

Northeastern Zone RENY c/o James Howard 21 Pine Ridge Drive Morrisonville, NY 12962	



Northeastern Zone

THE NOR-EASTER/RENY

ACKNOWLEDGING our PROFESSION WHILE SUPPORTING our PAST

THIS ISSUE

- A “Got it!” request
- August 8th Golf Tournament
- Senior Planet at our next luncheon

Is your summer chore list about to be abandoned for a backyard chair?

As one of our cherished readers, when the *SEND* button is clicked and the Newsletter put to ‘bed’ as we say in the publishing business, I always wonder who will **actually** read this missive?

To that end, this month I am asking (actually pleading a wee bit) everyone who opens this publication to simply let me know by hitting the *REPLY* button and sending a ‘got it!’ message.

Many thanks in advance, jim howard, editor

Going Places, Making Memories

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RENY Annual Conference Oct. 14-16

Members please note: Connie Lalonde is requesting donations for Convention Baskets be forwarded to her prior to September 15th or bring to Luncheon. Any item related to the Adirondacks (evidently Moose scat is a collectible) will be gratefully accepted!

At the Convention the baskets will be raffled off and accrued monies deposited in our treasury to support our Local Outreach Programs. Thank you!

Membership VP Report: Kris Fordham

We currently have 513 active members, counting five new members and four in the wings waiting for their registration papers to be processed.

Kris is working diligently in an attempt to fill some very large shoes. She would appreciate greatly the names of possible new members; she will follow up with a phone call.

kfordham13@gmail.com

Community Ser: Kim Quinn, Janet Booth

The Community Service Committee reports that our Peru Food Drive held at Grand Un-

ion on June 19 spearheaded by Kathy Caron netted 353 lbs of donated food and \$216 in cash to benefit Peru’s Food Shelf. Participating members included Charlie and Penny Neyenhouse, Janet Booth, Kim Quinn and Sully (Honorary Canine).

The Plattsburgh Food Drive held at Yando’s Big M on June 26 spearheaded by Janet Booth and Kim Quinn netted 243 lbs of food and \$196.82 in cash to benefit Plattsburgh’s Interfaith Food Shelf. Participating members included Glenda Rowe, Connie LaLonde and Bonnie Gregware... Sully made another appearance.

Upcoming Community Service events:

September Luncheon Meeting Collection: hats, mittens, gloves, socks, etc. (destination to be determined). December Luncheon Meeting Collection will be: toys, cash, books for the Christmas Bureau

Feel free to contact either of us with questions, comments or concerns, suggestions.

PHOTOS ON PAGE 2...

Janet Booth janboo54@gmail.com

Kim Quinn kawquinn@yahoo.com

RAYMOND JAMES: Financial Planning

Jonathan L. Schneiderman, CFP®

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NEZ Leadership for 2026-27

Elected Officers

President: Tracey Howard
Executive Vice President: Elizabeth Dubay
Secretary: Rebecca Frostick
Treasurer: Kathleen Fessette
Vice President for Legislation: Rod Driscoll
Vice President for Membership: Kris Fordham
Vice President for Friendly Service: K. Caron
Past President: Kevin Mulligan
Committee Appointments
By-Laws: Pete Atchinson
Community Service: Kim Quinn & Janet Booth
Health Care: Kevin Mulligan
Historian: Dick Brogowski
Scholarship: Cheryl Dodds
Newsletter: Jim Howard
Educator Award: Alison Brown / Simone Lutz
Nominations: Kevin Mulligan
Program: Fran Shutts, Glenda Rowe, Bev Kie, Barb Stadnicki, Renee Julian
Public Relations: Cindi LaFountain
Resolutions: Replacement Needed

AGENDA for September 3, 2026

Call to order - Tracey Howard - NEZ President
Pledge of Allegiance

Secretary's Report - Becky Frostick

Treasurer's Report : Kathy Fessette

Friendly Service- Kathy Caron

Membership – Kristina Fordham

Legislative Action - Rod Driscoll`

A. President's Report - Tracey Howard

B. *RENY Bylaw Amendment, Nominations, Swearing in of Officers, Golf Tournament

C. Awards – Bonnie Gregware

D. Newsletter/Website - Jim Howard

E. Community Service – Kim Quinn, Janet Booth

F. Health Insurance - Kevin Mulligan

New Business

Adjournment

FOOD DRIVE PHOTOS from page 1:



Membership is important, however a participating member is critical Help is needed on the Finance and Resolutions Committee! Please contact Tracey Howard @ 518-578-7433.

