

PostScript



Wappingers Congress of Retired Teachers

2537 Route 52, Suite 15 Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Vol. 18 No. 1

Fall luncheon offers many firsts

POUGHKEEPSIE--The 75 attendees at the WCRT fall luncheon witnessed a series of historical "firsts" at the Poughkeepsie Grand Hotel on October 6.

Sue Roger, WCRT president, explains how 60 members who unintentionally unsubscribed from PlumBenefits did not receive the PostScript newsletter. They should have hit the button that said "do not contact." (Find more details on page 2.) She suggested members can go to the WCT website under Retirees to view the *PostScript* online.



Sue also explained reasons for the newly approved dues structure. (See bottom of page 4.)

Cliff Foley, Political Action Chairperson, discussed taxes and reduction of services. He also promoted the Retiree Council 13 membership campaign.



His primary focus was his handout on facts to dispel myths about health care. (See details on page 3.)

Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT president, begins with "We're the luckiest people to be working as teachers in New York. It's still the best!" He highlighted issues of concern:

He noted our pension is guaranteed in the New York Constitution because we have Article 5, Section 7. "They are going after the Triborough Benefits." The law states that districts must honor expired contracts and pay the



see LUNCHEON page 5

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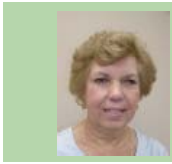
FIRST TIMERS TO A WCRT LUNCHEON from the WCRT Class of 2011: Back row from left: Jim Molloy, Carol Mastroianni, Kara McKenna, Phil Cameron. Middle row: Barbara Searle, Eileen Bosch, Jeanette Sutherland, Denise Herberger. Front row: Ellen Korz, Johanna Wormuth, Alissa Perrault. (Not shown: Paul Ibsen.)

First time for everything:

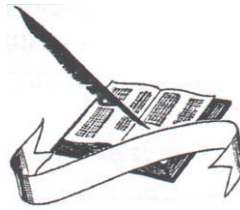
- 👉 2nd V.P. Leslie Leventhal announced her first WCRT trip.
- 👉 12 new retirees attended.
- 👉 Food pantry almost ran out of food.
- 👉 The membership's email list failed.
- 👉 VOTE/COPE contributions surpassed all other districts combined.

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From The President



**SUSAN
ROGER
WCRT
President**



Dear WCRT Members,

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer. Please tell Mother Nature to turn off the water works!

I have two issues to bring up this month:

The first is that by the time you receive this, Bonnie Kieffer and I will have mailed to all local retirees a questionnaire about volunteering to substitute for a few hours or a day in an emergency. This is a service that retirees provide to the district on behalf of our active teachers. In the past WCRT officers have spent many hours on the phone to get three or four retirees to cover a few hours in a class so an active teacher can attend a funeral without losing a full day.

The district has agreed to collate the information and send it to the principals' secretaries. They will do the calling. Because an emergency is always short notice, it is understandable if you have activities planned. WCT members are very appreciative of our efforts to help them. Please consider signing up to volunteer.

The second issue is the retiree e-mail list. Many of you have signed up to receive *The Commentator* and the *PostScript* by e-mail, which saves us a lot of money in postage. I was really proud that 250 were on that list! However, I became aware that several people who signed up were no longer getting the e-mails. I called Kim Mahusky, WCT web master, who told me that recently 60 people had unsubscribed. It took us a while to figure what happened. We were all receiving an e-mail from an organization called Plum Benefits which gives

ticket discounts on sports, Broadway plays, etc. On the website you can unsubscribe if you don't want it. However, what no one knew was it came from the WCT through Kim. Therefore when you unsubscribe from that, you take yourself off our e-mail list. Hence no *Commentator* or *PostScript*!

Please do not unsubscribe from PlumBenefits until we get this straightened out--just delete for now if you don't want it. We are working to get a list from the server and try to get them back on the list. Technology is great when it works!

Have a wonderful Autumn.
Susan Roger

**WCT & WCRT
publication dates
for academic year
2011-2012:**
Commentator
mailing dates are in
normal font, *Post-
Script* mailing dates
are in bold font:
9/30/11, **10/28/11**,
11/18/11, **12/16/11**,
1/27/12, **2/24/12**,
3/30/12, **4/27/12**,
5/24/12, **6/15/11**,
**and one sometime
in August.**

Protect your WCRT, NYSUT membership

The WCRT by the numbers:

Total WCRT members	591
Lifetime	306
Yearly	220
Complimentary Lifetime	29
Complimentary	36
Retirees who chose not to be members.	70

Please note that membership letters go out in September. DEADLINE for payment of dues is Nov. 15th. Anyone not paying by that date will have their name removed from our file and will be ineligible for NYSUT benefits.

