

Post Script



Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers

2537 Route 52, Suite 15 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Vol. 17 No. 4

35 retiring = 952 years of WCSD service

Arbor Ridge Catering and Banquet Hall hosted the Wappingers Congress of Teachers' annual retiree dinner on Fri., Apr. 1.

Guests numbering 158 shared the joy of their 35 retiring colleagues and friends. The smiling faces and captions tell vignettes of the evening's festivities.

Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT president, introduced the executive board and

Ralph Capasso, at left, who served as WCT president from 1973-1990.



Pasquale had interviewed retirees over the last month and reported some of their comments: "Retirees are going on the happy side of

teaching....Parent night is now a reunion

of former students...I couldn't take the snippy emails from Human Resources any more."



"We're doing better than we should compared to what's in the media."

John Lumia, WCRT & Board of Educ.



John Lumia, WCSD Board of Education Trustee, was allowed a few remarks. He retired four years ago and is a WCRT member.

<<Gift table shows goodie bags for retirees, which included a gold watch from the WCT and a bottle of champagne compliments of Aflac Insurance Company. Tenured teachers and teachers with 25 years of service received framed certificates. National Board Certified teachers were honored at the January Representative Assembly meeting and received a pen and pencil set and clock.



Van Wyck: Olga Perlman, 24 yrs., Ellen Korz, 25 yrs., Virginia Young, 16 yrs., Kara McKenna, 30 yrs., and Johanna Valente, 13 yrs.



ALL SPECIAL ED.: Susan Dexter, 33 yrs., Brinckerhoff; David Bloom, 35 yrs., Kinry; Carol Mastianni, 34 yrs., Gayhead; and Susan Stoller, 20 yrs., Gayhead.



THAT'S THE SPIRIT(S)! Barbara Rowan lifts her glass (bottle) in victory after receiving parting gifts after 32 years of service.

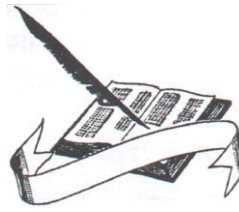
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From The President



**SUSAN
ROGER
WCRT
President**

retirees have the duty to help when we can. Please be active in sending e-mails to legislators, getting out to vote and encouraging your families to vote, and attending rallies and meetings when called upon. Seniority concepts are already being challenged in NYC. Tenure will be next.

If you don't think the union has done anything for you, think about the salary and working conditions when you started and when you ended your career. Those upgrades didn't come because the BOE loved you. It came because the union demanded respect and proved our worth to the community!

Susan Roger

Dear WRCT Members,

Our teaching profession and our professional associations are under attack as never before. Many of you will remember the late 60's when the Taylor Law forced us to form bargaining units to negotiate salaries and working conditions with the Board of Education. It was a good thing ensuring that all teachers received comparable salaries and all had the same working conditions such as hours and class size. Salaries and hours were no longer at the whim of the Board.

We have watched with great apprehension what happened to the teachers in Wisconsin, when the state legislature took away the teachers' union's rights to collective bargaining.

I applaud those gutsy senators who did their best to stop that law. Similar actions have surfaced in Ohio and Indiana. Don't think this could never happen in New York.

At this time NYSUT is very strong, but times are changing. Through the last 40 years we worked hard to get where we are, however the newer teachers do not have the history of near strikes, picketing, or packing BOE meetings.

Newer teachers will have to step up to defend our hard-earned benefits. We as

**WCT & WCRT
publication dates for
academic year
2010-2011:**
Commentator
mailing dates are in
normal font, *Post-
Script* mailing dates
are in bold font:
9/24/10, **10/29/10,**
11/19/10, **12/17/10,**
1/28/11, **2/25/11,**
3/25/11, **4/29/11,**
5/20/11, **6/17/11,**
**and one sometime in
August.**

Protect your WCRT, NY- SUT mem- bership

224 on email;
534 paid members;
84 teachers have
chosen not to join or
renew their WCRT
membership. They
have been deleted
from our files. They
are no longer eligible
for NYSUT benefits
and will no longer
receive our publica-
tions.

