



The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut, Inc. **NEWSLETTER**

Spring Edition 2007

From the President's Desk

Dear Colleagues,

The ARTC has been very busy these past few months. Two very important committees have nearly completed their assignments to update two important needs.

Ellen Long is our chairperson whose committee has been working to revise and update the ARTC Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws as amended and adopted on October 20, 1998. This effort should be completed in time to be presented to the full ARTC membership this spring and voted on at the Aqua Turf Luncheon on May 22, 2007.

John Kane is our chairperson who has the responsibility to update and define affiliate boundaries for the entire state. This, too, shall be presented to the full membership in the spring. When the project is completed it should be easier for any retired teachers to decide which affiliate they wish to join. If they move to another part of the state they could possibly transfer their memberships.

Since the TRB (Teachers Retirement Board) is short of staff, Darlene Perez made a commitment to us to train two people from each affiliate to be knowledgeable regarding retirement issues. Anyone planning to retire would go to these individuals who would be able to answer their questions and provide them with advice. Issues requiring confidentiality would be handled by the TRB office.

Our political action activities are ongoing and intense. Since our state shows a 6.9 billion dollar shortfall in the pension fund, we have to constantly call, write and make known to our representatives their duty to meet their commitment to retired teachers.

Again, we ask you for your support. If you know someone who is a non-member of ARTC, ask them to join our winning team.

Sincerely,
Al Cipriani, President

**Questions about membership,
insurance, or legislative issues?**

Contact the **ARTC** office by phone at: **(203) 639-9628**
or toll free at: **(866) 343-ARTC**
by fax: **(203) 639-9628**

NEW Website: www.ctretiredteachers.org

✉ E-mail: info@ctretiredteachers.org

**The ARTC Office is now staffed Monday through Friday
from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**



Upcoming Events

**ARTC Lobby Day
Wed., April 25, 2007**

**@ 10:00 am
Legislative**

**Office Building,
Hartford, CT**

Buses are available

**ARTC
Spring Luncheon
Tues., May 22, 2007**

**@ 9:30 am
Aqua Turf**

Southington, CT

Registration Forms Enclosed



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New Legislative Leaders

There are three new interim chairs acting on behalf of ARTC. Introducing:

Rick Cassar, the present chair of PAC, lives in New Milford. He taught secondary English in Danbury and has been retired four years. His hobby is writing music on the computer to accompany an old Navy friend's writing of lyrics!

Cathy D'Agostino, the present co-chair of the Legislative committee, lives in Brooklyn, CT. Coincidentally, she's originally from Brooklyn, NY! Cathy taught high school English and Writing in North Branford. She has been retired three years. Her hobbies include gardening, (she says she's a real flower person- loves to get her hands in the dirt), swimming and reading for her book club.

Sandra Bove, the other co-chair of the Legislative committee, is from Dayville, part of the town of Killingly (the quiet corner she states). Sandra retired two and a half years ago. She was a Math teacher, then Instructional Consultant, and finally a Middle School Administrator. She likes photography as her hobby and enjoys keeping the family history current with her seven grandchildren who live nearby!

Randy Collins, ARTC's newest lobbyist, hails from West Hartford. He has been involved in work at the capitol since '98 when he worked for then Lieutenant Governor Jodi Rell! Since then he has been a lobbyist for YMCA, non-profit nursing homes, and other quality of education issues. Randy served as sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserve during Operation Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

Legislative Report from ARTC

New 5th district Congress member, Chris Murphy, was the special speaker at the February meeting. He was very supportive of our position on the Social Security windfall-offset legislation. He indicated that our CT representatives are fairly well represented on key Congressional committees. He stated that education is the second largest concern communicated to his office (after Iraq.) "Petitions work, but they have much more value if addressed to your own legislator." The congressman ended by commending our lobbyist and p.r. team for their excellent work.

Patrick McGloin (ARTC PAC pr) reported that 2,708 e-mails had been sent by our members to legislators and the governor concerning HB6141, an act concerned with active funding of the Teacher Retirement System. There was to be a special hearing on this bill on Friday, March 16, 2007. Cathy D'Agostino and Sandra Bove were to represent ARTC in Hartford. (Because of the snow and ice, this meeting was postponed.) A letter was sent to all members explaining the change in strategy from a Constitutional Amendment to a bonding plan.

Chair, Barbara Murphy, discussed Lobby Day which will be held on April 25, 2007. Members will meet in Room 1D at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford, listen to a short presentation and visit with their legislators. All those attending are urged to travel by bus (parking is at a premium), and make their appointments ahead of time. An information package will be mailed to those going to Lobby Day, to better prepare the members.



From ARTC PAC

Chair Rick Cassar expressed concerns about membership. He urged us to concentrate on raising funds and adding new members. Patrick McGloin suggested two methods have worked in the past; "a fund-raising event" or "a telephone campaign with callers using a script."

