

U S A INFORMATION

LOCAL 15-175 NYSUT; LOCAL 3072 AFT

OCTOBER 2010

Next Executive Board Meeting:
November 3, 2009
3:15 p.m.
PBS Conference Room

Next General Membership Meeting:
January 12, 2010
3:15 p.m.
Adult Dining Room

Dec. Executive Board Meeting:
December 1, 2009
3:15 p.m.
PBS Conference Room

From the Desk of the President
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From the Desk of the President

Welcome back to a new school year. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. This is an exciting year for our union. As you know, this is an election year. There will be some changes to the executive board. One of them is electing a new president.

I would like to take this opportunity to say that I truly enjoyed representing you for the last ten years. As with everything, all good things must come to an end. With retirement in sight in the next couple of years, and with so many changes in the wind, the new APPR legislation for one, I felt it necessary to ensure that members who will be affected by the changes should be the ones involved in the negotiations.

I feel confident that the list of nominated members will be able to serve our union well.

The following is the list of those USA members nominated for an elected position on September 14, 2010.

The actual ballots will be mailed to all active members in good standing by October 15, 2010..

Slate of Officers for United Staff Association Putnam/Northern Westchester Board of Cooperative Educational Services:

President	Larry Marino
First Vice President	Fred Santoli
Second Vice President	Doug Andreotti
Treasurer	Dan Gottfried
Secretary	Jenn Guiffre
Membership Chair	Deb Haggerty
Delegates to RA	Irene Snow Athena Swikata Kevin Berge

Program Representatives

Jim Bellucci	Michael Tomaseski
Michael Sowul	Lynn Ammann
Steve Lowery	Marie Russo
Marla Gardner	Robert Angiello
Bob Kelderhouse	Elisa Longo
Adam Vanderstuyf	Catherine Armisto
Judy Spaulding	Judy Gillet

In solidarity,

Irene Snow

President, United Staff Association

Annual Report

Legal Services Plan

2009-2010

As part of the benefits offered through the USA Welfare Fund, you have prepaid/reduced fee legal benefits. Examples of prepaid benefits are simple wills, powers of attorney, and health care proxies. These are available at no cost to you and coverage includes your spouse, domestic partner, parents and parents in law. The most utilized reduce fee benefit is the real estate transaction benefit where the maximum out of pocket expense to you is \$60 for a transaction involving your primary residence. This benefit is also available to members who live in the 10 northern counties of New Jersey and to members who live in Connecticut.

During the plan year for 2009 - 2010, 120 members of our unit used the legal plan. There were 10 wills, 52 consultations, 5 real estate transactions, 3 matrimonial proceedings, 3 consumer rights actions, 30 health care proxies and living wills, 15 powers of attorney, 1 legal defense and 1 bankruptcy. This information was shared with the trustees of the Westchester Putnam Teachers Legal Services Fund at their meeting on May 19, 2010. Legal benefits are provided by the law firm of Mirkin & Gordon, PC. The lawyer comes to BOCES on the second Wednesday of each month during the school year and appointments can also be scheduled at other times. To schedule an appointment, call 914-878-4833.

The benefits listed in the above paragraph represent a partial listing of the many benefits that are provided through this plan. For a detailed description of all of the benefits please refer to the

plan booklet that was included in the USA Welfare Fund Binder. Benefits are updated and improved at the meetings of the legal fund trustees. In addition to providing direct benefits to our members, the panel attorneys also prepare articles of legal interest for our members. These are printed in the USA Newsletter. Current descriptions of benefit improvements and past articles can be found by visiting the legal fund website: www.teacherslegalfund.com

We hope that you will continue to use the legal plan and that you will encourage your fellow members to utilize these benefits.

Florence Laicher
Chair, WPTLSF Board of Trustees

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of	
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(914) 962-9579	
Editor: Athena Swikata	
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EXECUTIVE BOARD	
President.....	Irene Snow
1st Vice President.....	Larry Marino
2nd Vice President.....	Al CotoIa
Secretary.....	Jenn Guiffre
Treasurer.....	Dan Gottfried
Membership Chairperson.....	Joan Irvine
Grievance Chairperson.....	Mary Ann Alvord
Negotiations Chairperson.....	Vito Rinaldo
Building Rep Chairperson.....	

A Bouquet from Us

Get Well Wishes to:

Mary Jo Kramer on recovery from surgery.

Giovanni Petriccione on recovery from surgery

Our Sympathy to:

Lola Smerdon on the death of her mother

Al Cotoia on the death of his mother

Ada DiCecco on the death of her father

Congratulations to:

John Madden on the birth of his son

Nicole Gaggiano on her recent marriage

Send items for *A Bouquet from Us* to Elizabeth Bowler at:
ebowler@pnwboces.org



To schedule an appointment with the lawyer members should call (914) 997-1576.

IMPORTANT!

Please Note:

Mary Ann Alvord is the Grievance Chairperson. She can be reached at extension **764**, or from the outside at **(914) 248-2764**.

**United Staff Association
Welfare Fund
c/o Daniel H. Cook Associates
253 West 35th Street, 12th Floor
New York, New York 10001**

Chairperson: Lola Smerdon

Secretary: Nancy Finsmith

Treasurer: Janine deGrouchy-Hraska

Trustees: Monika Biscoglio
Jennifer Guiffre
Steve Simpson
Irene Snow

Administrator: Daniel Cook Associates
253 West 35th Street, 12th Floor
New York, New York 10001
(914) 250-0700
(212) 505-5050
1-800-DHCOOK1
(1-800-342-6651)
FAX # (212) 714-1454

Legal Fund: (914) 997-1576

USA PHONE NUMBER: (914) 962-9579

Keep this page for future reference!