

SPOTLIGHT on RC 45

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NYSUT Retiree Council 45 Newsletter

May/June 2024

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Hello my Sisters and Brothers!!!

Happy spring, so wonderful to see the flowers blooming in my gardens!

RC#45's delegates have just returned from New York City where we attended the 2024 Representative Assembly. Two of our three delegates proudly represented our 3,400 members. A huge victory that we celebrated here is the change in APPR legislation.

Another resounding victory on our Fix Tier 6 reform efforts with the final average salary being moved to the three highest years' salaries not five. It is a small step toward our goal of fixing the inequity of Tier 6. This brings me to my request for your VOTE-COPE contributions. Please consider donating through pension deduction to help our NYSUT representatives prioritize their efforts for continued reform. Political Action (nysut.org).

I would like to stress that state and local elections Attacks on our benefits and vote, use an



to avoid crowds. Make your NYSUT's [Member Access](https://mac.nysut.org/)

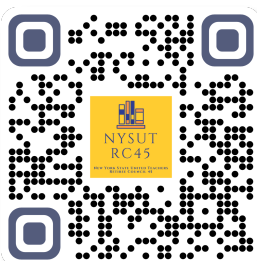
this year's upcoming national, are crucial to our retirees. are a reality. Please get out absentee ballot, vote early to voices heard by using

[Center](https://mac.nysut.org/) (https://mac.nysut.org/) to contact your representatives at the state and national level.

NYSUT Vice President Ron Gross has spoken to us regarding the initiative to begin an "Opt In" program for delivering our newsletters. We write and deliver five per year and appreciate hearing from many of you as well as accepting your voluntary contributions. They are used to support the activities of RC #45 including participating in the governance meeting and our scholarships.

Please consider attending our spring membership meeting at Hopshire Brewery. Our June General Membership meeting is planned and we are very excited as we continue collecting reservations for our day at Hopshire Farms and Brewery in Freeville on June 18th. Bring a friend and enjoy a relaxing time with your NYSUT family. The luncheon will begin with registration and social time at 11:30 am. Tom Gath has graciously offered to entertain during that time. At noon we will have a catered lunch from M&D Deli with each attendee being given a drink ticket for beer, wine or cider. After lunch there will be tastings, tour or a talk depending on interest. Hope to see you there!!

In Solidarity, ~Vicki Darrow-RC 45 President



Prefer to read the newsletter online?
Scan the code!
RC #45

REGISTER ON OUR RC 45 WEBSITE

Please consider signing up for an account with us at www.nysut-rc45.org.
[Create your account](#) and automatically be entered into a drawing for a gift card.

2024 Representative Delegate Report

Another successful Representative Assembly is under our belts. At this year's RA in New York City, delegates approved dozens of resolutions including measures on community college oversight, book banning, social media, classroom heat, child poverty, paid family leave, increased staffing for paraprofessionals and teacher aides, expansion of CTE programs, and much more. And with school budget votes and elections on the horizon, NYSUT President Melinda Person called on members to be engaged by getting to the polls and teaching their students about democracy. "You have a pivotal role as educators ... Our world needs you more than ever and your participation matters!"



Letitia James, New York State Attorney General and staunch NYSUT supporter, was fired up at this year's RA, and the crowd was there for it. James recounted how she's been accosted in airports and bullied online as a result of her legal work, but resolved to persist undeterred. "I've got steel in my backbone because I've got NYSUT," James said. "I will not be paralyzed by fear and I will stand up to anyone because the law is on my side." A proud graduate of the New York public education system, James thanked all teachers for their dedication and effectiveness. "Excellence is what comes out of the New York public school system and don't let anyone tell you otherwise."

New York's senior senator and Majority Leader in the United States Senate, Chuck Schumer, addressed the 52nd Representative Assembly in New York City on Saturday. "I say to every member of NYSUT, thank you for the work you do."

Schumer highlighted the work President Biden and the Senate are doing for the labor movement, including money for public schools passed in the American Rescue Plan, pro-labor rulings from a revamped National Labor Relations Board, pro-labor judges being appointed to federal benches across the country, and student debt cancellations for public service workers.