SAVE THESE DATES (future details coming soon)

- Oct. 6** Fall luncheon, Pok. Grand Hotel, 12:30p.m., \$26.50;
Discussion includes new outings & your suggestions
- Oct. 13** RC13 Luncheon, Wiltwyck CC, Kingston, NY, 9am-2pm
- Nov. 29** WCRT Executive Board meeting, 10:00a.m.
Deadline for December *PostScript*
- Dec. 8** Grand Central Station tour & train trip (see insert)
- Jan. 24** WCRT Executive Board meeting, 10:00a.m.
Deadline for February, 2012 *PostScript*

WCRT Officers and Board of Directors

July 1, 2011-June 30, 2013
President.....Susan Roger 226-8285
1st. Vice-Pres..Roger Higgins 297-8757
2nd. V.P.....Leslie Leventhal 297-4430
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

Post Script

To bring WCSD retirees together for mutual assistance and socialization, and to promote the best interests of retired educators.

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 2011
NYSUT United

Journalism Competition Winner
with 4 First Place awards.

Best News Story, by Bill Dourdis;
Best Opinion Writing, by Cliff Foley;
Best Feature Story, by Marc Weinreich;
& Best Publication, Bill Dourdis, Editor.



POLITICAL ACTION

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

YOU NEED TO BE THE AMBASSADOR



CLIFF FOLEY

**Political Action
Chairperson**

We often think of an ambassador as an official representative of a country, but it can also be someone who represents or promotes thoughts and ideas. It is time for each of you reading this column to become an ambassador who not only represents certain views but also works to correct the tremendous amount of misinformation and downright lies that are being circulated by people with their own political agendas. No one is opposed to people having their own feelings on the issues. Americans, throughout their history, have always had disagreements about how our government should run but lies and misconceptions? Let's stop it now!

In an age of mass media, it has become too easy to circulate inaccurate information and attempt to sway public opinion. As educators we have spent our professional lives imparting knowledge. As retirees we need to call on those skills and become ambassadors in influencing the direction of our great country.

A number of large and small issues have taken center stage in 2011. Among these are Social Security, Medicare, teacher pensions, tenure, and teacher unions.

In the September 18, 2011 issue of the *Poughkeepsie Journal* we see the headline, "GOP Candidates Revive Privatizing Social Security." The article mentions Republican candidate Rick Perry's book, *Fed Up* which calls the program a "Ponzi scheme" and a "failure." It is easy to see the attempt to influence the public into buying the idea of investing your own money with private companies and banks. This push is based on misinformation. Social Security is NOT broke. It does not depend on current tax dollars and with a few adjustments, such as those made in the past, it will easily provide benefits for our children and grandchildren. You need to be ready to speak up on the issue.

Replacing Medicare with a voucher system and increasing the eligibility age

would only benefit insurance companies and leave seniors footing a larger part of the bill and making it harder for older Americans to even get insurance.

Turning to education, we see attacks on teacher negotiations and unions in general. They are being blamed for the poor economy. The reality is that financial institutions have put the country in its current situation. Much of the problem began with bank deregulation under Ronald Reagan in the 1980's. This allowed for the risky loans and mortgages leading to the recession.

Of course we have all heard how tenure gives teachers a job for life and they even get summers off! Add to that the jealousy of many in the private sector when they see our sound retirement system and they see their own benefits being cut back. The New York State Teacher Retirement System is "fully funded" meaning it has the money to pay full benefits for all of the people in the system.

The Fall 2011 issue of *The Retiree Organizer* for NYSUT retiree leaders addresses the fall advocacy campaign of our state union. It talks about our need to "Resist the Washington corporatist agenda to balance the federal budget on the overburdened backs of retirees and families." Take the time to read the information sent out by NYSUT, AFT, and NEA. Call the WCT if you hear a "fact" you question and are not sure about.

