



THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate

March/April 2018



NYSUT Regional Conference for RC 12 NYSUT RC 12 Membership Meeting and Election

May 8, 2018 at the Glen Sanders Mansion, Scotia

- 8:45 - 9:15 Registration, continental breakfast NYSUT, Member Benefits and Fair Trade/ Social Justice Display
- 9:15 - 9:30 Welcome - NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant **Jennifer Shaad-Derby & RC 12 Leadership**
- 9:30 - 11:00 NYSUT RC 12 Membership Meeting and Election (10:15 AM)
- 11:00 - 11:15 *Break*
- 11:15 - 12:00 **Speaker NYSUT Second Vice President Paul Pecorale** will discuss the Janus Supreme Court Case and other issue important to retirees and in-service teachers.
- 12:00 - 1:00 *Lunch*
- 1:00 - 1:45 **Clea Stagnetti from the Albany Apple Store** will demonstrate tips on improving photography and videography. She will bring twelve iPads for the workshop.
- 1:45 - 2:00 Door Prizes, Evaluation, Closing Remarks



Lunch will include chicken Milanese, mini mixed subs, penne pasta with vodka sauce, romaine salad, grilled vegetable pasta salad, focaccia, Italian bread, Italian pastries, and cookies.

Cost per person for continental breakfast and hot buffet lunch—\$25

Return this section and your non refundable **check payable to NYSUT**. Send to **Jennifer Shaad-Derby, NYSUT Capital District Regional Office, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110, before May 1, 2018**

Name (s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: (____) _____ - _____

School District retired from: _____ Year retired: _____

Please call 518.783.7977 if you have any dietary needs or assistive device requirements.

Save the Date

May 8, 2018 RC annual meeting, election, and NYSUT Conference at the Glen Sanders

June 26, 2018 Federal Primary Date (US Congressional and Senate candidates)

July 16, 2018 West Side Story at Glimmerglass Opera Festival

August 7-26, 2018 RC 12 trip to Alaska & Yukon Land and Cruise

October 9, 2018 RC 12 General Membership meeting at the Otesaga in Cooperstown

September 24-27, 2018 RC 12 Letchworth, Wineries, Lucille Ball and Harriet Tubman trip

November 3, 2018—RC 12 trip to West Point Football

First Vice-President's Message

by Kathlene Lyman

There are many issues to share with you at this time. I chose two.

First: New Medicare Cards. Beginning in April 2018, new Medicare cards will be mailed to those on Medicare. Your new number will not be your Social Security number but it will be a number you need to protect. In order to insure your new card is mailed to the correct address, you need to make sure Medicare has it. If your mailing address is not up to date, call 800-772-1213, visit www.myssa.gov, or visit a local Social Security office to update your address. Beware of scams! Medicare does all its communication by mail and will never call you unless you ask them to call. No one should call you requesting information for your new card. There is no charge for your new card so no one should contact you requesting payment. Share this information with your family, friends, and neighbors.

Second: Committee of 100. On March 6, 2018 several hundred educators from around NY State visited with state legislators in Albany. Many issues were discussed. The focus was on an increase in general purpose school aid, returning teacher evaluations (APPR) back to local schools, and to repealing the Receivership Law and giving support to community schools. The importance of Teacher Centers was emphasized along with the Mentor Teacher Intern Program. The legislature was urged to eliminate the obligation of public school districts to fund charter schools, and the legislature was urged to enact transparency and accountability reforms for the charter industry. Many other issues were discussed. NYSUT's presence was a force.

