

Jul 1994
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The New York Public Library Retirees Association Newsletter

Issue 4 July 1994

YOUR PENSION 1994 What Happened to The Cost of Living Increase

Juanita Doares

A cost of living adjustment (COLA) bill for pensions failed to pass the State Legislature. We have of course been disappointed. The NYPL Retirees Association in cooperation with the Retired Public Employees Association (RPEA) and the Alliance for Public Retiree Organizations (APRO) had worked hard for its passage. We nevertheless did succeed in keeping the issue alive, and we believe progress was made toward passage in a future session. Because support of bills submitted in the future requires some knowledge of what has happened this year, we report as follows:

As you know from our *Newsletter*, we supported the Maintenance of Purchasing Power (MOPP) Bill introduced by RPEA and APRO. But after the MOPP bill was introduced, four other organizations introduced another bill known as the Enhanced One Third Bill or the Union Coalition Permanent Cost of Living Bill. The organizations that introduced it are: (1) Civil Service Employees Association, (2) District Council 82, (3) Public Employees Federation, (4) Police Conference of New York.

It would have achieved the following: 1. A permanent COLA. 2. Eligibility requirement of a minimum of five years of employment in the institution from which the person retired. 3. An increase in the pension of 1/3 of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year. 4. A pension increase based on the first \$20,000 of the previous year's pension.

It would also have provided a supplement for those who retired before 1970, based on the first \$20,000 of the pension and calculated on a share of the cost of living from the year of retirement up to 1970. The amount would have increased the longer the pensioner was retired. This provision was not in the MOPP bill, which calculated the amount of the pension from the year 1994 and did not try to rectify the amount received by those who retired before that year.

In the interest of solidarity, APRO and RPEA decided to support this new bill (S8414/A11627). Unfortunately, in spite of all our efforts these bills did not make it out of the committees of the Senate and Assembly. Revised pension supplemental bills, however, were introduced. [A supplement here is not the same as a cost of living increase.] The Assembly passed A12165. The Senate version (S8842) after a third reading was not voted on. However the Senate and the Assembly have agreed on pension supplemental bills S8842A/A12255. These bills raise the retirement year for eligibility from 1983 to 1990. They also raise the cap from the first \$10,000 of the pension to the first \$12,500 in computing the amount of the supplement.

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Most important, the bills establish a temporary task force on the sufficiency of retirement benefits. In other words, we would find out exactly how retirees are getting along on the amount of the pension they now receive. The lack of this information has made difficult the arguments for COLA and supplements because there are no statistics to prove how much these are needed.

APRO has gone on record as still supporting a permanent cost of living bill based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). If the legislature insists on passing a pension supplement bill instead, then the APRO recommends that the bill (S8842A/A12255) be amended to become more responsive to the needs of public employee retirees in the following ways: 1. Make the bill permanent (the present one must be renewed by vote of the legislature every two years). 2. Make the eligibility 55 years of age or 10 years retired. 3. Raise the income cap to \$20,000. 4. Raise the percentages of allowances to meet today's increase in cost of living. 5. Include members of the New York State Retirement System and the New York City Retirement systems.

The Senate and the Assembly will possibly return to Albany to continue this session. We are therefore contacting our legislators urging them to act on the permanent COLA bill S8414 and A11627; but if they are committed to the supplementation bill S8842A/A12255, then it is important that they encourage their legislative leaders to amend these bills as noted above.

We are grateful to our legislators who agreed to sign on as sponsors for the COLA bill. They are Assembly Members John Bryan Murtaugh, John Ravitz, Scott Stringer, Edward Sullivan and Senator David Patterson. We have visited and been in touch with all of our State Legislators in Manhattan, and they all support COLA aid to New York State retirees.

