

Central Square Retired Teachers' Association



The Newsletter of the Central Square Retired Teachers Association of CSTA

May/June 2019

Karen Marzynski, Editor

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CSRTA Spring Luncheon

WHEN: Friday, May 17, 2019

WHERE: Greenview Country Club
West Monroe, NY

TIME: Noon

COST: \$16.00 per attendee
Includes tax, tip, coffee or water, buffet and
dessert. Cash bar available.

RSVP: Reservations must be made by using the form
on page 6 and sending your money to Laura Turner.
Reservations and payments must be in by May 13th.

From the President: (In case you missed it in the last newsletter)

Dear Retirees,

I hear many of our retirees expressing concerns and asking questions of other retirees that they know. I really encourage all retirees to attend the retiree luncheons for this very purpose. The luncheons are there for you to ask questions, and better yet, to get answers from those who are in the know. This is the very reason the retiree chapter was formed. There are many things that occur that you as a retiree should have questions about. Our representatives have the answers.

Please think about attending a luncheon so that you will have the information you need, rather than through hearsay. Facts are necessary in every situation. You might also benefit from the related explanation that goes along with the facts. For example, our new health insurance has posed problems for a few. Sometimes it helps to hear what has worked for someone else in dealing with these issues. This is just one area that you may have questions that our retiree group could help you with.

We try very hard to keep the luncheons inexpensive, tasty, and well done. The luncheons are held in a venue with lots of free parking and various ways of accessing the meeting area. We have a brief social time prior to the luncheon, then lunch, and a brief business meeting following with material presented that is of interest to any retiree. There is plenty of time for questions and discussions as needed.

If there are any topics you wish to have addressed, just let me know. We would be happy to research for the answers you need.

The reservation process for our luncheons will be different in the future.

Instead of just notifying me of your intent to attend, you will be receiving a form in the newsletter to prepay and send in the reservation. Unfortunately this was necessary due to our CSRTA group having to pay for reserved meals that members were no shows. The cost was over \$100 on one luncheon, and our treasury just can't stand that much stress. Therefore, our officers decided that a prepay method would save our treasury and meals ordered would be paid for. We hope this isn't a problem for anyone. Unfortunately, if you have prepaid and cannot attend, there cannot be a refund. Your meal will already be ordered and paid for.

I hope to see all of you at the spring luncheon in May. Yes, spring will come! Look for the newsletter announcing the luncheon and the form for your reservation. Bring your concerns and questions, and we will attempt to get you the answers you need.

Cassie Richmond
President CSRTA

CSRTA Minutes October 19, 2018

Greenview Country Club

The meeting was called to order by Lauren Lalley at 12:20 PM. Fifteen people were in attendance. Judy Windhausen, Neil Dennison, and Laurie Hough were the newest retirees. (2017).

A motion was made by Ann Reed, and seconded by Mary Jones, to accept the minutes from the last meeting in May as written in the newsletter. Motion carried, approved.

Laura Turner gave the Treasurer's Report:

Beginning balance: \$1300.80

Deposits:

Dues	165.00
Newsletters	200.00

Expenditures:

Dinner	15.00
Project Bloom	100.00
North Shore Food Pantry	100.00
Brewerton Community Food Pantry	100.00
CS Food Pantry Divine Mercy	100.00
Printing/ Newsletter	32.92

Total Balance: \$1217.88

Joe Barbera mentioned that schools in the district were being updated. Theresa Ross would be retiring in January.

John Mannion, 50th senate district, a teacher, is running for office. He is recommended by NYSUT. It is important for the senate and legislature to have someone in office with a real life experience in the classroom. Volunteers are asked to help make calls Oct. 25, at the NYSUT office in E. Syracuse from 5-8 PM, and Nov. 5, at Vona's in Oswego from 4-8 PM to encourage people to vote. Calls will only be made to NYSUT members. Dana Balter is also a recommended Representative.

If the Republicans continue with the majority, we can expect the Affordable Care Act to be ended, along with benefits lost - lifetime caps, pre-existing conditions for our children and grandchildren. There would most probably be cuts in Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, regardless of the promises that some representatives have made.