WCRT Officers and Board of Directors

- July 1, 2009-June 30, 2011**
 President.....Susan Roger 226-8285
 1st. Vice-Pres...Bonnie Kieffer 297-4245
 2nd. Vice-Pres.....Eileen Zipes 463-0022
 Rec Secy.....Flo Mondanaro 454-0352
 Corr Secy.....Barbara Stuck 896-9572
 Treasurer.....Elizabeth Moesel 896-9426
 Past Pres.....Alice Baker 452-5793
 WCRT Rep. to WCT Representative
 Assembly...Tom DeRito 440-3476

Directors

- Ruth Ehlers 831-6390
 Alice Heusinger 226-8769
 Judie Rubin 297-9727
 Jack Devine 297-5032
 Margaret Nikola 221-3824

Committee Chairpersons

- Political Action:Cliff Foley
 Constitution and Bylaws: ..Judie Rubin
 Historian:Kathie Munsie
 Gifts and Contributions...Mary Coiteux
 Retiree Council 13 Liaison....Cliff Foley



**Wappingers Congress of
Retired Teachers Newsletter**
 Heritage Square,
 2537 Route 52, Suite 15
 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
 (845) 227-5065

The WCRT *PostScript* is published in
 Oct., Dec., Feb., Apr., June, and Aug.
 during the school year.
 Editor: Bill Dourdis
 wdourdis@verizon.net (845) 473-1796

The WCRT *PostScript* is a 2010
New York Teacher
 Journalism Competition Winner.
 Best Opinion Writing,
 First Award, by Cliff Foley;
 Best Feature Story,
 First Award, by Bill Dourdis;
 and Best Newsletter, First Award,
 to Bill Dourdis, Editor.

SAVE THESE DATES (future details coming soon)

- Apr. 26** WCRT Executive Board meeting, 10:00a.m.
- May 5** WCRT Spring Luncheon, Pok. Grand Hotel, noon,
\$26.50, bring items for food pantry,
- May 17** Statewide School Budget Vote Day
- May 20** Deadline for June 17, 2011 *PostScript*
- May 24** Checks due made out to WCRT for June 7 cruise p.7
- June 2** Retiree Council 13 spring luncheon, Christo's, Pok.
- June 7** Hudson River lunch and 2-hr. narrated cruise, \$39.00,
12:30p.m. at Mariner's Harbor, Kingston, guests welcome p.7
- June 14** WCRT Executive Board meeting, 10:00a.m.
- July 8** Deadline for August 2011 *PostScript*



POLITICAL ACTION

Editorial views expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the *WCRT PostScript* staff and management.

WAS IT PEARL HARBOR FOR AMERICAN LABOR?



**CLIFF
FOLEY**
Political Action
Chairperson

The first bombs have been dropped on American labor! The efforts by many Republican leaders seem intent on pushing the American middle class back a hundred years or more. The opening drive came in Wisconsin where the GOP claimed they needed to deal with fiscal issues but when push came to shove and Democratic legislators denied them their needed quorum, they dropped any pretenses and went after their real goal. Their main aim was to bust the unions and, as news columnist DeWayne Wickham said, "to push legislation that could cripple Democrats in state and national elections."

According to the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Bureau's analysis of Governor Walker's bill, it "limits the right to collectively bargain for all employees, who are not public safety employees, to the subject of base wages" and any increases can be "no greater than the percentage of change in the consumer price index." The law specifically prohibits bargaining of anything else. It is interesting to note that four of the five unions that had endorsed Walker, when he ran for governor, were excluded from this bill.

Though conservative anti-labor columnists like Michelle Malkin and George Will claimed this was what the public wanted and even what some rank-and-file teachers desired, the polls told a different story. In late February a *USA TODAY*/Gallup Poll found that 61% of Americans, "would oppose a law in their state similar to such a proposal in Wisconsin, compared to 33% who would favor such a law." In early March a *Philadelphia Inquirer*, editorial stated, "The outcome of Wisconsin's dispute is uncertain. But it's clear that Walker, his GOP supporters and Tea Party activists have gone too far. Walker has undercut what should be a legitimate debate over bringing government pay and benefits into line with fiscal reality."

William B. Gould IV, a professor of law at Stanford University and former chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, had a stronger reaction to the Wis-

consin attack and said that it "undermines not just good labor-management relations, but the essence of democracy itself."

