

THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate

Sept/Oct 2018

NYSUT RC 12 Fall General Membership Luncheon Meeting

Tuesday October 9, 2018 Otesaga Resort Hotel, Cooperstown, NY



The Importance of this Election!!!

Keynote Speakers

Megan O'Brien, *NYSUT Manager of Organizing*

Peter Kim, *NYSUT Political Organizer for Higher Ed and Retirees*

Presentation of the RC 12 Award of Excellence to Floyd Cameron

AGENDA

- 9:30 – 10:00 am** Registration - The Rotunda plus coffee and tea - Ballroom **Luncheon Cost: \$26.00**
10:00 – 11:00 am General Membership Meeting, & Special Election Ballroom
11:10 - Noon Keynote speakers
12:15 – 1:30 pm Otesaga Grand Buffet Luncheon, Ballroom

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Email _____ Telephone _____

Please make your **check** out to NYSUT RC 12 and return by **October 1, 2018** to

Dolores Talmadge, 206 Main Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339

Floyd Cameron will Receive the RC 12 Award of Excellence

By Carolyn Darkangelo, retiree from Mayfield TA



The Award of Excellence is voted upon by the RC 12 directors in order to honor a person who has worked to help the retirees of RC 12. A donation is made to the charity of his/her choice, and the honoree receives a framed certificate. "This award was developed to reward exceptional supporters of programs and issues of importance to our educational retirees," stated past RC 12 President, Bill Schultz. The recipient of this year's award is **Floyd Cameron**.

Floyd received a Masters degree from The George Washington University Graduate School for Political Management. Before moving to New York State in 1989, Floyd worked in the United States Senate as a Legislative Correspondent to the late Senator Paul Simon of Illinois. He spent nine years as chief lobbyist for the Community Services Society of New

York City, an anti-poverty agency based in New York City.

He served as a NYSUT legislative representative for eight years, serving as NYSUT's legislative liaison from New York to the American Federation of Teachers in Washington DC, where he focused on federal issues related to protecting and strengthening public education, Social Security and Medicare.

In March of 2007, Floyd was appointed by the NYSUT Board of Directors to serve as its manager of Retiree Services. Floyd brought to the position an extensive knowledge of NYSUT's policy objectives. He has worked closely with NYSUT retiree leaders and staff on political and legislative issues of concern to retirees. Floyd was vital in coordinating our statewide campaigns to stop privatization of Social Security, to protect Medicare, and to work for affordable prescription drugs. After 20 years of selfless service on behalf of NYSUT retirees, Floyd Cameron retired in December 2017.

Floyd was very helpful to me as editor of the Outlook and Webmaster. He directed me to great sources of information and worked with me to find a way to submit the newsletter electronically.

David King stated, "He is such a good listener and pleasure to work with. He will be missed and we wish him a great retirement." According to Jeanne Williams Bennett, "Floyd was always a gentleman, friendly, politically astute and outgoing as well as very intelligent."

President's Message - Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

On the final day of the 2018 term of the Supreme Court, the decision in Janus v. AFSCME was released overturning decades of precedent based on previous Supreme Court rulings. While disappointing, the ruling was not unexpected. NYSUT locals have been preparing for this with one-to-one member campaigns and member card re-signing. Many locals worked hard to keep members informed and engaged. The anti-union groups have already started contacting members to encourage them to give themselves a raise by dropping union membership. So far, their tactics are not working. Members see through the effort to try to destroy unions, thus weakening the hard fought for rights and benefits won over decades of collective bargaining. Among the many ideas that have been discussed to help locals inform and retain members is to educate the members about the history of NYSUT and of their local. The thought is for retirees to be recorded speaking about some of the history and struggles along the way and how our locals evolved. To help with this idea, it was voted on at the August RC 12 executive board meeting to start a history project with grant money that we have received. A committee will be forming soon to begin work on this important project. Please consider joining.

Election season is quickly approaching. And as we are seeing, elections have consequences. In the beginning of August, NYSUT held its local president conference on endorsements. There were many discussions and many votes taken on which representatives should get the endorsement of NYSUT members. To see all of NYSUT endorsements go to:

https://www.nysut.org/~media/files/nysut/news/2018/2018finalendorsements_v2.pdf?la=en

This past spring NYSUT had a huge push for a bill to help fix the broken APPR evaluation system. The bill passed easily in the Assembly but the Senate saw some issues. While many state senators said they agreed with the bill, not all worked actively to get it passed. The senate wished to include in the bill many perks for charter schools. This is unacceptable to NYSUT members and consequently, the bill did not pass the Senate.

