



# THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

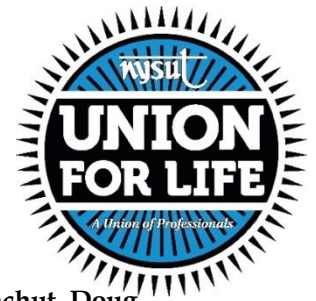
<http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/>

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

## NYSUT RC 7 OFFICERS ELECTED

On May 16, RC 7 members elected officers, directors, and delegates for 2023 - 2026. The results are as follows:

- Loretta Donlon - President and First NYSUT Delegate/AFT Delegate
- Candace Johnson - 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and NYSUT Delegate
- William Spreter - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Melody Mariani - Secretary and NYSUT Alternate Delegate
- Carol Graham - Treasurer
- Phil Cleary, Mary Duffin, Paul Farfaglia, Lilli Rastegar - Board of Directors
- Margo Buckingham - NYSUT Delegate and AFT Alternate Delegate



The members of the Election Committee are Mary Jo Roberge, Chair; Mary Kay Boyle, Paula Machut, Doug Matousek, and Carol Sorkin. All Officers and Directors ran unopposed. The election for two NYSUT Delegates was conducted by the Elections Committee at the May meeting held at the NYSUT Regional Office in East Syracuse.

### Other RC 7 News

**Membership Committee from Margo Buckingham:** Retiree Council 7 is an active vibrant group, so we want to be sure that new NYSUT retirees know about us and know why it is to their benefit to join us. To that end, the RC 7 Executive Board has formed a committee to develop a procedure for contacting people who have been NYSUT members while in-service and who are about to retire or are newly retired. The committee held its first meeting in May and has gotten a good start on accomplishing our mission. Thanks to Beth Butera, Mel Mariani, Maureen Miller, Pauline Peters, and Karen Picco for their work so far and work to come.

**By-Laws Updates:** The RC 7 Executive Board presented suggested updates to the By-Laws at the April and May meetings. The revisions were approved in May.

**Membership reminders from Candace Johnson:** Over two days this spring, volunteers met to send out reminders to RC 7 members who have not yet sent in their voluntary participation fees. Thanks to Mike Kester, Bruce Schauer, Ann Lamprey, Kay Murphy, and Gail Ferron who completed 768 cards.

The NYSUT Retiree Services Program, part of Program Services, was established by NYSUT to help its retirees organize and to act as a service provider for those retiree groups. <https://www.nysut.org/members/retirees>

If you have a new address, phone number, or email address, please email [AnneMarie.Voutsinas@nysut.org](mailto:AnneMarie.Voutsinas@nysut.org) or leave a message at 315-431-4040.



**Have You Sent in Your Participation Fee?** 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. Please only send in your fees once per year (July 1<sup>st</sup> - June 30<sup>th</sup>).

### 2022 - 2023 MEETINGS

June 20- The Inn of the Seasons,  
Syracuse

See reservation form on page 3.

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  
E. Syracuse, NY 13057

#### Retiree Council 7 Membership Form 2023 - 2024

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Position \_\_\_\_\_

# From the President's Desk...

*Loretta K. Donlon*

## Updates from the Spring ED 51 meeting...

At the end of March, the ED 51 Annual Meeting was held in Utica. NYSUT's constitution creates three Election Districts to represent Retirees. ED 51 is made up of one third of all NYSUT Retirees including RC 7 and the various RCs in the upstate geographical area from Buffalo to the Mid-Hudson Region. ED 52 represents Long Island and Higher Ed members and members who have moved to Florida; ED 53 represents the Retirees from New York City. Each ED has a director who serves on the NYSUT Board. I am the ED 51 Director and attend Board meetings several times a year taking upstate concerns to that policy making meeting. At our ED 51 meeting, RC Presidents and delegates to the Representative Assembly reviewed the proposed resolutions which they will vote on at the RA (which was held in late April) and thus would become the goals and policies of the organization.



Resolution 33 is one which I feel is overdue. It asked for NYSUT to seek and increase the amount of your pension that will be used to calculate your COLA. It has been some 20 years since NYSUT gained a retirement COLA to help keep up with inflation, but an increase is needed to help all of us on fixed incomes maintain a dignified retirement. Other proposed resolutions requested better representation for retirees, as well as legislation, organization, social justice and in-service educational issues.

