

THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate

March /April 2013

RC 12 - ONE DAY BUS TRIP LOG CABIN, HOLYOKE, MA

Lobster, BBQ Ribs, Chicken & Doo-Wop 50's Music

Tuesday, August 6, 2013 - \$84 per person

(price includes transportation, dinner/entertainment at Log Cabin & driver gratuity)

Departs: Amsterdam, Mt. Carmel Church, 39 St. John St. – 8:15 AM

Wade Terminal, 797 Burdeck St., Schenectady — 9:00 AM

Dinner:

welcome tray, clam chowder, lobster, ribs, chicken, baked potato, corn, dessert, beverage and a glass of wine.

SHOWTIME - 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

“Hot Fun in the Summertime” with Jimmy Wilson

Quick food stop on the way home. Approx. arrival at Wade – 8 p.m. Approx. arrival at Amsterdam – 8:45 p.m.

Contact : Bev-518-234-7578 hbuddle@nycap.rr.com

Marlene - 518-827-4300 towne@midtel.net

Please fill out information below and send along with your check(s) to one of the names listed.

Make checks out to NYSUT RC 12. **The deadline for reservations and cancellations is June 22, 2013.**

Bev Buddle, 103 Anthony Circle, Cobleskill, NY 12043 Marlene Towne, 112 Squaw Trail, Middleburgh, NY 12122

NAME (s) _____ Home & Cell Phone _____

ADDRESS _____ EMAIL _____

TOTAL RESERVATIONS _____ Pick-up preference: Amsterdam ___ or Wade ___

Amount enclosed _____ Trip insurance information available at Wade Tours

Our “Non-Bucket List” Trip by Ginni and John Mazur

Having a “bucket list” seems to be the way to go these days. Many retirees have a “bucket list”, and so do we. As life keeps ticking away, we keep checking off the places on our list, but our trip to Africa was not on it. You might wonder why we traveled to Africa.

We became friends with a couple on our trip last year to Machu Pichhu and the Galapagos Islands. They asked us to join them on a safari this year to Tanzania in Africa. A safari wasn't on our list, but we investigated the idea and decided to do it. We don't regret it for a minute.

Our 15 day adventure began on September 21st when we picked up Jim and Joelle Flint and drove to JFK. After spending a day in Amsterdam, we flew to the Kilimajaro International Airport in Tanzania. The first national park we explored was Tarangire, then off to the Serengeti, and finally, the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. All our traveling was done in Land Rovers, and we were not allowed to get out of the vehicles unless we were in our tented areas. In the national parks, all the animals roamed freely. It was the dry season so it was very dusty and quite hot. By the end of the day, we were covered in a red dust. We had primitive showers in our tent, and when our traveling for the day was done, a shower felt great. Swahili is the native language in Tanzania, and our drivers/guides spoke fluent English. Every night, a security person walked around the tented area since lions and hyenas quite often made it known that they were around by their roaring and howling. All our meals were prepared for us, and they were mainly American dishes. Many mornings, our day began about 5:30 since the animals are more active in the mornings. One morning, we were up at 4:15 since we took a sunrise hot air balloon ride over the Serengeti.



It was a trip of a lifetime; the animal sightings were just incredible! Many times, our Land Rover was surrounded by herds of elephants, zebras, giraffes, and wildebeests. We also saw lions, hyenas, cheetahs, leopards, black rhinos, jackals, vultures, and hippos.

We met amazing African people. We spent one morning in a Masaii village mingling with the people. The chief and a few others spoke English so we were able to communicate and participate in some of their day-to-day activities. Another day, we were given a shopping list for groceries written in Swahili, and we had to get the items and then take them to a family that we visited. We also visited a school and met children who couldn't speak our language well, but loved us just the same, especially when we taught them the “Hokey Pokey!”

We returned to Gloversville, and nine days later we were off to Rome for several days for the canonization of Kateri Tekawitha. So never say “No” to a “non-bucket list” opportunity. You might never know where your next adventure might take you!!!



Ginni in a Masai Village



From the President's Desk... Sandra Bliss

JUMP IN !!

It was on sale, and I bought it. I bought a smart phone. I had planned to wait another year, but the price was right to go high tech all the way. Now, I have to learn how to use it. I can talk to the phone, and it will write what I say in a text. No more typing a text on the phone keypad! I want to learn how the younger generations are communicating and leading through the use of social media.

Seventy-five percent of teens have cell phones, and of those with phones, fifty percent are smart phones. Where are you on the technology curve? According to a 2012 Pew Research Study, 87% of adults have a cell phone, and of those, 45% are smart phones. 12% of adults 65 and over have a smart phone.

