



The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut, Inc.



Pat McDonnell, Editor

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2010

From Michael's Desk... To yours...



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PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

◆
ARTC Spring Luncheon
@ The Aqua Turf
May 18, 2010 @ 8:45 am

ARTC Fall Luncheon
October 19, 2010
@ 8:45am

ARTC's mission is to continue to maintain a high level of service for our members, as well as bring you new programs to

Lobby Day was April 14, 2010. It may prove to have been our most important Lobby Day since we secured our pensions! Our health care program with Connecticut is in grave danger. It is terribly underfunded and could go under within two or three years. We needed your presence at the State Capitol to tell your legislators to properly fund the health insurance plan since lawmakers are influenced by the numbers of people who take the time to get involved. We trust our legislators will do the right thing!

Communication and membership are the lifeblood of ARTC. Our membership is close to 11,000 members, but we reach only 2,600 members through e-mail. When a breaking event occurs that affects you, we need to contact you quickly. The fastest way to reach all our members is through email. Please send your e-mail address to Wayne Woodtke, our Executive Director at wpm@artct.org, and you will be sure to receive important communications quickly.

Our retired teachers devote many hours to volunteer work. The public needs to know that we are doing more than just sitting back and receiving our pensions; that we are an involved group of people that benefit our communities. I would like you to share your experiences in volunteering. ARTC also has a number of suggestions for volunteer programs. Would you like to be a docent at a museum, tutor, work with Junior Achievement, or work for the American Cancer Society? These are just a few of the opportunities that are available to you. So visit our webpage: www.artct.org, and see all the possibilities needing your help.

Please join us and AARP:NRTA for "Create the Good." April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week. Go to www.CreateTheGood.org for inspiration.

Whatever you choose to do or are currently doing, feel free to share your stories with us. You can email them to me at mdnorman@cox.net, and our communication specialist and I will use them to spread to the various media outlets throughout the state.

AARP:NRTA is asking us to support their national healthcare proposals:

- Protect Medicare
- Close the donut hole
- Reduce age rating
- Remove pre-existing conditions
- End health insurance companies' abuses

Finally, let me welcome our newest affiliate Naugatuck Retired Teachers' Association with Dottie Daniels as President.. This gives us a total of 15 affiliates. Also, please welcome our newest consultants, Diane Alverio & Associates. They are communications and media specialists and have already placed our Legislative co-chairs, Sandra Bove and Cathy D'Agostino, into the media spotlight! Both ladies appeared on NBC 30's "CT Newsmakers", with host Tom Monahan, on Sunday, March 14th, discussing our Health Insurance Premium Account issues. They did a great job!

In closing, I hope to see all of you at our Spring Luncheon at the Aqua Turf Club on Tuesday, May 18, 2010. We will be holding elections of ARTC Officers and Committee chairs, so come have your voice heard!

Sincerely,
 Michael D. Norman, ARTC President
 (860) 508-2742
mdnorman@cox.net

(Michael may be reached anytime Sunday through Thursday, on Friday up until one hour before sunset, and on Saturday one hour after sunset.)

Your Membership Has Benefits!

Your membership with ARTC gives you access to many member only benefits. Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) helps to make the following benefits available to ARTC members:

- First Diagnosis Cancer Policy
- Medical Air Services Association (MASA)
- Dental Insurance
- Vision Plan
- Astrum Hearing Solutions
- Government Employee Travel Opportunities
- Vacations-to-Go Cruises
- La Quinta Inn & Suites Discount
- Rental Car Discounts (Budget, Avis, & Hertz)
- Dell Computer Discounts
- Apple Computer Discounts
- Identity Theft Solutions
- 1-800-FLOWERS Discounts
- Barnes & Noble Online Discounts
- AMBA TravelPERX Travel Deals

Please direct ALL questions to AMBA at 800-258-7041!