CONNECT AND CELEBRATE: SPRING LUNCHEON - JUNE, 18TH, 2024

Mark your calendars for our upcoming June General Membership meeting on June 18th at Hopshire Farms and Brewery in Freeville. Bring a friend and immerse yourself in a day of relaxation and camaraderie with your NYSUT family. Enjoy a catered lunch, live music by Tom Gath, and indulge in tastings, tours, or engaging talks—all amidst a picturesque setting.

- **SPRING LUNCHEON:** 🍷 HOPSHIRE FARMS AND BREWERY 🍷
(www.hopshire.com) | 1771 Dryden Road (Route 13) | Freeville, NY 13068
- **COST:** \$25.00 includes CATERED LUNCH from M&D Deli and 1 Hopshire drink ticket (beer, wine or cider) | Tax and tip included.
- **AGENDA:** **11:30 am** Registration | Social Time | Music by Tom Gath |
12:00 pm Catered Lunch | Brief General Meeting | **12:45 pm** Talk and Tour/Tastings available for \$10 (Depending on preferences of attendees)



Please send the sign-up form and payment by June 01 to: Maxine Cleveland
↓ 5 Brentwood Drive, Homer, NY 13077 (607-749-4839) ↓



NYSUT's Retiree Council #45 Spring Luncheon and General Meeting

RSVP by June 01, 2024 | \$25 per person | Make checks payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 45



Name _____ Date Retired _____

Address _____

Local Chapter _____

HEIBERG MEMORIAL FOREST: A NATURAL GEM IN PREBLE, NY

Nestled amidst the rolling hills and lush landscapes of Preble, New York, lies the serene oasis known as Heiberg Memorial Forest. This hidden gem, spanning over 200 acres, offers visitors a peaceful retreat into the heart of nature, where towering trees, winding trails, and diverse wildlife abound. From tranquil walks to educational adventures, Heiberg Memorial Forest beckons outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers alike to explore its pristine beauty and discover the wonders it holds.

A Rich History: Heiberg Memorial Forest boasts a rich history dating back to the early 20th century when it was generously donated to the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY ESF) by the Heiberg family. Their vision was to preserve this pristine wilderness for future generations to enjoy and to serve as a living laboratory for research and education in forestry and natural resources.



Exploring the Trails: One of the highlights of Heiberg Memorial Forest is its extensive network of trails that wind through the woods, offering visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in the beauty of nature. Whether you're an avid hiker... [read more](https://nysut-rc45.org/index.php/rc-45-social/nysut-45-gems) → (<https://nysut-rc45.org/index.php/rc-45-social/nysut-45-gems>)

NYSUT RC #45 SCHOLARSHIP 2024

Who is Eligible? A senior graduating from any New York State public high school or private/parochial high school whose staff is NYSUT affiliated and who plans to enter a profession requiring higher education at an accredited institute of learning **AND** is a child or grandchild of a NYSUT Retiree Council 45 member.

Information and deadlines for this school year's application are on the website. <https://nysut-rc45.org/index.php/formembers/scholarship>



Applications must be postmarked between March 15 and May 31, 2024.



PLEASE CONSIDER BECOMING A CONTRIBUTOR TO RC 45

Complete the form below and send your voluntary contribution for 2023/2024 to:
Maxine Cleveland, RC 45 Treasurer, 5 Brentwood Drive, Homer NY 13077.



Please make checks payable to: **NYSUT Retiree Council 45**



Name: _____ Date Retired: _____

Address: _____

Local Chapter: _____

Your email: _____

(Your e-mail address will only be used to communicate information from RC 45)

Voluntary Contribution Amount: \$ _____ Scholarship Fund Amount: \$ _____

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS SUMMER?

NYSUT Member Benefits offers a variety of endorsed programs & services that can help you enjoy today, while planning for tomorrow.



As a NYSUT member, you have access to participate in a number of programs and services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits. These products have been carefully cultivated to provide members with quality programs at competitive prices, including insurance programs to help you protect your family; legal and financial plans to help you plan for the future; and shopping, travel & personal services to help save you money.

Member Benefits also offers a number of benefits available free of charge to members such as the premium Calm service, Peer Support Line, Financial Learning Center, and more.

Participation in our endorsed programs features the added protection of having a trusted advocate on your side. Our staff take great pride in stepping in to support members with any questions, concerns, or issues that may arise.

No matter what your plans may be, NYSUT Member Benefits is a great place to start. Explore all that 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.

