

# The Link

## Central Western Zone Link Letter



A Division of the New York State Retired Teachers' Association

[www.cwzretiredteachers.org](http://www.cwzretiredteachers.org)

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**Community Service:** Elaine Leasure, 315-986-1423, eleasur1@gmail.com

**Nominations:** Julie Wunder, 315-946-6393, rwunder@rochester.rr.com

**Resolutions:** John Roy, 607-583-4439, c-607-769-1030, JARoy43@aol.com

**Split Club/Grants:** Ann Czajkowski, 716-795-9309, anngenecc@wzrd.com  
Mariann Holcomb, 585-798-5796

**Epke-Meagher Award:** Joan Irwin, 585-243-1327, meemaw262@frontiernet.net

**Historian /Public Relations:** Phyllis Dunlap, 315-539-3352, pbd106@yahoo.com

## A Message from the Co-Presidents

Jane Behnk and Sandy Kushner

The Central Western Zone was the host of the 2016 NYSRTA Convention at Turning Stone held October 26-28, 2016. The Executive Committee worked together carrying out many jobs resulting in a successful convention. Our members served as greeters, song and pledge leaders, gave the invocations, arranged and sold raffle tickets, introduced speakers, made table decorations, designed the cover and took pictures for the Convention Booklet. The 2017 convention will be at Turning Stone on October 30, 31 and November 1, hosted by the Northern Zone.

We would like to thank all of the members of the Executive Committee for volunteering their time and talents to serve all of us in the zone. We would like to extend Recording Secretary, Jane Crosby, a special thank you for recording the business of our meetings for many years. Jane will continue managing Bulk Mail and the Newsletter. She and her husband are excited to be able to spend more time in the south this coming winter. We wish them both many days of sunshine and golf. Thank you, Jane.

It has been our pleasure to represent the zone as your co-presidents as we attend NYSRTA Executive Board meetings in October, March, and July. We have continued on the 2017 convention planning committee, this year as consultants. The highlight of being co-presidents is attending the spring and fall county unit meetings. We feel welcomed by friendly faces where we always learn something new. Each meeting is unique, and the programs are all different. We would like to share a sample of the things we learned on our travels this past spring.

Visiting Orleans County on April 6, 2017, we learned this is the Centennial Year of America's entrance into WW I which "turned the tide" to victory with manpower and supplies, according to President Georgia Thomas. Two positive outcomes of the war were calcium/vitamin fortified bread and guide dogs. Orleans County is "for the birds" especially the Eastern Bluebird, our state bird.

Livingston County President Vicki Universal shared a trip she took to India with her sister. A flight to India will take fourteen hours, but you will enjoy free wine. You can go on three tiger safaris, and not see a single tiger. On a trip to India you will observe poverty, beautiful architecture, and meet friendly people. You might learn traveling with your sister can be pleasant.

The speakers at the Ontario County meeting explained that the original purpose of Rochester Honor Flight was to provide the opportunity for WW II veterans to visit the WW II Museum in Washington, D.C. at no cost to the individual. Each veteran travels with a guardian, usually a relative. Now, other veterans are given this same opportunity if they served during the Korean War, Cold War and Viet Nam. There are four flights a year, two in the spring and two in the fall.

Steuben County is home to Stony Brook State Park with many ties to history. The stonework roads and bridges built by the CCC and WPA still stand today, and withstood flooding from Hurricane Agnes in 1972. In 1931, the American Red Cross Anniversary was held with FDR in attendance. In the early 1950s, natural gas was used to power the park. Now, the permanent buildings are being named for prominent individuals such as Clara Barton.

