

ALBERT SHANKER CONFERENCE CENT



E.D 52 Delegates to the NYSUT Retiree Contiguous E.D. 51-53 (at-large) Meeting, NYSUT Headquarters
Second row, fourth from left NYSUT President Karen E. Magee, to her left NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli, third row, fourth from left
Treasurer Joan Prymas, RC39 President Peter Herron is between President Magee and NYS Comptroller DiNapoli

NYSUT Retiree Contiguous E. D. 51-53 (At-large) Meeting October 19-20, 2016

Only two RC39 officers attend this year's NYSUT Retiree Contiguous E. D. 51-53 (At-large) Meeting, RC39 Treasurer Joan Prymas and RC39 President Peter Herron. This year's meeting was much more compact than previous years. Clearly NYSUT is tightening its budget. This year all meetings were held at the NYSUT Headquarters. Even though the schedule was compressed, much was accomplished.

Peter Savage, *NYSUT Senior Legislative Representative*, gave an update on the 2017 referendum of having a New York State Constitutional Convention. He made it very clear that a lot of very bad things can happen at a New York State Constitutional Convention. He emphasized the need for all us to get the message out to everyone we know that a New York State Constitutional Convention will be a disaster for all New Yorkers.

Jeff Zuckerman, *NYSUT VOTE/COPE Coordinator*, spoke about the need for all of us to contribute to Vote/Cope. Vote/Cope provides the money needed by NYSUT to fight for us at the state and federal levels. He strongly

recommended that members have their contributions to Vote/Cope be automatically taken from their pension each month.

Steven Kramer, Esq. of *Feldman, Monaco & Kramer, P.C.*, gave a presentation on estate planning. Randy Gunther, *NYSUT Regional Political Organizer*, gave an overview of NYSUT's virtual phone bank. Members can now participate in NYSUT's phone bank by using their computers at home. Sonia Basko, *NYSUT Special Projects Coordinator*, brought us up to date on NYSUT's Social Justice Committee Initiatives.

Thomas DiNapoli, *New York State Comptroller*, always a strong NYSUT supporter, assured us of the very strong financial health of all New York State pension systems. Andy Pallotta, *NYSUT Executive Vice President*, informed us of NYSUT's efforts in electing candidates who will fight to protect NYSUT members' interests. Barry Kaufmann, *NYSARA President*, presented **What's at Stake in the Election for Social Security & Medicare**. With the election of Donald Trump as President, this is very scary stuff. (Continued on page 2)

NYSUT Retiree Contiguous E. D. 51-53

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At this meeting resolutions were submitted. A committee combined similar resolutions, determined if any have already been adopted, and then brought these resolutions to the delegates for their approval or disapproval. Topics among the resolutions considered are: Seeking Legislation Preventing Insurance Companies from Overruling Physician's Recommendations for Patient Care, Seeking Legislation Allowing Medicare to Negotiate Drug Prices, Lift the Cap on Social Security Contributions, Make the Full Text of all Proposed Resolutions Available Prior to the RA meeting, Representation on Disciplinary Hearing Panels Conducted by SED, Support of Caregivers, Reclaim American Economy, Medicare Part D and Prescription Drug Cost, and Addiction. The resolutions adopted at this meeting will be considered by NYSUT and may be presented at the next RA meeting.



RC39 President Peter Herron
and RC39 Treasurer Joan Prymas

Director-at-large George Wybenga died

As this newsletter was ready to go to the printer we learned that our good friend George Wybenga passed away. In the next issue of the newsletter we will tell you a bit about how special George was. He will be dearly missed.

SCCC Retiree Howard Stevens' Photos Exhibited at the North Shore Public Library, Shoreham Long Island

By Pete Herron

On October 8, 2016, there was a reception at the North Shore Public Library celebrating the exhibition of Howard Stevens' photographs. The photographs were exhibited at the library for the entire month of October. There were many Suffolk Community College retirees among the many people at the reception in honor of Howard. You can enjoy some of his fine work by visiting his website, www.howardstevensphoto.com.



RC39 needs member participation

RC39 President Pete Herron

The RC39 newsletter is by and for its members. All members are encouraged to submit (email preferred) an article. The article can be a creative writing piece, something on a retiree issue (union, health insurance, pending legislation, etc.), travel, hobbies, volunteer activities, or what every you think would be of interest to RC39 members.

RC39 needs new leadership. All RC39 deliberations are done by email. Members can request to be placed on the RC39 officer email list. Everyone on the list will be able to participate in all email discussions. Only elected officers will be able to vote. This is a great way to learn what is involved in being a RC39 officer.

You can contact me at rc39pete@optonline.net, or 98 Rocky Point Landing Rd., Rocky Point, NY 11778. Looking forward to hearing from you.



RC39 Website

Check out RC39 website <http://rc39.ny.aft.org/> where you can read recent NYSUT RC39 newsletters, AFT and NYSUT news releases, and much more.

Colin C. Campbell Brings Distinction to RC39 Newsletter

At the October NYSUT Retiree Contiguous E. D. 51-53 meeting, RC39 Newsletter received the Award of Distinction in the category of Best Writing. This award was for the article “Scary Things Are Happening to Pensions in Illinois” by Colin C Campbell in the May/June 2015 newsletter. Special thanks and congratulations to Colin for submitting such a fine and informative article. You can read this article by going to the RC39 website’s home page, <http://rc39.ny.aft.org/>. Make sure you click “more” to get to the May/June 2015 issue.

