

SRTC - SEA

Retiree Connections

Retirees - A Bridge From the Past to the Present

October 6, 2023 Volume 17 Issue 1



President's Corner by Phil Lima

Hi all,
Many thanks to Karen Kornreich, Terri Fergarsky and the Luncheon Committee for organizing our wonderful Fall Luncheon. Also, congratulations to our honored guests, the Retiree Class of 2023. May you find peace, happiness and more sleep time as you embark on a new journey during your retirement. Most retirees will tell you that they don't know how they were able to balance both home and school all those years but now can't find the time to do everything they want to do with their "free time".

I would also like to give a big shout out for all our volunteers who stepped up to join forces with the SEA and Voices - Save Our Schools during the last school district budget and trustee election.

We made a strong showing at many events and presentations at Senior centers and community groups encouraging them to support Suffern schools and students. Even though successful, the hard work continues. I know we will be called upon next Spring to help get- the- vote- out message to all those groups to support the budget and vote for candidates that have the needs of the school district, especially the students, as their priority. Additionally, we are also encouraging our members to join some of our committees or suggest new ideas for our chapter to explore or support. You can contact me or speak to anyone listed on the web site or newsletter to find out how you can help.

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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](#)
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COMMUNITY ACTION



President's Corner Cont'd

I am concerned and fearful of the continued attacks on our profession, schools and educational institutions and that those attacks will continue to mount in the next few years by those who feel that there is a deliberate agenda that is being pursued to harm, indoctrinate students at all levels. We need to be able to sift through all the minutiae and false claims and promote healthy discussions with our family and friends and encourage our local, state and national leaders to do their homework in order to make informed decisions in all public policy issues, especially decisions that have an enormous impact on the educational needs for all students.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you for your continued support of the Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry. Your generous donations to both are truly appreciated by those who suffer from food insecurity. Your contributions are making a tremendous difference in the lives of many who live within the Suffern community.

You Rock!!

-Phil

Remember to support Vote Cope!!

Community Relations by J. Nencetti & S. Roberts

2023 Donations to the Christ Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen

Total Spring Donations \$2,065.00
Total Fall Donations: \$3835.00
2023 TOTAL Donations: \$5,900.00



Thank you to all for your generosity

In 2023-24 we will continue to build on our successful fundraising for the Christ Episcopal Church Soup Kitchen and the Sloatsburg Food Pantry.

VOTE COPE 2023 PAC

by Nancy Pratt

We stand.
We fight.
We win.
TOGETHER.

Our 2023 VOTE COPE campaign has begun. Many of you will recall when, as active members of the "RTA," we stood, we fought, and we won together. Fortunately, this recipe for success has continued into our retirement as NYSUT has stood, fought and won many issues that affect each one of us. Our professional union has been able to show success because we have been willing to stand TOGETHER and support their efforts!

Many concerns are in the news and will be faced head on in the days and months ahead. I am hopeful that each of you will continue or begin to support the voice in Albany that speaks on your behalf.

Our power is in our numbers. A few cents/dollars a week does matter.

A donation/week - Amounts to Yearly donation of:

\$0.46	\$ 24
\$0.67	\$ 35
\$0.96	\$ 50
\$1.92.....	\$100
\$3.85.....	\$200
\$5.77	\$300

The SRTC / SEA 2023 VOTE COPE Campaign

October 1 – December 15, 2023

TOGETHER
we can shield and defend what matters.



Christ Episcopal Church

65 Washington Avenue
Suffern, New York 10901
845-357-1615

Christchurchsuffern.org

A fully inclusive parish
in the Diocese of New York where
all are welcome.

The Rev. Dale L. Cranston
Rector

October 2, 2023

Our dear friends of the Retired
Teachers of Suffern

Once again, I want to thank you for your extreme generosity to help fund our 43 year old Feeding Ministry in the greater Suffern area.

Regardless of political leanings, food insecurity is growing and we see it here at Christ Church. Our numbers for needy people continues to grow at an alarming rate, while at the same time the food supply from New York State, as well a grant support has diminished substantially.

Your ongoing most generous support helps us to reduce the impact of the cuts and maintain our commitment to feed those in great need. Between the lunch program and pantry program, we feed thousands each week.

God bless all of you, always,

Dale.Cranston@protonmail.com

District News & Updates

MOUNTIES ON THE MOVE

The Suffern Central School District has initiated "a new campaign highlighting SHS grads who are living their best lives". Perhaps you have seen something about this on Facebook or Instagram, where Joe Moskowitz, class of 2006, was mentioned as competing on the new season of "The Amazing Race".

