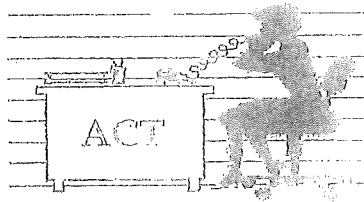


THE

The Newspaper of Local 1776
The Association of Catholic Teachers

SPIRIT '76 OF '76

1700 SANSOM STREET - SUITE 903 - PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103 - 215-568-4175 - VOLUME XXXII - NO. 6
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From The President's Desk

SUMMER UPDATE

One month to go before the new school year gets underway. It has certainly been a much less stressful summer than this time last year. However, this is not a summer without negotiations. Talks continue at Holy Cross High School in Delran, New Jersey. The members there were hoping for the completion of an Early Bird contract by the end of the school year. Sorry to say, this did not occur. Bargaining sessions resumed in mid-July and will, I feel sure, continue throughout August. A General Membership Meeting will take place on Tuesday, September 4. Hopefully, by then, there will be a completed contract to present to the Holy Cross faculty.

The Constriction meeting took place on June 28th and as of now 25 teachers are still without permanent positions. There are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| 10 Social Studies | 2 Math |
| 3 Business | 1 Guidance |
| 3 Spanish | 1 Librarian |
| 2 Biology | 1 Music |
| 2 English | |

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

FROM THE PRESIDENT. . .

45 teachers who were constricted, including administrators returning to the bargaining unit, were able to select permanent positions. We are keeping our fingers crossed that, by September, the number of laid-off teachers will be reduced significantly.

The ACT Solidarity Picnic was a great success . The weather couldn't have been better for the 200+ attendees. Check out the picnic photos on pages 3 and 5 in this newsletter.

Life for the Union Staff has calmed down a bit during the summer. We have been handling grievances (5 at one school) as well as some teacher problems. Needless to say, negotiations at Holy Cross will be prominent on our August calendars.

Should we have news for you or money-saving discounts, we will e-mail them to you. If we do not have your personal e-mail address, please send it to us at act@act1776.com.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer break. See you at the shore.



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS
CONVENTION DELEGATES NEEDED**

The annual NACST Convention will take place
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7
in BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

ACT is entitled to 15 Convention Delegates

Please contact the ACT Office for details.

NACST



Association of Catholic Teachers

ACT Office Manager,
Ginny Crowther, with
her extended family.



Renato Sifoni (Fr. Judge)
and his fiancée

Teacher in the News

Congratulations to Sharon Cornwall, Science teacher and Department Head at Little Flower Catholic High School for Girls. Sharon was awarded the *Harold W. Pote Behind Every Graduate: Drexel University's Award for Excellence in Secondary School Teaching Award* at Drexel University's Commencement Ceremony on June 15, 2012.

Catherine Kerr, a 2007 graduate of Little Flower, nominated Sharon because of her encouragement, role-modeling, commitment, and for playing a significant role in Catherine's career choices as well as her growth during high school. According to Catherine, as a result of having Sharon as her AP Biology teacher, Catherine realized her interest in biomedical engineering and the opportunities for women in the field of Science.

In addition to being honored with this award, Sharon was presented with a monetary gift. Little Flower also received a matching monetary gift.

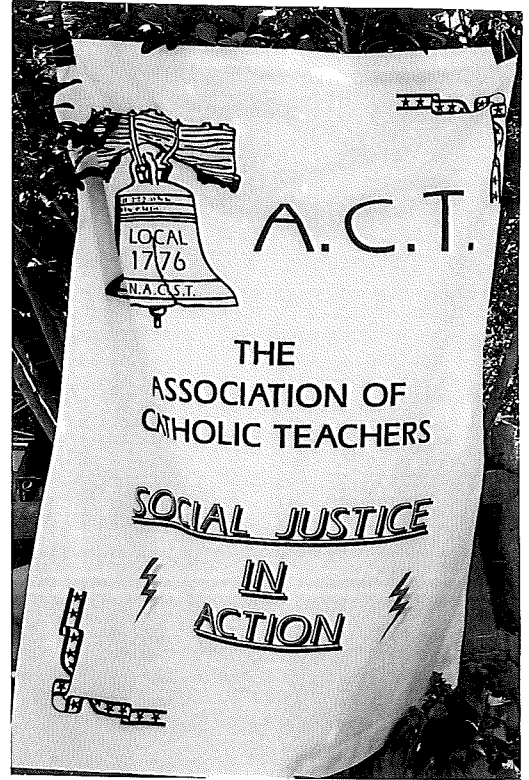
BLUECARD WORLDWIDE

HOW TO OBTAIN MEDICAL CARE WHEN OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