It certainly is not possible to include all of the misconceptions that need to be addressed by you, our ambassadors, in one short article, but you get the idea.



send your comments to
cgfoley@optonline.net

FALL VOTE/COPE DRIVE

The WCRT runs its VOTE/COPE campaign in the spring but those retirees not on pension deduction will receive a fall VOTE/COPE mailing directly from NYSUT.

If you had not given in the prior WCRT effort, this gives you another chance. Yes, you may donate a second time if you wish.

The challenges facing retirees in New York and around the nation make it important that each of us be involved.

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

■ WCS D, 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.

WCS D Board of Ed. e-mail address:

WCS D.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.

STEINMEYER INDUCTED INTO MARIST COLLEGE THEATRE HALL OF FAME

Jim Steinmeyer, WCRT Class of 2005, became a 2011 Marist College Theatre Hall of Fame inductee on September 24, 2011.



Professor Matt Andrews, Director of the Theatre Program, hosted the induction before a near-capacity crowd of almost 300 family, friends, former students, and alumni in the Nellie Goletti Theatre.

Highlights from Jim's biography and career that earned him this honor include: over 70 junior and senior high productions, currently the Managing Director of River Valley Rep, the professional summer stock company housed on Marist's campus, Technical Theatre Supervisor for the theatre, guest director, and adjunct professor teaching Introduction to Theatre at Marist.

Marist College President Dr. Dennis J. Murray offered welcoming remarks stating that volunteer theatre is a form of service. "A live performance washes away the drudgery of the world by taking us to a different time and place."

Steinmeyer was one of six inductees honored for their dedication and service to Marist Theatre.



Jim, flanked by Dennie and Rosemary Evaul, also a WCRT member. He is particularly grateful for their years of partnership.

Franca training for half-marathon walk

Dear Friends and Retired Folk,

An Old Portuguese saying states that God works in mysterious ways. So, I discovered TNT, the Team in Training, which helps the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society find a cure for leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, and Hodgkin's disease.

As a retired educator, there's no better way than to help fight a disease, that every 10 minutes takes the life of a child or young adult under 20 from leukemia or a related cancer.

Before you disperse all over the world to escape the cold, help me fulfill my pledge of raising \$3000 for this worthy cause.

I am training for a 13-mile walk marathon at Walt Disney World January 7, 2012. Today I accomplished a 5-mile walk around Poughkeepsie, leading to Vassar College and back to Spratt Park. Nothing like a walk at 7:00 a.m. at 39 degrees to raise your blood pressure!

The final days of my training will be in Florida before the Jan. 7 half-marathon walk.

I will walk for all those who have survived cancer, and for the ones we have lost. I will remember my mom, Jim DeNitto and Jack Booher, and all the kids who fall victim to their number one killer.

So go to the website, see my photo, use your credit card, and donate as much as you can. For those who have already donated to this cause, donate another dollar! It might be the one that does the most good.

<http://pages.teamintraining.org/uny/wdw12/wfranca>

Thank you for your contribution.

Walter Franca
WCRT Class of 2000

Life has a meaning only if one barter it day by day for something other than itself. Antoine de Saint Exupery



Report newsletter distribution glitches, dues info, renewals

by **Barbara Stuck**,
WCRT Corresponding Secretary
and Membership Chairperson

Some WCRT members want to receive the *Commentator* and *PostScript* by email and have not received them. Be sure to include wctteachers@gmail.com in your address book and contact Ronnie Dwyer at the WCT office wct@frontiernet.net if the problem continues.

When a retiree gives us his/her email

address, it is given to Kim Mahusky, WCT member in charge of emailing the publications. Prohibitive US Mail costs may force us to cancel postal mailings in the future. Please consider going green and be patient with our efforts. We are all volunteers working on your behalf.

The *Commentator* and *PostScript* may be viewed at wctteachers.org.

Several retirees have almost had their NYSUT benefits cancelled because they

neglected to pay their WCT dues. Calls to the office and checks sent in a panic have mitigated the problem.

Renewal notices will go out in the fall. Dues were raised for 2011-2012. Present rates are \$15.00 Yearly, \$150 Individual Lifetime, \$250 Couples Lifetime. Fall rates will be \$20.00 Yearly, \$200 Individual Lifetime, \$325.00 Couples Lifetime.

Pay Lifetime and alleviate the yearly task of renewing.