Benefit speakers are also available for your local meetings! To request a speaker, please contact ARTC Executive Director, Wayne P. Woodtke, at 866-343-2782, who will be happy to make arrangements with AMBA.



Rick Billeaud, our AMBA Regional VP.

Membership Committee - Bonnie Reimann & Roz Schoonmaker, Co-Chairs



The ARTC Membership Committee, on behalf of the ARTC Board of Directors, wants to thank everyone who donated to our association over the last few months. We raised over \$27,400 to aid us in our important legislative push this year to reverse a decision made by Connecticut Legislators. They voted to cease the state's contribution of over \$61 million to our Health Insurance Premium Account (H.I.P.A.) fund over the next 2 years! This will leave our fund dangerously low!

2009 - 2010 has been an ambitious year thus far with a total membership goal of 11,000! As of March 31st we stand at 10,422 members. Our hope is to bring in the remaining 578 members through the great work of AMBA, our "member benefits" administrators –AND– with YOUR HELP!

We must continue to increase ARTC membership one member at a time! Our voice is heard "all the louder" as our numbers grow!!!

Finally, please come to our spring luncheon at the Aqua Turf in Southington on Tuesday, May 18th. *Make new friends and renew old acquaintances! Hope to see you there! A Luncheon Registration form can be found on page 7.*

ARTC-PAC Report - Rick Cassar, Chair



Another threat has arisen against which we need to protect ourselves. The CT State Legislature has not made its contribution to the Health Insurance Premium Account (HIPA) this year, nor are they planning to contribute next year. This loss of nearly \$61,000,000, in addition to lost revenue in the fund due to teacher layoffs and lower salaries, threatens the solvency of the fund.

Please contact your state representative and senator to let them know that you and others you've taught with are not pleased that the state has failed to live up to its commitment.

The recent decision by the U. S. Supreme Court allowing massive corporate contributions to political campaigns will likely make it more costly for a PAC to be heard. Currently the state legislature is struggling to determine what this decision means to the election laws they established only three years ago. One thing is certain: the necessity to be alert to changes that will affect our pensions, our insurance and what we have worked for and fought for over the decades is upon us.

ARTC-PAC is self-sustaining. Your contributions are our lifeline, so please send what you are able to:

"ARTC-PAC"
P.O. Box 718
Manchester, CT
06042-0178

Thank you!

Scholarship Committee - Terry Barton & Judy Morganroth, Co-Chairs

In the hopes of attracting a broader pool of qualified applicants, the Glenn Moon Scholarship Committee has drastically revised the application form. One indication that this change may be successful was the receipt of several applications **two months** before the submission deadline. Despite the weak economy, we will be able to offer four scholarships, one of \$2,000 a year for four years and three one-year scholarships of \$1,500 each. We are able to assist talented future teachers because of the financial support which many of you provide for our scholarship fund. All gifts are welcome, regardless of size. Checks may be mailed to our treasurer:

Dick Brigham
3 River Town Road
Windsor, CT 06095

We thank you sincerely!

Legislative Report— Sandra Bove & Cathy D'Agostino, Co-Chairs



The committee is working hard to keep our Health Insurance Premium Account (HIPA) solvent. As you know in this biennium budget, the State is not making its promised contribution amounting to approximately 61 million dollars. The legislative chairs, Cathy and Sandra, met with Tom Monahan of NBC News Connecticut. Diane Alverio, our newly appointed communication consultant, set up the interview to discuss retired teachers' concerns about our dwindling health fund. This interview was an opportunity to get our message to Connecticut legislators. As luck would have it, Dan Malloy was interviewed for the same program. Before going on the set, he asked us many pointed questions about the state of our health insurance. This was a good beginning to get our message out to the public.

The focus of Lobby Day this year was to advocate for the solvency of our Health Insurance Fund. The committee worked with our Lobbyist, Randy Collins, to develop talking points. ARTC members arranged to meet with their legislative representatives and enjoyed a light lunch with them at the State Capitol. Ellen Long and Pat McDonnell are to be thanked for their hard work in arranging this event.

