

RC 8
Retiree



January/February 2023

RC 8

OFFICERS

Jan Corn, President
315-896-9808
jdhcorn@gmail.com

Howard La Fave
Vice President
315-942-2487
janhowl@frontiernet.net

Kathy Foote
kfoot2@gmail.com
Kathy Moran
kmoran6@gmail.com
Co-Secretaries

Wanona Carey
Treasurer
315-336-4578
welcarey@aol.com

Carole Gehrig
Delegate

Kenneth Drake
Alternate Delegate

Janet Furgal, Editor

NYSUT Retiree Services
Consultant
Anne Marie Voutsinas
AnneMarie.Voutsinas@nysut.org
315-431-4040 Ext 40

retireecouncil8.org



mac.nysut.org



NYSUT's Annual Representative Assembly Jan Corn, President

It may seem early, but we are already preparing for the Representative Assembly or RA. It is scheduled this year for April 28-29, 2023, in Albany, NY. The RA is NYSUT's annual convention where members participate in developing NYSUT's policy for the upcoming year. Elected delegates debate and vote on proposed amendments to the NYSUT Constitution and Bylaws, proposed resolutions, and other business brought before the Assembly. Three delegates from RC 8 will be attending this year. There will be approximately 2,000 delegates total in attendance.

The primary work of the general sessions is the consideration of proposed resolutions, which have been submitted by locals and retiree councils from across the state. Resolutions passed by the Assembly become official NYSUT policy. The proposed resolutions are first reviewed by resolution committees and then recommended to the general sessions for adoption, adoption with amendments, rejection, referral to the board of directors or to be tabled. At the general sessions, the delegates are then allowed to speak for or against the resolution committee's recommendations. When discussion is complete, a vote is taken and if passed, the proposed resolutions become part of NYSUT's policy.

This year RC 8 and the Rome TA will

be sponsoring one proposed resolution. The Pension Reform Resolution that we are sponsoring is an important step in moving forward with regard to improving our standard of living in retirement (see below).

RC 8 is also supporting three other proposed resolutions as follows:

- NYSUT will continue to assist higher education local leaders to communicate with former adjuncts to establish procedures for part-time employees who leave service to be a member of their Retiree Council.
- NYSUT will seek to educate its members on the structure and function of the Union after retirement and to instill NYSUT's "Union for Life" initiative.
- The NYSUT Board will consider proposing a change to the Bylaws regarding the increase of one delegate to each retiree Council for a total of four delegates per council.

Once again, RC 8 is proud to attend the RA and be a part of this exciting democratic policymaking process. We do make a difference along with the other many dedicated NYSUT members in New York State.

I wish you health and happiness in 2023 and, as always, thanks for your support!

In solidarity, Jan

Pension Reform Resolution Proposal

RC 8 has joined the Rome Teachers Association in sponsoring the following resolution to be presented at the 2023 Representative Assembly.

- Increase the base. The Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) is currently based on the first \$18,000 of your pension. If it went to \$27,000 as proposed, it would make up for 20 years of stagnation.
- Keep the base current. Raise the base amount by the true rate of inflation every year. Don't let another 20 years go by without any COLA improvements.
- Base the annual COLA on the full rate of inflation. Right now only a fraction of the inflation rate is used. If we used the real rate of inflation, there might never be a need to address this issue legislatively again. EVER.

Submitted by Mary Byrne, Rome retiree

Retiree Council 8 Steering Committee: Adirondack—Y. Emery, H. La Fave; Canastota—B. Wood-arek; Clinton—C. Wheat; Holland Patent—C. Johnson; New Hartford—D. Markson; Oneida—K. Cartwright-Cox, J. Fiacco; Oneida BOCES—J. Furgal; Oriskany—S. McQueen, Barbara Sanford-Ferrick; Remsen—J. Corn; Rome—M. Byrne, W. Carey; Sauquoit—Y. Cortright; Stockbridge—L. Dunn; Utica—N. Bender; VVS—K. Drake, S. Hauprich; Whitesboro—H. Chomin, F. Wood; Past presidents—K. Drake, P. Corbett; RAC—C. Gehrig

Responsibilities of the RC 8 Steering Committee

Before deciding to run for a position on the RC 8 Steering Committee, it might be helpful to know what will be required of you. Elected officers' responsibilities are as follows:

President

1. Administer all affairs and execute all policies of RC 8.
2. Call regular meetings of the RC 8 general membership and Steering Committee.
3. Preside at all meetings of the RC 8 general membership and Steering Committee.
4. Appoint members to all committees established by RC 8 subject to the approval of the Steering Committee and serve in an advisory capacity on those committees.
5. Represent RC 8 with all external groups and attend NYSUT Leadership meetings.
6. Serve as First Delegate to the NYSUT Representative Assembly (RA).
7. Recommend all committees necessary for the functioning of the organization.
8. Fulfill such other duties as the office requires.

