

**Bellmore-Merrick
Retired Teachers
Association**

HIGHLIGHTS

Volume 35

Issue 1

Fall 2018

Fall Meeting

Time: 1:00 PM
Date: October 3, 2018
Place: Brookside, Room 50

Topic:

**What is the State of
Education Today?**

Guest Speaker:

David McDonough
New York State Assemblyman

F.Y.I.

Sharon Wisla
President
516-781-7884
alsiw@aol.com

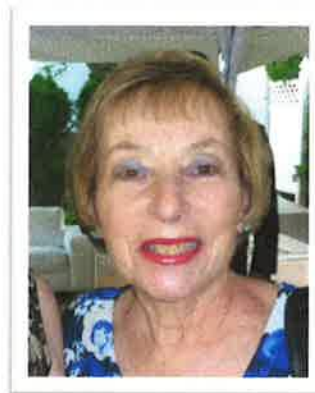
Jane Sanacora
Membership
Newsletter
516-610-7956
jsanaco@aol.com

Renee Jones
Medical and Insurance
Questions/Personnel
516-992-1013
rjones@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us

BMRTA

Celebrating 35 years

Established 1984



**From the Desk
of the President**

September, 2018

It's our 35th anniversary year as a retiree chapter! Our membership and VOTE/COPE drives are already underway. Please remember to return your membership form and dues, VOTE/COPE and breast cancer walk donations as soon as possible so we can keep our records as accurate and current as possible.

Our year begins with the BMUST Welcome Back Party to be held at The Third Rail in Bellmore on **Friday, September 21st**, where many of our fellow retirees can catch up with each other and in service teachers. What a great way to toast in the new school year.

BMRTA OFFICERS

AND

REPRESENTATIVES

2018-2019

President

Sharon Wisla

Vice-President

Sue Stamile

Treasurer

Pat Riew

Recording Secretary

Ellen Johanson

Membership Chair

Jane Sanacora

Representatives

Sal Bommarito

Mike Dolber

Jane Kline

Roberta Mohr

Sue Stamile

Dan Viafore

Ellen Weiss

Harvey Wiener

Sharon Wisla

President's Message continued

Please join us on **Wednesday, October 3rd** for our Fall meeting at Brookside at 1 PM. We are excited to have with us as our guest speaker New York State Assemblyman David McDonough from the 14th Assembly District. He will address the following topics: the state of education, what's happening with charter schools, testing, the opt out movement and additional issues of importance to retirees. Please remember to enter Brookside from the Main Entrance in the front due to the security system in place there.

This fall holds many exciting programs and activities for BMRTA. NYSUT will hold its Legislative Conference at the Woodbury Country Club on **Wednesday, October 17th**. The Breast Cancer Walk at Jones Beach will take place on **Sunday, October 21st**. All are welcome to attend. **Tuesday, November 6th** marks the date for the RC 17 breakfast and General Membership being held at the Farmingdale Library starting at 9:30 AM. The BMUST Holiday Party is scheduled for **Friday, December 7th** at The Third Rail in Bellmore.

I am looking forward to another terrific year together.

Sharon



BMUST Dinner/Dance

The 36th BMUST Dinner Dance was held on June 13th at the Woodbury Country Club. Kim Black, Sue Danis, Richard Gilley, Barbara Hirten, Mark Melillo, Lorraine Poppe, Teresa Simeone, Roseanne Walker, Ben Weiss, and Melissa Williams were honored as our new retirees after many years of service. Jane Sanacora was honored as the recipient of the *Patricia Christy Outstanding Retiree Award*.



Sue Stamile, Cheryl Loverro, Sharon Wisla



Pat Riew, Jane Sanacora



Chance Vought, Dan Viafore, Sharon Wisla Sal Bommarito, Ellen Johanson, Harvey Wiener



Kim Black and her husband Katie Zaikowski and Jane Kline



Mary Ellen Gasparec. Christine LaTorre, Joyce Chinsky, Roseanne Walker, Rita Calzetta



Mark Steinberg, Sue Danis, Amanda Myles-McAnally Mark Steinberg, Barbara Hirten, Carolyn Condenzio
Mark and Amanda with Richard Gilley



Mark and Carolyn with Teresa Simeone

Mark and Carolyn with Roseanne Walker

Mark and Carolyn with Melissa Williams



Heard Here and There

Welcome to our new BMUST secretary, Meg Hirsch. She has taken the place of Kim Black who retired last spring. We are looking forward to working with Meg.

