



NYSUT Retiree Council 22

Newsletter

August 2018

RC #22 Executive Board

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President's Message

by Barbara Barosa

“WE CARE, WE FIGHT, WE SHOW UP, WE VOTE! This is the theme from the AFT Convention held in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania in early July. Our national affiliate, AFT, has vowed to make all members realize how important this mid-term election in November is. It is not enough to just complain about the state of our national and international reputation and climate. Our country is at a crossroad. Unions are under attack, Social Security is being threatened, our foes want to privatize education, our national debt will increase by 1 trillion dollars if this tax cut stays in place over the next 10 years and voter suppression is a focus. We will not allow this to happen. **We must show up and vote in November!** We must elect people who want to support seniors through a well-funded Social Security

program and legislators who realize how important Medicare is to seniors as well. These programs are not so called “entitlements”. In fact, seniors have paid for these programs during most of their working years and now expect them to be there when we need them most! Our standard of living and quality of life depends on this.



We heard speakers from many areas, Hillary Clinton receiving the Women's Right Award, Senator Elizabeth Warren and Bernie Sanders to name a few. It was also noted that membership in AFT is at the 1,755,000 people mark. According to AFT President Randi Weingarten, the largest number ever with new locals signing on in the last few weeks since the Supreme Court Janus decision. NYSUT and AFT will not allow that decision to erode our influence and dominance on the state and national scene. Too many members are depending on us to do all we can but that takes work by our membership. That means we must go to the polls and to do our part. **Our voices need to be heard through our votes.** The challenges today are unlike anything we have seen in the past. **Our VOTE is our power and our voice!**

We are having a New Retiree Welcome Breakfast on Wednesday, September 12th at The California Diner. New 2018 retirees are our invited guests and should have received a personal invitation but we always invite more experienced retirees to come and join us. It will be held at The California Diner in Patchogue on the south Sunrise Highway service road. The cost is \$16.00 per person. It starts at 9:45 am. The form appeared in the July issue and also is in this edition for information on this breakfast. Speakers include Dave Keefe from our TRS (Teachers' Retirement System) Board, Rosemary Catanzariti, as our ED 52 Director and always Joan Perrini, from the Suffolk Office as our Retiree Consultant. Please try to attend and welcome our newest members as they start a new adventure in their lives.

We have seen some good signs in New York in the aftermath of the Supreme Court decision in the Janus case. New York politicians have created some safe guards for union members. Governor Cuomo and County Executives Steve Bellone and Laura Curran have signed Executive orders to protect union workers from unwanted harassment and intimidation. Our information is protected, except for work related public information about positions and salary. Outside groups want access to our names, addresses, phone numbers, etc! The Koch brothers and other right-wing groups have targeted our members to spread anti-union information. The goal is to entice current members to leave their unions with the aim of weakening unions statewide and nationally. Do not be confused. They do not want to send us greeting cards. This effort is a focused attack on our union, the ultimate goal of that terrible Supreme Court decision!

NYSUT will be sponsoring a one day Conference for all Long Island Retirees. It will be held at the **Woodbury Country Club on Wednesday October 17th, 2018. Save the date!!** This is a pre-election opportunity to see and hear from legislators who want to represent us on Long Island and in Washington. They need to see that Long Island retirees are concerned and they VOTE! Legislators need to know what we are concerned about and what actions we want to see carried out. Do your-

self a big favor and come to that conference day. Meet retired friends and have breakfast and lunch. A formal invitation will be coming from NYSUT Albany!! Look for it!

That will lead to another important meeting, We are having a very important General Meeting on Monday October 1, 2018 at the Riverhead Public Library. Our speaker is Viri Petteren, a former Long Island local union President and now working for the AFT, our national affiliate. Viri is going to talk about our future, our union and our Voice!! This is along the lines of the AFT convention and is so timely considering how challeng-

ing times are today and the anti-union sentiment being spread by right wing zealots. Please attend his meeting. It starts at 10:00am, we have coffee and bagels available and we would love to see you there. You have to be part of the solution by participating and not being part of the problem by burying your head in the sand. Your voice and our voice will be heard if you take the initiative. Try to attend. We would love to see you there!!

Have a great rest of the summer!

RC 22 Brooklyn Christmas Lights Tour

On Wednesday, December 5, 2018

\$99 for members/paid contribution fee or **\$105** for non-paid/guests

(You will be walking through neighborhoods, so you should wear comfortable shoes.)

If you want to see the most extravagant Christmas light displays you'll find anywhere in the country, you'll need to come to Brooklyn!!

