



# CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER

## Notes from the Chapter Chair

We are finally going to be getting together for our annual picnic. This year we have decided to have it at Breitbeck Park in Oswego, NY. Our Chapter covers Onondaga, Oswego, Cayuga and upper Cortland Counties so we are going to reach out to some of our northern neighbors. Breitbeck is a beautiful park right on the shore of Lake Ontario with views of the lighthouse. This is easy to get to and not really all that far.

In the past year, Oswego has been busy making many upgrades to all of their parks. There are 5.9 miles of paved walking trails at Breitbeck, many benches and rocking chairs overlooking the lake, and many fire pits with seating you can rent. Also, several new innovative playgrounds (in case you want to come back with grandchildren), a splash pad, ground sprays and a 9-hole mini golf course.

If you are looking for other things to do before or after the picnic, or on another day, there is the F. Lee White Maritime Museum, Oswego Music Hall, Fort Ontario, Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter Museum (the only one in the United States), Oswego Speedway, and a boat ride from Breitbeck to the lighthouse with a tour of the lighthouse. Oswego now also has its first beach within the city limits. Of course, you can always visit the SUNY Oswego Campus or Ontario Orchards. If you are interested in any of these places, just ask me. My parents were originally from Oswego and I still have relatives who live there. I do visit frequently (especially Rudy's Lakeside Restaurant).

We will be collecting stuffed animals at the picnic (no larger than 12 inches). Law Enforcement keeps a supply in their vehicle trunks for when they encounter children. In addition, you might want to bring a lawn chair with you.

I hope that everyone, by now, is vaccinated for Covid with rates in our area still being high. I am not asking for proof of vaccination as we will be outside, but you may want to have a mask with you.

We almost had a picnic with no picnic food. Restaurants are open but most are still short staffed so difficult to find one to cater and prices have gone up.

## Notes from the Chapter Chair continued

If you would be willing to pick up a member to take to the picnic (and return), please let me know. For many of our older members, this is a bit further than they feel comfortable driving. Also, if you would like a ride, please let me know early.

We will do our best to accommodate everyone.

Have you signed up for a bus trip yet? Motorcoach companies are being especially careful, asking that everyone be vaccinated. Yes, prices have gone up a bit but we are also trying to keep everyone safe. Don't wait until the deadline to sign up – a motorcoach company could decide at any time to cancel if they feel we won't get minimum number. If the trip is cancelled, you would get a refund.

When we get together indoors again, we will practice safety measures with fewer seats at each table and tables further apart and ask you to wear a mask if you are not seated at your table. None of us want to get Covid. Everyone thinks if they are vaccinated they will get a mild case, but there are no assurances.

I have been asking members to join our Steering Committee. It has gotten to the point that if we don't get some volunteers, we may no longer have an active chapter. At our last Steering Committee meeting, we had only 3 Steering Committee members. We can't function like this. Being on the Steering Committee is not demanding and does not take a lot of time. We are looking for a back-up Secretary, Publicity person, Membership and Legislative chairs. Call and talk to me at 315-437-7464. (I do screen my calls.) or [dbennett18@twcny.rr.com](mailto:dbennett18@twcny.rr.com).

Dawn Bennett  
Chapter Chair

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### Directions to Breitbeck Park

FROM SYRACUSE: Take I-481 North to Oswego, turn left onto W. Bridge St., turn right onto W. 1st St. At end of W. 1st St., turn left onto Lake St. (On the right you will pass the F. Lee White Maritime Museum, Oswego Musical Hall (McCrobie Bldg.), Wright's Landing Marina.) At the end of Lake St. will be Breitbeck Park Pavilion on your right. Just past that is a parking lot.

### OR

You can also take I-690 West to Route 48 and continue North through Fulton, Mineto and Oswego. You will enter on W. 1st St. and turn left onto Lake St.. Follow above directions from there.

CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER

# Annual Picnic

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2022

BREITBECK PARK PAVILION

OSEWGO, NY

11:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Menu Catered by Mimi's:** Hamburgers, Hofmann Hotdogs, Sauages with Peppers and Onions, Macaroni Salad, Potato Salad, Watermelon, Brownies, Soda and Water

New York State Senate and Assembly Representatives from Onondaga, Oswego, Cayuga & Upper Cortland Counties have been invited.

Please join us to ask them any questions you may have.

**Bring a Lawn Chair** (optional)

**Bring a Stuffed Animal for Law Enforcement** (no larger than 12 inches)

**RESERVATION DEADLINE:**  
June 30, 2022

**Cost:**  
\$17.00/member and spouse or domestic partner  
\$22.00/non-RPEA member

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## REGISTRATION FORM: Annual Picnic

July 11, 2022

Please List All Attendees By Name:

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ RPEA Member/Spouse/Domestic Partner: \$17.00 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Non-RPEA Member: \$22.00 each

**Make Checks Payable To: RPEA-CNY**

**Mail Checks To: RPEA Central NY Chapter, PO Box 3475, Syracuse, NY 13220-3475**

Retired Public Employees Association, Inc.  
165 Jordan Road  
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**News and Notes**