What A Big Crowd...
...and with many “Newbies”, too!

A great surprise turnout at another wonderful SCJPARET quarterly luncheon happened on April 20th, proving to live up to the tradition of the gathering of retirees of The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. It was perhaps a mix of new retirees as well as others who had not yet experienced the pleasure.

As one “old-timer” remarked – I always feel welcome here, even if I actually don’t know some of the folks. The warmth, friendliness and informality always permeate the atmosphere.

We have our 10th Anniversary Luncheon coming up on October 17th, 2017 so be sure to SAVE THE DATE— you do not want to miss the celebration and festivities. It will be a great and grand time!

Once again we appreciate those who cooperated and made their “reservations” in advance to help us plan the arrangements with the restaurant. That information helps determine which room will be made available to us. Nonetheless we always try to make room for a few last minute folks who show up.

The following pages are our effort to share with you a visual report of who was there, etc.

**Be sure to put the next date on your calendar and plan on being there on Thursday, July 20th, 2017!**

*Don’t miss out!*
We sure want to see you there, next time.

There were a total of 75 attendees this time…
(15 “newbies” & 3 Guests)
(see Page 2 for complete list)

Experience demonstrates that these luncheons are a great time to get together for many, many reasons, so no one should miss out.

No formalities, or speeches (okay, well sometimes “remarks”…sort of)…perhaps an occasional, informative announcement may encompass the whole agenda, because usually among regular attendees there is PARA President–Dave Gallagher, and many other PARA board members.
The first event was held on Thursday, September 20, 2007 with 32 attendees. A most historic event—and now the 10th anniversary is coming up soon, this year!

FYI—15 New Attendees ("Newbies") which are usually indicated below in light blue! Guest(s) are in orange!

April 2017 Attendees

There’s always an enthusiastic welcoming committee...

Ya really... I think there’s 99 bottles...

[upper left, L-R] Mike Murphy, Pat Kelemen, Rita DuBrow, Dan Millard, Bob Isaacs

[above] Liz DeLaura, Rita DuBrow, Sal D’Orio, Steve Prospero

[left] Frank Pagano, Frank LaMagna

The “gathering” time is always filled with chatter, greetings, surprise, and the rekindling of old friendships, as well as the beginning of new ones. A certain positive sense of anticipation permeates the atmosphere, the hope of finding former colleagues, and that they are around and able to attend. We’ve almost always had the benefit of our own “room” which gives us a sense of privacy to enjoy the collegiality and excitement. One thing we know for sure, the food and menu will always be “top notch” and for a terrific (unchanging) price of $20. Not something to miss out on.

Between September 2007 and April 2017...more to come!

there have been a total of 39 quarterly luncheons

Highest attendance was in July 2012 with 117 guests,
followed by July 2013 & 2014 with 102 guests

Persons who have attended the most number of luncheons:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Number of Attendances</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liz DeLaura</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita DuBrow</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick Lee</td>
<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>Al Simon</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arnold Karvasarsky</td>
<td>33</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diane Rogers</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nick Caches</td>
<td>32</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don Lee</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ed Lazarus</td>
<td>50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Gallagher</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pat Kelemen</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>Jerri Raczynski</td>
<td>27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bob Isaacs</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andy Rizzo</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peter Tomolonis</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
No speeches or announcements…

Nothing but pure social exchange and great food!

Like, **who knew?**

We all dun did!

Just one of many enthusiastic “welcomes”…

MEN!: Hands in pockets—PLACE!!!!

Our own parking area and entrance is terrific.

Our own bar, too!

Dennis Kopik, Nick Caches

John McDevitt, Peter Kuhn

**WHATEVER!** These guys are just happy to be here, again!

Who can ask for anything more?

Stu Lieberman, Dick Lee

Bill and Pat Fife
The luncheon’s staff, patiently prepare and await…

The ladies’ contingent get things rolling…

Yo! When’s da dancin’ gonna start? I’m ready!

Yada…yada…yada…etc.

Folded chairs suggest “reserved” seats…

Mind you, these photo shots are all well before chow time…

Then usually, Co-Hostess Rita announces that the food’s “on”… and that means there are two places to head for…either being served at the main buffet, or helping yourself to the salad (usually two) and bread bar…
These hungry, but patient folks, queue up to be served at the always delicious buffet...meanwhile continuing to enjoy conversation, chatter and friendship, just enjoying a great time together.
Standing: Nancy Dzurissin, Arlene Kopik, Karen Adamczyk, Andy Rizzo, Liz DeLaura, John Hallenbeck
Seated: Bill Mantani, Sal D’Orio, Mike Walsh, Mike Bowe, Andy Hreha

Standing: Al Simon, Dennis Kopik, Peter Van Antwerp, Harold Levitt, Nick Caches
Seated: Joan and Rich Kopps (Not sitting at the “Cops’” tables?)

L - R Jerry Sorrentino, Jim Harley, Tom Innace, Dom Varricchio, Bill and Pat Fife, Rosemary and Frank Varela

This photo courtesy of Ed Lazarus
Standing: Dave Gallagher, Stu Lieberman, Barry Wintrob
Seated: Arnold Karvasarsky, Ken Phlimus, Bob Isaacs, Jim Kelly, Dan Millard

Standing: Bob Sbarra, Frank LaMagna, Frank Pagano, Gil Medina-Ayala, John Simmons
Seated: Al Rodriguez, John McDevitt, Gus Kapsis

Standing: Vinnie Hallock, Frank Gato, Peter Kuhn, Mike Murphy
Seated: Bobbie Berckes, Bill Albach, Frank Rock, Walter Kreiss, Mike Harrington, Bob Campion
Joan Kopps —
“winner “
of $158.00 in the
“50/50”

Wow! Another
lucky winnah...

