

October 2024

Herricks Connection

Herricks Retired Educators Chapter (HREC)

Volume 39 Issue 2



Please sign up for Electronic Delivery of the Newsletter to save HREC \$\$\$.

E-mail Bill at
BYoungfert@aol.com

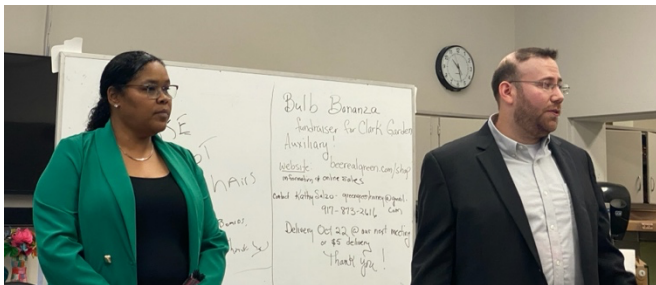
We Welcomed Our New HREC Members at Our Sept. 24 Meeting!

Message From The Editor



If you have news to share with our members please send to me by e-mail to BYoungfert@aol.com or by snail mail to the address on this newsletter.

Bill Youngfert



We had representatives from the Social Security Office in Mineola who talked about S.S. benefits for retirees.

Thanks Ron Kahn for taking the photos!

Please come to our second HREC member meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 at 10 am at the Herricks Community Center, 999 Herricks Road, New Hyde Park, NY!

November Luncheon Sign Up Form on Page 3!

Message from Our Co-Presidents

The first meeting of the year on September 24th featured speakers from the Social Security office in Mineola, who distributed information, reviewed benefits and responded to questions. We want to thank everyone for your support. We had an excellent turnout for our first meeting. It seemed like they did not want to leave when the meeting ended. One person even joked could the meetings be longer next time! At our next meeting we will try to allow time at the end for everyone just to catch up with everyone's latest retirement adventures!

The next meeting on October 22nd, will be the annual review, updating insurance information for retirees. There will be speakers from the district and JJStanis.

The HREC has approximately 420 members, 127 of whom are octogenarians and not required to pay dues. Attendance at the general meetings ranges between 30 and 40 members who live on Long Island, representing slightly less than ten percent of the total membership. Your co-presidents would like to offer an option of attending virtually via Zoom, beginning with the October meeting. See a separate article in this issue for more details about accessing and using Zoom.

If you have not paid your 2024-25 dues, please contact Bill Youngfert at BYoungfert@aol.com for the membership form. Many members also include a contribution toward the annual scholarship awarded by the HREC. We hope you enjoyed reading Elisabeth Baranello's winning essay in the September newsletter.

The fall luncheon at Jonathan's will be held at noon on Tuesday, November 12th. See details and reservation information on Page 3 in this issue.

Paul & Bill

Does Anyone Know How We Contact These Retirees?

Pamela Blank

Norma Casello

Lori Dorr

Gloria Tantillo

Barbara DiProperzio

Linda Bohner

If so, please e-mail Bill at BYoungfert@aol.com. Thanks!



**Fall Luncheon - Tuesday –
November 12, 2024**

**at Jonathan’s, 3000 Jericho
Turnpike, Garden City Park**

We hope everyone will join us and meet with
your friends from Herricks!

Please return the form below with your check.
Thank You!

Cost of the Nov. 12th Luncheon 12 Noon at Jonathan’s is \$48.00 each person.

Names of People Attending: _____

Enclosed send a check for \$ _____

Please contact Bill Youngfert at 516-775-7260 and we will tell you where to send it.

Nassau County Museum of Art Tour

On Wed. December 4th at 12:30 a one hour private tour of Seeing Red From Renoir to Warhol will be conducted by a docent Ricki Miller. This stunning exhibit has over 100 works of art from more than 70 artists encompassing classical and contemporary works. Please arrive 5-10 minutes early. Late lunch at Ben’s Deli afterwards (optional). \$20 pp for tour. Please sign up by Nov. 16 and include if you’re joining us for lunch. One guest for each member is welcomed. 20 people maximum. RSVP to Paul Wolski, by November 15th, paulwolski@hotmail.com or 515-776-3756.

Nassau County Museum of Art at the William Cullen Bryant Preserve, One Museum Dr, Roslyn, NY 11576. Feel free to visit early to walk the mansion grounds and sculpture garden on your own weather permitting.

Google Meet Information for Our October Meeting

We are going to try a FREE Google Meet to gauge the demand for this service. We are only allowed 60 minutes so we will start Zoom session on Oct. 22 at 10:30 am Eastern Time. Go to following url: <https://meet.google.com/vtu-ssrj-dcd> .

If this works out and there is enough demand we will consider signing up for longer sessions but there may be a cost. Hope to see some of our HREC Members who live out of state.

Message from Tony Viollis

“Thank you for the newsletter. it is always nice to see our young students move on and now attend colleges around the country but also sad to see former colleagues move on to educate those up in heaven.

My zip code.....if anyone would send me a letter or bill....lol is **83127**.....not what is posted.... Stay well, stay safe and say hello to anyone that might still remember me... Tony”

So after I got Tony’s note I asked him in my e-mail reply why did he move to Wyoming? Here is his reply that I think will be of interest to those of us who do remember him:

“When I was teaching in middle school, my wife and I used to vacation in Jackson Hole during summer vacations. Most beautiful area, clean air, great hiking, kayaking, and places to see.