NYPL Retirees Association members have been visiting our legislators and legislative aides to seek their support. These members include Mary Ann Altman, Marie Aroldi, Agnes Babich, Theresa Casile, Juanita Doares, Ruth Kronmiller, Moritia Leah Frederick, Mercy Kellogg, Ann Moy, Lucy Eldridge, Barbara Nugent, Nora Gorchoff, Jean Hutson, Maria Proctor, John Slade and Belle Weinberg. We have been joined on our visits by members of the Public Employees Federation (PEF) and the New York 1013 Organization (retired policemen). These members include Lorraine Ballard, Eileen Greer and Mike McCurran.

The above information is important for you to know, for our actions are in behalf of all NYPL retirees. Thirty-two other states and the federal government include annual COLA benefits in their pensions. New York State is a conspicuous exception. We must secure protection against the inflation which gradually wipes out our pensions.



THE HOMELESS

Anyone who has worked in a public library has long been familiar with the homeless, but like everyone else we have usually been aware of only the surface of their problems. For those who would like to learn more about the lives of this group of library readers, we refer you to a two-part series of articles by Christopher Jencks in the April 21 and May 12 issues of *The New York Review of Books*. To quote Mr. Jencks, "Because homelessness is both deeply

disturbing emotionally and controversial politically, it has inspired a steady flow of books and reports by journalists, political activists, and scholars." He reviews eleven books, but refers also to thirteen other recent ones as well as various older publications. They emphasize that homelessness is a serious and complicated problem which suggests that something has gone wrong with America's economic and social institutions.

Although one term, "The Homeless," is used to describe everyone in this category, the problems of each individual can differ from the others. To add to the

complexity, Mr. Jencks says the homeless are not just people like everyone else who have merely hit a stretch of bad luck. Success or failure are the cumulative products of many influences, of which luck is always one. In most cases both individuals and society are responsible. There is plenty of blame for everyone.

Mr. Jencks presents means for combating homelessness, such as work programs, special housing arrangements, help with alcohol and drug addiction, treatment for mental illness, and adequate support for those who try to escape from their homelessness.

BOOK NOTES

Not all antidepressants come in bottles. If you are feeling low, you might try rereading some well-written literary uppers, such as E. F. Benson's *Lucia* books, filled with tribulations and sarcastic fun. You can read about Lucia from the first book to the last, because they are now gathered in one large paperback with the title *Make Way for Lucia*, published by Harper & Row. They are also published as separate paperbacks. If you do not want to start at the beginning, choose the most enjoyable of the books, *Mapp and Lucia*; you may remember it as a four-part TV series a few years ago on public television.

Also recommended are the small books of Helene Hanff, best known for her *84, Charing Cross Road* (Avon), made into a movie several years ago. You might also try her *The Duchess of Bloomsbury Street* (Avon), *Q's Legacy* (Penguin), *Apple of My Eye* (Moyer Bell), and *Underfoot in Show Business* (Moyer Bell).

PURPOSE OF THIS ASSOCIATION

We have received requests from various members to put into writing the purpose of this organization. As stated on the membership blank, we are an independent group with the purpose of addressing such concerns as cost of living pension supplements, health care, and any other retiree-related issue that may arise. In addition, we wish to build a group of retirees who continue to be interested in library matters, especially those of The New York Public Library. We emphasize that we have spent our lives in a profession that does not end when we cease to go to work every day. Libraries were begun from ideals and continue to subsist on them, and these ideals still need to be guarded and implemented. Among those qualified to do so are retirees who have spent a lifetime helping to build and maintain a great institution.

This continuing involvement of retirees is by no means new. Throughout the Library's history many of its retirees have continued to work in the Library as volunteers or part-time employees, and they have also frequently joined in the many efforts to raise funds to support the Library. We encourage such activities by our members.

Note: The bylaws of this association can be obtained by writing to its President: Juanita Doares, 401 W. 118 St. #3, New York, NY 10027.

HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION

**Mercy P. Kellogg and
Moritia Leah Frederick**

On June 7, Juanita, Moritia and Mercy attended a City Hall rally in support of single payer health care. The rally was sponsored by various organizations including the Gray Panthers and Older Women's League (OWL). An impressive stack of petitions to Congress had been collected. The speakers were Councilman Tom Duane, Congressman Charles Rangel, and a representative for Congressman Major Owens.