Did the Supreme Court decision allowing corporations to make unlimited contributions, often anonymously, to independent political groups have any connection with this new anti-union movement? It would appear that it does. A March editorial in the *St Louis Post-Dispatch* put it this way. "Unions helped create America's middle class. Their decline over the last three decades precisely parallels the high decline in the percentage of financial wealth held by the middle class. Redressing that is going to require a very long war. Wisconsin was only the first battle." We are seeing the concentration of wealth in America falling into fewer and fewer hands. The Supreme Court has put this process on the fast track.

Wisconsin is not alone in taking rights away from public employees. Florida's Governor Scott has eliminated tenure and is setting up a process of merit pay. Districts must have performance-based pay schedules for new teachers where 50% of their evaluation is based on student results. You wonder who will get to build the classes. "The next item on his to-do list: charter schools," according to the March 25, 2011 issue of the *St Petersburg Times*. Scott urged legislators to act quickly because in his words "parents know where their children should go

to school." Some of his proposals may violate Florida's state constitution. We are sure to hear more about this in the future.

New York has not been spared. We have a Democratic governor who is intent on a crippling tax cap for schools and other public government entities. We will be looking to NYSUT to help fight actions which can have a direct negative impact on teacher retirees. While the Koch brothers in Wisconsin may be pumping millions into the anti-worker fight, we can also do our part to help all New York teachers with a donation to VOTE/COPE.

The *St Louis Post-Dispatch* put it this way, "Was this Pearl Harbor for America's beleaguered labor movement, a sneak attack that will energize the working class? Or was Wisconsin the right-wing juggernaut's version of Poland, the first victim of blitzkrieg?"

Time will tell if America as we know it will survive.



Notify these groups of an address change or death of a member:

■ **WCRT, Heritage Square,
2537 Route 52, Suite 15
Hopewell Jct, N.Y. 12533
(845) 227-5065**

wct@frontiernet.net

■ **WCT, same as above**

■ **NYSUT, 800-342-9810**

**800 Troy-Schenectady Rd.
Latham, NY 12110-2455**

www.nysut.org

■ **NYSTRS, www.nystrs.org
800-348-7298x6250**

**10 Corporate Woods Drive
Albany, NY 12211-2395**

■ **WCSD, Human Resources
167 Myers Corners Rd. Suite 200
Wapp. Falls, NY 12590
845-298-5000 x 115**

**NYSUT Retiree Council 13 website:
<http://ny.aft.org/rc13/>**

Directions to WCT office

☞ The WCT office is in the Heritage Square complex at 2537 Route 52 in Hopewell Junction.

☞ Heritage Square is a short distance east of the intersection of Routes 376 and 52 and west of the Taconic State Parkway.

☞ Enter the parking lot and make the second right turn into parking.

☞ Enter main entrance of building.

☞ The sign over the main entrance is "Prudential".

☞ Take stairs or elevator to 2nd floor.

☞ Go right, all the way to the end.

