



ROBS - RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

Since 1991 - Still Serving

Issue 4/2010-2011

July and August

MEETINGS

General Meetings are held at the Brentwood Public Library, 2nd Ave., & Third St., at 10:00 a.m., on the **first** Friday of the month (unless noted).

September 9th
Welcome New Retirees

October 7th
Guest Speaker

ROBS CARES CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED

Pronto, the community action group we support, is in need of dry or canned goods, paper products and toiletries. **Please** bring your contributions to each meeting. Thank you.

OFFICERS

Nick Siciliano - President
kpnici1@aol.com
Kathy Guleksen - 1st VP
Harriet Pepine - 2nd VP
Lucille Fink - Secretary
Marge Kirchner - Treasurer
Dot Zuckerman & Phyllis Goodwin
Presidents Emeritus

AFFILIATIONS

ROBS is proudly affiliated with
NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL/CIO,
RC21 & NYSARA.

www.robsny.org

MEET THE 2011 ROBS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

by Kathy Guleksen



*Kathy Guleksen, ROBS Vice President, Milena Sandoval, Daniel Itwaru and Alon Simpson
(not pictured is scholarship winner Karla Molina)*

I was honored to represent **ROBS** at the 2011 Brentwood High School Awards Ceremony held on May 18th, 2011.

Through your generosity **ROBS** was able to award \$2,500 in scholarship money to four graduating seniors. The winner of the \$1,000 Jack Zuckerman Scholarship was Daniel Itwaru. The winner of the Lilian Kelly Scholarship was Alon Simpson. The recipients of the other \$500 scholarships were Karla Molina, and Milena Sandoval.

All the scholarship winners intend to pursue careers in education.

ROBS congratulates all of the winners and wish them success in college! May they return to Brentwood classrooms as teachers!





EXECUTIVE BOARD

Carmela Criscione, ROBS Cares
Adrienne Eastman, BCA Liaison
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Marty Hochheiser,
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Nick Siciliano, Web Editor
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TALK TO US

The phone numbers, addresses and e-mail addresses of all the Officers, Executive and Editorial Board Members are in the **Directory** should you wish to contact us.



NICK'S NOTES by Nick Siciliano

TWENTY YEARS LATER AND STILL GOING STRONG

This coming October **ROBS** will be celebrating its 20th Anniversary as a retiree organization. We owe a debt of gratitude to the former President of the BTA, Jack Zuckerman, and his wife, Dot, along with other retirees who helped establish **ROBS** in October, 1991. As Dot stated to me, one of the reasons for setting up a retiree organization was "to have retirees maintain their contacts with their colleagues and their union identity."

Over the years **ROBS** has provided that social link for members with our monthly meetings. In addition, **ROBS** has been a voice for our members in representing our concerns to officials on the state and national levels. Working together with other retiree organizations and our regional retiree organization RC21, we have been successful in protecting our interests. One example would be our successful accomplishment in working with **NYSUT** to get a permanent Cost Of Living Adjustment (COLA) for all retirees as well as guaranteed health insurance.

On a local level **ROBS** has also had a number of accomplishments. A few are worth mentioning. One is our History Project under John Sherin's direction. John's efforts in interviewing retirees gives us a history of working in the District over the last fifty years.

Another worthwhile project has been **ROBS'** Project Hope, which was under the leadership of first Frank Spencer and now Peter Vercillo. **ROBS** adopts needy Brentwood families during the holiday season. This has been done with your generous donations.

In addition, we have established a scholarship fund, again aided by your donations, whereby we have been able to give four scholarships a year totaling \$2,500.

Our newsletter was first set up by Mary Ruffino and later Chris Veech as editor. Today, under the editorship of Carmela Criscione, we maintain the high standard which earned, and continues to earn us, awards from the **NYSUT** Journalism Competition. **ROBS** has also set up a website (www.robsny.org) thanks to Gloria Hannemann. Our website has many features worth a visit by our members and has received awards from **NYSUT** for being outstanding among all the other retiree websites for the three years of its existence.