BMRTA has some exciting news to share! We have set up a *Facebook* page for our group. It is a closed group, so that only members who have been approved to join the page can see what is on it, or post onto it. If you are on Facebook, just search for "Bellmore-Merrick Retired Teachers Association" and request to join the group. It can be a useful tool for us to communicate, keep you informed or just connect with each other.

Mike Dolber attended the AFL-CIO Endorsement Conference held in Manhattan. Here are some of their endorsements: US Senate—Kirsten Gillibrand, NY Governor—Andrew Cuomo, NY Lt. Governor—Kathy Hochul, Comptroller—Tom DiNapoli, Attorney General—Tish James, 1st CD—Perry Gershon, 3rd CD—Tom Suozzi.

Andrew Wilen, son of Rich Wilen, Merrick Ave. Science, and grandson of Sharon Fox, Kennedy English, married Stephanie DeLuca on June 1, 2018.

Mike Dolber is happy to announce his daughter's wedding. Jessica Dolber married TJ Blackburn at the Watermill in Smithtown on June 17, 2018. They recently moved into their new home in Concord, Massachusetts.

ELECTION DAY
Tuesday, Nov. 6, 2018
PLEASE VOTE!



Phone Bank Update

Our daytime army of retirees is about to kick off our fall election campaign to get candidates friendly to us into office. Here is the scheduled calendar of retiree phone banks.

We begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

- Tuesday, September 18
- Tuesday, September 25
- Tuesday, October 2
- Tuesday, October 9
- Tuesday, October 16
- Tuesday, October 23
- Tuesday, October 30
- **MONDAY**, November 5
 - There will be a raffle at each session
 - People who bring a new volunteer—someone who has not joined us before—will get a second raffle ticket.

Our calls will be made from the Nassau NYSUT Office, 1000 Woodbury Road, Suite 214, Woodbury from 10:30 am until 2 pm. But you can call from some other site if you are comfortable with the system. Contact Ken Ulric for more information

- You can join in-service people when that schedule is developed
- Ken can bring computers to you if you want to organize a group in your home. Or you can call on your own. Contact Ken for info.

We've done it before and we can do it again.

Let's make a difference.



Pat Christy's CLIPS and SNIPS

TV viewing raises risk for fatal blood clots. Those who watch TV for two-and-a-half to five hours a day are at 70% higher risk for pulmonary embolism (a blood clot from another part of the body that travels to the lungs) than people who watch TV for less than two-and-a-half hours. Those who watch more than five hours of TV daily have 250% higher risk. *Reason:* Prolonged inactivity increases the chance of developing an embolism.

Bottom Line Personal, November 15, 2016

Free Music and Books. Get your groove on with free music streaming services, such as **PANDORA.COM** and **SPOTIFY.COM**. You can access them online, or install their handy apps to take the tunes anywhere. **Gutenberg.org** has more than 46,000 free e-books available to download to Kindle, Android and Apple products. Amazon, Barnes & Noble and BookBub.com also offer free e-books. And don't forget your public library. Most offer books, magazines, audiobooks, e-books, video games, CDs and DVDs free (as long as you return them on time)

Kiplinger's Personal Finance, July, 2018

Find the best deal in Long Term Care. Annual premiums are lower when you're younger, although you'll pay them longer. But it becomes more difficult to qualify for coverage as you get older. You'll need a plan to tap your income and savings to pay for some care out-of-pocket. Scott Sadar, a certified financial planner in Portland, Oregon, says his clients identify which investments they plan to sell if they need money to pay for long-term care, and they often use products such as deferred-income annuities to provide additional income when they are likely to need care. Another option is to add a chronic-care rider to a permanent life insurance policy which boosts premiums by about 10% but lets you tap your death benefit early if you need long-term care.


Kiplinger's Personal Finance, October, 2015

Hate Waiting on Hold When You Call Customer Service? You probably already know that you can get transferred to a live person by pressing "0" or saying "representative." But what about those instances when that doesn't work?

Try talking to the voice recognition system in an angry tone. Yes, getting angry at the machine may get you transferred to a human faster!

Important: Once you do get transferred to a human, switch from being angry to being pleasant. The phone reps will be more likely to help you if you are nice to them.