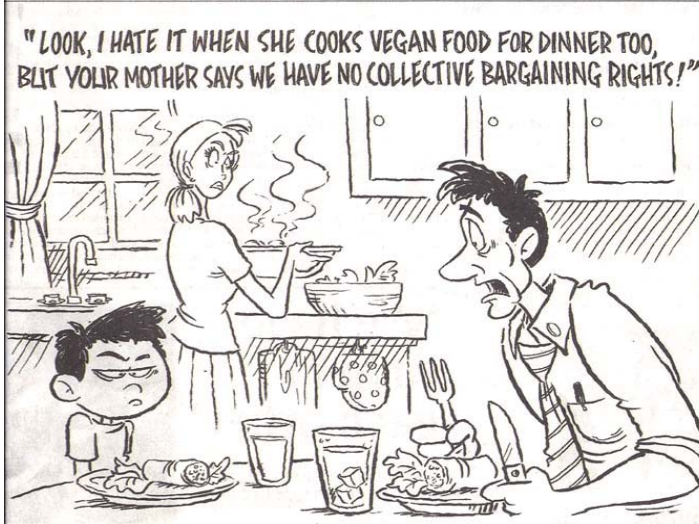
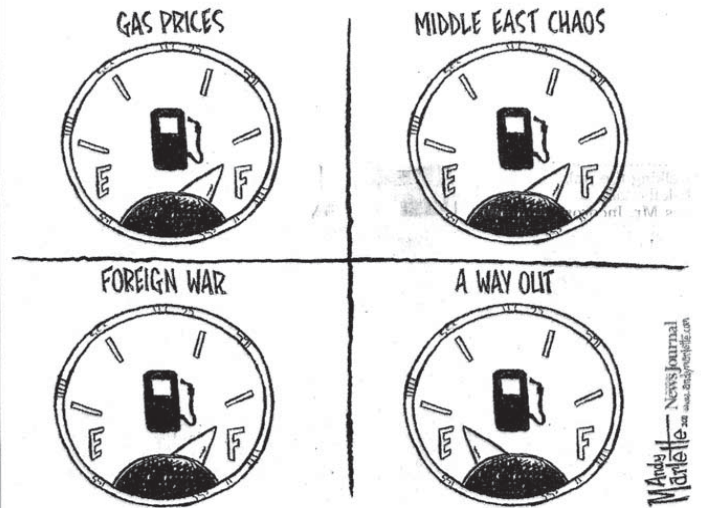
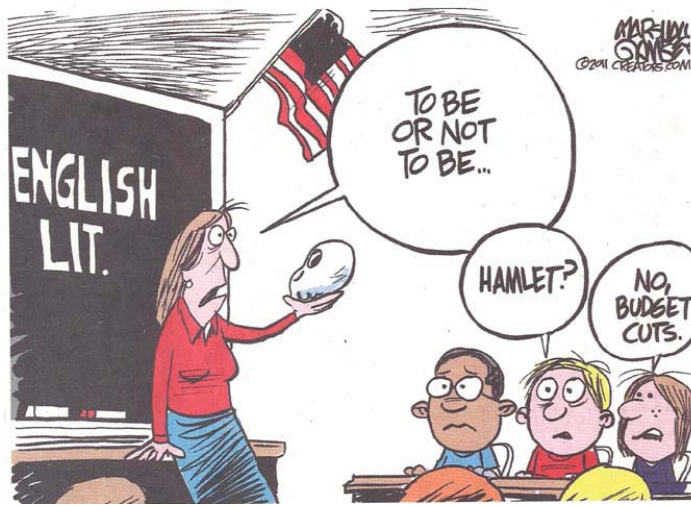
☞ "Wappingers Congress of Teachers" sign posted on Suite 15 door.

**WCSD Board of Ed. e-mail address:
WCSD.Board@Wappingersschools.org**

NOTE:

If you are aware of a member's illness, or the need to send a condolence card, please contact Ruth Ehlers at 831-6390.

News since last issue



REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Summary of March 29, 2011 WCT meeting

✍ **WCT received an award** for its increased participation in VOTE/COPE from NYSUT. We are at 78% member participation with a \$38 per member total.

✍ **The Committee of 100** lobbied in Albany for a return of state aid. These efforts have produced a restoration of \$272 million up to date.

✍ **Meetings with representatives** Steve Saland and Joel Miller found both politicians unsupportive yet sympathetic to our efforts for increased state aid to education.

✍ **DEHIC:** Renewal came in exceptionally low 2.5% vs. 15% in 2010.

✍ The WCT is **conducting interviews** with BOE candidates and will report to the membership at its conclusion in preparation

TOM DERITO



WCRT Rep. to WCT RA

for the Budget vote Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

✍ The **Superintendent** plans to present a budget with a tax rate below 5% as financial conditions have improved since our last report.

✍ **President Pasquale** Delli Carpini requests that all members, active and retired, continue their support of education in our communities while maintaining their same high level of professionalism. Our profession is under severe scrutiny; however this negative atmosphere must not deter us from our idealism.

WCT plans food drive

by Michelle Ross,
WCT Elementary At Large

The Wappingers Congress of Teachers will run its 3rd annual food drive May 17-24 in all WCSD schools.

The WCT welcomes contributions from parents, students, staff, retirees, and community members for this food drive. Collection boxes are in or near the main office in each building for non-perishable food items.

The collected food will go to the Zion Food Pantry, located at the Zion Episcopal Church, and is 100% non-denominational with regard to the people they serve.

Nearly 3,800 pounds of food was collected during last year's drive. The WCT would like to donate even more food to the pantry this year!

Your help is greatly appreciated in this effort to give back to our community!

All in the family (of retirees)

Steinmeyer new Marist Hall of Famer

Announcing the 2011 class of the Marist College Theatre Hall of Fame...