Nancy Richardson spoke in Yates County detailing how she has helped migrant workers fill out applications for college and home purchases, but her most intense job has been helping these same individuals on their path to becoming United States citizens. First, they must be documented workers and have resided in the US for five years before they complete a 21 page application. They must be able to read and write in English, as ESL learners, this has been a process. Additional steps to citizenship include traveling to Syracuse to be fingerprinted, then to Buffalo for a background check and an interview, pass a 100 question examination, and finally travel to Rochester to be sworn in as a citizen. Nancy accompanies

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her students along each step. The effort she and her students put forth is to be respected and applauded.

During the Wyoming County meeting we learned about Angel Action, a county organization that supplies many families with needed food, furniture, and school supplies, along with school snack backpacks for weekends and summers. Many of these families need a little boost and might otherwise "fall through the cracks" of other county services. We were entertained by The Attica Middle School Show Choir, The Crescendos. These young people showed their musical ability, stage presence and team work. Their joy was truly uplifting!

On our visit to Seneca County, Jennifer Sutton from What If Wellness, instructed us to ask "What If" questions so we can retrain our brain to create new pathways to change our behavior. She told us to tell our brain what our desired outcomes in life look like resulting in more joy, more fulfillment, and more creativity. Jennifer is one very upbeat and energetic person.

Did you know that 2017 is the 200th Anniversary year for the Erie Canal? Wyatt Doremus visited the Wayne County meeting as an interesting storyteller about the Erie Canal. On July 4, 1817, digging began on the canal in Rome, NY. Two hundred years later, the Erie Canal is still a vibrant waterway for both commerce and recreation. It is part of the "big loop" of transportation for half of the country. If you travel along the Erie Canal, from Albany to Buffalo, you will ascend 550 feet across New York State. The canal helped make New York the Empire State and the New York City Harbor a major world port.

Performing at the Monroe County meeting was William Locke with "You Make Me Feel So Young" as his opening number. Many songs were introduced with historical trivia, along with a few prizes for audience participation. William always entertains! Many of us know of him as a former teacher of Chemistry, Biology and Economics and a former administrator. However, his latest unexpected role in life, since March, is as grandfather to identical twin girls! His final number, as always, reminds us all to, "God Bless America".

The NYSRTA Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant was given by five zones this year with the Central Western Zone taking part. Read more about this later in the newsletter.

#### Notes on the New York State Constitutional Convention

As we travel around, visiting each county's meetings, we always discuss the possible New York State Constitutional Convention. Article 19, Section 2 of the

New York State Constitution provides for a Constitutional Convention **only if a majority of registered voters approve a ballot** measure calling for one. By law, the question, "shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend same?" must be placed on the ballot once every 20 years.

**This year, November 7, 2017, is the next scheduled appearance.** Voters have not approved a convention since the 1960's. That amended constitution was presented to voters the following year and defeated. In 1997, voters rejected a possible constitutional convention. In this off-election year, the referendum on the constitutional convention will be one of the biggest votes we face. **NYSRTA and**

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## Central Western Zone Membership Report 2017

### Zone Membership Chair or Co-Chairs (Desperately) Needed !!!

Are you the kind of person who enjoys meeting new people and using your computer? If so, do we have the perfect job for you! The Central Western Zone is in DESPERATE NEED of someone (or two) to be Membership Chair or Co-Chairs. This is a vital position sorely in need of being filled for our zone. Jane and Sandy have "talked up" the many benefits of NYSRTA Membership as we travel to county unit meetings. However, there's more to the job than being just the messenger. As Co-Presidents, we cannot devote the attention to detail this position requires. We have the Central Western Zone roster and have tried to keep it current. We have a binder to pass along with lots of helpful information, and we will work with you to learn the job. Please contact Jane or Sandy if you are interested in this very important job for our zone.

We are very sad to report that Allegheny County dissolved their unit this past year due to lack of leadership. The Central Western Zone has notified the members, using the latest roster available, and inviting them to join another local unit within the zone.

