RETIREE COUNCIL 7 JULY - AUGUST 2015



## THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

http://nysutretireecouncil7.org

## RC 7 Members and Leaders Active in Spring

RC 7 members and officers were very busy during this past spring. State politics, school-related events, meetings, conferences and conventions kept everyone busy and involved.

On April 15 and 16, RC 7's delegates attended the ED 51 Annual Meeting held in Utica. ED 51 Director Loretta Donlon welcomed delegates from across the state, including Margo Buckingham, Marge Schuster and Mary Jo Roberge, to "War Room Briefings: Targets Albany and Washington". The delegates heard a union report from NYSUT Vice President Paul Pecorale and an update on state and local politics from former NYSUT Executive VP Alan Lubin. Each stressed the importance in remaining vigilant against the forces that are out to dismantle many of the aspects of public education. The delegates also heard from members of the NYSUT Retiree Advisory Committee and from the NYSTRS trustee, Paul Farfaglia, regarding the state of affairs affecting NYSUT retirees and their pensions. Delegates also discussed Resolutions that would be discussed at the upcoming NYSUT RA. Also in attendance at the meeting were Florence McCue, NYSUT Director-at-Large for ED 51-53 and Dr. Eric Kingson, SU Professor and co-author of "Social Security Works! Why Social Security Isn't Going Broke and How Expanding it Will Help us All". Delegates returned their respective RC's armed with information to share with their members.

On May 1 – 2, Loretta Donlon, Margo Buckingham, Marge Schuster and Sylvia Matousek represented RC 7 at the NYSUT RA held in Buffalo, NY. The RA is the forum for directly impacting the focus and policies of NYSUT. While in Buffalo, delegates discussed resolutions that affect education in a variety of arenas, including Civil and Human Rights, Educational Issues, Healthcare, Political Action, Organization, and Pension/Retirement. More details regarding these resolutions can be found at <a href="https://www.nysut.org">www.nysut.org</a>.

On May 13, RC 7 members joined with RC 8 members at the NYSUT Regional Retiree Conference held at the Doubletree in East Syracuse. Everyone had the opportunity to pose with the Governor and let him know what was on his or her mind. They also heard from NYSUT VP Paul Pecorale; Floyd Cameron, Retiree Services Manager; Chris Colabello, NYSUT CNY Region Staff Director; and Ian Phillips, the Regional Political Organizer during the general sessions. Mini-sessions on member benefits, technology, and brain and body health were also available. A variety of information tables provided handouts on CNY ARA, Vote-Cope, Member Benefits, NYSTRS, and the American Cancer Society. Thanks to the NYSUT Legislative office and the MAC, all participants received a backpack and water bottle. A musical theater troupe from Oasis entertained after lunch.

On May 21, RC 7 members participated in the "Reclaim the Joy" campaign at their monthly luncheon meeting. Dr. Eric Kingson, highlighted important facts and reminded us to stay vigilant in the fight to protect Social Security.

We must remain active. As we went to print, SED announced it will make changes to NYS's Assessments and has selected a new vendor. Active teachers (and retirees) and parents were finally heard! Other things to watch for during the upcoming year include the Supreme Court's hearing of the Friedrichs vs. California TA, and the move toward a Constitutional Convention in 2017. And it's Social Security's 80th birthday! Another busy and exciting year is ahead. We hope you'll stay active and involved with us.

#### **2015 - 16 MEETINGS**

September 15 – Lasca's, Auburn see reservation form on page 3

October 20 - NYSUT November 17 - Elk's Lodge, Camillus

December 15 – Bellevue CC March 15 – NYSUT April 19 – Hilton Garden Inn, Auburn

May 17 – Lakeshore CC

June 21 - NYSUT

#### IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

**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 should be received by September 1 but are accepted at any time. The membership year is July 1 through June 30.

One important note: If you are retired from Auburn, ESM, Jordan-Elbridge, Liverpool, North Syracuse, or Port Byron, your RC 7 participation fee is collected along with the dues for your local retiree chapter and then forwarded to us so you should not use the form here or mail the form directly to us.

