

SRTC - SEA

Retiree Connections

Retirees - A Bridge From the Past to the Present

Season's Greetings To All

December 2024 Volume 18 Issue 7

We wish each of you a happy
and healthy holiday season and
new year. May each day be
filled with peace and good
health with family and friends.



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Executive Committee

President: Phil Lima
Vice President: Tom McTaggart
Secretary: Elaine Salierno
Treasurer: Judy Veltidi
Vote-Cope Chair: Nancy Pratt
Membership Committee Chair: Anne Clark

Community Relations PAC: Joyce Nencetti & Sue Roberts
Board of Ed Liaison: Judy Veltidi SCSD BOE Meetings
Webmaster: Rich Deibler SRTC-SEA Website
Newsletter Editors: Eleanor Cerny & Andrea Edwards
Newsletter email: srtc.connection@gmail.com



President's Corner by Phil Lima

Retirees - A Bridge From the Past to the Present

Hello everyone,

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful start to this holiday season. With Thanksgiving in the rear view mirror (hopefully you had a chance to spend quality time with family and friends) we quickly gear up for all the craziness that the holidays bring.

Additionally, I would like to thank those who have contributed to this year's VOTE COPE campaign. One hundred thirty-four people have sent in their contribution (38% of our retiree chapter) Many have had their contribution automatically deducted from their pension; some have contributed through other means. We will not have the final tally until sometime in February. Yet, there is still time to send in your donation before the December 15 deadline! This campaign is vital to the work being accomplished on the local level. It also supports the ongoing work of NYSUT to not only address issues facing current educators, but to insure the protection of current and future retirees and provide quality programs for all students enrolled in every school district within the state no matter their socio-economic background.

Moving forward into 2025 there will be many issues facing us as a society. What happens on the national level will impact us on both the state and local level as well. It appears that the divisions within our nation will continue to thrive unless we look for some common ground and common sense solutions. Less focus on private self interest but an emphasis on the "common good". A brighter future exists when people, who may differ on policy, come together to find solutions that will do more good than harm. We all have a role in helping to make this happen.

Here's to a brighter future for all! Wishing everyone the very best this holiday season and the next...

[Click here to receive a special message from President Lima!](#)

COMMUNITY ACTION



Community Relations

T. McTaggart, J. Nencetti, & S. Roberts

Thank you to all for your generosity!

Our Chapter makes an annual donation of \$500.00 to each of the following:

Feeding Ministry at Christ Episcopal Church
Sloatsburg Food Pantry

Our members have donated a total of \$5,815.00 to the Christ Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen in 2024!

Our continued support for the Christ Church Soup Kitchen is appreciated! Thank you.

.....

Christ Church Soup Kitchen:

Make checks payable to "Christ Episcopal Church" (memo: Soup Kitchen) and mail to:

Joyce Nencetti
371 Heights Rd.
Wyckoff, NJ 07481

Sloatsburg Food Pantry

Make checks payable to "Sloatsburg Food Pantry" (memo: Donation) and mail to:

Tom McTaggart
14 Waldron Terrace
Sloatsburg, NY 10974

VOTE COPE 2025 PAC by Nancy Pratt

Your statewide union has a political fund-raising arm called VOTE-COPE. VOTE-COPE is NYSUT's non-partisan action fund that coordinates the voluntary contributions of members and supports NYSUT-endorsed candidates and campaign committees that are pro-public-education and pro-labor.

No NYSUT dues dollars are used to support candidates or campaign committees.

**Thank you to all who contribute.
If you have not sent in your contribution,
please do so by**

December 15, 2024.



**Information has been mailed to you.
For more information go to NYSUT VOTE-COPE**

Sloatsburg Food Pantry



Dear Suffern Retired Teachers Chapter of the SEA,

I hope this letter finds you well. On behalf of everyone at the Sloatsburg Food Pantry, I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued support.

Your donation will be put to very good use, enabling us to continue serving our clients with the essential food supplies they need to thrive. With these funds, we can ensure that no family in our community goes hungry and can expand our services to meet the growing needs of our clients which has already increased by 20% in 2024 and is expected to continue to rise throughout the balance of the year.

The success of this event would not have been possible without your support. Your contribution not only helps us provide food but also brings hope and relief to those who rely on our pantry during difficult times. Your kindness and compassion are truly inspiring. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to our cause and for helping us make a tangible difference in the lives of so many. Thank you once again for your generosity and for being an integral part of our community's efforts to combat hunger.

