

# Spotlight 21

## SERVING RETIREES FROM

Bay Shore                      Brentwood                      East Islip                      West Islip  
Bayport-Blue Point                      Central Islip                      Islip                      Sayville  
Connetquot



Vol. 13 No. 2

An Award Winning Publication of NYSUT Retiree Council 21

December, 2013

## New Retirees Enjoy RC 21's 14th Annual Welcome Brunch

- Dennis Tracey - NYS Alliance for Retired Americans President
- David Keefe - NYSUT Retiree Representative

This year's Welcome Brunch at Westlake fulfilled its purpose of commoradary and education on retiree issues. Joan Perrini, President, welcomed new and returning members as well as visiting In-service Presidents from Islip, Brentwood, Sayville and Bay Shore.



Dennis Tracey, President of NYSARA, spoke to the lack of confidence citizens have in the Government at this time. The continuing resolutions used to fund the government for short time spans has been the norm since the last budget passed

in 1997, under President Clinton. Mr. Tracey warned that we must take the offensive and we need one voice to unite people to work on four areas of concern:

- Reforming the economy by raising taxes on the wealthy.
- Working towards creating jobs with an eye towards

education and infrastructure.

- Creating a just economy with upward mobility for all citizens.
- Protecting Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security from attacks in the guise of reform.

He said the White House must make "tough choices" in the following months to fend off attacks on Social Security such as means testing while making promised "investments" in the future of our economy. We must hold our local, state, and federal representatives responsible. We can do this by staying informed and acting on the information individually or collectively through RC 21 and NYSUT. Attend RC 21 meetings on the last Tuesday of the month at the West Islip Library (calendar on page 4) for information and possible actions. Go *(Continued on next page)*



## A Message From

## President Joan Perrini



### A Time for Thanks!

This is the time of year to acknowledge all the great work done by our union for our retirees and to celebrate the fact that we have many people that help to make Retiree Council 21 a successful venture.

Special thanks go to:

#### • Our officers:

**Vice-Presidents:** Simonne Harkavy, Marilyn Aitken and Louisa Eiermann for their support.

**Treasurer:** Dick Walters for keeping me straight.

**Secretaries:** Julia Arena, Sharon Eckhaus & Linda Brookshire for keeping us on track.

#### • Our Committees:

**Benevolent** – Marie Kanzler for raising \$2,496 from RC21 and its chapters for NYSUT Breast Cancer Walk.

**Benefits** - Simonne, Marilyn, Jean Economos, Julia Arena, Ravelle Schaper, and Louisa Eiermann for the great RC21 trips and raffle baskets at our luncheons. Thank you Tim Wood & Fred Schaefer for the heavy hauling. They provide the fun in RC21. Keep tuned to our newsletter & meetings for more exciting adventures.

**Constitution** – Marilyn Gutierrez and her team ( Peter Leis, John White) for coordinating our Constitution with NYSUT.

**Newsletter** – Diana Baranec for a great job in keeping our members informed.

**Political Action** – Tim Wood for all the meetings, lobbying, rallies, and phone calls to keep our benefits intact and to preserve public education.

**Sunshine** - Mary Schlaikjer for cheering our Board members in times of need.

**Website** – Michael Eiermann for creating an RC21 website and keeping us updated on events and on senior issues that affect our lives.

**NYSUT Retiree Consultants**, Dotty Zuckerman and Kathleen Lyons, for assisting our officers.

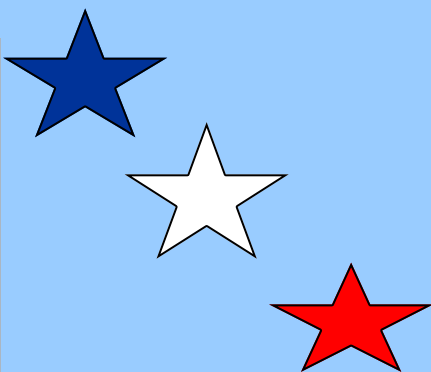
And, last but not least, thank you to all our Executive Board, including our newest member representing nurses and public hospitals, Kathy Southerton, for keeping their chapters informed of senior issues and concerns, and to all our members who attend our meetings and events, read our newsletter and remain informed unionists.