If you are having difficulty having procedures covered by Health insurance, call Excellus.

12:30 PM break for lunch 1:06 PM meeting resumed.

We had a moment of silence for the passing of Emily Dennison.

A reminder that children, grandchildren or step children/grandchildren are eligible for our scholarship. Info will be in the next newsletter. Any one interested in contributing to the scholarship fund should send donations to Laura Turner.

Bill Spreter, Vote Cope representative, (former Hannibal teacher) spoke about the excessive testing given to students. There seemed to be an agreement on a permanent

moratorium on this testing, but it was linked to increased funding for 100 charter schools. It was not acceptable to us, because public schools would have lost funding. NYSUT is endorsing John Mannion for state senate. He is aware first hand of the difficulties students have with lengthy testing.

Dana Balter is also recommended by NYSUT. For a list of recommendations for November's election, check NYSUT.org.

We are all members of NYS Alliance for Retired Americans. They will have their next meeting on Friday, Nov.7 at 10 AM- noon at the NYSUT office on Brittonfield Parkway. All are welcome. Something to be aware of: Ryan and McConnell plan to cut Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid to ease the deficit. (Remember, the tax cut that added to the deficit?) Note: These programs also cover children and adults with disabilities and veterans. Your vote in November is important.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:36 PM.

The next meeting is Friday, May 17, 2019 at Greenview Country Club at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Wolitarsky

**RESERVATION FORM
FOR
SPRING 2019 LUNCHEON**

Number Attending _____

\$16 per attendee – includes tax, tip, coffee or water, buffet and dessert. Cash bar available.

\$ _____ Enclosed for each luncheon

\$ _____ Additional amount enclosed for our scholarship fund, if you choose

\$ _____ Total amount enclosed: Check made out to Central Square Retired Teachers Assoc.

Name(s) of Retiree(s) Attending Luncheon:

Reservations must be in by May 13th. Sorry, there cannot be any extension of time and no refunds.

Thank you for your reservation and payment. See you at the luncheon!

Send reservations to: Laura Turner
7237 Willow Road
North Syracuse, NY 13212

FOR YOUR INFO

CSRTA OFFICERS: (in case you have a question)

President – Cassie Richmond

Vice Presaident – Agnes Wilk

Secretary – Lauren Lalley

Treasurer – Laura Turner

CSTA Rep – Joe Barbera

CSRTA MEETINGS: (Save the dates)

- Third Friday in May
- Third Friday in October

ADDRESS/EMAIL CHANGES:

If you have a change of address/email, please contact Karen Marzynski, newsletter editor, so that our roster can be updated.

Also, if you are receiving your newsletter via U.S. Mail and you have an email, it would greatly help our funds to be able to send you the newsletter by email. It now costs us 52 cents per newsletter!

RETIREEES ADDRESSES MISSING:

For one reason or another, addresses have apparently changed for the following retirees and their new addresses are not known. If you know of anyone's whereabouts, please let Karen Marzynski know so that our roster can be updated.

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|---------------------|---------------------|
| • Deb Amati | * Nick & Barb Lapre |
| • Shirley Bettinger | * Jennifer Lyons |
| • Tom Haller | * Sue Mooney |
| • Allen Hoffman | * Jean Stevens |
| • Teddi Vickery | |



Protect Your Loved Ones with Union-Endorsed Benefits

Insurance... it's often the type of product you hope to never have to utilize. In the event you do need it, though, it's important to have the insurance product that best meets your needs and those of your loved ones.

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a variety of **crucial insurance programs** that provide important protection for NYSUT members and their families, including life, auto and home, disability, long-term care, dental and vision plans, and more.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you're participating in one of our endorsed insurance programs; legal or financial services; or many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the **"Power of the Union"** behind them.

The **"Power of the Union"** should serve as a steadfast reminder to all NYSUT members that we are your advocate. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, NYSUT Member Benefits is here if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs. You aren't just a member to us... you are part of our union family.

Member Benefits is here to offer assistance with the student loan crisis. Visit our website for more information.

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.

May/June '19