RC39 President Peter Herron Receives Award of Recognition

At the October 6 NYSUT’s Regional Conference for Retiree Councils, held in Woodbury Long Island, RC39 President Peter Herron was presented with Award of Recognition for service to NYSUT retirees.

High Hopes and Much Optimism at Regional Conference

Pete Herron

Strong confidence and enthusiasm filled the air at the October 6 NYSUT’s Regional Conference for Retiree Councils held in Woodbury, Long Island. While all were convinced of Hillary Clinton’s election, we felt that winning was not enough, and that a major “get out the vote” would cause a very strong mandate to end the disastrous route Donald Trump has planned for the United States.

Well, it did not end as expected. We may be discouraged, bruised, and disheartened; we cannot give up. Too much is at stake. If there is one lesson from this election, it is you cannot sit on the sidelines and let others do the fighting. Apathy will get you somewhere, a place where you do not want to be. The fight now is damage control. Unions, pensions, Social Security, Medicare, health insurance, and much more are going to be attacked. Will you stand by and let it happen?

NYSUT RC 39 Revenue and Expenses Budget 2016-2017 Fiscal Year

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| Revenue Accounts | Adopted Budget |
| Voluntary Participation Fees | \$ 2000.00 |
| Newsletter and Website Advertisement Revenue | \$ 920.00 |
| Total Revenue | \$ 2920.00 |
| Expense Accounts | |
| Supplies | \$ 0.00 |
| Postage | \$ 170.00 |
| Dues | \$ 50.00 |
| Charitable Contributions | \$ 600.00 |
| Travel for Officers/ Conference Expenses | \$ 300.00 |
| Delegate Expenses (RA and AFT Conferences) | \$ 1800.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 2920.00 |
| | |
| Projected increases (decreases) in Net Assets | \$ (0.00) |

This budget was adopted by a board resolution.

NYSUT Retiree Council 39 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDING JUNE 30, 2016

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION | | | |
| Checking Account | | | \$17,844.26 |
| TOTAL CASH ASSETS | | | 17,844.26 |
| NET ASSETS | | | \$17,844.26 |
| | | | |
| STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES | | | |
| REVENUE ACCOUNTS | ADOPTED BUDGET | ACTUAL TO-DATE | BUDGET REMAINING |
| Voluntary Participation Fees | \$2,000.00 | \$1,918.00 | \$ (82.00) |
| Ads for Newsletters | 920.00 | 580.00 | (340.00) |
| TOTAL REVENUE | \$2,920.00 | \$2,498.00 | \$ (422.00) |
| | | | |
| EXPENSE ACCOUNT | | | |
| Supplies | \$ 5.00 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 5.00 |
| Postage | 60.00 | 161.92 | (101.92) |
| Telephone | 5.00 | 0.00 | 5.00 |
| Travel for Officers/ Conference Expenses | 500.00 | 110.09 | 389.91 |
| Delegate Expenses (NYSUT RA) | 1,800.00 | 0.00 | 1,800.00 |
| Charitable Contributions | 500.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 |
| Dues | 50.00 | 0.00 | 50.00 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$2,920.00 | \$ 772.01 | \$ 2,147.99 |
| | | | |
| INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET ASSETS | \$ 0.00 | \$ 1,725.99 | \$ 1,725.99 |

Retiree Council 39 Board of Directors

President, First NYSUT and AFT Delegate, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster: Peter Herron
Vice President, NYSUT and AFT Delegate: Judith Holmes
Secretary, NYSUT and AFT Delegate: Corita Kong
Treasurer, NYSUT and AFT Alternate Delegate: Joan Prymas
Director-at-large: James V. Brennan
Director-at-large: George Wybenga

Send your comments, suggestions, and inquiries to NYSUT RC39 Officers, 98 Rocky Point Landing Rd., Rocky Point, NY 11778 or rc39pete@optonline.net.

RC39 Newsletter is looking for comments, suggestions and articles from its members.



Send your comments, suggestions, or article to Peter Herron at rc39pete@optonline.net or mail to 98 Rocky Point Landing Road, Rocky Point, NY 11778. Your article will be published when space is available. RC39, NYSUT, and AFT news will be given priority.



Address Change

Do not let a new address keep you from receiving NYSUT RC39 newsletters. There are three ways to update your address. Contact NYSUT Member Records at 1-800-342-9810 ext. 6224. Send written changes to: NYSUT Member Records, 800 Troy-Schenectady Road, Latham, NY 12110, or e-mail changes to member@nysutmail.org. If you are a snowbird, give Member Records a few weeks notice to change its address records each way.

Have you paid your voluntary RC39 contribution for 2017?

If you have not sent in your voluntary NYSUT RC39 annual contribution, now is as good a time as ever. Just send your check along with the form below to the RC39 treasurer. It is your contributions that enable RC39 officers and delegates to represent you at NYSUT conferences and meetings.

Retiree Council 39 Voluntary 2017 Participation Fee form

Name _____ e-mail _____
 Address _____ Phone (____) _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
 College retired from _____ Year of Retirement _____
 Please check amount of your voluntary participation fee: \$25 _____ Other \$ _____
 Send your check, made out to NYSUT RC39, along with this completed form to:
 Ms. Joan Prymas, RC39 Treasurer, 141 Montgomery Street, Ilion, NY 13357