There are a number of people who have contributed to **ROBS** over the years. Harriet Pepine was also one of the founding members of **ROBS** and has worked tirelessly for many years as Treasurer, Acting President, and now 2nd Vice President. She, along with Dot Zuckerman and Phyllis Goodwin, have all worked diligently to make **ROBS** a successful organization.. Lynda Romano running Hospitality and Programs has done a wonderful job. Marge Kirchner as Treasurer has done an outstanding job. Lucille Fink as Secretary has been a vital member of the team working on several different committees. Kathy Guleksen, in her first year as 1st Vice President, has shown her mettle to get involved and get it done. Thanks to all.

All of our members and officers of our Executive Board deserve a special thanks for the time and effort they put in trying to make **ROBS** a better organization.

ROBS will continue to grow and serve the interests of our members. No organization can be considered a success without the active participation of its members. If **ROBS** is to succeed, it is **YOU**, the members who must give the officers of this organization the direction you wish it to take. Please make an effort to attend as many meetings as you can in this special year for **ROBS**.

See you in September!



ROBS MEMBERS GO TO POT..

At A Local Nursery

Creating an Edible Container

by Kathy Guleksen



On June 9, at the Bayport Flower House, twelve seasoned and want-to-be gardeners gathered to build their own herb/flower pots. It also happened to be the hottest day of the year so far.

The grounds of the nursery are beautiful and we were able to tour before and after our potting session.

The master gardener, Karl Auwaeter, is a third generation horticulturalist. His family has run the Bayport Flower House for eighty years. He had tables set up with large pots (about 14 inches across) filled with earth-friendly potting soil and plant nutrients. He explained that the right mix is necessary to achieve good results. He then put together his own pot with herbs, flowers and vegetables as guide for us.

He then let us loose in the greenhouses. The variety was extensive and everyone's pot was as diverse and interesting as the person putting it together.

We look forward to enjoying our edible container pots all summer long.



CALENDAR OF SPECIAL ROBS EVENTS

Members were canvassed at the May meeting about attending special events. Kathy Guleksen, Phyllis Goodwin, and Lucille Fink have scheduled events we hope will appeal to you.

The first activity was a visit to a local nursery to build-your-own pot of herbs, flowers and vegetables. See the article to the left for details.

Next on the schedule is High Tea at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum on Wednesday, September 21st. Cost is \$35 and the deadline for letting Phyllis Goodwin know is August 20th. Space is limited, so please contact her as soon as possible.

A theater package on December 7th to have lunch at Skippers, a local pub, for \$20 and then seeing "The Music Man" at the Engermann Theatre, tickets cost \$51, is also in the works. A flyer will be distributed at the September meeting with particulars. You can do one or both of the activities.



Many other ideas are being considered including a wine tasting tour of a Sayville vineyard, and a picnic at one of the state parks in the spring. An art show by Brentwood artists at the Brentwood Library is also being considered. Let Kathy, Phyllis or Lucille know if you have any ideas. Help is always welcome if you want to organize an activity.

To paraphrase an old advertising line, "Try it. You'll like it."





IT'S ALL ABOUT US by Carmela Criscione

Our annual end-of-the-year luncheon at Molly Malone's on Friday, June 3rd, was a resounding success with 57 attending. Kudos to **Lynda Romano** for another great job.

Kathy Williams-Ging, last year's NYSUT Community Service Award Winner, appeared on the Nightly News with Chuck Scarborough on Friday, April 8th. She spoke about her Peace Corps experience and Long Island's **Pedals for Progress** which refurbishes used bicycles and then ships them to developing countries. Next year the group will be collecting bikes in the Huntington area. As soon as we have particulars we will pass them on.

Sadly we report the passing of **Marilyn Bickwid** (Elementary) and **Stan Kellner** (Physical Education and Coach) in May, and **Terry Cornelius** (Secretary) and **Stanley P. Yankowski** (HS Principal) in April. **Vern Spencer** lost her mom in April and **Helen Segelke's** (Guidance Counselor) husband Henry and **Carole Sobocinski's** (Elementary) husband Jack also passed away in June.