Luncheon offers firsts

from page 1

currently negotiated salary until a new contract is negotiated.

He also thanked us for our VOTE/COPE contributions. "We [active and retirees] collected more money than other districts combined."

The 2% property tax cap must be passed by 60% or over. Wappingers Superintendent James Parla would have to cut \$6.3M. No other district hired staff

this year except Wappingers. Negotiations are gloom and doom. "We can't negotiate a three, four, or five year contract. We can hope for a one-year extension."

Health insurance through Express Scripts Inc. will go in effect on Jan. 1, 2012. DEHIC is pushing for this with Walgreens.

There is no agreement yet between



Walter Franca accepts \$108 from the WCRT's portion of the 50-50 raffle from Faye Lotze, who conducted the raffle. The money will be donated to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. (See Walter's story on page 4.)

Leslie Leventhal, WCRT 2nd Vice President and former WCT President, explains details of upcoming tour of Grand Central Station on Thursday, December 8. (See email version on page 9 or pastel insert in postal mailing.)



Rena Mazzuto, left, shows off pictures of her 21-month-old grandson to Rosemary Franca and Andrea Dombroski.



DISCERN, DECIDE, AND DIG IN! Choosing from so many choices was the only bad thing about the food line. Everyone made the right choice because it was all good!

Cover Story

Westchester Medical Center and Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Regarding Board of Education issues during a question-and-answer session, Pasquale answered, "They need to get along. It's not what it seems. The WCT will stay out of the infighting."

Jack Devine, a WCRT member and volunteer at the Zion Food Pantry, thanked a hunter's association for donating 400 pounds of venison, duck, and pheasant in five-pound packages. The meat was wrapped and ready to hand out the first three Wednesdays of every month.



Looking back...

to October, 1993
(only 18 years ago)

...a message excerpt from WCRT President Alice Ruffing to the membership:

"Our organization is making progress and moving along. We anxiously look forward to our October 26 meeting. When our CONSTITUTION IS ADOPTED at this meeting, a motion will be made to the WCT for Chapter status."

To be appreciated; not taken for granted...

submitted by Kathie Munsie,
WCRT Historian

In Memoriam

James DeNitto (1945 - 2011)

December 17, 1983.

He is survived by his wife, Millie; his daughters, Laura Lea and Amy Beth; his mother, Helen; and his sister, Karen.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Wildlife Conserva-



tion Society (Bronx Zoo), Attn: Tribute Giving, 2300 Southern Blvd., Bronx, NY 10460 or The Nature Conservancy, 4245 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203.

To send the family a personal condolence or for directions to the funeral home, please visit our website at www.StraubCatalanoHalvey.com.

Published in the *Poughkeepsie Journal* from September 10 to September 12, 2011

POUGHKEEPSIE - James DeNitto of Poughkeepsie, New York, died on September 8, 2011. He was 66.

Son of Helen Drobot DeNitto and the late Anthony DeNitto, he was born in Bronx, New York on August 22, 1945. He was a graduate of Sayville High School on Long Island and Union College in Schenectady. Jim was a seventh-grade life science teacher in the Wappingers Central School District for 38 years.

