



ROBS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2005

RETIRES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS

ISSUE 61



OCTOBER SURPRISE !!

Come to the ROBS Friday, October 14th meeting and hear about the ROBS Writer's Group...a group of guys who are finding their voices (no they aren't going to sing!) by going deeply into their shared experiences and writing down those embarrassing, cruel, wonderful and happy things that happened in Brentwood during their tenures! Come and hear them come clean!

ROBS MEETING DATES:
Bay Shore Public Library
10 AM
October 14
November 10
December 2 (Luncheon)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Phyll's Forum	2
Lillian & Jeanne B	3
News Notes	4
Pet Profile	5
Free Credit Report	5
NYSUT Ad	6
Membership 2005-2006	7-8

IN THE WAKE OF KATRINA

Nearly 15,000 education employees represented by the AFT in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama have been affected by Hurricane Katrina. Many have been displaced and have lost their homes and belongings.

Katrina has also destroyed or damaged schools in at least six Louisiana parishes and two Mississippi counties, leaving thousands of teachers wondering if they still have jobs. Louisiana Department of Education has notified teachers on its web site that they are possibly eligible for temporary unemployment benefits.

Some parishes are still trying to pay teachers, even though school will probably not be in session for months - if at all. "We can't just cut these people off," says Carol Roberts, an administrator in Plaquemines Parish. "We're going to attempt to make payroll for as long as is financially possible."

AFT has been working hard with locals in Houston, Dal-

las, San Antonio and Austin which have been serving as clearinghouses to locate members and their families and coordinate benefits for them. AFT and Texas Federation of Teachers have been particularly active in raising money and providing needed supplies for AFT evacuees as has the Louisiana Federation of Teachers.

Also, AFT healthcare workers are among the hundreds of volunteers who heeded the call to travel to hard hit areas to provide basic care, first aid, and case work for evacuees.

To make a secure donation online, go to www.aft.org/katrina/ & follow directions for Visa or MasterCard transaction. Or send check payable to AFT (memo: disaster relief) to: AFT Disaster Relief Fund/ Attn. Connie Cordovilla, 555 New Jersey Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001.

Other interesting news, according to the *Wall Street*

Journal, forty members of a conservative caucus, is mapping strategy for an aggressive agenda in the wake of the hurricane. Among its "relief initiatives" are: limit victims rights to sue; lift environmental restrictions; create "tax advantaged enterprise zones" to maximize private participation in recovery and reconstruction; launch a voucher plan for all evacuated students to use at the school of their choice-including private and parochial schools.

Meanwhile, with New Orleans still busy pumping toxic floodwater from its streets, the ink was dry on President Bush's executive orders suspending David-Bacon wage protection for relief workers and offering no-bid contracts to well-connected corporations such as Halliburton, Bechtel Group and Flour Corp., to speed up recovery.

(excerpted from: *Christian Science Monitor* & *AFT Retirees*)

BRENTWOOD'S 4th CASUALTY in THE WAR on TERROR

Pfc. Jose Ruiz, a 1994 Brentwood graduate was killed on August 15, three weeks before he was to rejoin his wife and infant daughter. He had been home for two weeks in January.

He died when he was hit by

small arms fire from a civilian vehicle while conducting a security operation in Mosul, Iraq.

Brentwood High teacher & former marine, Chris Chamberlin said that though he was proud of his students who join the military, the

mounting death toll was increasingly painful for a school he described as intimate & personal.

Including Ruiz, 13 soldiers from Long Island have been killed in Iraq and 5 have died in Afghanistan.

PHYLL'S FORUM

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



Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to a very interesting year. There are quite a few new items this year. COLA had been improved with the cap on retiree earnings set at \$18,000. NYSUT is encouraging legislation to raise the cap to \$25,000.

Although the Health Insurance Moratorium was extended through May 2006, NYSUT is actively pursuing a permanent health insurance moratorium for retirees.

The Medicare Prescription Drug Plan is scheduled to take effect in January 2006. NYSUT has established a web site in conjunction with the Medicare Rights

Center to assist members in accessing information on health care benefits. The web address is www.medicareinteractiveorg/nysut. NYSUT is providing training for Retiree Services staff, designed to help members select the option that is best suited for them.

