



BRTA NEWSLETTER

www.brta.biz

brtamembership@yahoo.com

President: Charles Peszynski

Recording Sec.: Dolores Scanlon

1st VP: Thomas Giambra

Corresponding Sec.: Elisa Harting

2nd VP: JoAnn Meyer

Membership Sec.: Linda Parada

Treasurer: Stephen Parada

Immediate Past Pres: Al Marabella

At Large: Floyd Kruschke, Michael Marszalek,

Board Members: Carolyn Cardarella, Josephine Cross, Russell Gervasi, Clarann Josef, Cynthia Mehary, Sue Nyitrai, Theresa Pope, Peter Riester, Renate Yuhnke

Fall Edition

August, 2017

Upcoming Events

September 6, 2017—
Fall Luncheon at the
Millennium Hotel. Infor-
mation on page 6

**September 22-29,
2017**—Tuscany and the
Italian Riviera (sold out)

December 7, 2017—
Holiday Luncheon

December 6-14, 2017—
Rediscover Cuba

March, 2018—Canyon
Country

September 9-17, 2018—
Iceland: Land of Fire &
Ice

(Information about any
of the upcoming trips
may be found on the
website.)

President's Message

We have had a very unusual summer thus far. Last year was drier than normal and this summer we have had above average rainfall and just yesterday the area experienced something quite rare for this region – two tornadoes. Our friends, relatives and former colleagues in Hamburg and Holland were hit hard by these catastrophes so keep them in your thoughts and prayers and do whatever you can to help them recover from this disaster.

On a more positive note, don't forget that our next BRTA luncheon is coming up on Wednesday, September 6, 2017 at the Millennium Hotel. This is also our Annual Meeting and our bi-annual election meeting but, since none of the offices or at-large Board positions was contested, there will be no need to hold a formal election. However, we will introduce all of the officers and Board members – some old and some new – and report briefly on some of the work of the Association during the past year. It will also be a great time to celebrate the beginning of another year – or the first year – of retirement!

Since our next newsletter will not come out until late October or early November, this may be the last opportunity to remind you that the election of November 7, 2017 will be upon us very soon. Voters in New York State will have to decide by a simple Yes or No vote whether there should be a Constitutional Convention. Reasons why a "NO" vote is in the best interest of ALL citizens of New York State have been discussed in this newsletter before and I am sure you have received additional information from NYSRTA and NYSUT as well. We will also have additional handouts at the September luncheon. I urge you to exercise your civic duty and vote "NO" on the Constitutional Convention referendum and remind everyone you know to do the same.

Enjoy the rest of the summer – and keep dry!

—Charles Peszynski

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

Tires and Service

Discounts at Dunn Tire

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

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.

Faculty Rewards—Discount magazine subscriptions. Go to www.facultyrewards.com and use code 40336

BPO-Call Ambrose Price 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 or call your *Select Benefit Concierge (716) 202-3091.*

IN MEMORIAM

Vanessa Anderson

Lucy Butterbaugh

Elaine Coghlan

Sophie Dobosiewicz

James Eagan

Marri Anne Fedorchak

Micheline Ann Field

Raymond Greene

Betty Kulu

Joseph Manzella

Charles McAuliffie

Linda McSwain

Molly Milch

Mary Jane Myers

Kenneth Nagel

Janice Niziol

Sharon Partyka

Loretta Peszynski

Anthony Pugliese

Marvel Sammarco

Elaine Wright

BRTA would like to acknowledge the passing of those teachers 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).

Frequently Requested Numbers

Website: www.brta.biz Email: brtamembership@yahoo.com

President: Charles Peszynski—631-3717

Membership: Linda Parada—875-3392

Luncheons: Russell Gervasi—839-5781

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

Newsletter: Elisa Harting—838-3708

Friendly Service: Josephine Cross—636-3014

In Memory of Loretta Peszynski

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of our friend, colleague and Board member, Loretta Peszynski. Loretta was a woman who lived her life to the fullest. Her energy and her commitment to her family, friends, and community were evident in her involvement in the many organizations and committees.

Loretta had a successful and rewarding career at Bennett High School. She was a teacher who worked with and inspired her students on all levels. She worked both and in and out of the classroom with them and served as a model of enthusiasm and determination for them.

As well as her involvement with BRTA, Loretta served the retired teachers of our community in the Western Zone and NYS Retired Teachers' Association. She was also involved in many community organizations. She served with leadership and dedication, performing every task with the goal of bettering the community.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to know and work with Loretta will remember her enthusiasm. We extend our love and sympathy to Chuck and her family.

May she rest in peace.

BRTA ANNUAL MEMBERS—YOUR MEMBERSHIP IS UP FOR RENEWAL

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 it, or need another form, please contact Linda Parada at 875-3392.

Golf Outing a Success

The BRTA Don Guerra Golf Outing on June 13, 2017, was a success with 55 golfers enjoying a great day of golf, food and friendship. Golfers enjoyed a steak dinner after golf, with door prizes issued. Chairman Steve Parada announced that a \$600 donation was made to the BRTA scholarship fund. Thanks to the golfers and workers who made the day so successful.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following couples who have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries:

Donald and Elaine Dean

Richard and Barbara Emer

Stephen and Clair Poliachik

Health News: Heart attack symptoms: Know what's a medical emergency**By Mayo Clinic Staff.**

In researching information for this article, I came away with one common recommendation: Do not ignore your feelings if you think you are having a heart attack, ***Call 911 and have an ambulance get you to the hospital.*** Do not drive yourself or have someone drive you. Also take a regular aspirin unless you cannot because of meds you are on.