NYSUT has a smart home link to the Member Action Center (MAC). I think that it is called an app and that means it is like software...but then I have a steep learning curve here. You can access the MAC on your smart phone by going to nysut.org or by scanning the "symbol" published in the NYSUT United monthly newspaper. MAC can be done on your desktop computer. (2010 census data: 66% of those 55 and older have a computer in the home.) MAC is a way to contact your legislators to let them know how you feel about issues like state aid to our schools, proposed Medicare changes and many more topics. It is quick and easy to fax the Governor and other elected leaders using MAC.

I have followed NYSUT's lead by signing up for Facebook and Twitter on my computer. I like to follow the postings of my family on Facebook and the valuable links I get from the people I follow on Twitter, but I have only posted to Face book once and tweeted twice. Still, four people follow me on Twitter. I just don't give them anything to read! Well, it is a start.

Why do I bring this up?

NYSUT is working to better communicate with its members and to do so economically. That means **all** of its members. Since so many of the members are using social media, NYSUT has jumped in, and you can follow NYSUT on Facebook and Twitter as well as on the NYSUT website blog. The monthly NYSUT newspaper, NYSUT United, can be found online at nysut.org.

RC 12 communicates with you through this Outlook newsletter which is published six times a year. **But we need to communicate with you more than six times a year.** NYSUT has set up a listserv for RC12 with communicate by email to its members. We would like you to sign up. Jeanne and I have received training on how important it is to limit the number of emails sent so members will read them and to make the email short and with few attachments. **Please consider adding your name to the NYSUT listserv.** Your email address will not be published or sent to others. NYSUT will collect, maintain and safeguard the actual data. When you receive an email from the listserv, you will have the opportunity to remove yourself from the list if you do not want to receive any more emails from listserv. ***Please think about it.***

SUBSCRIBE FOR EMAIL FROM NYSUT RC 12 LISTSERV

Name _____ email _____ Email the above information to:

Address _____ nysutrc12@gmail.com

Local School District retired from _____

Each month a **prize** will be given by NYSUT to the person whose name is drawn from that month's new listserv subscribers from across the state.

May 16, 2013 NYSUT RC 12 Regional Conference, Glen Sanders
(brochure will be in the mail soon)

May 30, 2013 RC 12 Annual Meeting and Election, Riverstone Manor

June 27, 2013 RC12 social committee trip to Kykuit

August 6, 2013 RC12 bus trip to the Log Cabin in Holyoke, Mass

Sept. 6-10, 2013 RC 12 social committee trip to Washington, DC

Sept. 17, 2013 RC 12 Fall Meeting at the Otesaga in Cooperstown

The Outlook

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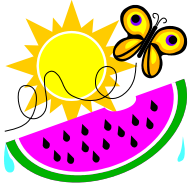
Website: RC12.ny.aft.org

NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant:
Jennifer Shaad-Derby

(518) 783-7977 jderby@nysutmail.org

Save the Dates





NYSUT RC 12 Spring General Membership Luncheon Meeting

Thursday, May 30, 2013 River Stone Manor

1437 Amsterdam Rd, Glenville, NY 518.382.8322 riverstonemanor.com

Keynote Speaker: Floyd Cameron, NYSUT Manager of Retiree Services

Award of Excellence to John Costello, Assistant to the NYSUT Executive Vice-President

NYSUT RC12 Community Service Award to John Mazur

9:30-10:00 am	Registration, Coffee and Tea
10:00-11:00 am	Business Meeting and Election of Directors: 10:00-10:30 am
11:00-Noon	Speaker(s)/Program
12:15- 1:15 pm	Buffet Luncheon* Chicken Francese, Tilapia, Pasta Primavera, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Dessert, Beverage—Cost per person: \$21.00 (RC 12 will subsidize \$2.00/ person)

***Servers for buffet will be provided for those with disabilities.**

Do not have to attend entire meeting nor pay registration fee to vote in election.

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Please complete and mail to:

Vicky McGowan, 4049 Windsor Drive, Niskayuna, NY 12309 PHONE: 518.852.0113 torymc@aol.com

Name(s): _____ **Make checks payable to NYSUT RC 12**

Address: _____ **Deadline: May 17, 2013**

Phone #: _____ **email:** _____

School District retired from: _____ **Year retired:** _____

Candidates for Retiree Council 12 Director ***Term of Position: July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2015***

Seeking reelection for 5 of the six directors' positions are Joseph F. Bernocco, Alex Boschi, Margaret Dafeldecker, Don Harris, and Kathlene Lyman .

