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Welcome, brothers and sisters to the last Beacon issue of the 2018-2019 school year. Things are both winding down and still very busy. Presently, we have 91 members retiring at the end of the school year, three of whom are your union Executive Board members; Joe Postiglione, Linda Bufalo and Bob Love. In the last issue of the Beacon, I expressed how much they will be missed. They all have been incredibly hard working, always representing our members in the most professional and caring way. We wish all of our retirees continued success in the next phase of their lives.

I would also like to take a moment to promote the opportunity for any of our para-professionals to become certificated teachers. Having started my career in BOCES as a para, I know how much the agency likes to promote from within. The latest statistics show that approximately 20 percent of NYS teachers will be retiring within the next five years. Combine that with the fact that enrollment in teaching colleges has dropped by 46 percent, and you have a perfect storm for the makings of a severe teacher shortage. This would be a great time to start thinking about becoming a teacher. I encourage all who are thinking of it to go for it. Thanks to your union, we have excellent contracts in place for the next few years.

As for other business, thanks to NYSUT’s efforts, the new APPR law has been signed into effect, breaking the link between state exams and teacher evaluations. Relations between Governor Cuomo and our union, although not warm and fuzzy, can best be described as cautiously neutral. We hope to continue to build upon that. The enacted NYS budget includes language that will protect union members from organizations that seek to undermine unions following the U.S. Supreme Court’s ill-advised 2018 decision in Janus v. AFSCME. Groups have been attempting to obtain personal information to disseminate anti-union propaganda designed to erode membership. The new language makes it an improper practice for an employer to release a public employee’s personal information.
I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for sticking with the union. We are a family, and your support is critical for our ability to represent you, protect your rights and to negotiate for you in the future. We are stronger together, which is especially true because we are an umbrella unit, representing both teachers and paras. Stand-alone para units, such as Western Suffolk BOCES, have nowhere near the benefit package and salary that our paras have. This is universally true for most stand-alone para units throughout the state. For those who have opted-out of the union (and we have very few in both the BEES and throughout the state), I would say that we always have our hand outstretched to welcome you back. Your building reps will make those members known to you for several reasons. First, they are not members and are not allowed to attend any union functions, including our opening day meeting. Non-members will be required to report to their respective buildings at the start of the school day. Non-members may not attend any building meetings, including the Honorarium at Land’s End or any building-level meetings. They are also not entitled to representation by me, any executive board member or any union rep. I also think you need to know who they are so you can have an earnest discussion of the benefits of union membership with them. Perhaps they will return back to the fold. You should also know for whom you are carrying the weight. Your union dues pays for all of your union benefits. Free riders make everything more expensive, and it is only fair that you know who is requiring you to do the heavy lifting.

As dues-paying members, you know that my door is always open; should you need representation of any kind, we will be there immediately. Thank you for sticking with the union.

Unity and strength,

Jim
Hello Members,

So this is my very last article for the Beacon. At the end of this school year, my 35-year career at BOCES will come to a bittersweet end. I am truly thankful for the opportunities and prosperity this job has afforded me and my family. The last 20 years of my career I have been involved in our union as a building rep, Special Career Education Area Vice President, Grievance Chairperson and finally, for the last five years as Executive Vice President. I know that I am leaving this union better than I found it and I am proud of the work I have done to move this union forward.

I am proud of the work I have done to move this union forward. We have survived the Janus decision and come through strong. The re-carding campaign was a tremendous amount of work, but the overwhelming majority of our members have made the right choice and continue to support their union. About 10 people have made the choice to not support the union by refusing to pay their dues, 9 of those people are from the yellow contract and 1 is from the blue contract. Did you know that if we lose more than 50% of the membership in each contract, that contract will become null and void after a year? We have tried to get this message out, but so many members don’t realize that this is a reality. Think about what it would be like to work without medical coverage, guaranteed raises, sick and personal time, and paid holidays, along with all the other benefits in our contracts; all of that would disappear. I cannot stress enough how important it is that you continue to support our union to maintain the benefit levels in both of the contracts.

It has truly been a pleasure to have been able to serve the BEES membership. I will miss doing the work of the union and being involved in keeping this union running, but it is now time to start a new chapter of my life.

For now, “that’s all folks”.

Joe P.  

Unions
Protect Your Loved Ones with Union-Endorsed Benefits

Insurance... it’s often the type of product you hope to never have to utilize. In the event you do need it, though, it’s important to have the insurance product that best meets your needs and those of your loved ones.

