

ROBS NewsLetter

NUMBER 25

RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

APRIL 1998

STATE OF THE UNION: No fooling!

Brentwood Teacher's Association President Joe Hogan's opening words to ROBS members on April 1st were: "The news is good! No fooling!" This is the second year that the residents of Brentwood have experienced a school tax decrease at the same time that the district has received a 10% increase in funding from the state. The district will be hiring 40 new teachers, as well as replacements for the 20 that will be retiring this June.

Portables are back, but this time with a classy reputation. Brentwood is adding state of the art portables at the high school, Pine Park, Twin Pines, and Oak Park ... and teachers are champing at the bit to get into them! Hogan estimates that in 3 or 4 years, Brentwood will be the largest district again, surpassing Sachem with more teachers, as well as students.

Teachers are getting younger and younger. Hogan praised the ROBS History Project. Compiling the history of what went on before these young people were even born will be vital for them as they battle renewable certification, Regents requirements' impact on Special Ed, and extending the school year, among other issues.

Community news is also good. There are no contested school board seats. There is no organized Tax Pac group. Rather than cutting back on programs, the district is expanding: adding school psychologists, speech and library personnel, etc.. The one bad thing that is happening in the Brentwood community is the emergence of violent gangs and all the horrendous problems that entails for the schools as well.

Joe Hogan did say that he would be with us retirees in 2005. But it was April Fool's Day!

To open the program, ROBS' very own retired Social Studies teacher, Bill Lane, regaled us with some of his wonderful "poetic comics," all original. He closed by calling his wife, Polly, also a ROBS member, "a saint for putting up with all this!"

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

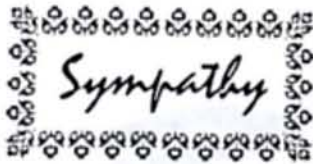
For the second year in a row, a ROBS member has been selected as a NYSUT Community Service Award winner. Christin Veech was nominated by Retiree Council 21, and confirmed by the NYSUT Community Service Committee in March.

This award was created in 1992 to recognize the contribution of NYSUT members to the growth and well being of the communities where they live and work. Chris was recognized for her work with the Presbytery of Long Island's Council On Women and the

Racial Justice Committee, among many other commitments over the years..

In a letter to Chris, Tom Hobart, NYSUT President wrote, "Your dedication and commitment exemplify the best of our members. You are applauded and congratulated for volunteering your time, talent and energy."

Last year's recipient was Ruth McCalla. Congratulations to ROBS, as well as Chris!



NEWS NOTES

We send our sympathies to **Sarah Hardman** whose husband passed away in Delray Beach, Florida.

Bob Farina, a high school social studies retiree who lives in Pennsylvania, sends his hello to all old friends. Thinking of you, **Bob!**

It was back to St. Francis Hospital for **Gene LaColla**, who is recuperating from a car accident in February. Hope all is going well, **Gene**.

Joyce Rosenthal, a SouthWest retiree, is happily showing everyone pictures of two new grandchildren, Michael born in December joining 4 year old Andrea, and Jasmine, born in January. Congratulations all!

Beverly Carpenter and husband John, were presented with a great grandchild in Montana in January. WOW!

Not to be outdone, **Bill and Polly Lane** announced proudly that they have two great grandchildren! And Bill and Polly will celebrate their 51st anniversary in June! WOW! WOW! WOW! Congratulations on all this good stuff!

And another WOW! **Candy Santiago**, retired secretary from Village and North is a great grandmom too. Her daughter **Candy**, a former student of **Jack Zuckerman**, is the grandmother! Now that's scary! But wonderful too! Congratulations.



CONGRATULATIONS

ROBS ELECTION FOR THE MILLENNIUM

Ruth McCalla, Chair of the ROBS Nomination Committee, along with committee members, Polly Lane and Verne Spencer, urge attendance at the general meeting on Wednesday, May 6th in order to vote for officers that will take us into the year 2000.

Rounding out that meeting will be Vernell Stokes, Director of NYSUT Member Benefits. "Your vote counts. Come and bring a member friend. Future good things are in the making," Ruth McCalla states.

Wednesday, May 6, 1998
Islip Public Library
10 A.M.

SAMPLE BALLOT for R.O.B.S.

PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 1998-2000

President.....() - Dorothy Zuckerman
() -
() -

Vice Pres.....() -Harriet Pepine
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() -

Secretary() -Lynn Prass
() -
() -

Treasurer() -Lilian Kelly
() -
() -

Nominations from the floor will be entertained

Voting will be conducted by secret ballot





ROBS LUNCHEON

Wednesday, June 3, 1998
11:30 - 3:30

BONWIT INN

Commack Road and Vanderbilt Motor Parkway
Commack
499-2068

ROBS MEMBERS: \$17 (tax & gratuities paid by ROBS)
NON-MEMBERS: \$20.50

MENU

Broiled Filet of Sole

Dusted in fresh bread crumbs & baked with a tangy herb sauce

Stuffed Breast of Chicken

*Filled with Ricotta Cheese & Proscuitto, breaded & baked
served with Penne Pasta & a light tomato sauce*

Sliced Top Sirloin of Beef

Hearty slices of fresh Roast Beef served with Mushroom Gravy

Dessert

Ice Cream Sundae

Unlimited soft drinks

CASH BAR



Clip and return with check made out to ROBS by Friday, May 22, 1998. Mail to:

HARRIET PEPINE, 82 Gloria Blvd., Hauppauge, N.Y. 11788
516-234-1247

NAME _____ NO. OF PEOPLE _____
ADDRESS _____ AMT. ENCLOSED _____
_____ PHONE _____



CHUCK GOEHRING RETIRING

The Brentwood Athletic Booster Club is hosting a retirement party for Chuck Goehring, a Brentwood Phys. Ed. teacher, Coach and finally Athletic Director. It will be held on Thursday, May 7th at the Watermill Inn from 6 to 11:30 P.M..

To attend (\$50) or contribute toward a gift, contact Joe Forte: 434-2541. Folks are also asked if they have any interesting photos of Chuck to submit them for display. If you wish to be a speaker or make a presentation, let Joe know as well. Mail address is: Booster Club, Brentwood Freshman Center, 33 Leahy Avenue, Brentwood 11717.

MICHAEL J. GRANT BRENTWOOD LEADER

ROBS notes with sadness the death of MICHAEL GRANT, 66, former Suffolk Legislator and Brentwood leader on May 5th. He died at Stony Brook of cancer. Mike did a lot for the Brentwood community and will be missed.

To quote **NEWSDAY**: "The gregarious Mr. Grant was an undertaker by profession, but his decades in politics and community affairs led many to give him the informal title 'Mayor of Brentwood.' He leaves his wife, Georgia, 5 children and 12 grandchildren.



ROBS DIRECTORY IS IN THE MAIL

Expect the ROBS Directory soon. It's in 3rd Class Mail. We already have updates (see below). ROBS would like to thank Jack Zuckerman, who despite impending surgery spent many, many hours at the computer compiling all the information you will receive for over 300 members. We would also like to thank Mary Ruffino and the Brentwood Teacher's Association staff for their excellent work producing the product. And Helene Antwarg, Ruth McCalla, Harriet Pepine and Joyce Rosenberg for putting it together, as well as Mary Ruffino, again, for getting it to the Post Office. **IT IS A BIG JOB!**