



BRTA NEWSLETTER

WWW.BRTA.BIZ

President: Al Marabella

Recording Sec.: Dolores Scanlon

1st VP: Charles Peszynski

Corresponding Sec.: Elisa Harting

2nd VP: Tom Giambra

Membership Sec.: Linda Parada

Treasurer: Stephen Parada

At Large: Mike Marszalek, Ophelia Nicholas, Theresa Pope

Board Members: Carolyn Cardarella, Josephine Cross, Russell Gervasi, Clarann Josef, Floyd Kruschke, Ross Monteleone, Sue Nyitrai, Peter Riester

BUFFALO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

August, 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 4—Fall Luncheon at the Millennium —election of officers and introduction of new members. Information on page 6.

Sept. 18—Western Zone Annual meeting at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens. Information on www.brta.biz or www.wzretiredteachers.org

Sept. 21-Oct. 1—Tour of Spain. Call Al at 635-9530 or Russ at 839-5781 for information

Dec. 5—Holiday Luncheon at Sal-

President’s Report

Our Fall Luncheon is coming up soon. As well as welcoming new members to BRTA, this is our annual business meeting. We will also have our Board elections. Balloting is usually held two hours before the Luncheon. This year, a voice vote is all that is necessary as there is only one candidate for each position. The organization is looking for members to come forward to fill some committee seats and participate in BRTA mailings. If interested, contact Al Marabella at 635-9530.

The Western Zone of the NYSRTA is having its annual meeting on Wednesday, September 18th. The event is at Salvatore’s from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm. Interested parties can get more information and applications on www.wzretiredteachers.org or www.brta.biz.

Members should be aware of a current condition in hospitals. If you are going into the hospital as a patient you can be admitted in several ways. The first is a full admission to the hospital. This is the way most would expect to be admitted. But some are admitted for observation within the hospital. There is no difference in treatment of charges. But upon release, if rehab is needed, those admitted for observation will not be covered by insurance and would have to pay out of pocket for this service. Ask when going in hospital how one is being admitted. It counts later.

I’m sure by now those that still follow the saga of the Buffalo Board of Education know that his highness, I mean Commissioner “King” has issued a kill order for two Buffalo schools. I know Lafayette has a loyal following of alumni and faculty. I’m sure East High School also has those who hate to see it pass. I taught at Seneca and when the last superintendent “closed” it (rather renamed it and redefined it), it was like losing a part of my history. Students now will be directed to apply to BOCES for vocational training. Too bad Buffalo doesn’t offer Voc Ed! But they do! Emerson, Hutch, McKinley. Why not direct them there? Also, I was under the impression that students, in order to graduate high school, needed four years of English and so many years of History and some Math and some science. But BOCES doesn’t offer these. I wonder how state regulations are waived by King for this. I’m sure he has the power.

I was wondering if assigning the schools to BOCES had anything to do with Buffalo’s rejecting Donald Ogilvie’s reorganization plan. I can only guess. Those of us who have been in the schools know there are no politics involved in any educational decision. I’d like to hear if someone has insight into the matter.

There is still some room on the trip to London and Paris in the spring. If you’re thinking about it, don’t wait. Our unfilled seats are then offered to other groups and they fill quickly because of the rates we offer. Call me at 635-9530 for more information.

Hope to see you at the luncheon in September.

MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

If you need to renew your annual membership in BRTA, hopefully, you have mailed in the renewal form which was sent to you last month. This will ensure that no mailings, especially for the holiday activities, are missed.

If you have misplaced, or need another form, please contact Linda Parada at 875-

Benefits Available to
BRTA Members

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

Eyewear Discount

Eyewear Unlimited: 716-834-3511
Niagara Labmasters, Inc.
Niagara Falls, NY 716-297-9115
Gary Optical
Lewiston, NY 716-754-255
Boulevard Optical
Tonawanda, NY 716-694-4388

Tires and Service

Discounts at Dunn Tire

Dental Discounts

The North Park Dental Group
716-836-2242

Dental Plan Indurance

Dental Pay Direct 716-836-7013

Group Medical Insurance for those who do not receive the benefit from their school district—Call Pam Styn at Dental Pay Direct at 716-836-7013 or toll free at 1-800-683-3682

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

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

IN MEMORIAM

Martha Pierce	October, 2012
James Haley, Jr.	January, 2013
Marietta Flowers	February, 2013
Vito Lenoci	March, 2013
Ann Maria Barone	March, 2013
Rita Nowak	April, 2013
James Hall	April, 2013
Anthony Fasanello	April, 2013
Stephen Paskuly	May, 2013
Juanita DeBerry	May, 2013
Louise Hutt	May, 2013
James Laettner	May, 2013
Anna Tetewsky	May, 2013
Ray Ingalls	June, 2013
Patricia Fiorella	June, 2013
Paul Zsebehazy	June, 2013
Carol Kvetkosky	June, 2013
Dorothy Boyd	June, 2013
Christina Truell	July, 2013
William Owen Kerr	July, 2013

BRTA would like to acknowledge the passing of those teachers who

CONGRATULATIONS

to those teachers who celebrate anniversaries:

50 years: Roy and Deann Sheppard

65 years: John and Helen Knox

GOLF TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS

The annual Don Guerra Open Golf Tournament on Tuesday, June 11, 2013 at Terry Hill Golf Course in Batavia was deemed a success by Chairman Ross Monteleone and committee members Larry Veronica, Claude Imagna and Steve Parada.

A total of 77 golfers, both men and women, competed on a rain day but with high spirits, At the conclusion of the round, each foursome was presented with one BRTA golf umbrella, one dozen golf balls, one BRTA golf hat and one BRTA coffee mug as prizes divided among the four golfers. Many foursomes chose to present a prize to the low score among the four of them. Closest to the pin on a par three was also a determining factor.

