



ROBS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2009

RETIRES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

ISSUE 79

ROBS WEB ADDRESS

www.robsny.org

ROBS

General Meetings are held at the Brentwood Public Library 2nd Ave. & Third St. 10 a.m. the first Friday of the month.



Calendar

September 11 - Library
10 a.m. in the lower level.
Welcome New Retirees

October 2 - Library
10 a.m. in the lower level.

November 6 - Library
10 a.m. in the lower level.

Other dates to be announced.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING FOOD FOR THE NEEDY TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

SCAB COOKIES : VICTORY MAY PROVE TO BE PYRRHIC

In the last issue we reported on NYSUT's boycott of **Stella D'oro** products due to new owner Brynwood Partner's, in turn owned by a hedge fund, demand that the 130 workers of Bronx Local 50 of the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers & Grain Millers International Union agree to slashing wages & pensions, as well as elimination of all holidays, vacation and sick days. Workers have been on strike since August 2008.

This Local has worked in solidarity with NYSUT to save state funding for education.

In early July, a federal administrative law judge ruled that the striking workers had to be reinstated and paid the wages they had lost since May 6. The company plans to appeal.

Though Brynwood has dismissed the replacement workers and rehired the striking employees, the company is planning

to close in October, blaming the union for not accepting concessions.

Many of the workers have been employed at the former Kraft bakery for upwards of 20 years. One of the bakers, John Capalbo, said, "I knew they were up to something...I had a bad feeling because I don't think they want us back."

(source: NY Times)

AFT BUTTONHOLES ARNE DUNCAN & THEN, OOPS! Chris Veech

U.S. Education Secretary, Arne Duncan, talked candidly with AFT Frontline members at QuEST on July 13th in D.C..

The Secretary made clear that he was there to "build bridges, not burn them."

Asked about charter school growth siphoning resources from traditional schools and denying educational opportunity to groups underrepresented in charters, his response was: "I'm not a fan of charters, I'm a fan of good charters." saying he had closed 3 (of 172) for academic failure when he was Chicago school superintendent. Concerning teacher

evaluation and merit pay: "You can't do this unilaterally; you have to bargain it through the union. ...You can't pit professionals against each other," adding that "student test scores are only one element."

Sounded good then, but on July 23, the Administration proposed rules for qualifying for the 4.3 billion Race to the Top Fund.

To compete, states must have no limit on charter schools, and no laws banning student test score use for tenure and pay for teachers. Duncan said adult dysfunction in not thinking outside our comfort zone equals doing nothing for

kids, calling the rules incentives to change state laws, and adding, "Believe it or not, several states, including NY, Wis., & CA have laws that create a firewall between students' and teacher data. I think that's ridiculous."

He was asked on PBS if this wasn't a promise turned into a threat.

Randi Weingarten, AFT president reiterated that teachers are determined to be "worked with, not worked over" when plans are developed and put in place. AFT will "take advantage very aggressively of the 60 day comment period" on the rules.

PHYLL'S FORUM

Phyllis Goodwin, President – (631-673-2971)

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to a new year of ROBS activities. Congratulations are in order to the 2009 Retirees. We look forward to seeing you in the future. The following people have joined our ranks as retirees: Diane Amador, Sandra Chase, Nancy Christianson, Gloria Costello, Sandra Curcio, Margaret Demers, Patricia Furcht, Alice Gernon, Charles Hecht, Cartez Johnson, Johanna Kane, Anne Kollar, Margaret Leonard, Madeleine Mazella, Jean Mazovec, Roberta Messina, Kerrie Orzechowski, Maureen Rezza, Drew Robinson and Ann Sanders. The following administrators have retired: Dennis Bracco, Betty Greene and Karen Riley. Congratulations to Sandra Chase for being the first ROBS member of 2009-2010.

Still Serving

While attending the Brentwood High School Athletic Awards Dinner, I was struck by the number of retired and/or deceased ROBS members who had awards named in their honor. These people have left an indelible mark on the students of Brentwood. I'm sure that you will recognize many of them.

Most Valuable Player Award: Ivy Rosenthal, Joe Campo, Bob Hoppey, Clem Stancik, Jeff Wolfe, Eli Acosta, Jim Howard, Roy Rapp, Dick Simmons, Bill Lown and Stan

Kellner.

Most Improved Player Award: Bob Tagner, Dick Roth, John Gilmartin, David O. Brown, Charles Goehring, Bob DeSoto and Phil Tache.

White Letter Award: Ray Perez, Marty Riger, Wade Cummings, Steve Kittredge, Ernie Villatore and Dal Kittredge.

