

OATA Newsletter

November/December 2015



Retirement Reminder:

As per article XXI in the contract, anyone who plans on receiving retirement benefits must notify the district in writing at least 180 days prior to retirement.

If you plan to retire this year, please inform Mark Alexander by **January 4, 2016** in order to be eligible for retirement benefits. Contact Wendy Bergman if you need copies of sample retirement letters.

Updates and Reminders:

- **Negotiations:** This is your chance to be heard! Contract negotiations will be starting early in 2016. Please write down ideas, suggestions, and concerns. You can give them to any negotiating team member: Jeff Schlagenhaut, Wendy Bergman, Dave Carpino, Patti Buczek, Robin Bonanno or Mary Kalinowski.
- Check out our **OATA website** regularly for updates and upcoming events at <http://oakfieldalabamata.weebly.com/>
- **Email** us at: oakfieldalabamata@gmail.com
- Look for **retirement information** on Denise Glidden's [website](#).

Your Team:

Wendy Bergman
President

Lisa Cudney
Vice President

Cindy Kowalik
Secretary

Amy Sparrow Percy
Treasurer

Yale Leupold
MHS Building Rep

Heather Shadle
MHS Building Rep

Adam Reeb
Elementary Building Rep

Andrea Grazioplene
Elementary Building Rep

Denise Glidden
Retirement Rep

Corinne Coffta
Teachers' Center Rep

APPR Reminder: Remember to schedule a post observation conference after your first announced walk through. You need to discuss sections 4a (reflecting on teaching) and 4c (communicating with families). It is up to **you** to initiate the conversation and to include the information you want your evaluator to know.

Community Involvement

Here's the beautiful OATA tree in Triangle Park. Thanks to all who supplied materials and time to decorate the tree!



The Value of NYSUT Membership

You may not be aware that your NYSUT membership allows you to enjoy the benefits of the more than 40 programs & services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality, competitive insurance plans.

Member Benefits strives to provide the highest-quality programs for NYSUT members and closely scrutinizes all proposals from reputable vendors before any endorsements are given.

While we work continuously to maintain quality benefit programs at competitive prices, you are encouraged to shop and compare before making any purchasing decisions.



Are you ready to answer these questions?

What would happen if you suddenly died? Have you ever considered what would happen to your spouse and/or children? Take a few moments and answer these questions now:

- 1) Would your loved ones be able to afford their current home?*
- 2) Could your loved ones continue to pay regular bills and maintain their medical coverage?*
- 3) Would your loved ones be able to plan for your final funeral expenses?*

If your answer to the above questions is “No” or “I don’t know,” consider enrolling in the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Term Life or Level Term Life Insurance Plans. Both of these plans allow you to select the plan and benefit amount that best meets your specific needs.

Visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101** for specific details about these plans.

The Issuance of a Certificate of Insurance or payment of benefits will depend upon the answers given in the application and the truthfulness of those answers. Additional underwriting requirements may be needed.

Member Benefits has an endorsement arrangement with its endorsed insurance provider of 7.61% of earned premiums for these programs. All such payments to Member Benefits are used solely to defray the costs of administering its various programs and, where appropriate, to enhance them. The Insurer pools the premiums of Member Benefits participants who are insured for the purposes of determining premium rates and accounting. Coverage outside of these plans may have rates and terms that are not the same as those obtainable through Member Benefits. The Insurer or Member Benefits may hold premium reserves that may be used to offset rate increases and/or fund such other expenses related to the plan as determined appropriate by Member Benefits. Member Benefits acts as your advocate; please contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program.