



“Using a democratic structure, SABEA supports student success and works toward improving the professional, economic, and personal lives of our members and families.

**NOTE FROM PRESIDENT RUTH SHIPPEE:
“THEY DID, WE SHOULD, WE WILL”**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we close out another school year we have a great deal to reflect on. As a union, we have made many advances in how we view ourselves and what actions we have been challenged to take and positions we have defended. We have found that we are able to have discourse that we will not always agree totally with each other BUT that through professional discussions, we can find understanding of other positions. More of us are stepping up and becoming active in our union and activities.

We have shown ourselves capable and willing to take action; growing and supporting our unity.

We have rallied around causes and shown our labor; both in our professions and in our communities. The latter recognized when we received an award from NYSUT on Community Service. We continue to have work to do as a union. There are many challenges for the labor movement. The next case is heading to the Supreme Court (Janus v. AFSCME) that is financed by those who fear organized labor and want to cripple us. You are showing you understand that we need to take action to fight part of that being in making sure that NYSUT has a key tool- money- to fight against those who are against organized labor, our pensions as public employees, our health care plans, length of work, and the list goes on and on.

I appreciate that so many of you recognized how vital it is to make our contributions to VOTE Cope—which is the only monies- not our dues- that are used in this work. Remember that retirees can also make contributions through pension deductions: how much is it worth to help ensure that our pension funds remain independent of politicians’ touch?

I am proud of what I see my fellow union members doing: more are taking charge and showing that they are union proud.

Keep up the good work

Solidarity-

Ruth ruth.shippee@gmail.com

Executive Board Election Results:

At our June Rep Meeting, the following slate of officers were elected:

President: Ruth Shippee

Executive Vice President: Nicole Mabey

First Vice President: Jo James

Second Vice President: Deb Viehmann and Mirna Caro

Treasurer: Penny Marshall

Secretary: Karen Monastero

Membership Chair: Deb Beaulieu

Labor Ambassador: Sandie Carner-Shafran

Delegates to RA: Ruth Shippee, Nicole Mabey, Jo James, Penny Marshall

Delegates to AFT/NEA: Ruth Shippee, Nicole Mabey



VOTE Cope Updates:

This is an important time for people who work in the public sector. Understand that there are many items that we currently have worked for as a labor movement that others would like to take away. THE ONLY WAY TO BE IN THE GAME TO PROTECT OUR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS is to contribute to VOTE COPE.

It takes money to be in the game and NYSUT needs EVERY ONE of us to contribute our share. No union dues can be used for lobbying efforts so VOTE COPE funds are the only source we have. For every dollar that a SABEA member contributes, \$.40 comes back to SABEA to use.

When your rep contacts you, complete the form--- everyone needs to contribute. (Retirees- make sure that you sign up for pension deductions and let NYSUT know that are a member of SABEA.)

So, keep this quote in mind from a state VOTE Cope coordinator Jeff Zuckerman "Will contributing \$50 to vote cope (which would be \$2/pay period) make a real impact on your life? Not contributing may have a huge impact on you."

UNION REPRESENTATION

The following are your “go to” people. Each is able to help answer questions about your membership, your rights as an employee and able to assist in getting you further information.

Also, as an employee, you have a right to the presence and counsel of union representation at a meeting with your supervisor where your conduct is being questioned and/or you reasonable believe disciplinary action may result. **Not sure??? Call your rep!** If you are not sure, always have your rep present. Another pair of ears is always a good thing to make sure you heard correctly.

Remember also, that if a meeting begins to seem to be an interrogation, you can stop it and reschedule for when you can have SABEA representation with you.