*to help defray costs

So in addition to all the other benefits of our luncheon, and being not too far from Atlantic City, the opportunity to voluntarily “take a chance” adds yet another fine element to a great event.

Make plans to meet and greet your former friends and colleagues as well meet new ones at least 4 times throughout the year. Or, bring your spouse, or significant other, to share the good times. Just be there!

Liz & Rita waiting the 50-50 winner claiming her prize.

“Newbies” are most welcome and we look forward to seeing them again at future luncheons.

Peter Van Antwerp, Harold Levitt

Joan Kopps

Wow! What a delightful surprise for a “guest-spouse”…check out that beaming smile! May be a good omen for future spouse-attendees, eh?

Mike Harrington

Rita DuBrow and Joan Kopps
winner of 50/50: $158.00
At many, if not most, affairs—folks just pick up and leave when the festivities are over. Not here, though. As these two photos show, many just continue to hang out and prolong the good time afterward...which clearly is a testimony to the success of this quarterly event. If you haven’t been to one, you don’t know what you’re missing. So make a real effort and plan to come to our next one in July.

WELCOME TO 15 of Our Newbies:

- Marie Bauso
- Mike Bowe
- Nancy Dzurisin
- Lucille Haley
- Kathy Kovach
- Frank LaMagna
- Harold Levitt
- Mike Mahon
- Robb Orr
- Steve Prospero
- Bill Schiels
- Pete Smircich
- Peter Van Antwerp
- Rose Varela
- Frank Varela

“Disconnecting from change does not recapture the past, It loses the future.”

—Poet Kathleen Norris, quoted in the Associated Press
I’ve been thinking a bit about this time in our lives. In particular the role that THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK & NEW JERSEY has played in all of our lives. Although there certainly were many good, as well as bad times, here and there—one of the best things was the people we got to know both back then as well as now. We were, and remain “family”.

Because retirement generally implies the twilight of our lives, it can also mean that the saga of aging, too, takes it’s toll. Perhaps you know someone who should be joining us at these quarterly luncheons, but perhaps cannot get themselves here. Would it help to know who may be living in your vicinity, that perhaps could get a ride with you and some others?

Another thought pertains to this e-newsletter. Can you perhaps share it with those who do not have a computer or are not online? Also, are you aware that being a pdf you can enlarge on screen, especially for those with vision issues?

It’s always a pleasure for your hosts to provide this event, otherwise we wouldn’t be doing it. Let’s hear from you, and let us know your thoughts.

…Just keep coming, folks!

–AMS

The next issue for the event will be the luncheon on Thursday, July 20th (7/20/17)
This is our 10th Year (Volume X) and this is issue #2.

Just keep in mind the 3rd Thursday of the months of January, April, July and October. We have also been most fortunate to have a cooperative restaurant, The Captain’s Inn, in Forked River, NJ, that has made our planning that much easier. Hope to see YOU soon (again).

We hope you will continue to join us. Put it down on your calendar, lest you forget while making other plans.

BTW—In case you’ve been wondering “yada yada yada” represents all the wonderful, Joyful, fun-filled even nostalgic, conversations going on.

We’ve certainly got a good thing going. Thanks to the foresight of those who started the ball rolling, this part of south-central New Jersey has indeed become a somewhat major event attracting folks from all over. The formula initially established still holds true—“good friends, good food, good God, let’s eat!” Most of us are well beyond the formalities of dinners dominated by meaningless speeches or other needless distractions. The object here is namely to provide the environment and atmosphere for old friends, colleagues and acquaintances to come together at a minimal and reasonable cost, irrespective of weather conditions.

The Captain’s Inn, centrally located in Forked River, has provided all we could ask for, and has thus remained the focal gathering point for all of our luncheons. Can we do more? Well that’s up to you, those in attendance and who come regularly are encouraged to express their opinions and ideas. Our luncheons can be a central communications point, at least quarterly, for sharing news and the very latest about THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY, especially with regard to we faithful retirees.
Informal, no speeches (just very brief announcements & updates), great food, reasonable price, terrific company—who could ask for anything more?

Join us next time—remember the date “Thursday, October 20th 2016”

Er, no folks...the “New-Bie” symbol depicted in the photos are not for real. That is, “New-Bies” are not actually required to wear them (they don’t exist). It is merely our hope, that by pointing them out, it might encourage some readers out there to join in the fun, and attend the next quarterly luncheon and actually get to see and say hello to old friends, colleagues and acquaintances. How about it?

[Note: This issue, do to circumstances, was not conducive in continuing the tradition depicting our “Newbies”]

Did You Know?
There is a wonderful website hosted by Joe SanSevero for PARA (Port Authority Retirees' Association)?

It is loaded with information and includes our own e-newsletter.

Go to: http://www.paranyj.org (or click here)

Then pull down the LWM Lunch Tab and click on the SCJ Newsletter at the bottom!
[see screenshots below]