

HONORING TEACHER RETIREES 2004

Bruce Betts **Thirty-Seven Years**

Bruce Betts, after 37 years of teaching service for the Torrington Public School system, has decided to retire. Bruce has taught Social Studies at Torrington High School since his first year in 1967. Bruce prepared for his teaching career by attending school at the University of Oklahoma where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Studies. Bruce also holds a sixth year certificate from the University of Connecticut at Storrs. Throughout the years Bruce has been actively involved in various instructional initiatives at THS, including the development and implementation of the ninth grade teams.



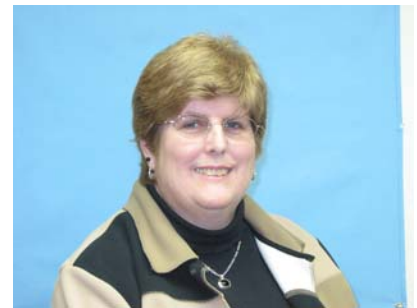
Edward Boulanger **Thirty-Six Years**



Edward Boulanger received his professional training at Westfield State College in Westfield, Massachusetts, from which he graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. After college Ed came to work for Torrington Public Schools in 1968. His first position was at Vogel School, where he was assigned to teach Social Studies. Over his 36 years Edward has continued to teach at the middle school level in the areas of Social Studies and Geography.

Mary Ann Boulanger **Twenty-Eight Years**

Mary Ann Boulanger attended undergraduate school at Westfield State College, from which she graduated in 1968 with a Bachelor of Science degree. She then continued on in Westfield to receive her Masters of Education in 1972. Mary Ann accepted her first teaching position in Holyoke, Massachusetts, where she began teaching at the elementary level in 1969. After six years in Holyoke, Mary Ann took a teaching position in Torrington Public Schools in 1976. During her career in Torrington, Mary Ann has continued to teach at the elementary level at multiple schools, including North School, Forbes School and, currently, at Southwest School.





**Rosemary Casale
Twenty-Three Years**

Rosemary Casale began her teaching career with the Torrington Public Schools in 1981. Rosemary's first assignment was at Vogel School where she served as a Guidance Counselor. Since her first year, Rosemary has continued to work as a Guidance Counselor. Since the closing of Vogel Middle School in 1994, Rosemary has worked at Torrington Middle School. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Stonehill College in 1965. A few years later, Rosemary went back to school to pursue her Master of Arts degree, which she received from Central Connecticut State University in 1981.

**Diane English
Thirty-Five Years**



Diane English began her preparation to be a teacher by attending the University of Connecticut at Storrs, where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education in 1969. She went on to obtain her Master's degree in Elementary Reading from the University of Connecticut in 1975.

Diane joined the Torrington Public Schools for her first teaching position in 1969 by becoming a grade one teacher at North School. In 1976 Diane took up her residence at East School, where she taught grade one for four additional years before finding her home with the kindergarten students with whom she has continued to

teach for the past 22 years.

As Diane reflected back on her teaching career, she had the following comments, "I have been very fortunate to have worked under wonderful principals over the years. I have enjoyed working with all my colleagues at both North and East School. Kindergarten children bring an enthusiasm to school that is fun to be around. They even like doing homework."

**Anthonia Giarnese
Twenty-Two Years**

Anthonia Giarnese, upon graduation from Torrington High School, began her professional training at Central Connecticut State University. In 1970 she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from CCSU. Toni then continued on at Central to pursue graduate studies in Urban Education and English as a Second Language. Toni completed her graduate studies in 1972, receiving a Master's in Science from Central.

Toni came to Torrington Public Schools as an elementary teacher of English as a Second Language in 1985 after having taught in New Britain Public Schools for two years. Over her 20 years in Torrington schools, Toni has continued to teach at the elementary level at Vogel Wetmore and, for a while, at Forbes School. When asked what she most liked about her job, the immediate answer was the children and the people she was able to work with. As to the future, Toni has not ruled out continuing to teach on a part-time basis so that she can remain in education.



Bonita Hansen
Twenty-Three Years



Bonita Hansen attended Ohio University in Athens, Ohio for her undergraduate studies. She graduated from Ohio University in 1964 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. Bonita then continued on in school to receive her Master's in Education. Between 1970-1977, Bonita worked for the Overseas Department of Defense. During her seven years of service, she was stationed in Japan and Germany serving as a Reading Specialist, grades K-12, and as an English teacher in grades 7-12. Bonita began teaching for Torrington Public Schools in 1981 as an English teacher at Torrington High School and has continued there up until the current time.

Evelyn Herman
Forty-One Years



Evelyn Herman attended undergraduate school at the University of Bridgeport, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology in 1957. Evelyn then went on for graduate study at Southern Connecticut State University to prepare for a career in education. In 1962 Evelyn obtained her Master of Arts degree from Southern Connecticut, thus preparing her for the next 41 years of professional work.

Evelyn's first position in Torrington Public Schools began in 1963, when she took a position as a sixth grade teacher at East School. Evelyn continued to teach sixth grade up until 1969, when she moved into the role of a Speech and Language Pathologist. Over her years in Torrington, Evelyn has worked in most of our schools, including North, Torrington, East, Vogel Wetmore, the Middle School, and at the district level.

When Evelyn was asked why she was leaving her position, she responded by saying it was so she could go back to school. Evelyn went on to say "I have enjoyed the many friendships I made over the years. I enjoyed the variety and challenges of the job. Most of all, I am not looking backward, but forward to new experiences."