A reminder is in order for our upcoming meetings. We will collect canned and dried goods at each of our meetings for Island Harvest. We will also collect sample bottles of shampoo, deodorant and hand lotion for the women's shelter.

This coming season promises to be a very different and hopefully a more optimistic one. The economy, the NY State Legislature, health care and the military incursions all need serious repair. I hope that all of you will do your part in contacting your representatives in the state and federal government to do what is best for the country.

In Harmony,

Phyllis Goodwin



Phyllis Goodwin with Gloria Hanneman, & Chris Veech who were guests at the RC 21 Luncheon honoring those chapters in the Council that received NYSUT Journalism Awards. Gloria received Best Web Site award, in the first year of the web site's existence, and Chris for the news story on Joe Campo (the "Wrestling Guy") being honored by Brentwood.

Executive Board

Ruth McCalla - Program
Chris Veech - Newsletter Editor
John Sherin - History Project
Peter Vercillo - Project Hope
Marty Hochheiser - BTA/RC21
Adrienne Eastman - BCA Liaison
Carmela Criscione - ROBS Cares
Kris Dougherty, Lynn Prass,
Lynn Tiscione - At-Large Delegates
Gloria Hanneman - Web Coordinator
Nick Siciliano - Web Editor

Editorial Board

Carmela Criscione
Adrienne Eastman
Phyllis Goodwin
John Sherin
Nick Siciliano

ROBS Officers

Phyllis Goodwin - President
Harriet Pepine - Vice President
Lucille Fink - Secretary
Marge Kirchner - Treasurer
Dot Zuckerman - President Emeritus

THE M-T CORNER

We build too many walls
and not enough bridges.

Isaac Newton

HAPPY BIRTHDAY U.S.A.

Bill Lane (SS/HS '85) is survived by his wife **Polly** (Home Ec./East MS '80) and two sons. Bill was Ross building's poet in residence. For every situation there was a poem. We have printed a few in this Newsletter in the past. Here's one, written in 7/76 which captures his wit and his politics.

I was with Patrick Henry when his famous words were said;
My heart was sad when Cripus Attuck's blood ran wildly red.
The troops could feel my presence as they fought for Bunker Hill
And those who froze at Valley Forge sure needed strength of will.
I shared a horse with Paul Revere on his now famous ride!
And when I heard of Arnold's plot, I helped to stem the tide.
My spirit was elated at the sea war and its stories;
I felt ashamed at what was done to the Loyalists and the Tories.
I stood on guard with sentries in the middle of the night
My force helped spur on John Paul Jones as he began to fight!
The joy and exultation when the war was finally done
Gave me a pleasant feeling in the fall of '81.

I am the spirit of Freedom

My character and wisdom helped the families moving West.
I eased the plight of trappers as they carried out their quest.
My eyes saw stars at midnight, my ears heard coyotes wail
I shared the food of cowboys on the only cattle trail.
When all the stirring stories of the West are finally told,
I'd be with all those miners as they searched for precious gold.
I drove a wagon westward with a sign, "Pike's Peak or Bust!"
My sympathy extended to the farmers fighting dust
A thousand Irish muscles in a thousand Irish backs,
And I helped them on a thousand miles of U.P. railroad tracks.
I've ambled down some dusty streets with lawmen of renown
Who brought some law and order to a lawless western town.

I am the spirit of Adventure.

I floated high among the clouds and looked down on my lands.
My native groups had split themselves in many, many bands.
They are free to roam at will, wherever they may go.
For food and tool and implements they hunt the buffalo.
They ride and hunt their enemies with knife and bow and lance,
And for religious purity they praise the sun in dance.
At one end of my area a stranger's ship did dock
My people went to meet them at a place called Plymouth Rock.
From there my peoples suffered as the whites spread like the plague.
For they lied and killed and cheated and their treaties were so vague.
Now sadness stalks the lodges of the Blackfoot and the Sioux
Since they have stopped believing in the force of Manitou.

I am the spirit of the Indian God.

The immigrants kept coming to the promise of our shore.
For they like the opportunities we held out to the poor.
Some worked on farms or factories and some at army camp
But all of them were grateful to the "Lady with the Lamp";
The Irish and Italians and the Englishmen and Swedes
Found help and sanctuary as they satisfied their needs
In the midst of all this plenty came the deadly parasites
Who stole the people's money and limited their rights.
Like the snake who comes to Eden and depopulates the place
They thrive on lies and hatred and extol a super race.
My presence just may stop them so that at some future day
We can celebrated three hundred years of Freedom U.S.A.

I am the Spirit of Brotherhood.

