



# ROBS - RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

Since 1991 - Still Serving

Issue 1/2011-2012

September, October, November

## 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 otherwise noted). **Due to renovations at the Library the meeting room has changed. Please ask at the front desk for our meeting location.**

*September 9th  
Welcome New Retirees*

*October 7th  
Speaker*

*November 4th  
Special Anniversary Program*

*December 2nd  
Holiday Luncheon  
Bonwit Inn*

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## 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 Gulekson - 1st VP  
Harriet Pepine - 2nd VP  
Lucille Fink - Secretary  
Marge Kirchner - Treasurer  
Dot Zuckerman & Phyllis Goodwin  
Presidents Emeritus

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## AFFILIATIONS

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

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**VISIT OUR WEBSITE**  
[www.robsony.org](http://www.robsony.org)

## WELCOME NEW RETIREES

### September 9, 2011 Meeting



Back row: Nancy Churchillo, Barbara Mascaro, Melaine Schlumf, Deborah Berkman  
Front row: Felicia Bruce, Judy Cooper, Mary Flatley

**ROBS** kicked off its 20th anniversary year with a well-attended meeting in one of the children's reading rooms on the second floor of the Brentwood Library.

We were able to say hello to old friends and welcome the 2010-2011 retirees: Deborah Berkman, speech therapist, Felicia Bruce, Special Education, Nancy Churchillo, teacher assistant, Judy Cooper, ESL teacher, Mary Flatley secretary, Barbara Mascaro and Melaine Schlumf, library media specialists.

Nick Siciliano, President, introduced the officers and executive board members.

Behind the new retirees is the **ROBS** banner which was lost for many years and made its first return appearance. Lillian Masten designed the banner and the iconic owl which graces the center.

Barbara Mascaro has agreed to be our new archivist. We urge anyone with pictures, yearbooks or other material to contact any **ROBS** officer about preserving our memories.

Please mark your calendars for the November 4 meeting which will have a special anniversary program.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

Carmela Criscione, ROBS Cares  
Adrienne Eastman, BCA Liaison  
Gloria Hannemann, Web Coord.  
Marty Hochheiser, BTA/RC 21  
Liaison  
Barbara Mascaro, Archivist  
Lynda Romano, Hospitality &  
Programs  
John Sherin, History Project  
Nick Siciliano, Web Editor  
Peter Vercillo, Project Hope  
Lynn Prass & Ellen Edelstein,  
Delegates-at-Large  
Paula Moore, Photographer &  
Delegate-at-Large

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

Carmela Criscione, Editor  
tecnouquen@aol.com  
Ronda Brooks  
Adrienne Eastman  
Lucille Fink  
Phyllis Goodwin  
Miriam Massucci  
Paula Moore  
John Sherin  
Nick Siciliano

**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.

We are always looking for articles. Please contact us with your ideas.

**NICK'S NOTES** - by Nick Siciliano**BECOME AN INFORMED AND INVOLVED CITIZEN,  
VOTER AND RETIREE**

The next few months will be very important for retirees as Congressional budget negotiations take place to determine what cuts can be made in the national budget to lower the deficit. It is imperative that we are not passive, uninvolved citizens as these deliberations will have a direct bearing on current and future retirees.

We have all heard comments about possible changes in both Social Security and Medicare, not to mention other programs that are important. Let your representatives and senators in Congress know your positions on these potential cuts.

In addition, be aware of the issues on both the state and national levels for 2012 as they will be very important to us. Let us not become apathetic non-voters. Make your views known! It is up to us to take the lead if we expect to keep and improve the programs pertaining to all Americans, not just retirees.

Everyone seems to be focused on 2012 because it will be a presidential election year. That is true. Off-year elections such as 2011 are just as important because many local and state seats are to be decided. The national figures for voter registration is abysmal with some reports listing less than 20% of those eligible as registered.

America affords all of us benefits and rights that are the envy of the world. It asks in return that we be responsible citizens. It is our obligation to register and vote. People will be elected. Don't you want to be the person who helps select them?