President Stacey Caruso-Sharpe (518) 496-2769
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Secretary TBD

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Website: RC12.ny.aft.org

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

Thank You for Your Contributions !!!

Listed below are those who have made their \$ 15 contribution to NYSUT Retiree Council 12 by August 11, 2018 for the 2018 - 2019 year. Those who make their donation in the upcoming weeks will have their names listed in future issues of THE OUTLOOK. If you think I have made an error, please call me at (518) 993-2854 or e-mail me at dolores.talmadge@gmail.com
 Thanks for your continued financial support. Dolores Talmadge, Treasurer *Paid through 2019-2020 +Paid Beyond 2020

Virginia Adler	Marny Boardway	Grace Cramer	Carol R. Edwards	Victor Greco*	Judy Hugo
Nancy Ahola	Alexander Boschi	Bertha Crosby	Sandy Eipp*	Edward J. Greene*	Jane Huntzinger
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President's message continued

“In endorsing for state Senate, we are standing with those who have stood consistently with us,” said NYSUT President Andy Pallotta. “We made clear to the entire Senate and its leaders that Senate Bill 8992 carried serious consequences. Those senators who turned their backs on teachers and public education — and held students and educators hostage in hopes of dealing for more charter schools — are now being held accountable for their vote.”

We must back up our words with action. As we get closer to election time, all members, both in-service and retirees will be asked to get involved in the election process. There will be many opportunities to spread the word about endorsed candidates. Canvassing, phone banking, speaking to community groups that you participate in, and spreading the word among family and friends. I encourage everyone to take action and to help get pro-education, pro-health care and pro-worker representatives elected to office. At several meetings I have heard NYSUT retirees referred to as the NYSUT day time army. Our influence was seen on the vote for the constitutional convention. I hope that our retirees will be as involved, if not more so, to make positive changes in our government at all levels. We have a lot riding on this.

Social security recently celebrated its 83rd birthday. Unfortunately, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid are being touted as entitlements and are under serious threat. These are programs that we have paid into during our working careers. **They are not entitlements but earned benefits.** Again, the upcoming elections are extremely important to all of us.

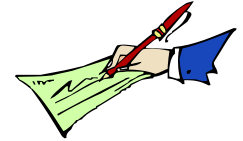
I look forward to seeing you at the general membership
meeting on Oct. 9 at the Otesaga!

In solidarity, Stacey

Contributors Continued

Katherine Krawecki+	Jim Marquit*	Kathleen Nickson+	Paul Praus+	Rose Sicilia*	Monica Tryon
Theresa Krutz	Marilyn Martin	Phyllis Nicoletta	Sue Proctor	Bonnie Siiss	Caroline Turner*
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Judy Loucks	Jeanette Mendell	Peter Petrillose+	Judith Scrip Schad*	Deborah Swarczewski	Roy Williams*
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Cheryl Majewski	Rita Moore	Angela Pikul	William B. Seibert	Patricia Testo	Tom Yuille
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Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019



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

**RC 12
Outlook
Sept/Oct 2018**



\$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 .**

Candidate for Special Election

NYSUT RC 12 Secretary (Term - Oct. 9, 2018 – June 30, 2020)

10:15 AM October 9, 2018, at the Otesaga in Cooperstown, NY

Cathy Piccioccia retired from Amsterdam NY in 2005. Here is her statement: "I have been absent from all union service for years, but I was extremely involved with the union during my first 13 years as an educator in public schools. I am an avid believer of unions. I stepped away from providing service due to being a caretaker for my parents prior to their death and mostly to improve the quality of my life via anonymous fellowships where I have been very active in many roles across the world as delegate, chairperson, treasurer, and secretary. I feel I have the skills, abilities, and time to be constructive and helpful to our union. I spend a lot of time reading NYSUT newsletters and witnessing the political actions that are happening in our nation. I feel it's time for me to get involved once more with the retired teachers union to bring my experience, strength, and hope to our members."

Save the Date

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

October 17, 2018 Social Committee Trip to NYC for Broadway show *My Fair Lady*

November 3, 2018 PreRetirement Workshop with RC 8, Utica Regional Office

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

November 6, 2018 - Election Day !!!

May 16, 2019 NYSUT Regional Conference/RC 12 membership meeting at Glen Sanders Mansion.

June 2 - 10, 2019 RC 12 trip to Nova Scotia

August 26-28, 2019—RC 12 trip to New Hampshire

Fun in Alaska with RC 12



New Retiree, Bruce Bennett, Catches a Beautiful Salmon!



