



The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut, Inc.



Pat McDonnell, Editor

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2011

From Michael's Desk... To yours...



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PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES!

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**ARTC Lobby Day
@ The LOB
Wednesday, May 4, 2011**

**ARTC Spring Luncheon
@ The Aqua Turf
Tuesday, May 17, 2011
9:30am - 2:00pm**

ARTC's ongoing mission is to maintain a high level of service for our members, as well as bring you new programs to enhance your life style.

ARTC saved your pensions through visits to the State Treasurer Denise Nappier in which we convinced her to move the Teachers' pension out from under the spending cap and treat it as one would a mortgage payment. She agreed and then she sold the idea to then Speaker of the House, James Amann. Your pensions are now guaranteed for at least 23 more years.

Now it is time we saved your health insurance coverage. The State of Connecticut removed from the 2010 and 2011 budget its one third share of the cost, which is about \$37 a month per person or 61 million dollars that belongs in the Teacher Retirement Board's HIPA account. For years ARTC has pushed for an increase of the insurance subsidy the state pays the municipalities. It has been \$110 per person since 1996 (the state's contribution is \$37, the remaining amount of \$73 comes from the active and retired teachers). In 1996 the amount \$110 was about 70% of the cost of insurance coverage. Today that amount is less than 20% of the cost. Last year ARTC was instrumental in getting the amount doubled for those over 65 who were not covered by Medicare. Here is what needs to be done. First, the monies have to be put back into the budget for 2012 and 2013. Second, the State has promised to pay back the money it owes to the health fund so it needs to set up a payment schedule to make sure this happens. I want you to contact your legislator and tell her/him what we want.

Related to this issue is a move by some to merge the Teachers Retirement Board with the agency that deals with state employees. Should this happen to retired teachers, we would lose our unique position because we would be lumped with all the negatives attached to the state employees. Presently, the TRB is made-up of three active and two retired teachers with eight appointees made by the Governor. We believe that the Board should be made up of a majority of teachers both active and retired. After all, other state committees such as the Medical Board are made up of doctors. Non-professionals are controlling our lives and our retirement issues.

While we are on the subject of the TRB, I would like to point out that it is terribly undermanned. Try to call them and you either get a busy signal or a recording and you are very fortunate if someone calls you within a reasonable time. The agency is supposed to have 32 employees, but it only has 23. Retired and active teachers are one of the State's largest constituencies, yet we have one of the smallest agencies working for us. This needs to change.

Forty five states do not tax teachers' pensions while only five do. Guess which group Connecticut is in. No wonder so many of our retirees move to Florida or Arizona. Connecticut is losing out because the purchasing power of our retirees is going elsewhere where their pension is not taxed.

ARTC and the other fifteen state teacher retirement associations have been working to eliminate the GPO and WEP from Social Security. **The Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) penalize people who have dedicated their lives to public service by taking away benefits they have EARNED.**

Nine out of ten public employees affected by the GPO lose their **entire** spousal benefit, even though their spouse paid Social Security taxes for many years. The WEP causes hard-working people to lose up to sixty percent of the benefits **they earned themselves**. Many workers rely on misleading Social Security Administration statements that fail to take into account the GPO and WEP when projecting benefits.

Continued on page 2

Legislative Report— Sandra Bove & Cathy D’Agostino, Co-Chairs



As we write this report, we know that in a few short weeks the new governor will be sworn into office, newly elected legislators will take their seats and new appointments for key committees will be made. This Connecticut legislative body will be tackling a 3.6 billion dollar deficit.

Our legislative committee is poised to address this agenda. Our committee members are planning to meet with their representatives both in Hartford and at the local level to:

1. **Educate** them about ARTC.
2. **Lobby** for the State’s promised commitment to our Health Insurance Premium Account.
3. **Ask** the Legislature to draft a resolution for repeal of the WEP and GPO to be sent to President Obama and Congress.

As you know Social Security reform has become a national issue. We have learned that in early spring a contingent of retired teachers representing the states affected by the WEP/GPO are planning to meet in Washington DC to lobby for repeal of these unfair off-sets. We will be supporting this effort.

In the coming months, the legislative committee will be seeking your support to contact your legislators at both State and National levels to lobby for our goals. Talking points and contact information will be forth coming.