Typical heart attack symptoms

Chest discomfort or pain. This discomfort or pain can feel like a tight ache, pressure, fullness or squeezing in your chest lasting more than a few minutes. This discomfort may come and go.

Upper body pain. Pain or discomfort may spread beyond your chest to your shoulders, arms, back, neck, teeth or jaw. You may have upper body pain with no chest discomfort.

Stomach pain. Pain may extend downward into your abdominal area and may feel like heartburn.

Shortness of breath. You may pant for breath or try to take in deep breaths. This often occurs before you develop chest discomfort, or you may not experience any chest discomfort.

Anxiety. You may feel a sense of doom or feel as if you're having a panic attack for no apparent reason.

Lightheadedness. In addition to chest pressure, you may feel dizzy or feel like you might pass out.

Sweating. You may suddenly break into a sweat with cold, clammy skin.

Nausea and vomiting. You may feel sick to your stomach or vomit.

Heart palpitations. You may feel as if your heart is skipping beats, or you may just be very aware that your heart is beating.

Get help immediately

Heart attack symptoms can vary widely. For instance, you may have only minor chest discomfort while someone else has excruciating pain.

Women may have different symptoms

Women may have all, none, many or a few of the typical heart attack symptoms. While some type of pain, pressure or discomfort in the chest is still a common symptom of a heart attack in women, many women have heart attack symptoms without chest pain, such as:

Pain in the neck, back, shoulders or jaw

Shortness of breath

Abdominal pain or "heartburn"

Pain in one or both arms

Nausea or vomiting

Dizziness or fainting

Unusual or unexplained fatigue, possibly for days

Additional information for older adults and people with diabetes

Older adults and people with diabetes may have no or very mild symptoms of a heart attack, so it's especially important not to dismiss heart attack symptoms in people with diabetes and older adults even if they don't seem serious.

—Jo Ann Meyer

UNCONTESTED ELECTION

As of the nomination deadline of July 15, 2017, the following nominees for 2017-2019 Officers accepted and were uncontested.

As a result, an election at the September luncheon will not be necessary. Attending BRTA members will be asked to ratify the following nominees as the 2017-2019 Officers:

President: Charles Peszynki

1st Vice President: Thomas Giambra

2nd Vice President: Jo Ann Meyer

Treasurer: Floyd Kruschke

Recording Secretary: Dolores Scanlon

Corresponding Secretary: Elisa Harting

Membership Secretary: Linda Parada

At-Large Representatives (3): Russell Gervasi, Stephen Parada, Theresa Pope

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Riester, Election Chairman

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

It is with great pleasure that the Scholarship Committee announces the winners of the three \$1500 2017 scholarships. They are:

Daneva Moncrieffe, a senior at CitY Honors, is a part of the International Baccalaureate Program and has received the Clarkson Leadership Award and Regents program with honor in math and science. Davena's goal is to become a physician, specializing in surgery. Using this career goal, she hopes to give back to her community.

Taha Emad Faek is a senior at the International Prep School at Grover. His goal is to become a teacher and help educate the next generation to ensure their future. He stressed that his native country, Iraq, was facing war with a weak educational system. But his teachers never lost hope and were role models. Active in sports and community organizations, as well as being a member of the National Honor Society, he maintains a High Honor Roll status at School.

Than Than Tway, a senior at Hutchinson Central Technical High School, will receive the Josephine Slacer Award. Her family has escaped Burma and had worked toward becoming naturalized citizens. She has distinguished herself at school and the community through the JROTC program, volunteering over 300 hours. She has perfect attendance. She has demonstrated leadership through the JROTC program, Mayor's Summer Youth Program and the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.

—Clarann Josef, Chairperson and the Scholarship Committee

Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Cordially Invites Members & Guests to attend its

BRTA Fall Luncheon

To be held at

The Millennium Hotel

2040 Walden Avenue
Cheektowaga, NY 14225
716-681-2400

Wednesday, September 6, 2017

Social Hour: 11:15 AM Complimentary Fruit Punch & Cash Bar
Luncheon: 12:15 PM Choice of:
Sirloin Steak over onion grass
Herb Crusted Salmon Filet w/horseradish sauce
Chicken Marsala w/fettuccine noodles
Vegetarian Pasta
Luncheon includes Salad, Vegetable, Dessert and Beverage

Cost: \$27.00 for Members - \$32.00 for Non-member Guests
(BRTA subsidizes cost for members)

Payment: **Due by Monday, August 28, 2017**

Payable to: Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail to: Russell Gervasi (839-5781)
212 Burroughs Drive
Snyder, NY 14226-3905

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) _____

New Retiree: Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ BRTA Member: Yes ___ No ___

Meal Choice (Number) _____

New Retiree: Yes ___ No ___

Name _____ BRTA Member: Yes ___ No ___

Meal Choice (Number) _____

New Retiree: Yes ___ No ___

Total Amount enclosed \$ _____