We will have voter registration forms available at our October meeting as well on our website ([www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org)). If you are not a registered voter, this will be your chance to sign up. Didn't we tell our students how important it was to vote? How can we not do so ourselves?

Our organization will have more to say on the issues confronting us in the coming months.



*We Will Always Remember 9-11*





## **TWENTY YEARS AND CELEBRATING!**

by

Dot Zuckerman



1991 was a landmark year for retirees. That was the year retiree councils were established and recognized as integral affiliated units of NYSUT. 2011 marks the 20th anniversary of the formation of NYSUT retiree councils. Soon after the information of retiree councils, a small group of Brentwood retirees discussed the idea of forming a retiree chapter where Brentwood retirees could continue to maintain camaraderie now they were no longer meeting in faculty rooms. Jack and I spearheaded the move to contact retirees and to start the organization process. The organizing committee included June Dawson, Maria DiTucci, Millie Eisenberg, Edy Filosa, Shirley Hodges, Frank Lerche, Elmon Kazandjian, Miriam Massucci, Mary Ruffino, Rhoda Oser, Rhoda Stamler, Jack and Dot Zuckerman. The first meeting was held on October 30, 1991. At that meeting, four committees were formed to write a constitution, to put out newsletters and mailings, to develop programs and to provide information about political action.

We started with many names: Brentwood Retirees Teachers Association, the Retired Teachers of Brentwood, the Retirees of Brentwood, and finally, the Retirees of Brentwood Schools (ROBS). Membership was open to all Brentwood retirees who retired as NYSUT members, including teachers, secretaries and clericals. A Florida contingent was organized by Anita Silverman. Charter membership was extended to everyone who joined ROBS through June 1993.

At first we ran into difficult issues of legality. Unless we were accepted as an affiliate of BTA, we could be no more than an informal social group with no legal ties to NYSUT. The only way our members could maintain NYSUT affiliation would be as individual at-large members of ED21 Retiree Council. Several discussions were held with Joe Hogan, BTA president, to reconcile this issue. Finally, by April 1992, BTA officially recognized ROBS as an affiliate. We now had legal standing to participate with NYSUT.

The first ROBS officers were:

President:	Dot Zuckerman	Communications:	Mary Ruffino
Vice President:	Rhoda Stamler	Legislation:	Miriam Massucci
Secretary:	Chris Veech	Member Benefits:	Ruth McCalla
Treasurer:	Harriet Pepine	RC21 Liaison:	Jack Zuckerman

Many of our founding members are still with us, some have passed on. Thanks to their dedication, energy and enthusiasm, ROBS today is a thriving, vibrant group of friends and enthusiasts.

**CONGRATULATIONS ROBS!**





### IT'S ALL ABOUT US - by Carmela Criscione

Welcome new retirees! The September 9th meeting was well attended. We all welcomed this year's retirees and look forward to seeing them at future meetings, special events and social gatherings! The RC21 luncheon for new retirees will be held on October 25th. All retirees are welcome. New retirees are guests of RC21 but must register. Registration forms can be found on our website ([www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org)).

Speaking of special events, the theater package for December 7th has some changes. The Engermann Theater has changed its show to a musical rendition of *It's A Wonderful Life*. Lunch is at Skipper's Pub at noon (\$20). The ticket cost is \$51 with the show starting at 2 p.m. You can do either one or both. **Kathy Guleksen** will have flyers at the October and November meetings.

Sadly we note the passing of Caesar Trunzo's wife, Lorraine. Mr. Trunzo, throughout his long legislative career, has always been a friend to education and the Brentwood Schools. Also, **Mike** (HS/Science) and **Sara Bannon** (HS) lost their daughter Caroline to breast cancer. **Carmen Arroyo** (Lang./HS) lost her mother, **Eileen Kelly** (Human Resources Office) lost two daughters, Karen and Gail, in late July. Irene Fleischman (Clerical) passed away in July. We have received word that **Constance Nichols** (Elementary/TP and PP), **Caryll Meringolo** (Clerical/HS), and **Jacqueline Hartman** (Business/HS) have also passed away but no details were available. **Joe Carson** (Elem. Music) passed away in early August. Our deepest sympathy to all on their losses.