Remember that we can only remain strong if each/every member does his/her part!

“From Michael’s Desk... To yours...” *continued from page 1*

This is a national problem - there are affected people in all states.

We have a national teacher shortage, but the GPO and WEP discourage people from entering/staying in the profession.

Individuals who worked in other careers are less likely to want to become teachers if doing so will mean a loss of earned Social Security benefits. The GPO and WEP are also causing current educators to leave the profession, and influencing students to choose courses of study other than education. Non-Social Security states are going to find it increasingly difficult to attract quality educators as more folks learn about the GPO and WEP.

The GPO and WEP don't only impact educators - other public employees such as police officers and firefighters are hurt.

We should respect, not penalize, public service. **Congress can take immediate action.** Congress should pass legislation that would completely repeal the GPO and WEP.

Membership in ARTC is vital if you want to protect your retirement benefits. We are the only group in Connecticut that is primarily concerned with teacher retirees.

Sincerely,
Michael D. Norman, ARTC President
(860) 508-2742
mdnorman@cox.net

(Michael may be reached anytime Sunday through Thursday, on Friday up until one hour before sundown, and on Saturday one hour after sundown.)

Scholarship Committee - Terry Barton & Judy Morganroth, Co-Chairs

Scholarship applications go out to schools and will be available on the ARTC web site www.artct.org in late January / early February, with strong hopes for a bumper crop of aspiring teacher-students. It is the hope of the committee to offer four awards again this year, a \$2,000 four-year scholarship and three one-time \$1,500 scholarships.

We welcome all contributions to the scholarship fund, large and small. Checks may be sent to:

Dick Brigham, Treasurer
3 River Town Rd.
Windsor, CT 06095

Happy New Year!
2011

Your Membership Has Benefits!

Your membership with ARTC gives you access to many member only benefits. Association Member Benefits Advisors (AMBA) helps to make the following benefits available to ARTC members:

- First Diagnosis Cancer Policy
- Medical Air Services Association (MASA)
- Astrum Hearing Solutions
- Government Employee Travel Opportunities
- Vacations-to-Go Cruises
- La Quinta Inn & Suites Discount
- Rental Car Discounts (Budget, Avis, & Hertz)
- Dell Computer Discounts
- Apple Computer Discounts
- Identity Theft Solutions
- 1-800-FLOWERS Discounts
- Barnes & Noble Online Discounts
- AMBA TravelPERX Travel Deals

Please direct ALL questions to AMBA at 800-258-7041!

Benefit speakers are also available for your local meetings! To request a speaker, please contact ARTC Executive Director, Wayne P. Woodtke, at 866-343-2782, who will be happy to make arrangements with AMBA.



Membership Committee - Bonnie Reimann & Roz Schoonmaker, Co-Chairs



2010 was an ambitious year for the membership committee. We have been working on an intensive campaign to recruit new members. To date, ARTC is short around 400 members, as compared to December 2009. We are recruiting both newly-retired teachers and those who have been members in the past but have not re-joined.

We were very happy with the attendance of 206 people at our fall luncheon featuring the Gubernatorial Forum with Governor-Elect Danell Malloy and Tom Foley. ARTC chose to endorse Mr. Malloy after the luncheon and will closely work with him and his staff to achieve our legislative goals.

We continue working hard to reach our goal of 11,000 members by June 2011. Meanwhile, welcome aboard to our new members! Please come to our spring luncheon at the Aqua Turf in Southington on Tuesday, May 17th. Make new friends and renew old acquaintances. See you there!

ARTC-PAC Report - Rick Cassar, Chair



Congratulations! Approximately 89% of our endorsed candidates were elected. In close races, it is likely that ARTC votes helped decide who won. We hope that our recommendations were helpful.

Something that would also be very helpful in the next election would be for ARTC members throughout the state to keep track of the support (or lack of support) of their state legislators.

With 151 Representatives and 36 Senators, it is difficult for PAC to follow what each is doing to support us or hurt us. Our lobbyist is knowledgeable, but at times our best information comes from our locals and their members within the state's many districts.

