The Wappingers Congress of Teachers
is proud to announce a
retiree reception to honor the 2006 retirees

Deborah Alexander
Rosalynde Baker
Giosafatto Barone
John Calogero
Walter Capichiono
Theresa Catapano
Albert Cerilli
Stephen Ciaccio
Andrea Dombrowski
Darrah Dwyer
Rosemary Franca
Donna Garvey
Kurt Hauptfuehrer
Karen Herlihy
Judith Ippolito
Debora Kaiser
Pamela Kara
Frances Kedzielawa
Steven Kelland
Toni Kelly
Bonnie Kieffer
Phil Lambo

John Lumia
Cynthia Malet
Gene Martin
Margaret Mealia
Barbara Mitchell
Margaret Moran
Jeanne Paino
Evelyn Partridge
Marian Pedersen-Grover
Jane Petrone
Carlo Picciotti
Dominica Quackenbush
Mary Quinn
Camille Racioppo
James Ranucci
Pamela Seeger
Marion Sharkey
Diana Sucich
Betsy Tripaldi
Nancy Turner
Greta Woo
Judith Wright

Where: Holiday Inn, Fishkill
When: Friday, May 19, 2006
Music by: Anthony Nardone III aka Tony Flash
Cocktail Hour: 6PM-7PM (open bar)
Four-Course Dinner: 7PM (cash bar)

$40 per person
*2006 retirees only - no charge

Please send this portion to the WCT Office with a check made payable to the WCT by April 21st.

Name: _____________________
School: ____________________
# Attending _________________
Dinner choice: (select 1)
Chicken Marsala: ______
Roast Prime Rib: ______
Salmon: ______

Countdown: # of days left in the 05-06 school year - 43
Retiree: Marion Sharkey
Teacher – 34 years

I started teaching in 1963 in NYC. I taught third grade at that time. I came to Oak Grove in 1964, where I taught first and second grade. I stopped teaching in 1966 to raise my three children. During that time, I substituted in the elementary schools. When my youngest child entered Kindergarten, I began working part time at St. Georges School. I taught Kindergarten and first grade for three years. Following a return to college for a Master’s Degree in Special Education, I spent 6 years at St. Francis in the Department of Communication Disorders. I set up the educational aspect of the then new preschool at Smith School in Poughkeepsie. I returned to Wappingers in 1987 to work at Kinry Road School in an SC1 class, setting up a pragmatic classroom model. I moved to Oak Grove in 1991 when Kinry Road School closed and I have been there since. So in all, I have 22 years in the district, but have almost 25 years in public school and 9 more in a private setting.

Aside from teaching in the classroom, I worked with gifted children in the old “Thrust” enrichment program. At that time, I was working with 5 and 6 graders in Oak Grove and Kinry Road schools.

I will definitely miss the daily dose of love and affection from the children. The hugs and kisses each day added a delightful “pick-me-up” to any day. I will miss the high that comes when a child discovers a competency, when a child masters a seemingly unattainable skill. I will miss the joy of discovery as a child learns a new concept. I will also miss my colleagues. They have been more than co-workers; they have been friends and “family.” The bonds that teachers make with each other are very special.

The things that I will miss the least include, “Professional Development” days during which many seemingly irrelevant topics are rehearsed over and over in small and large groups with no specifically understood purpose. Also, I will not miss the overabundance of paper that comes across my desk, and so called new approaches that are really exercises in “re-inventing the wheel.”

My plans for the future include visiting my children and enjoying my grandchildren. Maybe some trips and travel and perhaps a new venture in early intervention services for toddlers and preschool children.

Do You Have Private School Service?
We would like to know.
Please return this form to the WCT Office.

Name: __________________________________________
School: _________________________________________
# of years of private school service:___________________

WCSD Factoid:
Nothing can go in your personnel folder without your signature. It doesn’t matter if it is a glowing letter from a parent, an observation, or a disciplinary letter.
Dates to Know:
Remaining 2006 Board Meetings
April: 25th
May: 8th & 22nd
June: 12th & 26th
July: 10th

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May 13 - Community Picnic
May 19 - Retiree Dinner
May 29 - Memorial Day

WCT Shirts
Shirt forms available online at...
http://nysut.org/wappingers/shirtform.pdf

2006 Pay Dates:
May 5th
May 19th
June 2nd
June 16th
June 23rd

FYI: Hemmingway Scholarship

Pam Taylor, a former first grade teacher at Myers, is initiating a scholarship in her parents’ memory who recently passed away. Her dad was our former superintendent and her mom was an elementary teacher. This will be a one-time award given to a John Jay or Ketcham graduating senior. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship, please make your checks out to Pam Taylor, and send them to Alice Baker at the WCT Office.

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MEMBERS’ CLASSIFIED ADS (continued from page 3)

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FOR RENT: weekly summer rental: Falmouth Cape Cod. Three bedroom, two bath duplex, 5 minute walk to Sound Beach, walk to Town, fine restaurants, bike path. June $1400/wk; July, $1700/wk; August, $1800/wk. Call Bill McCabe, 223-5734.


FOR SALE: Voucher for three graduate or undergraduate credits at Mt. St. Mary College. Voucher is good for full tuition and registration fees. Can be transferred to anyone. Call Teri at 845-453-9858 or 845-849-9143.