For 2017-2018 the reps are:

SAEC:

- o Michele Morris 321-4552 mmorrisunion@gmail.com
- o Lisa Colvin 260-9994 colv77@yahoo.com
- o Owen Landrey 914-772-7669 owenlandrey@gmail.com
- o Keaysie Carpenter 681-6822 misskeaysie@gmail.com
- o Jim Blakey 793-1416 jblakely8615@roadrunner.com
(retiring- need replacement)

Gick Road:

- o Chris Guenther cgguenther01@gmail.com

Itinerants:

- o Terry LaNoir 796-3154 tdlanoir@gmail.com

Myers:

- o Paul Cerone 583-9935 pcerone@gmail.com
- o Jane Amorosi 355-8576 janie64@nycap.rr.com
- o Mary Moyles 322-1273 shamrocks2@aol.com
- o Kim Weaver 884-8153 kweav60@gmail.com
- o Linda Parker 232-0985 waystation1977@gmail.com

SSTLC:

- o Mike Dinsmore 683-8712 md1093@yahoo.com

WSTLC:

- o Nancy VanVoast 496-5958 nvsquare@gmail.com
(retiring- needs replacement)

Retiree

- o Stephanie Pischel 355-0360 spischel@netzero.net

Thank you to James Blakely and Nancy VanVoast for their service to SABEA members as building reps. We wish you well in retirement.

Several new names will be added to this list for next year as people have stepped up to the plate and offered their services. Their names will be announced in September.

SABEA may be adding more representatives as we grow so if you might be interested, let Ruth Shippee know.

Training for building reps is available and encouraged.

Sunshine Club Report

Keep these SABEA members in mind both for support and in joys!

Let Laura at sunshineclublaura@hotmail.com know about any life events: she would rather hear multiple times than not recognize and reach out to people. This also includes information regarding our many retirees!

June 2017

Linda Griffen: Husband passed
Rich LaLone: Injured
Tim Rock: Injured
Sherri Phillips: Husband passed
Jean Green: Brother in law passed
Chris Ogden: Mother passed
Mary Moyles: Surgery

SABEA Members: Bulletin Board

This feature contains information about things members are doing. This may include items like bands they play in or plays they are a part of. Kicking off businesses could also be included. Send your information by the 2nd week of the month to SunshineClubLaura@hotmail.com to be included in the newsletter. Items may also be added to our FACEBOOK page so send in the information.

- **Doggie Treats!** Homemade dog treats with no added preservatives. Contact Nicole Mabey at buddysbarkery1@gmail.com or 518-321-6274



- **Arbonne:** Tracey Rockenstyre is your independent consultant for Arbonne international, a health and wellness company. Here's a link to her website: www.bit.ly/tracyrock also have a fb biz page: @trockarbonne



- **Lambs for sale:** spring lambs (Cheviot and crossbreeds) for sale. These are ready to process or would make great grazing animals. Contact David and Ruth Shippee at Clay Moon Ridge Farm (926-8965) to make arrangements.

SABEA Committee reports:

SABEA has several committees that provide specialized support and services for our members. Here is a report of what they worked on during the 2016-2017 year. Please consider becoming involved with one of these and be on the look out for new ones as they are developed. At the opening day tables, check out the materials to sign up for an activity.

Breast Cancer Walk: Making Strides:

Chaired by Michelle Maddalla. Michelle enlisted employees and their families to raise funds and walk in the Making Strides Walk in October in Washington Park Albany. Walkers received a t-shirt as recognition of their efforts. Committee is looking for co-chairs and building coordinators to build our SABEA capacity so we raise even more money for this effort. Walk will again be in October. (We are looking to see if members would be interested in also participating in Relay for Life.)

Nominations: Chaired by Chris Ogden with assistance from Diane Rossi, Maureen Clancy and Mary Moyles.

IN 2016-2017 the committee conducted search for interested SABEA members for election of Executive Board. They are also responsible for conducting the contract ratification vote.

SAFETY:

Manned by James Blakely. SABEA safety concerns focused on incomplete work at SAEC building G, faulty Narcan spray unites, staffing issues where students were not under direct supervision, and fire alarm failure at SAEC.

The chair has been available via email, phone and in person to members. Jim also had working relationship with O&M staff and Mike Nelson. He attended building and district safety meetings. Continue building relationships and new members (need new chair).

It is important for members to keep communication open with their building supervisor to take care of issues and then bring concerns to SABEA.

Sick Bank:

SABEA Committee Members: Donna Butcher and Terry LaNoir

The SABEA Sick Bank Leave Committee is composed (by contract) of two members of SABEA appointed by the SABEA President and one administrator appointed by the District Superintendent. Currently six (6) sick leave bank members received days from the bank in 2016-2017. Data collection and application coordination is facilitated by Colleen Allen in HR. Her dedication to the Sick Bank Committee is greatly appreciated.