Joseph F. Bernocco Jr. is currently serving as director for Otsego and Schoharie Counties. He retired in 2008 from Cobleskill-Richmondville CS where he served as Local President and RA Delegate and NYSUT Political Action Coordinator. He states, "I would once again like to serve as one of the directors of RC 12. In the past, I have attended most meetings and showed an interest in the many issues concerning NYSUT and our retirees."

Alex Boschi is RC 12 director for Montgomery County. He retired in 1991 from Fonda-Fultonville. He was high school building representative and was a member of the negotiations team. He is also state chairman of the *Music in Our Schools Month* program. Alex says, "I have enjoyed representing Montgomery County in the past years as their RC 12 Director. Each year, it seems there are more and more pressing problems facing retired teachers, and if I am reelected, I will continue to do my best on their behalf."

Margaret Dafeldecker retired from Middleburgh in 1997. She is currently an RC 12 Director. She states that in this difficult and polarizing economic and social climate, she intends to stay informed, to inform other RC 12 members, and possibly to bring a voice of reason to the discussion.

Don Harris is serving currently as director of Fulton, Hamilton & Herkimer Counties. Don retired in 1998. He was on the representative council and negotiations committee for the Gloversville Teachers Association. He has served RC 12 for 8 years on the Social Committee and 2 years on the Board of Directors. Don tells us, "I have enjoyed my term on the board and would like to continue to serve the retired educators of this region."

Kathlene Lyman is currently completing a director's term. She retired in 2004. As a member of the Niskayuna Teachers Association, she served as vice president, NTA rep. to the Board of Education meetings, building representative, chairman and co-chairman of the building liaison committee. Currently, she co-chairs the NTA retirees steering committee and is a member of the RC 12 social committee. Kathy says, "Teaching and caring for others will always be part of me. I hope to serve RC 12 and its members for the next two years."

RC 12 Trip -Washington, DC Our Nation's Capital

\$519 for 5 days and 4 nights September 6-10, 2013

The price includes bus transportation, 4 nights lodging, 4 breakfasts, 4 dinners, tours of memorials and museums, 2 full-day guided tours of Washington, DC, an evening guided tour of the monuments, admission to Mount Vernon Estate and Garden and much more. The departure is from Mt Carmel Church, 39 St. Johns St., Amsterdam, NY at 8:00 AM. For information and reservations, contact: **Linda Zilka 518-715-5139**. \$75 is due on signing up. **The deposit must be made by May 1, 2013, to reserve your spot.** Traveler's insurance is highly recommended. For complete information, go to the RC 12 Website <http://rc12.ny.aft.org>



Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013

Name _____ County _____

Address _____ City _____ Year Retired _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____

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

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



\$15.00 yearly contribution requested send to
John Mazur, 176 West Bush Rd, Gloversville, NY 12078 518-773-7180
Make check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 12

**March/April
 Issue of the
 RC 12 Outlook**



RC 12 Social Committee Trip - June 27, 2013

The trip will visit four places: **Kykuit** is the family home of former Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller and his family. We will take the classic 2 1/2-hour tour) of the hilltop paradise; six-story stone house and coach barn in Sleepy Hollow, NY (Wheelchair accessible). **Union Church of the Pocantico Hills** is the Rockefeller family church, completed in 1922, that contains a colorful rose window by Henri Matisse and nine stained-glass windows by Marc Chagall. **Washington Irving, Sunnyside**, the riverside home of Washington Irving includes a house/gardens tour with costumed guides in Irvington, NY. **Sunset Cove** offers world-class dining with a view of the Hudson River; tucked among the boats at the Washington Irving Boat Club beneath the Tappan Zee Bridge.

For more details and timetable, go to www.rc12.ny.aft.org

Cost: \$115 - (Kykuit, \$23; Church, \$5; Sunnyside, \$10; Lunch, \$32; Transportation, \$45)

RC-12 Kykuit/SleepyHollow/Tarrytown Trip: June 27, 2013: Registration Form (No Refunds after May 24, 2013.)

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____

Address _____ Cell # _____

_____ Email _____

Number of People Attending _____ @\$ 115 per person Total Enclosed _____

Make check to: **NYSUT RC-12** Circle Pickup point: Amsterdam Wades

Send check and registration form by May 24, 2013 to:

Kathlene Lyman 254 Riverside Place Alplaus, NY 12008 (phone 518.399.0256) **Trip insurance strongly encouraged**