



**ODDS  
'n'  
ENDS**

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF RETIREE  
COUNCIL 43**

ODDS 'n' ENDS is the newsletter of NYSUT Retiree Council 43, Teacher Retirees in Florida. It is published bi-monthly, September to August.  
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Contact NYSUT Member Records  
Tel. 1-800-342-9810  
[memberrec@nysutmail.org](mailto:memberrec@nysutmail.org)



### **From the Desk of President Deb Peterson**

September is the beginning of NYSUT's fiscal and membership year, which affords us all with the opportunity for renewal and rejuvenation. It is also an opportunity to answer the charge of the NYSUT Standing Committee on Civil and Human Rights to advance the union's efforts to promote equity and social justice. NYSUT's agenda promotes equal access to society's opportunities, thereby empowering people to have choices and control over their own destiny. This agenda stems from the belief that injustice and oppression in other communities and nations directly impacts members of the labor movement. The premise behind this agenda is that a socially just world affords individuals and groups fair treatment and an impartial share of society's benefits. NYSUT believes that it is the fundamental responsibility of labor leaders is to stand in solidarity with the oppressed and fight to ensure that every individual enjoys basic human rights. A social justice agenda is a strategy that transforms individuals and communities.

To that end, I would like to highlight 2 NYSUT Social Justice Programs that will be introduced at both the NYSUT RC 43 Annual Conference in Orlando on September 27<sup>th</sup> and the NYSUT Regional Conference in Palm Beach Gardens on January 17, 2017.

The "Why in 5" campaign for Social Justice is a way for NYSUT members to use a short set of talking points to educate others about significant Social Justice. It is for members to use in line at the grocery store checkout, at holiday time while attending a family dinner, or in the stands at a sporting event.

With today's political landscape, it is more important than ever that our members are educated about key issues and can help us educate the members of the communities we serve so that we can continue to improve the living and working conditions both locally and nationally. Each "business size" card has 5 key points listed on the back challenging us to "Be The Union For:



NYSUT's "Start the Conversation Program" shines a light on race and ethnicity. It encourages us all to begin a dialogue with friends, family and our fraternal brothers & sisters to discuss such topics like: What does racial equality mean? What aspect of your race makes you the most proud? Have you ever felt "out of place" in a group setting because of your race/ethnicity? For more information, please visit the Resources section at <http://www.nysut.org/>



*"Part of what we do... is to raise people up. That's what social justice is - empowering people." - NYSUT Vice President Paul Pecorale*



NYSUT members interested in submitting ideas or having their local union become involved in social justice issues can visit the resources section of the social justice page at [www.nysut.org/socialjustice](http://www.nysut.org/socialjustice) or contact Sonia Basko, NYSUT special projects coordinator at: [sbasko@nysutmail.org](mailto:sbasko@nysutmail.org) or 518-213-6000, ext. 6380.

## Clearwater

**President: Cathy Lanza**

727-375-7129

[Lanzac@verizon.net](mailto:Lanzac@verizon.net)

Meeting from September through April

## Daytona

**President: Gordon Russell**

386-310-4188

[g.russ68@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:janetlomicka@comcast.net)

**Co-President: Paul Murphy**

239-593-7738

[Paulfmurphy24@aol.com](mailto:Paulfmurphy24@aol.com)

"The Greater Naples Unit will be meeting Thursday, October 13 at 11:00 a.m. at the Longshore Lake Clubhouse on Valewood Drive in Naples, Florida. Lunch will follow the meeting. The working and social agenda will be discussed as well as a report on the NYSUT Council 43 Annual Meeting. We are planning to see Agatha Christie's "Mousetrap" on December 3rd at the Florida Repertory Theatre. Please contact the co-presidents for more information about our meetings and activities."

## Jupiter

**Co-Presidents: Dr. & Mrs. Paul Amrod**

561-625-8988

[drpja@aol.com](mailto:drpja@aol.com)

**Programmer: Jim Brown**

[JimB1600@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:Birdman32347@tampaabay.rr.com)

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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:jncsylvester@aol.com)

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

## Sarasota

**President: Robert Gentile**

941-251-5071

[erotheim@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:erotheim@tampabay.rr.com)

**Monday October 28, 2016 11 AM**, Der Dutchman Restaurant, 3713 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota. There will be updates and news from the RC 43 Annual Meeting. Buffet Lunch including pie \$15.30 per person (all inclusive). Please send checks payable to RC43/Sarasota to Elly Rotheim 7014 Grand Estuary Trail #101 Bradenton, FL 34212 by October 22nd

**Friday November 18, 2016 11:45 AM**, Casey Key Fish House 801 Blackburn Point Rd. Osprey, FL. (Order from Menu) To reserve your spot call Bob or Elly [941-251-5071](tel:941-251-5071) or e-mail [erotheim@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:erotheim@tampabay.rr.com) by October 28. Directions: Tamiami Trail to Blackburn Point Rd. Go West to Casey Key Fish House just after the bridge. Overflow parking across the street.

## Southeast Florida

**President: Miriam Hanan**

516-236-0276

[miriamtrh@gmail.com](mailto:miriamtrh@gmail.com)

**Programmer: Debra Peters**

516-987-8618

[DIP0003@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:dnkpete@aol.com)

**Programmer: Allan Gair**

321-952-0270

[agair@cfl.rr.com](mailto: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.

**October 14, 2016:** Our Welcome Back Meeting will begin at 10am with light refreshments. We will dine at Squid Lips for lunch.

**November 11, 2016:** This meeting begins at 10:30 with speakers from the Let Life Bloom program for TransLife Organ Donors. We will dine at Woody's BBQ for lunch.