2011 Theatre Hall of Fame Inductees: Bob Mathews '67; **James Steinmeyer '71**; Diane "Dee Nell" Hardgrave '82; Jim Joseph '91; Missy Payne DiNunno '03; Dr. Donald Anderson, Service to Theatre 1970-2011.

Please join us for the 3rd Annual Marist College Theatre Hall of Fame Sept. 24, 2011. Nelly Goletti Theatre, Marist.

5:00p.m. Theatre Reunion (Theatre Guild, Children's Theatre, Experimental The-

atre Guild, MCCTA, Marist Theatre Program) 5:45 Hall of Fame Induction 6:30 Alumni picture on the stage Contact: Prof. Matt Andrews, Director of the Marist Theatre Program Marist College, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 845-575-3000 ext.7507 or Marist Theatre Program: www.marist.edu/liberalarts/english/theatre or MCCTA: <http://clubs.marist.edu/mccta> or River Valley Rep: www.rivervalleyrep.com.



How sweet it is!

Mike and Hannah Abrahamson (far left) are in Missoula MT visiting older daughter Ilana & husband Mike & first grandchild Amaya Maile (insert, close-up) born on Feb. 26, 2011 weighing 6 lb 10oz & 19 inches long.



Art exhibit features WCRT women

You are cordially invited to *Art on the Go* A Group Exhibition/Art Opening, Friday, May 6, 2011, 7pm, East Fishkill Library, Rte 376, Hopewell Junction. The exhibition remains up until May 31.

Theme: *In this Moment*. In these fast-paced, demanding times, it is a pleasure to sit quietly and contemplate something beautiful. *Art on the Go* artists welcome the challenge of capturing this moment in our art and are pleased to share our efforts with you.

Art on the Go is one of the many interest groups in the Poughkeepsie Branch of American Association of University Women. AAUW is a nonprofit organization working to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, phi-

lanthropy and research. www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org.

Exhibiting Members' Biographies: Each member has a passion for art, for education, and for influencing others in a positive way. **Ellie Burch**: SUNY New Paltz. BA, MA; **Mary Coiteux**: SUNY New Paltz. BS, MS, Art Education; Karleen Dorn: SUNY New Paltz. BS, MS; **Norma DePalma**: Sullivan CCC. AA, SUNY New Paltz BS, Coll. Of New Rochelle, MA; Carol Loizides: SUNY New Paltz. BS; **Carol Mastropietro**: SUNY New Paltz. BS, Western Connecticut MS. (**Bold** indicates WCRT members.)

For more information contact Mary Coiteux, mcoiteux@frontiernet.net.

NYSUT Defensive Driving courses offered

Like gas and food prices, the fee for the NYSUT Defensive Driving classes has been increased to \$30.00 per person.

The following classes have been scheduled for the upcoming school year in Room 134 at RCK High School from 6:00 - 9:00 PM:

Tuesday May 31 & June 7, 2011

Registrations will be accepted approximately one month prior to classes. Make \$30 checks payable to: WCT, and mail to WCT Defensive Driving,

Heritage Square, 2537 Route 52, Suite 15, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533.



In Memoriam

Helen B. Michalosky (1917 - 2011)

FISHKILL- Helen B. Michalosky, a longtime resident of Fishkill died Sunday at her home.

Born in Hudson, NY June 28, 1917 she was the daughter of the late Leo and Anna Scott Miller. She was married August 14, 1938 in Stottville to Steven Michalosky, who died January 1976.

Helen was a 1934 graduate of the Hudson high School, and a 1938 graduate of Columbia Memorial School of Nursing. She received her BA from Empire State College and her Graduate Degree from Russell Sage and Columbia Univ.

Helen had been a Nurse Manager at Mid Hudson Medical Group in Fishkill and later was the School Nurse-Teacher at Wappingers Central Schools.

She was a member of the Wappingers Congress of Teachers, NYS United teachers, served as president of NYS School Nurse association, and served on the NYS PTA Board of Managers.

She was a member of Friends of Val-Kill and a board member of the Eleanor Roosevelt Val-Kill.

She is survived by her daughter Sally Montague of Hopewell Junction. Her grandchildren: David and Kelly Rothstein of New Windsor, Robert and Kristiane Elwood of Beacon, Beth and Rick Gonzales of Parker, CO, and great grandchildren; Chelsea, Ian, and Casey Rothstein, all of New Windsor.

Her sister-in-law Margaret Miller of Naples, Florida also survives.