Bottom Line Yearbook 2016



Small, clever ways to make travel easier: use pill containers to organize jewelry, an eyeglass case for chargers and cords, and a binder clip to protect the heads of razors. When booking flights and hotels online, always use private browsing--sites track visitors, and some will raise prices when you return because you have been here before. To keep pairs of earrings together, put one through each hole of a two hole button. Whenever you start a new SD card on a digital camera, take a selfie first — that way if you lose the camera and need to claim it at a lost-and-found, you can prove that it is yours.

Bottom Line Personal, August 15, 2018

How to Protect a Parent from Caregiver Abuse: consider corrective steps. If you determine that a caregiver is exerting undue control and your family cannot remedy the situation on its own . . . *Report your concerns to the Adult Protective Services in your Parent's state.* This agency can access the situation and might take steps to protect your parent. *Hire an attorney to petition for your guardianship or conservatorship (depending on the state) of your parent..* This is an option if your parent is no longer capable of looking after his own affairs. The bar association in your parent's home state may direct you to appropriate attorneys. This can be a lengthy and expensive process and usually is a last resort, but it's needed in some cases to stop an abusive caregiver.

Bottom Line Personal, August 15, 2018

Travel Spending Mistake: booking nonrefundable hotel rooms or rental cars more than a month in advance. The best deals on hotel rooms and rental cars often are not available until quite close to the travel date and there is a way to give yourself an opportunity to get the best deal without the risk of simply waiting.

What to do. Book *refundable* hotel rooms and rental car reservations approximately four to six weeks before your trip — often that's when the competitive prices begin to appear. Then, if you're sure of your travel plans, shop for lower *nonrefundable prices during* the week or so prior to your trip, when very attractive last-minute deals sometimes pop up. Keep checking nonrefundable prices right up to the final day and time when you can cancel the refundable reservation without penalty. If you find a better nonrefundable price, grab it and then cancel your refundable reservation..

Warning: This is not an effective strategy with airfare because refundable airline tickets are almost always more expensive than nonrefundable tickets. As a rule of thumb, airfares tend to be lowest a few weeks prior to departure, though this can vary.

Bottom Line Personal, September 1, 2018

SITES YOU'LL LIKE:

www.Healthimaging.org

www.HUIC.org/adam/category/injury

www.metromile.com

www.ROVER.COM

www.thezebra.com

Valuable information on treating common health conditions from the American Geriatric Society
What to do and what not to do in emergencies
Insurance based on the number of miles you drive
Affordable dog boarding, walking and sitting services
A car insurance comparison site



2018 NYSUT Retiree Long Island Regional Conference Elections Have Consequences

This year's program will focus on the 2018 elections and the candidates, both Republican and Democratic, from Long Island. Take this opportunity to hear about their positions on important issues.

Who: NYSUT Retiree Members in Long Island Retiree Councils 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23

When: Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Where: Woodbury Country Club, 884 Jericho Turnpike, Woodbury, NY 11797

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Time: 8:00 - 9:30 am | Registration and Display Tables |
| 8:30 - 10:00 am | Continental Breakfast, Garden Room |
| 9:30 am | Welcome: Joan Perrini, NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant Introductions: Rosemary Catanzariti, Dir. ED 52, Florence McCue, At - Large Dir. ED 51-53 |
| | Morning Session and Guest Speaker, Melinda Person, NYSUT Legislation |
| 10:15 am | Break |
| 10:30 am | Meet the New York State Legislative candidates |
| 1:00 pm | Lunch Speaker and introduction of Congressional candidates |
| 3:15 pm | Raffles and conclusion |

Program

NYSUT Political Director and Senior Assistant to the President: Melinda Person

NYSUT Director of Program and Constituency Services: Patrick Lyons

Candidates for state Senate and Assembly: NYSUT endorsed candidates running in the state Senate and Assembly in districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties have been invited to attend the morning session. They will be available to address NYSUT's legislative agenda and comment on their support of those issues.

Candidates in congressional districts on Long Island: NYSUT endorsed candidates in congressional districts in Nassau and Suffolk counties have been invited to attend the afternoon session. Election of candidates who support education, the social network of Social Security and affordable health care, including Medicare, is vital.

Conference Registration

Registration will be done **On-line only**. **No registration at the door**. Use the link below to register. You may pay the conference fee of \$46.00 by check or credit card. Details will be provided on the on-line registration form. If you have any problem with registration, contact your retiree chapter or council president or call NYSUT at 1-631-273-8822.