He also reported that some members have called the ARTC office stating that the incorrect legislator was listed for their district in the recent membership mailing. A list is being compiled at the office and corrections have been made. If you received the wrong legislator's email and phone #, please call the ARTC office between 10am and 2pm.

Building Membership...

As of Feb. 28, 2007, we have a total of 8,699 members. Our goal is 10,000 members by June 30, 2007. We can reach our goal with your help. We have sent a mailing to life members requesting that each one recruit a new member. We have also sent a mailing to all CT retired teachers inviting

**...one teacher
at a time.
We need
your help!**

them to join ARTC. We invite you to bring a newly retired or non-member retired teacher to our spring luncheon on May 22 at the Aqua Turf in Southington. Remember, our strength is in numbers. We must all make an effort to recruit new members, one at a time! See you at the Spring Luncheon on May 22, 2007!

Bonnie Reimann
Membership Chair



Bernie Siegel, MD
Keynote Speaker

Sponsors include:

- Citibank
- Mutual Security Credit Union
- Southwest Airlines
- Norwalk Community College
- Retirement Counseling Associates
- The Hour
- UBS Financial Services Inc.
- News Talk 1400 WSTC/1350 WNLK
- Tauck World Discovery

A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Future Teacher Scholarship Fund

Saturday, June 2, 2007

9:00am – 3:00pm

**Norwalk Community College
(East Campus)**

188 Richards Avenue, Norwalk, CT

Win a Trip for 2
from South West Airlines.
Win a One Week Vacation
at Aruba Beach Club
(airfare not included).

Is There Life After Teaching?

Expand your horizons and learn everything you need to know to enjoy a happy, meaningful and fulfilled retirement.

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Three convenient ways to register

1. Online: www.lifeafterteachingexpo.com
2. Email: dcynthia@lifeafterteachingexpo.com
3. Phone: Call Mrs. Jones at 203.846.0740

Space is limited. Register early. The first 50 people to register will receive a free gift.

News from Affiliated Groups

Manchester

Manchester Retired Teachers enjoyed a wonderful luncheon meeting at the new dining rooms at Manchester Community College on April 24, 2007. Hosted by the Culinary Arts Program for the sixth year, Manchester retirees again enjoyed the students' exceptional cuisine and service. Speaker for the event was one of our own members, Barbara Clark Austin, who presented "Edible Herbs in Your Own Backyard". Barbara was a teacher in the Manchester Schools Outdoor Education Program.

On May 15, 2007, the RTAM will host its annual New Retirees Luncheon at the Manchester Country Club. Each year all new Manchester retirees are invited to come and learn about our organization and ARTC and

enjoy socializing with former colleagues. Teachers announcing their retirement after the luncheon date are invited to our October luncheon.

In January, RTAM's Insurance committee completed a comparison of the benefits available to Manchester retired teachers on Medicare through Manchester's Anthem Group Retirees Plan F and the CT Teachers Retirement Board's Stirling Benefits Plan. The insurance information was mailed out to our members. Thanks to Pat Nylin and her committee for their efforts with this project.

Manchester will be represented in person at Lobby Day and by communications to legislators this spring as ARTC mounts its campaign to support bills favorable to retired teachers. Barbara Murphy represents us on

the ARTC Legislative committee and is head chairperson for Lobby Day.

It is with great sadness the RTAM acknowledges the untimely passing of Patricia Barry, Social co-chair for RTAM, in early January. Our organization was enhanced by Pat's keen intellect, wonderful sense of humor, and sensitivity toward others. She will be greatly missed.

Mary Ann Hayward

President

hayward88@cox.net
(860) 646-5675



News from Affiliated Groups (continued)

New London

The April meeting of the New London County Retired Teachers' Association was held at the Port 'N Starboard at Ocean Beach Park in New London. Having many concerns and issues, the NLCRTA was very fortunate to have Darlene Perez, Director of CT Teachers' Retirement Board, as the main speaker for the first meeting of 2007 to address and answer our questions. It is necessary that retired teachers know to whom they can turn when their concerns include financial security, health benefits/insurance, knowledge of legislative programs that are designed to protect the CT State Retirement Pension System, and other services.

June is the month that NLCRTA honors our scholarship winners at our luncheon. The scholarship committee under the co-chairs Annabelle Curran and Trenda Caron meets and reviews the applications. The winner, a high school senior who is planning to enter college and study for the teaching profession, receives a \$1,000 scholarship. Each month the retired teachers from a local school system come together and create a basket to be raffled at each meeting and the proceeds from the monthly raffles are used for the scholarship. Judy Daley heads that committee and we thank all who contribute to it.

