



PORT OF CALL

The newsletter that keeps Port's retirees connected and informed.

**PWTA RETIRED EDUCATORS CHAPTER
PORT WASHINGTON, NEW YORK**

Spring/Summer 2019 VOL.29 NO.2

NYSUT NO. 19 080R Visit our website at: <http://pwretirees.org/>

PWTA HONORS 25-YEAR TEACHERS

On April 1, 2019, the PWTA held a reception at the Jericho Terrace to honor those teachers who have taught in Port Washington for twenty-five years. As twenty-five year teachers had not been so honored for five years, there were thirty teachers recognized at the party. In addition, there were four teachers who had been honored previously. The party was also an opportunity to raise money for the Scholarship Fund, as part of the cost of a ticket was a contribution. In addition there was a raffle for a number of gift baskets.



Baskets were contributed by each of the schools and the PWRE. These brought in a substantial amount for the PWTA Scholarship Fund.

As was done in the past, the honorees had an opportunity to reflect on their years in Port in a booklet prepared for the event. A number of teachers commented on technology as a significant change. Jo Ann Miles expressed a common feeling when she said, "Technology has radically impacted instruction and curriculum, enabling teachers to create lessons and materials that can reach students interactively and in myriad ways."

David Hollis, Weber social studies teacher, has seen some significant changes over his twenty-five years. "When I got here it was the operating assumption that the best thing for both teachers and students was for individual teachers to be able to find the methods which worked best for them, that individual creativity was essential to forming both a positive atmosphere and a challenging educational experience for students. Port is gradually slipping towards standardization, and more and more it seems as if teachers are either comfortable with or even eager to be told what to do and how to do it.

Additionally, the core unit of Weber was always the team, which, when implemented correctly, effectively created large family units within the school, providing both educational and emotional support on a daily basis and creating lifelong attachments and friendships. The ability to do this has been undercut by different scheduling priorities, acceleration, and the unwillingness of some to embrace the full possibilities that team-based education holds."

Maria Silvesteri, a sixth-grade teacher at Weber, wrote of the impact of outside forces. "With each passing year there seem to be more state mandates, more standards, more tests, and more curriculum changes." On a more positive note, Maria also commented, "I learned early on that Port teachers cherished the ability to maintain a level of freedom, creativity, collaboration, and autonomy. I hope they will continue to do so." Mary Lou Wright declared, "The pressure to impart so much information to your children in such a short period of time, ready or not, is really at the core of the change. The pressures affect students, staff, and administrators in ways that are not positive." Jill Lowe added, "Sometimes I fear that our children are viewed as products to be improved rather than as people."

The teachers also offered advice to those new to Port. Jeanne Zeh recommended that new teachers realize, "Port Washington is a school district that has a long history of valuing teachers' professionalism. Our negotiated contract has many unique features, and the Professional Growth and Curriculum Development (PGCD) Committee is the cornerstone.



Christine Cuomo, Guggenheim teacher and PWTA Secretary, was the winner of the PWRE basket.

Cont. on page 3

We Asked to Hear From You and We Did

News from Trish Wright



Dave and I are planning a VERY small family wedding in Port Washington this summer. We'll be moving to Beacon in the fall. Right now I have agita trying to pack-up 22 years of living in my house!

Hello from Lois Sazar

I am enjoying my first year of retirement from school. I am so excited about my new role as grandma. They call me G-Lo which stands for Grandma Lois! I have an almost two-year-old granddaughter named Lilah who is the love of my life and two three-month olds...Lilah's brother Maximus and their cousin Lielle... born one day apart in two different states.

In addition to grandparenting I started a private practice with an office in Great Neck. I just couldn't give it up yet. I am on the board of the Great Neck Student Aude Fund which is a not for profit organization which raises money to help disadvantaged students to attend college. I am also producing My Fair Lady at my temple, and I am also in charge of costumes.

Hello from FL

On a beautiful day in Florida Ann Kopple, Bobby Baker, and Sally Reinhardt went to Butterfly World while many of us were experiencing the full forces of the Northeast winter!



Web Address Reminder

Our PWRE website has a new home! Our new web address is: pwretirees.org. Please change your bookmarks/favorites to our new domain name.

FRIENDSHIP/ REMEMBRANCE COMMITTEE



Norma Ziegel

Get Well Wishes were sent to

Merle Colchamuro

Condolences Were Sent To:

The family of Nancy Aurori
The family of Virginia Burkland
The family of Charlie Davis
The family of Rose Gilman
The family of Evelyn Golbert
The family of Gil Levesque
The family of Robert Meyer
The family of Anna Murphy

A \$100 contributions were sent to the PWRE Scholarship Fund in memory of:

Nancy Aurori
Virginia Burkland
Charlie Davis
Rose Gilman
Evelyn Golbert
Gil Levesque
Robert Meyer
Anna Murphy



Come to the PWRE Book Club

If you plan to attend, please RSVP to the host.