She was predeceased by two daughters, Joanne Rothstein, and Donna Elwood, and her brother Donald Miller.

Funeral services will be conducted 11:30 Am Thursday, February Feb. 17, 2011 at Trinity Episcopal Church, Main Street, Fishkill. Interment will follow in Fishkill Rural Cemetery. Those attending are asked to gather after 10:30 AM.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the care of Sopris-Murray Funeral Home, Greenville, NY.

Published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* on February 15, 2011

Retirees PARTY

from page 1

Cover Story



Brinckerhoff: Susan Dexter, 33 yrs., and Johanna Wermuth, 26 yrs.



Back row, from left: Paul Norstrand, Patrice Stivio, Barbara Pignataro, Melanie Palazzolo, and Ellen Mead, WCT Webmaster. **Front row:** Mary Bronzi, Claudia King, newly tenured, Alissa Perrault, 24 yrs., WJH, and Bernadette Murphy.



UP-AND-COMING STAR: National Board Certified Teacher Therese Coyne has taught for 10 years at Vassar Road Elementary.



John Jay: Philip Cameron, 37 yrs., James Molloy, 29 yrs., Denise Herberger, 35 yrs., and Leslie Seigle, 11 yrs.



Evans: Wayne Federico, 25 yrs., and Andrea Bialek, 17 yrs.

Vassar Road: Cheryl Zmudzinski, 37 yrs., and Sandra Hayes, 8 yrs.



Rail Trail and Hopewell Depot improvements continue

By Jacqueline Prusak, treasurer of Hopewell Depot Restoration and WCRT member, and Bernard Rudberg, Historian Emeritus of Hopewell Depot Restoration Inc

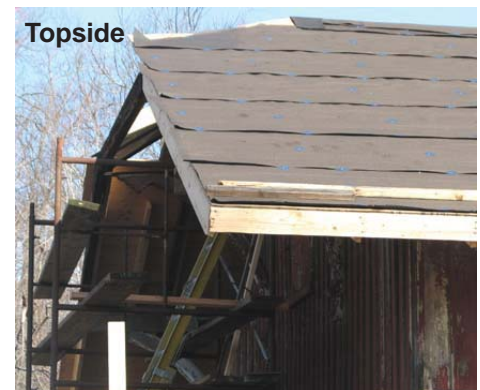
What does it take to make you smile? For me, it's the rail trail walking bridge which crosses over Route 376 in Fishkill Plains. My grin grew even wider the next day when I saw two American flags draped across both sides of the same bridge. It took so long to get this far and I will smile even wider when the depot in Hopewell is finished.

Last month, I received a phone call

from Carol Mastropietro, a WCRT member, offering a donation of three, red lanterns her father used when he worked on the railroad in Staten Island. I will certainly smile when the three lanterns are put on display in the depot's museum honoring her father.

Perhaps, if you look around your home and attic, you may find some old pictures, advertisements, lanterns, schedules, etc., that we could add to the depot's museum.

The interior and exterior of the depot will be enhanced by light fixtures of that era, a ticket booth, a roll-top desk and wooden swivel chair used by the station master and much more. There is even a working telegraph key and sounder awaiting display. We plan bronze plaques with names honoring



those who have donated their time, money, or memorabilia to the cause.

We are in the midst of painting, finishing up the electric wiring, completing the basement stairs, finishing up the roof at both ends, while the blacktop along the trail is finished and edged with posts and rails along its edges.

In the meantime, watch for our grand opening. We plan to give more meaning to the word "Junction" when our work is complete.





Roy C. Ketcham: Virginia Woych, 31 yrs., and Barbara Rowan, 32 yrs.