Anna Alfiero, a former member of the Norwich Board of Education, will head the Political Update committee. She will track the views and comments of the local legislatures and invite someone to speak each month at our meetings. At that time, the members will be able to hear first hand the issues and the concerns that the legislature is facing and what we can do to help. If the legislature is in session, Anna has agreed to meet the representative and report to our group. This new segment will keep everyone up to date as to what is occurring in Hartford.

An invitation is extended to all retired teachers to come and join us at the luncheon/meeting/program. We will meet at Port 'N Starboard at Ocean Beach on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 and again on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. Registration begins at 11:00 AM, business meeting at 11:30 AM, lunch at 12:00 Noon and the speaker/program is at 1:00 pm. For more information, please contact Marie Twomey.

Marie Twomey
President
mariea2me@snet.net
(860) 442-2204



Hartford

The election of officers at our annual Spring meeting and luncheon will kick off a new year for Hartford County! The gathering will be held at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on Wednesday, April the 18th. The incoming officers are: President, Ellen Long, of Rocky Hill; First Vice-President Sandra Fitzgerald of Suffield; Second Vice-President Fran Callipari of Newington; Secretary, Karen Kennedy of Enfield; Treasurer, Robert DeBishop of Southington; and Financial Secretary, Robert Sulick of Wethersfield. They are all elected for a two-year term. The luncheon will be highlighted by the presentation of three \$1,500 scholarships to students who will be entering the teaching profession. Also attending the luncheon will be the parent(s) of each recipient. It's so great hearing from the winners why teaching will be their chosen profession!

For approximately ten years Joyce Kelly served faithfully as our Financial Secretary. Joyce died this past Fall after a lengthy illness. In her memory a plaque will be presented to her daughter and son.

After the business part of the meeting is concluded we will be entertained with a musical program. Back by popular demand is classical guitarist, Joe Donato with his partners Joe Giardina and Frank Shea on the trumpet.

Traditionally, Hartford County meets twice a year—Fall and Spring. Ongoing business is conducted throughout the year via the Executive Board. The Fall meeting is set aside for either political issues with speakers, presentations by Sterling and Sterling on insurance updates, or other issues deemed appropriate. In the Spring our programs are usually lighter and associated with the arts!

Ellen Long
Legislative Chair/President Elect
EllenWLong@aol.com
(860) 529-8738

Greater Bridgeport

On March 7, 2007, the kickoff drive for new members began with the mailing of over 1,000 letters and pamphlets to all retired teachers in the greater Bridgeport area. The committee used the most recent list provided by the State Teacher Retirement office and hope that we have reached out to all those retired educators who need to be active to protect their pension and health benefits.

We again will join in with the Southern Fairfield County Teachers Association on a

bus trip to the ARTC Lobby Day on April 25, 2007 in Hartford to push the agenda for the two bills, HB6141 and SB112. All members are urged to call, write and phone their representatives to vote in favor of these bills.

All of the end-of-year activities are being planned and executed by the committees responsible. We are looking forward to the picnic, memorial service and scholarship nights and welcoming all those new members into our organization. Have a great summer!

Michael C. Ward
President
Yankeeward@netzero.com
(860) 529-8738

Southern Fairfield

Our membership has grown again to an all-time high of over 1,760 members! We are most grateful to our members for their support.

The pension fund for retired teachers, insurance and cost-of-living adjustment have required our executive board's full attention. Specifically, we have introduced pension deficit reduction measures with our state treasurer, Denise Nappier, to strengthen the foundation and security of the pension. Likewise, we have encouraged legislation of the post '92 COLA benefit to move it from a non-guaranteed benefit to one that is guaranteed. Richard and Louise Follman, our insurance committee co-chairs, have pursued a plan doubling the state's contribution from \$110 to \$220 per month in our present insurance program. Their committee also is seeking a cost-of-living increase to offset future insurance cost increases.

Our local is seeking to strengthen our ARTC organization to make it possible to achieve our stated goals.

John Kane
President
kanejhn@aol.com
(203) 348-2304

Windham-Tolland

The Executive Committee has continued to meet working on two related initiatives. An ad hoc committee on recruitment-membership has spent many hours developing a brochure for use in recruiting recent retirees to membership in WTRTA and ARTC. We will be utilizing town coordinators to send out a letter and brochure to retirees from their town. The idea is to make our organization more intimate by personalizing communication within towns

News from Affiliated Groups (continued)

rather than statewide or county-wide. By doing this, we hope to increase membership and participation in ARTC activities.

The development of smaller units within the larger organization is a concept being explored at the statewide level. ARTC Board of Directors has recommended to many affiliates that they consider reorganizing into smaller units where possible. The target date for reorganization is 7-1-09 but any reorganization that takes place will be determined at the local level. It has been suggested that WTRTA look at the possibility of splitting into two affiliates—one for Windham County and one for Tolland County. To repeat—any decisions to make changes will be local decisions, and there will need to be considerable dialogue around the pros and cons of a decision to split WTRTA into two affiliates. I would welcome input from the membership either directly or through members of our executive committee.

