

**RC 43 TRIF-ic NEWS IS THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF RETIREE COUNCIL 43,
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From the Desk of the President, Deb Peterson

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland proposed in a formal statement on labor's centennial in 1981: "Labor has a unique role in strengthening contemporary American society and dealing adequately and forcefully with the challenge of the future." "We shall rededicate ourselves to the sound principle of harnessing democratic tradition and trade union heritage with the necessity of reaching out for new and better ways to serve all working people and the entire nation."

We, as retired educators, have the unique opportunity to express opinions; offer insights; contribute "in -kind" volunteer hours; provide leadership; act as mediators/moderators/facilitators and so much more, to answer Kirkland's call to reach out and find better ways to serve and strengthen our contemporary American society. We need to rededicate ourselves to work with our in-service members to meet the challenges we all face securing a better future for us all.

To that end, won't you take a moment to review the following 7 NYSUT Retiree Goals, find one or two and say, "I can do that" and then pledge to actively strive for a better future for us all?

NYSUT RETIREE GOALS

1. Work to keep pensions secure and to improve COLA.
2. Work with in-service members and the community to secure access to affordable health benefits for all retired members.
3. Work to enrich the lives of retiree members through educational and social activities.
4. Continue to organize, represent, advocate for and provide services for retired members.
5. Work with in-service members to promote collective bargaining, political action, better education and improved health care working conditions.
6. Work for positive socioeconomic societal changes.
7. To defend income security (including Social Security and Medicare) for all retired workers.

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/New-York-State-United-Teacher-Retirees-In-Florida-166355720080638/>

On the Web: <http://rc43.ny.aft.org/>



RC 43 TRIF
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CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 43 TRIF UNITS IS NOW ON PAGE 4

This page will highlight the various RC 43 TRIF Units.
Please send us news about what your TRIF Unit is doing so that your TRIF Unit may be featured.

News from the NYSUT RC 43 TRIF Units...

The Greater Naples Unit meets the second Wednesday of each month, October through April at the Longshore Lake Clubhouse on Valewood Drive in Naples. Lunch follows each meeting. Please join us."

The Clearwater Unit is made up of retirees from all parts of New York including New York City. Many have taught in Florida after leaving the New York area.

Our CLEARWATER UNIT had a very successful year beginning in September with our initial "BACK TO SCHOOL" meeting which we called, "Our First Annual Member Appreciation Brunch". Our venue was THE SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCH in Safety Harbor, which is also the location of our special project for the last dozen years, Egan Cottage. Members and prospective members were able to tour the beautiful campus and find out about the wonderful environment the ranch provides for youngsters in need of a stable, nurturing homelife.

Our generous members donated money throughout the year, and we were able to provide "extra" activities for the children to enrich their lives in a very positive way. We also donated funds so that each youngster received personally selected Christmas gifts at a Holiday Pizza Party provided by our unit.

Monthly luncheons at various venues were well attended and we had speakers from the local YMCA and from the Pinellas Board of Elections. Our ANNUAL DAY AT THE RACES in February was well attended and we even had some winners!

We will be finishing up our "school year" in April, at THE SHERIFFS YOUTH RANCH, with our ANNUAL PICNIC.

We take a hiatus until September when we are looking forward to our SECOND ANNUAL MEMBER APPRECIATION BRUNCH on September 12th.

This year our membership rose to 53, and we welcomed 8 new members to our unit.

The Southeast Unit had a successful year with interesting speakers and several day trips. On Tuesday, March 12 we heard from Rosalind Murray, Coordinator with the Palm beach County Criminal Justice Commission. She informed us of the Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy, created in 1998 to provide an opportunity for citizens to learn more about hoe the criminal justice system functions in Palm Beach County. She also spoke about measures being taken to reduce crime by partnerships among public and private forces, to create community programs and more efficiency in the justice system.

In April, we visited the Boca Raton Museum of Art where we enjoyed a docent-led tour of the permanent collection, followed by lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Our next meeting will be our Welcome Back Breakfast on October 15 at 9:30 AM at the South County Civic Center. We invite all NY teacher retirees to join us!

Southeast TRIF (Teacher Retirees in Florida) meets at the South County Civic Center, 16700 Jog Road, Delray Beach, FL 33446 Delray Beach, Florida 33446

The Sarasota Unit enjoyed a pontoon boat cruise down the Manatee River out of the harbor at Palmetto, Fl. The tour included historical facts about the area. This was their March 15th meeting. They enjoyed lunch at the Marina restaurant after the cruise.



Sarasota Unit retirees enjoyed their Manatee River cruise

The Treasure Coast Unit of RC 43 resumed meetings in October and will continue through May. Joint meetings are scheduled in 2019 with Space Coast sister chapters as well as meals at local culinary programs, boat rides and other events.