The Outlook

(officers and directors as of July 1, 2017)

Co-Pres. Jeanne W. Bennett (315) 895-7063
Co-Pres. Sandra Bliss (315) 725-0706
1st VP Kathlene Lyman (518) 399-0256
2nd VP Stacey Caruso Sharpe (518) 496-2769
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

Tracey W. Allen - Herkimer
Joseph F Bernocco - Schoharie & Otsego
Margaret Dafeldecker - Schoharie & Otsego
Susan Naple - Fulton & Montgomery
Vickie McGowan-Horan - Schenectady

Newsletter Staff Phyllis VanSteenburgh
Carolyn Darkangelo,

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Website: RC12.ny.aft.org

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

RC 12 Trip — Letchworth – Wineries – Lucille Ball – Harriet Tubman

September 24-27, 2018



This trip will include a visit to the Letchworth State Park, a lunch at the Glen Iris Inn, 3 nights at the Chautauqua Suites, a Chautauqua Belle Cruise, lunch at Brick Village Gourmet, Johnston Estate Winery wine tasting, and dinner at Webb's Captain's Table Restaurant. There will also be visits to the Robert H. Jackson Museum, Desilu Studio, Lucy-Desi Museum, Fenton Museum, McClurg Museum, and the Harriet Tubman Museum.



First come, first served. Submit the form below and your down payment of \$100 per person; **check payable to NYSUT RC-12 before Monday, April 23.** Final payment is due before Friday, August 24. For information and reservations, contact: **Gloria Kimball, P.O. Box 204, Fonda, NY 12068 (518)-853-3126**

Name: _____ Roommate's Name: _____

Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____ Meal Choice (below): _____

Webb's Captain's Table Restaurant (Tuesday, September 25): All dinners include Chef Salad, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Rolls and Butter, Dessert, Coffee or Tea. Choices = Southern Fried Pork Chop, Prime Rib, Fresh Had-dock, and Eggplant Parmesan.

For specific itinerary go to **Website: RC12.ny.aft.org** Also information on two new trips for 2019 —
New Hampshire August 26-28, 2019
Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick June 2 -10 , 2019

RC 12 Nominees – Election to be held on May 8 at 10:15 AM

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

President /NYSUT Delegate - Stacey Caruso - Sharpe states, “ I would be honored to continue to serve the retirees of RC 12. I feel it is extremely important to advocate for all NYSUT members, for public education, and for programs that help insure a decent life for our members. Unions are currently under attack nationwide. The outcome of the Janus Supreme Court decision could have far-reaching consequences to our hard-fought rights. Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security are all being threatened, and we must fight to protect these programs. They are not entitlements, but programs that we have paid for. We must be vigilant in protecting our rights!”

1st Vice President -- Kathlene Lyman tells us, “ Since retiring in 2004, I have been involved in many retiree endeavors. Locally, I co-chair the Niskayuna Retirees Steering Committee. Since 2011, I have been very involved with NYSUT RC 12. I have been on the Social Committee since 2011 and serve as its secretary as well as an event planner. I have been the RC 12 Secretary since 2014. I have been honored to serve as RC 12’s First Vice President with goals to serve the organization, support our co-presidents, and increase retiree participation. I would be honored to continue in this position with the same goals of supporting our president and increasing retiree participation.”

2nd Vice-President for Legislation -- Sandra Bliss states, “ Having advocated for good legislation and against bad legislation for NYSUT members for over 40 years, I would like your support to serve as RC 12 second vice-president for legislation. At the federal level our retirement security that we paid for in our working years, Medicare and Social Security, is at stake. At the state and federal level, Medicaid and support for our public schools and the students they serve is disappearing. Grass roots activism is what it will take to change the course. I would like to help educate and mobilize RC 12 members in this fight for our future.”

Secretary -- TBD

Treasurer -- Dolores Talmadge 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.

SRP Director - Susan Proctor says, “ Having served as vice president of the Schenectady SRP group, I feel I am well qualified to express the concerns of the SRP’s serving our school districts. I was also a member of the contract negotiating committee and representative to the RA. I understand even more the important role SRP’s play in schools.”

NYSUT RA Delegates in 2018 and 2019 --Of the following nominees , the two with highest vote are the delegates, the remaining two are alternates.

Karen Wojcik-Hess states she has been an officer and vital member of NYSUT and RC 12 for the past ten years. She continues to inform NYSUT RC 12 on the goals of the Alliance for Retired Americans. She served as president of the Capital District Chapter of the NYS Alliance for Retired Americans. Delegates and alternates for conventions are essential so we can always be represented.

