. Perhaps our biggest fundraising event was our quilt raffle which was handmade by five of our NEZ members. Ticket sales were led by **Sandy Lashua** with the help of many willing participants. We held other raffles as well as a benefit concert from a popular local singing group "Beartracks".

With the talent of so many on our committee, we were able to provide high quality workshops at the convention. We'd like to thank **Connie Lalonde**, **James Howard**, **Kathy Caron**, **Sandy Lashua**, and **Kevin Mulligan*CR** for their hours of preparation and hard work. **Tracey Howard** was there to lend

a hand in the technology department when needed. Dan Berggren's keynote concert and his Adirondack presentation did not disappoint!

We received countless accolades and thanks for our welcoming table décor, RENY bags filled with goodies, and attention to detail. We should recognize the talents of Judy Corigliano, Kathy Caron, Barb Mulligan, Linda Brubaker, Connie Lalonde, Sue Rothemal, Glenda Rowe, Marti Martin, and Bonnie Gregware for pulling those pieces together. During the first night of the convention. Sandra Lashua, our energizer bunny, got The Beacon of Honor Award for all her hard work on increasing membership. Well done to all. Sandra is pictured below with President Kevin Mulligan*CR.





We would be remiss if we did not take the time to thank the two women who spent their days (and many nights I'm sure) making things ran smoothly in the days, weeks, and months prior to the convention. Kristen Valentine and Kathy Bassett show their dedication and support to our organization year-round and on a daily basis. Whenever we had

questions that needed answering, they were there to oblige. They provided guidance and advice when needed. The resources provided to our committee are too countless to mention. We want you to know, you are appreciated.

After a year of preparation, the result was everything we had hoped for and more. We achieved our goal, solidified friendships, and reaffirmed our belief in the power of our organization!









NORTHERN ZONE

By Linda Crosby, Public Relations Chair



Congratulations to our Clifton-Fine-Edwards Retired Teachers Association Unit!! The many faithful members of this enduring unit are celebrating 50 years of existence! Their annual summer meeting featured a golden party decorated atmosphere, a delicious chicken



barbecue luncheon and a specially decorated cake on August 6, 2024 at the beautiful Cranberry Lake Firehall. CFERTA President **Joe Russo** spoke about the history of the unit. Their first meeting was August 15,1974. Treasurer **Debby Yartz** made a basket of goodies for a raffle. Secretary/Historian **Alice Galvin** presented two historian books for viewing. Gorgeous commemorative gold rimmed mugs were presented to all in attendance. Special recognition was extended to **Laurel Reynolds** for her exceptional mileage in the Northern Zone Walking Club. Everyone proudly enjoyed the very special celebration.

CFERTA Scholarship Chairperson **Sally Capone** presented the \$1,500 P.A. Miranda Scholarship to 2024 Clifton-Fine C.S. graduate and Class Salutatorian Kylee Todd, daughter of James and Jenna Todd of Oswegatchie, NY. Kylee is attending Keuka College, majoring in art design. Kylee's mom was also awarded the same scholarship when she graduated from CFCS in 2002. Appreciation was expressed to the scholar-



ship committee members Sally Capone, Rogene Rice, Jean Pomerville, Chuck Yartz, Debby Yartz, Margie Russo, and Laurel Reynolds. In a special report, Sally also detailed the accomplishments of all the previous 24 scholarship recipients. Joe Russo thanked the current officers Alice Galvin, Debby Yartz, and Sally Capone as well as planning committee members Rogene Rice, Jean Pomerville, and Kathy Manchester.



