



NYSUT Retiree Council 22

Newsletter

March 2017

RC #22 Executive Board

President and NYSUT/AFT Delegate: Barbara Barosa

Vice President: Rosemary Brennan

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Alternate Delegate:

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President's Message

by Barbara Barosa

Much has happened in terms of activism since the Presidential Election! We are encouraging all NYSUT members, especially retirees, to call President Trump's office at **1-866-828-4162**. You will be connected to White House switchboard.

If that is not in effect, leave an email message and also contact your Senators and Congress members about potential threats to programs that have been paid for by workers throughout their careers! **They are NOT ENTITLEMENT programs!**

Please leave a message that relays that you hope President Trump will keep his campaign promises **NOT TO CUT Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid!** Many seniors are totally dependent on Social Security as their only income. We know seniors are dependent on Medicare and many needy children rely on Medicaid for medical necessities.

Send emails to your legislators and tell them how you feel about proposed changes to actions in Washington DC! Everyone has a responsibility to protect future generations from environmental threats, social injustices and policies that take us back to difficult times for many to thrive.

NYSUT ran buses to Washington DC for the Women's March on Washington on Saturday, January 21st! It was the day after the Inauguration and reportedly the crowds were much larger than those the day before!! Depending on what news shows you watch, you may hear "alternative truths" on projections! Many of your friends and colleagues may have attended! I have heard uplifting tales from those who walked and those who were there in spirit!! We will be heard and the rights of many are at stake! There was some media coverage, but I believe this is a sign of future gatherings to let our beliefs be known! We will remain vigilant in our protection of rights for all!!

Not only did women march in Washington DC but major events were held in Boston, Denver, New York

City, Chicago, Phoenix, Seattle, Los Angeles, Miami and St Louis, to name a few! Women are peacefully protesting against sexism, racism, and protection of civil rights for all and especially one's own body!! Democracy only works if you participate in it! We cannot stand by and just ignore some of the ideas being touted by President Trump toward worker's rights, the environment, women's rights, racial inequality and immigration reform, to name but a few!

It is our job as educators to protect the poor, elderly, the uninformed and the neglected from great harm. Good people protect those who cannot protect themselves. Teachers are good people! We must not let the growing list of social injustices spiral out of control! We must do whatever is in our power to fight the fight. We cannot allow society to take a step backward in time when many minorities and woman were discriminated against and were at the mercy of rules that made no sense.

We have several business meetings planned and a spring luncheon. The spring luncheon form is in this edition. Please fill out and mail them to me with checks made out to RC 22! The luncheon is at the East Wind Caterers in Wading River. It is on Tuesday, May 23, 2017. The cost is \$36 per person. We will hear from President Barry Kaufman of the New York State Alliance for Retired Americans. He has a very informative PowerPoint presentation. He can give us some insight on the status of important programs for retirees and working families in the near future in light of this administration.

Our spring business meeting is always important. This year we will elect 2 delegates and an alternate to serve as NYSUT delegates to the NYSUT RA. These delegates attend monthly meetings and represent retirees and their issues at local, county and state meetings. We have a voice in NYSUT and their job is to advocate for retirees whenever possible. That meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6th at BEES Union office at 440 Waverly

Road, Building 4, Patchogue. It starts at 10 AM. Please attend! If you are interested in running, email me at rc22pres@gmail.com before May 1, 2017!

We are tentatively scheduling a Brooklyn Brownstone walking tour for November. Look for more information in our summer issue! Thanks and have a great early spring!!

See you at our Spring Luncheon, spring trip or

Business Meeting!! Be a part of the solution!! Be a part of NYSUT, not just a dues paying member, but an active participant!! We need to stand together now more than ever!!

One last word: ***VOTE NO ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION INITIATIVE ON THE NOVEMBER 2017 BALLOT!!!!***

Congratulations to Our Four RC22 Mini-Grant Recipients:

- Janis Ellis-Smith, Phillips Ave Elementary School-Riverhead
- Georgette Kellerman, Roanoke Ave Elementary Schools-Riverhead
- Mary Pettit, Frank P. Long Intermediate School- South Country
- Donna Verbeck, Roanoke Ave Elementary School-Riverhead

They all deserve many kudos!!