The second candidate is **Jeanne Williams Bennett**. Jeanne tells us, “ Currently, unions are under attack, especially with the Janus case which is being heard by the Supreme Court. I believe in unions and the importance that they have for both our retired and our in-service members. Also, I believe in the public educational system of our country. It is my wish to remain involved and to continue to represent RC 12 at our NYSUT ED meetings and Representative Assembly. In so doing, I hope to help keep both RC 12 and NYSUT strong, involved, and informed. I would appreciate your vote.”

The third candidate is **Sandra Bliss**. She states, “Conventions allow for the members to provide input to develop union policy through their delegates. The delegates can then educate RC 12 members on the information gained at the convention. I ask for your support so I may continue to work on the important current issues with our affiliates, NYSUT and AFT

Kathy Lyman is the fourth candidate for NYSUT RA delegate.

Delegate to the AFT 2018 Convention -- Candidates are : Karen Wojcik-Hess, Sandra Bliss, Stacey Caruso Sharpe and Kathy Lyman



A reunion at the RC 12 Meeting on March 22, 2018, Marcus Harazin from StateWide Senior Action thanks Fran Cuomo, his 6th grade teacher at East State Street School in Johnstown.

NYSUT Member Organizing Institute

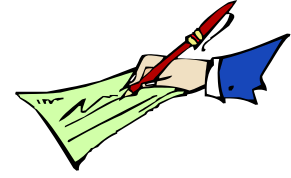
We want you to be a part of the plan to build the strongest union in history! We are looking for members to have one on one conversations with NYSUT members in their homes.

A workshop will be held at NYSUT Headquarters, 800 Troy Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110 June 1-3, 2018

Type this into your browser to apply:

Www.Tinyurl.com/MOICDRONoCo

Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018



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 .**

What You May Not Know About the Tax Cut Law?

The new federal tax law increases the deficit by \$1.5 trillion over 10 years. When tax cuts like these are not fully paid for, an existing law called PAYGO is triggered. This requires cuts in many mandatory programs, including **Medicare**. It is expected that the deficit-busting tax bill will require PAYGO cuts to Medicare totaling \$410 billion over 10 years. Medicare cuts of \$25 billion are anticipated, starting in 2018. Call your Congressional representative to tell them to keep Medicare and Social Security strong for generations to come. There is discussion of using the Chained CPI (which was used in the tax bill) to calculate future Social Security cost of living adjustments. This would result in **reduced benefits** if enacted. *(From the Winter Member Update 2018 NYS StateWide Senior Action Council, Inc.)*



How far will your tax cut money go if you have to pay more for Medicare or get fewer benefits?

Chained CPI would decrease your Cost of Living increases.

Additional Contributors

***Paid through June 30, 2019 + Paid 2 more years ahead**

- | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Beverly Andrews | David Dickerson | Diane Kierpiec+ | Dr. Abdel Q. Sharifi | Gary Whiteford |
| Patricia K. Barney | Lisa DiVietro | Anne King | Nancy Sieper | Jean Wildgrube |
| Janet Z. Biviano | Robert E. Fisher | David King | Bonnie Siiss | Wendy Wilson* |
| Patricia Black | Grace Frederes | RoseMarie MacLean | Owen D. South | Karen Wojcik-Hess |
| Robert M. Brown | Diane Fyfe* | Yvonne Major* | Joan Stephens | Linda Yurkon* |
| Joan Cangiano+ | Paula Gifford | Julianne Mayer | Olivia Storey | |
| Carol Cascio | Linda Gloo | Mary Jane Morse+ | Carole Tighe | Spelling Corrections |
| George P. Ciampolillo | Patricia Gosda | Faye Nadler | Thomas Therriault | from last issue: |
| Carol Cascio | Victor Greco+ | David Orcutt | Dawn Thomas | |
| Norman A. Clo | Denise Greene | Frank P. Palmer, Jr.* | Joan Valent | Karen Ameduri* |
| Charles Cobb | Michael Greene | Kathleen Pfeiffer | Steve Valent | Barbara Averginos |
| Barbara Cortez | Gordon Hamil | Phyllis Power+ | Mary Lou VanDerwiel | Gail Livingston |
| Angela Cowan | Patricia Hewitt* | Maria Rodriguez | Phyllis VanSteenburgh | Steven L. Luzinas |
| Frederick R. Cranmer | Richard Holt | Henrietta Roginski* | Maria Visalli | Jeannette Matteson+ |
| Frances R. Cuomo | Jane Huntzinger* | Susan Salvo | Carol V. Warasta | Janice Piwinski |
| Jonetta Darcy | Joel Huntzinger* | Gloria Santa Maria | Jan E. Waterbury+ | |
| Gwynneth DeLong* | Charles Karker | Catherine Scavo | | |