In other NZ news, Scholarship Committee members **Gayla** and **Phil LePage** announced the names of the two 2024 Northern Zone Scholarships winners (\$400 each). The Janet P. Dana Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Franklin County resident Samantha Clookey, pictured at left, daughter of Shane and Christine Clookey, of Brushton, NY. Samantha graduated as Valedictorian of her class at Brushton-Moira Central School while maintaining a heavy load of classes including many NCCC classes, as well as participating in Band, Chorus, Art Club, Varsity Basketball, Varsity Volleyball, National Honor Society, Student Council, Speech and Debate, Varsity Club, and serving in many officers' positions in nearly all of her extracurricular activities. Samantha is now attending SUNY Potsdam to major in Secondary

Education Chemistry and Physics. She was inspired to become a teacher while helping to teach her younger brother

during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Ross C. Hudson Memorial Scholarship recipient is St. Lawrence County resident Clara Cole, at right, daughter of Shelly and Jon Cole of Ogdensburg, NY. Clara graduated from the Ogdensburg City School District as Valedictorian of her class while maintaining a near perfect average and earning credit in three AP classes. She participated in Volleyball, Basketball, Track and Field, Band, Jazz Band, Chorus, Jazz Choir Ensemble, Dance, National Honor Society, Marching Band, Key Club, Earth Club, Model U.N., and Church Youth Group. Clara was accepted at multiple colleges; she decided

to attend Nazareth University and is studying Speech Therapy and Elementary Education. Her observations of the excitement, the curiosity and the kindness of children while learning inspired her decision to become a teacher.

SOUTHEASTERN ZONE

By Maureen Coffey, Public Relations Chair

" We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing." ∼ George Bernard Shaw

Southeastern Zone, held their annual fall luncheon at the Americana Diner in Middletown on September 19th. Committee reports were read and discussed. **Donna Harness**, our SEZ president, gave last minute info for the upcoming RENY conference. Proposed bylaw revisions were voted on.

It was reported that this year, SEZ donated \$1,000 to the **Robert R DeCormier** Memorial Trust Fund. Dates for the Spring luncheon and the annual fall SEZ meeting in 2025 were announced. **Mary Lou Davis** shared a thank you note from their Dutchess County scholarship winner, Anastaslia Bondarenko. When our business was finished, we had two women from M&T Bank who shared info about current interest rates and scams that are targeting consumers, especially seniors. All of this was followed by lunch and some good old fashioned socializing! All in all, a good day.



Two other good days were recently enjoyed by some of our members. A guided tour of Legoland New York was so much fun. It's amazing what can be done with those tiny bricks that many of us remember our kids playing with. For the history buffs among us, a morning with Social Studies teacher and collector of all things related to early American times, was a real treat. Paul Clemente entertained us with both his knowledge of colonial times and items from his



American Revolution collection. His wife, Debbie, prepared a treat for us. Hardtack, a flatbread, was part of a soldier's diet when away from home. Both outings were very enjoyable.



Members of RENY, Retired Educators of New York, met at Turning Stone Resort and Casino from October 7th thru 9th for the annual meeting and convention. The Northeastern Zone did a fantastic job



hosting the event. In addition to attending to business details at our annual meeting, there were opportunities to attend workshops to learn new things and chances to socialize and catch up with friends from all over the state.

On a sad note, a former delegate was not with us this year. **Tony Colombo**, President of Southeastern Zone for six years, recently passed away from Alzheimer's Disease. Tony taught Spanish and French in the Beacon School District for many years. He was also a master craftsman. His carpentry skills were second to none. For years, family and friends have enjoyed the beautiful sun room he added to their home. Tony is survived by his wife, **Mary Ellen**, a son and daughter and three granddaughters. Please keep all of them in your thoughts and prayers.

While having dinner one evening at the conference, our conversation turned to remembering the good old days. We all had stories to share and many of them involved favorite toys. I wanted to do a piece on toys for an email edition when there wasn't much new to report. Right then and there, my very vague idea began to take form. Who better to address toys than our teachers who spent their lives working and playing with children? So here we go! But before we begin, I'd like to thank all of my friends who took the time to share these wonderful stories of their beloved toys. And now, lots of memories, a few laughs, life skills imparted to the kids we love, and maybe an idea or two for gifts for the upcoming holidays.

See more from Maureen on the next page....