To gather information about the Health Insurance Fund, Randy Collins arranged a meeting with Darlene Perez and Lee Ann Appleton of the Teachers Retirement Board. The Legislative Co-chairs, along with Rick Follman, spent more than an hour sharing our concerns. We came away from the meeting realizing that we need to be our own advocates to insure the solvency of the Fund.

Equally important as our Health Fund issue is advocating for the repeal of the WEP/GPO. Our committee sent two representatives, Frank Cooper and Rhoda Dix, to the Social Security Summit held in Washington DC. They listened to many representatives from Congress and other organizations (NARFE, AFSCME) that support repeal. There are more than 300 co-sponsors of the repeal bills, 314 in the House and 30 in the Senate. Unfortunately, because Congress does not know how these bills can be funded and because some members want Social Security Reform and not stand-alone bills, Frank and Rhoda do not think the bills will be voted upon this session.

The Legislative committee urges you to continue contacting your State and Federal Representatives regarding our issues. We cannot achieve our goals unless they hear from many voices.

Insurance Report— Rick / Louise Follman, Co-Chairs

Our Move to CVS/Caremark...

CVS/Caremark is our new Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) for the Connecticut Teachers Retirement Board (TRB). Those retired teachers who have Medicare and choose the Supplement "B" plan and drug program from the TRB have received a new Caremark card(s) and booklet in the mail. Caremark began coverage of our PBM on February 1, 2010. At this time the new deductible of \$250 began for the year. This deductible runs 11 months - until January 1, 2011.

Until you reach the \$250 deductible your prescription cost may be higher. However, after that the cost should be close to those of Medco. We are now into the third month of coverage. If you are having a problem with Caremark, please follow these steps;

- 1.) **Contact Caremark at 1-800-318-2572 to attempt to resolve the problem.**
- 2.) **Either call the TRB at 1-800-504-1102 –or- email to trb.webmaster@ct.gov –or- FAX to 1-860-241-9295.**

If you cannot resolve your problem please contact Wayne Woodtke, ARTC Executive Director, at 1-866-343-2782 –or- email him at wpw@artct.org, -or- contact Rick/Louise Follman in writing at: 20 Algonquin Road, Norwalk, CT 06851.

In all cases, please be clear and concise in stating the problem.

Special Note:

Some members have stated they not only priced their new script by contacting Caremark, but in addition priced it through their local CVS store and received a better price! No, we don't have a reason why...but we will continue to monitor the situation. Please remember to keep us informed so that all ARTC members may benefit!

Affiliate Updates...**NAUGATUCK**

NAUGATUCK RETIRED TEACHERS met in March for lunch at Jesse Camille's Restaurant. We remembered one of our charter members, Frank Johnson, who died in January. Frank, a WWII veteran who served in Normandy, was a charter member of our retired group and was a mentor to many teachers, both professionally and personally. Frank participated in our 1st Memorial Service and will be missed by his many friends. We voted to take part in several community service projects, including the American Legion Boys State/Girls State and will sponsor two students in this program in memory of Frank Johnson. We will also sponsor the Holiday Food Bank and buy turkeys for Christmas dinner at St. Michael's Church in Naugatuck.

Another of our members, Carl Trombley, has published a book of poetry entitled "Animals, Questions and One Big Tale."

The Club, a local fitness organization, is offering discounted membership to our retired teachers group.

There are many Naugatuck teachers retiring this June after the Board of Education offered a retirement incentive. We have contacted them and look forward to many joining our ranks next year.

Our next meeting will be a picnic in June when election of officers will be held.

Dottie Daniels, *President*
dot2hd@comcast.net (203)729-5664

FAIRFIELD

The Retired Educators of Fairfield have resumed our monthly informal breakfast at the Circle Diner in Fairfield and it has been well received. It is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with our colleagues.