All the speakers emphasized that people must let Congress know where they stand. The speakers all favor a single payer plan, but Rangel warned that some flexibility must be allowed if we are to get universal health care legislation this year.

Who, when and what are to be covered will hinge on the how of financing, and that is the sticking point in Congress. Only the Clinton and Jim McDermott plans (HR1200) are really universal and include an acceptable package of services. The Clinton plan inserts a complicated layer of insurance companies, purchase alliances, HMO's, etc. between

you and your doctor. The theory is they will compete and keep costs down. But insurance companies and HMO's are for profit and will decide on that basis what doctors you may see and what treatments you are allowed. Unlike a Congressman, you cannot vote an insurance company executive or HMO president out of office.

Basically all the plans are insurance plans so that the larger the base covered the lower the per capita costs. A government run single payer plan would have the largest base, and it would go with you as Social Security does. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the single payer plan would produce up to \$100 billion savings by reducing paperwork and eliminating insurance company overhead alone (see *Modern Maturity* June 1994). Among other savings would be hospital billing costs—U.S. hospitals have about ten times as many staff members in their billing offices as Canadian hospitals.

Under the Canadian type plan some procedures such as nonessential plastic surgery are not covered, but Canadians have almost two years longer life expectancy than Americans and can go to the doctors of their choice. There has been much criticism of the Canadian plan, but much of it is suspect be-

cause it is based on very early days when their plan was new, compared rural apples with city oranges, or failed to adjust for the value of the Canadian dollar.

Copies of this association's stand on health care (see the March issue of this newsletter) have been sent to all the appropriate legislators. It now is important to write to your congressional representatives and U.S. Senators asking them to support health care reform and universal coverage for all citizens and urging them to pass a health care reform bill in this session. August will be an important month as Congress debates the various health care reform bills. Let your voice be heard. You may enclose a copy of the Retirees Association health reform statement if you wish.



DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS

Many retirees joined this association so that they could keep in touch with other retirees. In order for them to do so we plan to issue a directory of members. We do not, however, want to do anything that a member might consider an unwanted invasion of privacy. If a retiree does not want to be listed in the directory, or if the retiree's address should not be included, please telephone or write to: Mary Ann Altman, Secretary, NYPL Retirees Association, 70 West End Avenue Apt. 19-F, New York, NY 10023 telephone: 212 362-7634

NEW MEMBERS

The following are new memberships received since the last newsletter:

Elena Alisse
Roberta Boozé
Elizabeth Borbas
Mary Brady
Julia Brody
Dino Capone
William Coakley
Evelyn Coleman
Lidia Ewstafiadi
John Fall
Mary Gibson
Zofia Glodowski
Elizabeth Golden
Evelyn Grate
Gretchen Haseltine
Norma Hersh
Allen Hogden
Grace Iijima
Doris Jacques
Evelyn Jones
Ruth Kjellerstedt
Marilyn Lamar
William Lee
Florence Levy
Sarah Lipsky
Catherine Marquard
Rose Messer
Shirley Mitchell
Judy Moshonas
Naomi Noyes
Barbara Nugent
Stephen Patajik
Norman Petteway
Marion Porro
Helen Prussin
Bridie Race
Eleanor Radwan
Dr. Rose Roth
Joe Rosenthal
Elizabeth Ross
Iwanna Rozankowski
Jeri Rubenfeld

Inez Russo
Alan Sattler
Virginia Smith
Margaret Sung
Edith Trachtenberg
Evelyn Williams
Cora Wilmot
Philip Wolcoff

Because of the delay between writing and mailing of the newsletter, this list may not be complete.



RETIREES IN ACTION

AT THE AMERICAN
MUSEUM OF NATURAL
HISTORY LIBRARY

At the May meeting of the association, Georgette Lachat told of her volunteer work at the Library of the American Museum of Natural History, one of the world's largest libraries on the subject of fauna.