Thinking of you cards were sent to **Clara Cannavo** (Elem/Laurel Park) and **Toni DeLuca** (PE/HS) who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

That which was lost is found again. The **ROBS** banner which was displayed at all our meetings was lost for about five years. No one seemed to know where it was or who actually had it last. Well, the mystery is solved. **Ellen Edelstein** reported that it was found during renovations in a closet on the lower level of the Brentwood Library. It made its first re-appearance at the September meeting and will be displayed at each meeting and gathering.

**ROBS** will have a new feature on our website ([www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org)) starting in October. It is titled "In Memoriam" and is a listing of our colleagues that are gone but not forgotten. It lists the names, work places, employment time and dates of death for as far back as we could research. We are sure that some of the information is incomplete and some names are not listed. If you have information that can fill in the gaps or add to our list please let me know. It is a sad topic, but as **Adrienne Eastman** and I worked on the list we interrupted ourselves with stories and fond memories.

A close encounter of the wrong kind. That's what **Marty Hochheiser** had a couple of weeks ago. He was driving on Main Street in East Islip around 9:45 p.m. when suddenly and out of nowhere an antlered buck dashed across the street. Impact was unavoidable. Thankfully Marty was not injured, but his car sustained around \$4,000 worth of damage. The deer did not fare so well. The police had still not removed him as of the next morning and he became a photo-op for several curious people.

New retiree **Barbara Mascaro** (Media Specialist/IMC) has agreed to become the **ROBS** archivist. You may recall that it was Barbara who located the slides that **John Sherin** presented at the May meeting about the history of Brentwood. Congratulations Barbara.

**Adrienne Eastman** reports that her granddaughter-in-law, Jennifer, has defended her doctoral dissertation in psychology at Hofstra where it was accepted with highest honors. She is a candidate for the prestigious Robinson Award in psychology and will be graduating #1 in her class. Congratulations to Jennifer, and Adrienne's proud grandson, Phil.

## RETIREEES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

**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

Nick Siciliano – President, Kathy Guleksen - First Vice President, Harriet Pepine - Second Vice President, Lucille Fink- Secretary, Marge Kirchner- Treasurer

**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, Lilian 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](http://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.**





## PROJECT HOPE

Dear ROBS Member,

As we celebrate our first twenty years as an organization, we can reflect upon our many accomplishments. One such source of pride is **ROBS PROJECT HOPE**. As you may know, **PROJECT HOPE** is a way for the retirees of the Brentwood school community to show continued concern for the children of the area. Through **SUBURBAN CHILDREN, INC.**, **ROBS** adopts families during the traditional holiday season. Complete dinners are provided for Thanksgiving, and many gifts are bought, wrapped, and presented at Christmas, Hanukkah, and Kwanza.

Our members have worked diligently to make this endeavor a success. The effort has been very appreciated, not only by the folks at Suburban, but especially by the children and their parents.

Through our donations, **PROJECT HOPE** touches the lives of many. It is an opportunity for our group to add to the joy and spirit of the season. Please help continue this fine tradition.

Due to a bank change, please now make the checks payable simply to "**ROBS**". You may write "HOPE" on the memo line. So that we may keep proper records, please send the checks to:

Peter Vercillo  
26 Willoughby Street  
Brentwood, NY 11717

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes for the special weeks ahead.

Sincerely,

*Peter Vercillo*

**PROJECT HOPE CHAIRPERSON**

P.S. We welcome anyone who wishes to shop, wrap and deliver baskets.



## ROBS ADVERTISING

If you haven't looked at our advertising link on the **ROBS** website ([www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org)) check it out.