Class of 2011 Retirees

Name	School	yrs.
Andrea Bialek	Evans	17
David Bloom	Kinry	35
Eileen Bosch	Myers	32
Philip Cameron	John Jay	37
Kathleen Cornett	RCK	8
Terry Cunningham	John Jay	34
Susan Dexter	Brinck	33
Wayne Federico	Evans	25
John Hafner	Van Wyck	32
Sandra Hayes	Vassar Rd	8
Denise Herberger	John Jay	35
Jill Jurina	Gayhead	38
Ellen Korz	Van Wyck	25
Carol Mastianni	Gayhead	34
Kara McKenna	Van Wyck	30
Karen Minervini-Whelan	RCK	24
James Molloy	John Jay	29
Lynn Paraskeva	John Jay	28
Alissa Perreault	WJHS	24
Olga Perlman	Van Wyck	24
Judith Roenick	Oak Grove	36
Barbara Rowan	RCK	34
Sheila Salenger	NYSTRS	37
Barbara Searle	John Jay	31
Catherine Seehase	Evans	21
Leslie Seigle	John Jay	11
Laura Siko	John Jay	33
Catherine Smelter	Van Wyck	30
Susan Stoller	Gayhead	20
Jeanette Sutherland	Myers	24
Johanna Valente	Van Wyck	13
Johanna Wermuth	Brinck	26
Virginia Woych	RCK	31
Virginia Young	Van Wyck	16
Cheryl Zmudzinski	Vassar Rd	37

SUNY New Paltz presents Lawrence Gilmour awards

On May 13, the Phi Delta Kappa SUNY at New Paltz chapter will host its annual awards dinner at the Terrace Restaurant on campus. PDK at New Paltz annually awards two scholarships to local high school seniors, as well as education awards for the Lawrence A. Gilmour Outstanding Educator, Cooperating Teacher, Support Personnel, and Friend of Education. It is our honor to award these dedicated staff members nominated by their peers from Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties. Our social hour begins at 5:30 with dinner at 6:15 and awards directly after. Please contact Bonnie Kieffer, President, for further information at 845-297-4245.



SUPPORT WHAT KIDS NEED — VOTE MAY 17!



WCRT Hudson Cruise detailed

- ▲ Proposed Trip for Tuesday, June 7
- ▲ Arrive at the Rondout Area of Kingston on your own
- ▲ 12:30 Lunch at Mariner's Harbor, 1 Broadway · Kingston · (845) 340-8051 **House Salad and choice of:** Prime "Ribber" w/ French Fries or Balsamic Chicken Wrap or Caesar Salad with Shrimp. Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Soda for all.
- ▲ 2:15 Board with "Rip Van Winkle" for a 2-hr. narrated cruise on the Hudson River
- ▲ Cost Per Person \$39.00
- ▲ Final count, entrée menu choices and final payment due May 24.

(return this bottom part with your check)

WCRT HUDSON CRUISE
\$39.00 Per Person

Tuesday, June 7, 2011
Guests are welcome

Name(s): _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Prime "Ribber" w/ French Fries Balsamic Chicken Wrap Caesar Salad with Shrimp
 Number of Reservations: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Make check out to WCRT. Send to Eileen Zipes, 1 Bridgewater Way, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601.

REGION 13 ANNUAL LUNCHEON TO FEATURE MOUNT BEACON INCLINE RAILWAY SPEAKER

The NYSUT Retiree Council 13 Luncheon will take place on Thursday, June 2, at Christo's, Wilbur Blvd., Poughkeepsie. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m.. Program and buffet lunch begin at 12:00 noon. Mike Colarusso of Mount Beacon Incline Railway will give a talk and slide presentation on the history of and the progress in restoring the railway.

During the luncheon, WCRT member Cliff Foley will be presented with a NYSUT Community Action Award.

Door prizes, a 50-50 raffle and a NYSUT member benefits display. Please plan to attend. Please mail this form to: Retiree Council 13 c/o NYSUT 201 Stockade Dr. Kingston 12401.

Checks should be made out to: NYSUT RC #13 Spring Luncheon Registration -- Thursday June 2, 2011 Christo's Restaurant

Name _____
 Local _____
 Contact Info: Phone _____
 Email _____
 Guest _____
 Guest _____

Price per person \$21.

Any cancellations for the Spring Luncheon will not be awarded a refund after the final number is submitted to the restaurant, two days prior to the event. To be eligible for a refund, the treasurer should receive either a call or email indicating the change prior to that notification. Email pmmcMahon@hvc.rr.com; phone (845) 336-7814

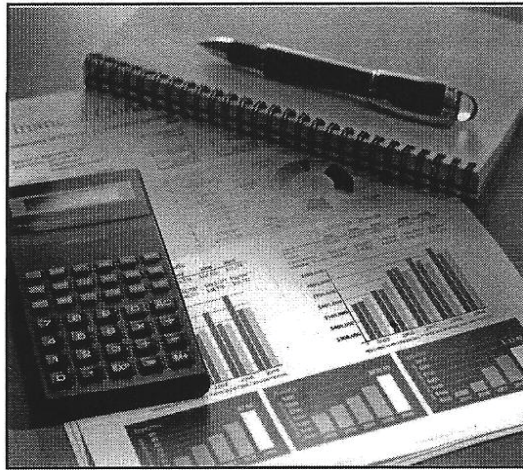
New financial education services offer something for everyone

If you're looking for information on financial services available to you as a NYSUT member, NYSUT Member Benefits may have something just for you. Considerable efforts have been put forth in creating new printed material as well as new presentations. Both in-service and retiree members can benefit.