Then President Andy Pallotta, and Melinda Person, then Executive Director who is now President, opened the ED 51 meeting with their thoughts on the future of the union. They outlined several key issues the union must tackle in the coming years. Fixing Tier 6 which produces such an unfair pension for its members, and funding Higher Ed which has been so under-funded recently were discussed at length. Other presenters were NYSUT Vice President Ron Gross, and Alliance for Retired Americans President Barry Kaufman, who explained how NYSARA's legislative proposals aim to strengthen retirements for all workers.

In addition, the Retiree Consultants presented a summary of all the ways their positions are designed to help Retiree Councils become successful with events, attracting new members, keeping everyone informed on state and nation issues which can have a profound effect on Social Security, medical insurance, and other senior issues. A Report from NYS Retirement System Trustee, Elizabeth Chetney, who is also the President of the Baldwinsville Teachers Union, reassured us that the system and our "salaries" in retirement are safe, making money on its investments, and able to fund monthly checks from now on.

## And the NYSUT RA...

At the end of April, we also attended the NYSUT Representative Assembly held in Albany. The main focus of the RA is reviewing and accepting the resolutions that were submitted for consideration. These resolutions define the focus of NYSUT for the future. Resolutions that were not reviewed at RA will be reviewed by a committee and presented to Board of Directors in early June. All resolutions will be printed in NYSUT United. In addition, elections for NYSUT Officers and Board of Directors were held.

## In other news...

The NYS Budget was passed which included increased money for schools and funding for Teacher Centers. Funding for Charter Schools remains a concerning item for us. "Fix Tier 6" will need the focus of ALL of us in the upcoming months. We will all need to do our part in this campaign to ensure that our in-service members in Tier 6, as well as other state workers in other public service positions, have a reasonable pension when they retire. To learn more, go to <https://fixtier6.org/>

## And finally...

We will again be staffing a booth at the State Fair on Labor Day. If you are interested and able to work a shift at the NYSUT booth on Labor Day, please let us know. Call the Syracuse Regional Office and leave your name, address, phone number, and email address.

We all hope that you have a great summer, and we see you at the June meeting where we will recognize and celebrate our scholarship winners! See you soon...

<b>The Central New Yorker</b> is published by	
NYSUT Retiree Council 7	
NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO	
<b>Officers</b>	
Loretta Donlon, President Candace Johnson, First VP William Spreter, Second VP Melody Mariani, Secretary Carol Graham, Treasurer Margo Buckingham, Immediate Past President	
<b>Board of Directors</b>	
Phil Cleary	Mary Duffin
Paul Farfaglia	Edward O'Rourke
	Lilli Rastegar
NYSUT Regional Office 4983 Brittonfield Parkway E. Syracuse, NY 13057 315-431-4040	
<a href="http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/">http://nysutretireecouncil7.org/</a>	
<a href="https://www.facebook.com/nysutretireecouncil7">https://www.facebook.com/nysutretireecouncil7</a>	
Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director	
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Anne Marie Voutsinas Retiree Services Consultant	
Lynn Davis, Web Master	
<a href="mailto:nysutRC7@gmail.com">nysutRC7@gmail.com</a>	

**SAVE THE DATE... Thursday, September 21, 2023 for the NYSUT Regional Conference for RC 7 & RC 8 to be held in East Syracuse. Invitation will be sent through US Mail to your address on file with NYSUT. Please update if necessary!**

Join Us on **Tuesday, June 20, 2023**, for the RC 7 Luncheon at  
*The Inn of the Seasons, 4311 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse*

\$35 per person

*Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:45 • Program after Lunch*  
 RC 7 Scholarship Winners will be Recognized



- Luncheon Menu choices (all meals include dessert, coffee, and tea):
- Grilled Tenderloin Cheeseburger – ground tenderloin, grilled with cheese, onions, mayo and ketchup on brioche bun served with fries
  - Chicken Caesar Salad – chargrilled chicken breast on romaine lettuce, with classic dressing of lemon, garlic, olive oil, anchovies, mustard, and parmesan cheese
  - Roasted Salmon Salad – Atlantic salmon filet, served on mixed greens with tomatoes, cucumbers, red onions, blue cheese, and buttermilk dill dressing
  - Crab Cake – lump crab meat, sweet peppers, egg, cilantro and panko breadcrumbs lightly fried in peanut oil, served on a bed of arugula and lemon butter.