Vice President

1. Assume the duties and responsibilities of the President during the President's absences and perform such other duties as the President may designate.
2. Serve as Legislative Chair reporting to the Steering Committee and general membership.
3. Serve as an advisor to the Program Committee.
4. Attend required membership functions as designated by the President.

Secretary

1. Perform duties usual to the office including taking and reporting minutes of meetings and such other duties as may be required by the President.
2. Keep all records organized and secure.

Treasurer

1. Keep membership and financial records for RC 8 and the Steering Committee and perform those duties usual to the office.
2. Use the NYSUT publication *Managing Local Union Finances* as a guide for financial procedures.
3. Present a proposed annual budget to the Steering Committee for approval at its April meeting.
4. Keep all records organized and secure and ready for audit.
5. Prepare and submit a monthly report to the Steering Committee for approval.

Delegate

1. Act on seating of contested representatives (delegates/delegations).
2. Adopt an Order of Business and Rules of Procedure for operation of the Representative Assembly.
3. Require and receive reports.
4. Elect officers, at-large Directors of NYSUT, and State Federation Delegates to the American Federation of Teachers Convention and Directors to the NEA Board of Directors.
5. Adopt a legislative program.
6. Act on amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws of NYSUT.
7. Establish general policies through resolutions and act on other business as necessary.

UPDATE: New York State recently placed both ERS and PFRS under the heading of **NYSLRS (New York State and Local Retirement System)** nysut.org, 1/1/23

ERS provides service and disability retirement benefits, as well as death benefits to employees of participating public employers in non-teaching positions, exclusive of New York City. This includes uniformed services personnel, such as correction officers and sheriffs. PFRS provides service and disability retirement benefits, as well as death benefits to police officers and firefighters who work for participating public employers, exclusive of New York City. The new combined website can be found here: www.osc.state.ny.us/retirement/members

**WANTED:
MEMBER
ARTICLES**

Retiree Council 8 would like to print short (approximately 75-100 words) articles from our local chapter members. If you have something you'd like to share with others, please submit your email article to Janet Furgal at jmf1964@hotmail.com for inclusion in a future newsletter. All articles accepted must be apolitical and could be about your interests, experiences, hobbies, talents, travels or volunteer experiences. We are interested in what our colleagues are doing and would like to share that with over 4,000 other RC 8 retirees.

Spring Brunch: Thursday, May 18, 2023

<p>HART’S HILL INN 135 CLINTON STREET WHITESBORO COST: \$25 Complimentary Lunch for all 2022 and January 2023 Retirees</p> <p>MENU</p> <p>Seasonal and Garden Salads Baked Chicken Baked Ziti and Italian Meatballs Sausage and Peppers Oven Browned Potatoes Hot Vegetable Italian Bread and Butter Coffee, Tea and Cake</p> <p>Cash Bar will be available</p>	<p>AGENDA</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Registration</p> <p>11:30 Introductions by Jan Corn RC 8 President Election of Officers</p> <p>12:00 noon Lunch</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Speaker: Mary Byrne, Rome Retiree Topic: Comparison of Current Health Plans</p> <p>1:30 Announcement of Election Results Closing</p> <p>Spring Charity Recipient will be announced in the March/April newsletter.</p>
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RESERVATION FORM

Please send this form and your check for \$25 (made payable to Retiree Council 8) to the following address:
RC 8 Brunch, NYSUT, 7 Ellinwood Court, New Hartford, NY 13413. Your check and reservation form
must be received by Tuesday, May 9, 2023. Late reservations can no longer be accepted.

Name_____

District Retired From_____Year of Retirement_____

Address_____

E-mail_____Phone_____

2022-2023 Participation Fee

IMPORTANT: Retirees from Adirondack, Canastota, Central Square, Clinton, Holland Patent, New Hartford, Oneida, Oriskany, Pulaski, Remsen, Sauquoit Valley, Stockbridge Valley, Utica, VVS, Waterville, Westmoreland, and Whitesboro **do not have to send \$5**, since the Participation Fee is contributed via retiree dues by your chapter. Rome Retirees may add the Participation Fee to their RTA local dues.

ATTENTION ALL OTHER RETIREES NOT BELONGING TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED LOCALS;
please fill out the form below and mail as directed at the bottom of the form.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____City/State/Zip_____

Retiree School District: _____Phone_____

E-mail address: _____

**PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND A \$5 CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO “RETIREE COUNCIL 8”
AND MAIL TO:** Wanona E. Carey, RC 8 Treasurer, 8623 Turin Road, Rome, NY 13440-7523.