Nick Geraci (Guidance/Administrator) had an author reading and book signing at the Brentwood Library on Monday, June 13th. Nick's book, under the penname of A. C. Nicholas, Anna and the Tale of the Wolf is a dark fantasy with a twist. It is available at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and Borders online services. **Gail Inzerillo-Latella** was in the audience and heard Nick say that his inspiration for writing dates back to his eighth grade English class with her at East Junior High School. At the signing a young lady came over with her Adelphi yearbook and asked him to sign it saying he was her inspiration to go on to college. How wonderful when they remember.

Lois Morella was at the luncheon looking radiant. Lois underwent heart surgery several months ago and is now fully recovered. She is volunteering her time at the rehab center where she recuperated and is teaching residents how to play Mexican Trains, a dominoes game.

Medicare reimbursement checks are sent out approximately six weeks after the close of the quarter. Several members have inquired about the schedule of mailing.

This mailing includes the renewal membership application and information about **VOTE/COPE**. Please read the back of the membership form and see how far your dues go in the support of many worthwhile activities. **VOTE/COPE** is equally important because there are some very serious issues about funding, salaries, pensions and insurance that need constant attention.

When filling out the renewal membership form, **please** complete the entire form. We need this information for mailing, membership and directory purposes, and it is essential that the form be completed entirely. Thanks.



Retirees of Brentwood Schools

Nicholas Siciliano - President, Kathleen Guleksen - First Vice President, Harriet Pepine - Second Vice President
Lucille Fink - Secretary, Marge Kirchner - Treasurer

Welcome to ROBS. Dues for the 2011-2012 membership year will be \$25. This includes a \$5 membership fee for RC21. Please make your check out to ROBS. It's a great bargain.

PLEASE PRINT NEATLY AND COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION. THANK YOU!

Please complete the form in its entirety as we will need all pertinent information for our Directory. Return the form by 10/31/11 so the Directory can be updated and mailed in a timely fashion. **Dues are required by 10/31/11 and no later than 12/31/11.** Any member forms received after the October date will not appear in the Directory.

Name _____

Address #1 _____

Street

City State Zip

Dates*

Phone #1 _____ Cell Phone _____

Email Address _____

- Many of you have second homes. If you do, please list the effective dates for each address.

Address #2 _____

Street

City State Zip

Dates*

Phone #2 _____

Retirement Year _____ Building Retired from _____

Your Birthday is: Month _____ Day _____

() I **DO NOT** want to be included in the Directory.

() **If you have not filled out a Vote/Cope Pension deduction form**, we have included one for your use. We will no longer accept checks for Vote/ Cope. It would be appreciated if you would make your contribution through pension deduction. We don't get membership credit if you send a check to Vote Cope. Pension deduction will be the only option ROBS will offer. Send your deduction form to **Vote /Cope PO Box 5190 Albany NY 12205**. If done incorrectly, your check will be sent back to you. Thank you for your cooperation.

() I would like to be interviewed for the History Project. Please do not sign up unless you intend to follow through with the interview.

Your check, made out to **ROBS**, **should not be stapled** to the membership form and sent to:
Marge Kirchner 666 Hawkins Road East Coram NY 11727

RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS - ROBS MEMBERSHIP 2011-2012

Full payment of dues is required unless you belong to TRIF. Your dues for the year are dispensed as follows:

NEWSLETTER: Whether you remain in the area or have relocated, you can stay in touch by receiving our award winning periodic newsletter that is filled with updates on member activities, topical issues as well as member written articles.

MONTHLY MEETINGS: You are welcome to attend our monthly general meetings. Topics such as Identity Theft, Hobbies, Home Repair for Seniors, Hospice Care and the History Project have been presented at our meetings. Refreshments are served. In addition, there are three social gatherings: the Holiday Luncheon, a New Year Breakfast and the End of the Year luncheon. There is a separate charge for these events.

SCHOLARSHIPS: ROBS provides four scholarships which includes the Jack Zuckerman, Lillian Kelly and two ROBS Awards for graduating seniors who are pursuing a career in education. Our newsletter is printed and collated by AHRC. This is another form of scholarship for the young people who work there.