The library has recently moved from its former extremely crowded space, and is now in its new multifloored building, an addition added to the back of the museum. All the most recent electronic equipment is being used. Ms. Lachat is now working on rare books, primarily the works of Georges-Louis Leclerc, Comte de Buffon, whose great publication is *Histoire naturelle, générale et particulière*, a 50 volume set (14 published after his death) in which he tried to produce an account of the whole of nature, the first work of its kind. Ms. Lachat said that unlike many museum libraries, this one is open to the public.

*FROM THE POETRY OF
HAROLD FRANK MERKLEN*

April 29, 1921 - June 9, 1994

I will examine before going blind
not only heaven, but commonplace
 straws -
out of which I sip at the bottom
 of glasses
for fun to make noise as a child;
or use to take in cool water,
 dying.

from *Metal More Attractive*. 1979

Harold Merklen was a retiree of The Research Libraries, where he worked in Photographic Services and Cooperative Services. He died on the 50th anniversary of his landing on a French beach during D-Day in the Second World War.

RECAPITULATION AND UPDATES

For those who joined this association too late to receive previous issues of the newsletter, we summarize as follows and also bring the issues up to date:

Lump Sum Payment: At the time of retirement, the Library could have offered payment of unused vacation time as either a lump sum or continuation of the monthly paycheck. Probably because the decision had to be made in 1972 at a time of a great financial crisis, the Library chose not to pay a lump sum. For many retirees a lump sum for up to 30 days of unused vacation time could have been added to the last year's salary. This amount would have increased the three year Final Average Salary (FAS), which in turn would have raised the amount of the pension. In 1992 the Library reversed itself and offered the lump sum to its eligible employees who retired after April 1, 1992. This action was not made retroactive for those employees who retired before April 1, 1992. Many retirees have believed that the Library should now reimburse them for the money they have lost because of the Library's former decision, a large amount if one considers all those who retired between 1972 and 1992. The New York Public Library Retirees Association looked into this matter, and after consulting lawyers and members of the state legislature, the Association found that the Library acted within its legal rights. That is, the Library under the law was allowed to choose either way of payment, lump sum or salary continuation. The only way to obtain the extra money would be by a special act of the state legislature. The Association has been advised that it is unlikely that such a bill would be passed. This association asked its membership's opinion as to what should be done, and the overwhelming answer was in favor of concentrating all effort, time and money on a badly needed bill that would provide a permanent yearly cost of living adjustment (COLA), a bill that does have a chance to be passed. Some retirees have disagreed with this decision and have started a campaign of their own for the

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Legislation in Support of Library Programs

Juanita Doares

City Legislation

The New York Public Library received \$1.7 million in the recently passed city budget. This funding will allow continuation of six-day service throughout the city; continuation of Connecting Libraries and Schools Project (CLASP) in at least its existing sites in FY 1995; and will provide a modest increase for books and materials. Funding for CLASP and materials was also provided for the Brooklyn and Queens Borough public library systems. This budget success represents a major victory for library programs in a year when so many City agencies received cuts. The CLASP support is a major accomplishment, unique in public library service.

Federal Legislation

Four of our representatives are undertaking a campaign to maintain funding for federal library programs. They are Representatives Major Owens, Jack Reed, Pat Williams and Dale Kildee. They are asking their colleagues to sign a joint letter to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education. The letter urges the subcommittee to maintain support for each of the currently funded library programs and to provide a total level of funding in Fiscal Year 1995 that is at least equal to Fiscal Year 1994—\$146,309,000.

State Legislation

The State Legislature has finally agreed on a budget. Again libraries in New York State did not get the \$12 million increase requested. However, in FY 1995 the legislature did add \$6 million to the \$2.9 million that the Governor had included in his budget. The total funding in the State Budget for libraries in FY 1995 will therefore be \$8.9 million. The overall increase for The Branches and The Research Libraries of The New York Public Library will be about 12%.

lump sum. Although we can certainly sympathize with their efforts, in this action these retirees do not represent the New York Public Library Retirees Association.