SOUTHEASTERN ZONE

By Maureen Coffey, Public Relations Chair

Ray Leduc played with a farm set consisting of a cardboard farm, some animals and a barnyard. His children, three boys, loved their Matchbox toy cars and trucks. Ray's toys were cardboard, but those Matchbox cars were made of a much sturdier metal. Today, when Ray plays with his grandkids, he's far removed from that barnyard as he wanders into cyberspace to play computer games.

Helen Hoering grew up in the days before Barbie. Her favorite doll was Tiny Tears, a baby doll who drank water from a bottle and then cried real tears. When a little girl wanted to play "Mommy", Tiny Tears was a great doll to have. Helen's daughter was of the "Barbie age". Helen saved some of her daughter's Barbies and when her granddaughters discovered their mother's Barbie dolls, they fell in love...just as their mother did years before. The girls spent many happy hours playing with their mom's old Barbie dolls.

Mary Lou Davis loved her beautiful porcelain doll. One of her friends accidentally dropped her and cracked her face. To a little girl who treated her doll like a real baby, this was very upsetting. Knowing Mary Lou, her doll received lots of extra "TLC". Years later, her sons had much sturdier toys to play with. Legos and small car collections were very popular with little boys. Today, her grandsons like books and computer games.

Growing up, **Joan Schauer** had three favorite toys: Mr. Potato Head, a Betsy Wetsy doll, and a Betty Crocker Easy Bake Oven. Actually, the small cakes from the Easy Bake Oven were pretty good, especially when you remember they were basically baked under a light bulb! Her sons enjoyed playing with a Jack on the Box and the board game, Operation. Operation was lots of fun and a great way for the kids to strengthen fine motor skills. Her grandsons have fun with Match Box Garage, Legos and Play Doh.

Bob Brady*CR grew up on a farm. He recounts that looking back over all generations, his brothers, nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews, there was one toy beloved by all. The Brady kids all loved their sleighs. It's really not surprising, considering the rolling hills right in their own backyards. Snowfall brought hours of outdoor fun on Brady Mountain!

Martha Diederich has fond memories of an ongoing Monopoly game played on a card table on an outside porch along the side of her house. At the end of every session, the kids would leave everything just as it was, cover the entire table with a tablecloth, and anchor it all down with rocks on every corner. No matter what kind of weather Mother Nature sent their way, these kids and their Monopoly game were ready for it. Martha also sewed clothes for her little sisters' dolls. Being part of a large family with lots of cousins and neighborhood kids around meant activities that included everyone. Ice skating, badminton, and softball games were always popular. What Martha remembers most is that all of the kids were able to participate. Seasoned players who knew the rules were happy to help the new kids.

Patti Deleo's mom grew up during the Great Depression. Her Christmas gifts consisted of fruit, a small piece of candy and homemade paper dolls that Patti's grandmother would cut from an old folded newspaper. So when Patti's mom had her own daughters, she very proudly created for them the kind of Christmas she always dreamed of when she was a little girl. Patty Play Pal, Chatty Cathy, Thumbelina, books, and a bicycle made a very special Christmas for Patti and her sister. Today, when Patti shops, she's looking at chargers, i-pads, batteries, extension cords, and American Girl dolls designed to look like the little girls who would take them home.

SOUTHEASTERN ZONE

By Maureen Coffey, Public Relations Chair

Ed Coffey loved to play baseball as a kid. Little League allowed him to be part of a structured team, but he was just as happy playing with neighborhood kids in the street where they lived. In addition to actually playing, he developed a second passion. Using an All Star Baseball board game, he used his trading cards to create teams. Their movement around the board was determined by spinners which advanced them around the bases. After the game, he maintained statistics for all of the teams he set up. Sixty plus years later, he watches his grandson, Justin, use a similar skill set to create teams and play fantasy football with his friends.