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a variety of crucial insurance programs that provide important protection for NYSUT members and their families, including life, auto and home, disability, long-term care, dental and vision plans, and more.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you’re participating in one of our endorsed insurance programs; legal or financial services; or many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the “Power of the Union” behind them.

The “Power of the Union” should serve as a steadfast reminder to all NYSUT members that we are your advocate. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, NYSUT Member Benefits is here if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs. You aren’t just a member to us... you are part of our union family.

Member Benefits is here to offer assistance with the student loan crisis. Visit our website for more information.

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.
As I begin to write my last Beacon article of the 2018-2019 school year, I can’t help but think about the fact that we will be losing three officers from our Executive Board due to retirement. Executive Vice President Joe Postiglione, Contractual Benefits Officer Bob Love, and Area Vice President for Para-professionals Linda Bufalo have all served this union with distinction and honor for many years. They have each given so much of their time to help our members navigate the system and successfully resolve a multitude of issues, ranging from disciplinary matters to unforeseen medical events. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with these three individuals and wish them well as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Good news: On May 21st, our members came out in full force and they overwhelmingly voted in favor of their local school budgets. Out of the 124 Long Island school districts, only one was defeated. Pro-education candidates were elected to school boards and these budgets resulted in more funding for programs and student services. This is great for us because districts will be able to send students to BOCES for Special Education and CTE classes.

From May 2-4, I joined Jim Beck and Joe Postiglione in Albany for the NYSUT Representative Assembly. We attended the convention with over 500 delegates from across the state. We debated and voted on resolutions ranging from classroom temperatures to human rights violations. Guest speakers included New York State Comptroller Tom DiNapoli and Ohio Congressman Tim Ryan, who is running as a Democratic candidate for President of the United States. Also, an impromptu Vote Cope drive at the RA resulted in delegates contributing over $10,000 to the Vote-Cope coffers.

This year we have 89 members of our union retiring from service. Many teachers, teacher assistants, and classroom aides are leaving BOCES and moving into the world of retirement. As a result of union/management collaboration, these individuals will be able to take some very large sums of money with them as spelled out in their collective bargaining agreements. This, along with health insurance, will provide them with long-term security as they transition into the life of a retiree.
Speaking of retirement, I want to inform the members of the New York State Teacher’s Retirement System of upcoming PREP (Pension and Retirement Program) seminars. PREP is designed to help members of all ages prepare for retirement. It is structured to allow you to tailor the program to fit your needs. Seminars are held from 8:30-3:30 with registration beginning at 8:00AM. You can stay for the entire seminar or just the modules below that would be of greatest significance to you:

1) NYSTRS benefits: pension disability coverage, loans, vesting, and death benefits (8:45-10:15)
2) Financial Planning: saving early, catching up, withdrawals, and financial advisors (10:30 11:00)
3) Social Security: benefits, eligibility rules, when to collect, earning limits upon retirement (11:00-11:25)
4) Estate Planning: wills, trusts, powers of attorney, health care proxies, and Living Wills (11:30-12:30)
5) Retirement: A New Beginning: planning ahead, staying active and healthy, relationships and relocating (1:30-2:30)
6) The Retirement Process: retirement options, "resigning vs retiring", choosing a retirement date, retirement checklist, monthly payments, taxes, earning limitations on NY State public employment (2:35-3:30)

On Long Island, seminars are scheduled to take place on the following dates in the following locations:
1) Radisson Hotel- 100 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway, Hauppauge, 11787
   July 11, 2019, July 22, 2019, or August 14, 2019
2) Conference and Meeting Center of LI- 324 S.Service Rd, Melville, 11747
   July 23, 2019 or August 15, 2019
3) Hotel Indigo East End- 1830 Route 25, Riverhead 11901
   August 13, 2019

To register for any of these seminars, please call 1-800-348-7298. They are very popular and fill up quickly. As always, first come, first served.

For those of you that are working summer school, I hope your experience is productive and worthwhile. If you’re vacationing, I wish you safe travels, and if you’re just going to kick back and relax, I’m envious! See you at Villa Lombardi’s in Holbrook on September 3rd for our opening day meeting.

Ray
Happy Spring BEES members! Summer is just around the bend: whether you will be working summer school, another job or are lucky enough to have the summer offer to relax, rest assured that the BEES executive board will be hard at work. I would like to wish our recent retirees all the best; may you enjoy many happy, healthy years of retirement.