We are looking for advertisers. We know many of our members who are artists, jewelry designers, authors or provide a service. If you want to reach out to your colleagues and friends, this is a convenient way to do so.

If you are looking for a painting, piece of jewelry, good book to read or need a professional service it can be yours for just a few key strokes on the computer.

Check it out!

## A GIFT OF READING

### F.A.N.'S ANNUAL BOOK DRIVE

Miriam Massucci will again be collecting books for F.A.N., an acronym for the Food and Nutrition Program. The annual drive seeks to collect new and unwrapped books for young children under the age of eight.

Books reflecting the ethnic and cultural diversity of the community are appreciated.

The books are put in baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanza.

Please bring your books to the **ROBS** meetings.

Thank you.





## DON'T YOU JUST YOUR SENIOR DISCOUNTS?

We all know about and use senior discounts, and today with a bad economy those discounts are even more important. Julia Scott posted "Savings for Seniors" on the web in February, 2011. We've listed some of those discounts and hope that you have occasion to use them.

### GENERAL:

**SeniorDiscounts.com** This free site (although a paid membership is available for \$13 a year) gives many free coupons and tips for seniors. This is a weekly on-line newsletter and is free.

**AARP** Membership in AARP is necessary and costs \$16. Membership age is 49 1/2 (???). There are discounts on shopping, health products, car rentals, restaurants and more. The low membership age means that you can qualify for discounts you might be too young to otherwise receive.

### ENTERTAINMENT:

**AMC THEATERS** - The discounts start at age 60. Ticket prices vary but can be as low as \$4.50.

**CINEMARK/CENTURY THEATERS** - At age 65 movie tickets are 35% off adult rates.

### FOOD:

Restaurants such as **Applebee's** (Golden Apple Card) have discounts at age 55, **Arby's**, **Burger King** and **Chili's** may have discounts but it depends on location. **Denny's** gives a 20% discount to AARP members from 4-10 p.m. Ask **before** you are seated if the discount pertains.

### FITNESS:

**Bally's Total Fitness** takes between \$50-\$100 off for seniors age 62+.

### TRAVEL AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**Amtrak** does give a 15% discount for seniors age 62, but it does **not** pertain to **VIA Rail Canada** or the **Auto Train**.

**Best Western** has a senior discount for age 55+ of 10%. The **Choice Hotel Chain** (**Comfort Inn**, **Comfort Suites**, **Quality**, **Sleep Inn**, **Clarion**, **Cambria Suites**, **MainStay Suites**, **Suburban**, **EconoLodge**, **Rodeway Inn**) offer a 10% discount at age 60 on **advance** reservations when you request the Senior Rate from the reservation hot line (800-424-6423).

Many discounts are available for **AAA** members as well.

You must provide proof of age and/or AARP membership when asking for the discount. Please be aware that not all places may honor the senior discount, and it would be wise to ask **before** you go.

**The discounts are out there and many places don't offer them unless asked. So ask!**



**ROBS WEBSITE**

***www.robsny.org = all of us***

by Gloria Hannemann

Have you visited the **ROBS** award-winning website yet? Just go to [www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org) and check it out. There is a wealth of information, photos and videos about Brentwood right at your fingertips. In fact, you may even find your picture in one of the many school yearbooks or faculty photos. Right on the home page you can even view a quick pictorial history of the schools starting with the original school house and listen to "Brentwood in the Pines" performed by the Brentwood High School Chorale.

The **ROBS** website was created in 2007 as a means to share information with Brentwood retirees. It is easy to navigate and find what you might be looking for. The "About Us" page has a brief history of **ROBS** and a link where you can download the membership application. On the "ExecBoard" page you will find a directory of the Executive Board members. The "Meeting Schedule" page has the dates, times and locations of the General Membership and Executive Board meetings. There is also a "Calendar of Events" page that has all the details of the events planned for the year including, but not limited to, the holiday luncheon, breakfast and end-of-the-year luncheon. On this page there are also links to download reservation forms and view photos of some of the events.

