

WWW.OSAUNION.ORG – A Short Overview

Since 1997, OSA has communicated with members on the Internet at www.osaunion.org. Here, we provide a short overview of the sections of the website and the information and resources you can find there. If you have suggestions for other types of information that you think union members would find useful on an ongoing basis, email OSA Director of Media Services Rob Spencer at webmaster@osaunion.org.

The Main Page (pictured right) is the gateway to the site. Click on the buttons on the left to go to the section relevant to you. You can use the big blue buttons to subscribe to periodic emails from the union or sign a membership card.

OSA Intro Video: The union put together a 12 minute video overview of its history and mission in 2010. The video introduces OSA's various departments and functions.

OSA Photo Gallery: Slide shows of the union's events and activities are available for your viewing. The photos are posted on the website Flickr and are organized by the month and year in which the event occurred.

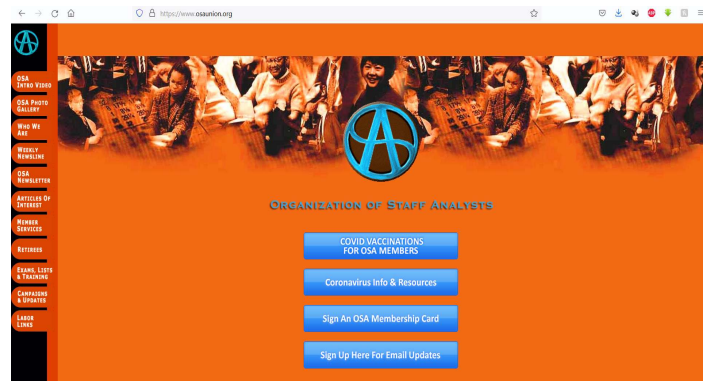
Who We Are: A brief introduction to the union and its mission, this page includes a list of current OSA and OSART (our affiliated professional association) board members. It also includes a complete list of titles the union represents.

Weekly Newslines: Providing current "breaking news" of interest to members and retirees, this section is updated weekly most of the year, and every two weeks during slower news periods. Starting with January of 2017, you can play an MP3 audio file of the weekly phone hotline message as well.

OSA Newsletter: In-depth news and information for members and retirees, usually updated bi-monthly.

Articles of Interest: From time to time, we post articles from the mainstream and alternative press that we think may be of interest.

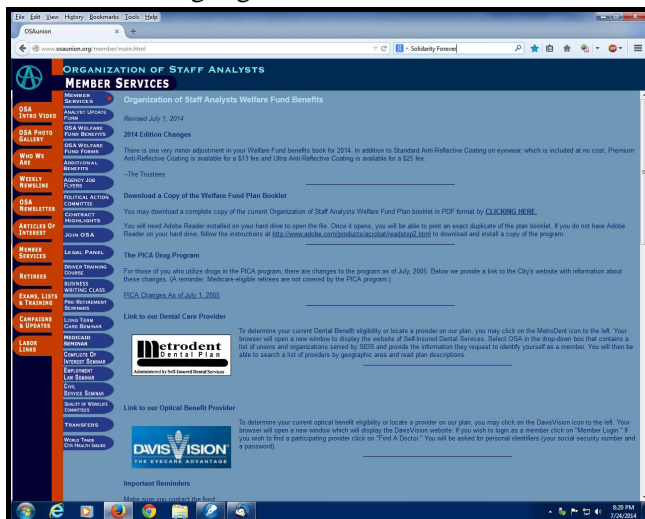
Member Services: A range of information for union members from highlights of the unit contract between OSA

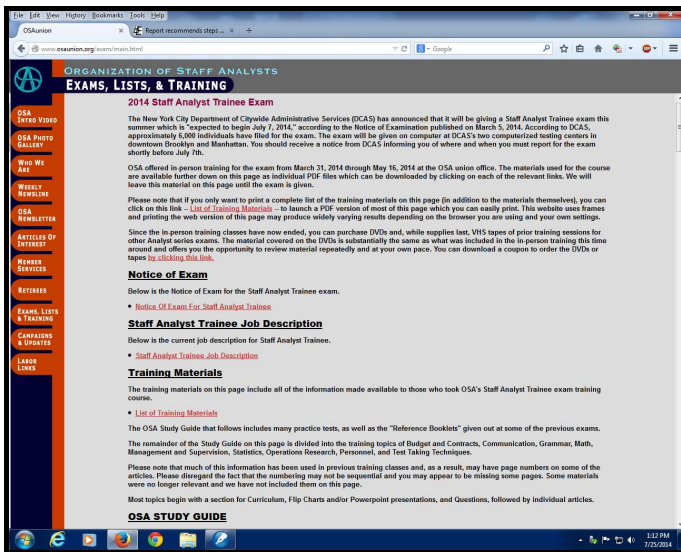


and the City or a copy of the current Welfare Fund booklet to information about seminars, services and committees. The

section has a series of dark blue buttons to click to go to the subsection that interests you:

