Welcome, New Retirees
By Jan Corn, President

As a new chapter in your life begins, welcome to RC 8! You are now a NYSUT "retiree." With this new title, you will experience exciting freedoms, challenges, and interests. Your focus is changing.

Even though you will not be dealing with the everyday tasks and responsibilities of being in the classroom, it is very important to stay connected to your active local. Your local RC 8 chapter will help with this. Your chapter will keep you informed on issues that may affect you as a retiree. We must all remember that our union has worked to provide us with the valuable benefits we retain as retirees: a defined benefit pension, Social Security based on our negotiated incomes while active, and health care. Where would we be in retirement without these benefits? It is important that we remain vigilant, supporting our union in the fight to keep these hard-earned benefits. Dedicated RC 8 volunteers represent you and support efforts to meet your retirement needs. With NYSUT’s help, we represent you politically to maintain and improve the quality of your life. We work to protect your pension and advocate for legislation that will secure your future. We work to protect Social Security and Medicare. We also provide you with NYSUT's Social Services information. We continue to support the values that our union has always proposed.

As a new retiree, you can help by telling your union story, voting to elect leaders who support our issues, joining your local chapter, and encouraging union involvement with your active and retired friends. Please stay involved. I look forward to your support, ideas, and participation. Welcome!

RC 8 is great!
We advocate for you.
We advocate for children too.
Whether it be Social Security, health insurance, colas or Medicare,
We work to insure your benefits are fair.
We give to many in need.
All very grateful for our deed.
Our political action is noteworthy.
We support candidates and politicians that promote our policy.
Active and retired teachers are our priority,
With public education also a majority.
To ensure your fate
Always remember...
RC 8 is great!

Written by Jan Corn, Remsen Retiree and current RC 8 President

NYS Teachers’ Retirement System (NYSTRS) urges you to remain vigilant in protecting your personal information and ensuring you receive sound advice about your public pension. In this and future issues, the retirement system points out some pitfalls.

Caller ID Spoofing — this occurs when someone falsifies the information transmitted to your caller ID display. It is often done in an effort to get you to provide personal information so your identity can be stolen. It is also a trick used to extort money. Visit FCC.gov and review the agency’s Caller ID and Spoofing Guide for details.
No Excuses—NYS Now Has Early Voting

In early 2019 the state legislature passed a series of reforms that will allow easier access to voting and potentially increase the number of residents who vote. Among the changes are:

**Early Voting:** Those registered to vote may do so from Saturday, October 26, through Sunday, November 3. The general election is Tuesday, November 5.

**Expanded Hours:** Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. statewide. For the first time, polling places will be allowed to use electronic poll books in place of the large paper books currently used.

**Preregistration:** Young people ages 16 and 17 can now preregister to vote when they turn 18, and voters who move within the state no longer need to reregister to vote in their new county.

**Consolidated Primaries:** New York had been the only state still holding separate primaries in June for federal and in September for state offices. Lawmakers moved the state’s primaries from September to June to match the date for federal primaries.

*Source: NYSUT United, May/June 2019, p 7.*

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**Your Money at Work**

Last fall Retiree Council 8 agreed to continue supporting local teachers and children with money collected through our Participation Fee and money raised at the spring and fall luncheons. After considerable deliberation, the Steering Committee selected Ms. Shrey’s classroom, which was listed on [donorschoose.org](http://donorschoose.org). The following is Ms. Shrey’s thank you letter.

Dear RC 8

Thank you so much for your generous donations! My students LOVE the sentence builder game! I am able to target so many language goals through the game...and they have a blast playing it! The big books with activities have been so helpful for my special education students, especially my nonverbal students. They love using the puppets to re-tell the stories! The toys for the Play-Doh have been the most requested toy! My students are motivated to work hard because they want to use the Play-Doh at the end of each session. Thank you again for all your donations!!

With gratitude

Ms. Shrey

This is an excerpt from a letter received from the Veteran’s Outreach Center (CNYVOC) in Utica, acknowledging a $1,200 donation from retirees at the spring luncheon.