Please register as early as possible. Deadline October 9, 2018. Checks payable to NYSUT.
Mail to NYSUT Meetings and Facilities Dept. 800 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Latham, NY 12110
ATTN: RLI

Conference link to pay and Register is:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/wgq602>

Do you require any device or accommodation as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act? See information on the on-line registration form.

On-line registration will ask for the following information: name, address, phone #, district from which you retired, your email address and your preference for candidates in Nassau or Suffolk.

Entrée selection: Chicken Champagne, Herb Crusted Salmon, Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian)

Join fellow retirees at the 2018 NYSUT Regional Conference for Retiree Councils 17-23. This conference strives to present speakers who keep retirees informed on political, social, and general wellness issues. The main focus of this years conference is to educate our members on the importance of voting and so the title of our conference:

Elections Have Consequences



The conference fee of \$46 includes a continental breakfast and 3 course lunch.



The Spring Meeting

The spring meeting took place at Brookside on May 23. Elections were held and Sharon Wisla was reelected to the office of president. On behalf of the executive board, Sue Stamile presented Sharon Wisla with a beautiful gift in honor of her service as our president for 10 years.



Sharon Wisla and Sue Stamile



Barbara Baier, Carole Finkel,
Cheryl Loverro, Sue Risberg



Ginny Johnson, Kim Black



Sharon Wisla, Pat Christy, Mike Dolber

The Welcome New Retiree Party

The Welcome New Retiree was held on Wednesday, May 23th immediately following the BMRTA Spring Meeting. The party was held at The Savoy Tavern in Merrick where we were able to eat, drink, and enjoy the company.



Paul Cohen, Harvey Wiener, Sal Bommarito



Jane Kline, Melissa Williams, Joyce Chinsky



Sue Stamile, Jane Sanacora, Roberta Mohr



Jane Kline, Barbara Hirten



Roseanne Walker, Ellen Johanson



Richard Gilley



**PATRICIA CHRISTY OUTSTANDING RETIREE AWARD
JANE SANACORA**

Sharon Wisla's Speech for Jane Sanacora

This year's recipient of the Patricia Christy Outstanding Retiree Award is Jane Sanacora. She is well deserving of this honor.

This award is named for Pat Christy, the founder of the retired teachers association in Bellmore-Merrick, in 1984. As a matter of fact, BMRTA will be celebrating its 35th anniversary next year. Pat served as its first president for 15 years and is still with us at 91 ½ years young.

Jane began her career in Bellmore-Merrick in 1971 as a social studies teacher in Brookside. Her journey took her to Jerusalem Avenue JHS, Kennedy HS, Mephram and finally Calhoun in 1991.

It is easy to see why Jane and I hit it off. We both taught 9th grade social studies, had daughters the same age and were active in the Calhoun Staff Association.

At Calhoun, Jane's Union involvement unfolded. She was a building rep as well as editor of Local Do's. Her hard work and dedication earned special recognition with 2 awards from BMUST: the Outstanding Professional Award in 1997, and the Outstanding Union Service Award in 2004.

After retirement in 2004, Jane continued her Union connection in BMRTA as a rep, membership chair and editor of Highlights, our newsletter. Her computer skills still amaze me. Jane is so dedicated that she continued writing the newsletter in Hawaii, where she resided for several years. Jane was just elected membership chair at our May meeting as well as continuing as Highlights editor.

Jane enjoys our monthly breakfast with fellow Calhoun retirees at the Apollo Diner in East Meadow. She loves to crochet. You may even get to see her at Barnes and Noble in Carle Place, where she works part time. She enjoys spending time with her family.

On a personal note, Jane has been a dear friend for many years. I know I can count on her for any task.

As can be seen, Jane plays an important role in BMRTA. Her efforts are most appreciated. I am very proud to present the Outstanding Retiree Award to Jane Sanacora.

IN MEMORIAM

Louis Kothe passed away on April 9, 2018. He had a distinguished career teaching science at Brookside and Merrick Avenue until he retired in 2000. He lived in Islip, N.Y.

Ruth Rothfarb, who taught English at Mepham, passed away in May of 2018. She retired in 1982 and moved to Florida.

Eleanor Latham retired from teaching Business at Kennedy in 1986. She spent part of her retirement in Arizona before moving back to North Bellmore. She passed away on June 27, 2018.



