



# BRTA NEWSLETTER

[www.brta.biz](http://www.brta.biz)

[brtamembership@yahoo.com](mailto:brtamembership@yahoo.com)

President: Thomas Giambra

Recording Sec.: Stephen Parada

1st VP: Russell Gervasi

Corresponding Sec.: Elisa Harting

2nd VP: Renate Yuhnke

Membership Sec.: Linda Parada

Treasurer: Floyd Kruschke

Past Pres: Al Marabella

At Large: Josephine Cross, Arnold Harting, Michael Marszalek

Board Members: Carolyn Cardarella, Clarann Josef, Cynthia Mehary, Theresa Pope, Sara Rodland, Dolores Scanlon, Guy Schiavi, Marie Wu

Fall Edition

April, 2022

## **Upcoming Events**

### **May 19, 2022--**

Spring Luncheon at Acqua. Information on page 6

### **June 14, 2022--**

Don Guerra Open at Terry Hills. Information on page 4

### **September, 2022--**

Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Information in next newsletter

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

I hope everyone is doing well. As I write this, snow is falling. It has really been a harsh winter. Buffalo has had more snow than any other city in the United States. I wonder if there is a reward for this.

I am sorry that BRTA had to cancel the winter luncheon. However, that decision was made in the first week of January. At that time, the omicron variant was at its peak. The organization really did not have much of a choice but to cancel. As it turned out, things had quieted down by the date the luncheon was to be held.

The spring luncheon will take place on May 19th at the Acqua Restaurant off Niagara Street. Hopefully, many of you will be able to attend. I need to thank Linda and Steve Parada for making the arrangements. This is the first time that BRTA has held a luncheon in the city. I know many of you enjoyed going to the Park Country Club for the spring luncheon. However, the club demanded that BRTA pay them an extra \$1000 for the use of the room. We also could not get the date that we wanted. The luncheon could have been held on a different date; however, they would not budge from the extra charge.

The organization has been forced to raise the price that it charges for luncheons. The price the restaurants charge for entrees

(continued on page 3)

Benefits Available to  
BRTA Members

**Long-term Care Insurance; BRTA Discounts on Long-term Care Insurance:** 1-800-655-4899

Tonawanda, NY 716-694-4388

**Dental Discounts**

The North Park Dental Group  
716-836-2242

**Vital Savings by Aetna**—Mention membership when you are inquiring about discount programs designed to help you save on dental or pharmaceuticals. 1-877-MY-VITAL (1-800-698-4825) or [www.vitalsavings.com](http://www.vitalsavings.com)

**Ballroom, Latin, Swing and Other Styles of Dance**—Tara Scime at 716-491-0186 or [TMSDance@yahoo.com](mailto:TMSDance@yahoo.com). Mention your BRTA membership and receive a discount.

**Faculty Rewards**—Discount magazine subscriptions. Go to [www.facultyrewards.com](http://www.facultyrewards.com) and use code 403360

**BPO**—Call Janet Field at 885-5001 for discount tickets

**West Herr Select Vehicle Purchase Plan**

Activate benefit plan before going to the dealership. Go to [www.westherrselect.com](http://www.westherrselect.com) or call your *Select Benefit Concierge* (716) 202-3091.

**NYSUT Member Benefits:** All retired teachers are members of NYSUT and are eligible to use the benefits. Go to [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org)

*IN MEMORIAM*

Frank Austin	Mary Lopian
John Bargnesi, Sr.	Mary A. O'Donoghue
Roseann Batt	John Opera
Wendy Brisky	Frances Patricola
Cullie Brown	Madonna M. Priore
Elayne Foster	Mary Prisinzano
Phil Fronckowiak	George Simoniak
Mary Jane Hanavan	Leonard Twarozek
Norman Hinz	Elizabeth J. Venator

BRTA would like to acknowledge the passing of those who served the children of Buffalo. If you would like to have someone included in the "In Memoriam" listings, please notify Josephine Cross (636-3014).

***SAVE THE DATE***

**Celebration of Life Brunch**

In honor of

**Edith LeWin**

**Saturday, September 24, 2022**

**Lake Erie Social Club**

**South Park Ave., Lackawanna, NY**

**Information and reservation to follow in August newsletter**

Frequently Requested Numbers

Website: [www.brta.biz](http://www.brta.biz) Email: [brtamembership@yahoo.com](mailto:brtamembership@yahoo.com)

*President:* Thomas Giambra 877-7796

*Membership:* Linda Parada—875-3392

*Luncheons:* Mary Agnes Marabella 635-9530 *Travel:* Al Marabella—635-9530; Russ Gervasi—839-5781

*Newsletter:* Elisa Harting—838-3708

*Friendly Service:* Josephine Cross—636-3014

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (continued from page 1)**

has been increasing like everything else. Also, many restaurants have been adding additional charges, such as a room charge. The organization could no longer absorb the increased costs.

The Scholarship Committee will once again award three \$1500 scholarships to qualifying Buffalo Public School students this year. The Chair of the committee is Clarann Josef. I want to take this opportunity to thank Clarann and the rest of the committee for all the work that they do on this project.

Steve Parada is once again organizing the annual golf outing at Terry Hills in Batavia. More information is found in this newsletter. I hope that many of you will take part in this enjoyable activity. I want to thank Steve for all of the work he does on the golf outing.

We all hope BRTA will be able to hold all the remaining activities this year. The last two years have been a difficult time for all. Who could have guessed that a pandemic could have caused so much disruption and sorrow for the people of the United States and around the world? Let us hope that the worse is behind us.

I hope to see you at the spring luncheon. Until then, stay well and take care.

