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From Your President:

Summer fun time is here, and we all look forward to a bit of recreation. A break from the daily grind seems just the thing. A trip or a bit of vacation in a fresh spot to unwind is what we all enjoy. Our own RC 10 Travel and Social committee has done its best to be sure you have some good options for the immediate season and the upcoming parts of our year-round vacation!

If you thought the Glimmerglass Opera offering was a great way to spend the day but put off making the commitment until the last moment, that moment has come and gone! That trip is now filled. He who hesitates, especially on our one-day trips, has often lost the chance to take part.

We are offering a great pair of trips to the Finger Lakes and Lake Champlain/Shelburne Farms in September and October. One is a day trip; the other an overnight trip. Like the Glimmerglass trip, the Finger Lakes trip is also filled. Check the Travel/Social section to register for the Shelburne trip. Most of us understand that the overnight trips have early deadlines because hotels will not hold rooms until the last moment. We all tend to think we can delay decisions until the last moment on a day trip. That is not the case, as the Cooperstown and Finger Lakes trips prove. A coach and a driver are expensive and sites have limits on their daily capacity. We (RC 10) are not able to take on the financial risk of a trip that does not break even. The reality may be that we are left facing a large deficit and we have to pay if we are past the deadline for cancellation, etc. Those who plan these trips for us understand the serious risk that they must manage on our behalf. Members need to understand that “last minute” is a lot earlier than they may think. A late surge in registration often comes past the deadlines and is too late to hold the arrangements.

Couple this reality with the reduction in our possible printed newsletters from six a year to five, and you begin to get the idea. That puts more stress upon those who organize and operate these events for us as they work to get the word out and gather registrations.

We are also facing the fact that many of those who have been mainstays of our social program are beginning to face the need to cut down their work. They respect the limits that their health puts on them or that their spouse demands “equal time.” Some just feel a decade or so of effort on our behalf is enough, and it’s time for someone else to pick up the load. How about you? Are you willing to get involved and help transition these programs to new leadership and new fun for all?

Will you be one of those who keeps the program going or add to it great new events? If you ever ran a field trip, you can do it. We have established procedures that can help you plan a successful trip. We have a cadre of experienced and successful trip and event coordinators who are always willing to lend a hand to the new members.

The immediate existing programs that need someone to assist are the annual Cooperstown day at Glimmerglass Opera with the Otesaga Hotel lunch and the traditional pre-holiday bus trip to New York City for a day on your own that needs a new leader. Contact Karen Maher at kmaher2@nycap.rr.com if you will consider helping with this program.

Another event needing help is our one-day trip series that visit such sites as the Culinary Institute, mid-Hudson historic homes and wineries, etc. That program leader also has a long history of other short overnight trips, such as Washington, DC, parts of eastern Canada, etc. Fun adventures at a bargain price is the aim and successful history of these programs. Will you help keep it going for us all, in whole or in part? Now you can access a wealth of experience and guidance from those who have done this often, don’t wait to learn about the opportunity. Contact Karen Maher, kmaher2@nycap.rr.com if you will consider helping with this program.

~Continued on Page 3
MARCH 2018, OUT AND ABOUT IN NEW ORLEANS: JAZZ, JAMBALAYA, AND JOIE DE VIVRE. Enjoy 6 days/5 nights at an historic hotel in the French Quarter. Visit the New Orleans of your imagination: the sound of Jazz drifting up Bourbon Street, a miraculously bowl of gumbo, the charm of a Garden District mansion. Discover the literary landmarks of Tennessee Williams, meet a Mardi Gras Indian, learn the secrets of creole cooking from a local chef and much more. Visit the WW II Museum and the Museum of Art, and have an expert lead exploration of the Garden District. You’ll have time on your own to stroll Bourbon Street, walk the levee, eat beignets and Muffaletta sandwiches or ride a streetcar named Desire.

APRIL 16-26, 2018, ESSENTIAL HOLLAND: TULIPS IN SPRING. THIS TRIP IS FILLED. Please contact Karen Maher at kmaher2@nycap.rr.com for more information.

MAY 17-28, 2018, VIENNA VIENNA—IMMERGLASS IN COOPERSTOWN, NY. Please contact Karen Maher at kmaher2@nycap.rr.com for more information.

JUNE 23-28, 2018, PALO ALTO—CAMPUS AND THE DOURO RIVER—THIS TRIP IS FILLED. Please contact Karen Maher at kmaher2@nycap.rr.com for more information.