SIGHTINGS

This sort of thing happens to me all the time. If you remember the movie you'll know exactly what I mean. In the motion picture "Sixth Sense" Bruce Willis plays the part of a therapist working with a troubled boy who claims to see *dead people*.

Leaving the doctor's office after a routine visit, I backed out of her driveway and approaching the stop sign at the corner saw the next patient arrive. She turned the corner in front me. I did a double take because I recognized her - it was Dr. Helen Smith, a former colleague who died several years ago.

When that happens I'm never upset. Those special moments serve to remind me how fortunate I've been to have known so many wonderful people that have passed through my life.

Another occasion was when I was with my sister Betty Anne and her husband Ron Trapani in Denver, Colorado in the early nineties. We had stopped for lunch at a favorite restaurant and the waitress, a young woman in her thirties, approached and introductions took place all around. I was he said, his teacher brother-in-law from Long Island. "*Where on Long Island did you teach*" she asked? Brentwood, I replied. *Are you kidding?* she responded, - I graduated from Ross! "*Did you know Mrs. Britt, or Mr. Siciliano? They were my favorite teachers*" See what I mean? No matter where we go - we meet someone from Brentwood who got there first.

I was speaking with Vin (Jim) Carnavale now a resident of Hilton Head, South Carolina and formerly Social Studies teacher and colleague from Sonderling. One day while doing his two mile walk, he walked next to a gentleman with whom he began conversing - a total stranger he thought - until they began to share information about, what they had done prior to their move south. Both it turned out were former educators from "up north". They next discovered they had both taught on Long Island. And then - "Brentwood? You taught in Brentwood too? What's your name? The "stranger" replied - "Arthur Breiger, what's yours?"

These sightings are but the tip of an iceberg of stories that we hear about all the time. For example, when Hank Salerno first heard that Chico Frankel had been diagnosed with cancer, he was to put it mildly - upset. He wanted to know exactly what Chico and Bobbe had been told by their physicians also because Hank's wife Rosie, was ill at the time with something potentially similar. Hank began to ask himself who (beside Chico and Bobbie) he might call to get information. He was in Manhattan at the time on his way to the Terminal in Penn Station when he decided he would call Jerry Cohen, Chairman of Guidance as soon as he got home. Jerry would certainly know, since Chico was a former member of his Department and a friend.

That was what Hank was thinking as he entered the first car of the train. There were no empty seats in it so he had no choice but to walk through to the next car where, he spotted Jerry and Marsha Cohen sitting on the isle midway through the coach. It happens all the time - to many of us, it seems.

Vincent Marina is a business man and half owner of Print-A-Rama on North Broadway in Hicksville. When I first met him I liked and trusted him immediately. We talked business but we also shared personal stuff like, his being a member of the FDNY prior to retiring after 20 years. I shared with him that my father had retired from Engine Co. 282 in Brooklyn after 20 years with the FDNY and I had been a high school teacher for 30 years. "Where", he wanted to know? Brentwood. "*No way*", he said. "*Why? because I graduated from Brentwood High School. I was a member of the wrestling team with Mr. Campo -they said I was pretty good.*" And so he was. Steve Rochester says so.

You, I am certain, have your own story, or stories to tell. I've remembered here only a few of those that I've heard over the years. **Let us hear from you about remembered sightings of yours.**

(To read this article in its entirety, go to robsny.org)

John M. Sherin

WHO KNEW: OLD STUFF & HOW I LEARNED TO LOVE IT by Lucille Fink

The attic in my childhood home was a magical place for me – it also contained the seeds for many of the interests I developed over the years. I loved exploring the contents of the boxes tucked among the rafters. I was particularly interested in the boxes of old photographs. I enjoyed looking at my Polish and Norwegian ancestors in period dress, my parents in their old school pictures, and my male relatives in their service uniforms, taken in exotic locations. I also loved dressing up in the old gowns and having imaginary tea parties with my cousins, using the old furniture and china stored there.

I developed an interest in the past and loved Long Island's historic homes, like Raynham Hill and Sagamore Hill. As a child, I have to admit that I was more interested in the china, furniture, and George Washington's false teeth than I was in the historic value of the homes. I started visiting antique shops at the age of nine, and antique post cards just happened to be affordable. At age eleven, I lugged home an antique Victrola, complete with the horn which I just happened to find in an old, deserted house that my friends and I were exploring. Unfortunately, my mom threw it out because it was so very filthy. She did not appreciate the value of the machine hidden under the dirt and grime.

The more I learned about history, the more I became interested in how people lived in the past. Mark once gave me a thaler, a heavy Saxon coin dated 1599, as a gift. Three brothers are pictured on the coin, but the details became blurred as the coin passed from hand to hand. Whenever I hold it, I wonder about the people who handled it and what it was used to purchase.