Ninety-One years ago, **Harriet Beers'** uncle made her a two story Victorian dollhouse. It was her favorite toy. Over the years, in addition to decorating with new furniture, electricity was added. Harriet's daughter has agreed to be sure the dollhouse will always be properly cared for. Harriet also had a Didee Doll when she was about 8 years old. She would feed the doll a bottle of water and soon Didee needed to have her diaper changed. Harriet was happy to oblige. Years later, when she had her own three kids, she couldn't believe she was once so excited about changing diapers! When she wasn't busy with her dolls, she enjoyed checkers and playing outside. Like so many others, Harriet watched her kids play with Barbie dolls, matchbox cars, Lincoln Logs, and yo-yos.

Although I'm older than the ever popular Barbie, my friends and I had a similar doll, Little Miss Revelon. We spent hours sharing fabric and making sure each doll had a designer wardrobe. My mother and grandmother each had a jar of old buttons. They would let us rummage through the buttons to find the exact one that would put the finishing touch on an outfit. Outside, bikes and roller skates were popular, but one of our favorite summertime activities was to run around after dark with a jar with air holes poked through the lid so the lightening bugs we caught could breathe. Picture 10 or 12 kids running around in the dark with glass jars! It's amazing that no one got hurt! Later, our kids had cherished toys of their own. Ed was into anything that had to do with Star Wars or Batman. Debbie enjoyed her Strawberry Shortcake and Barbie dolls, but most of all, she loved her Babar, the Elephant stuffed animal. She also enjoyed making treats for the family with her Easy Bake Oven. Bob never had too many Hot Wheels and he could identify every one. And, early on, all three of our kids loved their Fisher-Price and Weebles toys! Outside, bicycles were always popular with all the kids. No glass jars for lightening bugs... our kids used Tupperware! As they grew older, just like Martha, we had the never ending Monopoly game for the neighborhood kids right in our dining room. (And just an FYI, Ed still has his Star Wars figures in their Darth Vader carrying case; Deb has Babar and her Easy Bake Oven; and Bob still has his hot wheels. He recently built a very elaborate race track which was a main attraction for a Hot Wheels Racing party he hosted for his friends!)

Dropping down another generation, our granddaughter, Ashley, loved her Disney Princess dolls. When her mom, Debbie, would tell her the story of each princess, the prince only appeared on the scene after the princess graduated from Princess College! Justin, our grandson enjoys sports, especially football, and video games but still has fun face timing his sister, Ashley, to play a game of Scattergories with parents and grands. It's a perfect blending of a family board game and technology!

Jackie Gerken grew up in Maine in the 1930's. Jackie loved her dolls and her brother loved his trains. These two toys continued to be favorites through subsequent generations in her family. Sleds and bikes were favorites of all the kids in their country setting, but since there were no paved sidewalks, Jackie never had a pair of roller skates! Inside games were Pick Up Sticks, jacks and marbles.

Here more from Jackie on the next page....

SOUTHEASTERN ZONE

By Maureen Coffey, Public Relations Chair

Jackie's kids grew up in the 50's and 60's and Jackie immediately noticed the influence TV advertising had on this generation: Jackie asked for "a doll" when she was little but her daughter asked for "a Tiny Tears Doll". (Thanks for sharing that interesting observation, Jackie!) Imagination was front and center as kids played school. Outside they enjoyed Hop Scotch and Hide and Seek. And, living in developed neighborhoods, her kids had roller skates! Then came the 1970's and Jackie had 5 granddaughters who loved American Girl dolls, Cabbage Patch Kids, dollhouses and Fisher-Price toys. Today, with her great-grandchildren, Jackie summed it up beautifully: "No remote, no batteries, no game!"

Outside though, kids still love their bikes. Another interesting observation she shared was how we all went to a park or playground and played with lots of kids. Today, many families have play sets right in their backyards, possibly cutting down on shared playtime with groups of friends.

Reading through everyone's shared memories, we see how very special favorite toys are to all of us. I might run into you in a store and not be able to place you, but I'll never forget what my Little Miss Revlon looked like! It's no surprise that many kids never part with the toys they loved most.

As the holidays approach, many of us will be buying gifts for the kids in our lives. It's just a thought, but maybe consider a board game that you can play with them. Then bring out some popcorn and enjoy. It might just make a night of sweet memories for all of you!

