

NCVOA JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

and seasons greetings to one and all

January 2019 General Membership Meeting

January 8, 2019 - 6:30PM

Westbury Manor

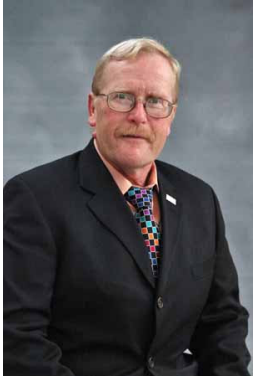
NC Reassessment Discussion

Guest Speaker

Tom Donato

M. Haberman Assoc.

From the President's Desk:



Ralph Ekstrand

Dear Colleagues:

Happy New Year! I hope you enjoyed the holidays with your family and friends, and had an opportunity to catch up on some well-deserved rest. I know we will need it as we begin 2019 facing new and continuing challenges.

I would to share with you something I experienced during the holidays. I was watching the televised Disney Christmas Day Parade Christmas morning. In addition to typical parade coverage, the broadcast included a feature story about an immigrant mother who came to this country with no money and no place to live. She described how she worried each day about how she would feed her children and keep them warm. During this time, she relied solely on a local food pantry to provide meals for her children. Through unrelenting determination, she was able to find a job, rent an apartment and make a life for her family. She was so grateful for the opportunity she received that she started her own food pantry to help those in similar situations. During the interview her daughter, who helps her mother distribute food, was asked how they managed to stay strong during this ordeal. She responded, "There's always opportunity. There's always hope."

Those words resonated with me - in my personal life and my role as village mayor. As we begin the New Year, we must remind ourselves there always is opportunity and hope to improve our communities and the lives of our residents. Now, more than ever, we must remain vigilant in our fight for adequate resources from New York State. Year after year, our reasonable requests have been ignored or dismissed. This has been extremely frustrating and deflating. Yet we cannot let this longstanding disappointment deter us. As Dale Carnegie once said, "Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all."

With this in mind, I created a list of New Year's resolutions to reflect my hope for all of us for the coming year:

H – Help our state elected officials understand the important role our village governments serve and the integral services we provide our residents each day;

O - Open our minds to new and innovative ways to share services and improve efficiencies;

P- Persist in the message to our state elected officials that our residents are their constituents as well, and that fair and equitable state fiscal support to villages benefits the entire State of

New York. This includes amending state legislation to guarantee Nassau County villages a percentage of county sales tax revenue;

E – Engage in meaningful dialogue with residents and understand that venting their frustrations at us is not personal; rather, it is because we are their closest level of government and they rely on us to listen and respond to their concerns.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ralph Ekstrand

December 2018 Meeting Attendees



Baxter Estates Deputy Mayor Charles Comer and Mayor Nora Haagenson with Plandome Heights Mayor Ken Riscica



Brookville Mayor and NCVOA Treasurer Dan Serota with Great Neck Plaza Mayor and NCVOA 1st Vice President Jean Celender



Brookville's Angela Mannino enjoys the variety of dishes featured in the holiday buffet



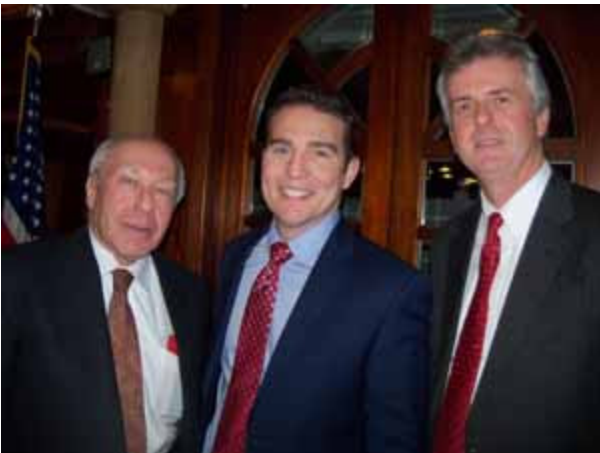
Brookville's Carlos Castillo samples several offerings in the holiday buffet



East Williston Mayor and NCVOA Past President David Tanner with Farmingdale Village Officials - Trustee Cheryl Parisi, Mayor and NCVOA President Ralph Ekstrand, and Village Administrator Brian Harty



Mineola Trustee George Durham with Great Neck Plaza Mayor and NCVOA 1st Vice President Jean Celender



NCVOA Counsel Gary Fishberg with H2M's Christopher Kobos and William Rockensies (Friends of the NCVOA)



North Hills Village Clerk Marianne Lobaccaro and Plandome Heights Trustee Al Solomon



Old Brookville Mayor and NCVOA Past President Bernie Ryba, North Hills Mayor and NCVOA Past President Marvin Natiss, and Baxter Estates Mayor Nora Haagenon



Old Brookville Mayor and NCVOA Past President Bernie Ryba with Brookville Mayor and NCVOA Treasurer Dan Serota



Sea Cliff Mayor and NCVOA 2nd Vice President Ed Lieberman with Farmingdale Mayor and NCVOA President Ralph Ekstrand



Town of Hempstead's Bert Patterson with Munistat Services President Michael Loguercio and Assistant Vice President Tom Cartwright (Friends of the NCVOA)



The Last Word:

"The beginning of every New Year is always the best time to give another chance to your neglected talents!"

Mehmet Murat ildan