On August 13th, a very successful rally was held at the FDR Library celebrating union solidarity for the 70th Anniversary of Social Security. We urge you to contact your elected representatives to reject provisions that would undermine or destroy Social Security through privatization. You can log on to www.nysut.org and click on "contact your member of Congress"

to send a pre-written letter. Call (877) 331-1223 to speak to your member of Congress. Congress has time to strengthen Social Security properly without slashing benefits.

TAKE A STAND, WRITE THOSE LETTERS AND MAKE THOSE PHONE CALLS.

In Harmony,
Phyllis Goodwin

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR DUES AND APPLICATION ENCLOSED, IF YOU HAVEN'T DONE SO. VOTE COPE TOO!

A Note from Marge Kirchner

Being Treasurer of ROBS continues to be one of the nicest things I do. I also am on the Board of and serve as Treasurer of the Parish Resource Center in Rocky Point. Beyond that I teach a Women's Bible Study group and I am very much involved with HERSTORY, a women's memoir writing group.

This is a particularly busy time for me now that the membership drive for ROBS is in full swing: I am getting applications and dues almost every day. Many of our members send me little notes along with their applications and dues.

They definitely are fun to read—and bring back many memories. I thought I'd share some with you:

"If you ever get down this way, stop by. I'm at exit 195 off I 95.

I really appreciate the newsletter I receive.

I didn't realize how actively involved you are in ROBS. Good for you!

I'm sending thanks to the "Dynamic Duo" who graciously interviewed me for the History Project.

Hope all is well—take care.

Many thanks for all your good work on behalf of us.

I'm over 75, but I'm sending you \$20.00 because I like what you do.

Loving retirement in Florida.

Hope you are enjoying the summer. Just make sure to use an SPF of at least 30.

My sister and I send many thanks to Chris Veech for the terrific article on us. I could never keep up with her even if I were younger.

Tell everyone I said hello."

ROBS NEWSLETTER

CONTENT EDITOR: Christin Veech

(chriveech@aol.com)

COORD. COMM.: Phyllis Goodwin

(pbgoodwin@msn.com)

ROBS OFFICERS

PRES. Phyllis Goodwin

V.PRES. Harriet Pepine

SEC'Y. Adrienne Eastman

TREAS. Marge Kirchner

"In a perfect world, the best of us would be teachers.

The rest of us – would have to settle for less."

- Lee Iacocca



ROBS Newsletter Editorial Board:

Carmela Criscione

Adrienne Eastman

Linda Gibson

Phyllis Goodwin

Marge Kirchner

THE M-T CORNER

"We have just enough religion to make us hate, but not enough to make us love one another."

— Jonathan Swift

LILIAN KELLY REMEMBERED

Lilian passed away suddenly on September 8th after a long fight with cancer. She leaves her daughter, Eileen, who teaches at South, and many, many grief stricken friends and colleagues.

Active till the end, she served ROBS first as treasurer and then as delegate to RC 21. She continued her work coaching at South and as BTA Treasurer after her official '96 retirement. She also handled scholarships. Ever the traveler, this past August she made the trip to Russia with fellow ROBS members.

Fittingly, her last action for ROBS was to open, and adjourn, the August Executive Board meeting before her last chemotherapy session. Her wake was attended by many active and retired Brentwood staff, who honored the memory of a loving and hard working native of Malta, whose loyalty to Brentwood and its students will always be legendary.

Marty Hochheiser shared this with us: When one thinks of Lilian, a vision comes to mind of a courageous woman with an indomitable spirit in the face of adversity. One is also reminded of an advocate for children and a toiler for all of us through union activities. I would like to share with you the poem I wrote for her "retirement," in 1996:

*Pataki, Clinton, et al., cannot agree on budgets for spending,
They could use Lilian, her fiscal acumen is mind bending...
Although she doesn't wear a titi and can't really do a plie',
With Lilian running the Dance Program, more scholarships are given
away.
As a delegate, she attended sessions,, conventions & many a boring
speech
She was heard to say: You should put these people in a classroom and
let them try to teach!"
At South she has run the Kickline, Cheerleaders and much more,
You could find her with the Travel Club visiting many a foreign shore.
Though not a Grand Marshall, you'd often see her at a parade,
She has done so much, instead of replacing her, they surely wished
she'd stayed...*