See page 3 for a membership form.

The Central New Yorker 2015 – 2016 ISSUE 1

# From the President's Desk... Loretta K. Donlon



RC 7 President Loretta Donlon at May meeting. Seated at left is Dr. Eric Kingson.

Editor's note: The President's column will resume in the next issue.

#### Follow us on Facebook!

RC 7 is now on Facebook. If you have a Facebook account, simply search for NYSUT Retiree Council 7 and "like" us! Our news feed will come directly to your page. If you don't have an account, you can simply view our page by searching for it.

#### **Scholarships Awarded to Outstanding Seniors**

At the June meeting, **Joanne Heisler**, Scholarship Committee Chair, announced that many outstanding seniors, the children or grandchildren of RC 7 members, applied for the scholarship. The recipients of this year's scholarships, named in honor of RC 7 members are as follows:

Robert Doyle Scholarship was awarded to Jennifer Burdick, West Genesee High School, grandchild of Robert Doyle, North Syracuse EA. Jennifer will be attending Monroe CC to study Early Childhood/Special Education. Barbara Jacques Scholarship was awarded to Emily Park, Phoenix High School, grandchild of Barbara Dolny, Syracuse TA. Emily will be attending OCC to study Nursing. Jeanette Pietrantoni Scholarship was awarded to Sarah Garraffo, Baker High School (B'ville), grandchild of Elizabeth DeFazio, Liverpool TA. Sarah will be attending St. Bonaventure.

Joanne thanked committee members **Rose Hurd**, OCM BOCES, and **Cindy Kiehl**, FM, for serving on the committee. She reminded members of the criteria for applying for a 2016 scholarship. It is essential that criteria and deadlines be met. Any child or grandchild of an RC 7 member (**whose participation fee is paid by December 31, 2015**) that is a senior graduating from any New York State public high school or any private/parochial high school whose staff is NYSUT affiliated and plans to enter a profession requiring higher education at an accredited institute of learning is eligible. Up to three scholarships of \$1000 each may be awarded.

Watch for more information in future newsletters, on our website and on Facebook.

### The Central New Yorker is published by

NYSUT Retiree Council 7

NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

#### Officers

Loretta Donlon, President David Smithson, First VP William Spreter, Second VP Mary Jo Roberge, Secretary Carol Graham, Treasurer Margo Buckingham, Immediate Past President

#### **Board of Directors**

Phillip DelloStritto Robert Doyle Joanne Heisler Fran Hudson Sylvia Matousek Marjory Schuster

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Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director

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Lynn Davis, Web Master

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Scholarship winners Sarah Garraffo and Jennifer Burdick. Emily Park was unable to attend due to a Regents exam.



### Join Us on September 15, 2015 for the RC 7 Luncheon at Lasca's Restaurant, 252 Grant Ave., Auburn \$16 per person Registration at 11:30 • Meeting at Noon • Lunch at 12:30

Directions: From Syracuse, take **690 West to 695 W** to the end. Exit right onto **Rte. 5 W**. Travel approximately 20 miles into Auburn. Lasca's Restaurant is on the left. Or take the **NYS Thruway to exit 40**. Turn right onto **Rte. 34S**. Turn left onto **Rte. 5E (Grant Ave.)**. Restaurant is on the right hand side of the street.