I attended my first auction with friends when I was in college in order to buy inexpensive furniture for our apartment. There were so many beautiful and interesting objects offered for sale. We actually purchased an antique toaster and used it daily. We were hooked. We often attend auctions just for fun. The unique objects offered for sale, the bidding wars, and the performance

given by the auctioneer provided great entertainment, as long as you didn't buy anything, the entertainment was free. When I married Mark, we went to auctions every week in order to furnish our apartment. One of my favorite buys was an antique rug from the 1860's. The lively patterns and jewel toned colors just made me feel so happy. Unfortunately, every time we vacuumed, more of the rug disappeared, due to a severe case of dry rot. We had better luck with the furniture that we purchased. We still have many of the pieces that we purchased in the early years of our marriage. I discovered the joy of buying dilapidated furniture and giving it new life. It's so satisfying to strip old paint off a table and see the beauty of the piece revealed.

Whenever we travel, we visit the antique shops and flea markets in the area. Two of my favorites are Portobello Road in London and the Paris Flea Market. They both contain a jumble of booths and shops crammed with everything from the mundane to the exotic.

You can spend a whole day just poking through the vast array of goods. Visiting shops and flea markets is a wonderful way to learn about the culture and history of an area. When you see objects like a suit of armor, a bed warmer, or a whale oil lamp, it seems to make history come alive.

Lately, we've been finding objects from our childhood in the antique shops. It's a little jarring to realize how many years have passed. It makes you wonder how future generations are going to view the relics we leave behind.



TWO PERSPECTIVES by Marge Kirchner, Treasurer

TEACHERS

"What can I do to get these kids to put all the required information on the top of their papers?"

TREASURER

"What else can I do to get our members to put all the required information on their applications?"

MARY PAT LYONS

by Peter Vercillo



As we look back at our time as Brentwood educators, we are heartened by the quality of our many colleagues. Certainly, to any of us who had the privilege of working with her, Mary Pat Lyons exemplifies that excellence.

Mary Pat (please don't call her "Mary") began her career in 1967, at Northwest Elementary. She taught in grades 1,2,4, and 6. In 1978, she moved to Twin Pines, and later became math consultant at Loretta Park. Following her success there, she was selected to be a teacher on special assignment in the then expanding (and to several of us, confounding) area of computer technology.

Wherever she taught, she left an indelible mark. She skillfully adapted to the different age levels, accommodating the varying strengths of her charges, as well as providing them with enlightening and yet fun activities. Her rooms reflected her planning and creativity.

Among her many endeavors at Northwest and Twin Pines, some of us worked with her on 10 consecutive musical plays, each time working with over 100 students. In our first production, we tried to teach some children how to do a Native American dance. From that time on, when

we were in similar situations of disarray, Miss Lyons would flash her famous, infectious smile and just say, "The Indians."

During this period of her career, she was also involved with taking students on overnight camping trips, to Frost Valley and Camps Blue Bay and Edey.

Please know the effort and time she put into these activities was immense, but was typical. As math consultant, she became, in effect, a master teacher. Early on, she took computers and programs home, working on them on her own time. She was one of the first teachers to embrace this field, and helped usher in the technology that is now so prominent in the Brentwood Schools.

It was therefore an easy decision for Mary Pat to next be designated as a special assignment teacher in that area. Working out of the Instructional Media Center, she visited each elementary school, patiently and thoroughly explaining computers to us novices. No question was too silly, no teacher was embarrassed. She was able to empathize with her peers. She taught in-service classes on computers as well, and those classes were always well-attended.

Mary Pat was involved with many district projects and committees, both after school and summers. Some of these were various math and computer groups, including NYSCATE, a state computer organization where she served as president; social studies and science curriculum meetings; teachers' conference days

planning (where she again taught classes ;) and the Brentwood Teachers Association as a delegate. She retired in 2002, and then volunteered time and talent with ROBS.

Though she donated hundreds of hours to the Brentwood Schools, she was devoted to, and made time for, her family. She was always there for her father and mother; in fact, she lived with and cared for her mother until Mrs. Lyons passed away in January of this year. Her older brother, Tom, and his wife Kay; her late sister Kathy; Tom and Kay's children Tom, Michelle, and Brendan; and 5 great nephews, were dear to her. She would speak of them with affection, pride, and gentle humor.

There was also another member of her family. If you visited Mary Pat, you would always find a great canine friend around the house. Mary Pat loved each one. Her pug, Bailey, latest in a long succession, has now found a loving home with another math consultant, Barbara Springer.