Vito Ottomano started his career teaching English at Jerusalem Avenue in 1958. He ended his career as the Chairperson of English at Brookside in 1985. He also studied music and played professionally before and during his retirement. Vito is survived by his wife of 64 years Dolores, three children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Although he lived in Wantagh during his teaching career, he spent his retirement in Toms River, N.J. where he is buried.

Elayne Kaye passed away on July 4, 2018. She was an exceptional artist and art teacher at Merrick Avenue for thirty years until she retired in 1991. She was a 61 year resident of Merrick. Additionally, she served as a membership chairperson from BMRTA. She was 92.



Judy Sherbal, who served as a paraprofessional in Special Education at Brookside and Calhoun, passed away on Thursday, August 23rd. A memorial service was held on Sunday, August 26th. Condolences can be sent to her son: Barry Sherbal, 18 Peerless Dr., Oyster Bay, NY 11771.

Audrey Andrews, who was retired from the payroll department at the Central Business Office, passed away on August 9, 2018.

Alvin Lippmann passed away June 27, 2018. He was the husband of Carolyn Mazur Lippmann, a retired foreign language teacher. Condolence cards may be sent to Carolyn at 17-85 215 Street, Apt. 16D, Bayside, NY 11360

Barbara Marlborough, wife of Dick Marlborough, a retired business teacher from Mepham, passed away in June, 2018.

Robert Newman, brother of Maxine Geller, retired speech teacher from Calhoun High School, passed away in August, 2018. Condolences may be sent to 1884 Rockville Drive, Baldwin, NY 11510.



DATES TO REMEMBER

2018

| | | |
|--------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| September 21 | BMUST Welcome Back Party | Third Rail, Bellmore 2:30-5:00 PM |
| October 3 | Fall BMRTA Meeting | Brookside, Rm. 50 1:00 PM |
| October 17 | LIRDC Legislative Luncheon | Woodbury Country Club |
| October 21 | Breast Cancer Walk | Jones Beach |
| November 6 | RC 17 General Membership Meeting | Farmingdale Library 9:30 AM |
| December 7 | BMUST Holiday Party | Third Rail Bellmore 2:30-5:00 PM |

2019

| | | |
|---------|--|---|
| March 6 | Winter BMRTA Meeting | Brookside, Rm. 50 1 PM |
| May 14 | RC 17 General Membership Meeting | Farmingdale Library 9:30 AM |
| May 22 | BMRTA 35 th Anniversary Luncheon/Spring Meeting/Election of Officers and Reps | Elisa's Restaurant, North Bellmore 12 PM |
| May | Welcome New Retiree Party | Place TBA |
| June 19 | BMUST Dinner Dance | Woodbury Country Club 6-11 PM |

The BMUST Representative Assembly meetings for 2018-19: (at 5:30 PM)-Sept. 26, Oct. 17, Nov. 28, Dec. 19, Jan. 23, Feb. 27, Mar. 20, Apr. 10, May 15, June 25 (June meeting at 4 PM)

In Closing

If you have any suggestions for future programs at the BMRTA meetings, please let us know. If you need a ride to our meetings, we would be happy to arrange transportation. In future issues, we would like to include any news you would like to share. E-mail jsanaco@aol.com with the information and picture. And join us on Facebook.



Union-endorsed benefits designed for NYSUT members

Whether it's our endorsed homeowners or auto insurance plans, life or disability insurance, financial or legal service plans, or any of our travel, entertainment or shopping offerings, NYSUT members have the **Power of the Union** behind them when participating in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

There's no need to go it alone when Member Benefits has your back! Member Benefits acts as your advocate for any program you participate in, and we'll do our best to quickly resolve any issues or concerns you may have.

The following is just a sampling of the dozens of endorsed programs & services available to NYSUT members and their loved ones:

- Auto, Home & Life Insurance
- Vision & Dental Plans
- Legal & Financial Services
- Hotel & Vacation Discounts
- Member Shopping Program
- Car & Truck Rental Discounts
- Competitive Savings Rates
- Retail Store Discounts
- Sports & Concert Tickets
- Theme Park Discounts
- Car Buying Service
- Heating Oil & Propane Savings

We encourage you to take the time to explore the Member Benefits website and find out all we have to offer NYSUT members.

The Power of the Union

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs
& services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.