ARTC-PAC is self-sustaining. Your contributions are our lifeline, so please send what you are able to:

"ARTC-PAC"
P.O. Box 718
Manchester, CT 06042-0178

Gubernatorial Forum

Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut



Candidate's Debate for Governor on October 19, 2010 At State Convention



The featured event at the ARTC Fall Luncheon 2010 showcased an informal interview of CT's Gubernatorial Candidates by ARTC Communication Consultant, Diane Alverio. Both Dan Molloy and Tom Foley appeared in person to discuss topics pertinent to ARTC retirees. Diane proved to be a warm, professional moderator. Candidates had been given questions earlier in the week and they demonstrated that they had researched the issues. The event was well covered by the Media- 4 TV stations, Hartford Courant, etc. The crowd of over 200 people also enjoyed the food and vendors. It was an exciting afternoon for ARTC!



New Member Benefit from Life Line Screening



The Association of Retired Teachers of Connecticut (ARTC) would like to introduce a new membership benefit now available to you and your family. ARTC has partnered with Life Line Screening, the nation's largest mobile, vascular screening provider in the country. Anywhere our members are located, Life Line Screening has local presence through community events at various locations and times of the year, which you can take advantage of through our discounted member program.

Life Line Screening offers painless, noninvasive ultrasound screenings for stroke and vascular disease. These are tests that are often not part of routine physicals and can only be ordered by your doctor if symptoms are present, and by then, many times – it can be too late. In fact, every year in the United States, stroke strikes 750,000 victims, killing 160,000 and forever changing the lives of those who do survive. Prevention is key.

The 4-test package includes ultrasound screening for stroke/carotid artery disease, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral vascular disease and 6-lead EKG for arterial fibrillation.

Take a moment to learn more about Life Line Screening's offerings and when they will be in your neighborhood by following this link: www.lifelinescreening.com/memberbenefits. Please call to find the next event in your area or make an appointment for you and your family members by calling **1-866-964-5845**. Please mention **priority code: CSMS-008** when calling. The cost is a member discounted price of \$135 for a 4-test screening package, but the ultimate savings of piece of mind and quality of life is priceless.

As always, ARTC recommends you confer with your physician when considering any health related benefit we offer.

Insurance Report— Rick / Louise Follman, Co-Chairs

Health insurance remains an increasing concern for all of us throughout the nation. In Connecticut, our committee is focused on the issues of retired teachers and their spouses.

As the new state administration moves into office this January under Governor Dan Malloy, we face a \$3.7 billion deficit. His O.P.M. (Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management), Ben Barns, stated in a recent interview, "If you build a cliff for yourself you have to remember that the day of reckoning does come," referring to the \$3.7 billion "built in" deficit in the first budget Gov. Malloy must draft, a shortfall equal to nearly half of all annual revenue from the state income tax.

We have just adjusted to a \$900 million budget deficit for 2010 – 2011 where the state has reneged on paying their legislative requirement to the Health Insurance Premium Fund (HIPA) of 1/3 which equals approximately \$61 million. However, during the same budget crisis period, the state employee legislators' health plan was funded 100%. With the looming budget deficit in front of us and Gov. Malloy's statement that "all must share in the hardship of cuts," members of ARTC must not relent in our efforts to secure the 1/3 payment from the state to our HIPA. During this budget period this amount could equal \$35 million per year. This account needs to stay viable for the present and under the Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

The solution to this dilemma is not to acquiesce to legislators, but to educate them on the issues and to stand fast on our goal to have them keep their "contractual" legislative agreement to all 84,000 active/retired teachers!

The Insurance Committee continues to monitor the rising cost of prescriptions. As you are aware, the TRB has raised script/supplement costs by 11% this year. In fact, the cost of the entire TRB program is \$179 per month beginning January 1, 2011. That is a \$30 per month raise over two years.

Clearly, the focus this year is to educate state legislators to our health needs and to insure payment from the state into the HIPA. This can only be done if we demonstrate to our Governor and legislators that we are a force to be concerned with.

Affiliate Updates...

HARTFORD COUNTY

The Spring Meeting of the Hartford County Retired Teachers Association will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at the Wethersfield Country Club at 10:00 A.M.

One of the highlights of this meeting will be the presentation of two fifteen hundred dollar scholarships to two Hartford County students who plan to become teachers by our Scholarship Chairman, Roberta Parlin. Invited guests will include the parents of these students.

