



# THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

<http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/>

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## Hotel Syracuse Welcomes RC 7 Members



### A Busy Fall for RC 7 Members: Day Trip and Strides Walk



### 2016 - 17 MEETINGS

December 6 – Bellevue CC,  
Syracuse  
*see reservation form on page 3*

March 21 – Crowne Plaza,  
Syracuse

April 19 – Springside Inn, Auburn

May 16 – Orchard Vali, Lafayette

June 20 – NYSUT

# From the President's Desk...

*Loretta K. Donlon*



*This past March, the CNY labor community lost a long-time advocate for education. I asked Carol Sorkin to share highlights of her husband's life for this column.*

I met my husband, Neal B. Sorkin, when I started teaching at Jamesville-DeWitt Middle School in the fall of 1973. He had been there since it opened in 1967. (Before that, he had taught in North Syracuse for two years and Jamesville-DeWitt Junior High for one.) Neal often spoke fondly of the early days of the Middle School - of the excitement to learn on the part of students and teachers. He kept that enthusiasm for learning and teaching all through his life. Even in his last few months, he used his vast collection of books and DVDs to spark conversation with his aides and help some of them in their studies.

Neal's lessons in the classroom were colored by his own unique interests and experiences. He shared his love of 50's music by organizing a Fifties Day and playing with other teachers in a rock band. An alternate delegate to the 1980 and 1984 Democratic National Conventions, he ran political conventions with his students and took them to volunteer in local party headquarters. (One of the comments I hear the most now is from people wishing Neal was here to discuss politics. We can only imagine what he'd think!)

An avid consumer of news, Neal expected each student to come in every day with two news stories unrelated to sports (unless the Cleveland Indians happened to be in the playoffs!) He taught labor union arbitration by playing the bakery boss negotiating with his students in the bakers' union. Neal was proud to be among the first teachers to regularly attend Labor Council meetings and served as a GSLC trustee and director. He was gratified to receive the Bernie DeJoseph Legend Award in 2007.

Neal worked long and hard to improve the lot of teachers - from serving as JDFA President (1969-70) and OCTA President (1974-75) to serving as NYSUT's ED 7 director for twenty-three years. When Neal retired from NYSUT's board in 1997, Bob Doyle, a co-founder of RC7, said "Always courteous doing battle in both good times and bad, Neal gained the admiration and respect of our Central New York Senators and Assembly members...Over the years he kept politicians accountable with such grace that 'Thank you, Neal' were the last words uttered after every session."

Neal's NYSUT colleagues became his friends for life and were with him until the very end. Their visits and calls lifted his spirits and he was happy to surprise some of them at the last OFC breakfast at the Ramada. Andy and I would like to thank you all for bringing such joy to his life and ours.

~Carol Sorkin

## In Remembrance...

### **Baldwinsville**

Patricia Davis  
William Hidy  
Roberta Walsh

### **West Genesee**

William Bogardus  
Helen Cammuso  
Joan Hennessy  
David Smith

### **North Syracuse**

Mary Cali  
Robin Carinci  
Marie Grasse  
Mary Kinnetz +Syr  
William Martin  
Ada Phelps  
DeVillo Sloan, Jr.

### **Westhill**

David Togni

### **Jamesville-DeWitt**

Patricia Burden  
Gervaise Lachance  
Neal Sorkin

### **Liverpool**

Sue Adderton  
Anthony DeAngelo +NS  
Kathryn Glynn  
Marlene Levy  
Ruth Ross

### **Fayetteville-Manlius**

Patrick Heagerty  
Kenneth Phelps

### **East Syracuse-Minoa**

Carol Bloss  
Edward Leone  
Beverly Mullen  
Paul Robinson

### **Syracuse**

Mary Baker  
Henry Balmer  
Mary Brigandi  
Cara Christensen  
Rosemary Coolican  
Tamara Felicia  
Maureen Grooms  
Brian Jones  
Maria Kozlowski  
Jody Lanchant  
Mary Leonard  
Fanny Mannara  
Rita McCain  
Aurene Naistadt  
Grace Polano  
Benjamin Roberts  
Ruth Roeckelein  
Elgertha Rolle  
Barbara Schoepflin  
John Spiegel  
Simona Szafran  
Theresa Wede  
Margaret Sharpe Wood  
Mabel Wrench  
Tina Zhang

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NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director

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**Remember... If you move, notify RC 7 and your school district. Without a correct address on file, you may miss out on important information.**

### **Auburn**

Michael Deyneka  
Sandra Lowenstein  
David Norton Tubbs

### **Port Byron**

Jean Crotty + Syr

### **Lafayette**

Joylette Spencer

### **Fabius Pompey**

Mary Carr

Join Us on **December 6, 2016** for the RC 7 Luncheon at  
**Bellevue Country Club, 1901 Glenwood Ave, Syracuse**  
 \$18 per person  
**Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:30**  
**★VALET PARKING AVAILABLE★**

