



THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

<http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/nysutretireecouncil7>

Local Events Keep Retirees in Action in 2018. More to come in 2019!



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

Lower your Insurance Cost  **Reduce Points on your License**

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

Thursday April 25, 2019

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.

Call 315-431-4040 to register.

**RC 7 TRIP
BRANDYWINE VALLEY and
PHILADELPHIA**

JUNE 3 - 6, 2019

Visit mansions, gardens, shops,
the Liberty Bell and more!

Cost between \$615 - \$1025 based on
room type.

**RC 7 TRIP
MACKINAC ISLAND
ESCAPADE**

SEPTEMBER 9 - 13, 2019

Visit Frankenmuth and
Mackinac Island Attractions!

Cost between \$875 - \$1400 based
on room type.

For more trip info contact

Kathy LaRocca 315-466-9463 kplarocca@msn.com
Bella Tours 315-652-0121 bellatours.travel@gmail.com



2018 - 19 MEETINGS

March 19 - Fireside Inn,
Baldwinsville

April 16 - Barbagallo's, E. Syracuse
Reservation forms on page 3

May 21 - Pascale Italian Bistro at
Drumlins, Syracuse

• NOTE VENUE CHANGE •

June 18 - The Lodge @
Welch-Allyn, Skaneateles

Retiree Council 7 Membership Form 2018 - 2019

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Email _____
District retired from _____
Position _____

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

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

From the President's Desk...

Loretta K. Donlon



This edition's guest columnist is Ed Blake, VOTE/COPE Regional Coordinator for CNY - Utica, RC 8 member and Whitesboro Retiree.

I was making phone calls recently as part of the NYSUT phone banks funded through Vote/Cope. One member whom I called allowed the call to go to voicemail until she heard who I was. I gave my name and stated I was a NYSUT member; then she picked up and told me "we don't want anything to do with politics" so please don't call us.

I can understand her frustration considering the number of calls I receive at home. However, the "we want nothing to do with politics" disturbed me considerably. Having been working as a Vote/Cope coordinator for over thirty years and being a NYSUT member for much longer than that, it has become second nature to me that politics is very much a part of any member's existence.

Do you want your pension to remain intact? Do you appreciate the COLA (cost of living adjustment) to your pension? Is Social Security important to you? How about Medicare? Each of these benefits provided to you can be changed by Congress or the State legislature. We are very nature immersed in politics whether we want to be or not. The fact that a small number of retirees, like the good people who represent your local associations as part of a Retiree Council, carries the burden for the masses should not go unappreciated. These are the local militias who guard your rights and benefits and stand up to those who would like to take them away. Where would we be without them?

The calls I was making were in support of our endorsed candidates for office this past November. We endorse those individuals, whether Democrat or Republican, who support our "political agenda" in Albany and Washington. When one says "we want nothing to do with politics" does that mean "let someone else take care of that for me"? Would you be disappointed when a cut was made to your pension or your COLA was eliminated? Is the deficit that is building in Washington as a result of the tax cut really an intended rationale for eliminating Social Security and Medicare? That's OK; don't you worry about these issues; someone else will take care of it for you. Unless they don't. Then you can complain that NYSUT doesn't do anything. NYSUT is **US. WE** are NYSUT! Yes, now I'm on a rant.

Having identified myself by name and stating I was a NYSUT member, it would seem the caller could simply have allowed me to leave a message or - WOW- taken the call and thanked me for my efforts on her behalf. Maybe she would rather we not take any action to elect friends to public office. Let's see - that huge pool of money that guarantees pensions in New York State could be borrowed against and used for other purposes and then when it is gone, and the pension program is no longer fully funded - Woops - sorry about that. Shall we be another Detroit? Sorry, we are out of money and have to cut your benefits by 50 percent. Or maybe we could follow Wisconsin's record of limiting collective bargaining.

Nobody has to agree with our endorsements, but we make them for very good reasons based on educational issues. Local leaders are given an opportunity for input in the decision. All of us depend on the outcome, both retirees and active members.

WE must want something to do with politics whether we like it or not. In the future, consider volunteering for a phone bank and be sure to give to VOTE/COPE.

The Central New Yorker is published by

NYSUT Retiree Council 7

NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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 4983 Brittonfield Parkway
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Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director

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Anne Marie Voutsinas
 Retiree Services Consultant

Lynn Davis, Web Master

EditorRC7@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE
NYSUT REGIONAL CONFERENCE
FOR
RC 7 & RC 8
Wednesday, May 29, 2019
Doubletree, East Syracuse
Invitation coming soon!

