

# WAYNE'S WORLD

## WTA/NEA-NY

WTA Newsletter

Pat Yates (OP), President  
 Lori Sensenbach (OP), Internal Vice President  
 Elizabeth Peters (FE), External Vice President  
 Lisa Twitchell (HS), Treasurer  
 Martha Hanley (FE), Secretary  
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### President's Message



#### What Do Teachers Make?

Donna Stalker e-mailed us a message this week that is the perfect "set" for my message.

In part, here is the answer to the question, "What do teacher's make?"

*You want to know what I make? I make kids wonder. I make them question. I make them criticize. I make them apologize and mean it. I make them write. I make them read, read, read. I make them show all their work in math and perfect their final drafts in English. I make them understand that if you have the brains, and follow*

*your heart, and if someone ever tries to judge you by what you make, you must pay no attention because they just didn't learn.*

*The teacher paused and then continued. You want to know what I make? "I MAKE A DIFFERENCE."*

Last week, the seniors on the boy's varsity basketball team, under the coaching influence of Bill Thomson, recognized a group of teachers before senior night awards. Bill set a stage that allowed these athletes the opportunity to publicly share their respect for teachers that made a difference to them in their

growth at Wayne Central School District. This special recognition was given to our colleagues listed below:

Jim Adamo, Brenda Drexler, Andy Struzik, Riley Wheaton, Pat Brennan, Therese Manfredi-Hill, Julie Wells and Teresa Lawrence.

What a compliment to our teachers. I happened to be able to speak to most of them and they were touched and positively affected by the recognition. That makes a difference!

This is a tradition that should be repeated everywhere! Thanks, Bill!  
 Pat

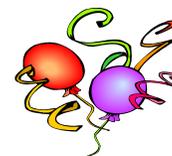
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#### CELEBRATE !

#### District Wide

**Thank You to Pat Yates** for WTA's recognition of National School Counseling Week (50th Anniversary) Feb 7—11, 2205.

**Thank you to Nancy Domm** and Social Committee for hosting another wonderful Happy Hour—Bon Appetite!

**Congratulations to Lisa Marlow and Freewill Kicks Club** for their recent appearances and recognition on local TV!

### And The (Financial) Survey Says:

20 members responded to the financial seminars survey that was sent out this past month. Thank you ! Based on your responses we are **offering 3 seminars.**

**Wednesday March 9th, at OE** a double seminar will be held. Part I will cover **Tax Preparation and Strategies** (with an emphasis on educators). Part II will cover **How to Save and Pay for College** (for your children). These are being offered together because believe it or not the two topics are really intertwined. Contact Jen Becker, to RSVP.

**Thursday, May 5th at OE,** a double seminar on **Retiring Soon** ( ideal for those who are thinking about retiring in the next 5 years or so) and **Long Term Care** will be offered. Contact Fran Pucci, her room is #126 at OE.

Several people also expressed interest in **Personal Budgeting** and **The 10 Steps to Financial Success.** This will be offered **Thursday, May 26th at the MS.** Contact Marc Binsac to RSVP.

**All seminars begin at 3:30 PM and last about 1 1/2**

**hours. There will be time for Questions and answers. Please RSVP to the specified contact person no later than the Monday before the Seminar being offered.**

If you did not send in a survey but would like to participate in a seminar being offered just RSVP to the contact person specified. Remember you can always make an appointment to meet with your financial advisor at any time or contact Mark Callahan at District office.

**Q: According to the Contract, can a WTA member use a personal day the day before Spring Break in order to qualify for reduced air fare?**

**The first correct answer sent to Jeff Trout will receive a Wegman's Gift card!**

# The 3 R's: Remarks, Reminders, and Relief!

**3rd Thursday, February 17th!** ( Boston Cream, Glazed, Jelly, Chocolate Fry Cakes. . . )



**Do you know your Weingarten Rights? We do! Come get your free pocket card and learn how to exercise your rights!**

## Issues currently being explored:

- ◆ Team leader stipend issue .
- ◆ CARE teams at MS and HS.

- ◆ Professional Development Team and membership from the association.

## Issues acted upon/discussed:

- ◆ Small Claims court action settled in favor of former employee re: tuition reimbursement.
- ◆ Publicly recognized National School Counseling Week.
- ◆ HS meeting to address concerns.
- ◆ Vacant positions and job postings.

## NEA/NY UniServ Representative:

Jeff Trout JTTrout@NEANY.ORG  
Office: 800-536-5330  
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***Rule of thumb #21:*** Tax Time—take all your deductions—you're worth it!

## **WTA Dues for 2004—2005:**

Full time = \$570.00

Part Time = \$289.50

Additional Teacher Tax Credit = \$250.

## Why Merge NEA-NY?



Merger is about bringing together the resources and strengths of both NYSUT and NEA/NY to deal with the challenges that every school worker in this state faces. A new united organization would represent 97% of all school employees in New York State. This total membership would equal a strong political voice both locally in New York State, and nationally, in Washington D.C. Here are some of the benefits of a single state union.

1. **Benefits and Services:** Members in the new union will have more services and benefits available to them. A larger network of professional development resources would exist to meet on the job needs as well as to increase student performance. There would be a wider array of services and training opportunities for both classroom professionals and educational support staff than is available now.
2. **High Quality Service:** Locals will continue to be served by their current Uni-Serve representatives. These staff will have more resources available to help strengthen local unions and enforce their rights.

3. **A United Voice for Political Action:** NYSUT has over 500,000 members and NEA/NY has over 31,000 members. As a single organization we will be well over half a million educators. United together we will have greater impact on decisions made in Albany, combined lobbying efforts will be enhanced. Every legislative district will be represented. We will have greater access to SED and the Regents.
4. **A Stable Dues Structure:** Over time, NEA members dues should decrease and the single state union will be more cost effective for all.
5. **Combined National Level Affiliations:** As a single state union we will be dually affiliated with both the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association. NEA is the single largest education union in the Nation. Both will be pushing our educational agenda in congress .
6. **Greater Support and Opportunity for Educational Support Professionals (ESPs):** Access to training, regular publications focused on sup-

port staff issues and topics of interest, an Advisory committee, regional meetings , and conferences will be readily available. Great opportunities exist for growth, professional development, and leadership, combined with lower dues.

You should know that members in a statewide poll made it clear that they wanted a stronger voice for all educators, more resources and services, and lower dues. They want an end to infighting and raiding between organizations that share common goals and views. They want a greater focus on professional development. Over 75% of NEA /NY members polled favored unity. There is much to be gained by a common approach to bargaining, tackling of workplace issues, and the election of pro-education candidates.

Your WTA Delegates will be available to discuss this during the 3rd Thursday meeting in March or you may contact them anytime for further information. You will be asked to cast your vote before the April Delegate Assembly.



## **WTA supports NEA in its effort to raise funds for the Educational International Tsunami Relief Fund.**



50/50 Raffle winners will be drawn this week—Friday in each building. See your Delegate or PAC person: Beth Peters/Freewill, Pat Yates/OP, Jean Robillard/OE, Marc Binsac and Jackie Siwicki/ MS, and Tom Seimbor/HS.