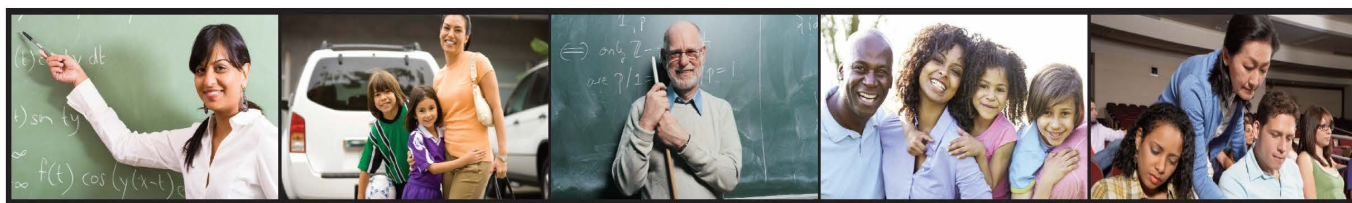
Nikki Hathaway Enjoys Baked Alaska



Jeanne Williams Bennett Hugs a Western Hemlock



Bald Eagle at Rehab Center



Union-endorsed benefits designed for NYSUT members

Whether it's our endorsed homeowners or auto insurance plans, life or disability insurance, financial or legal service plans, or any of our travel, entertainment or shopping offerings, NYSUT members have the **Power of the Union** behind them when participating in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

There's no need to go it alone when Member Benefits has your back! Member Benefits acts as your advocate for any program you participate in, and we'll do our best to quickly resolve any issues or concerns you may have.

The following is just a sampling of the dozens of endorsed programs & services available to NYSUT members and their loved ones:

- Auto, Home & Life Insurance
- Vision & Dental Plans
- Legal & Financial Services
- Hotel & Vacation Discounts
- Member Shopping Program
- Car & Truck Rental Discounts
- Competitive Savings Rates
- Retail Store Discounts
- Sports & Concert Tickets
- Theme Park Discounts
- Car Buying Service
- Heating Oil & Propane Savings

We encourage you to take the time to explore the Member Benefits website and find out all we have to offer NYSUT members.

The Power of the Union

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.

Sandra Bliss



Advocate



Award Winner

I write this just as Carolyn is about to send in the Retiree Newsletter to the print shop. It is with great sadness that I report the passing of our immediate past co-president, Sandy Bliss. While an in-service member Sandy served on the NYSUT Board of Directors for many years and in 2014 was the recipient of the prestigious NYSUT Sandy Feldman "Not For Ourselves Alone" award. Sandy spent her entire career and retirement fighting to improve the lives of members, those we serve and those being persecuted around the country and around the world.

Sandy gave her report at the last executive board meeting on August 2 via the phone since she was not strong enough to attend in person. She was on top of all the latest political happenings and reminded us of the importance of the upcoming elections.

As a tribute to Sandy, I ask each of you to volunteer some of your time in her honor. Maybe you can help with the upcoming election, a local food pantry, an adult literacy program, a local church or community group or any organization that is striving to help people have a better life. This is what Sandy devoted her life to. She will be missed greatly but the impact of her life will live on for many years.

Stacey Caruso-Sharpe



Leader



Friend



RC 12 Social Committee Trip to Alaska

Kathy Lyman, Jeanne
Williams Bennett , Wendy
Wilson, Gloria Kimball, and
Linda Zilka
try the Iditarod.

Be Careful!!!

Do Not Click on Links or Attachments

By **Carolyn Darkangelo**, retiree from Mayfield TA

Recently, I have been getting many **PHISHING** emails. Scammers, posing as Apple or Microsoft, emailed a phony invoice with payment due or told me they have a problem with my information in the cloud. In another instance, I received a notification from DHL about a delivery from Apple that I wasn't expecting. They instructed me to click on the link to see the details. I did not, because I had not ordered anything. Scammers use these emails to get information from your computer such as your email list or they install ransomware to take over your computer to lock you out of important files.

What should we do?

Be suspicious if a business, government agency, or organization asks you to click on a link that then asks for your username or password or other personal data. Do not click. The best method for dealing with this is to go the website of the organization and ask them if they need info from you.

Be cautious of opening attachments even if they appear to be from people you know, because they could be from Malware on your friend's computer. If you put your mouse over the link without clicking you will probably see that it isn't from your friend.

Back up your files regularly and think before you click.