'Til next time...

ZONE NEWS ZONE NEWS

SOUTHERN ZONE

By Mary Lou Wood, Zone Co President and Public Relations Chair

Can you believe summer is gone, fall is here, winter will soon arrive. My flowers were absolutely beautiful. The humming-birds had a great playground and picnic area. In the middle of October I hope you were able to view the phenomenal Northern lights.

Our SZ Units have been celebrating birthdays and nominating their officers: CARTA, Corning Area Ret. Teachers, celebrated members who are 90+ years old. Pictured, is RENY member **Jo Andrysick**.

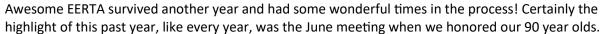
More from the Southern Zone on the next page....



SOUTHERN ZONE

By Mary Lou Wood, Zone Co President and Public Relations Chair

After fun times of singing, eating cupcakes and ice cream, Renata Stiehl, News Director for WENY television station, gave us an overview of some of her experiences. News articles about spending time on a submarine and riding an aircraft carrier sounded exciting. WENY is nominated for several EMMYs.



No, that tall man in the middle is NOT 90 years old! That's Dan Mandell, the Mayor of Elmira and the speaker of the day. **Jean McCormick** is to his left. She is the EERTA secretary along with an incredible number of other jobs she happily takes on. She has been 90 since last February. In front of Dan to the right is **Sylvia Roy** and on her left is **Ruth Wright**, ages 96

and 92 respectively. We were so pleased to have them all with us!



Corning Area Retired Teachers hosted the RENY/Southern Zone annual meeting. We welcomed guests, took care of RENY business, installed new/old officers, and listened to some beautiful harmony.

Our musical entertainment was Goldilocks and the Three Baris. We enjoyed their harmony, their music and their sing-a-long.

Schuyler County Retired Teachers' Association has 3 new officers. **Lisa Frost**, Co-President; **Susan Lemak**, Treasurer; **Suzanne Walker**, Co-President, pictured just below.



The officers for the RENY /Southern Zone were installed at this meeting. We welcomed RENY President **Dr. James Newell** and his lovely wife who were invited to join us..

Dr. James Newell, RENY President; **Pat Newell**; **Gerardo Tagliaferri**, SZ Past President; **Vince Smith*CR**, SZ Co-President; **Bonnie**

Stratton, Treasurer; **Sue Pierce**, SZ Secretary; **Mary Lou Wood**, SZ Public Relations, Co-President.





Pictured here are your delegates that represented the Southern Zone at the 2024 RENY Annual Meeting & Convention at the Turning Stone, Verona, NY.

Standing: Mary Lou Wood, Mary Johnson, Janice Glover, Susan Lemak.

Stairs: Gerardo Tagliaferri, Lisa Frost, Suzanne Walker, Vince Smith*CR.



WESTERN ZONE

By Nancy White and Audrey Seidel, Public Relations Co - Chairs

In this edition of YORK STATE, Western Zone would like to highlight a very active committee in our zone, the Teacher Grant Committee and the recipients of this year's awards. Members of this committee are as follows: **Maria Hager**, Chairperson, **Carol Cascio**, Therese Clarke, **Ron Czapla**, **Elaine DeLisle**, and **Stanley Nowak**. In the 2023-2024 school year, letters were sent to schools in our zone, informing area educators of the availability of four \$750 grants.

Educators were able to apply in one of two categories for these grants. All the proposals submitted to this committee were of very high quality. After the selection process was completed, the grant recipient's schools were informed and

presentation of the grants were made to the teacher at their respective schools.



The first recipient of a 2023-2024 grant was Gracie Mulville, Holland Elementary School. Her project was entitled "Musical Theater Education in Elementary School". The intent of the project was to start a third-fourth grade after-school Theater Club. The grant provided funds to start up the club and will help pay for the rights to a show. The student goal is to perform a short musical/play by the end of the year that students have worked on throughout the year.

