



## State Society on Aging of New York

---

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2012

---

### President's Message

I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as SSA President these past two years. I have been inspired by the dedication of our SSA members and their commitment to working to help older adults and their families throughout New York State



This year's conference celebrated the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the State Society on Aging of New York. We had outstanding speakers and workshops on a wide range of aging issues around our conference theme of "There's No Place Like Home: Understanding A New World of Coordinated Care." It provided an opportunity to see old friends and make new ones!

In January, my colleague and friend, Dr. Manoj Pardasani will kick off the new year as SSA 2013 President. I look forward to an exciting year under his leadership, culminating with the 2013 conference on October 23-25 at the Gideon Putnam in Saratoga Springs, NY.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy New Year!

Janna Heyman, PhD  
SSA 2012 President



Past SSA Presidents, from left to right:  
Bob Maiden, Mark Brennan-Ing, Cynthia Stuen, Bill Lane, Janna Heyman, Jurgis Karuza, Judy Howe, Tom Caprio



Award Winners, from left to right:  
Ann Marie Cook, President's Award; Bobbie Sackman, Advocate for Older Adults Award; and Bob Maiden, Walter M. Beattie Jr. Award



Student Awards, from left to right: 2012 winners Debra Fromm Faria and student Karen Gsellmeier from SUNY Brockport; Janna Heyman; and 2011 winners Mary Ann Erickson and student Julianna Smolenski. from Ithaca College



Students from Alfred University were recognized for the artwork they contributed. They joined SUNY Brockport in receiving the 2012 Student Award. Their artwork, a painting donated by Dr. Ann C. Howe, and other contributions helped to raise funds for SSA student scholarships.



Judy Howe moderated a discussion of SSA's four decades of work, highlighting its goals, themes, and transition. Our panelists included Bill Lane who spoke about the early formation of SSA from 1972 to 1983. Cynthia Stuen provided a backdrop of the political environment of the 1980s and spoke about strengthening SSA and its work in different regions of the state. Bob Maiden focused on the decade of the 1990s and talked about the changes in geriatric education. Tom Caprio summarized the decade from 2003-2012, discussing SSA work with the NYS Office for the Aging and its 2015 plan. He also reminded us that this decade brought together key leaders for our annual Town Hall meetings that centered on core issues in aging.

**A summary of our Town Hall meeting will soon be available on our website**

- NYS Office for the Aging  
*Corinda Crossdale, Deputy Executive Director*
- Council of Senior Centers and Services (CSCS)  
*Bobbie Sackman, Director of Public Policy*
- Empire Justice Center  
*Trilby de Jung, Health Law Attorney*
- ACRIA  
*Mark Brennan-Ing, Senior Research Scientist*
- Health Foundation for Western and Central NY  
*Ann F. Monroe, President*

Martha Bial, Social Policy Chair and Moderator of our 2012 Town Hall meeting, said "Our forum challenged us to think about how Medicaid redesign will impact practice with older adults for the future."

Election Results: A special congratulations to Dr. Mary Beth Morrissey who was elected as the SSA President for 2014 and to Linda Guido who will continue to serve as SSA Treasurer.



# Snapshots from 2012



SSA Past Presidents Cynthia Stuen and Judy Howe share special memories



Bob Maiden upon receiving the Walter M. Beattie Award, "I would like to thank my family, especially my lovely wife, Pat, and lovely daughter, Francesca, as well as my wonderful colleagues for their support, Drs. John Krout, Judy Howe, Beverly Horowitz, Mark Brennan-Ing, Neal Lane of NYSOFA. I am truly humbled to be considered among the recipients."



On Thursday night Bob Blancato presented critical issues on the national front.



Eastman School of Music students Julia Egan and Ben Baker played classical guitar and cello during our Silent Auction



Students from Nazareth College, Abbey Goings, Dana Court, Jaide Edwards, prepared a poster on leadership and service through intergenerational learning



Janna Heyman and Manoj Pardasani take a moment to reflect on the success of the conference



Linda Guido, SSA Treasurer, helps prepare for the conference



Mark Brennan-Ing presents Ann Marie Cook with the 2012 President's Award



Tom Caprio highlights SSA's work during the decade 2003-12

SSA is committed to ensuring the quality of life for older adults and their families in New York State. Visit our website at [www.ssany.org](http://www.ssany.org) to learn more about our organization.