Our guest speaker at the meeting will be Robert Rodriguez of the Social Security Administration. Robert will make a 45 minute presentation on Social Security and Medicare as well as touching on WEP-GPO. I know that many of you are concerned about WEP and GPO, so please plan to attend.

ARTC's Lobby Day will be held on May 4, 2011 a week after ARTC's Luncheon Meeting as was suggested by a member at last year's meeting. Hopefully, we will be able to have 40 to 50 members attend this event to speak to their legislators about our insurance concerns. HCRTA will again provide bus service for both HCRTA and ARTC members to the LOB. More information about Lobby Day will be forthcoming in HCRTA's April's newsletter.

In the last ARTC newsletter it was incorrectly stated that Amy Della Guistina, one of HCRTA's 2010 scholarship winners was attending the University of Hartford. Actually, Amy is attending the University of Connecticut. Sorry for the mix-up.

Sandra Fitzgerald, *President*
sajunefi47@cox.net (860) 668-0547

NEW LONDON

The New London County Retired Teachers Association has been very active in their community outreach program this fall. In September we collected nonperishable food items that we delivered to several food banks in the area. At our November meeting we collected personal items that were sent to our troops overseas. At that meeting we also collected toys to be given out at Christmas for needy children in the area. Our members always support these endeavors wonderfully. During our September, November and December meetings, we also raised over \$600 for our scholarship fund. Marie Twomey and Sandy Davidson have volunteered to serve as the nominating committee for new officers for our organization for the 2011-2013 years. Any member of our affiliate is eligible to serve as an officer and anyone interested in learning more about the

open positions should contact either Marie or Sandy.

Our next meeting will be on April 19, 2011. We would love to welcome new members to this meeting and to our organization.

Happy New Year!!!!

Trenda Caron, *President*
cctrenda@aol.com (860) 848-3219

BRISTOL

The Welcome Back Breakfast held on September 22nd was well-attended at a new venue featuring a breakfast buffet. Several new retirees attended and shared information about their careers in the Bristol schools and their retirement plans. The fall luncheon meeting was held in the Community Room of the Bristol Public Library on November 16th. Christopher MacNeil, a sophomore at Bristol Central High School, gave a talk and power-point presentation on "The Climate Project." The presentation was a product of Christopher's involvement in a training project headed by former Vice President Al Gore under the auspices of the Alliance for Climate Protection.

Our spring meeting will be held on March 22nd at the American Clock and Watch Museum in Bristol for lunch and a tour. The group will conclude the year with the annual meeting and scholarship presentations at Chippanee Golf Club on May 4th.

The Bristol RTA Executive Board will meet for a breakfast on January 19th to strategize increasing/retaining membership hoping to get good results from the bumper crop of thirty-plus new retirees!

Bob Lewandoski, *President*
breezy_1@comcast.net (203) 879-9113

NORTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Our October Fall Luncheon was very successful and well attended. Our guest speaker was Jamie Sterling from Sterling Benefits. He gave a wonderful presentation on the TRB Stirling Benefits Plan as it is affected by the new Apacca Federal Insurance Plan. A very helpful packet was handed out to our luncheon attendees to take home.

We were also pleased to see that the state candidates that ARTC endorsed from Northern Fairfield County were elected. NFCRTA continues to grow in membership. Our new form has been very helpful

for the retirees renewing their membership. We continually update and make additions to our website: www.nfcrt.org. I urge all to take a look at what we are doing in our affiliate.

I also encourage you to remain vigilant by staying in touch with your legislators. When we send out an alert, please contact our senators and congressmen to support our issues.

On behalf of your NFCRTA Executive Committee, have a safe and healthy winter. Don't forget to stay active and up-to-date with ARTC by going on their website www.artct.org

Bob Scalzo, *President*
sre6603@sbcglobal.net (203) 744-5157

MIDDLESEX

The Middlesex County Retired Teachers Association, under the direction of Margo Chase-Wells, met joyfully at Baci Grill in Cromwell on Dec. 15, 2010. All sixty-eight retirees enthusiastically greeted each other during our social time and happy hour. A delicious dinner followed, after which we took our annual group photo. The robust entertainment began shortly after with a couple games of Bingo. A Name That Tune Contest was energetic and highly contested. A close win by the Candy Cane table was briefly challenged. With our voices warmed up, Margo led the group in several Retired Teacher Carols that were especially written for the occasion. *See one example below...* Our event ended with a gift swap that was enjoyed by all. The party was a great way to begin the holiday season!