#### Membership is everyone's job.

Please make a personal effort to reach out to a friend, neighbor, or colleague asking them to join the New York State Retired Teachers' Association. Personal contact is the best recruitment tool. Maybe you know someone who has been retired for a few years. This just might be the prime time to offer them membership. After being retired for a while, they have had a chance to "check things off their bucket

**CWZ urge you to vote "NO" and LOOK on the BACK of your ballot** for this item. Please read the Legislation article in this newsletter carefully for more details.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Central Western Zone Annual Meeting on September 28, 2017, at the Notre Dame Retreat House in Canandaigua. We also hope you have found it in your hearts and budgets to support the 2017 Annual Appeal to keep our organization in the black. Any contribution will be welcome and greatly appreciated.

Again, it has been our pleasure to serve as Co-Presidents working with a dedicated group on the Executive Committee and meeting so many friendly people within the zone.

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list" of things to do soon after retirement! In July 2016, we had 2,110 members, and in May 2017, we are down to 1,959 members.

**The state and zone must retain and grow membership to remain a vital organization in pursuit of the goal of NYSRTA: Working together to support and strengthen the quality of life for all retired educators, their families, and communities.**

We would like to thank the unit Membership Chairs for their continued efforts. We know you have a big job for both your local county unit and state membership.

Livingston County - Barb Hellwig  
Monroe County - Pat Ensmann and Diane Cacicia  
Ontario County - David Bush  
Orleans County - Barbara Dunham  
Seneca County - Carol Lord  
Steuben County - Christine Thomas  
Wayne County - Kathleen Clute  
Wyoming County - Caren Dubay  
Yates County - Kay Meisch

Jane Behnk and Sandy Kushner,  
Central Western Zone Co-Presidents

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## Donors and Split Club Participants Do It Again!

By Mariann Holcomb and

Ann Czajkowski,

CWZ Split Club Chairpersons

During the twelve years since the **Barrie Fleegel Memorial Active Educator Grants Program** started in 2006, Central Western Zone has awarded seventeen thousand eight hundred dollars divided among one hundred twenty-nine active

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educators in our ten counties. The Split Club and generous donations from our members has funded all these Grants! Two blue tickets are once again enclosed in *The Link* Letter. Members may purchase these for twenty dollars each. Additional donations in any amount are greatly appreciated and are used directly toward the Grants.

Checks should be made payable to **CWZ Active Educator Grant**. Send ticket stubs and donations to **Ann Czajkowski, 2311 Johnson Creek Road, Barker, NY 14012**-. Ticket stubs must be received before January 10, 2018 to be eligible for all fifteen Split Club drawings. Other donations are accepted year round.

Split Club winners in 2017 were:

**January** – Gary Kent, Betty Pilato and Clarisse M. Coggins; **February** – Pam Sale, Mary Jo Watson and Charity H. McCormick; **March** – Edgar Wedge Jr., Elizabeth Keenan and Darla Kennell; **April** – Betty Kemak, Virginia Kimball, Lois Whitford, Janice Baist, Gayle Conklin and Joyce Pittenger.

A big thank you goes out to Jane Crosby for her part in the preparation of *The Link* Letter. Congratulations to our winners and all our participants for helping to fund the Grants!

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## Friendly Service

*By Barbara Rosecrans,*

*CWZ Friendly Service Chairperson*

We have had another good year thanks to the collective efforts starting at the top with new State Vice President for Friendly Service, Harriet Beers, our unit chairpersons, and key workers. At the present time, we are collecting numbers from these folks which will be printed at the time of our annual meeting in September. As you can guess, much of our effort is concentrated in sending get well and sympathy cards, reaching out to those in nursing homes and generally trying to keep in touch. Even if you don't have a Friendly Service title, your efforts to let us know the concerns of retired teachers are so important. Keep them coming, please.

As Mother Teresa said, *"Let us always meet each other with a smile, for the smile is the beginning of love."* Friendly Service provides not only smiles, but love to many of our fellow retirees. If you would enjoy sharing your smiles and love to help others feel better, please contact me, your CWZ Friendly Service chair.