HISTORY PROJECT: You are invited to participate in an oral history where you are interviewed about your career, life and thoughts. A video (there is a minimal charge) is prepared for you. An edited composite video is shown at a membership meeting. This is a member only activity.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY: A yearly listing of all members, their addresses (including an alternate address) telephone and email address.

ROBS WEBSITE: www.robsny.org. We have launched our wonderful website which gives you access to all things concerning the Brentwood School District. There are yearbooks, ROBS pictures, archival material, a calendar of events, historical information and links to other state, local and Brentwood organizations.

PROJECT HOPE: Each year ROBS adopts 3-5 families for the holiday season. We choose our applicants from a list supplied by Suburban Children. We will begin accepting donations at our November meeting.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: Associate membership is available to those members who retired before the BTA/BCA merger, administrators, operational supervisors, and confidential secretaries. These members will have all of the rights of ROBS membership with the exceptions of holding office and voting privileges.

RETIREE COUNCIL 21: \$5 of your dues entitles you to membership in RC21 and all of their activities. **You are required to belong to RC21 in order to keep your NYSUT benefits.**

RETIREE COUNCIL 43(TRIF): If you are a permanent resident of Florida and want to join Florida based RC43, you must be affiliated with ROBS. RC 43 is a NYSUT organization. **ROBS dues will be \$20.**

In addition to membership in ROBS, we urge you to consider a contribution to **VOTE/COPE**. Vote/Cope tackles problems and issues facing educators still working as well as those who are retired. Vote/Cope was instrumental in obtaining a permanent COLA added to the TRS and ERS pensions. We recommend minimum deduction of \$3 per pension check which will be \$36 a year but please feel free to contribute whatever you can. **We are no longer accepting Vote Cope checks. We are only offering the VOTE/Cope pension deduction option to make our bookkeeping easier. See the information on the membership form.**

BULLETIN

Up to this point, your Board has been accepting **VOTE/COPE** contributions to send to New York State. Accepting those contributions isn't a simple act. Each member's name, contribution amount and check number must be put into a data base. That takes time and mailing them to Albany takes postage that seems to rise in price all the time.

More importantly, we don't get membership credit for those checks I forward to the state. Last year we had almost 100 checks submitted to me for **VOTE/COPE**. Yet **ROBS** only received membership credit for 57 contributors. Those 57 contributors were members who are enrolled in pension deduction.

Pension deduction for **VOTE/COPE** is very simple and we greatly encourage you to sign up. The form on the back of this bulletin will guide you as to how to do it. Look at it this way, if you have pension deduction of \$2.00 per month, it will cost you \$24.00 per year. A \$3.00 deduction will cost you \$36.00 per year. **YOU** control the amount.

PLEASE sign up for pension deduction for the organization that affords amazing benefits to all retirees. **This is a win-win situation!** You don't have to write a check, I don't have to do the paperwork involved in recording your contribution and mailing it to the state, **AND** the state will credit our local with more contributors.

In keeping with this information, starting with this notice, we will **NOT** be accepting anymore checks for **VOTE/COPE**.

Sincerely,

Marge Kirchner, Treasurer

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

MEMBER ID#: _____

LOCAL#: 21-010

*If there is no name and address listed above,
you may mail your form directly to:*

VOTE-COPE
P.O. Box 5190
Albany, NY 12205-0190



Pension Deduction Authorization Card

The undersigned authorizes the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) or the New York State Employees' Retirement System (NYSERS) to deduct from each of my regular defined-benefit pension payments the sum of ☐\$5, ☐\$3 or ☐Other \$_____ (per month) and to forward that amount to VOTE-COPE, P.O. Box 5190, Albany, NY 12205-0190. I understand that this monthly amount will continue to be deducted until revoked by me in writing.

This authorization is made voluntarily and without fear of reprisal and with the understanding that the making of contributions to VOTE-COPE is not a condition of membership in any labor organization, will not impact the provision of my defined-benefit pension and that VOTE-COPE will use the money it receives to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with federal, state and local elections. This authorization shall remain in full force and effect for all purposes until revoked by me in writing.