Beginning July 1st, our executive board will officially bid farewell to Joe Postiglione, Linda Bufalo and Bob Love; three big sets of shoes to fill. At the same time, we will welcome the following newcomers to the board: Nicholas DeBlanco, Lisa Mongiello and Angela Ritchie. Other current board members will also move into new positions; you can visit www.beesbeacon.org for a full list of the executive board and our titles. We are looking forward to starting a new chapter of the executive board and seeing what fresh ideas the new members bring to the table. I encourage any BEES member who wants to get involved to start at the building representative level. It is the best position in which to learn the ropes. We will have more executive board members retiring over the course of the next few years, and we will need experienced, interested members to step up and BEE the change.

If you are part of NYSTRS, I would like to urge you to take a look at their updated website this summer. If you are a new NYSTRS member and you haven’t made an online log in yet, take a minute to make one over the break. The website has been updated to be more user friendly and can now be accessed from mobile devices as well. Once you have a NYSTRS online account, you will be able to access all of your pension information as well as have instant access to retirement information and forms. You can now submit your retirement forms right on the website! NYSTRS has many benefits that you can find on the website as well. Did you know that once you are vested in the retirement system, you can take out a loan against your own retirement savings? In most cases, you won’t be denied, and the interest rate is lower than many banks. Paying it back is easy too; it just comes right out of your paycheck. Our defined pension benefit package is just one of the many benefits our union continues to protect. I encourage you all to visit www.nystrs.org to create your account or take a look at the many updates that have been made to the site.

Lastly, I would like to thank the BEES membership for affording me the opportunity to serve as the Area Vice President for Special Education for the past several years. I have learned many valuable lessons in this position, and I will carry this knowledge with me into my new role as one of two Executive Vice Presidents. I look forward to continuing to learn and grow as a union leader and as a union local. I wish you all a beautiful summer filled with sunny days, love and laughter. See you in September!

In Solidarity,

Asha
Get to Know NYSTRS

Active Members: 264,590
Retired Members: 160,049
Beneficiaries: 6,236
Total Membership: 430,875

NYSTRS Active Members:
76% Female, 24% Male

Governance:
10-Member Board
- School Administrator
- Teacher Member
- Teacher Member
- Teacher Member
- School Boards Association Member
- Retired Teacher Member
- Bank Executive
- State Comptroller Appointee

Funding Sources:
Investment Income: 85%
Employer & Employee Contributions: 15%

824 Participating Employers
(NYS publicly funded schools and institutes of higher education outside of New York City.)
THE HISTORY OF NYSLRS

Your pension is the result of nearly 100 years of laws that created two retirement systems, six tiers and 346 retirement plan combinations.

Here are some highlights:

MAY 11, 1920
The General Laws of New York for 1920, chapter 741, section 1, call for the creation of the New York State Employees' Retirement System.

JANUARY 1, 1921
Comptroller James A. Wendell officially establishes the New York State Employees' Retirement System.

APRIL 12, 1922
The General Laws of New York for 1922, chapter 591, section 1, open membership to employees of any county or city not covered by a retirement system.

NOVEMBER 8, 1938
Voters approve Article 5, Section 7, of the NYS Constitution, contractually protecting public pension benefits from being diminished or impaired.

APRIL 1, 1967
The General Laws of New York for 1966, chapter 1,000, article 8, call for the creation of the "New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System."

JULY 30, 1987
As directed by the General Laws of New York for 1987, chapter 506, the two systems become the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System (PFRS) — together known as the New York State and Local Retirement System (NYSLRS).
After many years of service, my retirement is just weeks away. As a Building Representative, Recording Secretary, and Area Vice President for the Para-Educators, it has been a privilege to serve this local for more than 18 years. Having the opportunity to work with a group of such dedicated individuals has been a most rewarding experience.

I would like to thank the Building Representatives who have done an outstanding job. Those with many years of experience, or those new to the union, I could not have had a more dedicated and professional team. You are the people who assist me to do my job better every day. You serve our constituents well, and I commend each and every one of you. For those of you who I have worked with for many years, we have a long history of travel, workshops, and good memories. I cherish it all and will remind myself often of the times we have shared.

My fellow Executive Board members, what can I say? Where else can a large group come together, discuss, debate, get heated at times, and come out on the other end friends and colleagues? We’ve supported each other whether it is the Blue contract or the Yellow, and our members are the recipients of all the good that comes from that kind of cooperation. I have always believed that attitude reflects leadership, and Jim Beck has been a constant supporter of the Paras. In turn, that support resonates through the Executive Board.