Proving successful last year, we are again combining our Annual Meeting with our Spring Luncheon to be held on Wednesday, April 28th at Cinzano's Restaurant in Fairfield. Our featured speaker will be the President of T&A Tours, Tim Haywood, a noted expert on day trips. Trips planned this spring include: Saturday, June 5th, lunch at the Culinary Institute of America and a tour of the Vanderbilt Estate; Saturday, July 10th, we will be visiting Ellis Island or the Statue of Liberty, with lunch at Sal Anthony's in Little Italy. Finally, our Par Three Golf Tournament will be held in September.

In our continued effort to support the many activities of A.R.T.C. we encourage our members to attend the A.R.T.C. Spring Luncheon on May 18th at the Aqua Turf.

Again this year the REF will award two \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who are pursuing a career in education. We're very proud of our past recipients!

Wishing you a restful and enjoyable summer.

Richard DeZeno, *Co-President*
richdez@aol.com (203) 261-0872
Lou Cubelli, *Co-President* (203) 261-2921

NEW LONDON

Thanks to Wayne Woodtke's connections, retired teachers were invited to attend the "Good Morning America" show in NYC. Four of our local members braved the blizzard on February 26 to take advantage of this offer. We had a delightful time, waited in the "green room", got to sit on the interviewing couch, met and had pictures taken with Robin Roberts who was a delight in herself and generally were treated like royalty.

Our next local meeting will be on Tuesday, April 20th at the Port and Starboard Restaurant in New London. A spokesperson from the Guide Dog Society will be our featured speaker and our Spring outreach will be donations to our local Humane Society. New members or guests would be very welcome at that meeting. For further information, contact Trenda Caron at 860-848-3219.

Trenda Caron, *President*
cctrenda@aol.com (860) 848-3219

MANCHESTER

Greetings One and All...The seemingly endless New England Winter will now thaw to make room for long-awaited spring. We have much for which to be thankful.

The first Spring meeting will be on April 13, 2010. This will be a buffet luncheon back at Manchester Country Club. Teaching us to treat the earth kindly and guiding us to create an early garden will be the goal of Maureen Haseley-Jones, "The English Lady" and her assistant. Their topic is entitled, "Healing Our Planet, One Garden at a Time."

Save May 11th to meet, greet, and welcome the newly retired teachers. Wilda Wyse, retired psychologist from Manchester High

School, will once again share her melodious music from the strings of her harp.

Please remember to record your volunteer hours for Sue McInerney, our Civic chairperson. Contact Marlane McKenzie, corresponding secretary, if you know of anyone needing a get-well or bereavement card @ 860-643-1696. Thank you to Barbara Bossidy for our newsletters and flyers and Rhoda Senteio for the publicity of our events. Also, take a look at the scrapbooks which Ginny Rogala, Historian, brings to each meeting. There are always new additions.

We'd also like to recognize the Olympian among us - Joan Youngs. Joan has won several awards: a bronze medal for her basketball team and three ribbons - discus, javelin, and bowling. Competitions were held in Palo Alto, CA this past summer. Congratulations, Joan!

See you May 11, 2010...looking forward...

Lucy Sweeney, *President*
lasweeney@cox.net (860)649-0966

LITCHFIELD

The Fall Membership Meeting of the ARTLC took place at the Eastlawn Country Club in Torrington.

The guest speaker was Robert Michalak, District Director for 5th District Congressman Christopher Murphy. After a brief description of office procedures Mr. Michalak conducted a question and answer session for about an hour on the upcoming health care legislation. Many inquiries were made and every question was answered in great detail.

Major topics included: Social Security Fairness Act, excessive money spent on lobbying and advertising the public option proposal in health care, death panels, premium increments of 30% and more, status of the medical infrastructure, expense of end-of-life care and tort reform.

Mr. Michalak concluded by saying congressmen and senators love to spend too much time raising campaign money, diminishing time and energy on creating good legislation.

John T. Luning, *President*
jandjluning@snet.net (860) 435-0124



Affiliate Updates, cont...