- **Member Services** - the home page for this section also contains a digital version of the new member welcome package, including forms new members need to complete.
- The **Analyst Update Form** is a form you should complete and return to the union if your personal contact information changes, including your address, work, home or cell phone numbers, agency or job title.
- **OSA Welfare Fund Benefits** outlines the package of benefits available to you through our Welfare Fund. You can download, in PDF format, a copy of the current Welfare Fund benefits booklet. From this page, you can link directly to SIDS, our dental provider, and Davis Vision, our vision care provider.
- **OSA Welfare Fund Forms** provides access to most of the forms you will need for services under the Welfare Fund. You can download and print out forms for non-participating dental and optical providers, a form for new participants in the Welfare Fund or for those updating personal information, forms to enroll in Welfare Fund coverage for young adults who are dependents of OSA members, a form for Superimposed Major Medical claims, and a form to name beneficiaries for OSA's basic life insurance benefit.
- **Additional Benefits** describes a few non-Welfare Fund benefits offered to members through payroll deduction, including optional group term life insurance coverage and short term disability insurance.
- **Agency Job Flyers** offers links to the employment-related section of the City's website.
- **Political Action Committee** describes our PAC and includes information on how you can contribute through voluntary check-off.
- **Contract Highlights** summarizes the major provisions of the unit agreements between OSA and the City and other





related employers, the current salary scale, an overview of the steps of the grievance procedure and the current longevities received by OSA-covered titles. You can also download, in PDF format, the complete citywide agreement, which covers general working conditions, as well as recent unit agreements between OSA and the City and related employers.

- **Join OSA** explains the importance and benefits of union membership and lets you download a voluntary dues authorization form.
- **Legal Benefit** describes OSA's services for members' personal, non-work related legal matters – real estate, bankruptcy, divorce and family matters, wills, etc.
- **Seminars** (Most have been postponed in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic. The first three will be given on Zoom.)
 - **Our Pre-Retirement Seminar** offers you the chance to learn about the issues and problems of life-after-work.
 - **Pensions 101** explores the basics of Tier 4 and 6 pension plans for City workers.
 - **The Wonderful World of Civil Service**, presented by union Executive Director Sheila Gorsky, explores civil service exams, appeals, lists and other essential issues.
 - The **Joy of Statistics** seminar will help you on the job and on future civil service exams.
 - **A Seminar on the Union's Welfare Fund benefits** helps you navigate dental, vision and superimposed major medical programs.
 - An introductory class on **Public Speaking** should help make you a more proficient public speaker.
 - A seminar on **due process, contractual grievances and disciplinary procedures** gives you an idea of your rights as a union member.
 - A **basic math class** will help you with everything from adding and multiplying to decimals and fractions.
- **Quality of Work Life Committees** are active in many City agencies. Download a form to take part.
- **World Trade Center Health Issues** provides information on treatment options for 9/11-related health conditions, as well as compensation information for those who were affected by the WTC disaster.

Retirees: The Organization of Staff Analysts' Retirees Club has its own web section. Formed in 1992, OSARC began with five members and has grown to 1600 members in 2020. Monthly OSARC meetings bring speakers of special interest to the membership. OSARC has a monthly newsletter sent on an introductory basis to all newly retired union members, and then to those members who have paid their OSARC dues. Other forms of interest to retirees are posted here as well.

Exams, Lists and Training: Updated periodically, this page provides information about civil service exams in titles represented by the union, including training the union offers to prepare for the exams. It is also the place for information about civil service lists and their movement.

Campaigns & Updates: Each year, OSA honors an individual, group or an organization that has made a significant contribution to City labor with our "Labor Hero of the Year Award." In this section, you can also view each of the advertisements placed in the civil service newspaper, *The Chief*, to announce the award. You can download an application form for our related professional association, OSART (Organization of Staff Analysts & Related Titles) on this page as well.

Labor Links: We provide links to a variety of labor organizations and resources.

A Quick Review

- Looking for the latest information of interest to Analysts? *Start with the Weekly Newsline page.*
- Trying to find detailed information for Analysts? *Start with the OSA Newsletter page.*
- Need Welfare Fund forms? *Go to Member Services, then OSA Welfare Fund Forms.*
- Need Welfare Fund plan information? *Go to Member Services, then OSA Welfare Fund Benefits.*
- Want to join the Organization of Staff Analysts' Retirees Club? *Go to the Retirees section.*
- Looking for the website for New York City or other unions? *Go to Labor Links.*
- Want information about civil service exams and lists? *Go to Exams, Lists and Training.*
- Looking for photos of union events and activities? *Go to the OSA Photo Gallery section.*
- ! Looking to become a full voluntary member of your union? *Click on the blue button on the front page or go to Member Services, then Join OSA.*
- ! Looking for the most recent contracts or salary and longevity charts? *Go to Member Services, then Contract Highlights.*