I expressly acknowledge and understand that the deduction as specified above be withheld monthly and that NYSUT will transmit this authorization to the appropriate retirement system. I hereby certify to NYSTRS and NYSERS that I am a member of NYSUT, an employee organization entitled to receive union deduction payments as provided by law.

Name _____ Pension # _____

Phone # _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Local from which you retired: _____

VOTE-COPE is the New York State United Teachers' political action fund.

VOTE-COPE solicits and accepts only voluntary contributions.

Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.



Pension Deduction Authorization Card

NAME: _____

MEMBER ID#: _____

ADDRESS: _____

LOCAL#: 21-010

☐ I belong to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS), or

☐ I belong to the New York State Employees' Retirement System (NYSERS) and I hereby request monthly withholding of union deductions from my monthly benefit as permitted by Section 536 of the Education Law and Section 110-C of the Retirement Social Security Law.

NYSTRS or NYSERS is authorized to continue taking such deduction until NYSUT receives written notice from me to the contrary.

VOTE-COPE is the New York State United Teachers' political action fund.
VOTE-COPE solicits and accepts only voluntary contributions.
Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.





THE WORLD ACCORDING TO STAN

Memories of a Good Friend

by Marty Riger

As I begin my trip down the Stan Kellner memory lane a thousand and one thoughts all start to run in to each other. We go back such a long time (this past September it was 50 years) and have shared so many good times. I have known Stan almost as long as I have known my wife and at times I'm sure some people thought of us an "old married couple." And as Seinfeld said, "not that it's a bad thing." It will be very difficult to keep this short.

Stan was my basketball mentor. He taught me all I ever really needed to know about coaching the game with which we had a mutual love affair. Any success I have ever had can be directly attributed to Stan. We were each other's best support system, confidante and friend. Basketball brought us together but our love for each other kept us together. Sure there were times when we disagreed, argued and didn't like each other but we always loved each other. That never wavered. There was so much more to our relationship and in fact, there were times when we became each other. We even sounded the same. People would call the High School Phys Ed Office and mistake Stan for me and me for Stan. Probably the only two people who got it right all the time were Martha and Linda.

Here are just some of life's teachings that Stan taught me:

"The definition of love is looking for good." It can be difficult sometimes, but continue looking and you will find good. Sometimes it just takes a little longer but it is there. He told me that he would sit in airport lounges and people watch always looking for good.

There's a skill of reframing or playing the game of "what's good about it?" When something bad happens reframe it and come up with good things that will happen because of it. I cannot tell you how often that got me through some very tough times. He had the ability to create a perfect mental environment. I specifically remember lying on a gurney about to be wheeled in for one of my many surgeries. I closed my eyes and put myself in the most tranquil and peaceful place I could be. I wasn't at Mt. Sinai Hospital but on a beach blanket with Linda, listening to the waves break under blue skies with a gentle breeze. I was ready for whatever would come. Of course, after it was over, after my family visited I could always count



Tom Hughes who was on Stan's first basketball team in the 1960's is now a coach himself, Stan and Marty Riger

on seeing Stan's smiling face. I had to implore him not to make me laugh because my chest hurt like hell.

I have lost my best friend. Right now my thoughts are full of sadness and I am wearing my emotions on my sleeve. I know when you lose someone close it takes a while for your thoughts to bring a laugh or smile and I know that will come in time. Right now I am laughing and smiling through tears as I recall all the great times we had together.

One last memory. We were biking together in Greenport one beautiful fall day. We were having a great day and had stopped to take a drink and absorb our surroundings. Two life-long friends just enjoying each other's company and the day. Stan looked at me and said, "Rig, are these days endless?" I thought a while and responded that yes, these days are endless but let's not take anything for granted. Unfortunately, I was wrong. Days like that are not endless and one must learn to enjoy the "Precious Present."

Stan also taught me that.



Stan and Marty were physical education teachers and basketball coaches for many years. They ran the very successful "Yes I Can" basketball camps. One of Stan's most famous young athletes is Mitch Kupchak, basketball star and now general manager of the LA Lakers. Stan passed away in May, 2011.

**THE WOMAN WHO MADE TIME STOP****Linda Wood-Hoyte**

by Paula Moore

Linda Wood-Hoyte is the woman who made time stop. This year Linda celebrated her 68th birthday. She won the First Team Universe Competition and competed in the World's Bodybuilding Championship at age 54. She started body building at age 39 and has won over 35 championship titles, finishing in the top 3 in most competitions.

Linda, a national and international bodybuilding champion with over 26 years of body building/health and fitness experience, has worked for five Fortune 500 companies, and owns her own fitness center. She is a past trustee of the Malverne School Board, a member of the Board of Directors of the Girls and Boys Club of Bellport, and an executive board member of the Mid-Island Club.

Linda has been featured in major publications such as the January 2006 edition of Essence Magazine and the February issue of AARP Magazine, has made television appearances on CNN, ESPN, the Regis Philbin Show, the Bill Cosby Show and posed for a photo shoot with famed photographer Annie Liebowitz. With all of her accomplishments, titles and awards, she is most proud of being a mother and grandmother. Linda also happens to be my personal trainer.

At our Friday, April 1, 2011, **ROBS** meeting, Linda presented a wellness workshop. The first half hour consisted of a lecture on the importance of nutrition and fitness as we age. She explained that the biggest anti-aging factor is to keep moving, eat healthy, keep your mind busy and your body strong. Because of lifestyle changes, many seniors become sedentary and, as a result, become prime targets for Type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and obesity. As we age, our lifestyle becomes the most important factor in slowing the aging process as well as keeping our bodies and minds healthy.

After our lecture, Linda demonstrated various easy exercises for different levels of fitness. After the demonstration, Linda had a training session where our members participated in stretching exercises, resistance training using weights and bands, and upper body and lower body exercises.

Visit the **ROBS** website to see photos of Linda in action with our members. Linda website is www.1flex@optonline.net.

**THE TO-DO LIST THAT GROWS LONGER EVERY DAY**

Where is a good handyman when you need one?

Well, Marge Kirchner found a website that puts you in touch with a pro for whatever job you might have. She was satisfied with the job they did for her.

This service gives you information on certified pros in your area with the expertise needed.

The web address is adam@findapro.com.

READER ALERT

Letty and Sheila Sustrin will be at Borders Bookstore, Sunrise Highway, Bohemia, on Saturday, July 23 at 1 p.m. reading the latest book in their children's series, The Teacher Who Would Not Retire Goes to Camp.

There will be activities for children after the reading.

ROBS ADVERTISING

In the last newsletter we mentioned that we were exploring the idea of advertising local and member businesses.

There are now several ads posted on the website, www.robs.ny.org. Take a look. There may be a service/business you can use.

Speak to businesses you frequent and ask if they would be interested in advertising with us. If you have a business interest yourself, let us know.

A business card ad will run for 6 months and cost \$50. A half page ad will run for 6 months and cost \$100.



MODERN TIMES & EARLY BRENTWOOD

by John Sherin

The crowd in the meeting room at the Brentwood Library on Friday, May 6, was close to capacity as ROBS members gathered for the annual History Project presentation. This year it was titled "*Modern Times & Early Brentwood*".

Following a few formalities, Ellen Edelstein introduced the program, explaining how the archival materials had been thought lost until Twin Pines librarian, Barbara Mascaro, discovered them. She contacted us regarding a copy of Vern Dyson's **A Century of Brentwood**, signed by the author and dedicated to G. Guy DiPietro, Superintendent of Schools. The book was presented to Tom Tarantowicz, Director of the Brentwood Library, to add to their Brentwood history collection. The book is in need of rebinding but will be restored by the Library.

Barbara also entrusted to ROBS a carousel of 100 slides and copies of the original script that had been distributed 28 years ago to all the elementary schools by the Instructional Media Center as a 4th grade social studies unit in local history. Barbara retires at the end of the school year just as IMC is being dissolved, and has literally saved this material from being destroyed.