The Health Care Reform Position Paper: The last Newsletter printed the position paper of the Association's Health Care Committee that was accepted unanimously by the Association at its meeting on March 23. This committee has written an update which is printed elsewhere in this issue. The revised statement has been sent to all ap-

propriate U.S. legislative committee chairs, as well as to New York State representatives in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives responsible for drafting Health care reform bills.



LETTERS RECEIVED

COLA for Pensions

May 18, 1994

Dear Mrs. Doares:

Thank you for your recent communication in support of a permanent cost of living adjustment for members of public retirement systems.

I understand and sympathize with the impact that many years of inflation have had on retirees, who must live on a fixed income despite the rising cost of living.

This is a deep concern of mine. Please be assured that I will support the effort to provide adjustments for those on fixed pensions to provide the security so deeply needed during the years of retirement.

Again, I appreciate your letting me know your views on important legislative concerns.

Sincerely,

Roy M. Goodman

[Mr. Goodman is the senator from the 26th district. To urge him to vote for the MOPP bill, he was visited in his office by Marie Aroldi, Mercy Kellogg, Mike McCurran (1013 Organization), Belle Weinberg, Moritia Frederick and Juanita Doares. We also received letters from Senators Olga Mendez and Martin Connor.]

The Supplemental Retirement Allowance

April 21, 1994

Dear Mrs. Adele S. Requena:

As a result of our very successful investment performance during recent years, employer costs for the Employees' Retirement System declined from 20.4% in 1979 to 0.6% in 1993. In 1989, because of this reduction in employer contribution rates, we suggested to the Governor and the Legislature that some of these savings be used to provide retirees with a long overdue increase in pension supplementation. In so doing, we emphasized the adverse impact which inflation has had on our pensioners, and also the escalating cost of health care.

Unfortunately, our 1989 bill, and amended versions which have been introduced each year since then, have not received favorable consideration, in spite of the fact that we have justified enactment by the decline in employer contributions. Because of this neglect, our current pension supplementation program compares unfavorably with the programs of most other major public employee retirement systems in the United States. I suggest that you contact the Governor, and your State Senate and Assembly representatives about this issue.

Comptroller McCall is committed to improving this valuable benefit, and he will do all that he can to convince the Legislature to pass such legislation.

Thank you very much for contacting us about this important subject.

Sincerely,

John S. Mauhs

[Mr. Mauhs is the Deputy Comptroller, New York State and Local Retirement Systems]

From the President of The New York Public Library

March 22, 1994

Dear Ms. Doares:

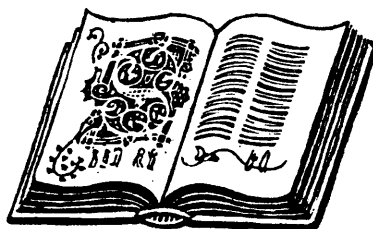
How nice it was to receive your warm and pleasant letter of March 17.

Thank you for your good wishes on my appointment as President of this great institution that you know so well. Thank you also for the information about The New York Public Library Retirees Association. Indeed, I was already aware that retired NYPL staff members provide many important services to The Library, and in my visits throughout the system I have met several retiree volunteers who seemed to be indispensable.

I look forward to meeting you at the annual party attended by retirees.

Cordially,

Paul LeClerc



RETIREE NOTES

Agnes Babich, Juanita Doares, Gloria Quintana and Bell Weinberg attended the joint convention of the Alliance for Public Retiree Organizations and the Retired Public Employees Association in Albany on May 11. **Agnes Babich** represented the NYPL Retirees Association at a luncheon meeting of the New York Senior Council Network Health Care Reform. **Juanita Doares** attended the American Library Association Legislation Day in Washington on April 19. Our retirees were among those who volunteered to help with the letter writing campaign in the Central Research Library, the Donnell Library and the Mid-Manhattan Library. **Nora Gorchoff** is home after having undergone hip surgery in California. Newly retired after 50 years at NYPL, **Catherine Marquard** has been visiting in England this summer. **Agnes Babich, Juanita Doares, Betty Gubert and Georgette Lachat** participated in workshops for pre-retirees sponsored by the New York State Office for the Aging in March. Several retirees, including **Mary Ann Altman**, participated in the children's and adult book sales at the Donnell Library.