It would be great to see some of our former students (and our children, if they went to Suffern) highlighted in this campaign, Reach out to those you are still in contact with and have them contact Jenny Mirmelstein, Director of Communications & Community Relations. This initiative is called *Mounties on the Move*.

jmirmelstein@sufferncentral.org

Reimagining the Elementary School Experience

The Suffern Central School District believes that all of our elementary students deserve similar programs, class sizes, extracurricular activities and opportunities to expand their social networks, and we're proposing a new way to operate at the elementary level to our Board of Education. Our proposal features a reconfiguration of our elementary schools into two grade K-2 buildings and two grade 3-5 buildings, with a repurposing of our fifth building.

Throughout the summer, the Superintendent has been working with the admin team, reviewing transportation and building sizes, examining the population and location of our students and meeting with families, all to help provide insight into the best possible solution around which building to repurpose and how the other ones will be used. On August 22, Dr. Gundersen presented three scenarios to the Board (a link to the presentation can be found on the District's website) and will make a final recommendation with the hope to receive Board approval by mid-October.

Fall 2023 Excelsior

Elementary School Closing Update 10/3/2023 Board Meeting

In a school board meeting on Tuesday, Suffern Central School District Superintendent Eric Gundersen recommended consolidating the district's elementary schools, reducing them from five to four. Gundersen proposed repurposing Viola Elementary, with two buildings catering to pre-kindergarten through second grade, paired geographically with two schools for third through fifth grade students.

According to Gundersen, there has been a 23% decrease in elementary school enrollment over the past several years. School officials attribute this decline to more families in the district choosing to send their children to private religious schools.

Gundersen believes the new plan will offer educational and social benefits, and the district has addressed potential issues such as longer bus rides and diversity concerns. While some parents express mixed emotions, one advocate for preserving Sloatsburg Elementary garnered 215 signatures for a petition. Another parent supports the plan, stating, "People in our district will finally be able to see why Sloatsburg is so amazing. Why wouldn't we want that? We will no longer be outcasts." The board will review the proposal and feedback, with plans to convene on Oct. 24 for a formal public hearing and possible vote.

[Link to News12 Report & Video Clip](#)

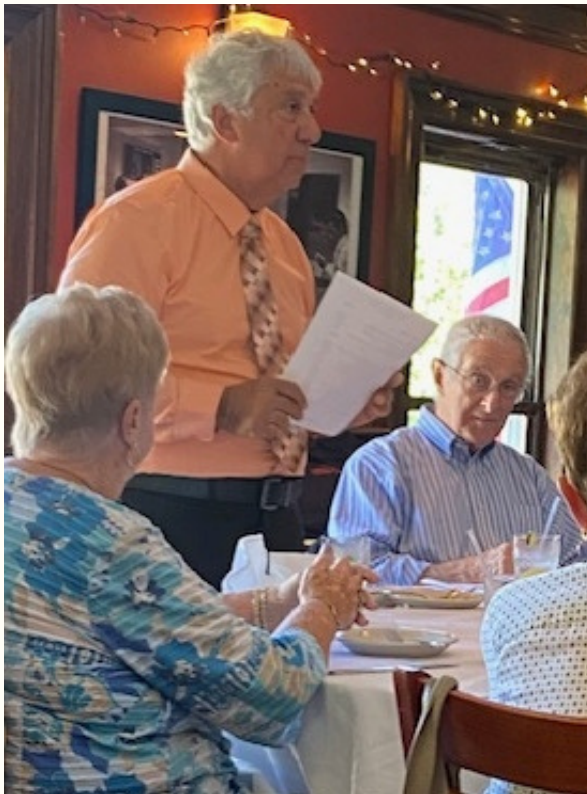
FALL EVENTS . . .

Our Fall Luncheon was held on September 21st at Characters Restaurant in Sloatsburg.

We welcomed our newest retirees of 2023:

Patricia Boswell, Joanne Cangialosi, Marissa Guijarro, Deb Halsch, Lisa Henriquez, Georgina Holden, Susan Litwack, Patricia Macchia, Dave McNally, Eleni Pallogudis, Holly Quinn and Rosan Shedler

We wish each of you all the best in your retirement years. May each day bring you peace, good health and happiness.



Local History

Character's Restaurant & Lounge

Originally: The Glenwood Hotel

(1999 Historic Preservation Merit Award Winner)
The Glenwood Hotel is an historic landmark in the Village of Sloatsburg, ny. In 1998, new owners, Mr. & Mrs. Dematteis made needed structural repairs while preserving the original structure and restoring the original appearance of the Glenwood Hotel of the early 1900's. In December of 1998, the restored building was reopened as the Aldente Italian American restaurant.

The village of Sloatsburg has a rich historical heritage. a number of early sites and structures still exist but many are in need of restoration. the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Dematteis in restoring one of the village's oldest buildings, the Historic Glenwood Hotel, for adaptive use as an haute-cuisine restaurant sets an excellent example and theme for encouraging further restoration activities in the village.

