



# NYSUT Retiree Council 22

Newsletter  
July 2018

## RC #22 Executive Board

**President and NYSUT/AFT Delegate:** Barbara Barosa

**Vice President:** Laura Cappetta

**Secretary:** Chris Wasko

**Treasurer:** Bill Rockwell

**NYSUT Delegates:** Terry Kalb and Rosemary Brennan

**Alternate Delegate:** Arlene Baressi

**Membership Chairperson:** Arlene Barresi

**Newsletter Editor:** Stephen Stengel

### Directors:

Elena Grefe

Karen Ivens

Terry Kalb

Barbara Kjaerbye

Gail Shafer

## President's Message

by Barbara Barosa

Summer is finally here! We seem to go from winter right into summer, skipping most of the spring! RC 22 had several major events this spring. Our spring luncheon was on May 16<sup>th</sup> at the Bellport Country Club. We had a speaker talk about sustainable gardening and how to implement the process in baby steps!! Very interesting. Our spring trip had us at the newly renovated Grand Central Station in NY City, learning about its history, architecture and we heard about some interesting historical events that went on there. We also walked a converted railway path that became a park with natural flowers and trees, called the Highline, and saw the various points of interest!!

We had an RC 22 General meeting on Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup> where we elected officers for a two-year term. The results of the elections are as follows:

Barbara Barosa –RC 22 President

Laura Cappetta- RC 22 Vice-President

Bill Rockwell –RC 22 Treasurer

Christine Wasko – RC 22 Secretary

A special thank you to Rosemary Brennan who served many years as our RC 22 Vice President!! Rosemary will continue as our Delegate and regularly records the minutes for our LIRDC meetings monthly. The meeting took place at BEES headquarters on Waverly Ave in Patchogue!! It was an exceptionally light turn out and we hope to see many of you at future meetings!

The Supreme Court decision on the Janus case has been decided and issued. In a 5-4 decision, with Justice Alito writing the majority opinion, the court ruled in favor of Janus, thus eliminating agency fees. Mr. Janus is a mem-

ber of AFSCME, and works in the Illinois Department of Health Care. As a result of this case, all members reap the benefits of collective bargaining, but only those who **actively sign on** to union membership would pay their share for those benefits! All members still benefit from union activism relating to job/ working conditions and job /benefit improvements.

Anyone who worked in education in the early 50's and 60's knew how difficult it was to get to the point where current contracts are today! It took lots of time, energy, money, training, smart contract bargaining to get to a reasonable salary and benefit level. This case cannot stop our progress. Every day there is further erosion of our rights as public employees and it is very shocking that the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment was used against membership in a union. Justice Alito writes, "public employees are forced to subsidize a union, even if they choose not to join and strongly object to the positions the union takes in **collective bargaining** and related activities." Further he states, "We conclude that this arrangement violates free speech rights of non-members by compelling them to subsidize private speech on matters of substantial public concern." REALLY!!!

This decision could seriously impact all our union's ability to fairly and politically represent its members. "Members and money are power in politics," says Terry Moe a Stanford Political Science Professor, and "this will weaken the teachers unions nationwide as a political force." Don't let this happen! We can and will support our union because without it, ultra-conservative groups win and our advocacy and status can be diminished! Locals receive support

**RC 22 Fall General Meeting**  
**Riverhead Public Library**

**Monday, October 1, 2018**  
**10:00AM**

from state and national offices providing training, support, conferences and up to the minute expertise on many matters. Without adequate funds those programs will be less effective and less available to all.

I know locals have been working with their members on signing union membership cards and preparing for this decision. **Why should retirees care about this??**

Well quite candidly, what happens to the active level teacher, happens at our retiree level. If locals change health plans for active teachers, our plan changes as well. If active teachers lose a benefit, retirees will probably lose a benefit. If the quality of education diminishes in our state, and fewer professionals are employed, our pension system is impacted! We are in a symbiotic relationship with our active members!

When they feel pain, we will feel pain!