	Reservation 1	Form RC 7 Luncheon - 9	September 15 at Lasca's,	Auburn		
Name_			Phone			
Email_						
Please indicate your Meal Choice below:						
Marinated Grilled Chicken Sandwich with ChipsFresh Fish Sandwich with Chips						
Baked Eggplant Rollette with Pasta All meals served with soup, coffee or tea, and sherbet.						
Total amount enclosed #@ \$16 = \$						
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 September 1. No one can be seated without a reservation.						
	Baldwinsville	Jamesville-Dewitt	Southern Cayuga	Solvay		
T	Patricia Booth	Alice Bright	Phillip Nicklaus	Brenda Howe		
I I	Gilda Connelly	Sheila Ann Kelly				
N	Stacy Huntington		Liverpool	Tully		
	Kathleen Markham	West Genesee	Adrienne Clos	Lillian Buzard		
	Diane Lee Massie	Ruth Brinkerhoff	Melissa Cramer	Roy King		
R	Jean Scoville	Maryjane Lockwood	Patricia Fitzgibbons			
24 24	Otis Sennett	Mary Elizabeth Redick	Edward Haven	Syracuse		
Ε		Eva Smolnycki	Henrietta Melfi	Jerry Bisson		
M	West Genesee	·	Anne Osborne	Elmer Bolen		
Е	Brenda Howe	Port Byron	Patricia Partridge	Jaine Breland		
	Diane Kianka	Patricia Fietta	Arlene Pientka	Sophie Chilinski		
M	Marilyn Rowland		Thomas Rouen	Joe Crisafulli		
В	Louise Sovocool	North Syracuse	Gertrude Veith	Robert Gehm		
R		Michael DiNunzio		Ellis Green Guiles, Sr.		
Α	East Syracuse-Minoa	Kathleen Gramet	Westhill	Jean Henderson		
	George Ahearn	John Hanus	Margaret Huppman	Richard Janis		
N	Barbara Churchill	Faith LaBarge	Nancy Rowlands	Verah Johnson (+ Marcellus)		
C	Dora Powers	Maryjean Vaughn		Angele Khanzadian		
Е	Helen Scanlon	Harold Wiemier	Lyncourt	Margaret O'Donnell		
_	Betty Stevenson		Mildred Ciborowski	Mary Elizabeth O'Leary		
tummunik.	Carol Tighe	Fayetteville-Manlius	<b>.</b>	John Franklin Snead		
	ŭ	William Harrington	Skaneateles	David Southard		
	Marcellus	Edna McNicholas	Jane Dove	Claire Taber		
	Mary Chappell	Patricia Ryan	James Smith	Barbara Wink		

Retiree Council 7 Membership Form 2015- 2016					
Name					
Address					
City	State	Zip			
Phone					
Email					
District retired from					

Position

Please mail form with your \$10.00 check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 7 to:

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

The form is also available on our web site: http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/

The Central New Yorker 2015 – 2016 ISSUE 1

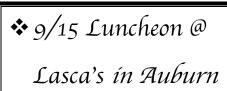
#### RC 7 Denim Shirts... Place Your Order Today!

It's time to order your **long-sleeved, union made in America denim shirt** to show your pride as an RC 7 member! The shirts will have a red NYSUT RC 7 logo on the right hand side of shirtfront and will be available in both **Men's and Women's sizes Small -XXXXXL**. Orders will be taken at the September and October meetings. **Payment for shirt must be made when ordering**.

Men's and Women's sizes Small, Medium, Large and XL are \$35

Larger sizes for both Men and Women are priced at 2XL \$38.00; 3XL \$39.50; 4XL and 5XL \$41.50.

If you can't attend the September or October meetings, we will also accept orders via US mail. Send your order to **Rose Hurd at 201 Snowdale Drive, Syracuse, NY 13209**. Please be sure to include your check payable to "RC 7", your name, phone number, and shirt size. Shirts will be distributed at the November and December meetings.



#### <u>Upcoming Events and Dates to Remember</u>

RC 7 Trip to Lancaster PA on September 29 - October 1, 2015. Limited seats are still available. See the May/June newsletter or RC 7's web site for details. Or call Bella Tours at 315-652-0121.

<u>Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk – Sunday, October 18, 2015.</u> Plan to join RC 7's team! More information will be in the next newsletter.

<u>Defensive Driving Workshop - Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at NYSUT Syracuse Regional Office</u>. More details will be in the next newsletter. Call 431-4040 to register.

RC 7 Trips for 2016. Niagara on the Lake – May 18-19, 2016; Bar Harbor, Maine – August 23 – 26, 2016; Tioga Oktoberfest Express, Wellsboro PA – Oct. 22, 2016. 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.