For the future, the Paras are in good hands. Amanda Pica will be stepping into the position of Area Vice President for the BEES Para-Educators. She brings experience, knowledge, and the ability to anticipate the needs of the unit. We will work closely together for a seamless transition. I leave comfortable in the knowledge that someone feels as intensely dedicated to you as I do.

Thank you to all the members who have supported me through the different positions I have held. It is with great appreciation that you believed in me and had the confidence in me to let me serve you. I have always endeavored to do my best for you.

I wish all my fellow retirees much happiness, good health, and a bright future. Remember to find joy in the little things.

In Solidarity,

Linda
Well, I cannot believe another school year is coming to a close. Like most years, it seems very busy; at times, it can even be overwhelming but then before you know it, the birds are chirping, and it is Spring. I want to start off by wishing nothing but the best for all of our retiring members who may be having mixed emotions about leaving their ESBOCES family. You will all be greatly missed and are much appreciated for all your hard work and dedication to a rewarding and challenging career.

The first issue I would like to address comes from many of the members I represent being so spread out, is that I hope you all have received the new contract dated 7/1/19-6/30/24. This, along with your handbook, is where you find all your rights, benefits, guidelines and responsibilities. I have tried to reach out to members who are placed in districts full-time who may not have an ESBOCES building as a home base which is where copies were distributed. Please contact me so we can arrange to get you a copy.

The second issue at hand is that during these upcoming months, many members will be moving into another building due to entire programs relocating, keep me in the loop of your concerns. Many technicalities are still unknown, which I know causes concern and even anxiety, so reach out and maybe I can help with getting some answers; use your union. Our conversation is confidential and, most of the time, issues can be resolved through clarification and/or building-level administration.

The third issue is getting your checks for reimbursement for mileage and/or flex spending. I have heard that an average turn around for expense checks could be 3-4 weeks. The flex spending is from an outside company, J.J. Stanis & Company, so ESBOCES does not have control over the turn around time. I recommend that over the summer, if you can, send in receipts for the amount that has been deducted thus far you are entitled for reimbursement for that amount and you also beat the year-end rush.

The fourth issue is that I encourage you to reach out if you are not happy with any of your observations and/or your end of the year evaluation. Don’t listen to others who say you cannot do anything about it; you can do something, but you must speak up when it occurs.

The last issue at hand addresses any unforeseen reassignments for next school year. This is another issue members feel they cannot do anything about and do not speak out in a timely fashion. Please refer to the contract and the handbook to what the process is for these moves. the union cannot help you if you do not speak up and state how the process was not followed, or the move came as a complete surprise.

I want to wish everyone a great, restful and enjoyable summer. Find a way to recharge over the break, whether you will be working or not. No matter what hat you wear at ESBOCES you are a caretaker of some sort; don’t forget to take care of yourself! I also want to thank the many members provide support to me and the VP role I am in because of all of you. I can be reached at kristinericson@optonline.net and 631-218-5411 at Sequoya @Pat-Med HS.

Kristin
June is finally here, and it’s time to exhale for all of us. Your BEES Union Executive Board has had a very busy year working behind the scenes to protect your contract, negotiate on your behalf and keep you informed of the upcoming challenges to us and to unions throughout our country.

As you say goodbye to your graduating seniors, know that you have prepared them in the best possible way for their future as an adult employee in the real world. The technical skills you worked hard to teach them can only be matched by the work ethic you instilled by lesson and example. No one can argue the amount of effort that the BEES CTE instructors devote to our students. Employers rave about our students and it all comes from the concerted efforts of our great CTE staff.

Congratulations to all the BEES CTE retirees. May you have a long and healthy retirement ahead of you!

Need a great summer read? Take your BEES Contract along to the beach! Read it. Know it. Appreciate the forefathers of our great American Unions and how hard they fought (often to the death) for the benefits we enjoy today.

Until we meet again on opening day, know that your BEES Union stands solid in protecting and advocating for our members. I am truly proud to have served another year as your CTE Area Vice President.