He married Mildred Jean Shay on

News since last issue

Mallard Fillmore by Bruce Tinsley



Delli Carpini's speech at recent retirement party worth repeating

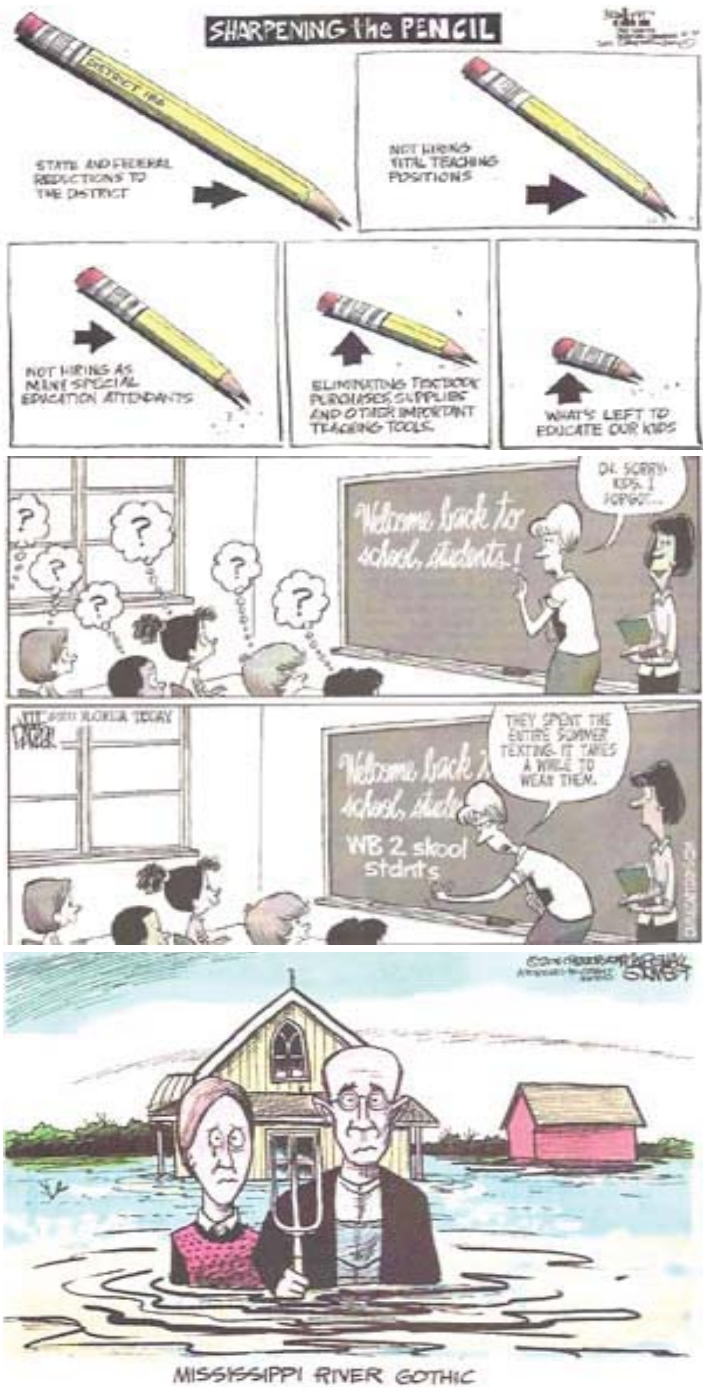
Pasquale Delli Carpini, WCT President, spoke at a retirement party in mid June. The tribute to the teacher spoke to active and retired teachers alike.

This parody of *Hamlet* is reprinted by popular demand of several in attendance.

The teacher's name is purposely omitted to protect the innocent.

Our apologies to the Bard, and accolades to Pasquale for underscoring the teacher condition with educational issues in an entertaining manner.

"Teachers, do you like Shakespeare?... You must have struggled in your decision of whether to retire or not. So, imagine, if you will, how would Shakespeare write a soliloquy about retirement, if he were born in Italy and grew up in the Bronx?"
 To retire, or not to retire: that's the freakin' question!
 Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
 The corrections of another poorly written essay,
 Or to take arms against a sea of ignorance and arrogance,
 And by opposing end them?
 Not only of the board members I speak! ...
 Oh... where is the perfect sentence structure that I so much adore?
 To work, to labor no more.
 And by retiring to say we end... the heartache and the thousand course approval rejections from HR?
 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished.
 To retire--to rest--perchance to dream of all the crap.... we no longer care!
 For in that joy of retirement what sweet dreams may come? ...
 The pension at the end of every month.
 For who would bare the whips and scorn,
 That from the Governor and the State come,
 Maybe from Central: Aye, there's the rub.
 The insolence of office and the lack of integrity they bare
 The pain of teaching those who could less care,
 The grunt and sweat in overcrowded classes.
 What makes us care above all ends?
 The minds we mold and eternity they affect!
 So, Teachers, May all your great deeds be remembered!



Newsletter turns new changes into contest

Look for new changes in this *PostScript* issue compared to the August 2011 issue.

Two prizes will be awarded:
 Most correct number of changes found by an email recipient;

Most correct number of changes found by a postal mail recipient.

In the event of (a) tie(s), duplicate prizes will be awarded.

Contestants can send their email entry to wdooris@verizon.net or by postal mail to *PostScript* editor, 14 South Grand Ave. Poughkeepsie, NY 12603. Postal mail entries may be emailed.

