

SENECA COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION

FALL 2017



OFFICERS

President – Nancy Perrotto
Vice President
Secretary – Lynn Patti
Treasurer – Carol Lord
Friendly Service – Lynn Patti
 Janet Driscoll
 Phyllis Weekes
 Carol Westlake
Health Care – Ellen Clark
Historian – Norma Cayward
Legislation Action – Judie Byndas
Membership – Carol Lord
Newsletter – Lynn Hefferon
Resolutions – Carol Westlake



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Red Bookshelf Project

Keep Seneca County children and parents reading! Your response has been wonderful. Once again, please bring new or gently used books, especially board books, suitable for age birth to 5th grade to our October meeting. The donated books are distributed by the S. C. United Way to agencies such as WIC. Coloring books and crayons are also appreciated for the House of Concern and CAP. Thank you for promoting literacy.

United Way Campaign

Fall is the time for the annual campaign of the United Way of Seneca County. The past several years the Seneca County retired teachers have exceeded their goal! Thank you. Please consider donating generously again this year. Donation forms will be available at the October meeting. From Cornelia Johnson

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Hello all! Fall has arrived. Here's hoping you and yours all had a happy summer, and safely weathered our recent hurricanes in the U.S.

Our luncheon will be held on Thursday, October 12th at Abigails. Our speaker will be Eleanor Stearns, by popular request. Eleanor is a speaker you won't want to miss. She comes dressed as a strong female character from history and performs a short play.

This time she will be portraying Amelia Earhart. We had her once before as our guest speaker, and enjoyed her so much, we decided to ask her back.

Please continue to share information with your peers regarding the Constitutional Convention Vote on the November ballot. It is imperative to spread the word to vote "NO", and also to remind people to make sure to turn the ballot over to record that vote.

On November 1st my term as President will be over. Thank-you to everyone who supported me and helped make this an enjoyable experience over the last two terms. You are a very caring, special group of people that I have been proud to represent.

On that note, I have no replacement. I hate to see SCRTA group disband. I hope some of you will consider stepping Up to keep our organization alive.

Warm regards,
Nancy Perrotto

Sue Nellany reported that back in 2009 she was a coordinator for CWZ Community Service. If you remember, we sent knitted beanies to Afghanistan. We sent them to a Williamson soldier who just tonight stopped at her house to thank her. He said how much the guys appreciated them and even had a picture on his phone of a guy wearing one.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Hello friends! I want to thank each of you that sent in your dues after seeing the red dot by your mailing label. I know that many of you are faithful members of our Seneca County group, as well as the New York State Retired Teachers Association. However, we still would still encourage those that have not joined to do so. We need to stick together in retirement. Our local dues are only \$6.00 a year and can be sent to me at 39 Park Street, Phelps 14532. ***Please look by your address label...1 red dot means you owe 2017-2018 dues. 2 dots mean you owe 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 dues.*** I will have state membership forms at our meeting; I can mail you one or you may go on the website www.nysrta.org and join. Locally it is nice to get together, renew friendships, and enjoy a nice program and luncheon. Your support is essential at the state level as we work to protect our pensions, support for Cola's, and offer membership benefits. We must focus our attention on the State Constitutional Convention that leers in our near future. Please educate everyone you know on the importance of this vote. I have talked to teachers that have no idea about it or the consequences of its' passage. Our pension money is threatened....do not sit back and assume that it will be taken care of by everyone else....numbers count and we have to be vigilant....please join the state association today!!! Any questions please contact me or our president.

See you at the October meeting!! Carol Lord

IN MEMORY –Educators who will be missed

Donna Iocco – May 29, 2017

Jane Buell – August 17, 2017 CWZ Executive Officer

Bernard Horle (spouse) – April 2017

DECORMIER FUND

Do you know a retired teacher who is struggling financially? Perhaps someone who needs a new roof, furnace or help paying utilities? Funds may be available through NYSRTA. Find out more at NYSRTA.org

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SENECA COUNTY RELAY FOR LIFE

Thank you for your support to wipe out Cancer! Due to SCRTA support and many individuals; Norma Cayward, Linda Milliman, Jane Morehouse, Lynn Hefferon, Carol Lord, Bernice and Michael Pucino, Madison Dunlap and Grammy Dunlap we donated over \$1,500 from our SCRTA Team which placed us as #11 Top Teams. The relay raised over \$70,000 and 250 registered. Sixty Survivors attended and were treated royally. We will be doing a 50/50 Raffle at the SCRTA Fall meeting. We are very proud of our little group! We always seem to come through! Our goal for next year will be \$1,600+. Please join us next June. Carol Fearon and Phyllis Dunlap – Co-Chairs

NOW LET'S FIND OUT ABOUT NYSRTA

A long time retiree recently said that she was confused by what each association is and how the mail she receives is connected. New York State Retired Teacher Association is our state organization...if you receive the York the York State Magazine you are a member...if not you can open the NYSRTA.org website for details and to join. The magazine gives you state news and benefit information. Our own Judie Byndas is the immediate Past President of our state. Carol Lord is state historian and serves on the finance committee. Phyllis Dunlap serves on the Credential Committee. The state level is divided into ten zones. We are part of Central Western Zone which consists of the 10 counties from Lake Ontario south to the Pennsylvania Border. Our county president serves on the zone board. Phyllis Dunlap serves as Historian/Publicity Chair; Carol Lord is Asst. Treasurer and Barb Rosecrans is Friendly Service Chairman. Our zone coordinates our county activities. It awards Active Educator Grants to teachers throughout our counties. The political action committee meets with area legislators. You receive our newsletter The Link again if you are a state member. I hope that this helps explain what your retiree organization consists of and that you are more comfortable with your membership. An important tidbit is to let you know that the State's Hearing Benefit is available to your family members. One member had great savings for her mother's hearing aids.

WHY JOIN NYSRTA??

1. Insurance programs
2. Financial Assistance
3. Services and discounts
4. Travel and tour packages

The above are available to all NYSRTA members for a small yearly dues payment. You will also have contact possibilities with thousands of retired teachers from New York State. For more information, log onto www.nysrta.org.

**NOVEMBER 7TH BE INFORMED – VOTE
INFORM YOUR FRIENDS!!!**

Constitutional Convention Process



NYSRTA–New York State Retired Teachers' Association
WWW.NYSRTA.ORG 518-482-3509 8 Airport Park Blvd., Latham, NY 12110

Do we need (want) a Constitutional Convention? *Some reasons you might want to vote **"NO"** this November.*

Although ALL Constitutional Amendments could be changed through a defined legislative process, the Constitutional Convention allows the opportunity for "special interest" groups, rather than our elected legislators, to fill the Delegate seats. These selected delegates may "sneak" through changes that serve only special interests that would otherwise be unacceptable to the general population.

Cost: The convention would be prohibitive, costing an estimated \$340 million, paid for with taxpayers money.

Public Pension System: The present protections could disappear, and they could be taxed.

Public Education: School vouchers and/or State Aid to Religious Schools could be affected and spending, along with tax caps could become mandatory.

Labor Rights: Worker's rights to organize and bargain collectively could become restricted, as has happened in other states.

Civil Rights: Voting rights could be limited that would impact targeted populations, as in other states.

Economic Fairness: Minimum wages and prevailing wage rules could change.

Women's Rights: Women's reproductive and health rights could be infringed.

Environment: Changes could allow for further lumbering, logging, and mining, resulting in the destruction or elimination of the undeveloped areas of the state.

Previous Convention held in 1967: After all the time and expense, the proposed new Constitution was voted DOWN.

New York State Retired Teachers' Association–WWW.NYSRTA.ORG