Date: June 24 at 11:00 am
Book: Unsheltered - Barbara Kingsolver
Host: Barbara Mayer

Please check our website for future book club meetings

http://www.pwta.info/PWRE/pwre_news/news_book_club.shtml

PORT OF CALL

Spring/Summer 2019 Vol. 29 No. 2
Published by the Retired Educators Chapter
Port Washington Teachers Association
99 Campus Drive
Port Washington, NY 11050

Erlyn Madonia, Editor
emadonia@gmail.com
(518)392-2201

PWRE Webmaster: Barbara Mayer
blmayer3@gmail.com

PWTA HONORS 25-YEAR TEACHERS cont.

We need all to be part of the decision-making process, and the best way to have our voices heard is to participate in the subcommittees of PGCD and represent your colleagues.” In addition, Karen Kirschen would advise a new teacher “to take the time to learn from the experience of his/her colleagues and have the patience to integrate their insights with the new knowledge that he/she brings.”

Many teachers recalled those who had inspired them, and a number included Port teachers. Mary Lou Wright recalled that Walter Chaskel was her inspiration. “He truly introduced the love of learning to me and gave me the tools I needed to believe in myself and to realize that learning was forever.” Jo Ann Miles wrote of Lydia Rab, a fellow ENL teacher. “During my days as her student teacher, she aptly guided me through challenging ENL curriculum and provided insight into the needs of our unique student population. As an outstanding model of an ENL teacher, she has been and continues to be a mentor and dear friend.” From when she started teaching at Guggenheim School, Karen Mulqueen credits Jo Papaleo and Barbara Mayer with influencing her career. “They gave me sound advice and displayed true professionalism. They had an amazing rapport with their students and planned stimulating lessons. They were involved in the PWTA and negotiated contracts for the benefit of all. They did all this while maintaining a strong family life. They encouraged me every step of my career, and I am grateful!”

In addition to those quoted above, the following teachers were also honored: Kevin Baudo, Jennifer Biblowitz, Michael Cain, Patricia Charles Wolfert, Lisa Conway, Christina Cuomo, Joseph Del Gais, Adrienne Fernan, Donald Fish, Maria Giamanco, Anne Gianatiempo, Patricia Kirk, Gail Martin, Renee McClean, Neil Miller, Gail Mulfeld, Kris Murphy, David O’Connor, Carolina Petrides, Megaera Regan, Lisa Tecusan, Patricia Woka.



The party was well attended by retirees. Pictured are Mary Anne Cariello, Barbara Mayer, Jean Vogeley, Fran Clark, Steve Shackel, Nance Hinchiffe, Christine Vasilev, Dave Hinchliffe, Joann Somma, Pat Lynch, Sally Reinhardt, Kathy Reilly, Joe Lederer, and Tessa Jordan

What’s Inside Port of Call Spring/Summer 2019

PWTA Honors 25-Year Teachers.....	Page 1	PWTA Honors 25-Year Teachers cont.....	Page 3	
We Asked to Hear From You and We Did.....	Losi Sazar, Trish Wright, Ann Kopple, Bobby Baker, Sally Reinhardt.....	Page 2	The Summer of 10,000 mile - Patricia V Reed.....	Page 4
Friendship/Remembrance Committee	Page 2	The Summer of 10,000 miles cont.....	Page 5	
Come to the PWRE Book Club.....	Page 2	The Spring Luncheon	Page 5	
Web Address Reminder.....	Page 2	Merry – Bayard Cutting Arboretum.....	Page 6	
		A Second Life of Exploration - Linn Johnson.....	Page 7	

The Summer of 10,000 miles - Patricia V. Reed

As many of my fellow retirees know Tom and I are addicted to Aluminum, Airstreams that is. We've camped in Alaska, Newfoundland and an infamous trip down the Baja to Cabo and back. I believe we've been to every state but Hawaii with our Airstream. This past summer started out as a plan to participate in a caravan through the Canadian Rockies after attending an Airstream Rally in Salem, Oregon. Our trip ended as a 10,000-mile odyssey because my sister decided to get married on Martha's Vineyard!

In early June we headed to Oregon to attend the annual International Airstream Rally where I represented Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, and Arizona as the Region President for the Airstream Club. After a week of IBT Meetings and seminars, I put away my beret and we headed for Coeur d'Alene, ID. to relax for a week before our Fantasy RV Caravan started in Banff, Alberta, Canada. This professional caravan offered 18 days of planned campgrounds, tours, and activities of the Canadian Rockies and continuing west to Vancouver.