## Barrie H. Fleegel Memorial Active Educator Grants

*By Mariann Holcomb and*

*Ann Czajkowski,*

*CWZ Grants Chairpersons*

In 2017, we will be awarding eighteen hundred dollars in Grants to twelve applicants from nine of our ten counties in Central Western Zone. Twenty-six very impressive educators seeking higher degrees or certificates of advanced study applied. Many of the applicants are active in their communities as well as serving their school districts as unpaid extra curricular advisors and coaches. The applications were reviewed and scored by a committee consisting of John Hogan, Carol Lord, Mariann Holcomb and Gene and Ann Czajkowski.

**Grant recipients for 2017:**

**Allegany** – Kristen Durow \$100, Bolivar-Richburg CSD. **Livingston** – Michelle Ingerick \$100, Mount Morris. **Monroe** – Christine N. Green \$200, Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD; **Ellen Z. Harp** \$250, Brighton and **Barbara L. Spencer** \$100, Rochester. **Ontario** – Kristi Curtin \$150, Midlakes; **Natalie Sonnevile** \$175, Victor CSD. **Orleans** – Jacquelyn Coyle \$100, Orleans-Niagara BOCES. **Seneca** – Christal J. Kent \$200, Waterloo HS. **Steuben** – Rachael McLoud \$150, Hammondsport. **Wayne** – Marjorie Stanton \$100, Sodus CSD. **Yates** – Jonathan Pragle \$175, Penn Yan Academy.

There were no applicants from Wyoming County this year.

The committee appreciates the assistance of all those at the county level who will present the certificates at the winners' school districts and provide information to their local newspapers. CWZ of NYSRTA is becoming known as an active organization of retirees through your efforts!

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## CWZ Public Relations

*By Phyllis Dunlap,*

*CWZ Public Relations Chairperson*

Condolences to CWZ member, Carol Lord \*CR and her family on the loss of her granddaughter, Alexandria Mae Gleason Morrow, while on military deployment to Jordan. The 26 year old mother of two daughters grew up in Dansville.

The 2016 NYSRTA convention was successfully hosted by our Central Western Zone; especially our Co-Presidents, Jane Behnk and Sandy Kushner. Thank you to everyone who helped make the

Convention such a success. We are looking forward to the 2017 Convention October 30th to November 1st where we can relax and enjoy with no pressure of hosting. Many pictures taken by yours truly and a thank you letter from Co-Presidents - Sandra Kushner and Jane Behnk to the CWZ Executive Board were in the Winter 2017 York State hard copy after the Convention. The Spring 2017 electronic York State had articles contributed by Livingston, President, Vicki Universal, and Betty Weber Worden of Monroe County with a picture of the MCRTO Carolers, and Sheila Harp from MCRTO. Thank you. The Summer 2017 hard copy had articles from Orleans County Retired Teachers' Association about Frank Berger and Eric Delano of the Medina VFW post honoring WWI at the OCRTA semiannual meeting in April. Also, Ontario County was represented in the Summer 2017 issue.

The Fall 2017 electronic copy will have articles by Steuben and Wayne County. Thank you. Wyoming and Yates counties will have articles in the Winter 2017 hard copy. I fill in with tidbits from Seneca County when needed.

If you have any interesting news or pictures please send them to Phyllis Dunlap at pbd106@yahoo.com or 23 S. Walnut Street, Waterloo, NY 13165 or call me at (315) 651-5875 or (315) 539-3352.

All of your time and effort are greatly appreciated.

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## SCRAPBOOK

*By Phyllis Dunlap,*

*CWZ Historian Chairperson*

At the August CWZ Executive Meeting I passed out two scrapbook pages to each county unit to fill out about their county's officers, events and meetings (including pictures and newspaper articles) for our CWZ scrapbook. It will be displayed at the 2017 NYSRTA convention October 30 to November 1. I will be collecting these pages at the CWZ Notre Dame Retreat in Canandaigua on Thursday, September 14, 2017. Thank you for working together to make our 2017 CWZ scrapbook the best ever and to truly be a wonderful record of all our Central Western Zone Units - all of your time and effort are greatly appreciated. Many people stopped at the booth and looked at our 2016 scrapbook last year. We will miss Allegany County but hope their members have joined other counties!

