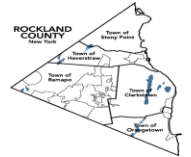




The RepORter



NYSUT Orange and Rockland County Retiree Council 14

May - June, 2024

Issue 5

RC 14 Officers/Delegates

President: Paul Ellis- Graham (845)781-6405
pegsox24@gmail.com

Vice President: Marty Cohen (845) 426 1980
miczman@hotmail.com

Vice President: David Cantor (845) 649-6082
dcantor327@gmail.com

President Emeritus: Howard Kasen (845) 634-9206
HPKasen@gmail.com

Secretary: Yvon Leroy (845) 551-2960
yleroy57@gmail.com

Treasurer: Jennifer Thompson (845) 629 7476
bonopenny19@gmail.com

Delegate: Virginia Hayes (845) 664 2150
hayesginny@gmail.com

Delegate: Ronald Brown (845) 856 9742
rdbrown412@gmail.com

Alternate Delegate: Terri Meyer (845)610-3420
Teffrey@aol.com

Alternate Delegate: Maria Rossi (845) 353- 0044
notnyack@aol.com

Scholarships & Grants: Diane Tracey (914) 456-6333
pugangel@optonline.net

Newsletter Editor: Fred Angiello (845) 268-4475
Fpa1947@yahoo.com

NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant: Lynn O'Donnell
914 924 5242 lvnn.o'donnell@nvsut.org

CALENDAR

MAY 16 THURS EXEC COMMITTEE MTG MT IVY DINER

MAY 21 SCHOOL BUDGET & BOARD ELECTIONS

**JUNE 6 *RC 14 SPRING & SCHOLARSHIP/AWARDS LUNCHEON
A GREAT EVENT TO MEET UP WITH FRIENDS - OLD AND NEW.
SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS**

JULY 11 THURS EXEC COMMITTEE MTG TBA

*** SAVE THE DATE ***

**NYSUT REGIONAL CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 23; 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM
CROWNE PLAZA; 3 EXECUTIVE BLVD., SUFFERN, NY**

**INFORMATIVE AND SOCIAL FOR ALL MEMBERS!
INVITATION FLYER DIRECTLY FROM NYSUT - LATE SUMMER**

MEMBER CORNER



Route 66 Revisited

Fifty nine years ago in 1965 I hopped into a '56 Chevy (yes, I know, a Chevy) and headed west to California from Westwood, New Jersey. Dave, who was the owner of the car, was also a good backyard mechanic and friend. We were totally unprepared for this sojourn but made it anyway. Route 66, alias "The Mother Road," was the principal road we followed closely

as I navigated our way using a Rand McNally atlas with near military precision. Getting lost for us just produced another adventure and opportunity to see something new. However, as our finances dwindled, these side trips were less and less so we had to refocus on line A to B.

Last September I was afforded the opportunity to revisit that journey with my friend John B who invited me to join him and the other members of the New Jersey Open Road Thunderbird Club for a trip to San Diego and the international meeting of vintage Thunderbirds. Being retired and celebrating my seventieth birthday on September 6, I decided to give myself a present and hopped into John's '57 Thunderbird for a three week road trip.

We met the other members of the club at a diner in New Jersey and we were on our way. Every car not only had suitcases and everything else necessary for human survival but they had enough spare parts and tools that would make a NAPA dealer proud.

Our trip was divided into segments that got us into San Diego after 8 days. We did some sightseeing along the way that included the midway point on old Route 66, the memorial site of the Oklahoma bombing, Motel Safari and the Wigwam Motel in Arizona. It was really shocking to see the cities that were once thriving and vibrant to be inhabited by a few hanger-on ghosts from the past, wandering deserted streets and businesses.

We arrived at our destination, the Crowne Plaza in San Diego, and were soon joined by '55-'57 Thunderbirds from all over the U.S. and beyond. Most cars were driven in and others were trailered. This gathering of T-Bird clubs was not just about cars, it was also about reconnecting with other members, networking and sharing a true love of the American automobile. All the participants' cars were judged according to various categories, and the New Jersey Open Road Club garnered a number of awards.

(Continued Bottom Page 2)

President's Column

Dear Retiree Council 14 Members:

As the summer approaches, your Executive Committee has been very busy doing the business of the union. Officers, elected delegates, and their alternates have attended in-service ED meetings, retiree conferences, and Committee of 100 discussions with state legislators.

Every one of us benefits when the council advocates on behalf of both retirees and those currently engaged in teaching our children.

At a recent ED 52 conference, it was noted that only 20 percent of retirees contribute to Vote-Cope, the voluntary fund that enables NYSUT to flex its collective muscles, as political concerns take center stage. These contributions enable NYSUT'S legislative team to hold the line on retiree healthcare and benefits at both the state and national levels as interest groups seek to undermine district reimbursements to retirees once Medicare kicks in and to threaten to reduce or weaken Social Security.