All entries, to become official, must include: a brief description of each change and page number; and retiree's name, address, city/state/zip, phone number, year of retirement, and email address if available. They will be verified from the membership list.

All entries must be received by Friday, November 18, 2011.

Hopefully, you saved the August issue to make your comparisons.

WCRT executive board members and their families are not eligible for prizes.

Decision of judges is final.

Prizes will be awarded by postal mail in time for Christmas.



Malet excels at golf tourney
 Maryanne Ceriello, left, and Cindy Malet (WCRT 2005) were the low net winners at the Dutchess Golf & Country Club women's member-member tournament finals. (courtesy photo)

AAUW's Leading to Reading Barnes & Noble Book Fair set

**By Saranne Ratner,
WCRT member, and AAUW
Leading to Reading committee member**

Saturday, October 15 is the date for AAUW (American Association of University Women) Poughkeepsie Branch's Leading to Reading community project, sponsoring our second Book Fair at Barnes & Noble. Since this is held as part of BN's Teacher Appreciation Days, any books purchased at the store or online at BN.com/educator will be eligible for a special 25% discount. In-store purchases must be made that day, but online purchases can be made throughout Teacher Appreciation Days. Just mention AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch, Bookfair ID #10537082, and our project will benefit.

All funds raised will support Leading to Reading which provides books for children from low and moderate income fami-

lies. The emphasis is on early literacy, but we also provide books for older children and teens. Our Family Reading kits give parents general information about reading with their children and provide simple activities related to the books which can be done together.



Some of our community partners include Catharine Street Community Center, Astor Head Start Centers in Poughkeepsie, Wappingers Falls and eastern Dutchess County, Tubman Terrace Afterschool Program, Community Family Development Center and the Children's Home of Poughkeepsie.

We are so pleased to partner with Barnes & Noble once again, and plan an exciting day at the store. There will be book related crafts, face painting, and book readings by our members (10 am - 3pm). Muriel Horowitz will return to tell stories to the children who attend (1:30 - 2:30 pm).

We are also thrilled to announce a special guest coming to this event – Karen Orloff, *Poughkeepsie Journal* columnist and children's author –who will be available for book signings and conversation (11am - noon). Her books include *I Wanna Iguana* ('04), *If Mom Had Three Arms* ('06), and *The Little Book of Baby Names* ('06).

We look forward to see you at Barnes & Noble on October 15 to help us make this a successful event for Leading to Reading and for you to get a 25% discount. We thank you in advance for your support.

Barnes and Noble is located at 2518 South Road, Poughkeepsie. Bring the voucher in the next column. Also see details online at www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org.

 www.aauwpoughkeepsie.org or
 BN.com/educator or
srteacher@optonline.net

NYSUT Defensive Driving courses offered

Unlike rising gas and food prices, the fee for the NYSUT Defensive Driving classes has remained at \$30.00 per person. (Recognized by the National Safety Council.

The following classes have been scheduled for WCT and WCRT members and immediate family only in the Large Group Instruction room at RCK High School from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m:

**Wednesday Nov. 2 & Nov. 9, 2011
Mon Mar 5 and 12, 2012
Tues May 29 and Jun 5, 2012**

Participants MUST attend both sessions.

We will collect tuition for the Nov. class only. Make \$30 checks payable to: WCT, and mail to WCT Defensive Driving, Heritage Square, 2537 Route 52, Suite 15, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533.

Further announcements about the 2012 dates and tuition collection will come in the *Commentator* and *Post-Script* by email sometime early next year.



REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Summary of Sept. 27, 2011 WCT meeting

Synopsis:

1. President Pasquale DelliCarpini urged support of President Obama's "Jobs Bill." All members are referred to the NYSUT website for further explanation.

2. Two percent property tax cap is a reality. Future votes will be on property levys. So far, over the last two years, no teacher in WBSD has lost his or her job due to budget cuts.

3. DEHIC is still in negotiations with Westchester Medical Center. Blue Shield / Blue Cross is now negotiating with Walgreens. Check with the WCT for updates.

4. Contract negotiations are continuing

TOM DERITO



WCRT Rep. to WCT RA

with no new progress.