All said they had a good time. A raffle to benefit the BRTA Scholarship fund was held with the top prize being two sets of two tickets to the PGA Golf Championship in Rochester, NY on August 8-9. The winners were Stan Nowak and Rich Majewski.

Hope to see more golfers next year!

The golf committee would also like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their sponsorship of this year's golf tournament:

Millenium Hotel

Buffalo Teachers Federation

Fuccillo Automotive Group

West Herr Automotive Group

Kenmore Knights of Columbus

NYSUT Retiree Council #44

Genworth (long term care insurance)—Steve Polizzi, agent

The Fitting Place (children's shoe store in Southgate Plaza)— Robert Parada, owner

Please patronize our sponsors. Help is needed in procuring more sponsors next year.

ANNOUNCEMENT

At our September 2013 Annual Meeting, our Western Zone members will again support Project Flight by donating money and new birth-teen books. Organizations serving needy children will receive these books. Please look for our table after you sign in. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Frequently Requested Numbers

Website: www.brta.biz

President: Al Marabella—635-9530

Membership: Linda Parada—875-3392

Luncheons: Ophelia Nicholas—633-1690

Travel: Russ Gervasi—839-5781

Newsletter: Elisa Harting—838-3708

Friendly Service:

WESTERN ZONE ANNUAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON:
A DAY OF INFORMATION AND SOCIALIZATION

All BRTA members are cordially invited to the Annual Meeting and Luncheon of Western Zone – NYSRTA which will be held on Wednesday, September 18 at Salvatore’s Italian Gardens. The day will begin with registration at 8:30 AM accompanied by coffee and pastries and will be followed by a presentation by Bill Armbruster, Associate Director of AARP in New York. Bill is a recognized expert on matters affecting seniors and will be providing an update on Medicare, Social Security and long-term care and he is always willing to answer questions during his presentation.

During the registration period and during the break between the general meeting and the luncheon, you will have an opportunity to visit the many exhibits that will be available, chat with the exhibitors and pick up information – and perhaps even a few “goodies” – to take home with you. As in the past, exhibitors will offer financial information and community service opportunities geared to the interests of retired educators. And then there is the luncheon which is always delicious at Salvatore’s!

Additional information can be found on the Western Zone website (www.wzretiredteachers.org) or on the Buffalo Retired Teachers website (www.brta.biz).

BRTA 2013 NOMINATION RESULTS

Seven nomination forms were received as of May 15, 2013. Except for the First Vice President, where a second nominee declined when contacted, each position received only one nominee. The following have accepted their nomination:

President: Al Marabella

1st Vice President: Thomas Giambra

2nd Vice President: Charles Peszynski

Recording Secretary: Dolores Scanlon

Corresponding Secretary: Elisa Harting

Treasurer: Steve Parada

Membership Secretary: Linda Parada

At Large: Mike Marszalek, Ophelia Nicholas, Theresa Pope

The election of the above nominees will be validated at the annual September Luncheon.

—Peter J. Reister, Election Chairman

Emergency Room Visits

You've had this nagging pain all week and it seems to improve, but late Friday night, it gets worse. You don't want to go to the emergency room because it takes forever and you may be sitting for hours.

What to do? Of course, you know you must go to the emergency room.

Here are some helpful suggestions to get you through.

In Advance:

Find out which hospitals have attending physicians on site 24 hours a day and if their staffs include subspecialists in anesthesia, emergency medicine and intensive care medicine.

Plan ahead with your doctor and ask which hospitals he/she suggests in an emergency, and learn how to reach your doctor at night or on the weekend.

Maintain a current list of your health conditions, important test results, prescriptions, and drug allergies on a CD-ROM, portable USB stick or in a small notebook. It can be difficult to locate your records if your doctor's office is closed.

At The Hospital:

During shift changes, insist that your status updates occur within earshot (not at a nurse's station) so you can be sure incoming doctors, and you, all have the same information.

Staff doctors and residents provide excellent care at night, but if you're worried that something is wrong or is being overlooked, you're entitled to speak to the physician in charge.

If your concerns are still not worked out, ask for the person's boss. Hospitals usually must address unresolved issues because of liability and patient safety.

Malpractice Attorney, Patrick Malone was a guest on the People's Pharmacy radio program. He spoke about ways to prevent medical errors. He wrote a book titled, The Life You Save –Nine Steps to Finding the Best Medical Care and Avoiding the Worst. The web site is www.lifeyousave.com

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY RETIRED TEACHERS!



Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Invites members & guests to attend
BRTA Fall Luncheon and Annual Meeting

To take place at

The Millennium Hotel of Buffalo
2040 Walden Avenue

Phone: 681-2400

Wednesday September 4, 2013

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

Luncheon: 12:15PM Choice of:

Grilled Filet of Sirloin (to medium) with onion grass & Béarnaise Sauce.

Chicken Cordon Bleu with Asiago Cheese, Prosciutto & Pesto

Broiled Haddock with Lemon Pepper Sauce

Meals are served with Salad, Rolls, Potato, Vegetable, Dessert & Coffee or Tea

Cost: \$23.00 for Members

\$28.00 for Non-Members

Payment: Due by Tuesday, August 27, 2013

Payable to: Check made out to Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail to: Ophelia Nicholas (633-1690)

9 Steinway Court

Williamsville, NY 14221

Note: No cash refunds will be given after the reservation deadline.

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

Fall Luncheon September 4, 2013

Cost \$23. Members \$28. Non-Members

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for me for the Autumn Luncheon.

My Check for \$_____ is enclosed My Choice for Meal is # _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest Name _____ Meal Choice # _____

Guest Name _____ Meal Choice # _____