Written by Jean Cushing, Middlesex Member, (for) Margo Chase-Wells, President
margochasewells@gmail.com (860) 345-3282

Sung to "White Christmas"

***I'm dreaming of a great winter,
'Cause I don't have to drive and freeze.***

I can sleep till eleven, or rise at seven.

My choice is anything I please.

I'm dreaming of a long retirement.

I welcome every day I get.

Yes, my days are merry and bright,

'Cause I'm not writing lesson plans tonight!

Affiliate Updates, cont...

WATERBURY

The Waterbury Retired Teachers Association held its winter meeting on November 18, 2010 at the Grand Oak Villa Restaurant. Members were brought up to date on the events which are happening at both the local and state level. Membership in ARTC was stressed as a way to deal with the problems facing retired teachers at both the state and national level.

The Waterbury Arts Magnet School, one of the magnet schools in Waterbury, presented entertainment for the group. A choir composed of approximately 50 juniors and seniors presented a program of musical selections. Many of the pieces were songs from popular Broadway shows.

The next meeting of the group will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2011 at the East Street Eatery in Wolcott. Our guest speaker will be Jane Sirignano. Her topic will be "Food for Life". Ms. Sirignano has presented her program to the Ollie Program at the Waterbury branch of the University of Connecticut.

Michael Ieronimo, *President*
opera11@comcast.net (860) 283-9677

WEST HARTFORD

West Hartford's Retired Educators Association winter and holiday gathering was held on December 9, 2010 at the Wampanoag Country Club, West Hartford. The well attended event began with a social hour and hors d'oeuvres which provided members an opportunity to visit with new and past acquaintances. The social hour was followed by outstanding entertainment provided by the Choraliers from Hall High School under the direction of Lori Cetto. The Choraliers were dressed in beautiful period costumes and sang a wide variety of songs. Following a scrumptious buffet, a teacup auction was held to raise money for scholarships for needy students who wish to attend summer school. I am proud to report that more than \$325 was raised on their behalf!

At our general meeting last spring, the membership approved a modification of our by-laws. The change would allow active West Hartford teachers who are 55 years or older to join as Associate Members. Some teachers have expressed a desire to financially support the work that we are doing on their behalf. This spring our Board will begin a special Associate Membership enrollment drive. In order to help the current staff become acquainted with the WHREA, we are contributing to a retirement column in the WHEA newsletter and will soon have a link to our own newsletter on their web page. We will also be passing out information at district sponsored workshops!

Our Board is busy planning our annual meeting for May 11, 2010, which will also be held at the Wampanoag Country Club. The annual report will be presented, elections held for officers and board members, followed by some marvelous entertainment. Joe Stirling will be our guest speaker and bring us up-to-date on new and pending Medicare and healthcare changes.

Ken Sopolak, *President*
kensopolak@comcast.net (860) 658-1560

WINDHAM-TOLLAND

It is ironic that while WTRTA presently has three of its members serving on the ARTC executive committee, there is a shortage of leadership on the local level -- no president or vice-president. We have been attempting to fill the leadership void, and are presently functioning by executive committee to provide continuity. We seek volunteers to the cause!

Our fall luncheon in October was held at The Harvest Restaurant, and featured a panel discussion by local candidates for state representative in the 44th, 49th and 50th districts. The candidates responded to a series of prepared questions posed by moderator, Sandra Bove, legislative co-chair. The format proved to be informative, and there was time afterward for members to interact individually with the candidates to further educate them on issues pertinent to us.

A highlight of the luncheon was presentation of the first annual Moe Nirenstein Award for outstanding service in the community and to ARTC. The announcement and winner of this statewide award had been made at the ARTC luncheon last May. The WTRTA was honored, proud and grateful that our very own Gloria Cutler was chosen to receive the award. Well done Gloria! Congratulations and thank you for your service.

The WTRTA executive committee will continue to recruit new members to leadership roles as we proceed into the spring calendar of events -- Lobby Day on May 4 and the WTRTA spring luncheon on May 24 at The Harvest. A program is being planned to include entertainment and the awarding of a \$1000.00 scholarship to a college bound senior from a local high school.