Those who knew Mary Pat would surely attest to her tremendous generosity. With my children, with my older, and then younger grandchildren, and when I had an illness, she was there, as she had been for so many others. She was the definition of class and good taste, a credit to the parents and the family she so loved. Professionally, Ms. Mary Pat Lyons was among the best our district has seen. To the numbers of us she touched, she was a great teacher...a great person...a great friend.

NEWS NOTES

Many of our ROBS members are traveling to many places this summer. This editor tripped the light fantastic in San Antonio with the "kids" she grew up with in Brooklyn, NY in April just at Fiesta time and the beginning of the H1N1 (AKA swine) flu pandemic. She, and the other 43 in the group, are all healthy.

Jim Watson (Sond.Eng.'95) is back in Maine, having traveled from Phoenix with his dog Holly. **Rich Edwards** (Sond. Eng. '98), **Richard** and **Pat Huckle** (Sond. Eng.'95) and granddaughter Trinity are visiting in August. **Judi Weissman** and husband Lenny spent a week in Las Vegas. It's their favorite place, though they don't gamble. Go figure! **Marilyn DePlaza** (NMS '88) did Texas, visiting her favorite people: her two granddaughters!

Besides taking the train to the plane, **Patti Monson** (Ross Eng. '08) has been hitting all the Paul McCartney concerts, with time out for Broadway plays with English Department cohorts, **Betty Stosuy** ('03), **Chris Veech** ('91), and **Judi Wiessman** ('07). You'd be surprised at the Brentwood people we meet on the LIRR and in NYC.

Victor and **Audrey Competello** (Bus. Dir. Sec'y.) celebrated their 60th anniversary recently. Many more!

And you would all be surprised at the wealth of Brentwood material there is on Face Book. This editor took the plunge at the end of June at the urging of family, friends and former students. It's great fun to be able to see albums of pictures keeping one up to date on how everyone is doing. Try it, you may like it.

We're thinking of **Fran Graff** (NE Elem.'85), **Letty Sustrin** (Laurel Pk. '98) and **Rita Rosenthal** (NE '88) this month and wishing them well. And glad to see **Lynn Prass** (NMS '91) back from a bout of pneumonia!



Sad passings: Nick's Mom, **Jean (Angela) Geraci** (Supt. Sec'y. to Les Black '95), is mourned by her three sons. Condolences to: 32 Revelyn Ct., Sayville, NY 11782.

Bob (Ambrose) Hickey passed away on May 30. He taught Spanish at the HS, and was Dept. Chair at Ross and the 10th Grade Center. He was 83 and leaves four children.

Bob Merz (Reading Consultant Pine Park) passed away on June 30. Condolences to Ruth Merz at PO Box 395, Stony Brook, NY 11790.

We sadly lost **Renee Brand Arbuiso** (SW Elem.) as well. .

Shirley Brown (Phys. Ed/East Jr. Hi) lost a battle with cancer on July 3. For over 40 years, Shirley privately saw that "her kids" had what they needed if they were in a bind. She also put on a "Gym Show" where students could use the gymnastics skills she taught them. And she worried, and shed many a tear, about her students. Condolences to her sister, Kathy Moses, 1187 Catalta St., Baton Rouge, LA 70815. The full story by Bobbe Frankel at robsny.org

And from **Kath Williams-Ging**: **Gail Inzerillo Latella's** mother, Margaret Inzerillo, died in July. Gail worked in Brentwood for at least 38 years at South Jr., East Jr., and the Freshman Center.

And "'Tis" a sad farewell to thee, Frank McCourt, teacher par excellence.

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES GO OUT TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

Last year we had 389 members. Let's see if we can at least top the 400 mark.

RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

Welcome to ROBS. Dues for the 2009-2010 membership years will be \$25. This includes a \$5 participation fee for RC21 activities. **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 10/31/09 so the Directory can be updated and mailed in a timely fashion. Dues are required by 10/31/09 and before 12/31/09. 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 _____

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

() I am 75 years or older, a ROBS member for 3 consecutive years and entitled to free lifetime Membership. However, a fee of \$5 is necessary, if you wish to participate in RC 21 activities.

() **If you have not filled out a Vote/Cope Pension deduction form**, we have included one for your use. **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. This will save all of us time and postage. We will not accept checks for Vote/Cope. Follow the directions on the enclosed form.

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

() I prefer to receive my newsletter only through the ROBS website (www.robsny.org).

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

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 a pension deduction of \$2.00 per month, it will cost you \$24.00 dollars per year. A \$3.00 deduction will cost you \$36.00 per year. YOU control the amount.

PLEASE sign up for payroll 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.

