
FROM THE TOP

February

RETIREE COUNCIL 23

2015

Retiree Council 23

Spring Luncheon

Thursday May 7, 2015 from Noon to Three

Paul Pecorale

NYSUT Vice President for Retiree Services

Three Village Inn



150 Main Street

Stony Brook, NY 11790

631-751-0555

www.threevillageinn.com

(Call or go online for directions)

Luncheon includes: Appetizer , Choice of Salmon with mushroom broth,
Seared breast of chicken, Sliced chateau steak,
Soda, dessert and coffee or tea

\$30 per person

Cash bar

RSVP April 27th

Please send the sign-up form below and your check (made payable to RC 23) to:

Joyce Duck, 6 Lily Pond Lane, Eastport, NY 11941 (631) 325-8264

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Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Local Retiree Chapter _____

(very important for seating)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – DENNIS FLAMENBAUM

NYSUT President Karen Magee has called for mobilization to support public education which is under attack once again by Governor Cuomo. Cuomo’s proposed budget for 2015-2016 comprises a frightful anti-public education agenda that relentlessly attacks teachers and hurts students. The under- funding of public schools, SUNY, CUNY, Community Colleges and trying to make permanent the undemocratic tax cap, along with a back-door voucher scheme for charter schools all drain financial support for public education. This may suit his billionaire packers, but certainly hurts public education.

Cuomo also plans to increase the number of charter schools, eliminate funding for teacher education programs, privatize the five SUNY hospitals, and take over teacher evaluation process. This last would be a chaotic disaster since it is so heavily based on standardized testing, which is increased in his proposed budget .For “failing schools” the Governor proposes the state take them over which brings to mind the Roosevelt School District disaster where by the state was horrific. One sorry fact that speaks for itself is half the state’s school districts today have less state aid than they had in 2008. This, along with the destructive tax cap puts a tremendous burden on local districts trying to provide quality services for all students. Remember, public education is the foundation of our country and it has withstood many attacks through the years and still remains a great institution.

Let us stand with our in-service colleagues and be the retiree ambassadors in our communities to set the record straight on what our governor is attempting to do to satisfy those billionaire hedge fund people who certainly have greedy motives. When the call comes for support, we must rise to meet those who want to destroy public education and see for-profit charter schools flourish. Check the NYSUT MAC center to keep up with what is happening and use it to communicate with our elected officials.

In these uncertain times VOTE/COPE contributions are vital and can be easily made through pension deduction. The Koch brothers have almost \$1,000,000,000 earmarked to influence their agenda in 2015-2016, but we have the boots on the ground and retiree’s voting record to demonstrate our opposition to their plans. The war has started, the battles has begun and united we will be victorious.

RETIREE COUNCIL 23 WEBSITE – LINDA QUINN

RC 23 has joined the digital age. Our website went on line last fall and is being updated regularly to keep members informed of local, regional and statewide news. Featured is information on RC 23 sponsored activities as well as political action updates from NYSUT. RC 23 Chapters can also post information about their activities. The website can be accessed at *NYSUT Retiree Council 23 stateweb*, or from the NYSUT website. Anyone who has news or updates for posting should contact RC 23 Vice President Ellen Burke at eurke63@optonline.net.

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Retiree Council 23 | |
| Executive Committee | Editorial Committee |
| President - Dennis Flamenbaum | Ellen Burke |
| Vice President - Ellen Burke | Dennis Flamenbaum |
| Secretary - Frances La Duca | Roger Kinsey |
| Treasurer - Roger Kinsey | Frances La Duca |
| | Newsletter Editor |

GIVE TO VOTE COPE

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VOTE-COPE is the New York State United Teachers political action fund. VOTE-COPE solicits and accepts only voluntary contributions. Contributions or gifts to VOTE-COPE are not tax deductible.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU – JOAN PERRINI I was recently appointed as NYSUT Retiree Se

rvice Consultant in Suffolk County. This will be a new direction for me after serving for 9 years as President of Retiree Council 21. In this new role, I will be visiting all the Councils in Suffolk County to keep them informed of what is happening in our state that affects education in general and retirees in particular.

Today NYSUT has more than 600,000 members and retirees represent 200,000 of that total. So you can see that we have a strong voice. We need to remember that we can make a huge difference when we act in support of, or in disagreement with, a certain issue. All of the benefits we earned during our years of service are constantly being attacked by those who want to change or privatize them. We need to be vigilant and we need to act when necessary.

I look forward to meeting all of you during this coming year. I am also available in the NYSUT Suffolk Office for any retiree questions you may have. Please call if you need help. My number is 631-273-8822 extension 132.

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FANTASTIC TOURS AND RETIREE COUNCIL 23 SPRING TRIP

“SNUG HARBOR” AND “HISTORIC RICHMOND TOWN”

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3 2015

First stop on Staten Island is the Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Gardens. We will enjoy a two hour tour of a Tuscan Villa style garden and the only authentic Chinese Scholar’s garden.

Lunch will be at the Casa Verde for a meal of appetizer, pasta, salad, entre, dessert and coffee or tea.

To complete our day, we will see history come alive at the Historic Richmond Town, a living history village. On a guided tour, we will walk through restored homes and other buildings, including a general store and a courthouse. The village also includes a museum with exhibits that portray many aspects of American life from the 1700s through today.

Special Group Rate: \$92.00 per person

Please send the form below with check payable to Fantastic Tours to
Fantastic Tours and Travel #23, 6143 Jericho Turnpike, Commack, NY 11725
For more information and confirmation 800-552-6262 or info@fantastictours.com

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Historic Richmond Town and Snug Harbor

Please print

Name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

Phone _____ cell _____ email _____

Pick up locations – check one: _____ 7:00 am NYSUT Suffolk Office 150 Motor Parkway Hauppauge