You can definitely spend a while viewing the "Photo Gallery" page. There is a section containing albums that include **ROBS** meetings, functions and individual member photos. On this page you will find scanned yearbooks dating back to the very first issues from many of the elementary and secondary schools up to the more recent years. In particular, there are yearbooks from the Brentwood High School from 1957 to 2004. We can thank John Sherin for the countless hours he spent scanning photos and yearbook pages. In addition, there are photo albums containing the Brentwood School District administration, clerical and support staffs. New photos are periodically added to the "Photo Gallery" page.

On the "Newsletter" page, you can read or download PDF copies of the **ROBS** award-winning newsletters. You can browse through all of the issues dating back to the first issue in January, 1993 to the most recent edition. You can also view the earlier *Brentwood Retirees Bulletins* from as early as October, 1991 and the *BTA Impact* issues from 1967 to 1981.

The "Announcements" page is a bi-monthly issue that is constantly being updated with the most recent news and events. It is good to check this page out often because of the up-to-date announcements. The page contains important date reminders and new announcements from and for **ROBS** members. The section

"What You Didn't Know", contains very interesting articles written by our members. Most recently we have been featuring articles written by the high school's Writer's Group. On this page you will also find NYSUT news, RC21 Events, Member Websites, and the new Classified Section. The newest edition to this page is the "ROBS History Project" by John Sherin. In this section you will find video clips of the interviews he conducts with the Brentwood retirees. It includes a brief history of the project and a short background of each retiree interviewed. We will be posting new videos every other month. This page also contains Marilyn DePlaza's column "The Town Crier" where we post the news she receives through her email center. She receives all sorts of information from Brentwood retirees from all over the country.

There is also an "Archives" section where you can find past postings on the website that you may have missed. There is also a page with links to useful state and local resources.

The **ROBS** website is for you, the members. It is a good way for all of us to stay in touch by sharing news and events in our lives with our fellow retirees. We would like you to send or e-mail us any news, information, photos, scanned yearbook pages, etc. that we can post on the site. You can also advertise in our Classified section. Feel free also to send any comments or suggestions as to what you would like to see on the website.

You can e-mail the webmaster, Gloria Hannemann at [webmaster@robsny.org](mailto:webmaster@robsny.org) or the website editor, Nick Siciliano at [info@robsny.org](mailto:info@robsny.org).

Happy browsing at [www.robsny.org](http://www.robsny.org)!







## **BRENTWOOD SIGHTINGS**

### **FORTY-ONE YEARS LATER**

by Marty Hochheiser

I was in Shoprite recently and asked the cashier if she was open. She said "no", then did a double-take and said, "Mr. Hochheiser, you were my guidance counselor. Of course, I'll take you." It was Debbie Steele.

The next week I was waiting for my wife at physical therapy. An attractive woman looked at me and said, "Mr. Hochheiser, you were my counselor." She turned out to be Karen Hall.

A few days later, while picking up a prescription, the clerk asked the woman in front of me her name. "Hepworth" was her answer. I told her I had had a student named Debbie Hepworth. She smiled and answered, "That was me."

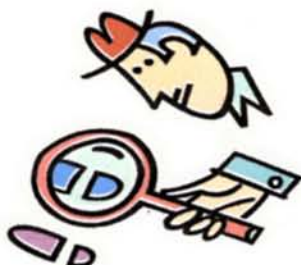
About a week later while eating at the Old Country Buffet a man asked if I had worked in Brentwood. I said yes. He replied, "You were my counselor." He was Bill Santulli.

I looked up their pictures in the 1970 North Junior High School yearbook. I found two other notable students, Tom Tarantowicz, now Director of the Brentwood Public Library, and Joyce Labozetta. Joyce was a speaker at an RC21 Meeting as a supervisor of the Visiting Nurse Service.

It was nice to know that all of them are leading productive lives.

P.S. I was at my cardiologist, Dr. McCormack, for a check-up. She told me she was working out at Beltran Gym and her trainer told her about meeting her former counselor, me, at CVS. Dr. McCormack asked "Marty Hochheiser?" and the answer was yes. And the doctor told her that I was her patient. Small world.

