



LIZ NEWS

Long Island Zone of New York State Retired Teachers' Association

Vol. 38 No.2
SPRING 2015

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, KATHRYN GRANDE

Spring is here on the calendar, but not in the air. After this winter with all the snow and the very cold temperatures, we are looking forward to some beautiful Spring weather.

Members, Members, Members! this is our plea. Make sure to call a teacher friend or a fellow colleague you worked with and ask them to join NYSRTA. If you are at an event or activity search out the retired teachers and ask them to join NYSRTA. Remember that word of mouth is the best way to recruit new members. Many former teachers say, "no one asked me to join"

The best recruitment tool is the Constitutional Convention in 2017. Our pensions could be compromised and taxed. We need their voices.

The monthly statistics show from last May to February, we lost 102 Long Island Zone Members. We have wonderful luncheons and speakers. We need new members to continue our work. Many of you are unit members, but it is important for you to become LIZ members. The State has provided us with flyers and cards that can be put in local libraries and banks, etc. Please let me know, if you can help.

2015 NYSRTA State Agenda

Minimum Pension Bump Up – for teachers who retired prior to 1980. This bill would extend the minimum retirement allowance to \$550 per year of New York State service up to a maximum of \$19,250.

Improve Pension Cola – Improve COLA Law to more accurately account

for increases in inflation by raising the base amount or by allowing for higher CPI percentage to be applied (RPEA Statement).

Elder Abuse – This proposed legislation would expand the limited definition of caregivers in Penal Law 260.31 to include anyone who "voluntarily assumes responsibility for providing care for a vulnerable elderly person, or an incompetent or physically disabled person" This change would make it possible to hold all abusive caregivers accountable.

2015 NYSRTA Federal Agenda

Observation vs. Inpatient for coverage under Medicare

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3 -day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing services under Medicare.

Notice of Observation Treatment and Implication for Care Eligibility Act or Notice Act

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to require a hospital with an agreement with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to give each individual entitled to benefits under Medicare part A (Hospital Insurance), whom the hospital classifies for more than 24 hours as an outpatient under observation status or any other similar status, an adequate oral and written notification within 36 hours of that classification.



June Torns, Charles Plaskon, Speaker and Kathy Grande



Baiting Hollow Farm & Vineyard-Tour Participants



Bison Grazing on our Trip to Eastern Long Island



Horses on rescue ranch on Long Island

LIZ Directory

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LIZ 2015 Calendar

April 2015

15 Wed. EERTA Exec. Bd. Meeting- 10:30 AM
Suffolk County National Bank, Riverhead

May 2015

6 Wed. EERTA Riverhead Luncheon-11:30 AM
Cooperage Restaurant, Calverton
12 Tues. LIZ Officers & Exec. Bd. Mtg.-10:00 AM
Hauppauge Diner
19 Tues. WERTA Exec. Bd. Meeting-10:00 AM
North Bellmore Library
20 Wed. LIZ Luncheon Meeting-11:30 AM
Lombardi's by the Bay

June 2015

16 Tues. WERTA Luncheon Meeting – 11:30 AM
Guy Anthony's, North Merrick
24 Wed. EERTA Hampton Luncheon-11:30 AM
The Publick House, Southampton

July 2015

13-14 Mon.-Tues. NYSRTA Exec. Bd. Mtg.in Utica
27 Mon. LIZ Newsletter Deadline

August 2015

26 Wed. EERTA Exec Bd. Meeting 12 Noon
Fred & Lesley's Home

September 2015

2 Wed. EERTA Back to School Luncheon11:30AM
The Vineyard, Acquebogue
10 Thurs. LIZ Officers & Exec.Bd.Meeting10:00 AM
Hauppauge Diner
16 Wed. LIZ Luncheon Meeting
29 Tues. WERTA Exec.Bd. Meeting-10:00 AM
North Bellmore Library

October 2015

27-29 Tues.-Thurs. NYSRTA Convention

November 2015

4 Wed. EERTA Southampton Luncheon-11:30 AM
The Publick House, Southampton
10 Tues. WERTA Luncheon Meeting
19 Thurs. LIZ Officers and Exec.Bd. Mtg10:00AM
Hauppauge Diner
16-17 Mon.-Tues. NYSRTA Exec. Bd.Mtg. in Utica

December 2015

2 Wed. EERTA Southhold Luncheon-11:30 AM
Soundview Restaurant
9 Wed. EERTA Shelter Island Luncheon-11:30AM
Virginia Schultze's Home

Workshop Committee Report Spring, 2015 Angelo Grande, Senior Vice President and Workshop Chairperson

The workshop committee met briefly in October at the end of the 2014 Convention. At this meeting I met with Rosalie Oliver of the Central Zone, who is the Chairperson of the Host Zone for the 2015 Convention. The other members of the workshop committee are: Gwynne Bodle (CZ), Diane Hahn (EZ) Patricia Newell (NCZ) and Kevin Mulligan (NE). On February 11th we had a teleconference and continued our discussion of what workshops to offer. We also met in Utica, NY on March 16th to finalize the tentative Workshop Schedule for the Convention. I want to thank the members of the Committee for their hard work.

