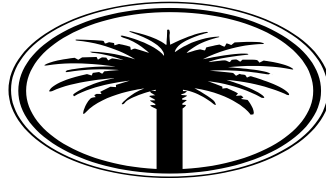


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ODDS 'n' ENDS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF RETIREE COUNCIL 43

Vol. 32, No. 6
Affiliated with NYSUT,
AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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Change Your Address?
Contact NYSUT Member Records
Tel. 1-800-342-9810
memberrec@nysutmail.org

ODDS 'n' ENDS is the newsletter of NYSUT Retiree Council 43, Teacher Retirees in Florida. It is published bi-monthly, September to August.
Summer 2016

From the Desk of President Deb Peterson

The following describes the Political Endorsement Policies of NYSUT and UFT. A special nod of appreciations goes out to Ken Goodfriend and Tom Murphy.

One of the obligations of NYSUT, NYSUT RC 43, the UFT and the Retired Teachers Chapter is to keep you informed of the issues that are extremely important to our members and about those elected officials who have an impact on our fundamental issues: e.g. Health Care, Social Security, Support for Public Education, and Respect for Human Rights, and Support for Working Families.

To this end, we listen carefully to our partners in labor and education who interview those candidates running for office and review those candidates' records regarding the above issues. Our Florida brothers and sisters deal every day with their elected officials and the recommendations for endorsement they make are because they feel the candidate(s) will best support those issues that we all hold dear.

The endorsement of a candidate for President is made by the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association, the national AFL-CIO, and the national Alliance for Retired Americans. The Florida AFL-CIO, the Florida Education Association, and the Florida Alliance for Retired Americans make the endorsements for the State Legislative and Congressional races. On the local level, the various AFL-CIO Central Labor Councils and local teacher unions around the State make endorsements for their City/Town Councils, County Commissioners and School Boards.

The following criteria for endorsements in local elections: Does the candidate support our efforts to achieve, maintain and advance the economic and professional interests of our members and strengthen labor and human rights? We view that mandate as support for public education and the children we serve as the mission of our professional vocations.

Endorsement criteria allows for supporting candidates from either party when their views and policies support our members' interests. The pension and health coverage we enjoy as retirees today is a result of our relationship with public officials of both political parties.

Unfortunately, on the national level today, the policies of one political party are in sharp opposition to core issues vital to our members' economic security and professional interests. One party's crusade against public employee pensions, attempts to destroy collective bargaining, support for the Friedrichs case threatening fair share/agency fee and efforts to privatize Social Security, voucher Medicare, block grant Medicaid and support voter suppression laws threatens the bedrock of the labor movement and would undo a century of progressive labor accomplishments. Support of private school vouchers and the use of charter schools as weapons against the traditional public schools, undermines our entire professional belief system.

Ultimately, each member enters the voting booth alone to make that very personal voting decision. Sometimes the strongly held personal views of members on particular issues override union recommendations. That is a democratic right. Remember, every vote matters.

Clearwater

President: Cathy Lanza

727-375-7129

Lanzac@verizon.net

Meeting from September through April

Daytona

President: Gordon Russell

386-310-4188

g.russ68@gmail.com

Daytona TRIF Unit is on a hiatus until the Fall. We are looking to reorganize and invite all interested NYSUT Retirees in the area to contact Gordon for information.

Greater Naples

Co-President: Robert Lomicka

239-514-7234

janetlomicka@comcast.net

Co-President: Paul Murphy

239-593-7738

Paulmurphy24@aol.com

Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month through April at 11 AM in the Longshore Lake Clubhouse on Valewood Drive, Naples. Lunch follows each meeting. Please join us in the Fall on October 13th. For more info, contact the Co-Presidents.

Jupiter

Co-Presidents: Dr. & Mrs. Paul Amrod

561-625-8988

drpja@aol.com

Programmer: Jim Brown

JimB1600@aol.com

Serves Northern Palm Beach County; Oct. – March, at Bella Cucina Restaurant, Donald Ross Village, Palm Beach Gardens. Contact Jim for details

Nature Coast

President: Tom Smith

352-638-9432

Birdman32347@tampaabay.rr.com

VP – David Miller

Nature Coast covers Hernando and Pasco Counties and any other County on the Nature Coast that doesn't have a TRIF Unit. We meet from October through April, 2nd Wed., 11 AM with Speakers at most meetings. All retired teachers and support staff are welcome.

Orlando

President: Janice Sylvester

407-932-4850

jncsylvester@aol.com

Meetings are on the 1st Wed., October to April, 11:30 AM, at the Olive Garden on International Drive in Orlando.

Sarasota

President: Robert Gentile

941-907-0991

erotheim@tampabay.rr.com

Southeast Florida

President: Miriam Hanan

516-236-0276

miriamtrh@gmail.com

Programmer: Debra Peters

516-987-8618

DIP0003@gmail.com

Serves West Palm Beach to Miami. All meetings are at 9:30 AM at the South County Civic Center, Delray Beach October – April.