Any questions please send them to Phyllis Dunlap at pbd106@yahoo.com or (315) 539-3352 or 23 S. Walnut Street, Waterloo, NY 13165.





The recipient of the 2017 Hudson-Kramer grant is Kyle Inda, a teacher at Naples Elementary School.

## NYSRTA Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant

The Central Western Zone was one of five zones across the state to give a \$1,000 grant to a teacher for a unique program or project to be used during the upcoming 2017-2018 school year. The funds for the grant are from the New York State Retired Teachers' Association Insurance Trust Fund. The grant is given in the memory of **Ross C. Hudson** from Gouverneur, who was a stalwart, devoted member of NYSRTA for many years, and long-time NYSRTA member **Florence Coulter Kramer**, who was a dedicated veteran teacher in New York City and New Rochelle districts.

We received forty-nine applications for the grant, making the choice for the winner very challenging. The recipient of this grant is **Kyle Inda**, a teacher at Naples Elementary School. Mrs. Inda, along with other teachers, students and community members are working in collaboration to convert the underutilized courtyard at Naples Elementary School to an outdoor learning area and garden space for students and adults, alike. According to the grant application:

*Fully built, the outdoor learning center will include two outdoor classroom areas, raised garden beds, pollinator gardens and spaces for art. The grant money will provide a shade sail over one of the classroom spaces. The shade sail will be a critical element in making space useable in all types of weather. It will reduce glare and provide shade on sunny days as well as provide a source of shelter on days that are not as nice. The sail will be the first part of our classroom space and provide an immediate sense of "classroom" to the courtyard.*

*Our project leaders will work with staff to develop curricular connections, so there will be many opportunities for teachers to utilize this space for specific lessons and project based learning. The study of habitats, plants, and trees are included across Pre-K through grade 6 curriculum. It will allow for students to connect to the natural world, increase engagement in learning, create a greater community connection to the school and provide a*

*therapeutic setting for our therapy dog. This project will give our teachers a tool to bring hands on learning to their students. It will teach our students the benefits of growing their own food and good nutrition. It will also give the entire school community a place to meet, to read, take a break and recharge. Our district goals this year prioritize student engagement, **STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics)** enhancement, and **ELA (English Language Arts)** curriculum development. This project aligns with all of these goals. The funding for the project is exclusively from grants, donations, fundraisers and volunteer labor.*

The Central Western Zone Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant Committee included Sandy Kushner, Jane Behnk, Joan Irwin, and Betty Pilato. We would like to thank Ann Czajkowski for the list of schools and addresses within our ten county zone and Linda Crosby, NYSRTA State Public Relations Chair. Linda provided very clear and helpful guidance for implementing and completing the many steps in the process for this grant's success. We greatly appreciate this opportunity afforded to us from the NYSRTA Insurance Trust Fund. Our zone will have the opportunity to award this grant again in 2019.

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## Community Service

By Elaine Leasure, CWZ  
Community Service Chairperson

County reports thus far show, Seneca County continues to collect books to replenish their Red Bookshelf Project. Wayne County donated perishable items to Pines of Peace, a comfort care home, donated \$120 to Laurel House, a comfort care home now being built, and donated three large boxes of books to Seneca County for their Little Red Bookshelf project. Livingston County collected items for their local food pantry and Wyoming County collected various items to send to our troops, collected 2 large boxes for the local food pantry, and collected items for Angel Action, a children's backpack program. Ontario County held a collection for House of John, a comfort care facility in their area. Steuben County collected money for Genesee Country Museum to help in building a sugar shack.