JULY 9-16, 2018, ROMA—IN THE WORKS

JULY 23-30, 2018, NEW YORK CITY—IN THE WORKS

AUGUST 19-28, 2018, BUDAPEST—IN THE WORKS

SEPTEMBER 23-30, 2018, BUDAPEST—IN THE WORKS

OCTOBER 15-23, 2018, BUDAPEST—IN THE WORKS

AUGUST 19-28, 2018, ROME—IN THE WORKS

OCTOBER 10, FALL LUNCHEON AT NYSUT. Retiree Council 10 will hold its annual fall meeting at NYSUT Headquarters, 800 Troy Schenectady Road, Latham, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. In November of 2017, all New Yorkers will go to the polls to decide if New York will hold a Constitutional Convention. Pete Savage from NYSUT’s Legislative Department will present information on why you should vote NO on this ballot initiative. Every participant must register for this presentation by sending a check for $20 made payable to NYSUT RC 10. Your voided check will be returned to you at the conclusion of the program, making this event free to all in attendance. Every participant will leave with materials and information about the importance of understanding the impact of this ballot initiative. Mail your check and the registration form on page 4 to Laraine Gillette, 9 Cortland Drive, Albany, NY 12211, by September 28. Any questions: rc10secretary@hotmail.com.

APRIL 10, TUESDAY, FALL LUNCHEON AT NYSUT Headquarters, 800 Troy Schenectady Road, Latham, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Pete Savage from NYSUT’s Legislative Department will present information on why you should vote NO on this ballot initiative. Every participant must register for this presentation by sending a check for $20 made payable to NYSUT RC 10. Your voided check will be returned to you at the conclusion of the program, making this event free to all in attendance. Every participant will leave with materials and information about the importance of understanding the impact of this ballot initiative. Mail your check and the registration form on page 4 to Laraine Gillette, 9 Cortland Drive, Albany, NY 12211, by September 28. Any questions: rc10secretary@hotmail.com.

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From Your President (Cont’d. from Page 1)

If your preference is overseas trips to interesting or unusual places, we have that option to offer as well. One of our long-time trip planners, who has done both day trips near home and major trips abroad as well, will be moving from the area. He will not
be able to handle the local demands of organizing these trips. While his help will only be a phone call away, his local role must now be filled by someone new. Will you be that one? Consider it. Contact Karen Maher at kmaher2@nycap.rr.com and get together with your predecessor while he is still in the area.

It is a time when new programs and options are especially welcome and at the same time well-established programs are looking to new leadership to follow the well-worn path to success. Now is the time for change and growth. Give us a call and come in and meet with the travel/social committee. They are a friendly and social bunch who dedicate a lot of time and effort to helping the entire program succeed. Let them help you get started as part of the RC 10 Social and Travel team.

This part of our program, much like the rest of what we do, depends upon the willing and creative help of many members. Each one willing to do their part is critical to creating opportunities for our members. It’s also true that if no one will help, not much will happen! Working together has produced a large mosaic of programs and activities which in the end serves our wide and diverse membership quite well. Help us continue that great tradition.

~David Golden, President

CLICK ON IN, THE WEBSITE’S FINE!

Did you know that RC 10 has an established website that includes many resources for retirees? If you have not taken the time to explore our site, you may be missing out on information that could benefit you. To access the site, go to http://rc10.ny.aft.org/. You will arrive at our home page and will see sliding images at the top of the page that highlight trips and recent news. You can click on any of those sliding images to read the full article. Below the sliders, several of the more time sensitive articles are posted for your convenience. A link on the right-hand side gives quick access to RC 10’s Facebook page. There is also an option to register your e-mail address in order to expedite communication on trips, receive newsletters, etc. (Note: If you received this newsletter by email, your address is already registered). Please do share the word with others about the crucial need to register their e-mail with RC 10. Members who register their e-mail get “first news” about RC 10’s future trips and other opportunities, and it helps RC 10 with important communication efforts.

On the top menu of the home page there is an “About Us” link that gives access to the RC 10 constitution, contact information, and officers. The “News” link includes posted articles of importance, along with a news feed from both NYSUT and AFT. Under the same “News” tab, a drop-down menu leads to “Publications” that includes past copies of the RC 10 Skyline News newsletter, “Photos” from RC 10 events and trips, and “Videos” that presently include an ARA webinar on Medicare.