---Tom Giambra

## **Spring Luncheon**

The BRTA Spring Luncheon will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2022 at Acqua Restaurant at 2192 Niagara St. in Buffalo. The restaurant is located on the shoreline of the Niagara River in the Riverside section of Buffalo (not far from Riverside High School). Members attending the luncheon should look for the restaurant sign on Niagara St. and pull into the drive that will take you underneath the I -190 Expressway. Free parking is available.

The restaurant has a scenic view of the Niagara River and a back patio deck to enjoy the view. The luncheon will be served at 12:15 pm with social time prior to the sit down luncheon. Members will be pleasantly surprised with the view as well as the meal.

Please turn to page 6 of this newsletter to see details for the luncheon and a reservation form.

### Travel News

As the prospect of travel brightens, BRTA would like to offer two possible trips for members to join. Both are within the U.S. It may be until next year before we are confident enough to offer European destinations.

Our first offering is to Nashville in October. It takes one to the Country Music Hall of Fame, Wild Horse Saloon, Grand Ole Opry and much more. It's a five-day trip with stay in ONE hotel (with a bar?)

Our second selection is to San Antonio in early December. This takes us to the Alamo, a Paseo del Rio Cruise, Mission San Jose and much more in 5 days. This being the holiday season, much will be there to be seen

Collette, who have always provided top of the line accommodations, sponsors these trips. If any of these interest you ,please contact me at 716-635-9530 or at [almarbs@gmail.com](mailto:almarbs@gmail.com) for applications and other pertinent infor-

### BUFFALO RETIRED TEACHERS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

#### THE DON GUERRA OPEN

The annual golf outing will be held at Terry Hills Golf Course, 5122 Clinton Street, Batavia. The course is 1 mile east of Batavia on Rte 33...8 minutes from NYS Thruway Exit 48.

It will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022. Report and sign in is at 11:15 AM, but no later than 12:00PM. The cost per golfer is \$85.00 and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, hot dog or hamburger before tee-off, and a steak dinner after golf.

Reservations should be received no later than June 1, 2022. Foursomes and Individuals welcome. See reservation form below. --Steve Parada

#### Buffalo Retired Teachers Annual Golf Outing

#### The Don Guerra Open

Make checks payable to **Buffalo Retired Teachers Association**

Mail entry and check to: Stephen Parada 23 Tremont Avenue Kenmore, NY 14217

#### FOURSOMES OR INDIVIDUALS WELCOME

Name(s), Address (es) and Phone (s)

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You can contact Steve with inquiries by phone, 716-875-3392, or email, [srada48@yahoo.com](mailto:srada48@yahoo.com)

## Health news

### Do you Need a Flu Shot?

The news has reported that several children in the USA have died as a result of serious complications with the influenza virus (the flu) illness. Adults over 65 years of age are also at a higher risk of illness due to flu complications. People's immune systems become weaker with age and people 65 and older are at a higher risk of serious flu complications than younger, healthy adults. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), between 70 and 85 percent of seasonal flu-related deaths in the United States occur among people 65 and older and account for between 50 to 70 percent of flu-related hospitalizations.

An annual flu vaccine is the best way to prevent the flu and its serious complications. There are two vaccines designed specifically for people 65 and older:

**A high dose flu vaccine** (Fluzone High-Dose) contains 4 times the amount of antigen as a regular flu shot. The additional antigen created a stronger immune response in the person getting vaccinated. The high dose flu vaccine has been approved in the US since 2009. Results from a clinical trial of more than 30,000 participants showed that adults who received the high dose vaccine had 24% fewer influenza illnesses as compared to those who received the standard dose flu vaccine.

**An adjuvanted vaccine** (FLUAD) is a standard dose flu vaccine with an adjuvant added. An adjuvant is an ingredient added to a vaccine to help create a stronger immune response to the vaccination. It was available for the first time during the 2016-2017 flu season.

The following are some symptoms of the flu: fever or feeling feverish /chills, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, muscle or body aches, headache fatigue and sometimes diarrhea and vomiting. If you have symptoms, --even if you have had a flu shot--call your doctor, nurse or clinic. Doctors can prescribe medicine, called antiviral drugs which will lessen the chance of serious illness. Remember...the flu is not a cold.

Note: You can get a flu vaccination at your physician's office as well as at any pharmacy.

(This information was taken from <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/>)

--Cynthia Mehary

# Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Cordially Invites Members and Guests to attend the

## *BRTA Spring Luncheon*

To be held at

### **Acqua Restaurant**

2192 Niagara Street

Buffalo, NY 14207

716-874-5400

**Thursday, May 19, 2022**

Social Hour: 11:15 AM Complimentary Fruit Punch & Cash Bar

Luncheon: 12:15 PM Choice of:

1. 6 oz. Filet of Sirloin
2. Pan seared Salmon
3. Chicken Francis with Lemon Sauce
4. Vegetable Wellington

Luncheon includes Salad, Vegetable, Dessert and Beverage

Cost: \$30.00 for Members - \$35.00 for Non-member Guests

(BRTA subsidizes cost for members)

Payment: **Due by Thursday, May 5, 2022**

Payable to: Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail to: Mary Agnes Marabella, 2 Steinway Court, Buffalo, NY 14221 Tel: 635-9530

**N.B. No cash refunds given after reservation deadline**

(Detach and mail lower portion only. Keep upper portion as your reminder)

Please list your name and the names of all other persons included in the enclosed payment

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ BRTA Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Meal Choice (Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ BRTA Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Meal Choice (Number) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ BRTA Member: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Meal Choice (Number) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (If needed, list additional guests on additional sheet)**