**RC 7 Luncheon Reservation Form – June 20 @The Inn of the Seasons**

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

*If you require any device or accommodation as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or need a dietary accommodation, please indicate here:* \_\_\_\_\_

Meal Selection: Cheeseburger \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken Caesar Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon Salad \_\_\_\_\_ Crab Cake \_\_\_\_\_

(If sending in multiple reservations, please initial meal choice.)

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ at \$35. Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*First Time Attendee? \_\_\_\_\_ District Retired From: \_\_\_\_\_ *We'll make sure you find your colleagues!*

Please send reservation form and a check payable to **NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7** to: **RC7 Luncheon Chair, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, E. Syracuse, NY 13057** **Reservations must be received by June 12. No one can be seated without a reservation.**

*We Remember Fondly ...*

Baldwinsville

Nancy Centra  
Erna Pulver

Jamesville-Dewitt

Lois Anne Chase

West Genesee

Gary Alletzhauser  
Shirley Durling+ Lpool  
Barbara Hayes  
Alice Hidy  
Carl Spagnolo

OCM BOCES

Andrew Whipple, Sr.

Lyncourt

Elaine Luzzi

OCC

Wayne Mousaw  
Lois Woods

Cato Meridian

Lorraine McCarthy

East Syracuse-Minoa

John Berry, Sr.  
Anne Gowin  
James Tully

Port Byron

Kathryn Hall +Syre

North Syracuse

Dolores Boni  
Joseph Drenchko  
Thomas Fredette  
Nancy Goldberg  
Pamela Hermann-Venuti  
Charles Organski, Jr.  
William Poworoznek  
Kathleen Villeneuve

Auburn

Maryann DeMasi

Onondaga Central

Nancy Erb  
Norris Fay, Jr.  
Linda Keller

Syracuse

Susanne Albino  
Jane Armstrong  
Edith Arwin  
Kenneth Baxter  
John Betsey II  
Robert Buck  
Paul Chiodo, Jr.  
Michael Corbett, Jr.  
Carol Dabideen  
Beverly Davis  
Giannina DeFuria  
Annette Guisbond  
Aisha Haskins-Stephens  
Yvonne Jones  
Lesley Llewellyn+NS  
Steve Lutwin  
Margaret Naseman  
Mary O'Neal  
Cheryl Penizotto  
Robert Pucello  
Grace Ramsey  
Elizabeth Rankin  
William Rosecrans  
James Salviski  
Mary Rose Strano  
Lisa Sampson  
Willie May Taylor

Marcellus

Lynda Wolf

Solvay

Norma Mazza

Westhill

Elsie Parsons  
Edward Shanahan

Fayetteville-Manlius

William Novak  
James Reese

Liverpool

Marlene Ely  
Anthony Gugliuzza  
Walter Hobbie  
Nancy Mattis  
Mary Santocki  
Marcia Zinserling

Lafayette

Mary Field  
Cecelia Reardon

**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.

**NEW PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT!**

# Universal Life Insurance with Convalescent Care Benefit

provided by:

**Trustmark**<sup>®</sup>  
benefits beyond benefits

- Innovative universal life insurance product provided by Trustmark<sup>®</sup>, combining life insurance coverage with a convalescent care benefit that can be used to pay for long-term care services.
- **Limited time offer!** In-service members ages 18-64 who enroll between May 1 and June 16, 2023 may qualify for guaranteed coverage (no medical questions) up to \$50,000.
- Retiree members up to age 70 may elect coverage up to \$100,000 by answering some medical questions.

### LIVING BENEFITS FOR LONG-TERM CARE

You could require long-term care services at any point in your life, which could cost hundreds of dollars per day. This universal life insurance program includes a convalescent care benefit that can help pay for these services at any age. Policyholders with a qualifying claim can collect up to 4% of their universal life death benefit per month for up to 25 months -- helping to cover the cost of long-term care services such as an in-home health aide, assisted living facility, or nursing home care.

### LIFE INSURANCE

Protecting your loved ones is one of life's greatest responsibilities. Along with the grief that comes with losing a family member, survivors may suddenly be faced with costly expenses, debts, and a loss of income. Your death benefit can be used to help pay these expenses or for other items such as tuition or savings.

### YOURCARE360 ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE

This program includes access to YourCare360, providing an online resource that can help to guide you and your family through the caregiving journey.



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left,  
visiting [memberbenefits.nysut.org](https://memberbenefits.nysut.org)  
or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

May-Jun 2023