



LCRTA Newsletter, Spring, 2023

Find us on Facebook at [Livingston County Retired Teachers Association](#)

Welcome to all our new retirees. We in the Livingston County Retired Teachers Association want you to be a part of our group. We meet twice a year for an opportunity to connect and meet folks from around the county. Here are just some of the important benefits of your membership in LCRTA and NYSRTA/RENY:

Benefits of Membership in NYSRTA / RENY

1. Automatically become a member of the Central Western Zone
2. Provide a means of dissemination of information to members
3. Support and strengthen retiree benefits at local, state and federal levels
4. Encourage retirees to continue interest and active involvement in educational issues
5. Facilitate the development of friendship among fellow retirees
6. Encourage pursuit of lifelong learning for all. (Program suggestions are welcome)
7. Model retirement as an active and meaningful time of life
8. Promote approved programs and goals of NYSRTA
9. Receive York State magazine

Members also have access to a number of programs that help members facing a variety of crisis situations. They include

1. The Robert R. DeCormier Memorial Trust Fund -- A special grant that gives financial assistance for un-reimbursed emergencies
2. The Presidents Fund; and NYSRTA Friendly Service program
3. Websites that keep you current with critical information such as connections to private and public employers hiring retirees
4. Discount Programs and Services that provide access to group-rate insurance
5. Programs that supplement existing Medicare benefits: dental, vision, and hearing plans; long-term care insurance; investments; and Abenity, an elite collection of local and national discounts.

Members also have priority access to fun adventures via:

1. Vacation Tours to destinations such as Europe, United States National Parks, South Pacific and more.
2. RoadScholar offers travel adventure, learning, friendship, and fun.

Honorary Membership that is granted to members reaching 90 years of age.



**Spring luncheon, May 24 at 1:00 at Brian's USA Diner, 5524
Mt. Morris Rd., Mt. Morris!**



Brian's USA Diner is a local gem chosen by upstateny.com as one of the notable diners of New York State. Brian's offers us the full range of

their menu with separate checks. This means that you can choose whatever you please. The only thing we will need is a headcount so they can arrange the meeting room to accommodate us. So, we will need you to **contact us at mecorey888@gmail.com with LUNCHEON in the subject line by May 21 at the very latest to let us know you're coming.** Follow the link to view their entire menu.

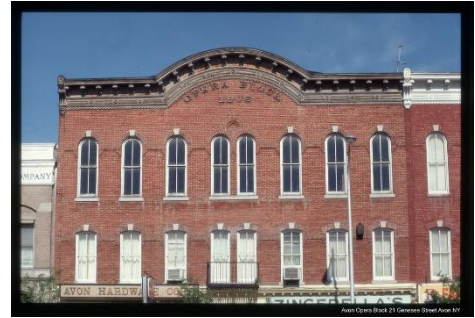
<https://www.briansusadiner.com/>

Opera Houses and Halls of Livingston County



Our special guest speaker will be noted local historian, Jane Oakes, who will be presenting her talk about the performances and meeting places that are hidden in the old buildings in our towns. Where did your great, great grandparents go for entertainment – to see live performances by the leading actors of their day – to hear speakers like Frederick Douglas,

Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Anna Dickinson, Mary Seymour Howell, and Ralph Waldo Emerson – to dance to the latest toe-tappers? They went to the local opera house (seen here: Avon Opera House).



Every town had one, some towns had two, three, and more! You'll never look at our downtowns in quite the same way after seeing this program. You won't want to miss it!

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR RENY MEMBERS

A nice cup of hot tea can help solve a lot of problems, but some need more help



than what even the strongest cup of tea can do. So, do you know of a retired educator, or the spouse of a retired educator, who is experiencing difficulty in meeting the increased daily expenses of everyday living and has a need for financial assistance in paying fuel, medical, dental, homecare or other bills? Or do you find yourself in such a

situation yourself? **There is assistance available!** In memory of its first President, Robert R. DeCormier of the Retired Educators of New York, RENY established a fund that continues to provide financial aid to retired members and spouses who are members of RENY and are facing this dilemma. In some cases, a monthly stipend is granted, which enables an individual to continue to meet the daily expenses of living. In other instances, a “special grant” is given that provides coverage for an unexpected financial burden.

If you know anyone that is a member of RENEY and **is in need of financial assistance, or for additional information**, please contact the Chair, Anne Flansburg at 716-863-3631. You may also download an application and/or learn more about the fund at RetiredEducatorsNY.org. On the home page, click on “Membership” and then “Financial Assistance” under “Member Benefits”. Please share this information with others who may not be familiar with this valuable resource.

Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant

The Retired Educators of New York Central Western Zone* extends a grant opportunity to full time teachers and administrators in a public school district in the amount of \$1,000. The full grant amount must be used for a program or project to improve instruction, academic achievement, or in support of a current issue. One of the objectives of RENEY has been to work towards the advancement of education in our state, and this grant supports that objective. If you know a full-time teacher or administrator in a Livingston County public school who is using a program or project to improve instruction, academic achievement, or in support of a current issue, offer them this application for a the Hudson-Kramer Memorial Grant in the amount of \$1,000 to support their work. This is a wonderful opportunity, so spread the word! Click here for a copy of the application.



[file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/2023%20RENY%20Grant%20Application%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/Owner/Downloads/2023%20RENY%20Grant%20Application%20(1).pdf)

We Need YOU!

Your input is essential to the continued good work we do. In the past year we’ve supported the Geneseo Parish Outreach Center and The Food Bank of the Southern Tier. A recent letter from the Secretary of the DeCormier Trust has asked us to again contribute to the work they do helping our fellow retired teachers in need which we will gladly do. So, you see, your dues as well as your support of the various raffles we do at our luncheons go a long way towards letting us be good neighbors. As an organization we are now in need of some volunteers to keep the good work going. The Friendly Service committee is asking for volunteers to do outreach in Dansville and Nunda. So, if you have thought about becoming more involved, this is your chance!

Planning for the Future



We've received some outstanding ideas for future luncheon speakers. Beth Peck suggested we look into finding someone who can speak to us about the history of Livingston County schools, in particular the one-room schools of the turn of the last century before districts were consolidated.

Cathy Schwalenstocker suggested we tour the new Autism Nature Trail at Letchworth Park. The trail is one mile long but has a cut off back to the lodge at the half-mile mark. We could walk the trail and still have time for lunch at Brian's, right around the corner. Or, if that sounds too strenuous (I'm panting already!) we could ask one of the rangers to come and talk to us about it. They have a slide show that would be very interesting and they could give us insights into its background that led to the trail's creation and how it's being used.



We're always looking for ideas about how we can both enjoy getting together at our luncheons and making them exciting so that we attract more of our colleagues to them. So, if you have suggestions for us, we want to hear them!!

Remember: Let us know by May 21 at the latest that you're joining us at our Spring Luncheon by e-mailing mecorey888@gmail.com with the word Luncheon in the subject line. We have a fabulous surprise in store for the lucky winner of our spring raffle, so bring money!