Space Coast

President: Deb Peterson

914-261-0474

dnkpete@aol.com

Programmer: Allan Gair

321-952-0270

agair@cfl.rr.com

Meetings are held on the second Friday of the month from October – April at the Eau Gallie Library in Melbourne. The group continues to enjoy luncheons throughout the summer months.

September 9 at Noon: Lunch will be at Off the TRAXX in Downtown Melbourne.

Treasure Coast

President: Thomas Galli

772-288-1153

tomhelga@comcast.net

Serving retired teachers and SRP's and their spouses from Jupiter to Vero Beach. Meetings are from October through April; there are two Joint Meetings with Space Coast Unit





RC 43 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

NYSUT 43 Members & Friends,

I would like to bring you all up to date on the 2016 NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Annual Conference on September 27, 2016 at the SpringHill Suites Orlando Airport, 5828 Hazeltine National Drive, Orlando, FL 32822. As always, the NYSUT RC 43 Executive Board will meet on September 26th at 3PM. Once again, our out of town guests are welcome to join us (at their own expense) when we go out to dinner that night as a group.

It has been suggested we use a topic based format with input from all Presenters. I am therefore inviting everyone to align their speaking and sharing remarks to the following topics:

- 1. Pensions & Benefits,
2. Healthcare & Medicare
3. Legislative & Political Action
4. Pledge to Vote & Election Strategies

This year's conference is open to all NYSUT Members & Retirees; NYSUT TRIF Unit Officers, Delegates and Members; Guests; Union Affiliates including AFT; NEA; FEA; AFL-CIO; FLARA and invited Presenters. If you or anyone you know is interested in attending, please complete this Registration Form, and send it to Deb Peterson, P. O. Box 427, Schroom Lake, NY 12870 prior to SEPTEMBER 1ST. The cost for the conference is \$30.00 (Please make checks payable to: NYSUT Retiree Council 43). A Light Continental Breakfast and Luncheon Buffet will be provided. Please feel free to SHARE this Registration form with colleagues and friends, especially "Snow Birds" or other NYSUT Retirees who do not receive the ODDS 'n' ENDS Newsletter.

Please note: the 2016 NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Annual Conference is a one day program. We will most likely be working during the Lunch Buffet. For more information, contact Deb Peterson at 914-261-0474 or dnkpete@aol.com. The following information is included for those who would like to make an overnight reservation at the conference hotel: (DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 5TH)

SpringHill Suites Orlando Airport
5828 Hazeltine National Drive
Orlando, FL 32822
Phone: 407-816-5533
Reserved Rate \$89 King
Group Code: NYS

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST: 8:30 TO 9:00AM
LUNCH BUFFET: NOON TO 1:00 PM

PLEASE PRINT:
UNION AFFILIATE NAME & TITLE (IF APPLICABLE):

ATTENDEE NAME

EMAIL ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS

PHONE:

ALTERNATE PHONE:

PLEASE CHECK ONE:
DELEGATE RC 43 OFFICER
PRESENTER GUEST

PLEASE ADD ANY DIETARY RESTRICTION(S) WITH ATTENDEE'S NAME FOR MEAL AND/OR DESSERT:



ACT! AT THE MAC → **MEMBER ACTION CENTER**

NYSUT President Karen E. Magee said candidates' voting records and their working relationships with **NYSUT** members in their home districts were among the important factors in whether a candidate earned the union's support. "Candidates earning **NYSUT**'s endorsement this year have shown a willingness to listen to our members in public schools, colleges and hospitals. They value their relationships with our more than 600,000 politically active and energized members and champion their interests," Magee said.

NYSUT Executive Vice President Andrew Pallotta said the **NYSUT** endorsement process "is truly a grassroots, organic process, with **PAC** members and local presidents surveying their own members in their own communities about who they wished to see **NYSUT** support in this year's elections," Pallotta said. "Those candidates who earned **NYSUT**'s endorsement have won the backing of members in their home communities."

Download the complete list of NYSUT endorsement by visiting NYSUT's website: <http://www.nysut.org/>

Register today for the 2016
NYSUT Retiree Council 43
Annual Conference on
September 27, 2016

THE ALLIANCE FOR RETIRED AMERICANS 2015 VOTING RECORD REPORT

The Alliance for Retired Americans released its 2015 voting record report which scored every U.S. Representative and Senator on key issues affecting current and future retirees. The voting record examined 10 key Senate votes and 10 key House votes in 2015, showing the roll calls on issues such as:

1. attacking our core retiree programs of Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid;
2. passing fast track trade authority, which extinguishes the ability to scrutinize and amend proposed trade agreements that would lock in higher drug prices; and
3. addressing income inequality by raising the minimum wage

"Unfortunately, the new Congress that came to town did not help improve the nation's retirement security," said Robert Roach, Jr., President of the Alliance. "We had an opportunity for change but we didn't take advantage of it. Nine of 12 freshman Republican Senators scored zero, and the others scored 10%. This Voting Record reflects how committed our elected representatives are to seniors. It will be a useful tool as we look at who is truly our friend." You can download either the full report, or a state-by-state report, or search for your member by zip code by following this link:

<https://retiredamericans.org/voting-record/>