The second recipient of this year's grant was Miriam Albaneh from Lackawanna High School. Her project was

entitled "Creative Threads" and was an innovative project aimed at empowering high school students with entrepreneurial skills and practical business experience through the establishment of a student-run apparel business. The project's intent was to foster creativity, innovation and teamwork among students, while generating revenue for school programs and activities. It integrates practical application with academic learning and offers experiential learning opportunities in business, design, and communication.



The third grant was awarded to Jessica Wheaton-Bridon, the general music and chorus teacher, who works with 350 students at Willow Ridge Elementary School, Sweet Home CSD. This project wasentitled: "Drums Alive". The project combines physical fitness,

dance, music, and rhythms all while drumming on yoga balls. The project will be used with every student at Willow Ridge and can be adapted to all needs and learning styles. The intent is to enrich students socially and emotionally. Also, it provides an opportunity to learn kinesthetically and to be an avenue for students to feel pride and

joy; while making music. This program can easily be adapted for each grade level, and ways to utilize the program are as endless as the imagination.







More from Western Zone on the next page...

WESTERN ZONE

By Nancy White and Audrey Seidel, Public Relations Co - Chairs

The fourth grant recipient for the 2023-2024 school year was Leah Farnum, a second grade teacher at Ellicottville Central



School, whose awarded project was entitled "Immigration Simulation: Immersing Students in Hands-On Learning at ECS". After learning about push and pull factors that lead to the immigration boom of the 1900s, students will participate in a hands-on play-based simulation. Through the help of high school language students, elementary students will move through stations meant to replicate different areas of Ellis Island and various obstacles individuals experienced at entry checkpoints. Students then "board" a boat to arrive to America. Goals of this hands-on project are to strengthen students learning in a variety of areas including: their imagination, empathy, language skills, cooperation and problem-solving.

This year's four Teacher Grant recipients submitted projects that were engaging and creative. We congratulate these wonderful educators.

In other Western Zone news, we had an anniversary! On September 18, Western Zone celebrated its 75 years and held its annual meeting. This year, 65 individuals attended. Our program booklet was dedicated to our Past President, **Judy Farmer*CR**. The speaker for the day was Craig Gestring, Chief, White Collar/General Crimes Division United States Attorney's Office. We all agreed that he was very informative in regards to how to protect ourselves from scams and personal identity theft. During our meeting, members were updated on various committees, yearly business was conducted, and various WZ members were commended and recognized for all they do to promote RENY and Western Zone.

Western Zone is always very busy. We are recognizing innovative educators in area schools, encouraging retired educators to become a member of RENY and our zone, and contributing service to our communities. We look forward to our future.

RENY Executive Office Manager, Kathi Bassett's Grandmother - Al'Dea Lajeunesse's Corn Chowder Recipe

Ingredients:

1/2 Pound Salt Pork

1 Small Onion, diced

3 medium White Potatoes,

Peeled and cubed

1 Can Cream Style Corn

1 Qt Whole Milk

Salt/Pepper/Parsley to taste

In a medium stock pot, brown the salt pork with the onions. In a separate pot, add 6 cups of water and cook diced potatoes until tender. Drain. Add milk and potatoes to the pot with the pork and onions. Add cream style corn and cook until hot, stirring often. Do not scald the milk. Add salt, pepper and parsley to taste. Enjoy!

PLEASE SHARE THIS APPLICATION WITH ANYONE WHO MAY <u>WANT TO JOIN RENY</u>. THIS IS THE ONLY APPLICATION THAT SHOULD BE USED WHEN PEOPLE ARE APPLYING TO RENY. THE OFFICE CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH A PDF VERSION IF YOU NEED ONE.

RETIRED EDUCATORS OF NY NEW MEMBER ENROLLMENT FORM AND PROFILE
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Member Dues: \$39.00 Lifetime Dues: \$900.00 Mail to: RENY P.O. Box 490 Amsterdam, New York 12010 518-482-3509



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