



BRTA NEWSLETTER

WWW.BRTA.BIZ

President: Al Marabella

Recording Sec.: Dolores Scanlon

1st VP: Charles Peszynski

Corresponding Sec.: Elisa Harting

2nd VP: Tom Giambra

Membership Sec.: Linda Parada

Treasurer: Stephen Parada

At Large: Mike Marszelek, Ophelia Nicholas,
Theresa Pope

Board Members: Carolyn Cardarella, Josephine Cross, Russell Gervasi, Clarann Josef, Floyd Kruschke,
Ross Monteleone, Sue Nyitrai, Peter Riester

BUFFALO RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

April, 2013

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15—Long Term Insurance Workshop. Information on page 5.

May 29—Spring Luncheon at Windows on the Green, Westwood Country Club. Information on page 4.

June 8—15—Mississippi River Adventure. Openings available. Call Al at 635-9530 or Russ at 839-5781 for information

June 11—Don Guerra Golf Outing at Terry Hills. Information on page 7.

July 31—Day trip to Toronto to see “Anything Goes.” Information on page 8.

Sept. 4—Fall Luncheon at the Millennium —election of officers and introduction of new members. Nomination form on page 6.

Sept. 21-Oct. 1—Tour of Spain. Call Al at 635-9530 or Russ at 839-5781 for information

Oct. 28-31—Fall Foliage Tour—Hudson Valley, Mansions, West Point and others. See page 8.

President's Report

I am aware that most educators rightly sense that the current emphasis on testing of students is a detriment to learning as the students are instructed for the purpose of scoring well on the instrument. The result is that ancillary instruction suffers or is nonexistent. Students who may have interests in other aspects of learning are left unsatisfied. As educators, we should always speak out against these as legitimate means of total student evaluation. Some students only bloom in high school or when and if they reach college (e.g. my brother the attorney. How he ever got into college was a mystery by his H.S. record.)

But even more insidious, assembly line like methods, are now being stressed in education—called scripted learning. In these methods teachers are given a day by day program to regurgitate to students with student responses that are appropriate supplied, no questions allowed. It's build a clone method of education. No creativity allowed. How sad. But does this method account for student absence? No! Day 1 read this, Day 2 read this, Day 3 read this, etc. Child missed Day 2, Too Bad. No back tracking. On top of this students progress must be documented, i.e. paper work. Student papers in non-scripted areas suffer with late correction as time is taken by scripting forms.

I know we are no longer active but if you have a chance to advocate against these “Business” production methods, please do. The actives will certainly appreciate it, as well as the students who may be related to you.

In matters more to BRTA business:

Elections are coming. If interested in becoming active in BRTA as an officer or as a committee chair or member, please contact Peter Riester @ 632-2032. Nomination form can be found on page

BRTA offers many opportunities for travel from One Day trips to 4/5 Day trips to overseas travel. Because we are good (I hope) at it, several agencies give us great deals on travel that I can only offer to members & guests. Next offerings as a group are:

Mississippi with 3 day cruise—6/13/13.

1 Day Toronto “Anything Goes” 7/31. It will sell out. Contact Al Marabella 635-9530.

Cities of Spain—Still room available. 9/21—10/13

(Continued on Page 3)

Benefits Available to BRTA Members

Long-term Care Insurance; BRTA Discounts on Long-term Care Insurance: 1-800-655-4899

Eyewear Discount

Eyewear Unlimited: 716-834-3511
Niagara Labmasters, Inc.
Niagara Falls, NY 716-297-9115
Gary Optical
Lewiston, NY 716-754-255
Boulevard Optical
Tonawanda, NY 716-694-4388

Tires and Service

Discounts at Dunn Tire

Dental Discounts

The North Park Dental Group
716-836-2242

Dental Plan Indurance

Dental Pay Direct 716-836-7013

Group Medical Insurance for those who do not receive the benefit from their school district—Call Pam Styn at Dental Pay Direct at 716-836-7013 or toll free at 1-800-683-3682

Vital Savings by Aetna—Mention membership when you are inquiring about discount programs designed to help you save on dental or pharmaceuticals. 1-877-MY-VITAL (1-800-698-4825) or www.vitalsavings.com

Ballroom, Latin, Swing and Other Styles of Dance—Tara Scime at 716-491-0186 or TMSDance@yahoo.com. Mention your BRTA membership and receive a discount.