5. WCRT has been asked to notify all members of the planned WCT "Recognition Party" planned for May, 2012. All retirees, tenured teachers and special award recipients will be honored for this school year.

 www.nysut.org or
 wct@frontiernet.net

Barnes & Noble BOOKFAIR

Supporting
**AAUW Poughkeepsie
Leading To Reading**

Saturday, October 15, 2011


Barnes & Noble

**2518 South Road
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601**

Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be donated to AAUW Poughkeepsie Branch

**Bookfair ID #
10537082**

*The purchase of gift cards, Barnes & Noble memberships, text books and magazine subscriptions are not included in bookfair totals. Our discount purchasing program may not be applied to bookfair purchases.



Let TripMark.travel be your one-stop travel shop!

- 1) Do you have plans to take a vacation with your loved ones this fall?
- 2) Looking to book a fantastic getaway to a beautiful international destination?
- 3) Would you like an easy to use travel site that can help you effortlessly book flights, hotels, vacation packages, car rentals and cruises for personal and business travel needs?

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, the NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed discount travel program offered by TripMark.travel could help make planning your next trip a breeze. Take advantage of one-stop shopping for all your travel needs: reserve hotels, flights, cruises, car rentals and vacation packages; browse destinations; plan road trips; or book group travel.

Online security

TripMark offers a simple online interface and advanced encryption technology that ensures that your personal information is kept safe and secure as you plan your next trip.

Helpful suggestions

To assist with your planning, TripMark also offers a variety of destination guides – offering recommendations for top-rated attractions, restaurants and hotels along with general information about thousands of destinations. Thinking about planning a road trip, but not sure where to go? TripMark’s website offers you many options, anywhere from one hour to six hours

away from a specified zip code, in any direction you choose. You can then search for hotels in the area that you select.

Strength in numbers

TripMark can even help you with group travel. Whether you’re planning a family reunion or vacationing with friends, get assistance and best available deals from the helpful folks at TripMark. For group travel only, get the process started online

by visiting the TripMark page on the Member Benefits website and following the directions listed. There is a different toll-free number dedicated solely to group travel as well as a discount code to use for booking group travel.

Speak with a real person

Would you feel more comfortable speaking to a travel agent on the phone rather than booking online? TripMark’s knowledgeable agents

are available toll-free, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. to assist with your travel planning. Please note that travel agents cannot currently book airline flights if you arrange your trip through one of TripMark’s agents; you can either book flights online or contact the airline directly.

What to do first

To get started with TripMark, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org and click on “TripMark.travel” in the Featured Discounts section of the homepage. There, you’ll find toll-free numbers for reservations, cruises and group travel, as well as a link to a NYSUT member-specific TripMark website. You can also contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 with any questions.



TripMark.travel is a NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation (Member Benefits)-endorsed program. Member Benefits has an endorsement arrangement of 25% of net revenue for this program. All such payments to Member Benefits are used solely to defray the costs of administering its various programs and, where appropriate, to enhance them. Member Benefits acts as your advocate; please contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

**WCRT WINTER EXCURSION
GRAND CENTRAL STATION**

**Thursday - Dec. 8, 2011 - 11AM-1PM
(Limited to 40 people)**

**GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL—
“CROSSROADS OF A MILLION PRIVATE LIVES”**



Manhattan historian Joyce Gold presents a walking tour through Grand Central Terminal, the cultural and architectural landmark. A stately, efficient, Beaux Arts version of a classical form, Grand Central is an excellent representation of the era in which it was conceived. Its story is dramatic—of rivalry, creativity, and a borrowed aesthetic transformed into something new.

Highlights of the walk include

- Tragedy that led to its creation
- Design that made traffic flow and luggage glide
- The 1913 financial strategy for modernizing the railroad
- The Campbell Apartment
- The Chrysler Building
- Commodore Vanderbilt, Whitney Warren, and Jackie Onassis
- The Whispering Arch
- The Holiday Fair offering wares from over 70 merchants

The tour meets inside the entrance at Park Avenue & the viaduct over 42nd St..

For many years through her company Joyce Gold History Tours of New York, Ms Gold has been showing city history to New Yorkers and visitors alike. She once taught English in the junior high school, and for decades has been teaching New York history at New York University and the New School University. She has written guidebooks on the history of the Financial District and Greenwich Village history and contributed entries to The Encyclopedia of New York City.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

NO. ATTENDING AT \$15 @ PERSON _____

AMT. ENCLOSED _____ PHONE# _____

CHECKS PAYABLE TO WCRT AND SEND TO

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