I cannot urge you enough to seriously consider either pension deduction contributions to Vote-Cope (preferred) or sending in checks to us when we hold our own Retiree Council V-C

campaign in the fall. (At that time please contact me if you would like to start to contribute to Vote-Cope directly from your pension payment each month. You can decide how much. It is an easy way to systematically support NYSUT'S efforts to protect your interests. They are under attack.

On a special note, please consider attending our annual scholarship luncheon which will be held on Thursday, June 6th at Delancey's Restaurant in Goshen (a reservation form is included in this newsletter). With the assistance of our Scholarship Committee Chairperson Diane Tracey, we distribute two awards to students going into teaching. As is our tradition, one recipient is from Rockland County and the other is from Orange County. It is a great time to get together with friends, share fine food with former colleagues, and be a witness to "paying it forward" on behalf of the profession we served so proudly.

As I get ready to attend NYSUT'S Representative Assembly in NYC, along with new delegates Ginny Hayes and Ron Brown, we are excited to share our good work and concerns on behalf of all of you.

In Solidarity,
Paul

MEMBER CORNER

(Continued from Page 1)

After making some minor repairs to our cars we said goodbye to San Diego and headed home following a different route. The northern routes we took, Highways 15, 70 and 80, revealed some of the most stunning glimpses of vistas, mountain ranges and valleys that you really can't appreciate unless you get in a car and see for yourself.

We rolled into New Jersey on September 26th. I would like to thank the members of the NJ Open Road Club for their hospitality and for affording me this opportunity to feel like I was eighteen again and riding with the windows open and just waiting for the next adventure.

Geoffrey Maycrink - Monroe Woodbury 2008



SUMMER ASSIGNMENT:

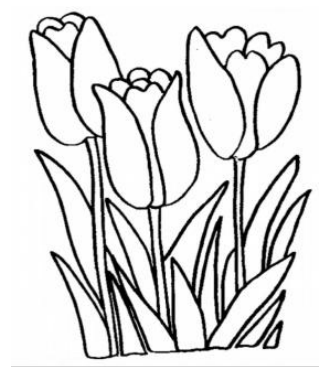
MEMBER ARTICLES. LET'S DO WHAT WE DO!
BE A PARTICIPANT IN FUTURE RC 14 NEWSLETTERS BY SUBMITTING YOUR APOLITICAL ARTICLES - LONG OR SHORT - REFLECTING YOUR INTERESTS, EXPERIENCES, TALENTS, & TRAVELS. ABOVE ALL ELSE WE ARE INTERESTED IN WHAT OUR COLLEAGUES ARE DOING.
Contact Newsletter Editor (Contact Info P1).

**JOIN OLD FRIENDS; BRING FRIENDS; MEET NEW FRIENDS!
RC 14 SPRING & SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON**

Thursday, June 6, 2024 at NOON

Delancey's Restaurant
40 Park Place
Goshen, NY

Buffet-Style - featuring penne-a-la-vodka, salmon, and chicken francaise
Cost: \$35.00 incl. Tax & Gratuities - Cash Bar



RSVP with this coupon and your check before Monday, June 3, 2024

**Please send your check payable to "NYSUT RC14" to:
Jennifer Thompson 31 Hudson Street Warwick, NY 10990**

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____
Email – (We don't share) _____
District you retired from _____
Number going to luncheon _____ Amount (\$35 per person) _____

FYI: The article below might be of interest regarding the AFFORDABLE CARE ACT of 2022 , part of which seeks to reduce the cost of prescription drugs for retirees paying 2-3 times the prices in other countries.

To Recap: As of 2023 * Insulin co-pays have been capped at \$35 per month;

* All recommended adult vaccines are free for Medicare beneficiaries;

* Corporations that raise drug prices sold to Medicare faster than inflation have to pay rebates to Medicare;

* The U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services to identify the 100 highest-priced drugs & select 10 for negotiation

(RC 14 Newsletter Editor)



From our affiliate, The Alliance for Retired Americans - May 6, 2024

Another Federal Judge Rejects Drug Corps' Challenge to Medicare Drug Price Negotiations

On Monday, a federal judge in New Jersey rejected a challenge to Medicare drug price negotiations from large drug corporations Johnson & Johnson and Bristol Myers Squibb. The case was another in a slew of drug company lawsuits seeking to dispute drug price negotiations as unconstitutional.

Drug companies are seeking so-called split decisions in federal courts, a strategy that aims to escalate the case to the Supreme Court. However, Monday's decision is another win for the Biden administration, and consistent losses for the drug industry have significantly reduced the likelihood of that outcome.

The judge's 26-page opinion rules that, contrary to drug companies' claims that drug price negotiations violate free speech, participation in the price talks are voluntary. The judge said that just because selling to Medicare means lower profits does not make participation in the program any less voluntary.

The first round of price negotiations are already underway, and if court rejections of drug companies' cases continue, seniors will see reduced prices for the first 10 drugs in 2026.

"The decision is a win for the Biden Administration and for seniors," said Richard Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance. "This latest courtroom victory brings Medicare beneficiaries one step closer to seeing more affordable drug prices, something the Alliance has been working to achieve for 23 years."