Starting at Banff National Park we spent a week touring waterfalls, Lake Louise, Yoho National Park, and, of course shopping. Wildlife was abundant. Deer, sheep, and the distant sound of wolves was heard at night. Heading north we stopped at the Athabasca Glacier, traveling in a LARGE "cat" to the edge of the glacier to sample glacier water. Jasper National Park was spectacular if not super crowded in July. Fortunately, we did much of our touring on large buses that dropped us off at convenient locations. Maligned Valley afforded us a view of six mountains and glaciers from one spot on the lake. Here we finally saw the illusive moose. Mount Robson Provincial Park was our last stop in the Rockies.

Heading west on the Thompson-Nicola Highway we stopped at "Hell's Gate" to take a tram over the river to have lunch on the other side. Once in Vancouver, all of our touring was by bus as there are NO major roads around the city. Our campground was in the suburbs which was a good thing as the caravan of 31 rigs were all pretty imposing on the road. Tours included a visit to Butchart Gardens with High Tea, Victoria Island, and a boat ride up the harbor and all through the city. We ended our Vancouver stay with a visit to our granddaughter who is a student at the University of British Columbia.



Leaving the caravan, we started our solo trip across Canada to head east for the Martha's Vineyard wedding. I had looked at a map, and it was 31 miles shorter to stay in Canada than to come down to the States and go across. The only debate was that fuel in Canada is higher than the US, and so is the price of wine! But, it was an opportunity to see Canada so we stayed north. West meant back to the Rockies and Banff, then through Calgary down to Moose Jaw and Thunder Bay. The bonus was hugging the Great Lakes and camping at Provincial Parks along the lake, especially Pancake Bay. Continued on the page 5

The Summer of 10,000 miles - cont.

We entered the US in New Hampshire and found a charming campground in Henniker, NH. Here we had a glitch with the trailer. After a shopping trip to town we came back to discover that the electrical systems had failed. No power. NO AC with temps in the 90's! Several phone calls brought no solution so my genius of a husband "hot-wired" the battery switch and all came back on. Back on the road we continued south to Cape Cod. Having time before our ferry reservation to Martha's Vineyard we spent a relaxing week on the Cape.

The only way to get to Martha's Vineyard is by ferry and if you are towing a 30' Airstream one needs a reservation 6 months in advance! We lined up with the trucks and watched as each big rig BACKED onto the ferry. We thought, "Naw, that won't be us". Wrong! When our turn came we were directed to turn around and back through a very narrow ramp with tall pillars on either side. Expertly, Tom left no scratches and we made the crossing in one piece.



My sister's wedding was perfect, and we were very happily camped at the only campground on the Vineyard. (Reservations one year in advance.) Only hitch was that we had to board our dog for the week as the campground didn't allow dogs. When asked why they explained that the skunk population was out of control, and most dogs got skunked! Neither of us had been to the island so we enjoyed exploring all the small towns. Driving and trying to park a rather large diesel truck was a challenge so we Ubered it a lot.



Finally heading home, we made a stop in Wayne, PA to visit my other sister and then on to the Airstream Plant in Jackson Center, OH for some warranty work. (Mecca for Airstream owners as they have tours of the plant.) As we finally crossed the border into Colorado Tom looked at the odometer and realized that we had traveled 10,000 miles in two months! Another adventure for two aluminum addicts!

The Spring Luncheon

May 22nd, a sparkling day, was perfect for our Spring Luncheon. Held in the Commodore's Lounge on the second floor of the Port Washington Yacht Club, everything sparkled - from the view of the sun on the water to the lovely table settings. The guests were sparkling as well.

The first hour was devoted to mingling, with wine, crudités and dip, and cheese and crackers, so there was ample time to chat and catch up before we sat down for lunch.

Meals are prepared to order, so orders are taken during the salad course. Along with fruit and cookies on every table, we also had an ice cream sundae bar. Excellent food, company and service made this a perfect kickoff to summer.

Bayard Cutting Arboretum - Merry



Another glorious day greeted us at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum on June 7th. This was the group's second visit - we went in the fall of 2017, when participants agreed it would be wonderful to see the glorious gardens in the spring. The former 691 acre estate of William Bayard Cutting was donated to New York State. It was specified by his family "that it should serve as an oasis of beauty and quiet...a source of pleasure, rest, and refreshment." It is all those things. The original development of the estate was under the design guidance of Frederick Law Olmstead.



In the company of Gerald Sabatino, a master gardener and our docent, on this visit we saw just four of the many and varied planting areas. The Walled Garden was designed and planted in 2014 to highlight the fence and border that had been sketched by Olmstead and had been massively overgrown before the renovation.