*Lilian, we'll miss many things about you as you depart,
But most of all we'll miss the warmth of your tender heart.*

In the September *Impact*, BTA President Joe Hogan penned a tribute (excerpted here) to "Ms. Lilian Kelly,":

"...Our lady from Malta was much more than a teacher, coach, and treasurer – she was a friend – a friend who would often drive us crazy! ...She would collect money at our parties and dance recital. I often remember telling her to stop collecting...and I would always get, "Joe, you just don't understand," and she would continue collecting up to the last minute....[After the party] Lilian would be in the kitchen gathering all the leftovers. [for the people in the community who had nothing.] Lil would proceed to fill up her car and deliver those ... to one of her needy families.

"Several years ago, Lil became aware of her illness. Over these last years, my friend taught me probably the most important lesson of all – how to face true adversity head on and make all those around you comfortable. Lilian knew what was going to happen but never stopped fighting and never allowed her illness to hinder her work for her kids or her union.

"Lil, I do understand; I understand that we have lost a great lady and that we are all much poorer for that loss. I will remember Lil every time there is a party, a recital, a parade, or a debate over spending. I will remember my friend every spring when the many flowers she gave me bloom in my garden. My life is richer for having known Lil; the lives of my union members, and all who are and have been part of it, are richer in many ways because of her."

Cards may be sent to Eileen at: 65 40th Street, Islip 11751; phone, 631-277-6333.

Donations to the Bartolo-Kelly Academic Scholarship Fund (write Bartolo-Kelly on the memo line) in Lilian's memory can be sent to BTA at 350 Motor Parkway, Suite LL5, Hauppauge, NY 11788; or to Ovarian Cancer research.

Rest in Peace, Lilian



OUR JEANNE B

Dancing on a table in the Ross Teacher's cafeteria 1992

Lou Anzovino: Actually I'd gotten close with Jeanne when I worked in Ross and fell head over heels e for her (who didn't?). I can't imagine that spirit, that energy and joy for living not being here on the planet. Her final memo to staff when she retired, said: "...I love you all. Be kind to each other. I'll miss you, but you'll always be in my heart. Arriverderci, my loves." Jeanne B

JEANNE BUKOWSKI, retired Ross HS Secretary, died as a result of a stroke on August 27. She leaves her husband Harry and sons (Brentwood grads) Kent, Bobby, John, Hank, Glenn and families. (11 Loraine Street, Brentwood 11717). Among the many remembrances:

John Sherin: Jeanne B (as we knew her) will forever be missed - never forgotten. She was an original.

Janet Anderson: Jeanne (who was one of a kind). I will miss her greatly, as we used to get together for lunch with Caryl Meringolo (Ross Attendance) when I went back to L I to visit.

Marty Riger: She was a great lady, the heart and soul of the Ross Bldg.

Grace Fishenfeld: What a gal she was! All those years charming us with her humor. One Parent's Night, she floated down a flight of steps with a cup of water on her head, singing "I'll Climb The Stairway To Paradise (with one step every day)." At the bottom of the landing, she walked away, into her office, with the cup on her head.

Lou Anzovino: Actually I'd gotten close with Jeanne when I worked in Ross and fell head over heels e for her (who didn't?). I can't imagine that spirit, that energy and joy for living not being here on the planet.

Her final memo to staff when she retired, said: "...I love you all. Be kind to each other. I'll miss you, but you'll always be in my heart. Arriverderci, my loves." Jeanne B

Jeanne: you'll always be in our hearts too; your exuberance, your love and your smile!

NEWS NOTES



Happy Birthday wishes to a very special lady! **Dolores Osborne's** (East Kindergarten '96) Mom, Doris Osborne, celebrated her 101st birthday this past July.

And speaking of birthdays, this editor called **Florence Koehler** (Elem. Reading '68) to wish her a Happy on our shared birth date of 9/11. She is happily situated in NC near her children and grandchildren and expecting a great grandchild soon. But she misses ROBS and her friends up here: she sends her best to us all. She just turned 93!

