



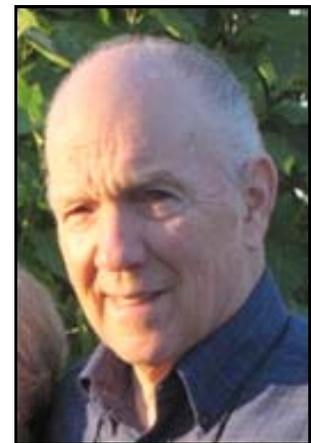
# *From the President*

This Spring of 2015 finds us in another election year for RASCC officers and I can't help but marvel at the small group of people that have been shouldering all the responsibility for the successful running of this organization. This seems inherently unfair, not only to those individuals that are carrying most of the load, but also to the many members who have not had a chance to provide their own leadership to this organization.

As RASCC is composed of numerous constituencies, e.g. FASCC, AME, Guild, etc., it seems to me that we should have an abundance of capable individuals from which to draw leaders who will lead RASCC into the future. Recent retirees have the advantage of knowing and having worked with the people in leadership positions at SCCC, and this is essential to the successful operation of RASCC in that you have a better understanding of who to contact to accomplish a particular task, than someone who retired ten or twenty years ago would have.

All of the leadership positions of RASCC are open to every RASCC member in good standing and it is essential that if the organization is going to continue to flourish, that new leaders step forward to provide new ideas and directions for the years ahead.

I believe that a complete turnover of RASCC leadership can be accomplished this year and that it would provide an infusion of energy that will assure that RASCC continues to be a vibrant part of SCCC.



*Bud Macy*

# Editorial

NY State constitutional Convention

Every two decades the voters in New York State are asked if they want a constitutional convention convened to alter or rewrite the state constitution. This question will appear on our ballots in 2017. It could be brought up sooner by petition.

Many of the protections, rights and benefits held by residents and especially retired public employees, could be removed in rewriting the state constitution. The constitution provides the right to free public education, collective bargaining, pension protection, worker compensation and many others.

We have seen that, in today's political climate, these rights have all been called into question or eliminated in some states. A constitutional convention imperils all of these fundamental rights.

The RASCC executive council thinks that a New York State constitutional convention is a bad idea for our members, their families and the State in general and we recommend that our members unite to stand against it.

If you would like to express your opinions to your New York State representatives you can look up their addresses at [nystate.gov](http://nystate.gov).

For a complete discussion of this topic see the Jan/Feb 15 retirees council newsletter at the rc39 website (<http://rc39.ny.aft.org/>)



*For more pictures, information and useful links of interest to our members go to the RASCC website at*

<http://www.rascc.org/>

# Elder Issues

Bob Stone

**D**o you have a loved one in a nursing home or assisted living facility? Do you think that assisted living might be in your future? If you do you will be interested in this report.

*To Collect Debts, Nursing Homes Are Seizing Control Over Patients.* This is the title of an article in the New York Times by Nina Bernstein published on Jan 25, 2015. It describes a tactic that nursing homes have been using to collect debts from patients. Some nursing homes are going to court to assume guardianship over patients in disputes over payments.

According to the author;

Guardianship transfers a person's legal rights to make some or all decisions to someone appointed by the court — usually a lawyer paid with the ward's money. It is aimed at protecting people unable to manage their affairs because of incapacity, and who lack effective help without court action. Legally, it can supplant a power of attorney and a health care proxy.

The important point in the above quote is that the purpose of guardianship laws is to protect the person, not to collect alleged debts. This is a first look at a complicated issue and we hope to follow it up in future articles.

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/26/nyregion/to-collect-debts-nursing-home-seizing-control-over-patients.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/01/26/nyregion/to-collect-debts-nursing-home-seizing-control-over-patients.html?_r=0)



## Contributors needed

If you have any articles, pictures or information that you think might be of interest to the membership please send it to us.

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# Upcoming Events

Sunday, April 12, 2015: **Stony Brook Museum to Feature Lecture on Long Island and the Civil War**

The Activities Planning Committee of RASCC is sponsoring an outing to the Long Island Museum at Stonybrook on Sunday, April 12, 2015. Former Newsday reporter Bill Bleyer and author Harrison Hunt will discuss their new book "Long Island and the Civil War" at 2 PM. The book explores the impact of the war on Long Island from the 1860 presidential campaign that polarized the region to the wartime experiences of Long Islanders on the battlefield and at home. If you wish to purchase the book it will be available at Barnes & Noble or Amazon on April 6, 2015.