The walker forms received show CWZ members participated in 8 different walks this spring. They were: Cystic Fibrosis Walk, CROP Walk, Relay for Life, Krossing Keuka swim, Moving Day for Parkinson's Disease, Making Strides, Turkey Trot, and March for Science.

If you have forms to turn in, please get them to me by July 15 as I will be writing my annual report.

## Legislation

By Bill Lesniak,  
CWZ Legislation Chairperson

Legislation as outlined in the Spring 2017 "York State" (<https://nysrta.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/YS-Spring-2017.pdf>)

Two of our state legislative priorities continue to be the Minimum Pension Bump Up and a bill to Improve Pension Cola. Our state campaign card also includes the following statement: Over the years, we have had the pleasure of meeting with our local legislators and advocating for many issues. We have found them to be honest and ethical. We ask these same legislators to enact ethics reform bills that would remove and punish any colleagues whose actions jeopardize the trust and respect earned by the majority of elected representatives. NYSRTA supports meaningful ethics reform through the passage of legislation and referendum process. At the Federal level, we have also decided to pursue three bills that we have been advocating for several years. These include the following: Negotiation of Covered Medical Part D Covered Drugs. This bill would allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate with drug companies to reduce drug prices. We are also advocating a bill for Strengthening Social Security and Medical Trust Fund. This bill supports an increase to the average beneficiary, of \$800 per year. It would also change the cost-of-living calculations to reflect the living expenses of social security beneficiaries. The third bill we are advocating for (Observation vs. inpatient for coverage under Medicare) deals with the status of a patient under hospital care. A person whose status is "under observation" may not be covered under Medicare for any subsequent follow-up care in a skilled nursing facility. It is imperative that one be admitted as "inpatient" to be covered by Medicare.

We are currently dealing with the issue of the 2017 Constitutional Convention. Our pensions could be in jeopardy. There is talk that they may want to tax our Pensions and possibly do away with Collective Bargaining. We need to educate all voters that the Constitutional Convention is not going to benefit most New Yorkers. The public will be faced with the cost of millions of dollars to run this Convention. The delegates will most likely be most of the legislatures we already have due to name recognition. The constitution can be change through legislative actions. A vote of NO to have

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 a Constitutional Convention on the ballot in November, 2017 is of most importance.

**Tell senators NOT to support a health bill like the House bill**

The Senate is planning to unveil and possibly vote on its “replacement” for the Affordable Care Act (also called Obamacare), developed without any public input or hearings, before the July 4 recess, according to multiple media reports. Like the American Health Care Act crafted by House GOP leadership, the Senate bill is expected to radically restructure Medicaid, which provides health coverage for 36 million children and \$4 billion per year to schools for special needs students. **Capping federal support for Medicaid would shift costs to the states.**

**Constitutional Convention Process**



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

- 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

**NYSRTA State Legislative Priorities 2017**

**Minimum Pension Bump Up**

This bill would extend the minimum retirement allowance provided to long standing retired members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System who retired prior to July 1, 1980 and increase the minimum retirement allowance for all such retirees to \$550 per year of NYS service up to a maximum of \$19,250.

A. 06603 Brindisi S.5329 Tedisco

**Improve Pension COLA**

NYSRTA supports making improvements to COLA legislation by raising the base benefit amount upon which the COLA is computed from \$18,000 to \$25,000. This change is long overdue.

A. 06045 Steck S. 03306 Ritchie

*Over the years, we have had the pleasure of meeting with our local legislators, advocating for many issues. We have found them to be honest and ethical. We ask these same legislators to enact ethic reform bills that would remove and punish any colleagues whose actions jeopardize the trust and respect earned by the majority of our elected representatives. NYSRTA supports meaningful ethics reform through the passage of legislation and referendum process.*

**NYSRTA Federal Legislative Priorities 2017**

**Negotiation of Covered Medicare Part D Covered Drugs**

Allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate covered Part D drug prices for Medicare Beneficiaries. Other Government programs, such as Veterans Administration, have been able to reduce drug prices through negotiation. Drug manufacturers were influential in getting the noninterference clause in the original 2003 part D law, the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003.