This is a very special guided tour to see, among other things, mechanical reindeers, glowing nativity scenes, dazzling lights, large inflatable Christmas decorations, animatronic toys, motorized displays, and 30-foot toy soldiers! You will visit two Brooklyn neighborhoods: the Italian-American section of **Dyker Heights** and **Bay Ridge**. Both areas are known for their wonderful displays. Dinner at 5 PM, before the tour, *will be at **L and B Spumoni Gardens***. Dinner is served family style with appetizers, salad, pasta, chicken parm, veal marsala and eggplant parm, dessert and coffee.

Send ALL checks and forms to:

Laura Cappetta, RC 22 VP
38 Panamoka Trail
Ridge, NY 11961

Email: Teach871959@yahoo.com, cell 516-702-2094

ALL FORMS MUST BE COMPLETE OR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE PROCESSED, LIMIT 50 PARTICPANTS on a first paid basis! **Due before October 1

Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell phone: _____ Email: _____

Local retired from: _____

Pick up location: (Check one)

_____ Tanger 3, Pottery Barn, Riverhead **Bus departs at 1:30pm**

_____ LIE Exit 63, Park and Ride **Bus departs at 2:00pm**

***PLEASE BE AT LOCATION 15 MINUTES BEFORE DEPARTURE TIME!!!**

Payment: All checks made payable to RC 22

\$ _____ **\$99 pp** Members from BEES, Mattituck, Pat-Med, Riverhead, Rocky Point, Wm Floyd

\$ _____ **\$105 pp** Non participants or guests

*Estimated time of departure from Brooklyn is 8:00- 8:30 PM. Arrival back at Riverhead is between 10:30-11 PM

RC # 22 Breakfast Meeting

Wednesday, September 12, 2018

at The California Diner, (631 -363-5338)

570 South Service Road, Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY

9:45 am (doors open at 9:30 am)

\$16 per person for breakfast, tax and gratuity

Speakers:

Paul Pecorale- NYSUT Second Vice President

Joan Perrini-NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant for Suffolk County

Rosemary Catanazariti- ED 52 Director

Please return form and check payable to **RC #22** by September 1, 2018, to:

Barbara Barosa, RC 22 President

8 Robin Hood Lane

East Setauket, NY 11733

Any questions, email Barbara at: rc22pres@gmail.com

Name: _____

Local union retired from: _____

Email address: _____

Check number and Amount: _____

Contributions to VOTE-COPE can be made online at:

<https://www.nysut.org/my-nysut/reference/toolkit/member/political-action/vote-cope>

NYSUT Regional Conference

for Retiree Councils 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23

The  Retiree

Election Year Legislative Session

In November, elections will take place in NY State Assembly and Senate, as well as Federal Congressional Districts.

Join NYSUT for a unique regional conference.

Meet those seeking to represent your interests in government for the next two years!

Let our legislators know retirees care; retirees vote.

Remember...

ELECTIONS HAVE CONSEQUENCES

Save the Date

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Woodbury Country Club

Woodbury, NY 11797

8:30 am — 3:00 pm

Price \$46

Breakfast & Lunch

Included

(see your chapter or Retiree Council about possible subsidy)

Financial advice shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach!

Stacey Braun Associates, Inc. -- the program provider of the NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed Financial Counseling Program -- understands the unique benefits and retirement options of NYSUT members and how to address your specific financial needs.

There are two types of services available: a Full-Service Program and a 403(b) Advisor Option.

Financial Planning Center

Member Benefits also offers NYSUT members access at no charge to an online Financial Planning Center. Choose from more than 100 modules on a variety of financial topics.

NEW! -- Student Loan & Debt Consolidation Services

The NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation is pleased to announce the endorsement of Cambridge Credit Counseling as a provider to assist NYSUT members and their loved ones with better understanding their student loan re-payment options and/or debt consolidation. **Learn more about this new endorsed program by visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org/cambridge.**

Expert legal assistance for NYSUT members

The program offers:

- Low annual cost of just \$85 (\$55 for retirees)
- Unlimited toll-free legal advice
- Includes Simple Will, Power of Attorney, Health Care Proxy & Living Will
- Two, free, hour-long consultations with a plan attorney

Did you know NYSUT members have access to expert legal assistance for everything from preparing crucial estate planning documents to dealing with traffic violations?

Provided by Feldman, Kramer & Monaco, P.C., the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Legal Service Plan offers access to a national network of attorneys that deal with personal legal matters.

For an additional fee, Plan participants can add an Elder Law Rider and/or Business Protection Rider that provides access to attorneys who specialize in these areas.



Learn more by visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org or calling 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.