We built what we thought was going to be our forever retirement home in Wilmington North Carolina and moved there after we both retired. I loved it. My wife liked it till we had too many hurricanes, and tornadoes that hit either the house or too close to comfort. My wife could not take it when we lost power for a long period of time, having too much heat and humidity, so we found a great piece of property, built a home and started wearing winter clothes again through the months of November through March.

Yes, this is so different from Long Island. No traffic, no crazy people, lots of space between homes with magnificent natural views. Do I miss "home" yes, but not to move back there.

Keep the Herricks retirement going and keep all of us in touch with others. Tony”

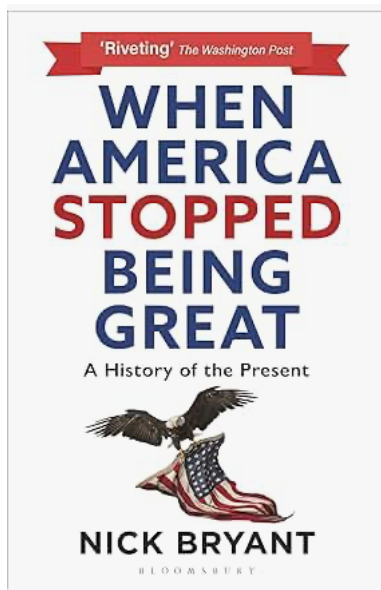
News From John Calvo

Herricks retiree John Calvo and wife Nina Calvo are into our second retirement. That is, selling our last motorhome after 47 years of traveling by motorhome. Our adventures took us to Alaska before the Alaskan Highway was paved (1122 miles) plus 800 more miles of gravel out of 11,500 miles. Our emergency tire kit consisted of a tire probe with a slot to hold a rubber plug at the end and glue. It worked just fine for two flats until we managed to purchase new tires. We went back after 29 years to dip our feet in the Artic Ocean via the pipeline road. Our adventures in all 50 states took us numerous revisits to national parks, 5 mi. round trip hike in & under glacier on Mt. Rainer. It melted out in the 1980’s. There were 25 permanent glaciers, now 19. Managed to hike many trails in swamps (Okefenokee our favorite), forests, mountains, desert terrains, caves (some can be 3 miles), Canada: 4,900 miles of Tarns Canadian Highway, Yellowknife, Wood Bubalo National Park in Northwest Territories, Yukon, British Columbia including Vancouver Island twice, Canadian (Continued Pg. 5)

Rockies 3 times, Except Newfoundland Labrador and Inuvik. My present hobby for the past 6 years, after buying digitizing equipment has been to create 54 movies in iMovie with sound effects, titles, narration, music and artwork. The plan was to make silent film come to life and the viewer did not realize when viewing that it was silent. This media is placed on 54 DVDs and USB for smart TV viewing accompanied by a 18 page booklet distributed to 30 families. We are selling our current motorhome: 30 feet, 39,000 miles, \$36,000 with many, many extras. 2008 Monaco Monarch, full wall slide SFS – John Calvo. Call Bill Youngfert if you want John’s contact info.

Book Review – Paul Wolski

In *When America Stopped Being Great: a history of the present* (2021) Nick



Bryant, a teenage emigrant from Britain, educated in America and seasoned BBC correspondent, explains the roots of today’s political polarization in his adopted country. Bryant presents a review of presidents and their administrations from 1980 to 2020, examining the language, behaviors and policies of each president, including Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, Obama and Trump. The author is surprisingly balanced, never betraying partisan prejudice. I kept waiting for the shoe to drop, but Bryant constructed his arguments slowly and with care, always emphasizing how decisions about language and action gradually shape reality. Each presidential administration did its part to fuel

polarization and the “us versus them” vision. Was the process fully conscious? Were the consequences foreseen? Have the past forty years been “the frog in the gradually warming water” experience? The answer is for the reader to decide. Sadly, Bryant ends on a note of disappointment: he has presented causes but can offer no path to solutions. We have our homework assignment.

Fundraiser at Clark Garden



Spring bulbs at very good prices! Buy now & plant by Halloween; enjoy in the spring: daffodils, crocuses, alliums & grape hyacinths. For photos, prices & complete ordering information go to this link: <https://beerealgreen.com/shop/>

Herricks Retired Educators Chapter – HTA

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TIME SENSITIVE MAILING



Celebrate Retiree Recognition Day – Oct. 21!

They phone bank, rally, fundraise and are always willing to lend a helping hand. They're NYSUT retirees and this year the statewide union set aside a special day to say thanks. Monday, Oct. 21 marks the inaugural celebration of Retiree Recognition Day, which honors the contributions of the union's daytime army, its roster of over 260,000 retiree members.

"NYSUT has one of the most active and successful retiree programs in the country," said Ron Gross, NYSUT second vice president, whose office oversees the union's retiree services program. To help retirees organize and stay connected, NYSUT has a network of 11 [retiree services consultants](#) who serve as liaisons between retired members, retiree councils and NYSUT headquarters.

In honor of Retiree Recognition Day, Gross suggests reaching out to retiree chapter members to learn more about your union's history. "Many locals have fascinating backstories, such as contract battles, strikes or organizing struggles," said Gross. "Speaking with retired members about their experiences preserves that history for future generations."

Calendar of HREC Events:

Oct. 7 – Clark Garden Tour

Oct. 22 – Tues. Member Mtg.

Nov. 12 – Tues. – Luncheon at Jonathan's

Dec. 4 - Nassau County Art Museum Tour

Mar. 18 – Tuesday - Membership Meeting

April 15 – Tuesday – Last Membership Meeting