Under the “Resources” link, find a way to sign up for up to a 70% discount on theater tickets, as well as links to publications and resources from organizations that advocate for retiree issues. An “Archive” of RC 10 website articles can also be found under this tab. Under the “Membership” menu, you will find information on NYSUT or AFT member benefits, with membership information and benefits of joining RC 10 in the “Retirees” submenu, as well as a link to our Memorial Site that honors teachers and school-related employees.

Lastly, under “Action and Events,” discover ways to engage in and “Take Action” on retiree as well as social justice issues. One of the articles presently in that section gives helpful tips for how to lobby legislators by phone. Links for making memorial or VOTE/COPE donations, and a link to NYSUT’s Mac Action app, is also included. When an affiliate union has a strike or there is a scheduled action on an issue, news and updates will be posted here. Perhaps the most interesting area is the “Travel and Social” section which includes the most current information on trips, registration, and articles about recent RC 10 trips and events.

Take some time to explore our site! If you have ideas for articles, information we can use to spotlight the achievements of one or more of our members, photos of members on a trip or at an activity, or perhaps a suggestion to improve the site, please contact Deb Escobar at rc10newsletter@gmail.org.

GET TRIP INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION FORMS ON THE WEB! Here’s how: 1) Log on to http://rc10.ny.aft.org. 2) Click on ACTIONS & EVENTS menu, and 3) Click the Travel & Social tab. The generic travel/form (printed below) is a pdf file on this page.

TRAVEL/SOCIAL GENERIC REGISTRATION FORM

(If you are signing up for more than one activity, or will be taking a guest, please copy this form and fill in the appropriate information.)

Name ___________________________ Home Phone ___________________________ Cell Phone* _______________________

Email ___________________________ Registering for: Event & Date ___________________________

Check One: For 2016-2017, 
{   } RC10 Member who has paid the annual sustaining membership fee
{   } Guest or Member who has not paid the annual sustaining membership fee

Event Selections: For Luncheons/Meals, Entrée of Choice ___________________________ For Trips, Pick Up Location ___________________________

Other notes (Keep it Simple): _________________________________________________________________________________________

Total Enclosed $ ___________________________
On Tuesday, October 10, RC 10 will hold its annual fall meeting at NYSUT Headquarters, 800 Troy Schenectady Road, Latham, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. In November of 2017, all New Yorkers will go to the polls to decide if New York will hold a Constitutional Convention. Pete Savage from NYSUT’s Legislative Department will present information on why you should vote NO on this ballot initiative.

What is currently protected under our State Constitution that may be in jeopardy?
- Our right to a free public education is guaranteed in our State Constitution.
- New York’s most environmentally sensitive areas like the Adirondacks and the Catskills are safeguarded under the constitution’s “forever wild” protections.
- Our rights as New York citizens are protected under the constitution. Our right to join a union, to bargain collectively to obtain a fair contract and decent working conditions, and the provision that our public pension benefits cannot be reduced are also protected by our constitution.

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY
- 10:00 to 10:30—Registration
- 10:30-10:50—General Meeting
- 11:00 to noon—Peter Savage, NYSUT Legislative Department
- 12:15—Lunch

Every participant must register for this presentation by sending a check for $20 made payable to NYSUT RC 10. Since an accurate lunch count is required, walk-ins cannot be accommodated. If there are special dietary needs, please contact rc10secretary@hotmail.com. Your voided check will be returned to you at the conclusion of the program, making this event free for all in attendance (see Registration Form below). Every participant will leave with materials and information to spread the word about the importance of understanding the impact of this ballot initiative.

Print out the form below and mail with your check to Laraine Gillette, 9 Cortland Drive, Albany, NY 12211, by September 28. Any questions, contact rc10secretary@hotmail.com.

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RC 10 SPRING LUNCHEON AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

On June 1, RC 10 held its annual Spring Luncheon, an occasion when we honor four of our deserving colleagues and four scholarship recipients from Albany, Rensselaer, Washington and Saratoga counties.

This year’s Retiree Honorees were: James Stolis (Albany), Alice Schielke (Saratoga), Ann Cherry (Rensselaer), and Paul Smith (Washington). The student scholarship recipients were Megan Anders (Guilderland HS, Albany), Jamie Salerno (Averill Park HS, Rensselaer), Samantha Markham (Hudson Falls HS, Washington), and Victoria Breslin (Saratoga HS, Saratoga).

The election of RC 10 officers also took place at the General Meeting held prior to the luncheon.

For more complete information and to view a photo album of the event, visit the RC 10 website at: