

Northern Fairfield County Retired Teachers' Association
Spring Luncheon
May 21, 2019

The spring luncheon of Northern Fairfield County Retired Teachers' Association was held at Anthony's Lake Club on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 11:30 AM.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Rona Rothhouse at 11:30.

President's Remarks

Rona welcomed everyone to the meeting. She distributed a copy of a flier that she received from the ARTC executive board meeting. The flier contained the latest information regarding our pension, health insurance and the 50% tax exclusion.

She explained that at the ARTC luncheon, State Treasurer Wooden presented information regarding Senate Bill 873 which is an act to stabilize the teachers' pensions. She urged all of the members to contact their representatives in support of this bill. In addition, members should urge their legislators to vote NO on House Bill 7150 which shifts a portion of the teachers' pensions to towns.

She talked about the importance of joining ARTC because of all the important work that they do for retired teachers.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Libby Kasimir, reported that through the generosity of its members NFCRTA currently has \$5,095 in savings, \$3,096 in checking, \$11,000 in a CD and \$3,996 in another CD. There was a motion made and passed to increase the Mary Edgett Scholarship to \$2,000 and the Memorial Scholarship to \$1,500.

Raffle

Libby collected \$300 from the 50/50 raffle. It was won by Linda Stark. The remaining 50% goes to the scholarship fund.

Membership Report:

Membership Chairperson, June Jones, reported that for the 2018-2019 calendar year there are 336 members on the roster; not all are paying dues members. Some let their membership laps and then they rejoin. Members were contacted by mail for the Spring Luncheon, but most communication is now done through email. She stated that on average 10% of new retirees join NFCRTA.

Scholarship Awards:

Two students from Danbury High School will be awarded the Mary Edgett Scholarship and the Memorial Scholarship. The winners have not been selected at this time.

Webmaster Report

Joretta Kilcourse explained that there is a link on the website so members can contact their legislators to remind them to vote YES for SB873 and NO for House Bill 7150.

Danbury Historical Society is looking for judges for a project based learning initiative that is taking place at both middle schools.

Adjournment

The meeting temporarily adjourned so that lunch could be served.

Resumption of Meeting

Rona introduced Bob Becker who is an award winning writer, director and producer of Fortune companies and non-profits. He provided a very entertaining and informative program on documenting memoirs. He explained that it is an opportunity for you to revisit something. There is a part of the unpacking that is really very helpful. Our memories are like time release capsules. What is it the you have learned over this life time? What makes you, you? He explained that your children may not be interested in your memoirs, but your grandchildren will be interested.

A question that is often asked is “Where do I start?” Think of it as a puzzle. Dump the pieces on the table and start at the edges...your job is to write! Do you need to share it?- not necessarily. Memoir writing helps you to remember, gives you permission to be proud of somethings and to let go of somethings. There is value in remembering and sharing.

He mentors a group at Bethel Library, every Wednesday from 1-2:00.
Anyone can join and it is free.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Baker
Recording Secretary