Tom Singleton, *Past President*
tomsmsw@sbcglobal.net
860-963-7229

FAIRFIELD

Our Welcome Back Breakfast at the Circle Diner was a touchdown, with many seasoned and newly retired colleagues. Everyone who attended enjoyed a bountiful breakfast and camaraderie. The new retirees were our guests and many joined the REF on the spot.

In October we enjoyed a walking tour of the Fairfield Historical Town Hall area. Thanks to retired member, William Stansfield, for leading the group.

Our November 16th trip took us to the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY with the "Away for the Day" tour group. After dinner at the Caterina di Medici, we had a guided tour of the facility, itself.

The Annual Holiday Social at Cinzano's on Dec.3rd had a different menu and was open to both active and retired teachers. A generous donation was collected for local needy children. It was a real bargain and a great way to kick off the holiday season!

Co-Presidents
Lou Cubelli, (203) 261-2921
Richard DeZeno, richdez@aol.com
(203)261-0872

MANCHESTER

We have had a busy Fall season with the Fiddlers from Bristol, CT (most entertaining) in October and Melanie Ousley, RN who specializes as an "advocate for patients to ask the right questions" of the doctor at your office visits (most informative). The next luncheon date to save is **Tuesday, April 12, 2011** to meet with our guest Mary Ellen Fillo, "Java" of the Hartford Courant, Fox CT, and WDRC. The last luncheon will be **Tuesday, May 10, 2011** at which time we will meet, greet, and welcome into our ranks, the "newly to be retired" teachers of Manchester.

Each of our meetings will be at Manchester Country Club. At that time the "Book Sale" will be continued as will the Raffle to provide for our contribution to the Manchester Scholarship Fund.

The Manchester Historical Society can use your expertise in hosting at the museum (on Pine and Forest Streets) as classes come through during their field trips. If interested, call Susan Barlow at the museum.

Lucy Sweeney, *President*
lasweeney@cox.net (860)649-0966

OFFICERS

President—Michael Norman, 275 Timrod Rd., Manchester, CT 06040 (860)643-6223 mdnorman@cox.net C (860)508-2742

President-Elect—Tom Singleton, 43 Hebert Lane, Woodstock, CT 06281 (860) 963-7229 tomsmsw@sbcglobal.net

Financial Secretary—Ed Messina, 41 Nicholas Rd., Wallingford, CT 06492-5610 (203) 265-2931 e_messina@att.nett

Secretary—Margo Chase-Wells, 374 Plain Rd., Haddam, CT 06438 (860) 345-3282, margochasewells@gmail.com

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Immediate Past President—Alfred Cipriani, 27 Indian Head Rd., Danbury, CT 06811 (203) 746-3239

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**CHAIRS, STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Auditor**—Ellen Long 52 Ridge Rd Rocky Hill, CT 06067 (860) 529-8738 [EllenWlong@aol.com](mailto:EllenWlong@aol.com)

**Historian**—John Kane, 183 Stamford Ave., Stamford, CT 06902 (203) 348-2304 [kanejhn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kanejhn@sbcglobal.net)

**Insurance**—Richard/Louise Follman, 20 Algonquin Rd., Norwalk, CT 06851 (203)846-1931 Phone/Fax

**Legislative**—Sandra P. Bove P. O. Box 259 Dayville, CT 06241 (860) 774-3862 [sbove1@aol.com](mailto:sbove1@aol.com)

Cathy D'Agostino, 6 Barrett Hill Rd Brooklyn, CT 06234 (860) 774-1871 [catherinedagostino@charter.net](mailto:catherinedagostino@charter.net)

**Membership**—Bonnie Reimann, 11 Walton Dr., West Hartford, CT 06107 860-521-1873

Rosalyn Schoonmaker, 95 Curt Smith Rd., Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 264-9161

**Nominating**—Carol Noble, 9 Shepard Hill Rd., Hamden, CT 06514 (203) 288-6986 [cnoble335@aol.com](mailto:cnoble335@aol.com)

