

RC 10 SKYLINE NEWS



NYSUT Retiree Council 10

Serving Over 9000 Members in Albany, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Washington Counties

TEACHER UNION SOLIDARITY

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**TO UPDATE YOUR
PERSONAL CONTACT
INFORMATION,
CALL NYSUT MEMBER
RECORDS (518) 213-6000**

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.

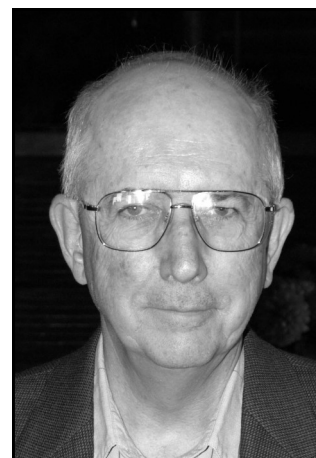
We are also facing the fact that many of those who have been mainstays of our social program are beginning to face the need to cut down their work. They respect the limits that their health puts on them or that their spouse demands "equal time." Some just feel a decade or so of effort on our behalf is 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.



DAVID GOLDEN



~Continued on Page 3

SAVE THESE DATES—TRAVEL AND SOCIAL CALENDAR!!!!

MONDAY, AUGUST 7, GLIMMERGLASS IN COOPERSTOWN, NY—THIS TRIP IS FILLED.

SEPTEMBER 2-14, PORTUGAL AND THE DOURO RIVER—THIS TRIP IS FILLED.

SEPTEMBER 12 TO 14, A TASTE OF THE FINGER LAKES TOUR—THIS TRIP IS FILLED.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, SHELBURNE MUSEUM AND SHELBURNE FARMS. A one-day trip at the peak foliage season to the Shelburne Museum located in Vermont's scenic Champlain Valley. This museum is one of the finest, most diverse and unconventional museums of art and Americana in New England. There are over 39 buildings open, with 21 beautiful gardens and the old side wheel steamboat Ticonderoga, just to name a few of the many attractions. At 3:30, we will travel to Shelburne Farms, where we will have a guided tour of the Webb (Vanderbilt) country estate, as well as the cheese-making operation and other parts of this property designed by Frederick L. Olmstead, who designed Central Park. We will have dinner at a restaurant on Shelburne Road (all costs are included) before returning to Albany around 9:30-10:00 p.m. The bus pick-ups will be at three locations: Albany at 7:15 a.m. at the lower level of Crossgates Commons, Saratoga at 8:15 a.m. at Exit 15 Park and Ride (Wilton Mall close to Dick's Sporting Goods), and Glens Falls at 8:30 a.m. at the Aviation Mall in front of Sears. The total cost, including dinner, transportation, tips, and admission is \$88 for those members who have paid the annual sustaining membership fee. Price is \$93 for guests and members who have not paid the annual sustaining membership fee. Reservations must be made by September 15, 2017. Make your non-refundable check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 10 and send to Daniel D. Boone, 187 Aldous Road, Granville, NY 12832. Any questions: contact Dan at **518-642-1075 in the evening**.

TUESDAY, 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 am to 1:30 pm. 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 for all in attendance. Every participant will leave with materials and information to spread the word 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 16-26, 2018, ESSENTIAL HOLLAND: TULIPS IN SPRING. THIS TRIP IS FILLED.

NOVEMBER 30 TO DECEMBER 8, 2018, DANUBE WALTZ RIVER CRUISE—HISTORY, MUSIC AND CHRISTMAS MARKETS! Join Alice Schielke on this seven-night Danube River cruise for a multi-country voyage heightened by the magic of the holiday season in Europe. Sail from Budapest, Hungary to Regensburg, Germany via Bratislava (Slovakia), Vienna, Salzburg or Linz (Austria), and Passau (Germany). Opt for the Pre-extension to see more of Budapest or the Post-extension to visit Prague (Czech Republic). Enjoy a special concert at the Kursalon Music Hall in Vienna (frequent venue of Johann Strauss), a church organ concert, a rehearsal of the Spanish Lippizaner horses and a tour of the Palais Liechtenstein in Vienna. Visit any or all of six different Christmas markets, or use the time to wander among the beautiful architecture through which you're traveling, and let its history seep in. Special group price of **\$2,716** includes air from JFK (charter bus from Capital Region to be arranged at approximately \$130 round trip), all port taxes, all activities as described in promotional flyer, daily excursion guide/driver gratuities and ALL meals. Limited singles are available with zero single supplement! Although this is not until 2018, early registration is crucial to lock in cabin inventory being held for a limited time. Early registration also affords opportunity for 10 percent discount for registrants paying in full. For detailed flyer, please contact **Alice Schielke** at aliceschielke@gmail.com or **518-368-9009**.

IN THE WORKS—what's up and coming for multiday trips in 2018? RC 10 wanted to give its members advance notice as to what trips are being planned for 2018. Pricing will not be available until August of 2017, but we make our best efforts to find quality programs for a good price. Keep an eye on future newsletters, emails, and the website for more information about these trips. Contact Karen Maher, kmaher2@nycap.rr.com to be put on the notification list for information as soon as final details are available.