1. If an emergency, go to the nearest hospital.
2. If not an emergency, call the BlueCard Access line at 1-800-810-2583 or call collect at 1-804-673-1177 to arrange for urgent care services with a BlueCard Worldwide hospital or physician. The Voice Response Unit (VRU) prompt will ask if you are seeking care outside the United States. Calls are then routed to World Access.
3. Obtain Personal Choice Pre-certification by calling 1-800-332-2566. For Keystone Pre-certification, call 1-800-227-3116.
4. For urgent inpatient care arranged through World Access, you will not have to pay up front for the services or file a claim. You only pay the usual out-of-pocket expenses such as deductible, co-payment or co-insurance.
5. For urgent outpatient and physician services, pay the provider up front. Get an itemized bill translated into English. Later, complete an international claim form and send it to the BlueCard worldwide Service enter. This claim is available at <http://www.bcbs.com>

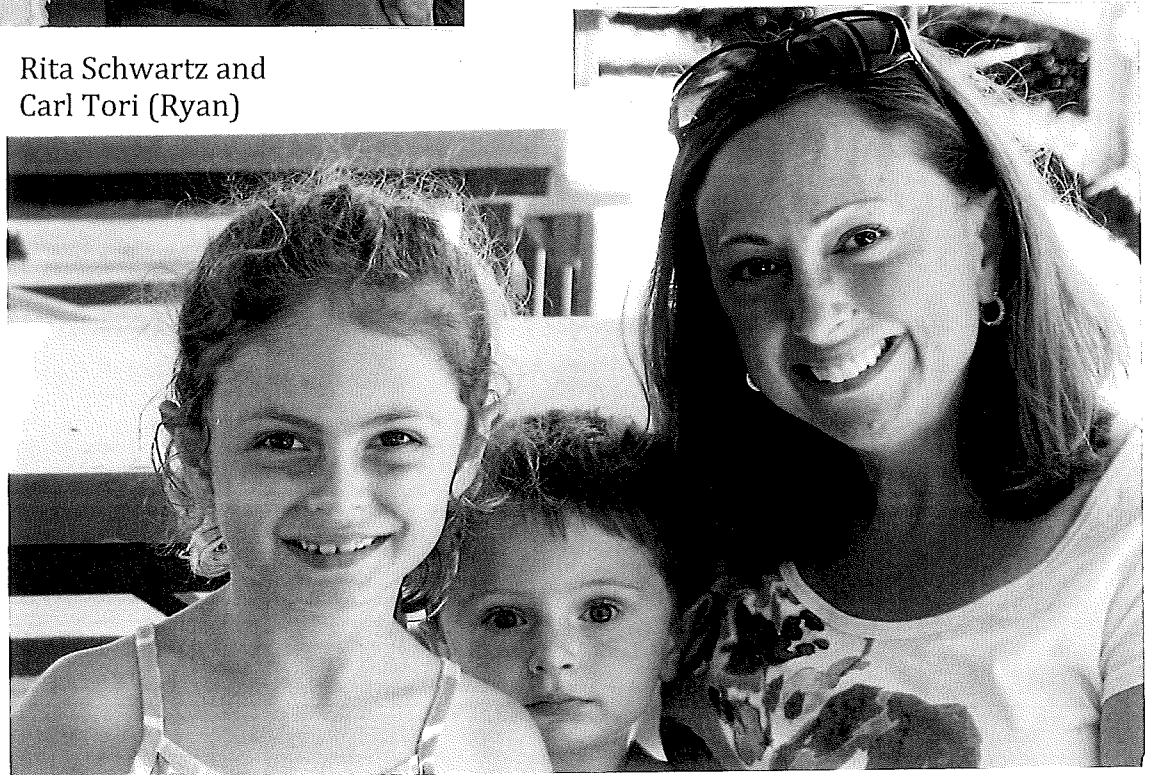


Marty Watson (Bonner-Prendergast) and his family



Rita Schwartz and Carl Tori (Ryan)

Mary Romanelli (Carroll) and her children



ACT MEMBER SERVICE PROGRAM

The following tickets are available to purchase from the ACT Office.

AMC Movie Tickets	\$ 6.00
Regal/United Artists	\$ 6.50
Philadelphia Zoo	\$13.00
Morey's Piers, Wildwood	
Waterpark Tickets	\$29.00
Amusement/Waterpark Combo Ticket	\$47.00

Discount coupons also available for Dorney Park and Caesar's Pocono Resorts.

To request tickets, send a check made payable to the Association of Catholic Teachers with a note indicating what tickets are being ordered and in what quantity.

FREEDOM CREDIT UNION

The Freedom Credit Union offers teachers and their families a wide range of financial opportunities. Savings accounts, checking accounts, loans, MAC, IRAs, to name a few, are available to members of the credit union.

The Freedom Credit Union has four Philadelphia locations, as well as an office in Abington, Lansdale and Warminster. For more information visit the credit union's website at www.freedomcu.org. You may also call the ACT Office at 215-568-4175 or the Freedom Credit Union at 215-612-5900.