IN MEMORIAM

Shirley Steiger	October, 2012
Thelma Collins	December, 2012
Anita White	December, 2012
Jeannette Lombardo	January, 2013
Harold Miller	January, 2013
Joseph Pepicello	January, 2013
Delores Anderson	February, 2013
Henry Williams	April, 2013
Kathleen Howard	April, 2013
James Hall, Sr.	April, 2013
Joseph Varga	April, 2013
Judith Kaplan-Einstein	April, 2013

BRTA would like to acknowledge the passing of those teachers who served the children of Buffalo. If you would like to have someone included

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Canopy of Neighbors is searching for volunteers to make a difference in the life of a homebound senior. If you have one hour or more to volunteer, we would like to speak with you. Canopy provides much needed services to seniors 62 or older in the area from Richmond Avenue to Main Street and from Delaware Avenue to North Street (zip codes 14222 and 14209). Volunteers respond to request for assistance, e.g. run errands, grocery shop, fix-it jobs, hang pictures, change light bulbs, make visits, help with electronics, work in Canopy office, help with special events, assist with putting up Holiday decorations around the house, or just have a cup of tea and be a friend. Assistance with mileage, insurance and Buffalo Car Share opportunities are available if you feel that you would like to drive but not in your own car. Call Kathy at 332-6143 or canopyofneighbors.volunteers@gmail.com

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 3rd year of the BRTA traveling golf league will begin on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 10:30 am at Bob-O-Links Golf Course. This is a non-competitive, fun league with no scores being recorded and attendance voluntary. We will meet each Monday in May at the same time and place, except for Memorial Day.

Beginning in June we will meet at 10:00 am on Mondays. The courses we plan to play are: Bob-O-Links, Bright Meadows, Newfane, & Oakwood. We are still looking for a 5th course.

If you are interested in joining this league or have any questions, please contact Mary Agnes Marabella at mmarabella@roadrunner.com or by phone at 635-9530.

Why Am I Standing Here?

Have you ever gone into your kitchen, stood there, then asked yourself, “Why am I standing in this room?” Eventually you remember why you are in the kitchen. You see someone you know, but you can’t remember his or her name. Later on that day the name of the person will come to your mind. This has happened to all of us and immediately we think we may be experiencing something more than forgetfulness, maybe Alzheimer or some form of dementia. The Mayo Clinic says, “Dementia isn’t a specific disease. Instead, dementia describes a group of symptoms affecting intellectual and social abilities severely enough to interfere with daily functioning”. It could be memory loss, but this by itself does not indicate dementia. It could be impaired judgment or language. You may become confused and not remember people, names or directions to get back home. There may be a change in personality and social behavior.

Some symptoms of dementia are memory loss, difficulty communicating, inability to learn or remember new information, difficulty with coordination, and motor functions, difficulty with planning and organizing, personality changes, inability to reason, inappropriate behavior, agitation, paranoia, and hallucinations.

See your doctor if you are experiencing memory problems or other symptoms. Other medical conditions can cause dementia and can be treated by your doctor.

Source: Mayo Clinic

—Josephine Cross

Congratulations to those celebrating anniversaries: 65 years: Louisiana and John Hilliard

50 years: Elizabeth and Roy Kowalski

50 years: Christine and David Lamberth

PRESIDENT’S REPORT (continued from page 1)

4 Day trip to Hudson Valley. Fall Foliage. See attachment. 10/27—10/30

7 day Paris/London with Chunnel. April 2014

7 Day Canadian Rockies by Rail. More info to come. Summer 2014

10 Day Israel (the Holy Land) Fall 2014

If there are places that you would wish to travel, I now can offer individual or small group bookings at great savings only offer through BRTA. How about a Parade-Side seat for the Rose Bowl or an Alaskan Cruise on Celebrity. If interested call Al Marabella@ 635-9530.