Robert Metro
Thirty-Seven Years

Robert Metro began work for Torrington Public Schools in the fall of 1967. Robert's position at that time was that of Mathematics teacher at Torrington High School, from which he graduated in 1962. Since first starting his teaching career with Torrington schools, Robert has continuously taught mathematics at Torrington High School for 37 years.



Robert left Torrington for a while to attend college at Catholic University in Washington, DC. He graduated college in 1967 with a major in English and a minor in Mathematics. After completing his undergraduate work, Robert continued his education with graduate study at the University of Hartford. Robert notes that one aspect of the job that he has enjoyed has been all the people he has had a chance to work with.

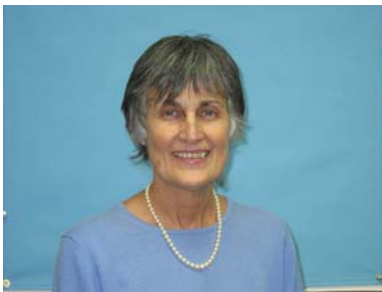
Pickard Patty
Twenty-Three Years



Patty Pickard attended Bates College for her undergraduate studies. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Bates in 1968. Patty then continued in her studies at Central Connecticut State University where she took the coursework necessary to qualify for her teacher certification. Looking to advance her professional preparation even further, Patty enrolled at the University of Hartford. She received her Masters in Education in the area of Reading from the University of Hartford in 1973.

Patty's first teaching position was as a third grade teacher in 1968 with West Hartford Public Schools. In 1969 Patty taught third grade in Hampton, Virginia. She returned to West Hartford Schools in 1970 and remained there till 1979. Patty moved into the position of a Reading Consultant in 1980, working at a residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed juveniles. Patty made her way into the Torrington Public Schools in 1981 when she accepted the position of Reading Consultant. Over the years she continued in this role while serving students at multiple elementary schools including Forbes, Southwest, Wetmore, Forest Court and Vogel-Wetmore.

Beverly Pilkington
Twenty-Six Years



Beverly Pilkington is a graduate of Elmira College, Elmira, New York, from which she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1963. Beverly then went on to graduate school at the University of Connecticut at Storrs. She received her Master's degree in science from UCONN in 1965.

Beverly's first teaching position was at Watertown High School, where she taught Biology from 1965-1970. Beverly joined the Torrington Public Schools in 1978 when she accepted a position to teach science at Vogel School. Since that time she has continued as a science teacher for Torrington schools, with the last nine years being at Torrington Middle School.

Margaret Rojas
Twenty-Six Years

Margaret received her Bachelor of Science degree in Speech Pathology from Nazareth College in Kentucky in 1967. She then went on to obtain her Master of Science degree in Speech Pathology from Southern Connecticut State College in 1970. Still wishing to continue her graduate work, Margaret did further study in Sign Language at Northwestern Connecticut Community College.



Margaret Rojas began her professional career in 1967 as a teacher of the Hearing Impaired in Hartford Public Schools. After eight years in Hartford, Margaret worked for RESCUE as a speech therapist for two years before moving to Torrington in 1978, when she assumed the position of Speech Pathologist. Margaret's first school assignment was at the Riverside School. In 1986, she moved to Forbes School, where she has continued to work up until the current time.

Francis (Frank) Roxby
Thirty-Five Years

Frank Roxby attended the University of Connecticut for his undergraduate studies in French. As part of his studies, Frank also attended the University of Dijon in France in 1967. He graduated from UCONN in 1968. Frank continued in his professional studies in French at Central Connecticut State University, from which he received his Masters degree in 1969.



Frank began his teaching career with Torrington Public Schools in 1969. Since joining Torrington schools, Frank has continued to be a teacher of the French language at Torrington High School for the past 35 years. When asked to reflect on his teaching career, he stated "I have been successful in teaching students to speak the language. I have never stopped believing that it can be done". Frank also notes that he hopes his colleagues all get to hear someday what his students have told him, "You are the teacher who really taught us something."

Elaine Warzocha
Twenty-One Years

Elaine Warzocha received her professional training from Bryant College in Rhode Island, where she graduated in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Secondary Business Education. Elaine's first teaching experience began at a private girls school in Boston, Massachusetts in 1967. In 1968, she began work in Abington, Massachusetts teaching business courses at the secondary level. In 1971 Elaine moved back to Connecticut when she accepted a teaching position in the Business Department at Bristol Eastern High School.



Elaine returned to her hometown of Torrington to teach at Torrington High School in the fall of 1983. Elaine taught courses in the Business Department at Torrington High School up until the fall of 2002, at which time she moved to Torrington Middle School, where she has been teaching Computer Education.

Kay Wistrom
Thirty-Five Years



Kay Wistrom began her teaching career in Torrington in 1968 as a first grade teacher at Torrington School. Since beginning her teaching career, Kay has continued to serve the students of Torrington for 35 years. After several years in grade one, Kay moved into grade two in 1972 and then into kindergarten in 1989, where she has remained ever since.

Mrs. Wistrom received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Connecticut in 1968. She then went on to Central Connecticut State University, where she completed her Master's degree in Elementary Education in 1970. Kay returned to the University of Connecticut and received her Sixth Year Certificate in the area of Reading in 1984.

Dorothy Zaharek
Thirty-Six Years

Dorothy Zaharek has now completed 36 years of teaching service for the students of Torrington High School. Dorothy began teaching for Torrington Public Schools in 1968, when she accepted a position to teach German and Spanish at the high school. She has continued in this position throughout her professional career. Dorothy attended Albertus Magnus College in New Haven, Connecticut for undergraduate studies. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the college in 1968, with a major in Spanish and a minor in German.