*Happy Healthy and Prosperous Holidays to All  
From  
Joan Perrini and the Executive Board*

**Retiree Class Of 2013**



Connetquot



West Islip



Brentwood



Islip



East Islip



Bay Shore



Central Islip



Sayville



Bayport-Blue Point

*(continued from Welcome Brunch page 1)*  
to NYSUT.org and communicate with your representatives through NYSUT's **Take Action** site.

David Keefe once again assured us of the health of our

Pension Plan. We were asked to attend the Legislative Luncheon scheduled for May 9th to hear from our local representatives.

# Bits and Pieces

## Retiree Council 21 Elections & Nominations

**Positions are: President  
1st and 2nd Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Three delegates to NYSUT  
Two alternate positions for delegate**

**All Terms are 3 years**

If you would like to run for an office please send your application to:

**Mary Schlaikjer  
78 Bay Avenue,  
Huntington, NY 11743**

**BEFORE April 23, 2014**

You should include your name and position you wish to run for.

## Benefits Committee

**Spring 2014  
Steam Train Ride to Griswald Pond Dam in  
Essex County, Connecticut  
Paddle Boat Ride back  
Details to follow**

**Fall 2014  
Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire  
Fall Foliage**

**Israel, The Holy Land & Jordan - May 2014**  
Trip planned by Joan, Simonne, & Marilyn

Interested parties call RC21 at 631-587-1151

or

Linda at 631-383-9413.



*(This program is NOT endorsed by NYSUT)*

## Making Strides 2013 at Jones Beach

RC 21 members: Joan Perrini, Simonne Harkavy, Marie Kanzler, and Valerie Bunda proudly represented our unit at the October event. Through the donations of our local units and money from raffles provided by the RC 21 Benefits Committee, our Benevolent Committee Chairperson, Marie Kanzler, was able to send \$2,496 to the American Cancer Society. Thank you to all our generous members for their donations.



### Spotlight 21

A Publication of NYSUT Retiree Council 21

**Joan Perrini, President  
Marilyn Aitken, 1st VP  
Simonne Harkavy, 2nd VP  
Richard Walters, Treasurer  
Julia Arena, Secretary  
Sharon Eckhaus, Assistant Secretary**

**Diana Baranec Editor  
spot21editor@optonline.net  
Contact/visit us at:  
(631) 587 - 1151**

**<http://ny.aft.org/rc21>**

Forward changes in addresses/names to NYSUT and/or your local

**Dorothy Zuckerman, NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant  
631-273-8822; e-mail: dzuckerm@nysutmail.org**

# RC 21 Meeting Dates 2014

## General Membership

West Islip Public Library  
Higbie Lane/Montauk Hwy.  
10:15 - 12 noon

<b>January and February</b> No Meetings	
March 18, 2014	
April 22, 2014	
May 20, 2014 <b>Election of officers &amp; delegates</b>	
June 17, 2014 <b>Awards Luncheon</b>	

## Executive Board Meetings

NYSUT Office  
150 Motor Pkwy, Hauppauge (Citibank Building)  
10:15 - 12 noon

<b>January - No Meeting</b>	
February 4, 2014	April 1, 2014
March 4, 2014	May 6, 2014
June 3, 2014	

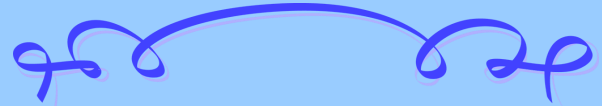


It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Betty Siegel, co-editor of the Spotlight 21. Betty was a dedicated teacher in New York City and guidance counsellor in Bay Shore. She worked tirelessly to help her students achieve their goals. Betty instilled dedication to community service in her students.

Betty worked on many committees and organizations in the town of Babylon Village. She left her mark on all the people she led and worked with.

Personally, Betty had a deep and lasting influence on me and my work as an editor of our newsletter. She taught me the importance of accuracy and the need for thorough research. Our sincerest sympathies are extended to her son, Richard, and his family.

Diana Baranec, Editor



## RC 21 Calendar 2014

### Upcoming Events

**April - May**  
**Steam Train Ride to Griswald Pond Dam in**  
**Essex County, Connecticut**

**June 17, 2014**  
**Awards Luncheon**

**Get details & registration forms online at**  
**our website:**

<http://rc21.ny.aft.org>

**Reservations accepted on a first-come basis.**