Rosaria
Farewell; Sayonara; Ciao; Hasta luego; Adieu; Bye; See ya; So long; Ta ta; Hasta la vista, baby; Cya; Adios amigos; Cheerio; Tootles; TTFN; Peace; Arrivederci; Au revoir; Until next time; So long partner; Adeus; Live long and prosper; Take it easy; Viszlát; Catch you later; See ya later alligator; After a while crocodile; I’m out of here; כלAMAGE ; Vale; If I don’t see ya around I’ll see ya square; Viso gero; Catch ya on the rebound; Well, I’m off; auf Wieedersehen; Catch you on the flip side; I gotta bounce; I’m gonna make like a baker truck and haul buns; Shalom; Once more unto the breach, dear friends; See ya, wouldn’t want to be ya; Hej då; Smell ya later; Happy trails; I’m off like a dirty shirt; Later, potato; Stay cool my dudes; Totsiens; Bon voyage; さようなら; It’s been a wonderful adventure; Näkemiin; Until we meet again; Oh, and in case I don’t see you – good afternoon, good evening, and good night; Forever and forever farewell. If we do meet again, we’ll smile indeed. If not, ‘tis true parting was well made; It’s time to say goodbye, but I think goodbyes are sad and I’d much rather say hello. Hello to a new adventure.

Remember, as in everything that is important – **KEEP COPIES OF EVERYTHING**
I can’t believe it has been 5 years since I have started this incredible journey as part of the BEES E-Board as your Membership Secretary. Each and every year our membership has grown and The BEES has become the largest local on long Island. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of our new members throughout the past 5 years, and I have also had the pleasure of answering questions as well as informing members about how integral and important it is to be a part of a union.

I have learned how strong and benefit-rich our contracts are by meeting other district board members as well as other BOCES locals throughout the state. I have also had the opportunity to talk with other educators in other states, and when I tell you how fortunate we are to know we have a secure job with medical benefits, sick days as well as paid vacation days in the coming year, I am not joking. Some of my colleagues working in other states explained to me that their contracts are year to year and that they hold their breath that they will be asked to return. Others I spoke with explained to me that they do not get paid for days off and still others are paying more than 50% into their medical benefits. I couldn’t imagine working under those conditions. One of the biggest differences is that they do NOT have a union. So, I am thankful for what we have. Is it perfect? Of course not, and that is why we need to work together and stick together, to continue to improve and change conditions that need improvement. We, as a union, need to improve communication and have ways to allow our members to express their concerns, come up with solutions and talk about the future. We can only do this by sticking together and working in unity.

In union there is strength.
— Aesop
This past year our agency has hired more than 160 aides, and assistants and over 50 teachers. These numbers are incredible and judging by this year’s Honorarium, which we will be saying farewell and good luck to 40 aides, 17 assistants and 33 teachers, it looks like the next few years will be following in the footsteps of record retirements as well as record new hires.

So, as we begin to wrap up the 2018-2019 school year by finishing up our last couple weeks of lesson plans, organizing our end of the year celebrations and packing up our classrooms, I ask you all to think about the strength and potential we have collectively as the BOCES Educators of Eastern Suffolk, your union.

I thank each and everyone of our members who have resisted putting themselves above the rest and have stuck with their union. I leave you with this famous quote: “There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve alone.” —Lyndon Baines Johnson

I wish you all a very happy, healthy summer vacation. Take a couple minutes to look back at all you have done and the lives you have affected. Congratulations, we’ve done a great job together!!! I look forward to seeing you all in September.
June Beacon means it is time to wish our retirees a farewell and best wishes into their retirement. This year, amongst the 90 or so retirees are a few long standing Executive Board members who are retiring as well. Joe, Bob and Linda, I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for your years of dedication, commitment and service to this board and our constituents. It’s now your time to sit back, grab a chair and enjoy. I wish you much health and happiness as you start your new journey called "Retirement." Angie Schultz, our Social Chair, is stepping down as she is moving into her final year at BOCES. Thank you for all your help and care. You all will be truly missed.

As we close the 2018-2019 school year, I am once again proud of the accomplishments of the Executive Board and all of our constituents for pulling together and ratifying our contracts in our "POST JANUS" world.

We have new and energetic Executive Board members joining our team and I would like to officially welcome them aboard. As always, I assure you your Executive Board and its new members will be working hard for you throughout the summer into the fall as our agency grows into the largest it has been in years. Hope to see all our dues-paying members on opening day at Villa Lombardi’s on September 3rd!
It seems like just yesterday we were at our opening day meeting welcoming our largest group of union members back to school at Villa Lumbardi’s. Now we are celebrating over 90 retirees in June. This year, BOCES has grown tremendously, as many can tell with the influx of students. BOCES has done a lot of hiring, which has provided the E-Board with the challenge of enrolling members into the union. However, this challenge allowed us to meet with our members within their school settings. Many of our new members are already aware of our benefit-rich contracts, thanks to our fabulous union reps and their colleagues. However, some wanted to know “Why join the union?” I personally think of the union like an insurance policy; it is full of benefits, and it is there when you need it most. Our union provides sick days, personal days, full pay No Charge Worker’s Comp. for student related/parent related injuries, legal representation, pay increments, longevity, paid vacation, and much more. Should you decide to opt-out, remember you always have the opportunity to change your mind and-opt back in.

