



Retired Educators of Fairfield, Connecticut  
**REF NEWSLETTER**



**Message from our Co-Presidents:**

Greetings,

We would like to extend our thanks to all the previous officers for their hard work and dedication. Both of us realize that we have a tough act to follow and hope that we can fill those shoes. Thoughts of changing our title to “Celestial Emperors” had crossed our minds, but we realize that there are more pressing issues.

In all seriousness, we welcome any comments, concerns, or suggestions from all of you. We hope the members of REF had a restful summer and are prepared for the rigors of this upcoming school year...wait...we’re retired! Let’s party!

Our annual Welcome Back Breakfast will be held on September 16 at Tashua Knolls Restaurant at 9:30 a.m. Both of us know that those who can attend will have a great time and will welcome our new retirees into REF. This organization has been in existence for thirty years, and we hope to carry on its traditions and maybe even start a few new ones with the same enthusiasm as its former officers.

Regards,  
 Tony and Ted

**REF Officers for 2016-2018**



**Co-Presidents**  
**Tony Andrade**



and  
**Ted Ostrowski**

**Secretary**  
**June Mackenzie**

**Treasurer**  
**Pat Flynn**

**REF Committee Chairpersons**

Activities	Amy DeZenko
ARTC / CEA-R	Pat McDonnell
Blog	Paula Sweeley
Legislation & Ins.	Walter Drozeck
Membership	Paula Sweeley
Newsletter	Virginia Millington
Publicity	Jan Shearer
Scholarship	Lou Cubelli

**~ Important Dates & Events ~**

**Sept. 16, 2016 - Welcome Back! Buffet Breakfast** - at 9:30 a.m. at Tashua Knolls Restaurant, 40 Tashua Knolls Ln., Trumbull.

**Sept. 20, 2016 - CEA-R Luncheon** ([www.cea.org/cear](http://www.cea.org/cear)) Tuesday at the Aqua Turf Club, Kay’s Pier South, Southington, CT - Registration 9:30am - Meeting 10:00am.

**Oct. 6, 2016 - FEA Picnic** - Thursday from 3:00pm - 6:00 pm (<https://sites.google.com/site/ffldeact/>) Penfield Beach, Flfd.

**Oct. 18, 2016 - ARTC Fall Luncheon** - [www.artct.org](http://www.artct.org) at the Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT.

**Dec. 5, 2016 - REF / FEA Holiday Social** - 3:00-6:00 at Tashua Knolls Restaurant, 40 Tashua Knolls Ln., Trumbull.

**~ (See pg. 4 for details) ~**

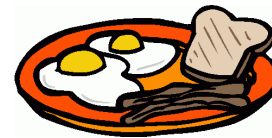
**2015 - 2016 RETIRED TEACHERS**

Beatrice Bagley	Grade 6 – Fairfield Woods
Elizabeth Bresiger	Mathematics – Tomlinson
Marion Brown	English - Fairfield Woods
Mary Lou Carlson	Art – Flfd. Warde HS
Sharon Cloutier	Grade 2 - Riverfield
Richard Curesky	Grade 5 - Jennings
Elizabeth Griggs	Math Resource – Fairfield Woods
Diane Harrison	Grade 5 - McKinley
Adele Josovitz	Grade 5 – North Stratfield
John Kassay	Tech Ed - Warde
Eleanor Lindman	Family Consumer Science - FWMS
Linda Love	School Counselor - Flfd. Warde
Franklyn MacLean	L.A. Specialist - N. Stratfield
Peter Maier	Science - Tomlinson
Sharon Miller	Spec. Ed-Walter Fitzgerald Campus
Nancy Mis	Kindergarten - Mill Hill
Denise Moore	Speech and Language - Riverfield
Marilyn Morena	Special Ed. - Ludlowe
Dale Morrissey	Preschool - Dwight
Gloria Piche	School Counselor – Flfd. Warde HS
Althea (Jackie) Reilly	Art – Roger Ludlowe M.S.
Suellen Riccardi	English - Tomlinson
Marie Sacco	Grade 5 - Holland Hill
Kathleen Smith	Special Ed. - Osborn Hill
Kathleen Tunstall	ESL - McKinley & Osborn Hill
Dana Uhrynowski	Spec. Ed. of the Blind-District Wide
Lois Wallman	School Counselor - Flfd. Ludlowe HS
Julie Wolfer	Science – Flfd. Ludlowe HS

**JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST!**

**Monthly Drop-In Breakfast Club –**

We will meet at Circle Diner in Fairfield at 9:30 a.m. on the first Friday in October (Oct. 7) and the first Friday in November (Nov. 4) See you there!



**Other Events & Activities**

**Oct. 6, 2016 – (GBRTA) Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers Association**  
[www.gbta.org](http://www.gbta.org)

**GBRTA – TRIPS:**  
<http://www.gbta.org/gbta-trips.html>



***Congratulations and Welcome to All Our 2015-2016 Retirees!***  
***Goodbye Tension ~ Hello Pension!***

REF Blog:



Paula Sweeley (*Blogger Extraordinaire!*) does a fantastic job maintaining the REF Blog. Please refer to the REF blog often for detailed information on just about everything!

<http://www.refblog.org/411934442>

*In Memoriam:*

- Patricia Ann Small** – Died April 9, 2016
- Georgia Kilpatrick** – Died April 15, 2016
- Michael Hannigan** – Died June 14, 2016

To read their full obituaries, go to  
<http://www.refblog.org/122013045>

**Legislative Updates:**

**ARTC/CEA-R August 19, 2016**

In this sultry summer, the most recent news is from ARTC-PAC. Michael Norman, PAC chair, met with several committee members and Brendan Finley (representing Graff Public Solutions, our lobbyist) to review the responses received from various candidates for state offices.

Based on their answers to our brief questionnaire, we endorsed a number of candidates (both Democrat and Republican) who are aware of or agreed to support the 50% state tax exclusion on our pension for 2017. They also thought the state should contribute 1/3 of the cost of retired teachers' health insurance premiums as promised.

The questionnaires were e-mailed to 300 office-seekers. Ninety replies were sent back. ARTC-PAC will notify the candidates we endorsed. A list of these endorsed candidates will be sent to ARTC members in the fall.

We will know more about CEA-R after their Fall Luncheon at the Aqua Turf on September 20, 2016. *(You must be a member of CEA-R to attend this event.)*

Save the date for the ARTC Fall Luncheon at the Aqua Turf on October 18, 2016! You do not have to be a member to attend this function.

*Submitted by Pat McDonnell and Walter Drozeck*

**Insurance Updates:**

**ARTC Insurance/Update Summer 2016**

The current Aetna Dental Plan, which has been in place for the past several years, will be replaced as of Jan. 1, 2017.

The TRB, in the spring of this year, approved the **Cigna Dental Plan** to take over starting in Jan. 2017.

The rationale submitted by the TRB Health Consultant, Dr. Joe Fields, indicated that Cigna has a more expansive network.

Their plan is essentially the same as the current plan with a \$2600 maximum coverage after a yearly \$50 deductible.

There is the potential savings of 8% to 9% for members.

*Submitted by Walt Drozeck*



**REF Scholarship Update:**

This past June the REF presented two scholarships of \$1,000 each to students majoring in education in college. The recipients were Anna Cullen of Fairfield Warde High School who will attend the University of Vermont this fall and Carlee Pickering of Fairfield Roger Ludlowe High School who will attend the University of Connecticut.



On June 15, 2016 at Awards Night at each Fairfield High School, REF member Ray Bryk presented our Fairfield Ludlowe recipient with the 2016 REF Scholarship for \$1,000, and REF member Marilynn Jamgochian presented to our Fairfield Warde recipient.

Thank you for making these awards possible.