We Remember Fondly ...	Baldwinsville	Syracuse	Liverpool	Fayetteville-Manlius	Southern Cayuga
	Adam Conway	Lorraine Beake	Mary Cucinotta	Nancy Edwards	Robert Wilcox
	Mildred Jones	Jane Christiansen	Anne Nichols	Robert Varney +OCC	Lafayette
		Timothy Greer	Rnetta Wick		Bettye Knapp
	North Syracuse		OCC	Fabius Pompey	Jean Williams
	Sheryl Garofano		David Feldman	Jeanne Hammer	
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	Esther McDermott	Lyman Pelkey			Mary Leonard
	Nanette Rodormer	Janet Powers	Liverpool	Jordan-Elbridge	
	Murray Rutner	George Pursiano	William Connors	Dorothea Clark	CCC
	Stanley Strojny	Harold Ware	Norma McCall	James Scanlon	Barbara Schwenk
		Frank Weibel, Jr.	Anne Nichols	Sandra TenEyck	
	Westhill	Annette Wine			East Syracuse-Minoa
	Maurice Richer	Cynthia Yeager	Marcellus	Elizabeth Hookway	Auburn
	Elizabeth Walker	Margaret Young	Anne Gallinger		Elizabeth Dean
					Joyce North

Join Us on **March 19, 2019** for the RC 7 Luncheon at
Fireside Inn, 2347 W. Genesee Rd., Baldwinsville

Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Buffet Lunch @ 12:30 • Program after Lunch
Buffet includes roasted chicken, riggies with vodka sauce, roasted potatoes, carrots, salad, rolls, desserts, and beverages

Rosemarie Nelson, Senior Grand Master Champion of Road Runners Club of America, will present
Strategies for Staying Fit for Seniors.

\$21 per person

Directions: From Syracuse, take Rte. 690 W towards Baldwinsville. Exit onto Van Buren Rd. Turn right, then left onto Maple Rd and left onto W. Genesee Rd. The restaurant is on the right. From Auburn. take Rte. 5E to Hamilton Rd. Turn left onto Hamilton Rd. left onto N. Main St. and Rte. 31E. The restaurant is on the left.

Reservation Form RC 7 Luncheon - March 19, Fireside Inn

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

If you require any device or accommodation as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or need a dietary accommodation, please contact Mary Hanus at mary.hanus@gmail.com.

Number of reservations _____ at \$21. Amount enclosed \$ _____

Please send reservation form and a check payable to **NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7** to:
RC7 Luncheon Chair, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, Box 247, E. Syracuse, NY 13057
Reservations must be received by March 1. No one can be seated without a reservation.

Join Us on **April 16, 2019** for the RC 7 Luncheon at
Barbagallo's, 6344 E. Molloy Rd., E. Syracuse
Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:30 • Program after Lunch

Sue Greenhagen, Morrisville Historian, will present an **Historical Perspective on the infamous Loomis Gang.**

\$22 per person

Directions: From Syracuse and the west, take Rte. 690E to Rte. 481 N. Take exit 6, turn right. At Rte. 298 - Collamer Rd., turn right. Turn right onto Kinne St., then left onto E. Molloy. From the east, take Rte. 481 N and follow the directions above. The restaurant is on the left.

Reservation Form RC 7 Luncheon - April 16, Barbagallo's

Name _____ Phone _____

Email _____

All entrees include mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, dessert and beverage.

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

_____ **Stuffed Chicken** _____ **Roast Beef** _____ **Filet of Sole**

Number of reservations _____ at \$22 Amount enclosed \$ _____

If you require any device or accommodation as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or need a dietary accommodation, please contact Mary Hanus at mary.hanus@gmail.com.

Please send reservation form and a check payable to **NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7** to:
RC7 Luncheon Chair, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, Box 247, E. Syracuse, NY 13057
Reservations must be received by April 1. No one can be seated without a reservation.

****PLEASE SEND A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH LUNCHEON EVENT.****



Benefits designed exclusively for NYSUT members

NYSUT members and their loved ones have access to dozens of endorsed shopping, travel & personal programs available through NYSUT Member Benefits, including discounts on hotels & vacations; car & truck rentals; international group tours; sports & concert tickets; theme parks & attractions; and more.

Whether you are participating in one of our shopping/entertainment/travel offerings; auto, homeowners or life insurance plans; or financial or legal services, NYSUT members have the "Power of the Union" behind them ready to serve as their advocate.

The following is just a sample of the endorsed programs available to NYSUT members:

Bose -- NYSUT members receive special educator pricing on high-end, high-quality electronics such as music systems, headphones and bluetooth speakers. You must contact Bose toll-free at 877-709-2073 and mention "educator pricing" to receive this exclusive pricing.

Orlando Employee Discounts -- NYSUT members save up to 30% on unforgettable Orlando, FL excursions to Disney World, Universal Studios and many other attractions.

Grand Circle Travel -- NYSUT members can enjoy a number of unique travel deals on international river cruises and other travel opportunities with Grand Circle's small ship cruise tours, river cruises and land tours.

Member Appreciation Month is back!

One of our most popular annual events is set to return this February. The 2019 Member Appreciation Month celebration will be filled with a series of prize drawings for items donated by NYSUT Member Benefits and our endorsed program providers -- including gift cards, iPads, Echo Dots and more!

As a MAP Alert member, you are eligible to win prizes every single day throughout the month of February.

All MAP Alert members are already entered to win; if you have colleagues who would like to be eligible to win, they simply need to sign up for our MAP Alert service on the Member Benefits website. Prize winners will be listed daily on the Member Benefits website.



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.

Jan.Feb. 2019

- ❖ 3/19 Fireside Inn, Baldwinsville
- ❖ 4/16 Barbagallo's, E. Syracuse