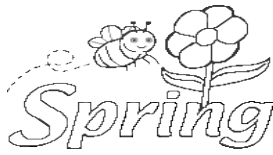


SENECA COUNTY RETIRED FALL 2020



Dear SCRTA Members,

This is a monumental time to be living for all of us! History is being made and we are witnessing events that are remarkably heroic, sad, inventive, kind, dramatic and so much more. At the same time, our daily lives are being amended and we are coping and cooperating. Teachers tend to be leaders and volunteers even from a home base. We all fall into the at-risk categories in one way or another, but we can all do generous and amazing things. Let's reach out to our friends and neighbors and communities! Phone calls, emails, Facebook news and uplifting pictures and articles are wonderful. If you know of a member who is in need, please reach out, if they are ok that you do, and help them find resources. NYSRTA {now also using the title RENY for Retired Educators of NY} resources like the Decormier Fund for expenses that are necessary but unaffordable. We also have our Friendly Services people who will send cards and wishes. We can donate to the animal shelters like Beverly Animal Shelter in Waterloo, hospitals and care facilities, House of Concern and more. Many folks are sewing masks as well. Our county has been fortunate to not be hit as hard as many, but we are involved and by no means immune!

CANCELLATION: SCRTA will NOT be meeting this spring. Our Executive board has decided that it would be unwise for us to get together. We will plan our Fall meeting. Please read the notice from VPs Jane Spiwak and Karen Moretti for more news.

This postponement does not mean we are dormant! Please continue to contact new and recent retirees and ask them to join our group. Please ask them and current members to join the state NYSRTA if they don't already belong. If you belong and need to become current on your annual dues, please do so. State lifetime membership is only \$450! Yearly membership is only \$30 per year if you would rather do it this way. Please note we can still make a difference and write to our state legislators about education and retiree issues. Gov Cuomo is doing a wonderful job with the virus situation but, at the same time, the proposal for the state budget may decrease out upstate and rural school funding! We must remain vigilant!

TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION



I will miss seeing you this Spring and look forward to being with you in October. Please stay healthy and safe until we meet again! Carol Westlake

FRIENDLY SERVICE AND THE CORONA VIRUS--SPREAD CHEER

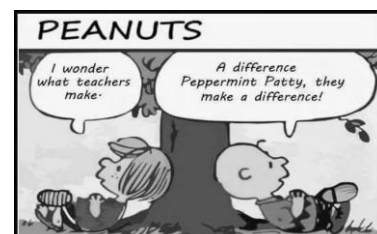
You have often been invited to be a part of the FS team—formally as unit chairperson or “informally.” This informal activity is what I'd like each of you to consider currently. Creativity is needed when everyone is at a different place with the corona virus.

What might YOU do? If the iPad, Facebook or computer is your thing, please communicate with friends and neighbors. Let all that you contact know that you think of them, are willing to cook or shop for them. Most won't ask favors but like to know on whom they can depend when needed. You might be saying “I'm not online, don't have a computer. What might I do?” Pick up your phone and call anybody to let them know they are thought of. They don't have to be school-related former friends. Young, older and in between like to know they are thought of. Nursing home residents are now confined to their rooms. Please call and let them vent to you. If walking is your thing, stop and chat with neighbors and the children. They like to see your interest in how they are studying at home. An elementary retired friend of mine is “teaching” a fourth grader whose parents are lucky enough to still be working. As a bonus, she is teaching him cursive! You have so much to give, dear friends.

If your church or social group has a dinner for takeout or delivery, get involved. What you do for others gives you a special feeling. Then, there's always the tried and true handwritten notes, letters and cards that people enjoy reading and rereading. Offer your help in whatever way you can lend a hand.

You made a difference when you taught, you still can! Try it, you'll benefit and so will the folks you contact.

Yours in Friendly Service, Barb Rosecrans, CWZ



COMMUNITY SERVICE:

The Beverly Animal Shelter

In the spring the Seneca County Retired Teachers donate items and make monetary contributions to the Beverly Animal Shelter. This year let's continue our community service even though we will not be having our May meeting.

Please drop off donations at the shelter. Suggested donations to leave outside include dog and cat food (canned or dry), kitty litter, detergent, and towels and old blankets. **The address is 50 East River Road, Waterloo, NY 13165.**

This is a challenging time for active teachers and administrators and their students at all grade levels. If you know any active teachers, send a greeting of encouragement with a card via snail mail or email. Everyone needs something that brings a smile their face each day. Reported by Cornelia Johnson

"Seneca County" --Relei for Life



Friday, June 5th

Seneca Falls High School Track

Survivors and caregiver Dinner 5:00 P.M.

Kick Off 6:00 P.M.

Luminaria Ceremony at 9:00 P.M.

Please join us. We hope it's a go!! We would love to have more members on our team. Call me (Phyllis Dunlap) 315 651-5875 or email me at pbd106@yahoo.com or call Carol Fearon at 315 889-5585 or email her at cfearon@rochester.rr.com.

Hopefully we will have a quilt raffle at the Relay!

Thank you to the members of the team. Team: Carol Fearon, Phyllis Dunlap, Carol Lord, Lynn Hefferon, Barb Rosecrans, Maureen Dykoschak, Pat Panek, Norma Cayward, Linda Milliman and Patsy Amidon.

Greetings from your VPs

We hope everyone is staying healthy and safe during these very difficult times. Although COVID-19 forced the cancellation of our May 21st meeting and luncheon, we have been busy looking ahead and planning our next two gatherings. Firstly, we are hoping that our organization will be able to host a "meet and greet" coffee hour this August for the 2020 retirees in our county. Last year's event held at the Seneca Falls Community Center was a wonderful success and resulted in several retirees joining our "ranks". We will plan a similar gathering as soon as we know the restriction on social gatherings is lifted. Secondly, we have planned our October 22nd meeting which will be held at Woody's Bar and Grille located in Waterloo's

Quality Inn (formally the Holiday Inn). We have secured as our guest speaker, New York State Senator Pam Helming. She will discuss legislation pertinent to us as retired teachers and hold a question and answer session. We are very happy that she will also be able to join us for lunch. Until we meet again at our summer and fall events, we hope you and your loved ones remain safe and healthy.

Respectfully,
Karen Moretti and Jane Spiwak



Health Report Reported by Ellen Clark

Medical Question of the Day: When they take out an appendix, it's an appendectomy; when they remove your tonsils, it's a tonsillectomy. What is it when they remove a growth from your head?
(See the solution below)

Here's some information about dementia and music.

The Wall Street Journal: Can Dancing Prevent Dementia?

Elvis Presley croons in the background as dance teacher Stine Moen gently calls out dance steps. "Right, left, rock step," says Ms. Moen, demonstrating the Lindy hop to six seniors. "Sloooooow, sloooooow, quick, quick." The seniors follow: some in step, others more tentative. "Stop right there," she says, and turns the music off. The seniors sit down, and a woman comes to take their blood pressure. This is no routine dance class. The participants are part of a study at Albert Einstein College of Medicine looking at whether group dancing might be a useful tool in helping to prevent dementia. (Reddy, 8/19)

*Some years ago, I read a magazine article about dementia and singing. Caregivers in a certain nursing home found that some patients were able to communicate through singing. When the staff said, "Let's go down to the dining room for lunch," they got no response. When they sang the same message, the patient became attentive and focused on getting up and going to lunch.
Interesting fodder for more research.*

**Solution to the Medical Question: A haircut.
Stay safe and well, Everybody.**

Legislation reported by Judie Byndas

The following items have been approved by R E N Y. to our state legislators for consideration:

1. Teacher Residency Program requires educators with Teach Program tuition waivers to teach at hard to staff schools for four years.
2. Safe Staffing for Quality Care requires acute care facilities and nursing homes to submit a documented staffing plan with many requirements.
3. Improve Pension COLA to raise COLA computation from \$18,000 to \$21,000. This improves all levels of retirement income.

All these proposals have legislative sponsors in both the Assembly and Senate. Please write or email your Senator supporting these measures. Our Assemblyman is not running for re-election so wait until November to contact the newly elected person. Under the coronavirus situation and budget problems, it is unlikely these will go anyplace. **"Best wishes and good health to all!"**

The following Resolution was approved by Central Western Zone on March 5th and is signed by the Zone the Guidelines for Resolutions, item number 4.

DISABILITY RESIDENCES

Whereas, New York State has over 200,000 people with developmental disabilities; and

Whereas many of them reside at home with aging parents; and

Whereas senior citizens cannot provide care forever; and

Whereas there is a growing waiting list of people to enter facilities that provide services for intellectual and other developmental disabilities

Therefore, be it *resolved* that RENY support New York State legislators to adequately finance and increase the number of these residential options.

Submitted by Frank Berger

"Best wishes and good health to all!"

In Memory and Honor of service to Seneca County children:

Jean Montford Oct.29....worked at Romulus for 37 years

Maurice "John" Chalker Nov.27...Romulus head custodian

Marjorie Backlund Jan.19... retired 1987 Romulus English & Social Studies

Christine Pohlig Feb. 3...retired 1983 Waterloo Grades 1 - 5

Jessie Dadson Feb. 18... Waterloo High School Cafeteria

Fall Meeting at Taste of Wine Country in Ovid



Elementary Annual 2019 Birthday Get Together



Treasurer and Membership Report:

Hello Friends, the balance of our checking account as of March 13th, 2020 is \$282.91. Many of you pay yearly dues of \$7.00 at this Spring meeting. That keeps us afloat and I also usually mark our newsletter to remind you. This time I am not able to go back and forth to the printer, transport the letters and handle each one. Neither do I want a lot of outside mail coming to my house at this time. So, I guess we will have to catch up after things clear up, feel free to send me dues in the summer. Our annual dues are for the calendar school year so 2019-2020 would be due now. It will certainly complicate things, but we can handle it. Now with free time on the computer it would also be good to go online and join the RENY State organization. Your membership is needed to support our retired teachers. We also have the Decormier Fund available to help our members...if you know of any member that is having financial needs please contact one of our local officers!! Be safe and well! Feel free to call me at 315 719-2163 or email me at clord@rochester.rr.com with any cares or concerns. Carol Lord

Save the Date!!!

Oct. 22, 2020 is the date of our next meeting. Details will follow in the next newsletter.



