

“Carry the Card to Be a Part of Change and Take Action” – Membership Made Easy “

Welcome to the 2016-2017 Membership Year!!! There are many new and exciting changes to membership this year. I am the new Membership Chair and Helen Hoffman will be assisting me as the Nassau Region Special Assignee for Membership. In August, Nassau Region PTA held a Membership workshop presented by Lori Fontana, NYS PTA Membership Coordinator, who introduced the new system. The August mailing was sent this year via email to all Presidents whose unit is in good standing. On September 1st, unit presidents received an email from the NYS PTA with the access to their unit's portal system. Once the President added the membership chair's name, the chair received an email with the link to access the system. Below is a brief description of the three options that are available and simple to use:

Register in Person, Pay in Person

This method is the closest way of selling membership as we have traditionally done with the membership enrollment paper form. The only difference is that the Membership Chair will input the member's name, gender, email and mobile telephone number, etc. into the unit's portal. As soon as the Membership Chair presses submit, an eCard is immediately sent to the member. The member may save the eCard to their mobile phone or print it. NOTE: If the member does not provide an email address, the Membership Chair will also have the ability to print the card themselves. This year, the Membership Chair will also be able to resend the eCard to members.

Register Online, Pay Online

This method is what members have been asking for. The member will go online to their unit's link (this link is available to the President and Membership Chair on the unit portal). The member will enter their information - name, gender, email and mobile phone, into the system and then press the “Pay Online” button at the bottom of the page. The system will then bring the member to a payment processing page. The member can pay by Visa, Master Card, Discover or American Express. Once the member presses submit, an eCard will immediately be sent to them. The member may save the eCard to their mobile phone or print it. Note: In order to use this method the member must provide an email address. Multiple family members can be handled in one transaction this year.

Register Online, Pay in Person

This is a hybrid method offering the member the opportunity to enter their own information online but still pay by cash or check directly. The member will go online to their unit's link and enter their information - name, gender, email and mobile phone, into the system and then press “Pay in Person” button at the bottom of the page. The system will automatically send the member's information to the unit's portal. It is important to note that this person is not a member until they submit a payment to the unit. The unit is not responsible for any member that has not paid, only members marked paid in the system.

In closing it is important to note that change can be good but sometimes challenging. I ask all Presidents and Membership Chairs to be patient and work with me this year as we transition into the new system and position. The membership workshop will be presented during the Fall Conference October 19.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Submitted by Colette Carrion
Nassau Region Membership Chair