We invite you to stay involved with the Sloatsburg Food Pantry by visiting our website at www.SloatsburgFoodPantry.org to learn more about our ongoing community efforts. If you haven't already, consider volunteering your time and encouraging your friends and family to join our efforts. Additionally, you can support us by following us on social media. Your continued involvement can make a significant impact. Thank you again for your generous support.

With warmest regards,

The Sloatsburg Food Pantry

Shanna Donnellan
Treasurer



Reminders, Events & Notes About Your Union



NYSUT Membership



NYSUT is a labor union representing nearly 700,000 professionals who work in, or are retired from, New York's schools, colleges and healthcare facilities.

- Are you a NYSUT member in good standing?
- Did you receive a NYSUT membership card for 2025?
- Did you pay your \$10.00 SRTC-SEA dues for 2024-2025?

Go to [NYSUT Member Benefits](#) to review benefits for members in good standing.

An important message from NYSUT **UPDATED NYSUT Retiree Guide**

"As a retiree, you will have access to many important retirement related activities, benefits and opportunities that will be provided by your local (if they have a retiree chapter), NYSUT, AFT and NEA. If your local has a retiree chapter, NYSUT requires that you enroll with your chapter to maintain your membership in NYSUT, AFT and NEA. Your local retirement chapter may also require you to pay dues, and it is important that you remain in good standing each year to maintain membership."

Check your NYSUT membership status so that you do not miss out on membership-associated benefits!

We have approximately 376 retirees in our chapter. Please do not let your unpaid SRTC-SEA \$10.00 dues cause you to lose out on your NYSUT benefits.



One of the latest free NYSUT member benefits: [CALM](#) app

NYSUT Updates

Check out NYSUT news
<https://www.nysut.org/news>



To keep up to date with NYSUT updates, signup for MAC (Member Action Center) text alerts
Go to <https://mac.nysut.org/> scroll down, enter your cell number.

NYSTRS Updates

Read [NYSTRS Newsletter for the Retired Members](#) from the NYS Teachers Retirement System.



Scholarship

Suffern Retired Teachers Chapter- Suffern Education Association

Family Scholarship 2025

For Children and or Grandchildren of the SRTC

The Suffern Retired Teachers Chapter-SEA will be awarding one \$1,500 family scholarship to a graduating senior who will be attending college in the fall and is the child or grandchild of a member of the SRTC-SEA.

Please include the following:

- A TYPED APPLICATION FORM.

The application can be obtained at srtc-sea.org/ScholarshipAppl.docx

- An official transcript along with your mid-year grades, SAT/ACT scores.
- A letter of recommendation with your application.

The completed application, transcript and recommendation should be e-mailed /mailed directly from the student's high school to:

Mr. Philip T. Lima
Suffern Retired Teachers Chapter- Suffern Education Association
7 Pyngyp Rd.
Stony Point, New York 10980

or

Email to : amigos48@aol.com

The deadline for the application is March 21, 2025.

Stay Current

Ensure your contact details are up-to-date

We would just like to remind retirees that **it is very important** that you let the district know when you move.

They need to know your address for insurance/Medicare reasons.

We would also like to recommend that you plan ahead, ask a trusted relative or friend to do this for you in case you are incapacitated.



Any one who changes their contact information, please notify
Membership Committee Chair: Anne Clark
anneclark10987@gmail.com.

District News

Information about the district can be found on the district's website.
<https://www.sufferncentral.org/>

Board of Education meetings are available on YouTube live, or can be seen after the fact.
<https://www.youtube.com/@sufferncsdboardofeducation6294>

The district, individual schools and different programs/athletic teams and clubs can be found on Instagram.



President Phil's Trivia Question

Riddle/ brain teaser:

What "T" mouse with a Brooklyn accent is the guardian and mentor of "Dumbo" in the Disney cartoon?

The first person who sends in the correct answer will win a prize.

Submissions should be sent to Phil Lima at amigos48@aol.com.

Phil will use the date and time the entry was received in his email.