This is an important fight for us all. It is a fight worth fighting! We cannot be complacent or non-involved! Please do whatever you can to promote union membership and discuss the important union gains that have helped you as an educator and citizen of the world!! Our unions are at their best when everyone shares equally in the cost of quality representation! Will keep you posted on future activism goals and activities.

We have a “**New Retiree**” breakfast and general meeting on **Wednesday, September 12, 2018**. Our newest re-

tirees are honored guests of the Council and all “experienced” retirees are also invited and welcomed! It will be held at *The California Diner* and starts at **9:45 am!** The restaurant is located on the south service road of Sunrise Highway in Patchogue!!

Experienced people need to fill out the form in this newsletter and send a check to register for the meeting.

The cost is \$16 per person, which includes meal, tax and gratuity!! Please come to welcome and greet our newest members get them off to a great start!! Hope to see you there!



We will have a **General Meeting at the Riverhead Public Library on Monday, October 1, 2018**. The meeting will begin at **10 am!**

Please come to hear Viri Pettersen from the AFT. In the advent of the Janus

decision, her presentation is entitled, *Talking about Tomorrow, Our Vote, Our Voice, Our Union!!* Viri is a great presenter and I know she will be very interesting!! Please attend! Also, please consider giving to VOTE/COPE if you don't already give! If you do give through payroll deduction, please considering raising the amount. For your convenience, forms are included in this issue! In order to keep what we currently have and to insure other retirees will as well, please give to this very effective fund! Political action is the only way to do it!! Hope to see all of you soon!

## 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 State 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:

B. Barosa, RC 22 President, 8 Robin Hood Lane,  
East Setauket, NY 11733 (rc22pres@gmail.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Local union retired from: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check number and Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



## Pension Deduction Authorization Form



**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.**

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 \$\_\_\_\_\_ (per month) and to forward that amount to VOTE-COPE, PO 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## Contributions to VOTE-COPE can be made online at:

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



## Contribution Form



**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.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID # \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Local # \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ (Make check payable to VOTE-COPE)

Please provide your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return this form to: VOTE-COPE, PO Box 5190, Albany, NY 12205-0190**

## SUPPORT RC 22



As a NYSUT retiree, you are a lifetime member of RC 22; however, without financial support from you, RC 22 cannot represent you at county, state and national conferences and meetings. We ask you to contribute an annual \$5 participation fee. If you pay dues to an operating retiree chapter, (Eastern Suffolk BOCES, (BEES), Mattituck-Cutchogue, Patch-Medford, Riverhead, Rocky Pt, Southampton and Wm. Floyd), your \$5 fee will be forwarded to RC 22 by your chapter. If you do not pay dues to one of these chapters, please fill out the form below and send it with your \$5 check payable to **RC #22**.

**Mail to:** Bill Rockwell, RC #22 Treasurer 30 Carmen Blvd. Brookhaven, NY 11719

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_ Local you retired from: \_\_\_\_\_

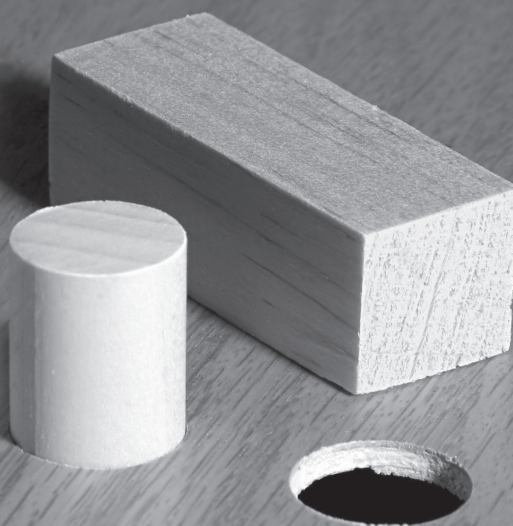
# Financial advice shouldn't be a one-size-fits-all approach!

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](http://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](http://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.