Maddy Dwyer and Jerry Brophy implemented this program in 1983 to augment the teaching and learning of local history. In addition to having become part of the curriculum, it was later used as a primer for new teachers acquainting them with Brentwood's illustrious past. Hank Salerno was deeply involved in creating the project and is largely responsible for its inspiration. Bob Cresko (of the Production Center/IMC), Maddy, Jerry and Hank drove around Brentwood selecting sites to be photographed. Sonderling Computer Consultant, Joe Roderick and I have turned those 100 slides and script into a 45-minute movie holding to the original intent and thereby preserving the material for the future.

The ROBS Executive Board approved the donation of copies to the Brentwood Library and each elementary school, accompanied by a commentary for teachers to use the material as a local history lesson.



Historical designation sign erected by the Town of Islip

Recognized today not as a town or village but as a hamlet located within the Town of Islip, Brentwood has substantially remained the same since 1983 while its demography and material changes of appearance will be obvious given the locations visited in the movie such as the Post Office, Library, Fire Department, places of worship, new LI Railroad Station, and the major renovations to the High School. Sadly, a few of the transparencies were discovered to be missing from the collection, i.e., the octagonal school house from 1857 and several pictures at the end of the presentation, requiring others to be added in order to preserve the authenticity of content.

Today's digital age provides a higher degree of quality than existed during the 1980's so that this material can now be replicated, disseminated and shared and thereby preserved for those soon to follow in our footsteps.

OWN YOUR OWN COPY OF THE HISTORY PROJECT PRESENTATION

To those of you who missed the presentation as well as those in attendance who expressed a wish to own your own DVD copy, we wish to announce that copies are available for a contribution of \$15 to the ROBS History Project. Contact John Sherin to get your copy.



2011 NYSUT JOURNALISM COMPETITION

by Carmela Criscione

Phyllis Goodwin and I were in Albany for the presentation of the 2011 NYSUT Journalism Awards Saturday, June 4.

ROBS received three awards and favorable comments by the judges for our newsletter.

AWARD OF MERIT: "That Which Is Lost Is Found Again" was John Sherin's article on the finding of Dr. Eugene G. Hoyt's Brentwood High School ring after 50 years. "This was a well done article tracing a lost class ring, and its use of the ring as a unifying theme made the piece stand out...a wonderful story about the recovery of a lost high school ring."

AWARD OF MERIT: "Equal Justice For All? A Citizen's Responsibility" was an article I wrote on court monitoring. The judge's comment was "A comprehensive, illuminating look at the Fund for Modern Courts. Very well presented...a solid report on a program to monitor courts in New York State that many may not be familiar with."

FIRST PLACE: **ROBS website, www.robssny.org.** Our website is only three years old. Gloria Hannemann is our fabulous web coordinator and this is the third year we have taken first place. The judges comment was "A great site...very easy to navigate, with plenty of information at one's fingertips, including newsletters and archives...good graphics, too."

We also received mention for "Long Overdue" the article about the lack of recognition for women coaches. The judge said, "A letter to the editor used as an opinion column...raises the question as to why only two women were honored as coaches in the school's athletic program...raises some good questions...kudos to the editor on running this and submitting it as Best Opinion Writing."

The newsletter itself was cited for, "Attractive layout and comment pieces on issues of interest to members...another fine newsletter with a variety of topics and stories offered...nice to see photos from members' travels."

The newsletter is a great source of pride to the Editorial Board that works so hard to give you interesting, topical and worthwhile articles. We hope you feel the same.

Feel free to comment, send in items or articles, and let us know if there is anything you want to see in future issues.



SAVE THIS DATE

Below listed are the general meeting dates for **2011-2012**.

Get out your pencils and mark your calendars and date books.

September 9 - Welcome New Retirees

October 7 - Speaker

November 4

December 7 - Holiday Luncheon

January 6 - New Year's Breakfast

February - no meeting

March 2

April 6

May 4 - History Presentation

June 1 - Luncheon

Specifics regarding each meeting will be posted in the up-coming newsletters.

SPECIAL EVENTS

September 21 - High Tea at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum

December 2 - Pub Lunch/Music Man Matinee