How to print this Newsletter

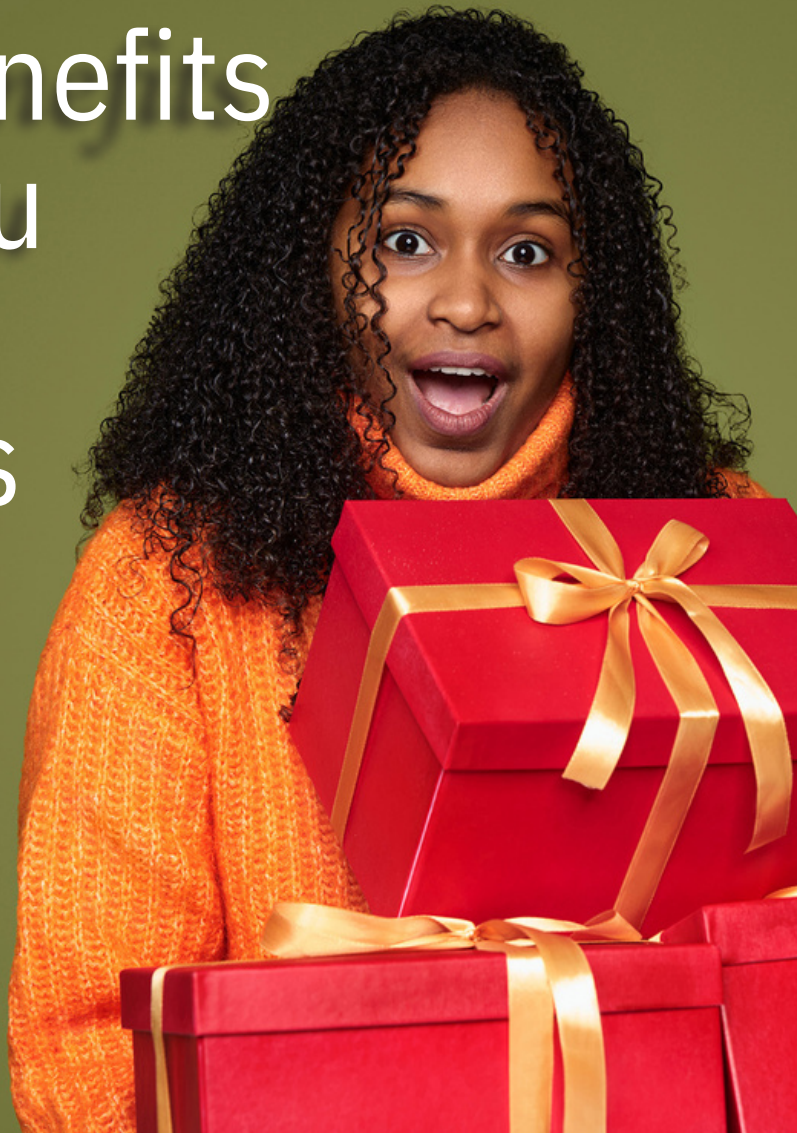
Some members inquired about printing the newsletter. Since the newsletter is created as a video (due to the embedded multimedia), it cannot be printed as a pdf after publication; therefore a pdf (without multimedia) will be available on the [SRTC- SEA webpage](#). If you have questions or suggestions, please email the newsletter team: srtc.connection@gmail.com



If you learn about the passing of one of our members (or their immediate family) and would like us to send out an alert, please email: anneclark10987@gmail.com. Any additional information you can provide (i.e. obituary, services, address of next-of-kin) would be appreciated. Thank you.

Member Benefits can help you save during the holidays

Another holiday season full of anticipation and joy is upon us, and NYSUT Member Benefits is ready to help with gift giving. Before purchasing any items on your list, make sure to check out all that Member Benefits has to offer.



Whether you're looking for savings on gift baskets, flowers or chocolates, Bose products, clothing or shoes, movie tickets, sporting events and concerts, theme parks and attractions, restaurants, or thousands of other deals, you'll want to check out MB Discounts & Deals.

While you're on our website, take some time to explore the Buyer's Edge, Inc., ODP Business Solutions, and Purchasing Power programs for new and used vehicles; appliances, televisions, furniture, and mattresses; school and office supplies; electronics; and more.

Don't forget about making sure your family is protected during the holidays and beyond. Going back over 40 years, NYSUT members have historically counted on Member Benefits for crucial

insurance, legal, and financial offerings. Member Benefits endorses quality life, disability, auto/home/renter's, dental and vision, and pet insurance offerings – along with unbiased legal services and financial counseling options.

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



**MEMBER
BENEFITS**
nysut
Working to Benefit You
November/December 2024