



NYSUT Retiree Council 22

Newsletter
July/August 2019

RC #22 Executive Board

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President's Message

by Barbara Barosa

Summer is in full gear and retirees are enjoying the season with many activities. Some are seeing their grandchildren who are off from school, traveling, seeing friends or enjoying varied hobbies. Whatever you are doing, be safe, stay healthy and pay attention to what is going on in the world we live in!

We all know a very important election is coming in 2020! This election will matter. Many things are at stake that we care about, such as civil rights, women's rights, union rights, quality education, gender equity, women's reproductive rights, immigration issues, Supreme Court composition and so much more. Make sure you are educated on where the candidates stand on issues important to our core values as educators and unionists. Our vote matters and we must cast it!

RC 22 is having a breakfast meeting in September to welcome our newest 2019 NYSUT retirees. The 2019 retirees will receive a letter inviting them to attend as guests of RC 22. Experienced retirees are also invited, and we would love to see you there to hear from Paul Pecorale, NYSUT Vice President and Joan Perrini, our Retiree Services Consultant from the Suffolk office and several others!! This is a new location in Rocky Point. It is being held at **The Zona Out East Diner** on 400 Route 25A in Rocky Point. The price is \$15 per person, which includes breakfast, tax and gratuity!! Hope to see you there! **There is a form to be completed in this edition. Please return by September 5, 2019!!**

We are also having a Fall RC #22 General Meeting at the Riverhead Public Library on Wednesday, October 2, 2019. It will start at 10:00 am and we are looking forward to hearing from some interesting speakers. We will have an interesting slide show on Norway called a *Glacier on the Move*, for your enjoyment!! All are invited and bagels

and coffee will be served! Please try to be there. You are the UNION!! Stay active and involved.

NYSUT is sponsoring a NYSUT Regional Retiree Conference Day for all Nassau and Suffolk retirees. It will be held at The Watermill Inn Caterers in Hauppauge on Tuesday, October 29, 2019. It is being sponsored by NYSUT at a reduced rate for all retirees! **Registration materials will be sent from NYSUT offices this fall!!** We are fortunate to have Randi Weingarten, AFT President there to address us! We have speakers on Elder care, Scams targeted at seniors, a Long Island wine talk and NYSUT representatives. It includes a continental breakfast, a sit-down lunch and door prizes and raffles. It is a good way to stay current, meet friends, and have a great day out! Please attend if you possibly can!!

Please try to attend a Retiree breakfast, general meeting and/or Retiree Conference Day! Staying informed is a great way to be involved and advocate for quality education and unions! I don't believe you can have one without the other!!

Hope to see you soon.

**RC #22 Fall General Meeting
Wednesday, October 2, 2019
Riverhead Public Library
10:00 am
Downstairs Meeting Rooms
Bagels And Coffee Served!!**

NYSUT Regional Conference

for all Suffolk retirees

Tuesday, October 29, 2019

At Watermill Inn Caterers

Includes continental breakfast, sit-down lunch,
raffles, door prizes and keynote speaker

RANDI WEINGARTEN, PRESIDENT AFT

***Registration materials are being sent out
in early fall by NYSUT**

**Come Join Us at the
September “Welcome”
Breakfast Meeting**

To Welcome All New Retirees

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

at **Zona Out East Diner**, (631-821-1496)

400 Rt. 25 A, Rocky Point, NY

9:30 am (doors open at 9:15 am)

\$15 per person for breakfast (tax and gratuity included)

Speakers:

Paul Pecorale, NYSUT State Vice President

Joan Perrini, Suffolk Office Retirement Consultant

Rosemary Catanzariti, ED 52 Director

Please return form and check made payable to **RC #22**

No later than September 5, 2019 to : B. Barosa, RC 22 President

8 Robin Hood Lane,

East Setauket, NY 11733

Any questions? Email Barbara at: ***rc22pres@gmail.com***

Name: _____

Email address: _____

Local union retired from: _____

Check number and amount: _____

The BENES Act, for Medicare Part B, Advances in the House

This week, the House Committee on Ways and Means advanced the Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification (BENES) Act (S. 1280/H.R. 2477) in a markup that considered a series of Medicare-related bills. The BENES Act is now included in a larger bipartisan package that was unanimously reported favorably out of Committee the Beneficiary Education Tools, Telehealth, and Extenders Reauthorization (BETTER) Act of 2019 (H.R. 3417).