We walked onto the path of the Woodland Garden.



Against a backdrop of massive rhododendrons there was an enormous variety of annuals and perennials. Some of us would like to add some of those plants, and unusual varieties of ones we already know, to our home gardens.

Mr. Cutting was very interested in conifers, reflected in the plantings in the Conifer Garden of conifers from across the world. There had been talk of planting some flowers to "add color," until it was recognized that the variety of trees and shrubs in many different shades of green and yellow had color and texture enough.



The Four Seasons Garden was planted in 2012. All the plants were selected for shape texture and color that would make the garden interesting in every season.

The property is very much a work in progress. Constant grooming keeps plantings healthy and well-trimmed. New plantings are added continually.

Lunch, on the covered porch of the Hidden Oak Café, overlooking the great lawn and the Connetquot River, was glorious. A delicious breeze kept us nice and cool. The delicious lunch made us happy. Soup, salad, quiche, sandwiches were all beautifully presented, reasonably priced, and very delicious. I met a woman in the ladies room who lives close enough to regularly come to the garden for lunch. Lucky lady.

There is no cutting of anything at this garden, despite its name. Parking (which includes admission to the park) is \$8.00, waived for seniors during the week. For visitor information call 631-581-1002 or bayardcuttingarboretum.com. The trip to Great River, Islip takes about 45 minute from Christopher Morley Park.

A Second Life of Exploration - Linn Johnson

Early retirement couldn't come soon enough. I'd had it with the corporate life. So, at the ripe old age of 60, I hung up my LIRR ticket and did it. I'm not one to sit around so soon found myself immersed in home projects: fixing, repairing, rearranging, etc. But my big break was about to emerge. My dear wife, Ute Johnson, brought home a flyer from school (Guggenheim) announcing an opportunity for a trip to Wyoming with the Science Museum of Long Island, to dig dinosaur bones. (Flyer handed to her by JoAnn McLoughlin, thanks, Joanne!). WOW! "I'll go if you go," one of us said to the other. What a kick! I was hooked! Not so much for Ute. Must have been the 120° mid-day sun in the Wyoming desert. But we dug up several parts of a 100 million + year old triceratops, and Ute, herself, discovered a giant dinosaur footprint in some mud-turned-to-stone.



Dr. John Loret was the director of the Science Museum then. Through him I was introduced to the world renowned Explorers Club and soon became a member. The adventures popped, one after another: exploring the Argentine Patagonia coastline; two archeological digs on Easter Island; two dinosaur digs with the well-known Canadian paleontologist, Phil Currie, in Mongolia; two more dinosaur digs in the Utah desert with Utah State paleontologist, Jim Kirkland; a hike up Kilimanjaro in Tanzania; and the latest, a trip to Antarctica (continent #7 for me) to see first-hand the penguins, whales, seals and a wide variety of other sea birds. The melting is evident. One iceberg we saw was over a mile long and half a mile wide. It was flat and maybe 100 feet high, which means the other 900 feet was below water level. This Antarctic adventure required no special physical requirements

other than one's sense of adventure and a little agility getting in and out of the zodiac boats when we went ashore to mix with the penguins.

I am attaching a couple of photos, one of me at the "Welcome to Antarctica" sign and another of a fellow having some fun trying to mix with the penguins. He carried his tux in a bag and changed in front of the little birds. Who knows what the penguins thought about this oversized "relative."



If you REALLY want to have some fun in retirement, just remember the old Nike slogan: JUST DO IT! Go and explore.

Trip Alerts by Real Mail

No email? Want to go on trips but lack access to notifications?

Please let Harriet Englander or Merry Gilbert put you on the list for mailed notices.

10 Crescent Rd	133 Reid Avenue
Port Washington	Port Washington,
NY 11050	NY 11050



Port Washington Retired Educators Chapter

Meetings will be held at the Port Washington Library on the dates and times listed, unless otherwise notified.

Please check your email or the website: <http://pwretirees.org/> for any meeting changes.

2019 Meeting Dates

See you at the **"I Don't Have to Go Back to School" Breakfast**

September 3, 2019, at 9:30 am. \$25.00

F.I.S.H. on Main, 286 Main Street, Port Washington

Please send checks to Mary Anne Cariello

11 Grand Street, Elmont, N.Y. 11003

**PLEASE NOTE: Checks for contributions to the PWRE Scholarship Fund should be made out to the PWRE. Put the name of the honoree on the memo line or in a note.
Please mail to:
PWTA
99 Campus Drive
Port Washington, New York 11050**

PORT WASHINGTON
RETIRED EDUCATORS CHAPTER, PWTA
99 CAMPUS DRIVE
PORT WASHINGTON, NY 11050

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

FORWARD SERVICE REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL