

THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate

April 2016

NYSUT RC 12 Annual Spring Membership Meeting and Election Wednesday, June 1, 2016, at the Waters Edge Lighthouse, 2 Freemans Bridge Road, Glenville, NY

Celebrate NYSUT RC 12's 25th Anniversary With Toni Cortese and the following leaders



Speakers

Toni Cortese was founding vice-president of NYSUT and AFT secretary-treasurer

Paul Cole made the motion to form NYSUT when he was a member of NYSTA

Jean Gordon was treasurer of UTNY (*UTNY and NYSTA merged to form NYSUT*)

Fred Nauman was officer of NYSUT and proposed and implemented NYSUT Retiree Councils

Recognition of RC 12 Founding Officers and Past Presidents

Jim Marquit, Bill Schultz, Marlene Towne, Don Griffith, Judy Schultz, Karen Wojcik-Hess

Presentation of 2016 NYSUT RC 12 Award of Excellence to

Paul Cole, Executive Director of American Labor Studies Center

Presentation of NYSUT RC 12 Community Service Award to

Alex Boschi

Agenda

9:30-10:00 am	Registration, Coffee and Tea
10:00-11:00 am	Business Meeting
11:00-Noon	Program
12:15- 1:15 pm	Luncheon Cost per person: \$26

Luncheon Choices: Select one only Beef Bourguignon, Chicken Marsala w/oven roasted potatoes, or Haddock Francaise w/ rice, Ppus vegetable, salad, chocolate mousse, tea and coffee. Vegetarian available upon request.

Deadline, Tuesday, May 26, 2015

Directions: From NYS Thruway, Get off at Exit 26 and merge onto I-890 East-Take Exit 4 towards Erie Blvd. Erie Blvd. becomes Freemans Bridge Road. (Turn slight left onto Erie Blvd.) Travel 1.7 miles. Take the immediate right turn after you cross Freemans Bridge over the Mohawk River. The banquet room is the separate building in the back.

Please submit a check payable to NYSUT RC 12 for \$26.00 per person and mail with registration form to Vickie McGowan-Horan 1065 Avon Road Schenectady, NY 12308 518- 852-0113 ToryMc@aol.com

Name(s): _____

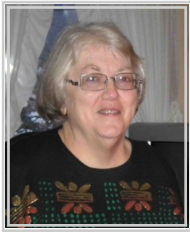
Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

Beef Bourguignon Chicken Marsala Haddock Francaise

Save the Date 2016

April 19	Presidential Primary	July 27	RC 12 Trip to Bethel Woods Museum and Village of Woodstock
May 10	NYSUT RC 12 Conference at Glen Sanders	June 28	Congressional primaries
June 1	General Membership Meeting & Elections Waters Edge Lighthouse Restaurant	Sept. 21	RC 12 fall meeting at the Otesaga
June 23	RC 12 Trip to 9/11 Museum NYC		



From the President's Desk... Sandra Bliss

ODDS AND ENDS

“SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVING IS EASY”

Visit Cooperstown and get a 25% educator discount on Glimmerglass festival opera tickets. Your NYSUT membership card can be used for proof of educator status so all SRP's not just teachers get the discount. When you call the box-office at 1-607-547-2255 to purchase tickets, they will hold the tickets at will-call to pick up the day of the performance. At that time, you must show a different NYSUT membership card for each educator ticket purchased. You may be required to mail a copy of your membership card to the box office. It is kept on file for future purchases. Other discounts exist for seniors, Otsego County residents and students up through college with college ID. This summer, they are doing *La Boheme*, *The Crucible*, *The Thieving Magpie* and the Broadway play *Sweeney Todd*. It is refreshing to hear a Broadway play without performer microphones and with a live full orchestra. Go to: glimmerglass.org for more information. Educator discount is not available for online purchases. Glimmerglass Festival operates July 8 – August 27, 2016. Dress-up or go summer picnic casual.

“TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME”

Start Memorial Day weekend by attending the Cooperstown Hall of Fame CLASSIC Game. This 7-inning exhibition game features Hall of Famers and former major league players facing off each other on historic Doubleday Field at 1 pm on May 28.

Tickets are on sale by calling 1-877-726-9028 and giving the code: NYSUT16 for the NYSUT BOGO, buy one get one free, on all tickets purchased.

Hall of Fame Classic weekend includes other events, some of which are sold out. There's a Home run Derby on the field at noon. Your game ticket gives you entry to Doubleday Field to watch the pre-game Home Run Derby. Some Hall of Famers give free autographs in the parking lot at Doubleday Field while people are standing in line to get into the game. Bring a baseball with you. Go to: baseballhall.org for more information. The NYSUT BOGO can be used online.

HEALTH INSURANCE INFORMATION FOR NYSHIP EMPIRE PLAN ENROLLEES

*If you are **not** enrolled in the NYSHIP Empire Plan, the following notice does not affect you.*

“Once again, the NYS Department of Civil Service is conducting an eligibility audit of those enrollees with Empire Plan family coverage. Empire Plan participants who are enrolled through school districts and local governments should begin to receive letters at the end of February. It is very important that you follow the instructions and provide the requested information prior to May 4, 2016. If you do not respond, your unverified dependents will be deleted retroactive to January 1, 2016.” From NYSUT STAFFER Sue Klug.

Editor's note: Retirees are always looking for ways to save money and cut costs. Here's one retiree's plan you might find useful. Bear in mind, not everyone will find the same results, based on what is available where you live.

My Cable Bundle is too Expensive!!!!

By Carolyn Darkangelo, retiree Mayfield TA

In January, we received our monthly cable bill for our economic bundle of phone, TV and Internet! Over the years, the exciting \$89.95 had ballooned into \$185 per month. I noticed they were even charging us an extra \$10 for broadcast TV and sports, and the fees and taxes now totaled nearly \$20. We were really aggravated and decided to look into other options.

Since we live in Fulton County, there is only one game in town as far as cable is concerned. Satellite starts out low, rates go up in 12 months, and monthly equipment charges really can add up. We are happy with our Internet service so we have decided to keep that for the \$60 charge unbundled.

We researched the TV tower locations on the www.antennapoint.com website and found we were about 35 miles from tower locations and that all the local digital broadcast channels seem to originate from about the same location.

First, we went to Amazon and found a number of options for digital antennas that pick up all local channels (NBC, ABC, CBS, PBS, ION, CW, MY TV, HSN). We purchased a small exterior antenna with a rotor built in for \$38. Another good option is a variety of indoor antennas by Mohu. You can go to Mohu website, put in your zip code, and it will tell you what channels each model could receive at your location.

We hooked up the exterior antenna inside the attic and turned it to the direction of the best reception. We have 27 channels that all come in perfectly. For example, there are channels 6-1 (WRGB), 6-2 (This TV), and 6-3 (Comet). You need a TV with a digital tuner to receive these broadcast channels. If you have a newer TV (bought

since 2009), it has a digital tuner and will work with this antenna. Older TV's require an additional digital tuner box. The best thing for us is that there are 27 channels, which are absolutely free. How many channels you can get will depend on your location.

What about missing on demand? The websites of broadcast channels offer the opportunity to watch shows if you miss an episode. PBS has a huge amount of past shows such as Nature on its website.

If we miss some of the cable stations, the Sling TV base package includes ESPN, ESPN2, Disney Channel, ABC Family, Food Network, HGTV, Travel Channel, TNT, CNN, TBS, Cartoon Network and Adult Swim for \$20 per month. Netflix could be another option for \$9.

The home phone options include Magic Jack, Skype and Ooma. Magic Jack is very inexpensive, but you can't keep your home number, and you have to keep the computer running all the time so people can call you. Skype phone also needs to have the computer turned on, but it could be used to make long distance calls to people who use Skype. Ooma's router costs about \$100, and you must pay fees and taxes of \$3.46 per month. You can keep your phone number for \$40 and don't have to keep the computer turned on. It has voicemail, caller-ID, call waiting, and 911. My present phone costs \$41/month plus fees and taxes. After four months to make up for the startup costs, my phone bill will be down to just \$3.46.

We have decided to pay \$60 for Internet and \$3.46 for phone service after we pay for the equipment. In a future issue, I will let you all know how we do. If you have any questions about this article, email me at darkangelo@nycap.rr.com.

The Outlook

- Co-Pres. Jeanne W. Bennett (315) 895-7063
- Co-Pres. Sandra Bliss (315) 725-0706
- 1st VP David Sammons (518) 661-5637
- Co-2nd VP S. David King (518) 725-0848
- Co-2nd VP Mary Pritchard (518) 374-0607
- Secretary Kathlene Lyman (518) 399-0256
- Treasurer Dolores Talmadge (518) 993-2854

Immediate Past President

Karen Wojcik-Hess (518) 366-8141

Past Presidents: Judy Schultz

Don Griffith Bill Schultz Jim Marquit

Directors

- Alex Boschi - Montgomery
- Joseph F. Bernocco - Schoharie & Otsego
- Margaret Dafeldecker - Schoharie & Otsego
- Don Harris - Fulton & Hamilton
- Beth Roberts - Herkimer & Schenectady

Newsletter Staff Phyllis VanSteenburgh

Carolyn Darkangelo

Webmaster - Carolyn Darkangelo

Darkangelo @nycap.rr.com

Website: RC12.ny.aft.org

NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant:
Jennifer Shaad-Derby (518) 783-7977

9/11 Museum Trip, Thursday, June 23, 2016

We leave Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 39 St. Johns St., Amsterdam ,at 7 a.m. & arrive in NYC around 11 a.m. You may visit St. Paul's Chapel, Fire Station, 9/11 Memorial, or grab lunch on your own. Option: Freedom Tower Observatory at 11:30 a.m. for \$27.

Everyone must go into the museum at 12:30 p.m. You may stay as long as you'd like to; however, once you leave, there is NO RE-ENTRY. The bus will pick us up at 5:30 p.m. in front of the museum.

We should arrive at X20 Xaviars on the Hudson around 6:15 p.m. for a three-course dinner. Please circle one Appetizer, one Entree, and one Dessert and return the form below along with your check:



----- APPETIZER -----

Butternut Squash Bisque (Pumpkin Seed Oil & Crispy Sage)

Classic Caesar Salad (Garlic Croutons & Caesar Dressing, Portuguese White Anchovies)

Big Eye Tuna Tatar with Sicilian Pistachios (Morrocan Dates & Aleppo Pepper, Spicy Rice Paper Tuille & Edamame Coulis)

Grilled Portuguese Octopus (Grilled Salad of Orzo, Feta Cheese, Tomatoes, Cucumber, Red Onion & Olives)

ENTRÉE

Wild King Salmon with Samjang Glaze (Soba Noodles & Shitake Dashi, Baby Bok Choy & Snow Peas)

Grilled Prime Hangar Steak (Roasted Bone Marrow with Garlic & Herb Butter, Potato Puree & Haricot Vert)

Hudson Valley Chicken (Roasted Root Vegetables, Baby Carrots & Garbanzo Beans, Chicken Jus & Basil Oil)

Hudson Valley Pasture-Raised Pork Chops (Chorizo Glaze, Smashed Potato with Sour Cream, Peas & Carrots with Bacon Lardons)

DESSERT

Warm Valrhona Chocolate Cake (Grand Marnier Ice Cream & Orange Confit)

Red Velvet Cake (Marscarpone Frosting, Rum Creme Anglaise & Candied Pecans)

Classic Creme Brulee

Crispy Lemon Napoleon (Lemon Sabayon & Blueberry Confiture, Soft "Torched" Meringue)

Please mail this form and a check made payable to **NYSUT RC12** to: **Linda Zilka, 288 Bleecker Street, Gloversville, NY 12078** by **May 13, 2016**. If you are not going to the Freedom Tower Observatory, send \$127; if you are going up the Freedom Tower, please send \$154. This price is based on 50 people going. If we don't get at least 50 people, then we will have to pay \$8 to \$21 more which will be due by June 1, 2016.

Name _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Address _____

E-Mail Address _____

Option: Freedom Tower Observatory at 11:30 a.m. for \$27. _____ yes or _____ no

RC 12 Nominees – Election to be held on June 1 at 10:15 AM

It will be at the NYSUT RC 12 General Membership Meeting at Waters Edge Lighthouse, Schenectady. To vote you must be an RC 12 member and present at time of election. You are not required to stay for the entire meeting nor purchase lunch to in order to vote

Co-President -- Jeanne Williams Bennett (retired from Mohawk TA) Since her retirement in 2007, Jeanne served RC 12 first as vice president for 2 years, president for 2 years, and then as co president for the past six years. In order to keep abreast of state and national issues affecting retirees and in-service educators, she has attended numerous workshops, rallies, and meetings as well as has NYSUT Alerts, briefings from the Alliance for Retired Americans, and newsletters from New York State Wide Senior Action Council. She serves as a representative on the NYSUT RAC (Retiree Advisory Committee). If reelected, she intends to continue with these activities, always advocating for what is best for retirees and in-service educators.

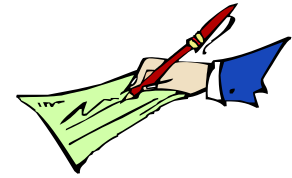
Co-President -- Sandra Bliss (retired from Frankfort-Schuyler TA) served as the 1st vice president of RC 12, and president of her retiree chapter. She participated on the RC12 legislative committee, a Committee of 100 representative, and co president for the last 4 years. She served as vice-president of the Central NY Labor Council. Sandy would like to continue to serve RC12 as co president and delegate, because she wants to help us build on the past, make a better future, and ensure retirement security through political action and mobilization.

1st Vice President -- David Sammons (Retired from Mayfield TA) He is running for re-election as RC 12's first vice president. Over the past 10 years, he has served RC12 as a member of their Board of Directors for 3 terms and then first vice president for the past 2 terms. He also chairs the committee working on creating new retiree chapters and planning trips for RC 12's social committee. He would like another term as first vice president so he can continue working in these capacities.

2nd Vice President for Legislation -- S. David King (retired from Broadalbin-Perth TA) In 1964, he organized a committee to have Al Shanker speak in Fulton County about the formation of local teachers' unions. Since his retirement, he has served as co-2nd vice president of RC 12. He has been a delegate for RC 12 at the RA, a former member of the NYSUT Retiree Advisory Committee, and an organizer of the RC12 NYSUT phone banks. David attends and organizes volunteers for RC12's Committee of 100 meetings with lawmakers. He would like to continue to be a "watchdog" for our benefits and public education by staying informed and sharing information with RC12's retirees as 2nd vice president.

Continued on Page 4

Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016



Name _____ County _____

Address _____ City _____ Year Retired _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

Original Union Local _____ You may share my email with AFT and NYSUT _____

My Assemblyman _____ My NY State Senator _____ My US Representative _____

I would be willing to work for my fellow retirees in the area of: ___ Legislation ___ Social Committee ___ Newsletter

Check this box if there has been a change in your contact information

**\$15.00 yearly contribution requested. Send to
Dolores Talmadge 206 Main Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339 Make check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 12.
Any questions, please call (518) 993-2854 .**

(Continued from page 3)

Secretary -- Kathlene Lyman (retired from Niskayuna TA) Kathlene was building rep, district liaison, and 2nd vice president at Niskayuna. Since retirement, she has served as secretary of the RC12 social committee, member of the constitutional committee, and secretary of RC 12. She would like to continue as RC 12 secretary and serve as delegate to the NYSUT RA.

Treasurer -- Dolores Talmadge(retired from Canajoharie TA) She served as president of Canajoharie TA and delegate to the NYSUT RA for over 25 years. She is currently the treasurer of the RC12 and would like to continue in this position. She would be honored to represent RC12 as a delegate to the NYSUT RA

NYSUT RA Delegates in 2017 and 2018-- The co-presidents, **Jeanne Williams Bennett and Sandra Bliss** are the first two delegates. The following nominees with the highest vote is the delegate, the next three are alternates. The candidates are **S. David King, Kathlene Lyman, Dolores Talmadge, and Karen Wojcik-Hess**. She is a retiree from Schenectady Federation of Teachers. Karen has served RC 12 as vice president and president each for a term, and as a delegate to NYSUT RA, and to AFT. She also represented RC 12 on NYSUT's Retiree Advisory Committee and is now the president of the Capital District NYS Alliance for Retired Americans She would like to represent RC 12 again as a delegate for NYSUT RA and AFT.