*Directions: Bellevue Country Club is located near the intersection of Bellevue Ave, Glenwood Ave, and Velasko Road. From the east, take Rte. 690W to West St. Turn right onto W. Fayette St., then left onto S. Geddes St., then right onto Bellevue Ave. Restaurant will be on the left. From the west, take Rte. 5E to Rte. 173S. Turn left onto Onondaga Blvd., then right onto Bellevue Ave. Restaurant will be on the right. From the north, take Rte. 81S to the West St. exit and follow directions above from the east. From the south, take Rte. 81N to exit 16A. Turn left on Brighton Ave., then right onto Rte 173N. Turn right onto Velasko Rd., turn left at Bellevue Ave. Restaurant will be on the left.*

**Reservation Form RC 7 Luncheon - December 6 at Bellevue Country Club**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*All entrees include salad, oven roasted potatoes, rolls, dessert, and coffee and tea.*

**Please indicate entrée choice below. If including multiple reservations, indicate names clearly next to meal choice.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tilapia with crushed tomato relish
- \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Breast stuffed with baby spinach, tomato, and mozzarella
- \_\_\_\_\_ Roast Pork Loin with caramelized apple cider reduction

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ at \$18. Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send reservation form and a check payable to NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7 to:

**FRAN HUDSON, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, Box 247, E. Syracuse, NY 13057**  
**Reservations must be received by November 17. No one can be seated without a reservation.**

**Active membership** in Retiree Council 7 is open to every NYSUT retiree of any NYSUT represented group in Election District 7. ED 7 is comprised of all units in Cayuga and Onondaga counties. Active members are those who have paid RC 7's participation fee of \$10 per year and, if required by the local, payment of local retiree fees. **Associate membership** is open to the spouses of active members. Participation fees are accepted at any time. **To be able to nominate your child or grandchild for one of our June 2107 scholarships you must pay your participation fee by December 31, 2016.**



**Retiree Council 7 Membership Form 2016 - 2017**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

District retired from \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail form with your \$10.00 check payable to NYSUT RC 7 to:**

**RC 7 Membership Chair  
 NYSUT  
 4983 Brittonfield Pkwy  
 Box 247  
 East Syracuse, NY 13057**

**RC 7 Trips for 2017.**

- Ottawa Canada - May 14 - 15, 2017
- Alex Bay - July 26, 2017
- Baltimore, MD - Sept. 12 - 15, 2017

Detailed trip information will be distributed at the RC 7 luncheons and will be published in the upcoming newsletters, on the website and on our Facebook page.  
 Or call Bella Tours at 315-652-0121.

# NYSUT MEMBER BENEFITS ANNOUNCES 4 NEW ENDORSED PROGRAMS!



## Office Depot/OfficeMax

This program offers NYSUT members & their families the opportunity to save up to 80% on almost 100,000 products in all Office Depot/OfficeMax locations or online through the company's website; the average savings on items is approximately 30%. NYSUT members can save on school supplies, office supplies, ink & toner, copying & printing, and much more.

## Tunstall Medical Alert

Tunstall offers a variety of medical alert products that ensure NYSUT members and/or their family members living alone can get quick assistance when they need it; the majority of Tunstall's products have a lightweight, waterproof activator that can be worn around the neck or wrist.

When pushed, the Tunstall activator signals a base unit that in turn communicates directly with the Tunstall 24/7/365 Emergency Response Center. Tunstall offers personal emergency response systems for both traditional landline and cell phone users that directly connect with the Tunstall Emergency Response Center when the activator button is pushed.

## Premier World Discovery

This program offers a variety of group tour vacations designed for active adult American travelers specializing in domestic and international worldwide tours. NYSUT members & their family members who use the Premier

World Discovery program can save \$100 per person on specific tours and cruises.

Since the company's inception in 1999, Premier World Discovery has developed a lineup of more than 70 travel programs around the globe, including fully-escorted tours, unique rail tours, private-chartered European river cruises, festive holiday and New Year's getaways, and more.

## Abenity Discounts

The Abenity discounts program gives NYSUT members access to approximately 290,000 exclusive member discounts across 10,000 U.S. cities, including discounted tickets for entertainment & sporting events; a variety of travel opportunities; and numerous local deals.

With the Abenity discounts program, you'll be able to enjoy substantial savings on tickets to the latest blockbuster movies or theater events, theme parks, museums & attractions, zoos, major appliances/televisions, restaurants, groceries, gym memberships, and much more!

NYSUT members can utilize their Abenity discounts program on any mobile device and gain access to exclusive local deals no matter where you are. Purchase tickets to more than 3,000 movie theaters and theme parks. There are no hidden fees and you'll receive electronic tickets immediately!

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://memberbenefits.nysut.org) or call **800-626-8101**.

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.

Nov./Dec. '16