Sandra Bove and Cathy D'Agostino have made an excellent start serving as acting co-chairs of the ARTC Legislative Committee. They are working hard with the new ARTC lobbyist, Randy Collins, and have devoted a great deal of time and effort to advocating for all of us at the state legislature. Michael Norman, Pres.-elect of ARTC, is expected to resign as Legislative Committee Chair in the near future, and Sandra and Cathy will become co-chairs officially after confirmation by the Board of Directors.

Lobby Day for ARTC is Wednesday, April 25, 2007 from 10:00 to 2:00 at the Legislative Office Building. I urge WTRTA members to attend this event and show solidarity for the cause—YOUR CAUSE!

WTRTA Spring Luncheon is Wednesday, May 30 at the Willimantic Country Club. There will be a business meeting and music by the Kramer Middle School Jazz Band followed by lunch.

A summer trip is set to occur during the last full week of July at the Goodspeed Opera House—40 tickets have been ordered so make your reservations early. There will be a mailing to individual members late Spring with details and reservation forms.

Tom Singleton

President

tomsmsw@sbcglobal.net
860-963-7229

Litchfield

We were saddened to learn of the death of Mary (Mollie) Kelly on November 8, 2006. Mollie taught at the elementary school in Lakeville during most of her career. She was an advocate for teachers, both as an active teacher and as a retiree. She served the CEA in many capacities, especially as a long time member of the County Council. In her retirement she was an active member of our group, most recently as the chair of our Social Welfare Committee. She visited the recipients of the Harriet Hartley Fund and scrupulously assessed their needs.

At the time of her death she resided at Geer Village in Canaan where her concern for her fellow residents was evidenced by her visits and overall caring attitude.

At our Fall Meeting held at the Cornucopia in Torrington, Michael Norman: president-elect, founder and chair of ART/PAC and Legislative chair spoke on Connecticut General Assembly: What Does It Mean to Connecticut Teachers?

He reviewed the various issues, which continue to be issues for us, and will be under discussion in the coming legislative session. It is important for all of us to keep abreast of developments and express our concerns to our legislators. Consult the website: ctretiredteachers.org to keep informed. Date of the next meeting to be announced.

John Luning

President

jandjluning@snet.net
(860) 435-0124

Northern Fairfield

NFCRTA Executive Committee met Feb. 27th!! The agenda centered around the upcoming legislative bills that affect retired teachers. We all stressed contacting our legislators to keep the pressure on them to vote in favor of \$2 Billion Bill, support increase in insurance subsidy from \$110 to \$220 with medical COLA attached to bill!! Also, a call went out for retirees to support insurance proposal for approximately 300 destitute teachers earning less than \$20,000 and not eligible for Medicare and Social Security!! Finally, there was much discussion about increasing our NFCRTA and ARTC membership!! A call went out to all members to recruit ONE NEW MEMBER to join our organizations!! Congressman Christopher Murphy has co-sponsored H.R. 82 SOCIAL SECURITY FAIRNESS ACT OF 2007 which would repeal the WEP and GPO if passed!

Next Executive Committee Meeting of NFCRTA is April 26th, 2007 and our Spring Luncheon is May 31st at Stoney Hill Inn.

Bob Scalzo

President

sre6603@sbcglobal.net
(203) 744-5157

Fairfield

As we look forward to spring, our thoughts once again are focused upon the efforts of the ARTC and the need to organize and rally for Legislative action for the retirees of Connecticut. The upcoming Lobby Day on April 25th, in Hartford, will be just one of our many avenues we will continue to pursue. Writing letters and e-mailing our Legislators have also been very successful in the past, and we are urged to continue these efforts. A bus will again be provided for those who plan to attend Lobby Day. This free service is in cooperation with the Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers Association and Southern Fairfield County. This is a unique opportunity for us to personally contact our representatives and provide them with information to gain support for our causes. There is definitely strength in numbers.

The Retired Educators of Fairfield are looking forward to our annual May 2nd luncheon at Cinzano's in Fairfield. We will also be convening on May 8th for our annual meeting.

On May 24th the active teachers will hold their annual banquet, which is a wonderful opportunity for our retirees to mingle with friends.

We continue to put our efforts together toward reaching our legislative goals these past years and should be proud of how far we have come. With our efforts the ARTC will continue to move forward and achieve their goals for all Connecticut retirees. We wish everyone a happy and healthy summer.