*Marty holds the record for Brentwood sightings. Please let us know if you have had similar encounters.*



## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

We offer congratulations to **Marge Kirchner** and **Pat Landry** on the occasion of their wedding at the Little Portion Friary in Mount Sinai on August 26, 2011.



## **ROBS MEMBERSHIP 2011-2012**

### **DON'T BE LEFT BEHIND**

We have enclosed a membership renewal form for your convenience. The deadline date for membership is October 31, 2011.

Please complete and return to Marge Kirchner, Treasurer.

This is **ROBS' 20th** anniversary year and many special events and activities are being planned. We want you to be part of them.





## **The First Annual Brentwood High School Retirees Reunion”** *by Harriet Helman and Judi Hearst Weissman*

For a certain group of Brentwood High School teachers and staff, this year's first day of school was a unique one. On Wednesday, September 7, 2011, over 100 Brentwood High School retirees gathered at La Casa Café on the water in Northport, NY. This 'first annual' reunion was a sure hit and a wonderful and memorable afternoon. The excitement of seeing former colleagues, many of whom had not connected in years or even decades, made for an afternoon full of laughter and catching up on one another's lives.

The reunion began as the seedling of an idea while having one of our regular lunch dates with Chris Veech. We spoke, as we had many times before, about how nice it would be to somehow get all of our colleagues together. This time, we decided to forge ahead to see if we could possibly make it happen. Thus began four months of planning and working hard to make this idea a reality. It was difficult to predict how a reunion such as this would play itself out. To our great pleasure, every aspect of the reunion exceeded our highest expectations. As people came through the doorway of the restaurant, the conversations and excitement began immediately. As we handed out B.H.S. Reunion lanyards and I.D. badges, it was amazing to see all of the hugging and warmth as people rekindled old friendships.

We had put so much of ourselves into the planning and were overjoyed that it actually became the happy occasion we first envisioned back in April. The many years that had passed easily disappeared and the camaraderie that marked our years at Brentwood High School was clearly in evidence throughout the day. The joy in the room was so real it was palpable in the pictures we took. For those of you who might want to see the photographs of the reunion, they are available as a slideshow with music on YouTube. You can view them at this site:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jc11gTPG-jw>

We are already looking forward to a bigger and better event next year, also planned for the first day of school - September 5, 2012. The notes of appreciation we received from so many attendees and their expressed desire to make this an annual event have us already thinking of ways to make next year's reunion equally memorable. If you are a Brentwood High School retiree and would like to be on our contact list, please email Harriet at [Aintheair2@aol.com](mailto:Aintheair2@aol.com) or Judi at [judihope18@aol.com](mailto:judihope18@aol.com). We will add your contact information to our lists and keep you apprised of future events.

Thanks to all for making this reunion a spectacular and happy gathering!





# ROBS HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

December 2, 2011 12-3 PM

The Bonwit Inn

1 Motor Pkwy Commack NY 499-2068

## MENU

Greek Salad With Bishops Loaf  
Penne Alla Vodka

## Main Entrees

Salmon  
With Seasonal Vegetables and Roasted Potatoes

Beef Short Ribs  
Pinot Noir Wine Sauce With Mashed Potatoes

Chicken Boscaiola  
Light Egg Batter With Assorted Vegetables  
In Madeira Wine Sauce

Stuffed Eggplant  
Battered Slices With various Cheeses  
Baked In A Tomato Basil Sauce

Dessert  
Chocolate Chocolate Mousse Cake  
Served With Soda, Coffee & Tea  
Cost Per Person \$30.00 & Cash Bar

Please make your check payable to ROBS and send to:  
Lynda Romano, 18 Danville Drive, Greenlawn, NY 11740  
(631) 757-9450 Deadline November 25<sup>th</sup>

There will be no refunds as full payment is required  
a week prior to the luncheon