

Central Square Retired Teachers' Association



The Newsletter of the Central Square Retired Teachers' Association of CSTA
September-October, 2017

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CSRTA Luncheon

When: Friday, October 20, 2017

Where: Greenview Country Club, 20 Whig Hill Road, West Monroe (LOWER LEVEL)

Time: 12:00 noon

Luncheon: Buffet: fish dish, chicken dish, a vegetable, potato or rice, and dessert. Water and coffee are included. All other drinks are cash bar.

Cost: \$16.00 per person (includes buffet choices above, tax, and tip)

Program: Monica Johnson, former Cleveland and Central Square student, has become blind and is now a motivational speaker and a very good one. She will be giving a presentation to our group.

RSVP: Cassie Richmond by **Tuesday, October 17th** 668-8354 or
rrichmo@twcnny.rr.com

“Each One, Reach One”: Bring a fellow retiree to the luncheon. The more the merrier.
Be involved and be informed.

**** See Page 3 For Special Meeting Announcement ****

Sign Up Today for CSRTA

What can you do to support the Central Square Retired Teachers' Association?

Join the CSRTA (Central Square Retired Teachers' Association) by filling in the information below and sending it with a check to:

**CSRTA
c/o Laura Turner
7237 Willow Road
North Syracuse, NY 13212**

If you are already a member of CSRTA, your dues for 2017-2018 are due by Dec. 31, 2017 to be considered for the CSRTA Scholarship. New members, your first year dues are free!

If you have any questions about dues, please contact Laura at the above address or by phone: (315) 427-5847 or email: ltmcridr0918@gmail.com

You can also pay your dues to Laura at the October meeting.

Name: _____

Email address: _____

DOB (for Friendly Service use):
MM/DD/YEAR _____

Enclosed is my \$10.00 Dues Fee: \$ _____

Scholarship Fund Contribution (any amount is appreciated): \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Changes Coming to District Health Insurance

The Central Square Central School District will soon be changing its health insurance coverage to the standard indemnity health insurance program offered through the Cooperative Health Insurance Fund of Central New York (Co-op). The new plan is also an Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield product and will have some enhanced benefits that are not offered under our current plan. The Co-op plan also includes a three-tier drug formulary for prescription drugs, which is a change from our current two-tier system. This change was agreed to by the CSTA as part of a four-year contract that was approved in June 2017. The change to the new insurance plan will occur after all bargaining groups have approved.

An informational meeting for district employees, describing the new insurance plan, **will be held on Tuesday, October 17 from 4 pm to 5:30 pm at Millard Hawk Elementary School. Retired teachers who are subscribers to the district health insurance plan are invited to attend this meeting.** Steve Losee, a representative of the Co-op, is scheduled to explain the features of the plan and answer questions. Retirees are urged to attend this meeting, so you will be able to learn first hand about changes to your insurance and how these changes will impact you. The new drug formulary may mean increased costs for your maintenance prescriptions.

An implementation date has not been announced, but will hopefully be discussed at the meeting. If you are not able to attend the meeting you will receive information from the district or the Co-op, as the change is implemented.

Central Square Retired Teachers Association
SPRING MEETING May 19, 2017
Greenview Country Club

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by president Cassie Richmond at 12:58PM. She extended thanks to everyone who offered support during her 6th grade granddaughter's recent battle with cancer. She is in remission now but will undergo 2 years of treatment.

Minutes

The minutes from the October meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report

The following report was issued by Treasurer, Laura Turner:

Beginning Balance	\$898.39
Deposits	Dues \$715 Newsletter \$100.
Expenditures	
RC dues	RC8 Dues \$220.00 Luncheon \$400
New Balance	\$1,093.39

Dues will be collected at the fall meeting.

Donate

Lauren Lalley moved and Lynn VanderVeen seconded the motion to give \$100 to the DKG Educational Award. The motion was passed. Last year the following donations were given: \$100 each to Project Bloom, Divine Mercy Pantry and the North Shore Food Pantry. It was decided to adjust our giving this year. Elaine Suskin moved and Liz Fleury seconded a motion to give \$75 each to Project Bloom, the Divine Mercy and North Shore food pantries, and Golisano Children's Hospital. Joe Barbara amended the motion and George DeRousie seconded the amendment that the donation to the Hospital be given in honor of McKenna Kelly. The amended motion was passed.

CSTA Update

Joe Barbera, our representative to CSRT, informed us that school budget passed. All 3 candidates that the CSTA endorsed won election to the Board of Education. The closing of the District Office and CSI was due to low enrollment and budget concerns. There will be redistricting in the fall of 2017. The present contract will expire at the end of this school year. Negotiations continue.

