



# 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

Spring Edition

April, 2023

## **Upcoming Events**

### **May 25, 2023--**

Spring Luncheon at The Columns Banquets. Information on page 8

### **June 13, 2023--**

Don Guerra Open at Terry Hills. Information on page 4

### **July, 15, 2023--**

Nominations for officers due. See page 5

### **September, 2023--**

Annual Meeting and Luncheon. Information in fall newsletter

## **President's Message**

I hope that everyone is enjoying the spring weather. Hopefully, spring will be uneventful in terms of the weather. It would be nice to not have any major storms or wind events to deal with. I am sure that the blizzard that took place at Christmas will be remembered like the one that occurred in 1977!

I am glad that so many of you were able to attend the winter luncheon despite the weather conditions that day. The decision to go ahead with the luncheon was made by me after consulting with a number of Board members and the restaurant. I realize that a number of people could not attend that day because of the weather conditions or the fact that you lost power. BRTA had to pay for all of the lunches that had been ordered. However, if you paid for a lunch and could not attend due to the weather conditions and did not have someone pick up a lunch for you, BRTA will pay for your luncheon if you attend the spring event. Please return your reservation to Elisa Harting with a

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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*

Karen Benson	Theresa Leatherbarrow
Susan Lee Bolden	Johnnie Mayo
Marion Gertrude Broderick	Orlando Mazza
Dan Brusky	Judith Morrisey
Joseph Carnevale	Erin Muentner
Douglas Carstens	Mary Ann Notaro
JoAnn B. Casel	Stephen Poliachik
Carol Collier	Nancy Schmidt
Henry Douski	Jerome Schweitzer
Martha Faircloth Lum	Smith
Juana N. Harris	Ellen Stalemark
Mary Jo Hughes	Joseph Toczek
Eliza (Zorich) Hyrick	Barbara C. VanValkenberg
Donald S. Laing	Sister Nancy Walsh, OSF
Jean LaPadura	Rita Wells

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).

**Congratulations**

Janet and Lawrence Siulc--50th Anniversary

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:*

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

*Newsletter:* Elisa Harting—838-3708

*Friendly Service:* Josephine Cross—636-3014

## FLORIDA COTTAGE FOR RENT

Perfect Florida vacation getaway, half the price of any comparable monthly cottage or hotel in coastal Florida! This special pricing is only available to Buffalo retired teachers.

All new construction. This is a small country cottage, single or couple occupancy only. One bedroom with queen bed, one full bath, full kitchen, laundry facilities available, Wi-Fi and cable included. The cottage is a non-smoking facility.

The cottage is available for year round booking. It is located in Coastal Florida, 5 miles to beautiful beaches. There is access to theme parks, Space Center, and excellent dining. Just bring bathing suit and beach towels!

To view photos and rental information, go to  
[www.FloridaCottageCoastal.com](http://www.FloridaCottageCoastal.com).

Contact [BeachGator@outlook.com](mailto:BeachGator@outlook.com) with questions, open dates and prices.

## Niagara Regional Theatre Guild

presents

### Guys and Dolls

May 5-21

at the Ellicott Creek Playhouse

Tickets \$12-\$17

550 Ellicott Creek

Online at [niagaratheatre.com](http://niagaratheatre.com)

Tonawanda, NY 14150

Phone: 716-230-2319

## 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 13, 2023. Report and sign in is at 11:15 AM, but no later than 12:00PM. The cost per golfer is \$50.00 and includes 18 holes of golf with cart, and a hot dog or hamburger before tee-off

Reservations should be received no later than June 1, 2023. Foursomes and Individuals welcome. See reservation form below. --Steve Parada

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

**In compliance with the Buffalo Retired Teachers Association Bylaws, the Elections Committee has established the following procedures for the nominations of officers:**

Nominations can be made by any active member of the B.R.T.A. Individuals may nominate themselves.

Nominations shall be made on the Nomination Form below.

Nominees will be contacted by the Elections Committee prior to July 15, 2023, to verify their willingness to serve in that position.

**RETURN THE NOMINATION FORM BELOW BY JUNE 15, 2023, TO:**

**B.R.T.A. ELECTION COMMITTEE**

**C/O Arnold Harting**

**344 Parker Ave.**

**Buffalo, NY 14216**

**716-838-3708**

**2023-2025 BRTA OFFICER NOMINATION FORM**

Active members may nominate candidates for any or all of the positions listed below. Individuals may nominate themselves for any of the positions below.

**PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED ON THIS FORM**

**NOMINATION MADE BY (YOUR NAME):** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE NUMBER** -----

NOMINEE

HIS/HER PHONE NUMBER

**President** \_\_\_\_\_

**First Vice President** \_\_\_\_\_

**Second Vice President** \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer** \_\_\_\_\_

**Recording Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

**Corresponding Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Secretary** \_\_\_\_\_

**At Large Members – 3 Positions to be filled:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

## KEEPING YOU AT HOME -- AGING IN PLACE

It has been stated that 77% of adults over the age of 50 want to remain in their homes as long as possible. People feel more comfortable in familiar surroundings after recovery from an illness in the hospital or rehabilitation after various surgeries such as knee replacement, hip replacement, or a broken wrist. Hospitals, transfers, discharges and skilled nursing facilities all can be very confusing and overwhelming.

There are many health insurance options from which to choose -- Medicare, Medicaid, and various independent health plans. They may or may not include all necessary medical services and/or may supplement each other. After a hospitalization or rehab stay, some plans may lack medical coverage once you are discharged and now at home. The patient may still need medical, rehab or other treatment to regain full health. Also, medical equipment may be necessary which the insurance may or may not cover. Many times caregiver support is also necessary for basic needs (even if only for a short time) while at home. Again the insurance may or may not provide coverage for this service once discharged from the hospital or rehabilitation facility.

Before considering Assisted Living, Independent Living or Nursing home as options, consider making adjustments to your present home so that you may remain there. Also, consider researching various agencies that may be able to assist you in making these changes. The following are only a few of the changes to your home that you may consider modifying before, during or after surgery or rehabilitation:

Change the bathtub to showers only, and install railings in the bathtub/shower for safety while getting in and out. If you prefer the bath instead of showers, consider installing one of the special sit/down tubs available. Install an electric chair for going up and down stairs. Install handicap walkways with railings for wheelchair access. Even installing the washer and dryer on the main floor, may be an option.

A Nonprofit organization such as Home & Happy offers programs in home modifications and in-home services. They also help with discharge navigation, Equipment Donation, and Caregiver Support. Working with agencies like these can make your transition to remain home a reality.

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

note saying that you missed the winter luncheon.

Sean Patrick's did its usual good job with the luncheon. It seemed that most people were happy with the food and service. I want to thank those who attended for your generous support of the split club tickets. The money raised was donated to the Variety Club Telethon. It is amazing how much money the Variety Club has been able to raise over the years to benefit Children's Hospital!

The Spring Luncheon will be held at Columns Banquets, located in Elma, NY. I have attended a number of events there for meetings of Western Zone of RENY. The food has always been very good. I hope that many of you will be able to attend the May 25th event.

The annual BRTA golf outing will once again be held at Terry Hills Golf Course in Batavia. Information about the event and the reservation form can be found in this newsletter. Thanks to Steve Parada for organizing this event.

I hope that all the problems with the transition of Blue Cross/Blue Shield with Highmark have been solved. They had to send me new cards to replace the ones they had sent at the end of 2022. The cards did not have the same identification number. I am sure that many of you faced the same situation. One can only hope that everything has been corrected.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at the spring luncheon. Until then, stay well, and take care.

--Tom Giambra

## **KEEPING YOU AT HOME--AGING IN PLACE (continued from page 6)**

Other resources mentioned on the internet include Eldercare Locator 800-677-1116 ; Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services 800-633-4227 (877-486-2048 (TTY)); National Council on Aging; Senior Agencies in your community; National Institute on Aging

References for the above article:

Keeping You at Home--American Society on Aging: website

AARP News Magazine

--Cynthia Mehary

# Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Cordially Invites Members and Guests to attend the

## *BRTA Spring Luncheon*

To be held at

**The Columns Banquets**

**2221 Transit Road**

**Elma, New York 14059**

**716-674-3241**

**Thursday, May 25, 2023**

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

Luncheon: 12:15 PM Choice of:

1. Oven Roasted Salmon with Dill cream sauce
2. Stuffed Chicken Breast--bread stuffing and chicken gravy
3. Breaded Pork Loin--breaded pork loin with homemade pork gravy
4. Vegetable Lasagna

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 Saturday, May 6, 2023**

Payable to: Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail to: Elisa Harting, 344 Parker Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216 716-838-3708

**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)**