WATERBURY

The latest meeting of the Waterbury Retired Teachers Association was held at the East Street Eatery in Wolcott, CT. The featured speaker was Edie Reynolds as co-owner of the John Bale Book Store. Ms. Reynolds presented information regarding Waterbury, Ct which is included in several of her books.

The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2010 at Junipers Restaurant in Middlebury, CT. At this meeting, scholarships will be presented to five graduating seniors from Waterbury Public Schools. The winners will present their award winning essays to the membership.

Each year, the WRTA presents four \$2000 and one \$500 scholarship to those graduating seniors who have chosen to pursue a career in teaching. A steering committee of WRTA members selects these students on recommendation from the high school staff, plus an essay related to their career choice.

On June 17, 2010, our fourteenth annual memorial service will be held at the church of STs Peter and Paul. This memorial service is held to recognize those retired members of the teaching profession who died during the previous school year. Family members, friends, colleagues and local officials are invited to the service. A memorial luncheon follows the service. Family of retired members of the WRTA are invited as our guests.

We continue to have good participation in our special interest groups. Members are invited to join us in our book club, dine around club, and opera club which are held on a monthly basis, as well as to our New York Theatre group.

We welcome in Waterbury, any retired teachers who presently live/worked in Waterbury and the surrounding towns. Join us for our regular meetings and special interest groups.

Michael Ieronimo, *President*
operall@comcast.net (860) 283-9677

WEST HARTFORD

Our affiliate had its annual holiday gathering on Dec. 8th at Whinstone Tavern, Stanley Golf Course, New Britain. The party was well attended with members traveling all the way from Florida and other distant states. Members had ample time for socialization, reminiscing, and talking about current educational issues. Guests were entertained by the choir from Conard High School. We all enjoyed a delicious buffet and were treated to some magical entertainment during dessert.

As part of our gathering, a silent auction was held to raise money for summer school scholarships for students in financial need. Thanks to the hard work of Anna-Mae and Lou Maglaty, the WHREA raised over \$500 which will be used to pay tuition for several summer school students.

Board members are hard at work helping to expand our services to teachers who are about to retire. We will be assisting the West Hartford Education Association and the West Hartford school district with retirement workshops. We are also mentoring a few prospective retirees by sharing our experiences and assisting them through the retirement process. We will be holding our annual membership meeting and luncheon on May 11th at the Wampanoag Country Club. Our Executive Board will update our members on legislative issues and also encourage all members to join ARTC. Guest speakers will be West Hartford's new superintendent, Karen List, and Connecticut's Teacher of the Year, Kristi Lutjen. It should be a great time for all who attend.

Ken Sopolak, *President*
kensopolak@comcast.net (860)658-1560

MIDDLESEX

We are fortunate to have such brilliant, dedicated people in the ARTC organization that fight for our rights and battle all the politics and bologna that surrounds our retirement. Few members of the local affiliates (like MCRTA) can conceive of the tremendous amount of work involved, meetings attended, rallies organized and red tape cut through that our representatives of the ARTC do. I just wanted you all to be aware of that. **(JOIN ARTC!)**

We're starting with a new event; a field trip to Groton to attend a Cabaret Dinner Theater production on April 13. Matinee, of course. (We don't drive at night.) Lobby Day follows right after that on April 14 and I hope to have a carpooling caravan to take us up there together. At the end of the month, on April 26th, we will meet for a Victorian Tea at member Judy Walsh's house. She and Dee Padwater have organized a lovely event to collect items for our chocolate themed basket that we will contribute to the ARTC spring auction. The baskets were a big success last year, so let's keep a good thing going!