Listed below is our Annual Convention Timetable for the 2015 NYSRTA Convention.

October 27th to October 29th

Theme – 65th Birthday Celebration

Tuesday, October 27th

Registration

NYSRTA Workshops - New Delegates, Membership,
Community Service, Friendly Service and Resolutions

Dinner

Certificate of Recognition

Keynote Speaker: to be announced at a later date.

Wednesday, October 28th

Breakfast

Workshops: Session 1 – 9 AM and Session 2
10:15 AM (Five Workshops in each session)

Lunch

Annual Meeting-Session – 1

Executive Board Meeting

Cocktail Party

Dinner

Entertainment: William Locke

Thursday, October 29th

Breakfast/Workshop Committee Meeting

Annual Meeting – Session-2

Executive Board Meeting

Box Lunch Available

Checkout

Site Based Committee Meeting with Hotel Staff

**Note: Please remember that each
Zone must bring two baskets for the raffle at
the Convention. There will be no signature
gifts from the Host Zone.**



Distinguished Service Award

Longtime member Mary Armbruster was surprised but very deserving of The Long Island Zone's prestigious Distinguished Service Award, presented at the Annual Meeting and luncheon September 17, 2014.

The Zone recognizes members for working hard to have a significant effect on the operation of LIZ & NYSRTA, and presents the Silver Tray Award.

Mary has been active on all levels of our Retired Teachers' Association. On the Unit level, she has been Western Suffolk and West End Membership Chair for more years than most of us can remember, finding and welcoming new retirees, as well as encouraging us to do the same through WSRTA/WERTA NEWS and the WSRTA/WERTA page on the LI-Zone website. On the Zone level, Mary has been Membership Chair for an equal number of years, also finding and welcoming new retirees, as well as encouraging us to do the same through LIZ NEWS and LI-Zone.org. On the State level, in addition to increasing the ranks of NYSRTA, Mary has been a delegate to virtually all the Annual Conventions since retirement. She also finds time to volunteer at the Good Samaritan Hospital.

Co-chairs Mary Ella Moeller and Jo Anne Powell congratulate Mary and wish her many more years of satisfying service!



**Mary Armbruster
receives the
prestigious LIZ
Distinguished Service
Award, presented by
Co-chairs Mary Ella
Moeller and Jo Anne
Powell.**

Friendly Service- Dee McKinnon & Alicia Winowsky

Friendly Service is the heart of NYSRTA. Everywhere we go we are reminded of that. Dee and I receive "Thanks" from members, who may have received birthday greetings or get well cards or a phone call from our volunteers. We want to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to all the volunteers, who do all these nice things year in and year out without being in the spotlight. The members very much appreciate all the thoughtful, generous gestures. Thanks to Mary Ella Moeller, who keeps us all inspired and reminds us we are "motivated and marvelous" !!

Friendly Service volunteers receive much more in return than all the good things they do. So we would like to take this opportunity to say, that we would love to include those reading this among our numbers. We need many more volunteers to make calls to the sick or the lonely or just to keep in touch with as many retirees as possible. We can't help, if we don't know who needs us. Please let us know.



EERTA NEWS

Fred Conway, President

Our Hamptons' Luncheon is on June 24th Wed. at the Publick House in Southhampton. Joel Reitman (our resolutions chairman) is our guest speaker. He wrote "B is for Brooklyn - "D" is for dog." Our annual "Back to School" luncheon, which LIZ & WERTA members have attended in the past, is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9th.

NYSTRS holds thousands of dollars in unclaimed funds and abandoned accounts. Click the "Unclaimed Funds" tab at the bottom of any NYSTRS.org page to see if you or someone you know may have any forgotten funds.

We are dearly awaiting the return of the "snowbirds" from Florida. Our Spring Executive Board Meeting is on Wednesday, April 15th in the Board Room of the Suffolk County National Bank in Riverhead at 10:30 AM.

Penny Coyle has had a rough winter. She currently is in the Medford Multicare Center -315 Horseblock Road, Medford, NY 11763. The best way to contact her is through her e-mail address which is: sparkyry17@yahoo.com

Resolutions: Agnes is working on two resolutions for this year. We could use one more (how about WERTA). The deadline for submission is June 1st.

Senator LaValle is working on Real Property Tax Reform and the approval of a comprehensive Women's Equality Agenda to enhance the rights of women and protect New Yorkers who are most vulnerable to abuse and discrimination.



WERTA NEWS

Evelyn Paola, President

After what has been termed a "Brutal Winter," Spring has finally arrived, at least according to the calendar. WERTA held a very successful luncheon/meeting on March 10th at Carlyle-on-the Green, Bethpage Park. The guest speaker was Sister Aimee Koonmen, O.P, the Executive Director of Bethany House, a residential shelter for young women and mothers who are in need.

Vice-President Emily Caristo announced the date and destination of our 2015 WERTA Trip: lunch at the Culinary Institute, and a tour of Hyde Park, home of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The cost of the trip will be \$107, which includes a small donation to the WERTA Scholarship Fund.