## Treasure Coast

**President: Thomas Galli**

772-288-1153

[tomhelga@comcast.net](mailto: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

If you are a NYSUT or NYSUT Affiliate Retiree, including SRP's, living in or visiting Florida, you are invited to attend any of the meetings of the Teacher Retirees in Florida (TRIF) Units listed above. The meetings/activities are very interesting and the luncheon costs are very reasonable. Please come and enjoy the camaraderie of other NYSUT, A Union of Professionals, Retirees. For more information on any of the TRIF Units, contact the President or Programmer, or contact Maxine Knisley, Membership chair, at 772.321.4974 or [mknisley744@gmail.com](mailto:mknisley744@gmail.com)

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE! SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NYSUT REGIONAL CONFERENCE**

The NYSUT Regional Retiree Conference will be held on January 17, 2017 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Palm Beach Gardens. Invitations will be mailed out in November. Contact Judy Kalb, NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant, at 561-737-8071, for further information.



**NEEDS YOUR HELP SO IT CAN HELP YOU!**

VOTE/COPE is the political action arm of NYSUT - It is illegal to use dues for that purpose so NYSUT depends on **VOLUNTARY** contributions to support its political action activities. The issues at stake have gone beyond the usual partisan positions; we are now facing factions that wish to significantly reduce pensions, health insurance and reduce or eliminate collective bargaining in the public sector.

Because you have already retired does **NOT** make you immune from the impact of those issues. For example, if your health insurance is provided to retirees in the current contract with your former employer, and the local negotiating the future contracts were to lose its power, do you think the school district would continue to pay for retirees what it does currently, out of the goodness of its heart? If you think so, I have a

bridge in Brooklyn that you might be interested in buying. **PENSION DEDUCTION** is the easiest way to contribute. You aren't going to miss \$5 or \$10 a month, but it will make a huge difference in the lobbying efforts. There are over 8,000 NYSUT retirees in Florida - let's make our voice heard. Contact: Helga Galli, RC 43 VOTE/COPE Chair. PH: 772-288-1153 OR tomhelga@comcast.net

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL RC 43 & TRIF UNIT  
NYSUT 2016 COMMUNICATION AWARDS WINNERS!**

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE:** Publications will be judged on both the content *and* design. Submit the edition that best shows the broad range of activities and interest of your local. The judges will be looking for the effective use of clear, descriptive writing, as well as compelling visual elements presented in an attractive design. Writing, spelling and grammar will be considered.

**WEBSITE OR BLOG:** Entries will be judged for making the experience a pleasant one for the user by presenting content that is both useful and well designed. If you have a website *and* a blog, you may submit one entry for each.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Enter in this category and show us how you've used this influential medium to entertain, inform and educate the public about issues affecting the profession.

**Class R-I**

**Best Illustration**

TRIF - Clearwater Unit

Publication: A "C.U.T." Above

Headline: "WANTED/WHAT'S IT TAKE, HUH?!"

Award: Best Illustration Contributor(s): Ellen Artale

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**Best Writing 3**

TRIF - Clearwater Unit Publication: A "C.U.T." Above

Headline: "Cathy's Column"

Award: Best Writing 3

FIRST PLACE

Contributor(s): Cathy Lanza

Editor(s): Ellen Artale

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**General Excellence**

Space Coast TRIF

Publication: Space Coast - TRIF Fall Newsletter

Award: General Excellence AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Editor(s): Isabel Ochoa-Youssef

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TRIF - Clearwater Unit Publication:

A "C.U.T." Above

Award: General Excellence AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Editor(s): Ellen Artale

**Class R-II**

**Best Article about Solidarity**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Website Headline: "Patriotism Is More Than Flag Waving" Award: Best Article about Solidarity

Contributor(s): Felicia Bruce

Editor(s): Maxine Knisley

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**Best Writing 3**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Website Headline: "Court Cases Affect You"

Award: Best Writing 3 AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Contributor(s): Felicia Bruce

Editor(s): Maxine Knisley

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**Best News Story**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Website Headline: "Solidarity With Postal Workers"

Award: Best News Story Contributor(s): Felicia Bruce

Editor(s): Maxine Knisley

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**Best Website**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Website Award: Best Website AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Webmaster(s): Felicia Bruce; Maxine Knisley

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**Best Blog**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: Retiree Council 43

Award: Best Blog FIRST PLACE

Contributor(s): Deb Peterson

Editor(s): Felicia Bruce

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**Best Use of Social Media**

Retiree Council 43

Publication: NYSUT Retiree Council 43 Facebook

Award: Best Use of Social Media FIRST PLACE

Contributor(s): Maxine Knisley



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**RC 43 Website:**  
<http://rc43.ny.aft.org/>  
**RC 43 Facebook Page:**  
[New-York-State-United-Teacher-Retirees-In-Florida](#)

**RETIREE COUNCIL 43 PARTICIPATION FEE/MEMBERSHIP FORM  
SEPTEMBER 2015-AUGUST 2017**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT FROM WHICH YOU RETIRED \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR OF RETIREMENT \_\_\_\_\_

Please check the amount of your participation fee: \_\_\_\$30 (NYSUT Retiree) \_\_\_\$20 (Assoc.)  
Remit a check payable to NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43—TRIF UNIT'S NAME by mail to either:  
1. The Treasurer of the TRIF Unit you would like to join, OR  
2. MAXINE KNISLEY, 701 Rose Avenue, Sebastian, FL 32958 (if not certain)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT MAXINE KNISLEY at **Phone:** 772.321.4974  
**Email:** [rc43membership@gmail.com](mailto:rc43membership@gmail.com)