May is the month for spring luncheons, as we have two on the schedule. May 10th is our local event held at the Dock and Dine restaurant in Old Saybrook. This year our speaker will be the very comical meteorologist and "Better

Connecticut" host, Scot Haney, who will, I am sure, have us splitting our sides with his amusing first hand stories. At this gathering, all of our members will be bringing classroom items that we put in backpacks for our Adopt-a-School project. A week later on May 18 is the ARTC luncheon.....at the Aqua Turf. Then a month later school's out! Oh yeah, who cares? We're out ALL the time. Man, am I glad I'm retired!!! Even though I get sick of that question from the working people"What do you DO all day?"

Margo Chase-Wells, *President*
margochasewells@gmail.com (860)345-3282

SOUTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

"THE ARTC HAS NOT TAKEN A POSITION ON THIS RECOMMENDATION AT THE PRESENT TIME"

Recognizing the economic crisis facing our state should be an incentive to repair that last major crisis confronting retired Connecticut teachers, our insurance coverage. We recently confronted our pension fund, resolved it and three years later our pension fund has grown to twelve billion, eight hundred million dollars, a five billion dollar cash infusion since our low point of seven billion, seven hundred million dollars.

Southern Fairfield County has now proposed 40%-40%-20% formula to pay for each local plan our retirees are tied to. The 40% contributed by our locals could be augmented with an infusion from the Health Insurance Premium Account. The creation of a local insurance account with funding from .25% of the 1.25% would help those who retire prior to age sixty-five. We have also proposed that 9,000 retirees and their spouses contribute to the present State Employees Retired Health Plan at a cost of \$2,500. Thirteen hundred dollars of that fund would be paid, as it is now, from the H.I.P.A. fund for those over sixty-five without Medicare.

The health costs are breaking our backs. The cost of our state employees and retirees health plans for 2010 is \$1,071,000,000. That is our taxes at work while no monies are provided for our plans for 2010!!! Again, SFCRTA has a better plan and it can work...

John Kane, *President*
kanejhn@sbcglobal.net (203) 348-2304

Affiliate Updates, cont....

HARTFORD COUNTY

The HCRTA will hold its Spring Luncheon on Wednesday April 28, 2010 at the Wethersfield Country Club from 10 A.M. to 1:30 P.M. The business meeting will be followed by a program of musical entertainment featuring a vocalist from an area college.

The highlight of the luncheon will be the presentation of two \$1,500.00 scholarships to two Hartford area students by our Scholarship Chairwoman, Roberta Parlin. These are much sought after scholarships as there are many applicants for them every year.

HCRTA is looking for members who might be interested in joining a committee or taking an office in the coming years. Anyone who is interested in attending our Executive Board meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, at 1:00pm, in West Hartford, just to listen and learn about our organization is cordially invited to attend. Please call Sandra Fitzgerald if you are interested.

As you receive this newsletter, Lobby Day has come and gone. HCRTA did provide a bus to take members to the LOB and back.

Hopefully, we had a large group of members attending.

Sandra Fitzgerald, *President*
sajunfi47@cox.net (860) 668-0547

BRIDGEPORT

I hope you all have had enough snow and cold weather. It is time to spread our wings and enjoy all the spring activities that GBRTA is sponsoring. In addition to our luncheon meetings in April and May, we have several other activities planned---a trip in April to the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY; a trip in June to see a Broadway Show; a trip in July to the WNBA Women's All-Star Game at Mohegan Sun Casino; our Memorial Service on May 20, and our annual picnic on June 17. The Memorial Service and the picnic are usually well attended. I am sure the trips will be, too.

The holiday luncheon in December was a great success. We collected boxes of food and cash donations for the Merton House. A raffle at the luncheon raised some money for the Scholarship Fund, but in this newsletter we are repeating our request for donations to the fund. The times are difficult for many, and we realize that some of you are among those who have difficulty making ends meet. But even a small donation from each of our thousand members would give us the funds we need. **COULD YOU MAKE A DONATION OF FIVE DOLLARS? IT WOULD HELP GREATLY.** Make the check payable to GBRTA and note "Scholarship Fund" on the memo line. Send

donations to Jean Abriola, 411 White Plains Rd., Trumbull, CT 06611. Thank you!