Lou Cubelli - Scholarship Chairman

To make a donation to the REF Scholarship program, please contact Lou Cubelli at:  
 23 Old Village Lane, Trumbull, CT 06611  
 Please make checks payable to REF with the word "Scholarship" on the notation line.

**Upcoming Events** (continued from pg.1)

**Welcome Back! Buffet Breakfast:**

Sept. 16, 2016 - Welcome Back! Buffet Breakfast – Friday, at 9:30 a.m. at Tashua Knolls Restaurant, 40 Tashua Knolls Ln., Trumbull. Cost is \$15. Contact Cissy Hudzik (203-374-0874) or email: cishudz@att.net  
Mail checks payable to REF by 9/9 to Cissy Hudzik at: 271 Woodridge Ave., Fairfield, CT 06825.

**Menu: All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet**

Scrambled Eggs, Bacon/Sausage, French Toast, Home Fries, Muffins, Danish, Scones, Fresh Fruit,  
Orange Juice, Coffee & Tea

**REF/FEA Holiday Social:**

Dec. 5, 2016 - REF / FEA Holiday Social – Monday, 3:00-6:00 pm at Tashua Knolls Restaurant, 40 Tashua Knolls Ln., Trumbull. Cost is \$20. Contact Cissy Hudzik (203-374-0874) or email: cishudz@att.net  
Mail checks payable to REF by 11/28 to Cissy Hudzik at: 271 Woodridge Ave., Fairfield, CT 06825.

**For further information, contact Amy DeZenzo, Activities Chairperson (richdez@aol.com)**

**CEA-R Luncheon:**

Sept. 20, 2016 - CEA-R Luncheon - Tuesday, at the Aqua Turf Club, Kay’s Pier South, Southington, CT - Registration 9:30am - Meeting 10:00am. - Cost: \$35 per person. Deadline for registration is 9/13/2016.

[www.cea.org/cear](http://www.cea.org/cear) - You must be a CEA-Retired member to attend this event.

Directions to Aqua Turf Club - <http://www.aquaturfclub.com/page/directions>

**FEA Picnic:**

Oct. 6, 2016 – FEA Picnic - Thursday at Jacky Durell Pavilion, Penfield Beach from 3:00 - 6:00 pm

<https://sites.google.com/site/ffldeact/>

**ARTC Fall Luncheon:**

Oct. 18, 2016 – ARTC Fall Luncheon – Tuesday, at Aqua Turf Club, Southington, CT [www.artct.org](http://www.artct.org)

**~ REF Officers - Contact Information ~**

- Co-Presidents:** Tony Andrade – aandrade@optonline.net  
and Ted Ostrowski – mrogrd5@att.net
- Secretary:** June Mackenzie - mjaam@aol.com
- Treasurer:** Pat Flynn – pflynns@optonline.net
- Activities:** Amy DeZenzo - richdez@aol.com
- ARTC/CEA-R:** Pat McDonnell - pattymcd2001@gmail.com
- Blog:** Paula Sweeley – psweeley@att.net
- Legislation & Ins.:** Walt Drozeck - droz.1212@yahoo.com
- Membership:** Paula Sweeley – psweeley@att.net
- Newsletter:** Virginia Millington – ginnystfd@yahoo.com
- Publicity:** Jan Shearer - jansh222@att.net
- Scholarship:** Lou Cubelli - lcubelli@sbcglobal.net

**Retired Teachers Schedule:**



**REF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2016-2019**

*(Note: Use this form for Change of Contact Information, also.)*

\_\_\_\_\_ **Renewal**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **New Member**                      \_\_\_\_\_ **Change in Contact Info**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(     ) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
(     ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL: (Please print clearly!)**

Please send your membership dues made payable to REF along with this application to:

Ms. Paula Sweeley, Membership  
197 Short Beach Road  
Stratford, CT 06615

Check enclosed (\$30 for 3 years) \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Optional donation for REF Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

**REF**

**Retired Educators of Fairfield, CT**

Membership -  
Ms. Paula Sweeley  
197 Short Beach Road  
Stratford, CT 06615