



Allegheny County

December 2016

## Retirees Association

# NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 112615 • Pittsburgh, PA 15241-0215 • 412-539-9307 • [ACRetirees.org](http://ACRetirees.org)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Roger Westman, *President*  
Guy Tumolo, *Vice President*  
JoAnna McQuaide, *Secretary*  
Pete Schepis, *Treasurer*

Janet Norkus, *Assistant to the Treasurer*  
Ginny Bowman, *Editor*  
Angela Conte

Marge Lubawy  
Joseph Scorpion

## ELECTION RESULTS

Thank you to everyone who voted and mailed their ballot! The Officers elected and listed below will serve for 2017; Officers will be elected again for 2018 and then serve two-year terms. Refer to The Year in Review in this issue for an explanation.

**President: GUY TUMOLO**  
**Vice President: PETE SCHEPIS**  
**Treasurer: JANET NORKUS**  
**Secretary: JOANNA MCQUAIDE**

The following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors and will serve two-year terms, January 2017-December 2018.

ANGELA CONTE  
PAMELA LONG  
MARGE LUBAWY  
JOAN MCMAHON  
CONNIE PRZYBYLA

## SAVE THE DATES

**December 14, 2016**  
Holiday Party

**March 15, 2017**  
**Luncheon**  
Baruch Hyman, Proprietor  
Crown Antiques & Collectibles

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

By Guy Tumolo

We have just completed a very eventful year in the history of ACRA. Every retiree from Allegheny County enjoyed, for another year, the last pension increase that Patricia Cray and Roger Westman worked so hard to get in 2014. Both of these outstanding members of the ACRA Board are now no longer with us. Pat left the area to be closer to her family and enjoy life more. She did not run for President in 2015 for the 2016-17 term. Roger Westman won the presidency that year but succumbed to a recurring illness in July of this year. Roger was the long-time secretary of ACRA.

The 2015 election did not produce a secretary, treasurer and one other Board member. Thankfully, JoAnna McQuade, Janet Norkus and Pete Schepis accepted appointments to the open positions. In accordance with the bylaws, appointed positions must be put up for election on the next ballot following appointment. Consequently, all Officer positions and all Member positions were on the 2016 ballot. Elected Officers will serve for one year and elected Members will serve for two years beginning in January,

2017. The election results appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

A process for defining the duties of the Officers and the identification of working committees with assigned responsibilities was undertaken. Currently, the committees are: Audit, Election, Nominating, Membership, Newsletter, Program. Members are encouraged to volunteer to be on a committee of interest to them.

This past year there were six luncheons. Speakers covered topics including the pension plan, gardening facts and fiction, the new County Park Ranger program, Medicare, and local history. There were special events like a summer picnic, the Christmas party, a tour of the History Center, and nature walks at the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden and Raccoon State Park. We are open to suggestions for more activities next year.

Come join your fellow County retirees for good food, great conversation, interesting speakers, and special activities. ACRA is your organization to enjoy.



# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL

By Patricia Lance  
Retired from AC Adult Probation



In honor of the National Park Service's 100th anniversary, on August 25, 2016, I visited Yellowstone National Park, the first National Park created in America. Named for the Yellowstone River, it encompasses 3,500 square miles in Wyoming. Old Faithful is the most well-known thermal feature; it erupts seventeen

times daily with heights ranging from 106 to 184 feet, and lasts between one-and-a-half to five minutes. Half of the world's geysers are in the Park.

I also visited the adjacent 485 square mile Grand Teton National Park which lies to the south. The mountains are magnificent, ranging in height

from 6,320 to 13,770 feet. The National Museum of Wildlife Art, including a sculpture hiking path, is conveniently located along the highway outside of Jackson Hole. A \$10 senior lifetime pass can be used at all National Parks, and it admits you and three others in your car.

*Continued on page 4*





# SOGGY BUT FUN WALK

By Marge Lubawy

On September 29, a small group of hardy ACRA members and a guest took a soggy tour of the Pittsburgh Botanic Garden (PBG) led by ACRA member and PBG volunteer Lynn Heckman. Since our spring walk at the Wildflower Preserve in Raccoon State Park was also on a rainy day, we were prepared for a wet commune with nature.

Each time we visit PBG we see the progress that is being made in this wonderful county asset. This time we saw the beautiful expanded flower display in the Bob and Joan Pierce Garden; the apiary supporting a bee



population in the big dogwood meadow and the restored log cabin near the Heritage Apple Orchard where the eight Barred Rock chickens are now producing eggs. There are more plantings at the Asian Garden along the lake, and stepping stones are now placed across the shallow end of the water. Wooden duck boxes have been installed near the lake. We walked a trail to the Bookworm Glen and came to a charming hermit hut with a table, chair, and books inside. In addition to the natural beauty of the garden, sculptures created by Pittsburgh artists are in place throughout and will remain there until January.

After our tour, we headed to the Oakdale Diner to dry out and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Photos by Marge Lubawy



# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL

*Continued from page 2*



## TWO IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

**Retirement Board of Allegheny County (RBAC)**  
**412.350.4674**

Call for questions about your pension or life insurance.

**Allegheny County Retirees Association (ACRA)**  
**412.539.9307**

Call for questions about your membership, luncheons or other activities.

## Holiday Greetings!



The ACRA Board of Directors sends best wishes for a wonderful holiday season for you and your family. We hope you have many fun and joyful times with loved ones and friends. Best wishes also for a Happy, Healthy New Year.

**The information for the “In Memoriam” column was not available at this time. We expect to include a complete list in the March 2017 newsletter.**