We request that you send to the newsletter information about yourself and other retirees.

BARGAIN

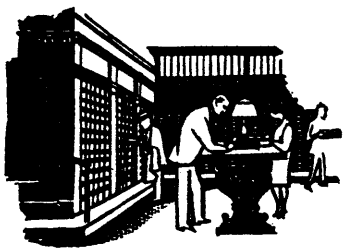
Any seat, any show only \$2.00 at World-wide, 50th Street between 8th and 9th Avenue. 212 246-1583. Six new unusually comfortable theatres in new building. Holdover first-run movies, usually high quality.

LOST MEMBER

Mail has been returned from Claire Charkin's address. Does anyone have information about her? Our files contain the following: Claire Charkin, 100 South Cortez Drive, Margate, Florida 33063

CORRECTION

In the last newsletter we misspelled Emma Cohn by placing an *e* in her last name. It should not be there. If we have misspelled other names, would you please let us know so that they can be corrected.



EDITOR'S NOTES

LIBRARY BASHING: CATALOGS

VIEW FROM *THE NEW YORKER*

In his April 4th *New Yorker* article, "Annals of Scholarship: Discards," Nicholson Baker deplores the destruction of card catalogs. His words are significant here because many of the Library's retirees are among the pioneers who helped develop the use of computers. The Library's involvement has a long history, beginning in the early 1960's with the use of a computer for cataloging the Dance Collection, followed by the establishment of a large data processing center in 1966.

Some of Mr. Baker's criticism is deserved. Maybe there was too much glee over the disposal of card catalogs and too much joy over electronic devices. There has often been ineptness in transferring entries into the computer files. But his article has so many flaws that it fails to convince. Is he unaware of good as well as bad computer systems? Does he really believe that all card catalogs are excellent? Many of the card catalogs he advocates preserving had long ago become unreliable guides to what is in the stacks. Cards disintegrated, were mutilated or torn out, and often contained out of date information. Most important, he hardly realizes the inability of cataloging and manual filing to keep up with the ever increasing flow of new books, a primary reason the Library wanted to try the electronic solution.

An answer to Mr. Baker's article should be almost as long as his voluminous article, but there is no space here. We can mention only a few important flaws. The most surprising is Mr. Baker's unawareness that many of the card catalogs he wants to save were long ago photographed and printed in acid-free book catalogs. These will last long after the old catalog cards have crumbled. Furthermore, the retrospective book catalog of the NYPL Research Libraries is more accurate than the old card catalog because a large staff spent years editing it before it was photographed. Unlike the card catalog which was available in only one "copy" in one place, this book catalog exists in multiple copies throughout the Library and in other libraries worldwide. The same accessibility is an important feature of the electronic catalog, which is available not only within libraries but eventually in anyone's home or office, wherever there is a personal computer.

He deplores the flaws in the filing of entries in the electronic data bases without realizing that this problem was one of the first that worried many libraries. NYPL began its data processing work by developing an electronic authority file in an effort to standardize filing. OCLC, to which he continually refers, did not have such a file. Filing flaws are usually a sign of unskilled computer programmers.

The author fails to mention how immense is the world of knowledge and how difficult to transverse. The card catalog was never the magic tool he remembers it to be. Nor is he aware of the continual efforts to improve the use of the computer. He ignores reference librarians, never mentioning that they might help him use the computer. He does not realize the computer has the potential for greater skill in locating entries. He furthermore forgets to remind us that when making subject searches, both the card catalog and the computer must be supplemented by bibliographies, articles, footnotes, reviews and the like, especially important when the subject is large.

In the May 2 issue of *The New Yorker*, letters about his article were printed, but they were inadequate, possibly because they were limited in length by the magazine's policy. Read Mr. Baker's article for yourself, if you have not already done so, and see what you think. *L. Murphy*

TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO REMEMBER

Health Insurance Information, Counseling and Assistance

For answers about Medicare, Medicaid, Medigap, Long Term Care Insurance and other health insurance (employer plans and HMO's), call the New York State Office for the Aging, 1-800 333-4114.