June Farbman, (Hemlock '85) **Paula Friedman** (Southeast '85) and **Edith Erder** (Northeast '85) got together recently to celebrate **Rhoda Stamler's** (EJH '85) birthday. **Rhoda** has been busy establishing an after school program in a Ft. Lauderdale library and it was so successful that it earned local and national awards. **June** volunteers there. **Paula** cruises her way along the rivers of Europe and is active in various charitable organizations. **Edith** has been volunteering in the Community Service Office at the South County Courthouse in Palm Beach for the past 11 years, as well as being active in women's organizations in the area. **Loretta Ellington** is in Florida as well, and misses Brentwood colleagues as well. They all send their greeting to ROBS members!

Celebrating again is **Miriam Couch** (S Middle '00) as she goes into her 3rd phase of retirement. She has left her Suffolk County job and is enjoying her freedom. She reports that she can still be reached at her home phone, 631-281-3822, or her same email: dealcouch@yahoo.com

Busy twin beavers are **Letty and Sheila Sustrin** (Laurel '98) who are plugging their 2nd book about Mrs. Belle. Besides appearing everywhere to talk about and sign copies, they are appearing on TV as well. Bonnie Graham's "Senior Moments": Cablevision Channel 20 (Public Access) Nassau and Western Suffolk Friday, Sept. 16th at 7 P.M. Friday, & Oct. 7th at 11 A.M. All the other viewing will be on the Great Neck (Local Cable 20) if you get that.

Traveling by van to North & South Carolina from Florida this summer were Henry & **Marilyn DePlaza** (NJH '89). They spent some time with **Nancy Michelson Ben-Dror** (Pine Pk.-K) in SC. She has 80 acres with stables and horses. She shows her 6 dogs, teaches agility and obedience. "There is life after Brentwood," opines Marilyn.

Peter Hoegel (Ross '01) had a hectic time when he attended his son's wedding in NC on August 27. The newlyweds were unable to go home since they live in Kenner, LA (between New Orleans and Lake Ponchartraine). **Peter's** son is on recovery duty at the shipyards that got smashed and flooded there.

A bad back, and active teacher **Judi Hearst Weissman**, led **Chris Veech** (Ross '91) to chiropractor and former student **Dennis Da Silva** ('78) who wondered where his shop teacher **Rich Huttner** was. The Town Crier tracked him down and hopefully they have made contact. Dennis has a practice in Brentwood and he is exceptionally good! 631-434-7053. **Chris** also ran into another graduate who owns V & J Auto Body Inc. in N. Lindenhurst: 631-226-0070. (Don't ask!) **John Cacciatore**, and his sister **Donna**, who graduated in the early '80's, shared lots of spicy and secret details of life at Brentwood High School. Great knowing our students are out there making it in today's cutthroat world! And remembering their school so lovingly. We done good?

Get well wishes to **Lillian Yedwabnick** (Spec. Ed.) who had a heart attack, lillianyed@aol.com, as did **Tony Torregrossa**; **Suzanne Gusterson** (Spec. Ed.); **Jack Zuckerman** (Ross '90) recuperating from surgery. Thinking of you wishes go to **Edie Filosa** (Sond. '89). **Paula & Bob Bronzo** (Special Ed) are recuperating from an accident in Vermont. Get well, all of you.



Our sympathy has been extended to the following upon the passing of their loved ones: the families of **Mary White** (clerical business office); **Fran Bold** (Business, Sond. '93) who died suddenly of cancer 9/18; **Frank Ramie** (former Board member). Also our condolences are extended to **Ellen Edelstein** (Sond. '05) on the death of her mother, **Sophie** on 9/18, 26 4th Avenue, Brentwood, NY 11717, phone - 273 6960; and **Phyllis Goodwin** (Laurel Pk. '98) on the death of her loving friend, **Pat Edmonds**.

Also on Sept. 18, former AFT and United Federation of Teachers President **Sandra Feldman** passed away at her home in New York City. She was 65. Feldman was a nationally recognized proponent of public education and one of the pioneers who built NSUT. "Sandy Feldman's courageous battle against breast cancer was yet another remarkable chapter in a remarkable life," said NYSUT President **Dick Iannuzzi**.

