



GENESEE VALLEY CHAPTER

Notes from the Chapter Chair

Hello, everyone. I hope this finds each of you in good health.

It was great being able to get together at our picnic on September 1. This was our first get together in a year and a half. People enjoyed the socializing and the great food.

Sadly, our steering committee has determined that due to the increase in the Delta variant and the number of 'break through' infections; the uncertainty about the availability of boosters; and the impending flu season, **it is necessary to CANCEL our holiday party**, planned for December 9, for the second year in a row. We always have a special time at the holiday party but we need to be responsible in these COVID days and mindful of the health of our members. We will move forward with planning a meeting for next spring, anticipating better days ahead for everyone.

If you would like to be active in decision making for our chapter and planning our events, consider joining our steering committee. We can always use new ideas and extra hands. For more information, email me at: janbeutner@gmail.com.

Our Genesee Valley chapter has its own Facebook page. Find us at Genesee Valley RPEA and like our page. I hope you all have safe, happy, healthy holidays with your family and friends!

Let's look forward to getting together in the Spring of 2022!

RETIREMENT SYSTEM TURNS 100

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the NYS and Local Retirement System. Comptroller DiNapoli spoke at the Annual Meeting and was presented a plaque by RPEA in recognition of this milestone. He was pleased to announce that the retirement fund realized a 33.55% return on investment in 2020 and it is 99% fully funded. The current worth of the fund is \$268 billion.

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT CONTINUES TO BE OF PRIME IMPORTANCE

Please reach out to your family and friends who have recently retired or are planning to retire soon. Encourage them to join RPEA. Tell them what RPEA means to you as the only agency advocating solely for the protection of retirees' pension and benefits. That is RPEA's sole mission – not political action, or working on campaigns, or endorsing candidates. We leave that up to the unions. And tell them about the benefits available through RPEA such as dental, vision, and hearing.

Your active participation in member recruitment is vital, especially at this time as both the Retirement System and Civil Service have suspended retirement seminars due to COVID. These seminars have been our major source of new members in the past.

Membership enrollment information is available at www.rpea.org.

RPEA ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE

The RPEA Annual Meeting was again held virtually due to COVID. There were many great presentations full of useful information including health benefits, RPEA member benefits, RPEA's legislative action, and membership recruitment. I encourage you to tune in and listen. A link for the YouTube presentation can be found on the RPEA website: www.rpea.org and on the Facebook page RPEANY.

If you are member of NYSHIP and need help with your health benefit, please visit www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits or call 1-800-833-4344.

And remember, when you can't get through to Civil Service, the RPEA office is there to help you and you will ALWAYS speak to a real live, warm body when you call!

Retired Public Employees Association, Inc.
165 Jordan Road
Troy, NY 12180

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
ALBANY, NY
PERMIT NO. 569

GENESEE VALLEY
News and Notes