Our state organization (ARTC) also needs our support. Whether fighting to maintain our benefits or trying to repeal the GPO (Government Pension Offset) and WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision/social security offset), ARTC needs you to join their association. More information may be found at our website (GBRTA.org)

Best wishes for a happy and beautiful spring and summer.

Pasqualina "Pat" Yacovacci, *President*
patsy5366@aol.com (203) 371-7158

WINDHAM – TOLLAND

The WTRTA has been busy planning three upcoming activities for this spring and summer. WTRTA and ARTC Legislative Chairs Cathy D'Agostino and Sandra Bove recruited teachers to attend the April 14th Lobby Day in Hartford. With the medical insurance fund a major issue, we hope a number of retirees attended the Lobby Day activities this year.

Plans are under way for our Annual Spring Meeting and Luncheon to be held at Leventi's Restaurant in Columbia on May 25th. In addition to a brief business meeting and distribution of reports from officers and committee chairs, we will hold elections for WTRTA officers for 2010 - 2012. The nominating committee is working hard, "but not very successfully," to build a complete slate of candidates. These efforts will continue throughout the spring. Scholarship Committee Chair, Linda Picciarelli, will present our annual WTRTA scholarship to a deserving local high school senior who plans to pursue a career in education. The program will feature a presentation by an Exploritas (formerly known as ElderHostel) Ambassador about exciting travel/education opportunities. It should be a very interesting event.

John Adamo and Annette Murphy, our Social Committee Chairs, have organized another "Roads Scholars" trip. On June 23rd members will motor coach to the Gelston House for lunch before enjoying a matinee performance of "Annie Get Your Gun" at the nearby Goodspeed Opera House. This annual trip, lunch and a show, always gets rave reviews from our members.

Dan Coughlin, *President*
danielcoughlin@charter.net (860) 974-0383

NORTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Our Northern Fairfield County Retired Teachers Association will hold its spring luncheon on May 13, 2010 at Stony Hill Inn, in Bethel, CT.

There has been MUCH DISCUSSION from some of our members regarding why our Stirling Medigap premiums increased in cost. My simple answer to that question is because the State of Connecticut cut their share of funding for the next two years to our health insurance costs, thus raising our Stirling premiums \$16.00 per month for those on Medicare subsidy with Stirling Benefits.

Finally, at our luncheon we will honor a graduating high school with "the Mary Edgett Scholarship!" Mary is the oldest living retired Connecticut teacher (and ARTC member) and a very proud member of our group! Several of our members visit her on a regular basis and we always find her alert and engaging. Mary remembers all who visit her, remarkable - considering that she is 107 years young!!

Bob Scalzo, *President*
sre6603@sbcglobal.net (203) 744-5157

BRISTOL

The Bristol affiliate typically meets in September for a welcoming breakfast. Our guests include the newly retired teachers from the Bristol school system. We meet in the fall at a November luncheon and also in March. We use local venues to highlight what's new or attractive in the community. Recently, we had visits to the Bristol Historical Society and its exhibit on what has been produced by various manufacturing enterprises in Bristol since the 19th century. Also, we visited the newly renovated Public Library and its Bristol History Room exhibit, as well as a talk on the history of Lake Compounce. We also had a tour of the local water filtration plant.

Did you know the New England Carousel Museum has several exhibits of interest, besides the carousel exhibits?

In the spring at our annual meeting we will present two \$1,500 scholarships to graduating seniors going on to teaching careers, one from Bristol Central H.S. and one from Bristol Eastern H. S. At the presentation the recipients will speak about their motivation to become teachers and their career plans.

Bob Lewandoski, *President*
breezy_1@comcast.net (203) 879-9113

***Tuesday, May 18, 2010
Aqua Turf Club - South Rm.
Mulberry Street
Plantsville, CT***

Registration and Coffee.....	8:45	-	10:00
Teacup / Silent Auction.....	8:45	-	10:00
Business Meeting.....	10:00	-	12:00
Keynote Speaker.....	12:00	-	12:30
Social, Cash Bar.....	12:30	-	2:00
Luncheon.....	12:30	-	2:00

Our Featured Event!

