

# OATA Newsletter

October 2014



## Updates and Reminders:

- Check out our OATA website frequently: <http://oakfieldalabamaata.weebly.com/>
- Membership meeting in January
- Denise Glidden is attending a Retirement Conference. She will be speaking at the January membership meeting to give people ideas of things that they need to think about (not just those close to retirement age).
- Contact Robin Bonanno if you are interested in helping decorate the OATA Christmas Tree this year.

## VOTE COPE:

- Thank you to all who have donated. Our union was able to raise approximately \$1,094. We had 44 members donate.
- You can still donate!! Please consider donating in order to help fight to keep tenure! Your donations are extremely important!
- VOTE-COPE is non-partisan and receives all of its support from voluntary member contributions.
- The money is used to lobby for legislation and to elect candidates who understand the importance of education and health care and who support the values of the organized labor movement.
- Funds from VOTE-COPE have been used for everything from winning a cost of living adjustment for retiree pensions to helping defeat dangerous voucher proposals.
- Another important feature of VOTE-COPE is that a percentage of the funds raised by a NYSUT local union are rebated back to the local to use for grassroots efforts, such as electing pro-union school board candidates or passing school budgets.

## Your Team:

**Wendy Bergman**  
*President*

**Jessica Cramer**  
*Vice President*

**Cindy Kowalik**  
*Secretary*

**Amy Sparrow Percy**  
*Treasurer*

**Yale Leupold**  
*MHS Building Rep*

**Heather Shadle**  
*MHS Building Rep*

**Lisa Cudney**  
*Elementary Building Rep*

**Andrea Grazioplene**  
*Elementary Building Rep*

## **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk**

On Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Alannah, Jessica, Wendy, Corinne, her mom Penny, her husband Russ, and their sons, Ian and Caleb, joined the NYSUT team to walk in finding a cure for breast cancer. It was a super cold and wet morning, but a fun walk! Thank you to those who donated, but were also unable to walk. We were able to raise \$350!!





## Member Shopping Program *powered by PayCheck Direct*

**As NYSUT members, you work hard every day!  
*Shouldn't buying what you want be easy?***

**Well, now it can be...** The Member Shopping Program powered by PayCheck Direct allows eligible NYSUT members to purchase what they want now and pay interest-free over 12 months. Choose from either 12 or 26 payments via automatic checking account withdrawals.

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**Through PayCheck Direct, all eligible NYSUT members have access to thousands of name-brand products such as appliances, computers & tablets, electronics, furniture, jewelry & watches, home & garden items, children's toys, and recreation & fitness items.**

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PayCheck Direct offers a 30-day in-home trial on many products; flexible return policy; no interest fees, credit checks, down payments, or finance charges; and toll-free customer service representatives located in the U.S.

*NYSUT members are encouraged to shop and compare prices before making a purchase with this program and consider it as an alternative to using their credit card. Please note that PayCheck Direct will have access to certain information from NYSUT's membership files to verify levels of eligibility for those NYSUT members that choose to participate in this program.*

**For more information about PayCheck Direct,  
call toll-free 866-441-9160 or visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org).**



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.