Your monthly bills won't stop if you become unable to work

Insurance is the type of product that you hope you never have to utilize. In the event that you need to use it, though, it's important to have the insurance product that best meets your individual needs.

The NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed voluntary Disability Insurance Plan -- provided by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company -- provides valuable income replacement benefits to help meet your living expenses if you become partially or totally disabled and are unable to work.



Disability insurance can be customized to fit within your budget and still provide peace of mind until you are able to get back on your feet and return to work. Applications for the new NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed Disability Insurance Plan are now available, with coverage effective dates on or after Jan. 1, 2018 from the Plan Administrator, Mercer Consumer.

For more information and/or to get an application, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101** for specific information about this program.

Call to Action: Proposals requested for NYSUT *Educator's Voice*



New York State's classrooms are among the most diverse in the nation. In recognition of this, NYSUT is currently seeking article proposals on "**Culturally-Responsive Teaching**" for consideration in its annual edition of *Educator's Voice*, a *Journal of Best Practices in Education*. **The deadline for proposals is June 15, 2018.**

Do you have a project or practice that works well in your classroom, something you are passionate about and would like to share with other educators across the state? This is a great opportunity to write about it and become published in NYSUT's member journal, a publication created by NYSUT members for NYSUT members. No previous experience is needed nor do you need to be a professional writer to be published in *Educator's Voice*.

Once accepted, authors receive a great deal of editorial support and writing guidance throughout the year-long publication cycle. The result is a professional, research-based publication that can be shared with your colleagues and used for professional development. Authors or author teams can collaborate across schools or with partners in higher education; at least one author must be a NYSUT or affiliate member.

For more information and/or to download the author submission form, visit <http://www.nysut.org/educatorsvoice>.

Previous editions of this publication are available at <https://www.nysut.org/resources/special-resources-sites/educators-voice>.



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. '18

**March/April 2018
RC 12 Outlook**





Vigorous Discussion of Patient's Rights During A Hospital Experience At the March 22nd RC 12 Meeting in Johnstown



Identity Theft and You

By Carolyn Darkangelo, retiree from Mayfield TA

Identity theft is the most common financial and consumer crime in the United States. The Federal Trade Commission estimates nine million people have their identities stolen each year.

The NY Attorney General suggests the following actions. Pay attention to credit card statements; do not give out personal information by phone, Internet, or mail; shred forms containing personal information; be very cautious in giving out your Social Security number. You can get free credit reports one per year at each of the three credit bureaus. Go to www.annualcreditreport.com to do this.

Are you concerned about the data breach at Equifax? What can you do? You can freeze your credit report at each of the credit bureaus (www.equifax.com

www.experian.com and www.Transunion.com) There is a cost to unfreeze these if you are applying for credit, but no one else can access your credit report. Transunion offers a free service called TrueIdentity that allows you to set up an account with a username and password. Through this account, you can lock and unlock your credit report as needed free of charge. Of course, they also offer to provide other services at a cost.

What do you do if your identity is stolen? According to the NYS Attorney General, you can find out what to do at <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>. You need to contact the three credit bureaus above to have them place a fraud alert on your account. You also have to contact your bank, credit cards, and other creditors. In addition, contact the local police department to file a report.

If you want more information on the topic, you can call the Federal Trade Commission at (1-877-438-4338) or the NYS Attorney General at (1-800-771-7755).