

Waterbury Retired Teachers Association

Fall 2010 Newsletter

Fall MEETING & New Member Breakfast

The Fall Luncheon Meeting of your WRTA will be held on Tuesday, September 14, at Junipers in Middlebury. Marcia Ludwig, of Bright Star Vision, a secular organization which is currently assisting with education-related projects in Ghana, will be our speaker. Please join us in welcoming our newest WRTA members. Watch for a special mailing with details.

November Meeting

The November luncheon meeting will be held on Thursday, November 18 at the Grand Oak Villa. A special mailing will provide details and information.

Annual Memorial Celebration

The WRTA's 15th Annual Memorial Celebration took place on 6-17-10 at SS Peter & Paul Church, where the memories of retired educators who passed away since the previous service were honored. The ceremony was attended by retired and active teachers, as well as friends and relatives of the deceased. A 16-voice choir, consisting of retired teachers and friends of the WRTA was directed by Allan DeFerrari. Msgr. James Coleman officiated and gave a homily. Mayor Michael Jarjura attended and spoke at the conclusion of the service. A brunch followed at The Hills Restaurant. Next Memorial: June 2011.

IN MEMORY Since the last newsletter we have learned of the passing of these retirees:

Richard Pauloz (5-28-09) Barbara Macduff (3-15-10) Christine Fossbender* (5-2-10) Minnie Mitchell (6-4-10) Carol Lasky* (6-27-10) McKinney, Thomas (7-10-10) Riollano, Hector*(7-12-10)

*WRTA Members

WRTA SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year, your Association presents an individual scholarship to one student in each of the city's high schools, in the amount of \$2,000 each. The awards are made to seniors who intend to pursue a career in education. Individual donations to the Scholarship Fund are always needed and gratefully welcomed. Your WRTA also administers the annual scholarship privately funded in memory of Claire Desmarais. The 2010 Awards were presented at our May 20 meeting. Recipients were Simone Charles (Crosby), Elizabeth Pantoni (Kennedy), Dominique Pace (Arts Magnet), who received the Sgt. Joseph M. Nolan Memorial Scholarship. The Claire Desmarais Memorial Scholarship, was awarded to Angie Rivera of Crosby.

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

The following retirees are residents of nursing homes:

Judith Divino (Abbott Terrace) Delores Tamburini (Abbott Terrace) Bernadette Hemlock (Cherry Brook)

Legislative Update

Efforts continue in Congress for the repeal of two laws which currently eliminate retired teachers' benefits or severely reduce them. Senator Joseph Lieberman has not yet signed on to these bills so you might consider asking him to join the 31 other senators who have. The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut (ARTC) has a very informative website for information on many topics of interest, e.g., member benefits, Social Security, and CT legislative contact links. The link is artct.org or phone ARTC at 1-866-343-2782 for membership information.

Please consider joining this very worthwhile retired teachers' organization.

WRTA Special Interest Groups

Book Club: This group, chaired by Bob Blake, ordinarily meets on the last Tuesday of the month at the Village at East Farms on Scott Road, Waterbury, at 10:30 AM. The next meeting, however, will be held on Tuesday, 21 September, this time only. Books currently on the reading list are, Steig Larssen's "The Girl With..." trilogy, Dennis Lehane's "The Given Day", and Allende's "A Woman of Fortune". Mr. Blake may be contacted at robert-ellen @att.net or by telephone at (860) 283-1656.

Diners' Club: Kathi Blair reports that this group meets monthly at selected restaurants in and out of Connecticut. Within the past few months, members have dined at The Silo in Farmington, Bear and Grill in Orange, and G.W. Tavern in Washington Depot. In August, they visited Leon's at Long Wharf in New Haven. For this coming Fall, they have planned a tour and luncheon at the New Britain Museum of American Art, whose café is operated by Jordan's of Cheshire. Tentative future plans include the new B Muse at the Mattatuck Museum in Waterbury. For further information, you may contact Kathi at (860)585-0719 or kathigio@earthlink.net.

Opera Club: Michael Ieronimo announces that the club usually meets monthly in the Community Room of the Village at East Farms off Scott Road in Waterbury on the third Thursday of the month. The next meeting, however, will take place on September 23. Bellini's La Sonnambula will be shown and discussed. For information contact Mr. Ieronimo: Opera11@comcast.net or (860)283-9677.

Sgt. Joseph M. Nolan Golf Tournament

This tournament is held annually in memory of Sgt. Nolan who lost his life in Iraq. He was the son of Joseph Nolan, one of our WRTA members. This year's tournament will take place on September 25. For further information and enrollment forms, please call (203)596-2838. One of your WRTA's scholarships awarded this year was completely funded by this tournament's proceeds, which also helps several other deserving causes.

Notice To "Snowbirds": As you may recall, many Spring Newsletters for 2008 were returned by the Postal Service marked "undeliverable-unable to forward" when we attempted to mail the newsletter to our members who reside in southern states during the winter. This happened despite the fact that you did, indeed, leave your forwarding address with the Postal Service. In fact, in some cases in which a husband and wife are both WRTA members, one spouse's newsletter was delivered, while the other's was returned to us. Please check with the post office before you leave for the winter to make sure your newsletter reaches you. The Spring 2010 Newsletter was delivered with much greater success, and we hope the problem can be eliminated entirely for the delivery of the Spring 2011 edition.

Annual Dues

The WRTA Membership Year coincides with the school year. The new membership year, 2010-2011, begins in September 2010. Included with this newsletter please find your renewal membership form. Please send your dues to Michael Capozzi at the address provided.

SAVE THESE DATES

September 14, 2010, November 18, 2010, March 16, 2011, May 19, 2011. Our 16th Memorial Service will be held in June 2011, on a date to be announced.