Our Treasurer, Candy Misner spoke to the group about the Scholarship Fund. We are in need of contributions to this very worthy cause.

Marjorie Williams, our Friendly Service Chair, reported on her sending Holiday Greetings to those members out of state. She was pleased to have received a "Thank You" from one of our honorary members.

Kathy Grande spoke about topics that advocates would discuss with Legislators.

Angelo Grande gave a 2015 NYSRTA Convention Update.

Our Annual Scholarship Luncheon Meeting will be held on June 16th.

AWARDS

*Mary Ella Moeller & Jo Anne Powell,
Co-Chairs*

The Awards Committee is composed of four previous "Silver Tray" recipients. The award will be given out at our Annual Meeting to be held September 16th, so be sure to mark your calendar for that date to see who receives the 2015 award.

Long Island Zone recognizes members for work that has had a significant effect on the operation of LIZ and NYSRTA. The award was established by Harry W. Gross, former sole Supervisor of Nassau and Suffolk Counties schools in 1968. In lieu of the actual silver tray, recipients now receive a Distinguished "Silver Tray" Award

Certificate and Pin, both designed by co-chair JoAnne Powell. If you know of a person that should be considered for this award in the future, please let the committee chairs know.

"MEMORIES IN MELODY"

June. L. Torns, Vice President

Jack Ellsworth Shiebler was a WWII Vet, when he started his radio show called "Memories in Melody" in 1951 on WALK/1370 AM. He was still working in 2013 when he passed away at age 91. His specialty was the big-band music.

Jack and his daughter worked together on his memoir, "Memories in Melody". His family is carrying on his legacy on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday on WHLI/1100 AM and WALK/1370 AM. Grandson, Matt Taylor hosts the show from 5-6pm using Jack's collection of recordings from all the big-bands and featured singers.

The book includes Jack's early years, his marriage, life and family as well as chapters on Dorsey, Sinatra and others.

Susan has graciously accepted our invitation to join us at lunch and talk about her dad. Books will be available.



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Eileen Holmes

I sent an article for the next edition of York State to Lillie Ruby in early March. It was basically about Penny Coyle and at the end it requested a Spring Shower of cards to cheer her up and I included her address at the Medford Multi Care Center.

As always, if you have any news and information that you feel would make a good story for York State, please let me know, Photos, too.

SPRING LUNCHEON MAY 20TH 11:30 AM

LOMBARDI'S ON THE BAY

Appetizer

Penne Filetto di Pomodoro

Salad

Tuscan Garden Salad

Entrée

Choose one of the three entrees

Roasted New York Sliced Steak
With Mushroom Madeira Wine Sauce

Chicken a la Francaise
A French Riviera classic
Egg battered Breast of Chicken sautéed
in a light Lemon and White Wine Sauce

Fish du Jour
Tilapia Oregonata

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables and Lombardi Potatoes
Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter

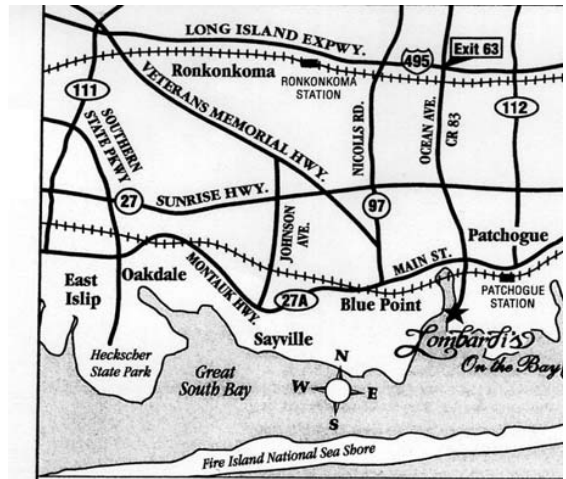
Dessert

Yellow Cake with Cannoli & Chocolate Mousse and Whipped Cream

Freshly Brewed Coffee and Tea
Regular or Decaffeinated
and Soft Drinks

Guest Speaker

Susan Shiebler, daughter of the late
Jack Ellsworth, radio icon known as "The
Silver Fox." He had the Big Band Show
"Memories in Melody."



GENERAL DIRECTIONS

Long Island Expressway (I-495) to Exit 63, North Ocean Ave. Turn southbound and go straight on North Ocean Ave. This turns into South Ocean Ave. Lombardi's on the Bay is on the right hand side just before the Great South Bay.

Lombardi's
On the Bay

600 South Ocean Ave. · Patchogue, NY 11772
631-654-8970 · www.lombardisonthebay.com

Send checks payable to NYSRTA/LIZ for \$30/per person with a choice of entrée to June L. Torns, 40 Pleasant Ct., Copiague, NY 11726 (631-842-4517) before May 6, 2015.

Name _____	Phone _____	Beef _____	Chicken _____	Fish _____
Name _____	Phone _____	Beef _____	Chicken _____	Fish _____
Name _____	Phone _____	Beef _____	Chicken _____	Fish _____