Patient Rights Hot Line (For New York State residents only.)

If you have trouble with a hospital, such as denial of admission, too early discharge, and the like, you can call the following number maintained by the New York Statewide Senior Action Counsel. You can also call this number to request their booklet:

New York City and
downstate New York:
212 316-9393

Toll Free: 1-800 333-4374

FREE PUBLICATIONS

Cataracts

For information about cataracts, write for a pamphlet *Cataracts in Adults, A Patient's Guide*. It is AHCPR Publication No. 93-0544.

The address is:

U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services
Public Health Service
Agency for Health Care Policy
and Research
Publications Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 8547
Silver Spring, MD 20907
telephone: 1-800 358-9295

The New York
Public Library
Retirees Association, Inc.
An Independent Association

President: Juanita S. Doares
Vice-President: Agnes Babich
Secretary: Mary Ann Altman
Treasurer: Fred T. Gee
Executive Board: Moritia Leah
Frederick, Betty Gubert,
Lawrence Murphy
To join the NYPL Retirees Association,
send annual dues of \$10 to:
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Subscriptions to the newsletter (only for
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Send information for the newsletter to:
NYPL Retirees Association
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c/o Larry Murphy, Editor
137 E. 36 St., #16-B
New York, NY 10016
All other information and inquires:
NYPL Retirees Association
c/o Juanita Doares, President
401 W. 118th St., #3
New York, NY 10027
212 666-5737

Schedule of Meetings

Wednesday, August 10
1:00 p.m. Executive Board
Meeting, HBO
Monday, September 19
First association meeting of
the year
Monday, October 17
Retired Public Employees
Association 1994 Fall Congress
and Annual Meeting. Holiday Inn/
The Turf, Wolfe Road, Colonie, NY
May 1995
White House Conference on the
Aging, Washington, D.C.

FREE PUBLICATIONS

Belle Weinberg from *Arthritis*
Today, July/August 1993

Safe and Sure Care with Over-the-Counter-Medicines is a FDA publication about labelling requirements and warnings. Write to Consumer Information Center, Dept. 5462, Pueblo, CO 81009.

Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs available free from Arthritis Foundation local chapters. The NYC Chapter phone: 212 477-8310

Travel Tips for People with Arthritis Arthritis Foundation, P.O. Box 19000, Atlanta, GA 30326 or local chapters.

Access Amtrak available from Office of Customer Relations, Amtrak, P.O. Box 2709, Washington, D.C. 20013. Phone 800 872-7245

Cruise Guide for the Wheelchair Traveler available from Cruise Lines International Association, 500 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1407, New York, NY 10110. Phone 212 921-006

List of English-speaking Doctors in Other Countries available from International Association for Medical Assistance to Travelers, 417 Center Street, Lewiston, NY 14092. Phone 716 4883.

Note: U.S. consulates also have lists. Always take your regular physicians' telephone numbers so consultations can be made.

The Association's Committees and Their Members

Health Care Committee
Moritia Leah Frederick, Chair
Agnes Babich
Mercy Kellogg
Ann Moy

Legislative Committee
Belle Weinberg, Chair
Lucy Eldridge
Nora Gorchoff
Theresa Casile
Ruth Kronmiller

Membership Committee
Lucy Eldridge, Chair

Social Committee
Rose Marie O'Leary, Chair
Betty Gubert

White House Conference on the Aging
Dolores Noyes, Chair

If you would like to serve on one of these committees, please contact Juanita Doares.
212 666-5737



WARNING! LAST CHANCE TO RENEW

A few people have not yet renewed their membership in this association. Because of our need for money we will be obliged to stop your subscription to this newsletter with this issue. We do not want to do this. We need you. So please send your renewal of \$10 to:

Fred T. Gee
45 Adrian Avenue, 4-B
Bronx, NY 10463