

THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/

https://www.facebook.com/nysutretireecouncil7

NYSUT Retirees Hold Contiguous ED 51-53 Meeting

RC 7 delegates attended the Contiguous ED 51-53 At-Large Meeting in Albany. The following is based on an article in the Fall *Retiree Organizer*.

The constitutional convention took center stage at the NYSUT Retiree Contiguous ED 51-53 At-Large meeting in early October. Speaker after speaker urged the retiree activists to keep hammering home the risks of holding a constitutional convention, and the importance of getting themselves, and others, to the polls on Nov. 7 to vote no. NYSUT Second Vice President Paul Pecorale encouraged attendees to keep spreading the word about the risks of holding a constitutional convention, and to apply for Retiree Council Organizing Grants to build capacity within their retiree councils.

Pecorale, whose office oversees retiree services, also praised retirees for their advocacy on behalf of hurricane victims in Texas, Florida and Puerto Rico. "Thanks to your help, we just mailed a \$50,000 check to the American Federation of Teachers for disaster relief," he said. Attendees later raised an additional \$1,690 for the NYSUT Disaster Relief and Scholarship Fund through a dinner meeting bucket pass.

NYSUT President Andy Pallotta briefed attendees on the success of the union's Education Summer and Autumn programs. Through the initiatives, activists have connected with roughly 9% of the statewide union's membership, holding one-on-one conversations about the dangers of the constitutional convention and the value of union membership.

In an evening address, Alan Lubin, NYSUT's executive vice president emeritus, encouraged retirees to reach out and welcome the younger generation, and to focus on coalition building to fight back against the current anti-union climate in Washington — particularly the Janus case before the U.S. Supreme Court which could strip unions of the right to collect fair share member dues. "We have a solid group of labor allies" and we should reach out to them before we need them, he said, noting that having a strong social media presence is also important.

Lubin called on retirees to help younger voters recognize the importance of voting, and to bring younger friends and family members to the polls with them. "Young people don't vote like they should, and we have to work to change that," he said.



Left: Floyd Cameron, recently retired Manager of Retiree Services, helps pass the bucket for donations.

Right: RC 7 President Donlon, and Delegates Buckingham and Schuster in front row.



<u> 2017 - 18 MEETINGS</u>

March 20 – Orchard Vali, Lafayette see reservation form on page 3

April 17 – Lakeland Fire Hall see reservation form on page 3

May 15 – Springside Inn, Auburn

June 19 – Lodge @ Welch-Allyn, Skaneateles Please mail membership form below with your \$10.00 check payable to NYSUT RC 7 to:

RC 7
Membership
Chair
c/o NYSUT
4983 Brittonfield
Pkwy Box 247
East Syracuse,
NY 13057

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NYSUT & National Safety Council's 6 Hour Defensive Driving Class

Thursday April 19, 2018

At the Regional NYSUT HQ, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway East Syracuse, NY 13057 Class is open NYSUT Retirees, their family and friends Class 9:30AM - 4PM / Registration Begins at 9:15

Cost: \$25.00 per person includes Snacks

Maximum of 40 people (minimum 10) Reserve your spot now!
30 minutes for lunch is included in the time, Bring a bag lunch or order pizza as a group.

You Must Bring your License and Payment that Morning.

To register, call the NYSUT office at 315-431-4040.

Retiree Council 7 Member	ship Form 2017 - 2	018
Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Phone		
Email		
District retired from		
Position		

From the President's Desk...

Loretta K. Donlon

We Don't Dare Rest on our Laurels!

We can all feel satisfied and proud about the victories we had in the last election cycle. The proposed opening of the NYS Constitution was soundly defeated by a huge percentage and the NYSUT endorsed candidates and even the school board budgets across the state proved the power of NYSUT educating the public and delivering a strong vote.

Thinking our job is done with these successes, however, is dangerous not only for us individually but for the union as a whole. The Supreme Court is working on the next attack from our enemies right now. The Janus case is being argued this January/February, and if, as suspected, the court's ruling is harmful to unions, it could make us a right - to - work country when the court announces a decision by June.

The euphemism, right - to - work, sounds safe to the uninformed, but it will weaken the union movement at its core. It would allow workers to reap all of the benefits earned by the union without paying their fair share of dues. That would weaken the organization that over the years protected and defended our pension, fought against legislation to diminish Medicare and Social Security, and preserved the right to negotiate benefits, including that health insurance we so depend upon.

If you have been watching the state and national news, you know that retirees and their issues are still in the cross hairs of those who would reduce our earned benefits in Medicare and Social Security to pay for tax breaks to the wealthy and for other expenses that will raise the debt ceiling.

We cannot stand by and let these issues go unaddressed. Your involvement and activism is needed to preserve what we have earned.

Stay informed, speak up, and join in the activities of your union! Vote with your body and be among those counted at the rallies and marches. You will be in great company. See you soon!

SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE SAVE THE DATE

NYSUT REGIONAL CONFERENCE FOR RC 7 & RC 8 May 21, 2018

Doubletree, East Syracuse More information to arrive in separate mailing soon.



The Central New Yorker is published by

NYSUT Retiree Council 7

NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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> NYSUT Regional Office 4983 Brittonfield Parkway E. Syracuse, NY 13057 315-431-4040

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We Remember Fondly ...

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Janet Fenner
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Theodor Grant
Joann Green
Terry Lanning
Robert Liddell
Jean Lynch
David Olson
Laura Perry
Anne Schmidt

Join Us on **March 20, 2018** for the RC 7 Luncheon at *Orchard Vali Golf Club, 4693 Cherry Valley Tnpke., LaFayette* \$20 per person

Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Plated Lunch @ 12:30 Program after Lunch

Sue Greenhagen, local historian, will present on the **Loomis Family of Sangerfield** - *The Loomis Gang!*

Directions: From Syracuse take Rte. 81 South to exit 15 - Lafayette. Take Rte. 20 West for 4 miles.



	The resta	urant is on the right.	
	Reservatio	n Form RC 7 Lunc	heon - March 20, Orchard Vali
Name_			Phone
Email_			
			iple reservations, indicate names clearly next to choices.
	_Butter Crumb Haddock with Mo		Philly Cheese Steak Sandwich with French Fries and Biscuits
		All entrees include	dessert and beverage.
	Number of reservations	at \$20.	Amount enclosed \$
	RC7 Luncheon Chair, NYSUT R	egional Office, 4983 F	yable to NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7 to: Brittonfield Parkway, Box 247, E. Syracuse, NY 13057
	Reservations must be re	eceived by March 1.	No one can be seated without a reservation.



Join Us on **April 17, 2018** for the RC 7 Luncheon at *Lakeside Fire District Hall,* **1002** *State Fair Blvd., Lakeland* \$20 per person

Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Buffet Lunch @ 12:30 • Program after Lunch

Charles Adams, representing AARP, will discuss issues of interest to Seniors.

Directions: From Syracuse, take 690 West to exit 5, State Fair Blvd. Turn left onto State Fair Blvd. Hall is on your left. From Auburn, take 695 toward Syracuse, then merge onto 690 W toward I-90. Take exit 5 to State Fair Blvd. Turn left onto State Fair Blvd. Hall is on your left.

	Reservation Form	RC 7 Lunc	cheon – April 17, Lakeland Fire Hall
ame			Phone
nail			
		-	rk, Roast Chicken, Penne Pasta with Sauce, Colls and Butter, Dessert and Beverage.
Nu	mber of reservations	at \$20.	Amount enclosed \$

PLEASE SEND A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH LUNCHEON EVENT.

Please Note: Our newsletter is posted on the RC 7 Website before it is printed and mailed from NYSUT Headquarters. Be sure to check the site for luncheon information and avoid sending in a late reservation due to unexpected printing and/or mailing delays.

The Central New Yorker 2017 – 2018 ISSUE 3

Membership has its privileges!

Your union is steadfast in its fight for better contracts, safer working conditions, fair pay, advocacy, and upholding the labor rights of the dedicated women and men proudly working in the education and health care industries on a daily basis.

But your NYSUT membership does so much more! It also provides you with the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of more than 40 endorsed programs & services offered by NYSUT Member Benefits, including a variety of quality, competitive insurance plans.



As an Example: With the NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed MetLife Auto & Home insurance program, NYSUT members receive special group rates on auto insurance, homeowners insurance as well as motorcycle, boat, personal property and other types of insurance -- rates that are NOT available to the general public.

That is why we encourage you to always look for the "Endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits" logo before you or your loved ones make any purchasing decisions.

Visit *memberbenefits.nysut.org* or call **800-626-8101** for specific information about this program.



Newly endorsed Member Shopping Program available for use!

We heard the requests of the NYSUT membership and spent months diligently researching new member shopping program options. The NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation is please to announce that the Purchasing Power Member Shopping Program is now available for use by eligible NYSUT members.

Purchasing Power is an online shopping option that offers another way to purchase brand-new, brand-name products and pay for them over time through the ease of payroll deduction or ACH withdrawals. Eligible NYSUT members can enjoy access to products such as computers, appliances, jewelry, furniture, televisions, electronics, travel packages and much more.

While Purchasing Power is not a discount program, it can save you money and stress compared to high-interest credit cards or rent-to-own stores. As always, you are encouraged to shop and compare before making any purchasing decisions.

Visit *nysutmbc.purchasingpower.com* or call **800-537-3135** to learn more.



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.

Jan./Feb. '18

- ❖ 3/20 @ Orchard Valí, LaFayette
- ❖ 4/17 @ Lakeside Fire Hall, Lakeland