Amy DeZenko

President

richdez@aol.com
(203) 261-0872



News from Affiliated Groups (continued)

Waterbury

The Spring Luncheon Meeting of the Waterbury Retired Teachers Association was held on Tuesday, March 13, 2007 at the Watertown Country Club. Marie Galbraith, director of Arts and History at the Mattatuck Museum, was the guest speaker. Her presentation revolved around the history and culture of Waterbury, past and present.

On May 10, 2007, the annual scholarship luncheon will be held at the Grand Oak Villa. Four \$1000 scholarships and 1 \$500 scholarship will be presented to graduating senior, the four public high schools in Waterbury, who will be pursuing a career in teaching field. The scholarships will be

presented by individual teachers who have played a part in the education of those who are awarded the scholarships. The students will be invited to the luncheon as our guests and they will share their prize winning essays with the membership.

In June, a memorial service is planned to honor the memory of those teachers who have passed away during the last academic year. Each of the members will be remembered at the service to which are invited members of the immediate family of the deceased. Representatives of the deceased retired teachers are invited to a luncheon which will follow the service.

Our legislative committee is

emphasizing to our members the importance of supporting the legislation regarding the State Teachers and Pension Fund and the Social Security Fairness Act. Members have been encouraged to contact their local and state legislators to ask for their support of these worthy legislations.

Special interests groups which include Book Club, Dine-Around Club, Opera Club, Day Trippers, and New York Excursions are carrying out activities for the membership.

Michael R. Ieronimo

President

opera11@adelphia.net

(860) 283-9677

Insurance Committee – NOW is the time to be heard...

Support SB112, an act increasing health insurance subsidies paid to local boards of education on behalf of retired members of the Teacher's Retirement system! Committees of the ARTC have been successful in moving this bill from the Insurance Committee to the Appropriations Committee of the state legislature.

There are 18,000 retired teachers and spouses that must obtain their health insurance from local boards of education. The insurance costs have steadily risen over the past years. The increase in cost from 2000 to the present is about 75%. The impact on our retired teachers has been enormous, and in many cases, devastating.

There has **not** been an increase in the subsidy of \$110 per month from the Teacher Retirement Board (T.R.B.) since 1996. **NOW** is the time to be heard on Bill SB112. The change in language is as follows: "*in the amount of two hundred and twenty dollars....*" Thus, the change effectively doubles the present amount.

As of July 1, 2008, "*the amount of the subsidy for any member who is ineligible for Medicare shall increase by the percentage increase in the National Consumer Price Index for health care for the previous calendar year....*" This sets up an insurance COLA.

This bill is a major step forward in combatting rising insurance costs for our members without Medicare.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT BILL SB112:

- Visit www.ctretiredteachers.org/Action to obtain email, addresses of your legislators.

- Write, email and/or call your local representative and senator expressing your support for bill SB112.

- State your name and that you are a constituent.
- State the increase in cost of your insurance yearly or from the year 2000.
- Express the impact on your life, i.e. Insurance has become 1/4 of my retirement check, etc.
- State the number of years you have been involved in education.
- Confine your statements to ONE PAGE so as to be most effective.

Since the bill is now in the Appropriations Committee please communicate your thoughts and support to the chairpersons of this committee or any members you know.

APPROPRIATIONS

SENATORS HARP, (Chair), 10th District; HARTLEY, (Vice Chair), 15th; DUFF, 25th; GOMES, 23rd; HANDLEY, 4th; HARRIS, 5th; PRAGUE, 19th; SLOSSBURG, 14th.

SENATORS CAPPIELLO, (Ranking Member) 24th District; DEBICELLA, 21st; FREDMAN, 26th; MCKINNEY, 28th

REPRESENTATIVES MERRILL (Chair), 54th District; HEINRICH, (Vice Chair), 101st; HEWETT, (Vice Chair), 39th; BACKER, 121st; CANDELARIA, 95th; CLEMONS, 124th; DILLON, 92nd; FELTMAN, 6th; FLEISCHMANN, 18th; GENGA, 10th; GERAGOSIAN, 25th; GONZALEZ, 3rd; HAMM, 34th; KIRKLEY-BEY, 5th; LEWIS, 8th; MALONE, 47th; MCCRORY, 7th; NAFIS, 27th; O'CONNOR, 35th; ORANGE, 48th; REYNOLDS, 42nd; RITTER, 38th; ROY, 119th; RYAN, 139th; TERCYAK, 26th; THOMPSON, 13th; TRUGLIA, 145th; URBAN, 43rd; WALKER, 93rd; WILLIS, 64th.

REPRESENTATIVES DELGOBBO, (Ranking Member), 70th District; ADINOLFI, 103rd; BOUCHER, 143rd; BURNS, 77th; CANDELORA, 86th; CHAPIN, 67th; D'AMELIO, 71st; FERRARI, 62nd; HARKINS, 120th; HOVEY, 112th; O'NEILL, 69th; STRIPP, 135th; WASSERMAN, 106th.



SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Members of the Glenn Moon Scholarship Committee are now reviewing scholarship applications for our 2007 awards. Because the need is so pressing and the applicants so talented and worthy, the committee has voted to give one \$2,000 renewable scholarship this year and three one-time awards of \$1,500 each. The committee is intensely grateful for the many contributions to the fund from ARTC members. Donations of any size are very, very welcome and may be sent to our treasurer, Richard Brigham, 3 RiverTown Rd., Windsor, CT 06095.

Terry Barton, *Scholarship Chair*

ARTC Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

Aqua Turf, Mulberry Street, Plantsville, CT

Registration and coffee 9:30
Guest Speaker 10:00
Business Meeting 10:45
Social, Cash Bar 11:30
Luncheon 12:00

Luncheon will be held in the South Room.

Guest Speaker:
Paul Doyle, State Senator
Topics: Social Security Offsets
Retired Teachers' Pension Fund

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!

Make check payable to:

ARTC Program Fund, by May 15 2007 to:

Mary Gracyalny ARTC, Inc.
240 Pomeroy Ave.
Meriden, CT 06450

Final date for cancellations and refunds is May 21, 2007

Please check choices:

Roasted NY Sirloin (\$29.00) # _____ \$ _____

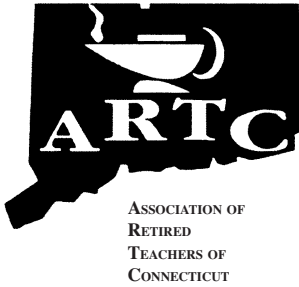
Chicken a la Kathryn (\$29.00) # _____ \$ _____

Baked Scrod (\$29.00) # _____ \$ _____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____ Ph _____



240 Pomeroy Avenue, Suite 201
Meriden, CT 06450-7170

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Winter 2007 ARTC Newsletter



DIRECTIONS TO ARTC's MERIDEN OFFICE

91 South—Exit 17, East Main St—Wilbur Cross Highway, left on East Main St, right turn onto Pomeroy Ave., at 2nd light, 240 Pomeroy Ave. on left.

91 North—Exit 16, East Main St., right on East Main St., right at light onto Pomeroy, to 240 Pomeroy on left.



Certificate of Incorporation
of the
ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED TEACHERS OF CONNECTICUT, INC.

As amended and adopted

ARTICLE I

Name: The name of this non-profit corporation shall be “The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut, Incorporated” (hereafter known as A.R.T.C., Inc.). The term “teacher” shall be defined according to the State of Connecticut statutes.

ARTICLE II

Purpose: The A.R.T.C., Inc. is organized to provide concerted and cooperative means for promoting the welfare and professional and social well-being of retired teachers. In addition the A.R.T.C. shall:

1. Assemble and distribute information of interest to its members;
2. Create a spirit of cooperation with appropriate professional and educational organizations;
3. Encourage and promote the participation of retirees in service to their communities and their state.

Accordingly, the corporation may act as trustee of any trust fund committed to it for the carrying out of the aforementioned purposes or engage in any other action not otherwise prohibited by law.

ARTICLE III

Dissolution: Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provisions for payment of all liabilities of the Corporation, distribute the assets of the Corporation to the “Henry Barnard Memorial Fund, Incorporated”, a Connecticut non-stock corporation, or in the event “The Henry Barnard Memorial Fund, Incorporated” shall not be then in existence or shall not then have an exemption under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as it may from time to time be amended, then the said assets shall be distributed by the Board of Directors (as the said Board of Directors may decide by majority vote) to any organization that does then qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501 of the said Internal Revenue Code as it may from time to time be amended, and when possible, preference shall be given to any organization that does advance or promote the interests and welfare of retired teachers in Connecticut.

ARTICLE IV

Distribution of Income: No part of the assets and/or the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of any member, director, trustee, or officer of the Corporation, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the Corporation affecting one or more of its purposes), and no member, trustee or officer of the Corporation, or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the Corporation, and the Corporation shall not have or issue shares of stock or pay dividends.