Check out all your union membership has to offer!

LEGAL SERVICE PLAN

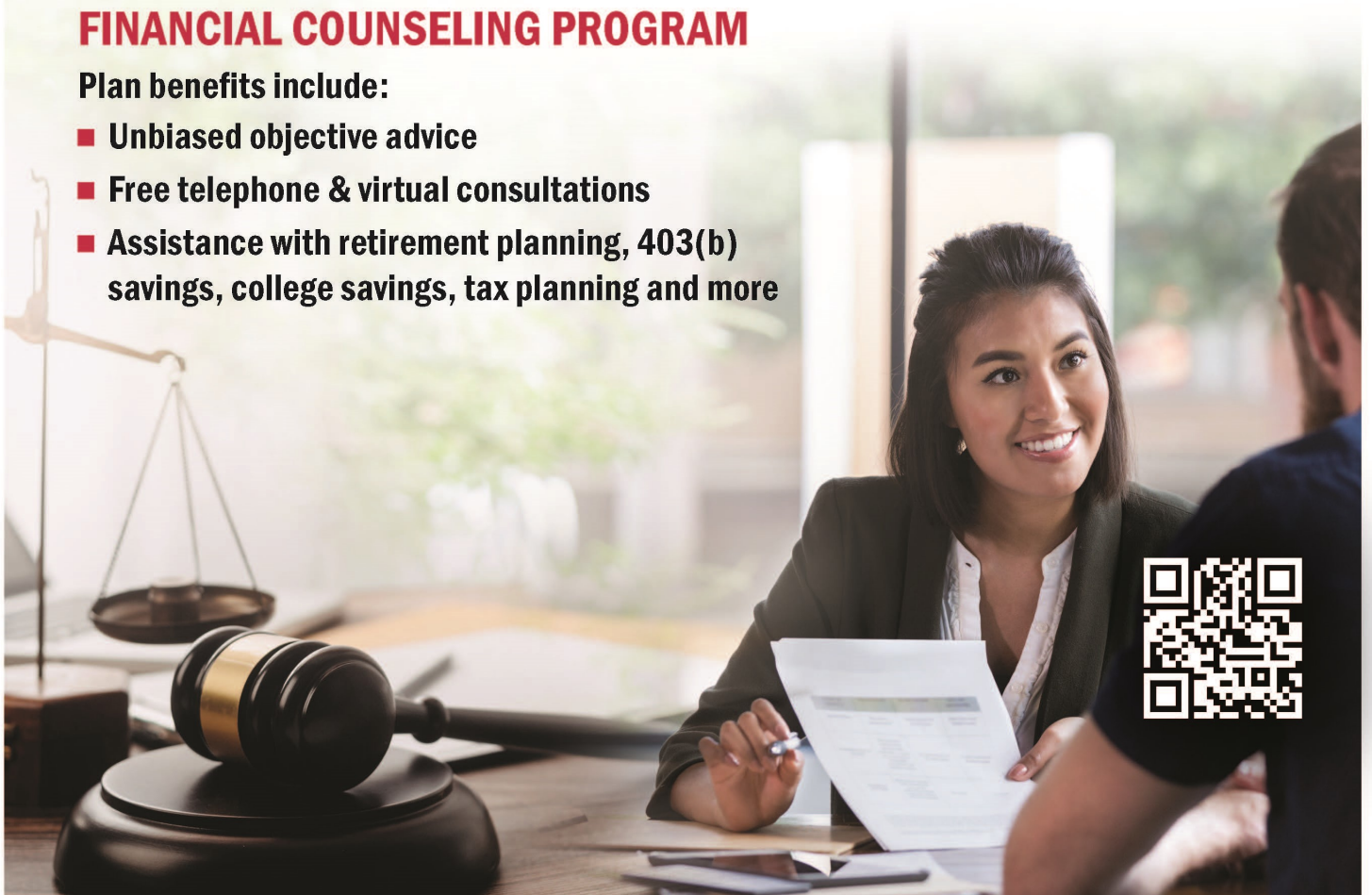
Plan benefits include:

- Crucial estate planning documents (a Simple Will, Health Care Proxy, Living Will & Durable Power of Attorney)
- Free telephone consultations
- Guaranteed maximum fees for specific legal matters

FINANCIAL COUNSELING PROGRAM

Plan benefits include:

- Unbiased objective advice
- Free telephone & virtual consultations
- Assistance with retirement planning, 403(b) savings, college savings, tax planning and more



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the right,
visiting **memberbenefits.nysut.org**
or calling **800-626-8101**.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

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