ROBS PET PROFILES: TRAVELING WITH A PET & ENJOYING IT! Shiela & Letty Sustrin

(IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR PET HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS COLUMN, CONTACT US AT: 631-586-8150 OR EMAIL US AT twinniesls@aol.com)

The alarm clock went off at 5 AM and we jumped out of bed. This morning our trip to Florida would begin. After packing the car for 2 days and rearranging everything. WE WERE READY! The back seat was filled to capacity with necessary items that Belle, our little Scottish Terrier, would need for the journey. There was her big beautiful bed with "BELLE" embroidered on it, her doggie litter box with a pile of NY Times (her favorite newspaper), a satchel of toys and balls, 2 wooden gates, a Tapestry Tote filled with dog food and all sorts of goodies that canines love, and her special miniature patent leather travel case that came equipped with 2 chrome bowls for water and food. All the comforts of home were going with her. We were given a little space in the trunk for our things, as we needed room there for Belle's little plastic bathtub, towels and a brush.



We piled into the front seat with Belle between us, sitting on her big pillow like a little princess. She was surrounded with 2 bones, a ball, and her favorite toy, "Brown Bear," that has been with her since she was a tiny puppy. It's a latex rubber bear and is her constant companion. She can't fall asleep unless it's tucked between her paws and in her mouth like a pacifier.

For three days we traveled by day and slept at night in motels that would accept pets. We were happy to find that most major motel chains are very "pet friendly," and give you a great big smile when you sign in and they tell you there is a "slight" extra charge for your dog. We paid anywhere from \$10 to \$25 per night for Belle to enjoy herself. In Fredericksburg, Virginia, the motel manager even gave us a gift bag filled with goodies for Belle. It contained dog biscuits and a rawhide stick.

Stopping at rest stops was the highlight of Belle's day. She loves dogs and truly enjoyed playing with the other four legged animals that were also being walked. It's amazing how so many states (once you leave NY) have beautiful dog walking areas for travelers.

Belle ate, drank and slept all the way from NY to Florida. Upon arriving in the Sunshine State, her fun began. Being such a well behaved girl, she was wined and dined by all our friends and relatives. We think she was beginning to forget that she was a dog. Her favorite motel was in Boca Raton. It was built like a little development of attached Swiss Chalets. She loved the kitchen, sitting room area, little outside balcony and especially the king sized beds. Belle wouldn't even sleep in her own bed. This was pure luxury!

The return journey was quiet and uneventful. Belle slept most of the time as she was absolutely exhausted. When we got off the Southern State Parkway at Deer Park Avenue, we started to tell Belle that "we are home." She began to get very excited and when we pulled into our development she was overjoyed.

The next few days were a little traumatic as we realized Belle was missing all the action and activities of the trip. We sat down and had a "heart to heart" session and promised her that we will take her on another trip sometime in November to visit two of her favorite people, Dottie and Ron, her breeders in North Carolina.

Now Belle is happy again. She is eagerly awaiting her next journey and we are looking forward to taking her with us as we love "traveling with our pet and enjoying it."

FREE CREDIT REPORT

Now we are entitled to a once a year free credit report. The free report will allow you to get your credit status from all three reporting agencies: Equifax, Transunion & Experian. You might want to spend the \$6.95 at Equifax to get your "FICI Score" - a number between 0-850 that rates your overall credit and is used by many loan, mortgage, credit card, agencies, etc. To get your free report, go to: www.annualcreditreport.com & follow directions.

Reconciliation Bills Delayed to After October 26 by Katrina

Among them is a bill to cut mandatory federal spending by \$35 billion includes new federal rules to create a more rigid "assets test" which will make it more difficult for seniors to receive Medicaid financed nursing home or home care.

Those who have given away assets up to 5 years before nursing or home care - to sick family members,

charities and college bound grandchildren - must recover the value of these funds or property and use these for expenses before becoming eligible for Medicaid. Unexpected illnesses, strokes, or Alzheimer's disease would not change the 5 year requirement, and record keeping would be a severe burden on most seniors.

Key congressional committees have indicated that major changes are being planned in this part of the bill. AFT will be an active participant in reducing these Draconian requirements.

Financial obligations don't end at retirement... Neither should your life insurance!