—Legislative Report—
Drawn from the NYS LAC report by
Janice Mullins, VP for Membership

RENY's Legislative Action Committee's advocacy: On June 23, voters headed to the polls to determine which representatives will appear on the ballot in the midterm elections. Only 7% of eligible voters in New York State cast a vote in these primary elections.

That 7% essentially determined the choices that the 93% who did not vote or could not vote can make in the midterm elections. Those voters registered as independents do not have a say in primary elections in NYS. This is why it is so important that we choose representatives who have the most common-sense solutions to America's affordability crisis and the other issues that Americans face as we navigate life today regardless of party.

We would urge our members to contact Governor Hochul's and Senator Dan Stec's offices regarding their lack of support for our agenda. Assemblyman Michael Cashman has expressed general support for our agenda. As always. Thank you for your support!

Friendly Service: Kathy Caron

Friendly Service continues to send out cards for birthdays, get well wishes and sympathy notes to families. As always, donations of appropriate cards are welcome! Please contact Kathy Caron at 518-569-5600 if you have cards to donate or perhaps know of a member who would benefit from a kind note!

Educator Awards: S. Lutz & A. Brown

We are pleased to announce this year's Educator Awards recipient, Jennilee Corrow, a special education teacher at Peru High School. She has been awarded the \$1000 Kramer Memorial Educator Award for the upcoming school year, 2026-27. Her project will utilize technology in her classroom via

President's Message:
Tracey Howard

The summer is flying by as we get ready for our first annual golf tournament at Harmony Golf Club on August 8th. We hope to see members joining a team or volunteering to help out for the event. Much hard work has gone into the planning by our volunteer team of Kevin Mulligan, Jim Shutts, Pete Atchinson and me. It's hard to believe we are already preparing for the fall luncheon.

As most of you know, Sandy Lashua, our VP for membership, died on July 9th. She



served on the board of RENY/NEZ for over 25 years and held the position of Vice President for Membership for more than twenty of those years. For five years, the North-eastern zone received statewide recognition for recruiting the highest number of new members. It is because of Sandy's tireless

efforts that we continued to grow as other zones struggled to keep people motivated and involved.

In addition to her role as VP for Membership, Sandy also participated in community service through our zone food drives, organizing programs for our luncheons, collecting donations for the Christmas Bureau, and assisting with fundraising efforts. She also served as a presenter at the Statewide Convention in 2024 sharing her love for The Rockwell Kent Museum through pictures and stories with her fellow docent, Carol Lowery. It has been my honor and privilege to have known Sandy. She represented everything that RENY stands for. She was charitable, kind, compassionate, and determined in her vision to make our community better in every way possible. Her Celebration of Life will be held at Peru Community Church on August 23, 2026 following a private graveside service at God's Acre Cemetery in at 2:00 PM. (Please note, this is a different time than was previously shared)

Here is her full obituary. <https://www.hamiltonfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Sandra-Lashua?obId=48977749>



Scholarship Committee News... Cheryl Dodds

The Dr. Karl R. and Ruth Kramer Northeastern Zone Retired Educators of New York Education Scholarship has been awarded to Maddison Mero. She is a graduate of Peru Central High School and plans to attend SUNY Brockport in August 2026 as an education major. Throughout high school, Maddison achieved high honor roll and was a member of the Na-

tional Honor Society while participating in two sports and serving as team captain. She was a class officer, a Varsity Club officer and a student council member throughout high school. Also, during this time, she shadowed two elementary teachers assisting in the classroom and working one on one with students in various capacities. Madisson helped in the PACE (Peru After-school Career Exploration) program and Freshman Orientation along with many other school and community volunteer activities. We wish her the best of luck in this next chapter!

Public Relations: Cindi Lafountain

I am pleased to announce we have two new members to the RENY/NEZ board of directors: Kim Quinn and Janet Booth. They will be co-chairing our Community Service Committee and have started with a very successful collection of food and cash donations for our local food shelves. This month we share Kim’s Bio. In our next newsletter. Janet Booth.