On behalf of the Central New York Veteran’s Outreach Center, I would like to thank your organization for picking us as a recipient of donations at your spring luncheon. This donation is going to truly help veterans in need within our community. We sincerely appreciate the generosity, as it will help to provide for veterans and their families throughout the year. The goal of the CNYVOC is to continue to make a difference within the veteran community. With the help of donations from supporters such as you, we will continue to see improvements in their lives.

Thank you again for your generous support of our efforts.

Vincent Scalise
Executive Director/Founder

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**Please Join Us**

Retiree Council 8 meets on the second Tuesday of every month from September to June at 10 a.m. at the NYSUT Regional Office, Ellinwood Court, New Hartford (across from UPS and near the Marquee Cinema).

All are welcome to attend so please join us on any or all of the following dates: September 10; October 8; November 12; December 10; January 14, 2020; February 11; March 10; April 14; May 12; and June 9.
**Fall Luncheon, Thursday, October 17, 2019**

**Harts Hill Inn**  
135 Clinton Street, Whitesboro

**Cost:** $18/each members and guests  
(includes tax and tip)

**MENU**

**CHOICE OF:**  
Roasted Turkey with dressing and gravy*  
Roast Top Sirloin of Beef and gravy*  
Baked Virginia Ham*  
Vegetarian selection*

- Mashed Potatoes
- Bread and Butter
- Coffee, Tea
- Ice Cream Sundae

**AGENDA**

- 11:00 a.m. Registration
- 11:30 Introductions by Jan Corn, President
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Speaker: Solid Waste Management Of Oneida and Herkimer Counties  
  Topic: Recycling
- 1:30 Closing

Special collection will be donated to ICAN (formerly Kids Oneida)

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**RESERVATION FORM**

Please send this form and your check, made payable to Retiree Council 8, to the following address:  
Keri Cartwright-Cox, NYSUT, c/o RC 8, 7 Ellinwood Court, New Hartford, NY 13413. Your check must be received by Thursday, October 10, 2019. We’re sorry but late reservations can no longer be accepted.

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<th>Name</th>
<th>District Retired From</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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*Please check your menu selection below:  
_____ TURKEY  
_____ HAM  
_____ BEEF  
_____ VEGETARIAN

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**2019-2020 Participation Fee**

**IMPORTANT:** Retirees from Adirondack, Canastota, Central Square, Clinton, Holland Patent, Oneida, Oneida/Herkimer/Madison BOCES, New Hartford, Oriskany, Pulaski, Remsen, Sauquoit Valley, Stockbridge Valley, Utica, VVS, Waterville, Westmoreland, and Whitesboro **do not have to send $5**, since the Participation Fee is contributed via retiree dues by your chapter. Rome Retirees may add the Participation Fee to their RTA local dues.

**ATTENTION ALL OTHER RETIREES NOT BELONGING TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED LOCALS:** please fill out the form below.

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<th>Street Address</th>
<th>City/State/Zip</th>
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**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM, ENCLOSE A $5 CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO “RETIREE COUNCIL 8,” AND MAIL TO:** Wanona E. Carey, RC 8 Treasurer, 8623 Turin Road, Rome, NY 13440-7523.
Your Union-Endorsed Benefits: Debt Consolidation & Mortgage Savings

NYSUT Member Benefits understands the challenges that the hardworking women and men of this labor union face when it comes to financial issues such as student loan re-payment options, credit card consolidation or debt management, or saving on purchasing or refinancing a home.

Student Loan & Debt Counseling Program
Your union membership allows you to receive a no-obligation debt and/or student loan consultation at no cost with a certified counselor through the Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed Cambridge Credit Counseling program. Cambridge provides individualized student loan counseling along with a unique web portal available at a reduced rate to help explain the various options when paying student debt; debt relief services are also offered.

UnionDirect Mortgage Discount Program
The Member Benefits Corporation-endorsed UnionDirect Mortgage Discount Program presented by Mid-Island Mortgage Corp., offers union members and their families savings of up to $2,700 on lender fees and closing costs. Your union membership also entitles you to no application or processing fees; no commitment fees; no underwriting fees; no lender or broker fees; and reduced attorney and title fees.

Regardless of whether you are participating in either of the programs mentioned above; one of our endorsed insurance, financial or legal programs; or our many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the “Power of the Union” behind them. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, Member Benefits is here as your advocate if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs.

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs, 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.