

SPOTLIGHT on RC 45

Volume 3, Issue 3

NSUT Retiree Council 45 Newsletter

June 2014

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BILL NINNESS

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TBD

2ND Vice President SRP
TBD

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

I'd like to extend a warm welcome back to all the members of RC 45 who spent their winter in other areas of the country. I understand the winter here was super enjoyable for the skiers and anyone who enjoys shoveling snow.

RC 45's next General Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday July 16th at the Central New York Living History Center, 4386 US Rt. 11 North (Homer Ave.), Cortland, NY 13045 between Homer & Cortland, North of the Hospital. You can visit the museum's web site at <http://www.cnylivinghistory.org/index.php>. At this meeting you will be asked to show your support for RC 45 by voting for Officers, Members of the Board of Directors and Delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly and for an Alternate Delegate to the AFT Representative Assembly. There are still a few positions open if you are interested you may contact me at WNinness@gmail.com or you may contact Chris Frare the Chair of the Elections Committee at 11 Rosewood Ave., Cortland, NY 13045, 607-591-9917, or cfrare@twcny.rr.com. Voting will take place during the 9:30-10:00 portion of the meeting. You may join us just to only vote during this time but we would hope you would preregister using the form inside and join us for the full day's activities.

Registration will be from 9:00-9:30 followed by the membership meeting. David Keefe the VP of the Board of Directors of the New York State Teachers Retirement System will speak and take questions. Before lunch you will have time to begin to explore the museum. At noon a buffet lunch will be provided by the M&D Deli Central of Cortland. After lunch Katie Aldridge the author of "No Freedom Shrieker" will discuss her book. After Katie Aldridge finishes speaking, you are welcome to tour the three museums of the Living History Center on your own until 5:00 PM when they close.

UPDATE FROM THE NYSUT RA - The newly elected state and local officers are:

NYSUT President: Karen Magee
NYSUT Executive Vice President: Andy Palotta
NYSUT Vice President: Catalina R. Fortino
NYSUT Vice President: Paul Pecorale
NYSUT Secretary-Treasurer: Martin Messner
ED 45 Director: Catherine Savage
Director At-Large: Maria Pacheco
ED 51 Director: Loretta Donlon
ED 51, 52, 53 Director at Large: Florence McCue

From your President (cont.)

The resolutions, which set policy for the organization, passed by the RA delegates, that most effect retirees are as follows: encourage retiree membership; support retirement security for all; oppose the use of chained CPI when calculating Social Security cost-of-living adjustments, provide health insurance for retirees of Special Act districts; and provide tier equity for the beneficiaries of members who select maximum benefits and die prior to collecting their pensions. Other resolutions called for eliminating the negative impact of delaying or transferring served credit for Tier 3 and 4 members; providing prior service recognition equity; and supporting the appeal of legal decisions on pensions in Detroit.

The Officers and members of the Board of Directors hope you will be able to attend the Membership Meeting on July 16th.

Learning About NYSTRS About the System

Our Mission:

To provide our members with a secure pension.

Our Vision:

To be the model for pension fund excellence and exceptional customer service.

About the System

The New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS) was established in 1921 by an act of the state legislature and is the second-largest of eight public retirement systems in New York State. NYSTRS administers the fund from which public school teachers and administrators employed outside New York City receive retirement and ancillary benefits.

NYSTRS directs a defined benefit plan. In addition to a service retirement pension, this includes disability and death benefits; the ability to borrow from member contributions; and, in some cases, coverage for beneficiaries. Payments to eligible members and beneficiaries are guaranteed by law and cannot be reduced under New York's current constitution. Benefits generally take into account factors such as age, years of service, final average salary and tier of membership.

Benefit improvements, such as early retirement incentives, must be enacted into law by the state legislature and governor. NYSTRS is charged only with administering the plan as provided by law.

Each year the System adopts a program of legislative proposals to streamline operations or address certain inequities in benefits. In addition, it provides the legislature with statistical and cost information on bills affecting members.

NYSTRS membership as of June 30, 2013 totaled more than 273,000 active members and nearly 153,000 retirees and beneficiaries.

Come listen to David P. Keefe, Vice President of the NYSTRS Retirement Board of Trustees, when he speaks at our Spring Luncheon Meeting on Wed., July 16th, at the Living History Museum.

We are looking ahead to the RC 45 **Fall General Membership Luncheon Meeting** scheduled for **Thursday, Oct. 9, 2014** at Briggs Manor in Homer, NY !! If you have any suggestions for guest speaker(s) or possible agenda topics that you would like to see addressed ... PLEASE let us know.

Check out our website <http://rc45.ny.aft.org> for information on 2015 trips to Colorado or Cuba !



NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 45
SPRING LUNCHEON MEETING

Wednesday, July 16, 2014
Meeting starts at 9:30 a.m.
(Museums close at 5 p.m.)

CNY Living History Center

4386 US Rt. 11(Homer Ave.), Cortland, NY 13045
driving directions <http://cnylivinghistory.org/directions.php>

Proposed Meeting Agenda:

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Registration
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. **Business Meeting, Nominations & Election of Officers, Board of Directors, Delegates and Alternate Delegates & Award presentation.**
- 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Guest Speaker: David Keefe, NYSTRS Board of Trustees VP**
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Museum Tour
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Luncheon**
- 1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. **Book Talk: Katie Aldridge*, local author - No Freedom Shrieker: The Civil War Letters of Union Soldier Charles Freeman Biddlecom**
- 1:30 p.m. until museums close at 5:00 p.m. will be time to tour the 3 museums (at your own pace)

Katie Aldridge discovered a box containing the Civil War letters of Charles Freeman Biddlecom in her historic barn. Painstakingly transcribing and lightly editing more than 100 letters written by the soldier to his wife during his service, Ms. Aldridge resurrected the voice of the Civil War combat soldier. The tone and character of "Charlie's" detailed accounts of the war compelled Ms. Aldridge to find out more.*

Cost for the Meeting, Luncheon, & Museum: Seventeen dollars (\$17) per person

Menu: M&D Deli Central of Cortland will provide the buffet luncheon.

Complete and return the form below by **Tuesday, July 8, 2014 (must be received before Fri., July 11)** with your check (\$17 per person) made payable to 'NYSUT Retiree Council 45' - **NO CASH** - and mail to: **Max Cleveland, 5 Brentwood Drive, Homer, NY 13077.**

 _____

Name _____

Address _____

School District You Retired From _____

Guest(s) _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Check for _____ enclosed. **No cash payments Please ! Thank you !!**

Any questions ? Contact Bill Ninness at winness@gmail.com

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For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

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