Delegate to the AFT 2018 Convention -- Jeanne Williams Bennett, Sandra Bliss, Karen Wojcik-Hess

Additional Contributors

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Remza Abbadessa | Barbara Guiffre | Paul Reed |
| Francis X. Abbott | Katherine Hargett | Carol Reid* |
| Lorraine Bacon | Nikki Hathaway | Mary Lynn Rourke! |
| John Baker | Andrea Healy | David Sammons |
| Carol Baldwin | Kathryn Hesslink | Linda Sammons |
| Kathleen Becker | Grace Hillers | Gloria Santa Maria |
| Judith Bates | Susan Hoetker | Carol Schery |
| Ruth Bonn | Claudia Holik | Claudia Shaylor |
| Linda Brazell | Darlene M. Holubetz | Marsha Smith |
| Carolyn Castiglione! | Barbara Horwald | Michael Stahl |
| Eileen Chambers | Laurie Isles | Richard Terry |
| Fred Chambers | Dianne Kierpiec | Joan Valent |
| Lyle R. Chastaine* | Apryll Kingsbury | Steve Valent |
| Thelma Childs | Margaret Lane | Helene Vassi |
| Elaine Conti* | Jean LaPorta | Shirley Viele |
| Nettie Crossman | Vince LaPorta | Carol Warasta |
| Dorothy D'Arpino | Carol LaRow | Susanne Williams |
| Gwynneth Delong | Carol F. Larter | Sharon L. Wilson |
| Sherry Dixon | Grace Hilt Mack | Joan Winchell |
| Anne Douglas | Beatrice M. Malone! | Jan Zadoorian |
| Rodney L. Dunbar | Janice Mason | Nancy Zeiser |
| Judith Hefferman Elmy | Patricia Michalski | |
| Ray Gawlas | Mary Jane Morse | |
| Nellie Georgelos | Helen Neet | |
| Rosaria Girouard | Victoria Parker* | |
| Jane Golub | Noel Payton | |
| | Roberta A. Pecora | |
| | David A. Peek | |
| | Arlene Perrin | |
| | Mario Pumilio | |



Hugh Farley and Beverly Alves meet during the Committee of 100 on March 8.

Thanks

Name Corrections from February issue

- Should appear as:**
 Jacqueline J. Albanese
 Susan Cauffman
 Maria Peters
 Carol Shaver
 Bonnie Siiss
 Virginia Vertuci Fyfe



Geralyn O'Reilly (Retiree Services), S. David King (RC 12) Bonnie Maxon (RC 10) at the ED 51 annual meeting on March 7, in Utica.

The Value of NYSUT Membership

You may not be aware that your NYSUT membership allows you to enjoy the benefits of the more than 40 programs & services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality, competitive insurance plans.

Member Benefits strives to provide the highest-quality programs for NYSUT members and closely scrutinizes all proposals from reputable vendors before any endorsements are given.

While we work continuously to maintain quality benefit programs at competitive prices, you are encouraged to shop and compare before making any purchasing decisions.

MetLife Auto & Home[®]



Call MetLife Auto & Home to learn about the special savings and discounts you may be eligible for.

1-866-NYSUT-22

If you are looking for potential savings on your auto or homeowners insurance, consider enrolling in the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed MetLife Auto & Home Insurance Program.

This program offers special group rates on personal property and liability coverage not available to individual MetLife policyholders. NYSUT members can choose from a variety of coverages that include auto, homeowners, boat, renter's, and much more.

Policyholders can earn extra discounts for good driving, multiple policies and anti-theft devices. MetLife Auto & Home recently raised the multi-policy discount on its homeowners insurance with auto from 7% to 15%. The multi-policy/multi-product discount on auto insurance with home remains at 8%.

Visit the NYSUT Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101** for specific details about this program or other Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services.

MetLife Auto & Home is a NYSUT Member Benefits Trust (Member Benefits)-endorsed program. Member Benefits has an endorsement arrangement of 5.5% of total premiums for this program. All such payments to Member Benefits are used solely to defray the costs of administering its various programs and, where appropriate, to enhance them. Member Benefits acts as your advocate; please contact Member Benefits at 800-626-8101 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program.

Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.



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.

Mar./Apr. '16

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