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. See the New Orleans of your imagination: the sound of Jazz drifting up Bourbon Street, a nearly miraculous 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.

OCTOBER 2018, OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTE FE: ART, ARCHITECTURE, AND LOCAL CUISINE. Some of the highlights of our itinerary will include wonderful collections of pottery, weaving, baskets, jewelry, paintings only seen by the public via special invitation at the Indian Arts Research Center, a lecture about the life and art of Georgia O'Keeffe and a tour of her museum. Visit Centinela Traditional Arts weaving gallery where we will meet families who have been creating Hispanic weavings for generations, and a beautiful little Roman Catholic Church, El Santuario de Chimayó, a National Historic Landmark. Interact with a Pueblo native potter and visit the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture and the Museum of International Folk Art. Attend a lecture on southwest cuisine presented by James Beard Award-winning chefs followed by a meal prepared at the Red Mesa Cuisine. We will stay at the Drury Plaza Hotel, located in the heart of downtown Santa Fe, affording easy access to explore during free time. Tentative date is October 21, 2018.

Please see Page 3 of this newsletter for the registration form for trips. When registering for a trip, please remember that a **member of RC 10** is anyone who has retired from a NYSUT local that is located in Albany, Saratoga, Rensselaer, or Washington counties or is a Social Member who has retired from a NYSUT local in some other part of the state and has paid member fees to his/her Council and a social membership fee to RC 10. Anyone who did not retire as an in-service member of a NYSUT local is not eligible for sustaining or social membership and must pay the guest registration fee. A **sustaining member** has paid the annual sustaining membership fee for the fiscal year that is from July 1 to June 30.

Travel/Social Call to Action!

If you're reading this section, you must be curious about the Travel/Social offerings of RC 10. If so, the Travel/Social Committee needs you! As you know, the retirees who serve the membership are volunteers. We're fortunate to have many diligent individuals who give regularly of their talents and time. In the case of our committee, our offerings range from luncheons to one-day outings and from multiple-day outings to exciting foreign travel experiences. As you can imagine, this variety of activities requires many hands-on deck. As is the normal course of events, people serve the committee as their circumstances allow and phase out as their lives enter the next chapter. At present, we're undergoing a significant loss of volunteers who have served our Committee admirably for many years, to the benefit of our entire membership. While we wish them well as they move on to their 'next chapter', we're in need of more manpower if we're to continue to serve our membership as we have to date. If you've enjoyed our activities, consider joining our Committee to help make them happen. You don't need previous experience senior members of the Committee will be happy to work alongside you to show you the ropes. Start with a luncheon or an afternoon outing or a day activity. You probably have ideas of your own...if something interests you, it would most likely interest our members.

Our meetings are regularly held the third Tuesday of the month. We invite you to attend an introductory meeting on August 15, prior to our regular meeting at 9:30, at NYSUT headquarters in Latham. We'd like to welcome new members at 9 AM and provide an overview, discuss how you can get involved, listen to your ideas, and familiarize you with our workings. The Committee looks forward to welcoming you! Please RSVP to Karen Maher via email to attend, kmaher2@nycap.rr.com.

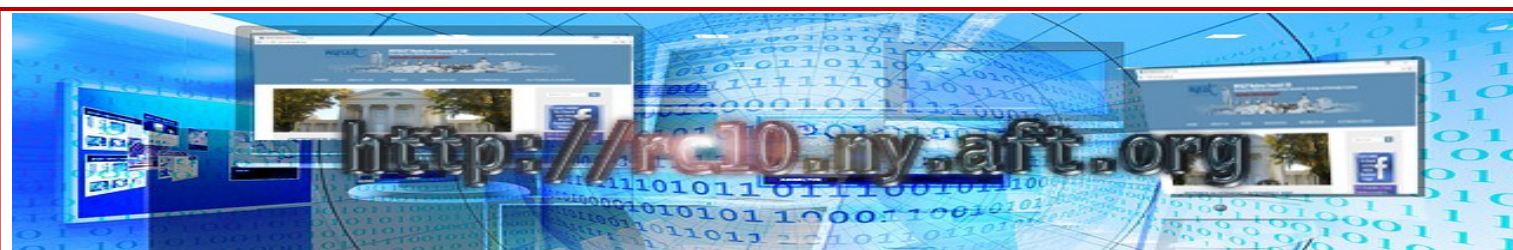
From Your President (Cont'd. from Page 1)

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 RC10 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* _____
*Take phone to event

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 \$ _____

RETIREE COUNCIL 10 FALL LUNCHEON OCTOBER 10, 2017

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.



RC 10 FALL LUNCHEON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017

Name (Person 1) _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail _____

Name (Person 2) _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$20 per person \$ _____

I understand that my voided check will be returned to me at the conclusion of the program. This event is subsidized by both RC 10 and VOTE/COPE in order to make members aware of the impact of having a State Constitutional Convention. Please share this with your former colleagues.

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 Chorney (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:

<http://rc10.ny.aft.org/news/rc-10-spring-luncheon-and-scholarship-awards-held-june-1-2017>.