—Al Marabella

Frequently Requested Numbers

Website: www.brta.biz

President: Al Marabella—635-9530

Membership: Linda Parada—875-3392

Luncheons: Ophelia Nicholas—633-1690

Travel: Russ Gervasi—839-5781

Newsletter: Elisa Harting—838-3708

Friendly Service: Josephine Cross—636-3014

Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Invites members & guests to attend
BRTA Annual Spring Luncheon

To take place at

The Windows on the Green @
Westwood Country Club

772 North Forest Road, Amherst, NY 14221

632-1166

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

Social Hour: 11:15 Complimentary Fruit Punch & Cash Bar

Luncheon: 12:15 Choice of:

1) Stuffed Chicken with spinach, Asiago cheese & mushroom sauce

2) Seafood stuffed Filet of Sole with lemon butter sauce

3) 6 oz. Sirloin Filet with wild mushroom demi glaze

Meal includes roasted red potato, glazed baby carrots, chocolate mousse, soda,
iced tea, coffee or tea

Cost: \$23.00 for Members --\$28.00 for Non-members

Payment: Due by Thursday, May 23, 2013

Checks Payable to: Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail to: Ophelia Nicholas (633-1690)

9 Steinway Court

Williamsville, NY 14221

Note Bene: No cash refunds given after reservation deadline. Space is limited to 220 seats. Get in early and not be disappointed.

(Detach and mail lower portion only. Keep upper portion as your reminder)

Spring Luncheon May 29, 2013

Cost \$23. Members \$28. Non-Members

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for me for the Spring Luncheon. My Check for \$_____ is enclosed.

My Choice for Meal is # _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Guest Name _____ Meal Choice # _____

Guest Name _____ Meal Choice # _____

Buffalo Retired Teachers Association
Long-Term Care Insurance Workshop
Tuesday, May 15, 2013

Ways to Register:

Mail this completed form (address and phone required)
to: SMP Agency, 1320 Buffalo Rd., Ste. 211, Rochester,
NY 14624

Call 1-800-655-4899 (24 hours a day)

Online: www.insurancemate.com/brtaseminar.html

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Save lower portion as a reminder!!!

**STAY IN CONTROL OF YOUR HEALTH CARE OPTIONS AND
SAFEGUARD YOUR HARD EARNED RETIREMENT SAVINGS**

Workshop highlights:

- Learn the Difference Between Health Care and Long-Term Care
- How to Avoid Being forced to Sell Your Assets or Surrender Your Money to Medicaid
- Review the NEW and More Restrictive Medicaid Eligibility and Asset Transfer Rules
- How to Maintain Your Estate While Getting the Healthcare You Need
- Review the Benefits and Discounts of the BRTA Long-Term Insurance Plans
- How to Know if Long-Term Insurance is Right for You
- Compare Long-Term Care Insurance Premiums from Several Companies
- Learn About the Four New York State Partnership for Long-Term Care Plans

LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE WORKSHOP

Conducted by Stephen M. Polizzi, CMFC, CLTC, CRPS

Tuesday, May 15, 2013

4:00 PM—5:30 PM

Buffalo Teachers Federation

271 Porter Avenue

Buffalo, NY 14201

In compliance with the Buffalo Retired Teachers Association Bylaws, the Elections Committee has established the following procedures for the nominations of officers:

NOMINATIONS

Nominations can be made by any active member of the B.R.T.A. Individuals may nominate themselves.

Nominations shall be made on the Nomination Form below.

Nominees will be contacted by the Elections Committee prior to June 1, 2013, to verify their willingness to serve in that position.