The BENES Act is urgently needed to modernize and simplify the Medicare Part B enrollment process. Currently, far too many people make honest mistakes when trying to understand and navigate this confusing system. The consequences of such missteps are significant including late enrollment penalties, higher out-of-pocket health care costs, gaps in coverage, and barriers to accessing needed services.

The BENES Act would help prevent these costly errors. As included in the BETTER Act of 2019, it would fill long-standing gaps in outreach and education, eliminate needless breaks in coverage, and inform future policymaking on enrollment period alignment.

In addition to these commonsense BENES Act solutions, the BETTER Act includes several other policies that are important to people with Medicare and their families, and

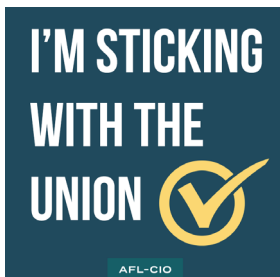
priorities for the Medicare Rights Center such as increasing funding for outreach and enrollment assistance to low-income Medicare beneficiaries, and making the Part D Limited Income Newly Eligible Transition (LI NET) Program permanent.

Together, these and other changes in the BETTER Act bill would significantly improve the health and economic security of people with Medicare today and in the future. Medicare Rights applauds the members of the Ways and Means Committee for advancing these improvements and thank the staff of the Health and Social Security Subcommittees for their tireless work in crafting these complex policy changes.

We are also grateful to Rep. Schneider (D-IL) and Rep. Walorski (R-IN) for championing the BENES Act on the Committee, and to House co-sponsors Representatives Ruiz (D-CA) and Bilirakis (R-FL) for their leadership of the bill on the Energy and Commerce Committee.

We urge lawmakers to prioritize the BETTER Acts critical reforms including the BENES Act for immediate passage. Read a letter of support for the BENES Act as included in H.R. 3417, signed by 85 stakeholder organizations. (Including the ARA)

Source: NYSARA Monday Alert, 7/1/19





KEEP UP TO DATE!!!
All Address changes for NYSUT publications

<u>Send written changes to:</u>	<u>Email changes to:</u>
NYSUT Member Records	memberrec@nysutmail.org
Troy Schenectady Rd	
Latham, NY 12110	<u>Call NYSUT Member Records</u>
	1-800- 342-9810 x6224

RC-22 web site
<http://rc22.ny.aft.org/>

Contributions to VOTE-COPE can be made online at:
<https://www.nysut.org/my-nysut/reference/toolkit/member/political-action/vote-cope>

	Contribution Form	
<p>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.</p>		
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Return this form to: VOTE-COPE, PO Box 5190, Albany, NY 12205-0190		



Protect Your Loved Ones with Union-Endorsed Benefits

Insurance... it's often the type of product you hope to never have to utilize. In the event you do need it, though, it's important to have the insurance product that best meets your needs and those of your loved ones.

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a variety of **crucial insurance programs** that provide important protection for NYSUT members and their families, including life, auto and home, disability, long-term care, dental and vision plans, and more.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you're participating in one of our endorsed insurance programs; legal or financial services; or many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the **"Power of the Union"** behind them.

The **"Power of the Union"** should serve as a steadfast reminder to all NYSUT members that we are your advocate. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, NYSUT Member Benefits is here if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs. You aren't just a member to us... you are part of our union family.

Member Benefits is here to offer assistance with the student loan crisis. Visit our website for more information.



To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit **memberbenefits.nysut.org** or call **800-626-8101**.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.