Most retirees continue to serve children, education or the public good through volunteering in a variety of settings such as schools, hospitals and community boards.

Contact Mary Brower at mebrower1@comcast.net or 772-283-3887 for dates, times, locations of upcoming events.

The Space Coast TRIF Unit meets regularly on the second Friday at Eau Gallie Public Library, located on 1521 Pineapple Avenue in Melbourne, FL, 32935. For information, contact Isabel Youssef-Ochoa at 321-431-7202 OR isa1150@aol.com

Space Coast TRIF: Our Annual Luncheon Season Begins and Starts at Noon

May 10, 2019: We kick off our Summer Series with a visit to "Get Fired Up" Pottery Studio Painting and Lunch, 536 E New Haven, Melbourne. Pack a Picnic Basket and beverage!

June 14, 2019: Lunch at Yellow Dog Cafe at 905 US 1 in Malabar

July 13, 2018: Lunch at Texas Road House 425 E. Eau Gallie Blvd, I.H.B., 32937, followed by a visit to Sam's House in Merritt Island

August 10, 2018: Lunch at The Shack on US 1

September 15, 2018: TENTATIVELY: This SATURDAY we end our summer series with a Space Coast River Tour from Kelly Park in Merritt Island/Banana River, through the barge Canal, Canaveral Locks and Port Canaveral, with Lunch included.

For lunch reservations please contact Isabel at 321-431-7202, isa1150@aol.com



NYSUT and Civil & Human Rights



“As we seek to build a greater labor movement, one of the cornerstones of our commitment to social justice is to ensure that all workers and communities are treated

fairly, with dignity and respect, irrespective of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender and gender identity or expression, religion or place of birth.”

— J. Philippe Abraham,
NYSUT Secretary-Treasurer

The charge of the NYSUT Standing Committee on Civil and Human Rights is to advance the union’s efforts to promote equity and social justice. The committee addresses civil and human rights initiatives and social justice issues facing members and their communities. Its recommendations are forwarded to NYSUT’s Officers and Board. The committee coordinates efforts with civil and human rights committees of the AFT and NEA, as well as the AFL-CIO and other organizations.

The committee’s advocacy has led NYSUT to take action on key social and human rights issues. Over the decades, our collective involvement has resulted in positive outcomes for many initiatives such as:

- Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)
- Repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)
- Disaster Relief for hurricane, flood and earthquake victims
- Border Witness Delegation Trips
- Tipped Wage Increase in NY
- Recognition of Civil and Human Rights Heroes
- Anti-Bullying Legislation and Training
- LGBTQ Rights
- U.N. International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women
- Anti-Human Trafficking and Sex Trafficking Laws

The committee supports NYSUT’s actions on:

- Women’s Rights
- Wage Equity
- Domestic Abuse
- Hunger and Poverty
- Justice for Farmworkers
- Immigration Issues

- DACA
- DREAM Act
- Environmental Justice
- Fairness and Equity in Educational Opportunities
- Fair Trade
- Child Labor
- Retirement Security and Protection of All Safety Nets
- Human Rights and Social Justice Education
- Global Rights to Free Public Education
- Socio-Economic Equality
- Public School Services for Students with Physical Disabilities
- Racial Inequality
- More Access to Affordable Public Higher Education
- Health Care Access
- Rights of the Innocent
- The committee aims to address these issues in the future:
- School to Prison Pipeline, Juvenile Justice, Criminal Justice Reform
- Eliminate the Stigma of Mental Health and Promote Resources/Access to Benefits
- Real Life Skills for Students with Physical and Emotional Disabilities
- Raising Awareness and Fighting Against Voter Suppression
- Holocaust Remembrance and Genocide Prevention
- Religious Freedom; Ability to Worship Freely
- Common Sense Economics
- Next Generation Title IX
- Human Rights Conference
- Prosecutorial Misconduct

NYSUT members interested in 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. To submit ideas to the committee, contact Paul Webster, NYSUT director of community outreach, at pwebster@nysutmail.org or 518-213-6000, ext. 6616.



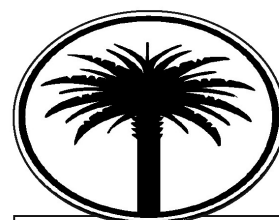
NYSUT Retiree Council 43 congratulates Bill Cea and the other 2019 Award Recipients



NYSUT Retiree Council 43 represents NYSUT retirees throughout the state of Florida in our Teacher Retirees in Florida (TRIF) units. Stay active socially and politically, meet new friends, have some fun! Call Maxine Knisley at (772) 321-4974 for the TRIF unit nearest you.



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**RC 43
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TRIF