

Waterbury Retired Teachers Association

Fall 2011 Newsletter

Fall MEETING & New Member Luncheon

The Fall Luncheon Meeting of your WRTA will be held on Tuesday, September 13, at Grand Oak Villa in Waterbury. 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 Wednesday, November 16. A special mailing will provide details and information.

Annual Memorial Celebration

The WRTA's 16th Annual Memorial Celebration took place on 6-16-11 at SS Peter & Paul Church, where the memories of 15 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. The choir consisted of 19 retired teachers directed by organist Allan DeFerrari. Msgr. James Coleman officiated and gave a homily. He was assisted by Deacon Gaspard LeBlanc. Mayor Michael Jarjura attended and spoke at the conclusion of the service. Also in attendance were several members of the Board of Education. A brunch followed at The Hills Restaurant. .

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

Thyra Salonen* 11-2-09 David Coleman* 4-8-11 Bernadette Hemlock* 4-8-11 Jean O'Brien* 6-9-11
John McKenna* 5-25-11 Catherine Kimball 5-8-11 John DelCioppo 6-18-11 Francis Murphy 7-28-11
*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. The 2011 Awards were presented at our May 19 luncheon at Juniper's Restaurant. Recipients were Lorika Bytyqi (Crosby), Amanda Costante (Wilby), and Nicole Fontaine (Arts Magnet), who received the Sgt. Joseph M. Nolan Memorial Scholarship

NURSING HOME RESIDENTS

The following retirees are residents of nursing homes:
Judith Divino (Abbott Terrace) Delores Tamburini (Abbott Terrace) Shirley Sullivan (Beacon Brook)
Elaine Sullivan (Village At South Farm, Middletown)

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 and Senator Richard Blumenthal have not yet signed on to these bills so you might consider asking them to join the 31 other senators who have. You may also contact your own U.S Representative. 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, for example, **Voter Voice** which provides information on issues that could impact retired teachers. The link is www.artct.org or phone ARTC at 1-866-343-2782 for membership information. Please consider joining this very worthwhile organization.

WRTA Special Interest Groups

Book Club: This group, chaired by Bob Blake, regularly meets on the last Tuesday of the month at the Village at East Farms off Scott Road, Waterbury, at 10:30 AM.. On the upcoming agenda is “Fall of Giants” by Ken Follett. At the meeting the next selection will be chosen and some members may choose to go to lunch. 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 to name just a of few of the many fine restaurants visited. Future luncheons are planned for many restaurants of similar quality. 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 opera Francesca Da Rimini by Riccardo Zandonai will be shown and discussed. This performance was recorded live from the Metropolitan Opera and stars Placido Domingo and Renata Scotto. 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 October 19 at the Southington Country Club. For further information and enrollment forms, please call (203)596-2838 or email: nolan1789@sbcglobal.net One of your WRTA’s scholarships awarded this year was completely funded by this tournament’s proceeds, which also helps several other deserving causes.

Membership Renewal

The WRTA Membership Year coincides with the school year. The new membership year, 20011-2012, begins in September 2011. Included with this newsletter please find your renewal membership form. Please send your dues to Michael Capozzi at the address provided on your dues submission form.

SAVE THESE DATES

September 13, 2011, November 16, 2011, March 29, 2012, and May 22, 2012
Also in 2012 will be the 17th Memorial Service in June on a date to be announced in a separate mailing.