**Program**—Helen Bucior, 189 Ox Yoke Dr., Wethersfield, CT 06109 (860) 529-8438

Barbara Murphy, 150 No. Elm St., Manchester, CT 06042 (860) 649-2726

**Scholarship**—Terry Barton, 580 Stafford Ave. Apt 16C, Bristol, CT 06010 (860) 583-9553 [tebe55@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tebe55@sbcglobal.net)

Judy Morganroth, 26 Route 87, Columbia, CT 06237 (860) 228-1245 [freudenwald@yahoo.com](mailto:freudenwald@yahoo.com)

**Social Service**— John Luning, 36 Pettee St., P.O. Box 1742, Lakeville, CT 06039 (860) 435-0124 [jandiluning@snet.net](mailto:jandiluning@snet.net)

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CSTRB Representatives—Rosalyn Schoonmaker, 95 Curt Smith Rd., Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 264-9161

Affiliate Presidents

Bridgeport— Pat Yacovacci, 5366 Park Avenue, Bridgeport, CT 06604 (203) 371-7158 patsy5366@aol.com

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Fairfield— Richard DeZenzo, 35 Red Barn Rd., Trumbull, CT 06611 (203) 261-0872 richdez@aol.com -and- Lou Cubelli, 23 Old Village Lane, Trumbull, CT 06611 (203) 261-2921

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New London—Trenda Caron, 110 Park Avenue., Uncasville, CT 06382 (860) 848-3219 cctrenda@aol.com

Northern Fairfield—Robert Scalzo 41 Tamarack Ave. #104, Danbury, CT 06811 (203) 744-5157 sre6603@sbcglobal.net

Southern Fairfield—John Kane, 183 Stamford Ave., Stamford, CT 06902 (203) 348-2304 kanejhn@sbcglobal.net

Waterbury—Michael Ieronimo, 386 Lake Plymouth Blvd., Plymouth, CT 06782 (860) 283-9677 opera11@comcast.net

West Hartford—Kenneth Sopelak, 3 Deepwood Road, Simsbury, CT 06070 (860) 658-1560 kensopelak@comcast.net

Windham-Tolland (Acting) — Tom Singleton, 43 Hebert Lane, Woodstock, CT 06281 (860) 963-7229 tomsmsw@sbcglobal.net

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**CT TRB (CT Teachers Retirement Board)**

765 Asylum Ave., Hartford, CT 06105-2822  
Darlene Perez – Administrator Toll Free - (800) 504-1102 x 8402  
Retirement Division (860) 241-8413 - Health Ins (860) 241-8414  
[www.ct.gov/trb](http://www.ct.gov/trb)

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ARTC OFFICE - 111 South Rd., Farmington, CT 06032 -2560
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Wayne P. Woodtke, Executive Director wpw@artct.org
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SOUTHERN FAIRFIELD COUNTY

SFCRTA has produced a twelve page insurance program. The pamphlet covers the history of educator retirement insurance coverage. The growing problems are explored and a plan for addressing them is presented. It would be no cost to tax payers as the monies are already in the HIPA. If you are interested in a copy please contact me.

Originally, Anthum Blue Cross has requested a 20% raise for individuals and it was approved. Fortunately, the new Insurance Commissioner, Barbara Spear, rejected this increase so payments will remain the same.

Because of the poor economy the State Teacher Retirement board has provided \$61,000,000 to cover the state legislature's failure to contribute their portion to the Health Insurance Premium Account.

We hope the legislators will develop a pay-back plan in this session. The interest alone is more than \$3,000,000!

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NAUGATUCK

Naugatuck Retired Teachers have had an active year holding meetings in March, June, September and December.

Contributions were made by the organization to buy turkeys for the annual local Holiday Turkey Dinner held on Christmas Day and prepared by volunteers. We also sponsored two students to American Legion Boys and Girls State in the spring. Donations were made as well to the local food bank with a cash contribution from the organization. Non-perishable food items were also brought to our December meeting by retired teachers.

In June two scholarships were awarded to graduating Seniors at Naugatuck High School who are studying education. Many new members joined us in September at our Memorial Service held at the Congregational Church on the green in Naugatuck. We remembered teachers who have died this year and recalled the names of those who left us within the past three years since the organization began. December brought cold weather and our annual Holiday get-together was enjoyed

by 65 retirees. We are looking forward to the New Year with increased enrollment. At least our members will not impact class sizes!

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