Passing

A moment of silence was given to recently departed members of the CS school community. They are: Ron Archambo and Keith Krause.

Scholarship

This year's scholarship was awarded to Suzanne Fairbanks, granddaughter of Dotty Bane. She has a 4.0 GPA. She will attend the U of Arizona as a Chemical Engineering Major.

NYSUT: No one from our group attended this year's Conference. We have not had an update from Retiree Rep Anne Marie Voutsinas. Vote Cope Rep Bill Spreter has not been to our last two meetings.

Next Meeting: October 20 at Greenview Country Club. Please ask at least one retiree you know to attend with you. This is a social gathering but it also keeps us updated on events that effect education in CS, the state and the nation. President Richmond will look into having Monica Johnson, a Central Square student and an advocate for the blind, as a speaker at our fall meeting.

Adjournment: Lynn VanderVeen moved and Liz Fleury seconded the motion for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Lalley, Recording Secretary

VOTE “NO” ON THE CONSTITUTION CONVENTION ON NOVEMBER 7, 2017

1. The State Constitution currently protects public employee pensions of both active and retired members, but a convention could remove those protections.
2. Losing the right to Workers Compensation could make working more dangerous for members who perform dangerous jobs everyday.
3. Without unions and the right to collectively bargain, it would be every employee for himself. Employers could strip your hard earned benefits and slash your salary at will.
4. It could diminish the Legislature’s budget role, giving more power to the Executive Branch. A governor would dictate the state budget without legislative approval.
5. The Board of Regents could be eliminated or its role changed. A former NYS governor proposed eliminating the Board to give the governor more direct authority over education policy. Regents are appointed by the Legislature, with public accountability.
6. A Constitutional Convention is NOT the only way to make changes to the state’s Constitution. Individual amendments can be passed by two separately elected legislatures and voted on by the electorate.
7. The convention would take place in Albany in 2019 for an unspecified period of time. The last one was in 1967 and lasted 5 ½ months. It cost taxpayers roughly \$6.5 million. In today’s numbers, that’s more than \$46 million! That money could be used for better improvements within the state

In Memoriam

It is with great sadness to learn of the passing of:

* **John T. “Tim” Ryan** – August 9, 2017, age 77. Tim retired in 1995 from the Central Square School District as a science teacher after 33 years of teaching. He was also well known as a Section 3 High School Football Referee for 33 years and an Umpire for several area softball leagues. He was a founding member of the Pope John XXIII Church and a member of the Knights of Columbus. He also loved the outdoors. Contributions in his memory could be made to CNY Hospice or Pope John XXIII Church.

REMINDERS

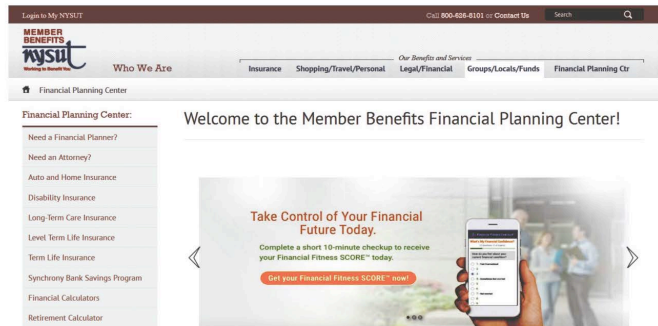
- CSRTA meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of May and October.
- Changes in address/email should be sent to Karen Marzynski via email: kmarzynski1@verizon.net or by phone: 315-457-7566.

Have you had your financial check-up lately?

NYSUT Member Benefits launches the new Financial Planning Center!

NYSUT Member Benefits is excited to announce the launch of our NEW online Financial Planning Center. This enhanced site will assist NYSUT members and their families with making a variety of important financial decisions.

The NYSUT Member Benefits Financial Planning Center provides helpful tools and resources to assist members with a number of crucial decisions regarding financial wellness and retirement planning.



This new site includes more than 100 modules on different financial topics along with a financial fitness check-up to see where members stand with their financial knowledge.

Whether it's planning for retirement, saving for college for your children or considering purchasing a home, the choices we need to make on a regular basis are never easy. If you're already enjoying retirement, you may be dealing with long-term care needs, managing your investments and estate planning.

NYSUT members can get assistance with these questions and more with our NEW Financial Planning Center.

To access the Financial Planning Center (and more than 100 planning modules), visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at ***memberbenefits.nysut.org*** and click on **“Financial Planning Center.”**

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit ***memberbenefits.nysut.org*** or call **800-626-8101**.



For information 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.

Sept./Oct. '17