**Darlene Perez, Administrator of the
Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Board,
will be our Keynote Speaker!**

In addition...

- ARTC will hold our 2nd fund raising auction!
- 8:45am - 10:00am ONLY!
- Tea Cup and Silent auctions with NO BIDDING from the floor.
- You will be able to purchase tickets at the luncheon.

Directions

I-84 EAST from Waterbury: Take Exit 27 to Rt. 691 E. Get off at Exit 3 and turn left onto Rt. 10 at the end of the ramp. Continue straight on Rt. 10 to the junction of the entrance ramp to I-84 on the left and Mulberry St. on the right (see Gene's Rest.). Turn right onto Mulberry St. and travel 1.5 Mi. Aqua Turf is on the right.

I-84 West from Hartford: Take Exit 29 (left exit). Exit ramp is long; at end of ramp go straight onto Mulberry St. Travel 1.5 mi. Aqua Turf is on the right.

I-91 or Merritt Parkway: (North of the Milford/Stratford bridge, it is the Wilbur Cross Parkway)... Take Rt. 691 West toward Waterbury. Take Exit 4, Southington Exit, and turn right at ramp. At foot of hill with McDonald's on the left, turn right onto South End Rd. Follow this, passing a park on your left, until you reach Mulberry St., on the left. Turn onto Mulberry St., go one quarter mi. to Aqua Turf on the left.



Please fill out a separate registration form for each person. Thank You!

Please make your check payable to:
"ARTC Program Fund"

Send by May 12, 2010, to:
ARTC Program Fund - Spring '10
68 Loomis Street
Manchester, CT 06042 - 1911

Please check choices:

Roasted NY Sirloin	\$ 32.00	\$ _____
Chicken Florentine	\$ 32.00	\$ _____
Baked Scrod	\$ 32.00	\$ _____

Tax & Tip Included.

PLEASE NOTE !! OUR PRICE HAS DROPPED!!

Name: _____ email: _____

Street: _____

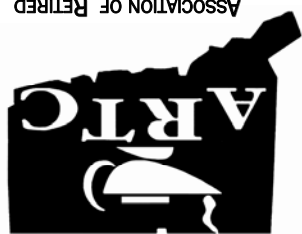
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph (_____) _____ - _____

Final date for cancellations and refunds is May 14, 2010!



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ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED
TEACHERS OF CONNECTICUT

THIS FORM NOT TO BE USED FOR ANNUAL RENEWALS - PLEASE USE FOR NEW MEMBERSHIP - OR - FOR DONATIONS ONLY!

Please Print

(Mr.) (Mrs.) (Miss) (Ms.) (Dr.) First Name MI Last Name

Street/P.O. Box _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 I retired in _____ Year from _____ School System
 _____ RTA Affiliate
 _____ City or County

E-Mail Address: _____

July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010
 ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.
 68 Loomis St., Manchester, CT 06042-1911

Check One:

Life \$500 New Transfer from Annual

Membership \$500 Associate \$20

Retired prior to 1987 \$10

Annual \$35 New ONLY

Donation \$ _____

Mailing this section (with check payable to ARTC) to the above address. Thank You!

Separate here and keep this card for your records.

From 7/1/09-6/30/10

is a member of this Association

OFFICIAL MEMBERSHIP CARD
 This is to certify that



ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS
 OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET! You can have your CT retired teacher friends join ARTC at any time! In addition, your friends & family may join ARTC as "Associate" Members! AND can take advantage of our many AMBA benefits! (Associate Members are those individuals who want to support our association. They cannot serve on ARTC Committees nor do they have a vote at our bi-annual meetings.) ARTC is always in need of your Donations which help to support our many legislative issues!