ARTICLE V

Membership: There shall be the following types of memberships:

1. Annual: Any retired teacher who receives a pension from the State of Connecticut or who receives a pension from a Connecticut municipality which has its own retirement system, may become an active member upon payment of annual dues. Any other retired teacher who subscribes to our purposes may become a member upon approval of the Membership Committee and upon payment of dues. Dues of an active member may be waived at the discretion of the Board of Directors.
2. Life: Life members prior to July 1, 1967, shall continue as active paid-up members. As of July 1, 1973, any retired teacher who qualifies under Article V, Section 1, may become a Life Member upon payment of the Life Membership dues as determined by the Board of Directors.
3. Honorary: Any member or nonmember who has made a noteworthy contribution to education and the purposes of A.R.T.C., Inc., upon recommendation of the Board of Directors and a two-thirds vote of the active members present and voting at a general meeting shall become an honorary member of the Association. Honorary members shall not be liable for dues.
4. Associate: Any active teacher, spouse, widow or widower of a member of this Association may become an Associate Member upon payment of the annual dues. An associate member is entitled to all the privileges of an active member except the right to vote and hold office.
5. Affiliate: Associations of Retired Teachers in Connecticut may become affiliate members upon fulfilling the following requirements:
 - A. File with the Board of Directors a copy of their Constitution and Bylaws which shall not contain provisions inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws of the A.R.T.C., Inc.;
 - B. Be approved by the Board of Directors of the association; and
 - C. Pay annual dues to the Association in the amount fixed by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VI

Amendments: This Certificate of Incorporation may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of A.R.T.C., Inc. members duly notified, present and entitled to vote.

BYLAWS

As amended and adopted May 22, 2007

ARTICLE I – OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1 – The officers of this Association shall be: President, President-Elect, Public Relations Officer, Secretary, Financial Officer, and Immediate Past President, all of whom shall be active members.

Section 2 – The Board of Directors shall be the officers of the Association, the Presidents of the Affiliates, the Auditor, the Historian, and the Chair of each of the following standing committees: Insurance, Legislative, Membership, Newsletter, Nominating, Program, Scholarship and Social Service.

Section 3 – The Executive Committee shall be the officers of the Association, and the Chairs of the Insurance, Legislative and Membership Committees. This committee will meet at the call of the President.

Section 4 – Upon invitation by the Board of Directors, representatives of related organizations may serve on the Board of Directors as ex-officio, non-voting members.

Section 5 – No member of the Board of Directors shall have more than one (1) vote.

ARTICLE II – DUTIES

Section 1 – President. It shall be the duty of the President to call and preside at all meetings of the Association, the Board of Directors, and the Executive Committee, and to enforce the Bylaws. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees but shall not have to participate in the proceedings of the committees. The President may appoint a delegate to a meeting, who will report directly to the President. The President shall present an annual report to the general membership at the Spring Meeting. The President shall be the official spokesperson to other organizations and the general public.

Section 2 – President-Elect. The President-Elect shall become President and shall assume the duties of that office upon completion of the President's term. The President-Elect shall assist the President in the conduct of the President's Office. In the absence of the President, The President-Elect shall assume the duties of the

President. The President-Elect shall be responsible for liaison with the affiliated organizations.

Section 3 – Public Relations Officer. It shall be the duty of this officer to propose, promote, and publicize activities, programs, and legislation that shall meet the needs and concerns of members, as approved by the Board of Directors. In the absence of the President and President-Elect, the Public Relations Officer shall assume the duties of the President.

Section 4 – Secretary. All resolutions, minutes, and proceedings of meetings, whether of the Association or Board of Directors, shall be recorded by the Secretary. The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence relating to the Association – that is, correspondence which is not a function proper to other officers or to committees. The Secretary shall issue notices of all scheduled Board meetings.

Section 5 – Financial Officer. The Financial Officer shall supervise the finances of the Association, shall receive, audit, and arrange for the payment of all approved budget items. The Financial Officer shall serve as the chair of the Finance Committee. The Financial Officer shall make a written quarterly report to the Board of Directors and an annual written report to the Association at the Fall Meeting.

The Board of Directors may delegate to the Financial Officer, without prior approval, authority to make or direct payment of the following: (1) Any regular expenses and disbursements, (2) Any disbursements less than the amount set by the Board of Directors, and (3) Any disbursement relating to the Harriet S. Huntley Fund, or any other similar fund, under the control and custody of the Association.

Receipts of all monies, accounts of investments, payment of salaries and the associated expenses, filing of all necessary tax forms and any required financial information shall be the responsibility of the Financial Officer or the designee.

Section 6 – Historian. It shall be the duty of the Historian to keep a file of information and pictures pertaining to all aspects of work and accomplishments of the Association and to prepare and submit periodic updates to the State Archives.

Section 7 – Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to determine the policies and financial affairs of the Association. No contract, debt, or obligation shall be binding unless authorized by the Board of Directors. The Directors act as a Board. Individual Directors shall have no power as such.

Section 8 – Standing Committees. The Chairs of the Standing Committees shall appoint the members of their respective committees. Each standing committee will meet at least four times annually, with the exception of the Nominating Committee. Each affiliate shall be afforded the opportunity to send a representative to each standing committee, with the exception of the Finance Committee. Each chair shall submit an annual written report to the President prior to the Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors.