Hi, I’m Kim Quinn! A 1976 graduate of Beekmantown Central School and from Plattsburgh



State University College with a Bachelor's degree in Health Education and Masters in Curriculum & Instruction. I was hired by Plattsburgh City School District in 1992 as Health Ed. Coordinator, teaching PHS seniors for 20 years, coaching JV volleyball, sitting on committees, representing PCSD as the school liaison for the PSU DFS community program and conducting after school elementary intramural programs. Due to budget cuts, thankful for attrition, I shifted to SMS teaching 8th grade Health Ed and served as their 8th grade class advisor for the last 10 years of my teaching career. I continued to take NCTRC classes right up until retirement. Although middle school was not my first choice, I learned a lot and came away feeling

like a brand new teacher with 20 years experience. Since retiring in 2022, I’ve been active in community events, participating in political action, cooking/baking, up for adventures, enjoying friends and family and especially my golden retriever, Sully. Joining RENY has been another opportunity for me to stay involved and connected. Nice addition to my retired life.

THIS MONTH’S ENTERTAINMENT: SENIOR PLANET AARP

Did you know your digital legacy can last long after you’re gone? We forget until we clear all of our online presence and social media sites, we are still “alive”. Join us for our program on **DIGITAL LEGACY**, presented by Nathan Swan of **Senior Planet AARP, Plattsburgh**. Learn how you can plan for your digital assets after you’re gone.

Luncheon RESPONSE FORM
for September 3, 2026

Location: El Dorado 578 State Rte 3 Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Lunch *includes:* Your selection off the **Lunch Specials Menu** and
Coffee/Tea/Water/Soda, Tip, Tax

Please return your lunch reservation by **Friday, August 28, 2026**. Your reserved meal is not reimbursable. Make your check payable to RENY-NEZ and send to:

Kathleen Fessette
1349 Lake Shore Rd.
Chazy, NY 12921

Names Attending: _____

Email Address: _____

Total Luncheon Cost: (\$21 per person) _____

Donation to Scholarship Fund: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____.

We can now accept VENMO for lunch payments only (no extra donations) @Kathleen-Fessette (last 4 digits of phone number 2040) Please note on your Venmo transaction: Lunch payment for 9.3.26

the Meta Quest 3 virtual reality headset and related software programs to support student independence.

The Education Awards Committee was impressed with Ms. Corrow’s application and looks forward to hearing about her experiences and her students’ successes as she implements this project in the coming school year. Please view the photo of the check presentation and read the entire Press Release submitted by Olivia Bousquet, Confidential Secretary to the Superintendent, that has been posted on the NEZ Website.

The Education Awards Committee will be offering the \$2000 Hudson Kramer Award next year, for the 2027-2028 school year. Please feel free to share NEZ awards information with colleagues who are currently employed and might want to apply.

Health Insurance: K. Mulligan

This article is being written at the end of July. The last meeting of the Consortium Advisory Board was in mid May and the next meeting is in mid August. Consequently there little fresh news. It is expected the additional Medicare Part D expense for those affected by IRMA (Income Related Monthly Adjustment) will be discussed in the coming months. IRMA is imposed for those who have a joint income of \$218,000 - \$410,000/yr, or \$109,000 - \$205,000 for single filers. This past year, there were about 30 Medicare Eligible retirees in our Consortium that were impacted by IRMA. The Consortium for 2026 absorbed the additional Medicare Part D expense, but that may not happen in 2027.

Recently I was asked about continued Anthem Medical coverage for patients of Lake

City Primary. It is my understanding that for close to one year, there has been some business practice concerns between the **provider**, Lake City Primary Care, and the **Insurance Company**, Anthem. An Agreement of Understanding between the parties has not yet been reached. To date, Lake City Primary has **not** been removed from the Network of Anthem coverage. Stay tuned for further updates at the September 3rd luncheon and/or via email. If anybody has received a notice from Lake City Primary that they are no longer covered under Anthem. Please send me a picture of the notice to grampymull@gmail.com. Thank you.

All of you are asked to monitor the impending crisis of rural healthcare in our region, as a result of the “Big Beautiful Bill” orchestrated by Donald Trump and Congress. Closing the very efficient local blood bank is one such example of the impact on our local rural healthcare.

Questions or concerns: email me at grampymull@gmail.com or call 518-420-8403.

Thank you for your support.

Food Drives

[Additional photos from the successful food drive held in June. Food drives are directly connected to our Community Service mission.]