They are fine examples of true professionalism and are a credit to their schools and care greatly about their students!!

A Notice of Elections for RC 22 Delegates and Alternate

On June 6, 2017, at our spring general meeting there will be elections for two (2) delegates and one (1) alternate delegate to the NYSUT Representative Assembly.

Delegates are expected to attend monthly LIRDC meetings, and attend the NYSUT RA.

The meeting will be held at BEES, Eastern Suffolk BOCES Teacher Association office, located at 440 Waverly Rd, Suite 12, Patchogue, NY at 10 AM.

If interested in filling one of these positions, please email Barbara Barosa, RC 22 President at rc22pres@gmail.com before May 1, 2017.

Nominations will also be taken on the floor. Please attend!!

RC # 22 SPRING LUNCHEON MEETING

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

Registration at 11:45 AM Luncheon from 12:00 NOON to 2:45 PM

EAST WIND CATERERS

SOUND AVE, WADING RIVER, NY

\$36 per person

SPEAKER: BARRY KAUFMAN

PRESIDENT OF NY STATE RETIRED AMERICANS ASSOCIATION

Full 3 Course Luncheon

Salad, entrée, dessert, soft drinks and coffee

Cash bar available

***PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO RC 22**

.....
Return this portion with check for \$36 per person

Name(s): _____

of people _____

NAME OF TEACHER LOCAL YOU RETIRED FROM:

Check # and Amount _____

Mail to: Barbara Barosa- RC 22 President
8 Robin Hood Lane RC22pres@gmail.com
East Setauket, NY 11733

*****By May 1, 2017**

Vote COPE Pension Deduction Authorization Card

The undersigned authorizes the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) or the New York State Employees' Retirement System (NYSERS) to deduct from each of my regular defined-benefit pension payments the sum of \$5, \$3 or Other \$_____ (per month) and to forward that amount to VOTE-COPE, P.O. Box 5190, Albany, NY 12205-0190. I understand that this monthly amount will continue to be deducted until revoked by me in writing.

This authorization is made voluntarily and without fear of reprisal and with the understanding that the making of contributions to VOTE-COPE is not a condition of membership in any labor organization, will not impact the provision of my defined-benefit pension and that VOTE-COPE will use the money it receives to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with federal, state and local elections. This authorization shall remain in full force and effect for all purposes until revoked by me in writing.

I expressly acknowledge and understand that the deduction, as specified above, be withheld monthly and that NYSUT will transmit this authorization to the appropriate retirement system. I hereby certify to NYSTRS and NYSERS that I am a member of NYSUT, an employee organization entitled to receive union deduction payments as provided by law.

Name _____ Pension # _____

Phone # _____ Date _____

Signature _____

Local from which you retired: _____

VOTE-COPE is the New York State United Teachers' political action fund.
VOTE-COPE solicits and accepts only voluntary contributions.
Contributions or gifts to VOTE COPE are not tax deductible.

You asked for it... and you got it!

Third Annual Member Appreciation Month set for February 2017



Don't miss out... join MAP!

NYSUT Member Benefits and our endorsed program providers will once again be teaming up for the Third Annual Member Appreciation Month set for February 2017 in recognition of all you do to make *NYSUT union strong*.

To be eligible for these drawings, you simply need to be a member of the voluntary MAP Alert email service or sign up before January 31, 2017.

MAP Alerts are a convenient way to learn about new endorsed programs; updates to current programs; and special offers unique to MAP Alert participants -- without being inundated with emails.

Prize drawings will be held each day, with the winners announced exclusively on the Member Benefits website throughout the month of February.



Win prizes such as Best Buy, Amazon or American Express gift cards; car rental certificates; wireless speakers; an i-Pad Mini; and many more.

Last's year Grand Prize winner received a free vacation to Orlando, FL!

We encourage you to spread the word to your colleagues about this special event. **So if you see a phone call or email from us, make sure you answer it!!!**

For more details about this exciting event, visit the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Jan./Feb. '17