RETURN THE NOMINATION FORM BELOW BY MAY 15, 2013, TO:

B.R.T.A. ELECTION COMMITTEE

C/O PETER J. RIESTER

163 AVA LANE

WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221-3032

B.R.T.A. OFFICER NOMINATION FORM

Active members may nominate candidates for any or all of the the positions listed below. Individuals may nominate themselves for any of the positions below.

PLEASE PRINT ALL INFORMATION REQUESTED ON THIS FORM

NOMINATION MADE BY (YOUR NAME): _____ **PHONE NUMBER** _____

NOMINEE

THEIR PHONE NUMBER

President _____

First Vice President _____

Second Vice President _____

Treasurer _____

Recording Secretary _____

Corresponding Secretary _____

Membership Secretary _____

At Large Members - 3 Positions to be filled:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Foursome or Individual Names:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Captain _____

Phone _____

Dinner Guest Phone _____

BUFFALO RETIRED TEACHERS ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The Don Guerra Open

Terry Hills Golf Course

Tuesday, June 11, 2013

Report and Sign in at 11:15 a.m.

Cost: \$ 75.00

Includes 18 holes of golf, cart, prizes, hot dog or burger and beverage before tee-off.

Terry Hills Golf Course 5122 Clinton Street Road (1 mile east of Batavia on Rte. 33...

8 minutes from NYS Thruway exit 48)

New this year: Raffle for two sets of 2 passes to the PGA Golf Championship to be held in Rochester in

August, 2013.

STEAK DINNER to follow golfing.

Non-golfers invited to the steak out at \$30.00 per person.

Reservations close May 31, 2013 Limit: 108 golfers

Checks payable to: Buffalo Retired Teachers Association

Mail entry and check to : Ross Monteleone, 222 Parkhurst Blvd., Buffalo,, NY 14223

Buffalo Retired Teachers Association
Announces
a day trip to Toronto
For a matinee performance of
"Anything Goes"
July 31, 2013.

- Depart @ 8:00 am St. Leo's Church lot (885 Sweethome Rd. Amherst, NY)
- Round trip on deluxe motor coach.
- Arrive in Toronto @ 12:00 pm with lunch on your own
- 2:00 Matinee performance (only 56 tickets available)
- 6:00 pm Buffet dinner @ Tuckers Marketplace, Burlington, Ont. (BRTA has been here before with rave reviews)
- Depart for home. Note: Proof of citizenship is required to return to US. Valid passport or enhanced drivers license only.
- 10:00 pm arrive St. Leo's parking lot.

Cost: \$175.00 Total payment is due before April 30, 2013. This trip will be a sellout. Act quickly if interested in attending. No cash refunds are available for theater performances.

For more information call Al Marabella (635-9530) or Russ Gervasi (839-5781).

Please make checks payable to Buffalo Retired Teachers Association
and Mail to: BRTA Travel
P O Box 1009
Williamsville, NY 14231

Buffalo Retired Teachers Association
Presents
Hudson Valley Tour
Oct. 27—30, 2013
Departing from St. Leo's Church,
930 Sweet Home Rd, 14226 @ 8:00 am.

Highlights:

- Deluxe Motor Coach
- 3 nights in Kingston, NY area
- Lunch at Culinary Institute
- Purple Heart Hall of Fame
- Hudson River Cruise
- Tour of Culinary Institute
- Tour of Vanderbilt Mansion
- Tour of Eleanor Roosevelt's Retreat
- US Military Academy—West Point
- & More

Cost: \$569.00 per person Double Occupancy

A deposit of \$75.00 is due as soon as possible. Final Payment is due by Fri., August 9, 2013.

Please make checks payable to Buffalo Retired Teachers Assn.

and Mail to: Russell Gervasi
212 Burroughs
Snyder, NY 14222

Please reserve _____ places for me on the Hudson Valley Tour.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

e-mail address: _____

Roommate _____ Phone _____

My deposit/payment of \$_____ is enclosed.