I want to thank you for all your support as your Grievance Officer over these past years. During my tenure, I am pleased to say there have been no grievances filed due to the Executive Board’s efforts to resolve issues at a building level. It is our goal as a union to support our members. Should you ever have questions, feel free to reach out to any one of us on the Board, we are always here for you. You can also check out the Bees Beacon as there is plenty information here or visit our website.

I am looking forward to next year, when I will be serving you as the Area Vice President of Special Education. I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Patti
As we conclude another successful school year, I would like to thank all of the members for their continued support and dedication. I would like to thank the Executive Board for all their hard work, together we overcame and continue to overcome all the post Janus case obstacles. Please take this time to relax, enjoy time with your family and friends, and prepare for the upcoming year. To all the retirees, may you have a long, happy and healthy retirement. I look forward to taking on the role as your new Area Vice President for Para-Educators. This will be yet another challenging year, but together we are strong and can overcome any obstacle.

I can be reached at my new e-mail address picaparavp@gmail.com

Amanda

Ever notice that people say workers are “forced” to pay union dues?
But they don’t say a thing about being “forced” to take the pay, benefits, and protections that come with a union contract.

unions4workers: @unions4workers / unions4workers
Can you believe we are at the end of yet another school year? The summer will fly by and before you know it, it will be time to start the 2019-20 school year. For some of us, the end of this school year means new beginnings, whether in a new building or new position or you are at the end of a wonderful career, and you are heading down that path of retirement. For those of you finishing up your first year with Eastern Suffolk BOCES, I hope the year was a great success! We would like to wish you all a safe, happy and restful summer. To those members of the BEES that are retiring, we wish you a happy and healthy retirement. We, of course, welcome your membership under your new hard earned title of “retiree” Thank you to all of you who responded to attend the Retiree Honorarium. Your responses were overwhelming and we are happy to report that we met capacity for the event for two years in a row!

Welfare:
In the event that a member suffers a death in the family, a bereavement card will be sent for a member’s spouse, parent, child, or sibling. In the case of a member passing, special circumstances will then apply. The procedure for a bereavement card to be sent is as follows: Members should contact their building representative as soon as they believe a member meets the above guidelines and a bereavement card should be sent. The building representative should contact me via email at rarvm22@gmail.com with the member’s name and address and the name and relation to the deceased. In most circumstances, the card will be sent as soon as I receive the information from the building reps. During the summer, you may email me directly since we are not in session.

ANGIE
Congratulations to our many BEES retiring in the 2018-19 school year! We welcome you to our BEES Retiree Chapter, and hope you will keep sticking with our union to protect your hard earned pensions and benefits throughout your retirement. We are about 350 members strong and growing every year. To maintain your union membership, all we ask for is an annual dues check each September made out to BEES for only $35. You can send it to me, Terry Kalb, at PO Box 798, Wading River, NY 11792.

Your continuing membership not only keeps our union strong, it entitles you to utilize the many NYSUT benefits and discounts delineated at memberbenefits.nysut.org. You can also call 800-626-8101 to speak to a representative. Make sure I have your current personal e-mail address so you can receive the latest information. Your ESB email will terminate on your last day of work.

To all our Retirees, I thank you for your support, your participation in our lively Fall and Spring Meetings, and in our Facebook Group just for BEES Retirees. If you are on Facebook, join our group!

Have a wonderful summer everyone, expect a newsletter from me sometime in August!

In Solidarity,
Terry Kalb
BEES Retiree Chapter President
terrykalb@yahoo.com

LABOR UNIONS:
THE FOLKS WHO BROUGHT YOU THE WEEKEND.
CHILD LABOR LAWS, OVERTIME,
MINIMUM WAGE, INJURY PROTECTION,
WORKMENS COMPENSATION INSURANCE,
PENSION SECURITY, RIGHT TO ORGANIZE . .ETC.
President..................................................James Beck
Executive Vice President............................Joseph Postiglione
Treasurer..................................................Michelle Tinter
First Vice President.................................Ray Stenberg
Membership Secretary...............................Al Rios
Recording Secretary.................................Amanda Pica
Benefits Officer........................................Bob Love
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