The pharmaceutical industry has spent more on lobbying than any other industry since 1988. (Health Affairs Blog)  
 HR. 242 Welch S.41 Klobuchar

**Strengthening Social Security and Medicare Trust Fund**

Support an increase to the average beneficiary of \$800 per year. Change the cost-of-living calculations to reflect the living expenses of Social Security beneficiaries. The Alliance for Retired Americans suggests we expand our earned Social Security benefits and base future COLAs on the Consumer Price Index for the Elderly (CPI-E). NYSRTA opposes any cuts to Medicare benefits.

NRTA and National Institute on Retirement Security say to reform COLA to more accurately account for increases in inflation.  
 HR. 1114 DeFazio S.427 Sanders

**Observation vs. inpatient for coverage under Medicare**

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security act to stabilize and modernize the provisions of hospitalization services under the Medicare program. Although a federal law was passed requiring notification it has not been uniformly applied by hospitals and patients are still being surprised by having been listed as under observation. They are faced with excessive charges that should have been covered by Medicare and learn that entry into rehabilitation is denied as Medicare will not pay due to the observation status.  
 HR. 1421 Courtney S.568 S. Brown

President, Mr. Angelo Grande  
 Co-Vice Presidents for Legislative Action  
 Ms. Mary Johnson, Mr. Gary Germain  
 8 Airport Park Blvd.,  
 Latham, NY 12110-6414  
 518-482-3509



## Central Western Zone Fall 2017 Meeting

Thursday, September 28,  
2017

Notre Dame Retreat House  
5151 Foster Road  
Canandaigua, NY 14424,  
(585) 394-5700

9:30 a.m. Coffee &  
Pastries  
10:00 a.m. Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Program  
12 Noon Buffet Lunch  
CWZ Basket Raffle

### Nominations for Central Western Zone 2017 Annual Meeting

Co-Presidents - Jane Behnk  
and Sandy Kushner  
Vice President -  
Mary Ellen Morgan  
Recording Secretary -  
TBA  
Corresponding Secretary -  
Pat Dick  
Treasurer - Betty Pilato

RSVP by Monday, September 18, 2017 with your check  
made payable to: **CWZ Retired Teachers' Association**

Mail to: Betty Pilato, 2499 Sanitarium Road,  
Clifton Springs, NY 14432

Luncheon Reservation \$20.00 Price Per Person

Please accept my reservation(s) for:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Reservations: \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am unable to attend but wish to contribute \$10.00 for CWZ Annual Appeal.

Handicapped individuals: The walk from the entrance to the meeting/dining area may be too long for some people. For a shorter walk drive past the "No Entry Beyond This Point" sign to the cul-de-sac. Enter here and you will be by the area for coffee/pastries and right by the room for the meeting and program. If possible, return to the parking lot with your car. If this is not possible, there is limited parking near this entrance for a few cars providing the driveway to the house is not blocked.

## Mark Your Calendars!

### The NYSRTA 67th Annual Convention

#### ANNUAL WORKSHOPS & ANNUAL MEETING

Hosted by  
Northern Zone

**Turning Stone  
Resort & Casino**  
5218 Patrick Road  
Verona, New York 13478  
1-800-771-7711

**Monday, Tuesday, and  
Wednesday**

**October 30, 31 and  
November 1, 2017**

**Registration:  
Monday, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

**REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE:  
September 26, 2017**

New York State Retired Teachers, Inc.  
Central Western Zone  
2192 Carter Road  
Geneva, NY 14456

NON-PROFIT  
Prst Std  
PAID  
Permit #26  
Lyons, NY 14489-9998

Return Service Requested