The NYSUT WrapPlan® Supplemental Life Insurance Program complements term life insurance coverage available to members. The plan coordinates easily with the NYSUT Term Life Insurance Plan and any term life insurance coverage provided to members from their local union affiliation or employer.

The common characteristic of term life insurance is that coverage typically terminates or dramatically decreases at upper ages or at retirement. When this loss of coverage occurred in the past, the options were limited. Members could apply for an expensive conversion policy, apply for fully underwritten coverage if they were healthy, or simply forgo the needed protection.



The WrapPlan allows members and spouses who are age 65 or younger to apply for a lesser amount of coverage (as little as 50 percent of their current term benefit), and have the protection increase when their term insurance decreases or terminates. This benefit, which can be custom designed for a member's individual family, financial and career needs, includes the following features:

- Coverage may be continued to age 95.
- Premiums may be set to produce as much or as little cash value as desired.
- Up to \$200,000 of coverage is available without a physical examination or blood test.
- Retirees (up to age 65) are eligible to apply for up to \$100,000 of coverage.
- Coverage amounts and increase dates may be adjusted to meet a member's changing financial picture.
- Account values accumulate at competitive interest rates on a tax-deferred basis.

You must live or work in the state of New York to participate in this program.

NYSUT Member Benefits negotiated several other features that make this plan unique. To find out more, call the plan administrator, Future Planning Associates, Inc., at 1-866-697-8897.

For more information about this program or for disclosure information about contractual expense reimbursement arrangements with endorsed providers, please call NYSUT Member Benefits at 800-626-8101, e-mail benefits@nysutmail.org, or visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org.

IF YOU HAVE ALREADY SENT IN YOUR APPLICATION, DO NOT SEND A DUPLICATE!!!

**RETIREES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS
2005 - 2006
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Yes, it's that time of year again. Dues for the 2005 - 2006 membership year remain at \$20. Your check should be made out to ROBS. We think you will agree it's still a bargain.

Please complete the following information and return it no later than 10/31/05. The cut-off date is necessary if the Directory is to be updated and mailed in a timely fashion. Dues are required by 10/31/05. Any checks received after 10/31/05 will be deposited in our account for the 2005-2006 membership year but will not give you the opportunity to be included in the Directory.

PLEASE PRINT AND COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION...THANK YOU!

Name _____

Address #1 _____
Street _____ City State Zip _____ Dates _____

Address #2* _____
Street _____ City State Zip _____ Dates _____

***Many of you have second homes. Please list the effective dates for each address.**

Phone # (1) _____ (2) _____

Fax # _____

Email _____

Retirement Year _____ Building Retired from: _____

My birthday information is: Month _____ Day _____

() I DO NOT WANT TO BE INCLUDED IN THE DIRECTORY.

() I WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE HISTORY PROJECT. PLEASE CONTACT ME.

() *ENCLOSED IS MY VOTE/COPE CONTRIBUTION IN A SEPARATE CHECK MADE OUT TO NYSUT VOTE/COPE. MINIMUM SUGGESTED CONTRIBUTION IS \$20*

This form and check(s) should be sent to:

**Marge Kirchner, Treasurer
666 Hawkins Road East
Coram NY 11727**

**ROBS
RETIRES OF BRENTWOOD SCHOOLS
MEMBERSHIP 2005-2006**

Your \$20 dues for the year are dispensed as follows:

NEWSLETTER: Whether you remained in the area or have relocated you can stay in touch by receiving our periodic newsletter which 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, Elder Law, Hobbies, Home Repair for Seniors and the History Project has been presented at our meetings. Refreshments are served. In addition, there are three social meetings: the Holiday Luncheon, a New Year's Breakfast and the End of the Year Luncheon (there is a separate charge for these events).

SCHOLARSHIPS: ROBS provided scholarship money for three Brentwood graduating seniors who are pursuing a career in education. Our newsletter is printed and collated by AHRC. This is another form of scholarship to 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 also 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.

COMPLIMENTARY MEMBERSHIP: At age 75 and after 3 consecutive years of ROBS membership.

RETIREE COUNCIL 21: \$5 of your dues entitles you to membership in RC 21 and its' activities.

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. ROBS dues will be \$15.

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 a minimum donation of \$20 but please feel free to contribute as much as you can.