



Vista Higher Learning is proud to partner with AATSP-NY to bring you
**Congreso educativo de profesores de español de la
AATSP de Metro NY**

Saturday, April 24th from 9am - 1:30pm (EST)



RUTH BENNETT

Ruth began her teaching career at Port Richmond High School on Staten Island in the late 1950's

Ruth became heavily involved in the AATSP early in her career.

In 1974 she replaced Chalmers Herman as National's Chapter Advisor. Ruth wrote a regular newsletter which went out to all chapter officers; they "were a forceful step in stimulating greater chapter activities and in maintaining a larger number of active chapters." During her term as Coordinator of Chapter Activities, she began to develop some publications and activities directed toward individuals who might wish to make use of a language for purposes other than teaching. This activity grew quite large and included a well-prepared yearly booklet which many had found useful.

In 1982 the Executive Council created the Distinguished Service Award; Ruth was the first recipient of the award.

Ruth assumed the presidency in 1990. The press of duties made it impossible for her to continue the career counseling work.

Ruth succeeded Richard Klein as Executive Director. Klein wrote of Ruth "Her love for Spanish and for the AATSP, coupled with a tremendous energy and drive, have made her an effective worker and spokesperson for the association in innumerable situations, first as leader of the Metropolitan New York Chapter, which remains the AATSP's largest. A born and bred New Yorker, this delightful, cultivated woman has been a tremendous asset for the AATSP."

Back in New York, Ruth served on the board and eventually served as advisor to the chapter presidents. For many years she and her charming husband hosted board meetings in their home in Queens. For years she wrote the annual *Guía de Festejos* for Foreign Language Week; she also wrote the chapter newsletter for many years. She had an excellent rapport with the directors of the Foreign Language Bureau of the NYC Board of Education. Meanwhile, she taught at Queens College in the teacher preparation program for foreign language teachers.

Sadly, in June 2000 she announced that she would step down from the board for health reasons.