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- A. The Finance Committee shall consist of the President, the Financial Officer, the Auditor, and four other members to be approved by the Board of Directors, providing geographical distribution wherever possible. When and if the need arises, the Board shall select one of these members to assume the responsibilities of the Financial Officer. All investments or disbursements must be referred to the Board of Directors for discussion and disposition.
 - 1. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to submit for approval an annual budget at the June Meeting and give financial advice to the Board of Directors.
 - 2. The Finance Committee shall have the care and custody of the funds of the Association. The Finance Committee shall direct the Financial Officer to make payment of all bills authorized by the Board of Directors.
- B. The Insurance Committee shall have the responsibility of collecting and distributing information on insurance and related issues including choices available to members.
 - 1. The Insurance Committee shall actively communicate with local affiliates to update insurance information.
 - 2. The Insurance Committee shall make specific recommendations to the Board of Directors for their consideration and/or action.
- C. The Legislative Committee shall:
 - 1. Initiate and, upon approval of the Board of Directors, promote legislation for the economic and social well-being of the membership of the Association.
 - 2. Organize and conduct programs that support legislative concerns of the Association.
- D. The Membership Committee shall recruit new members, work with local affiliates to promote membership in ARTC, retain existing members, and maintain a membership list to be made available through the Executive Director.
- E. The Public Relations Committee shall publish the Association Newsletter, coordinate press releases, and be responsible for all matters pertaining to publicity.
- F. The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Board of Directors for approval at the April Meeting, in even-numbered years, a slate of candidates for the positions of Association Officers and Committee Chairs.
- G. The Program Committee shall make plans and arrangements for the regular or special meetings of the Association.

H. The Social Service Committee shall be responsible for initiating, recommending, and promoting outreach programs. The chair shall serve as liaison with the trustees of the Henry Barnard Fund.

ARTICLE III - AFFILIATES

Each affiliate association shall be represented by its President or designee at every meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV – MEETINGS AND QUORUMS

Section 1 – Regular meetings of the Association shall be held in October (Fall Meeting) and in May (Spring Meeting) of each year. The Spring Meeting shall be the annual business meeting. A parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for any regular or special meetings of the Association.

Section 2 – Special meetings of the Association may be called by the President at the request of a majority of the Board of Directors or upon the written request of ONE HUNDRED (100) members of the Association.

Section 3 – The Board of Directors shall hold regular meetings in September, December, April, and June.

Section 4 – At Association meetings, ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 5- At Board of Directors' meetings, Fifty-one percent (51%) of its members, at least THREE (3) of whom shall be officers, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 6 – The vote of the majority present at any Association or Board meeting shall be decisive on all questions, except amendments to the Certificate of Incorporation of the Association.

ARTICLE V – ELECTIONS AND VACANCIES

Section 1 - With the exception of the President, officers and standing committee chairs shall be elected each even-numbered year at the Spring Meeting of the Association.

Section 2 – All officers and standing committee chairs shall be elected for a two-year term.

Section 3 – The President may serve for no more than two complete successive terms.

Section 4 – All newly elected officers and committee chairs shall assume office at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1, following their election. They shall attend, ex-officio, the June meeting of the outgoing Board of Directors.

Section 5 – If the office of any elected member becomes vacant, the Board of Directors shall have the power to fill the position until the next election.

Section 6 – Nominations will be allowed from the floor with prior approval from the nominees.

ARTICLE VI – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year shall be from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the corporation by a majority of the active members present and voting, provided the proposed amendments have been submitted to the membership in writing in the call for the next regular or special meeting at which the amendment is to be voted upon.

ARTICLE VIII – RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order, Latest Revision, shall be the parliamentary authority for this Association and its Board of Directors.



This copy of the by-laws is included as a special tear-out section for you to keep. We are required by law to publish it and send it to all our members.



Legislative Report of the Minority

NOTE: This report is presented with the permission of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee.

**RE: Article II, Section 2, BYLAWS
Proposed Language**

The Vice-President shall:

- A. Assume the President's duties in the event of the President's absence or disability;
- B. Succeed to the office of President and complete the term, in the event of the President's dismissal or resignation;
- C. Be the liaison with affiliated organizations;
- D. Perform other duties that the President or Board designates.

NOTE: Acceptance of the proposed language, noted above, would necessitate the following changes in the Bylaws.

Article I, Section I: change President-Elect to Vice-President

Article II, Section 3: change President-Elect to Vice-President

Article V, Section 1: eliminate the following phrase – With the exception of the President,
(Remember to capitalize Officers as that word would now begin the sentence.)

Rationale for language change:

- The people (members) should always own the vote to elect their officers.
- The President should assume that office on merit and not by entitlement.

NOTE: It is only logical that if a Vice-President has proven to be effective, that individual will earn the Board's endorsement as its candidate for President when it presents its slate of officers and committee chairs.