The lecture is free with regular admission to the museum (\$7 Senior rate). Tickets can be purchased at the door. Those attending the lecture will also have the opportunity to visit the Art Museum. The Art Museum is featuring: "Ansel Adams: Early Works", focusing on his small scale prints created from the 1920s to the 1950s, "American Horizon; East to West: Landscape Painting and Photography" and the annual "Colors of Long Island" exhibition.

Prior to the lecture there will be an 11:30 AM Pre Fixe luncheon at Latitude 121, 121 Main Street, Stonybrook (formerly the Brook House Family restaurant). The pre fixe luncheon will offer a salad, a choice of four entrees and desert. The price for the luncheon is \$26 per person.

Please send your check for the luncheon made out to James V. Brennan, 7 Southwood Drive, Miller Place, N.Y. 11764 by Thursday, April 9th. If you have any questions about this event, contact Jim at [Jamesvbrennan@me.com](mailto:Jamesvbrennan@me.com) or 631. 473-7992,

Thursday, May 21 **Spring Luncheon and General Meeting** at The Stony Brook Yatch Club

Reservation and further details will follow by email and website.

Wednesday, June 20, "**Oliver**" at **Theater Three**

Reservation and further details will follow by email and website.

# Passings

(The following article is reprinted from the FA newsletter “The Word”)

## In memoriam: Ray McCartney

John Malskis, Professor Emeritus (Mathematics)

Suffolk County Community College and the Faculty Association lost one of their pillars on Christmas day. And, many of us lost a precious, trusted and devoted friend when Ray McCartney passed away. Gifted with an agile and intelligent mind, for close to forty years he lent his expertise to the College, the FA, his students and above all to his beloved mathematics department.

Ray headed that area when I first arrived on campus in 1964. His leadership qualities were immediately apparent. Priding himself on his mathematical ability, he demanded not presentable but rather excellent skills as a starting point. His hires are a testament to this. Further, he fully subscribed to Dr. Ammerman’s invocation that foremost we should be good teachers. Under his direction we totally revamped our course offerings. We argued among ourselves. We won some battles and lost others. But, at every skirmish, Ray made sure that cliques were not formed, we respected each other and we took pride in being a member of the department.



In his lifetime Ray wore many hats: devoted husband to Ellen and father to Lynn and Mark, school board member, coach, union negotiator and president, department head, mathematician, teacher, author, counselor and friend. He taught us to be good teachers—he often told me his goal was for everyone in the department to believe that all of their colleagues were superior teachers but that they personally were the best! Further, he showed us how to become good leaders as is evidenced by the fact that among his protégés were five deans, three division chairmen and four department chairs. He hired the first four women, seamlessly integrating them into the department. Ray was a founder of the FA and one of its first presidents. His gentle but firm hand bridged the gap between the radicals and conservatives that enabled the FA to garner the widespread support it now enjoys. As one who was a chief negotiator of the first contract, I can attest that Ray’s wisdom and assistance was indispensable. He was the architect of the salary step system that I believe in slightly altered form exists to this day. He devoted many hours studying the pay system then in effect and then worked up a plan that enabled me to sell the step system to the county.

As FA president he successfully engineered the affiliation with NYSUT. With all sides spoiling for a fight, he peacefully brought home the second contract. The present strength of our college and our FA was the work of many individuals. Ray McCartney’s energy, skill and foresight place him among the best.

Goodbye, dear friend. Those of us who had the pleasure of knowing you will never forget you. ‘Til we meet again, I and many, many others will sorely miss you!

## *From the Executive Council*

April 3, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

May 1, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

June 5, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

July 3, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

No meeting in August

September 4, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

October 2, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

November 6, 2015: Executive Council and Activities Planning Committee meetings

December 2, 2015: **RASCC Annual Holiday Party, Miller Place Inn**



The new RASCC bylaws were approved by a vote of 47-0

They can be viewed on [RASCC.ORG](http://RASCC.ORG)

# Holiday Party 2014



RASCC Holiday Party  
Miller Place Inn  
December 10, 2014



RASCC Holiday Party  
Miller Place Inn  
December 10, 2014



RASCC Holiday Party  
Miller Place Inn  
December 10, 2014



RASCC Holiday Party  
Miller Place Inn  
December 10, 2014



**RASCC**  
“The Cottage”  
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Vice Pres.: Ginny Trombetta  
Secretary: Marie Basileo  
Treasurer: Mary Donohue  
Past Pres.: Jim Brennan  
Members-At-Large:  
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