History & Chronology:

Tax records of the late 1800's identify this property as containing three buildings. one small building behind the present restaurant, was to serve in the early 1900's as ice house for the Glenwood Hotel. a second, located in what is now the parking lot, served in the early 1900's as the barber shop of Louis d'Avanzo, then during the mid 1900's as the Boland Market. This dilapidated old building was razed in 1974. The third and largest building served in the late 1800's as a rooming house and was to become The Glenwood Hotel. Henry Tobin purchased the property in 1903. In 1906 Tobin's Saloon was listed in the Erie Railroad Directory for Sloatsburg and in 1908 the Glenwood Hotel was first listed. The first floor was remodeled to serve as a restaurant offering open-air dining on the large veranda style porch in addition to an elegant main dining room. The upper floors continued to be operated as boarding rooms, primarily for workers in the mills of Sloatsburg until around 1950.



The Glenwood Hotel was owned and operated by Henry and Kathleen Tobin. Until the NYS Thruway opened in 1957, the Orange Turnpike (Route 17) was the only major highway for travelers from NYC, Rockland County and New Jersey to drive to upstate New York, Vermont and Canada. The elegant dining rooms of the Glenwood Hotel, located directly on the Orange Turnpike, became a favorite dinner stop for many travelers. This was also during the most active years of nearby Tuxedo Park and those wealthy patrons were reported to be regulars at the Glenwood as well. It is even rumored that during prohibition years (1920-1933), the Glenwood offered its patrons other incentives as well. Before prohibition, there was a workingman's bar in the rear but Mr. Tobin stood guard to ensure that no one without a jacket and tie entered the dining room.

The Glenwood Hotel flourished as a restaurant for fine dining for nearly fifty years - until the opening of the NYS Thruway diverted travelers away from the Orange Turnpike. That, plus a diminishing of the super-rich era in Tuxedo Park, significantly reduced the traditional clientele for a first class restaurant. The operation of the restaurant as the Glenwood Inn continued until around 1970. Characters was established in 2006 by an Irishman, Tommy Acton, from Galway, Ireland.

References

[Village of Sloatsburg Historical Society](#)
[Patch 2/17/21](#)

Reminders, Events & Notes

Opportunities for Kindness

Donations to the SRTC sponsored Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry are always appreciated.

Christ Church Soup Kitchen: Joyce Nencetti, 371 Heights Road, Wyckoff, New Jersey 07481. (Checks payable to Christ Episcopal Church, please put "Soup Kitchen" in memo area of check).

Sloatsburg Food Pantry: Tom McTaggart, 14 Waldron Terrace, Sloatsburg, NY 10974. (Checks payable to Sloatsburg Food Pantry, please put "Donation" in memo area of check)



Your Member Benefits
Keep Up to Date

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.



We Remember

- June 21, 2023 Renee Kratter



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.

President Phil's Trivia Question

I left my campsite and hiked South for 3 miles. Then I turned East and hiked for 3 more miles. I then turned North and hiked for 3 more miles, at which time I came across a bear inside my tent eating my food. What color was the bear?

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.

Morning Coffee with <u>Wordle</u> Guess the WORDLE in 6 tries. Each guess must be a valid 5 letter word.	Check out <u>Goodreads</u> to keep track of your reading, find new books, and interesting reviews!	New York Times Spelling Bee Daily puzzle free Unlimited access requires subscription
		

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



*The Executive Committee wishes everyone
a great start to 2023-24*

Back to school can mean a lot of different things:

- Starting a new career
 - Planning for the future
 - Balancing work and home life
 - Making difficult decisions
 - Enjoying your final year before retirement •
- Recalling memories of a proud career



Regardless of what you might be doing this fall, **NYSUT Member Benefits** offers a variety of endorsed programs and services that could help make you as prepared as possible for whatever the new school year may throw at you.

Whether you are looking to save money, protect your family, or plan for the future, **NYSUT Member Benefits** is a great place to start. With dozens of endorsed insurance, legal, financial, shopping, travel, and discount programs, you are certain to find something of interest that could benefit you or your loved ones.

And speaking of savings, the **Member Benefits Discounts & Deals** program utilizes the nation's largest private discount network to offer all NYSUT members (both in-service and retiree) exclusive access to savings of up to 50% at 850,000 locations -- including more than 21,200 New York State deals. If you have not already done so, head over to mbdeals.enjoymydeals.com to create your account with your NYSUT ID number, preferred email address, and password.

You'll then be eligible to save on restaurant dine-in or take-out, flowers and gift baskets, Bose electronics, clothing and shoes, oil changes and vehicle maintenance, sporting events, hotels and flights, car rentals, theme parks, movie tickets, and much more. Members are encouraged to download the MB Discounts & Deals mobile app for the best user experience with this program.

Check out all your union membership has to offer!



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, 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. Sept/Oct. 2023