403(b) Field Guide. This booklet covers all aspects of 403(b) plans and includes information pertinent to members not yet contributing to a 403(b) plan, those who are contributing, those nearing retirement, and those already enjoying retirement.

To get the free guide, you can view and print a copy from the Member Benefits website, www.memberbenefits.nysut.org, hit the "Contact" option on the site to send an e-mail request, or call **800-626-8101** for a copy to be sent to you.

403(b) Provider-Specific Workshop. Member Benefits contracted with the provider of its endorsed Financial Counseling Program, Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., to conduct these workshops upon request from local leaders. The workshop covers detailed information on five 403(b) providers chosen by the local leader from a list of 10 popular 403(b) providers. Workshops review the features of each plan, comparing fees and benefits. These workshops are designed for in-service members.



Workshops have a registration fee of \$20 per participant and a minimum requirement of 30 participants. A local could schedule this workshop as a webinar for a fee of \$250.

Workshops will not address specific questions pertaining to an individual's 403(b) plan. Members with questions regarding personal 403(b) accounts or other financial planning issues will be directed to speak with their 403(b) adviser or their financial planner. For those who don't have an adviser or planner, information on the endorsed Financial Counseling Program will also be available.

Financial Planning Puzzle Workshop. Today's economy has clarified the need for a financial plan; unfortunately, for many, beginning a financial plan remains a daunting task.

This two-hour workshop, designed for in-service members, outlines the process, covering cash management, risk management, savings, retirement and estate planning.

The Challenging Times of Financial Management – The Retirement Years. Financial planning doesn't stop at retirement. This one-hour presentation discusses the various investment options you may face during retirement along with helpful information regarding your 403(b) plan, Social Security benefits, income taxes and more.

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For information about these programs or about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Post Script

This issue's out-takes:
a bonus for e-mail
subscribers

Dear readers,

I got an idea a while back, and I tried something new. I ran it by e-mail subscribers because they can handle whatever I send them.

I'd like some feedback on your thoughts about this concept. Printed hardcopies limit me to eight pages. I can be more flexible electronically. You get the benefit. Let me know what that benefit is for you.

Enjoy the leftovers.

Bill Dourdis
PostScript editor



Kinry: Meridith Inkeles, librarian and NYSUT delegate, and David Bloom, 35 yrs., Special Ed.

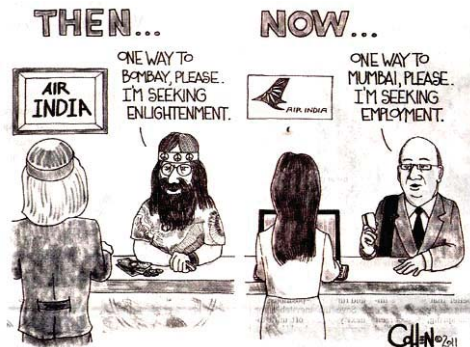
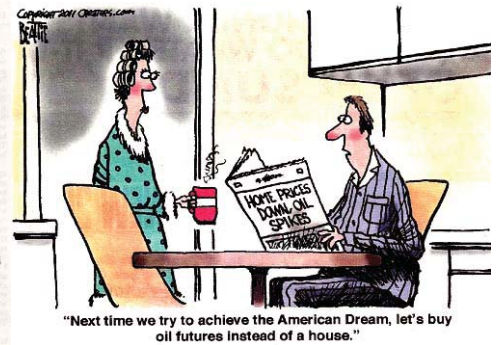


Eileen Bosch, 32 yrs., Myers Corners and Carol Sabia Mastianni, 34 yrs., Gay-head.

more pix from the retiree dinner, p.1, 5

News since last issue

(See page 4 for more.)



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