The SABEA voluntary sick leave bank committee is driven by contractual language. The purpose and function is outlined in the contracts.

The goal is to have every eligible SABEA members sign up for this benefit.

SABEA Social Committee: Chaired by Maureen Clancy with Chris Ogden, Diane Rossi, Tina Pearle, Paul Piotrowski, Mary Moyles and Jolie O'Brien as retiree liaison.

Activities for the year included:

- Fall Bowling at Saratoga Strike Zone
- Spring Bowling at South Glens Falls
- Holiday Party & Silent Auction, Ugly Sweater contest in Saratoga
- Retirement Party June 2 Holiday Inn Saratoga
- A social event up north
- Planning for June 23 picnic which was cancelled
- West Mountain End of the Year Gathering- June22 for members which was well received.

Members of the committee volunteer time and effort to pull off these events and to make them happen. Monthly meetings provide information to the Union Reps so they can pass it on to their departments. The Committee plans to continue to provide social functions to include both north and south.

Social committee is looking for ideas and connections for a CHEAP venue. They have tried surveys, polls, asking suggestions.

Be looking for information on a gathering near the end of September and in June like this year. We will also be looking, in response to survey results, for activities for small groups to participate in each month.

Sunshine Club:

Chairperson: Laura Rychcik

The purpose of the committee is to bring cheer in the form of cards, gift cards, donations to members who are ill, recently married, lost a family member, or recently had a birth in the family.

Next year Laura plans to keep lighting up the spirits of people who need it. Members need to let her know when members (active and retirees) have life events.

Upcoming CDRO Regional Workshops:

NYSUT News

CERTIFICATIONS:

Please make sure if you hold a teacher or TA level III certification that you have registered in TEACH and are current. NYSED is reporting many people have not done so and will be out of luck if not completed by July. NYSUT has a fact sheet found at

https://www.nysut.org/~media/files/nysut/resources/2017/january/factsheet_17_02_ta_level_iii_registration_ctle.pdf?la=en

Pandora's Box: The facts about the Constitutional Convention

Under the New York State Constitution (Article 19, §2), every 20 years the people of the Empire State are asked a seemingly simple ballot question; *"Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend same?"* These twelve simple words that will appear on the ballot on November 7, 2017, will have a huge impact on not just NYSUT members, but every citizen of the state. From teachers and school staff, to the children who will be entering pre-K the very next year, all of us will have a stake in the outcome of this important vote.

This document is designed to help you better understand the convention and amendment process, why it is important to you as a NYSUT member and what steps we will need to take as a union to protect our rights.

Constitutional Convention vs. Constitutional Amendments; What's the difference?

The state constitution can be amended in two ways. The first way to enact changes to the constitution is through the passage of individual bills by two separately elected state Legislatures (Article 19, §1). Bills just as this propose specific amendment questions which then appear on the November ballot. Most recently this process was undertaken in 2013, when several constitutional amendments ranging from the expansion of casino gaming in New York state to the sale of specific tracks of land within the constitutionally protected Adirondack Park were voted on by the people. All but one, increasing the mandatory retirement age for state judges, was passed and became part of the state constitution. This process has been used 200 times since the last major constitutional revision in 1894.

The second process for amending the New York State Constitution involves holding a constitutional convention (Article 19, §2). The question of whether to undertake this endeavor must go before the voters every 20 years and allows for much wider modifications of the constitution than the single amendment process; including a full rewrite of the document. If the voters approve holding the convention, three delegate's per-State Senate District and fifteen at-large delegates are elected at the next scheduled general election. These delegates can include sitting members of the State Legislature, political party leaders or other office holders. The convention meets in Albany the following April for an unspecified duration, deliberates and then

publishes their suggested amendments. The proposed changes are then submitted to the voters, either individually or as a group, with another public referendum vote no sooner than six weeks after the adjournment of the convention. This process has been used nine times (1777, 1801, 1821, 1846, 1867, 1894, 1915, 1938 and 1967) to undertake major re-writes of the state constitution. Some of these conventions succeeded with voters accepting the suggested changes, while other convention recommendations were soundly rejected by the voters as was the case in 1967.

Why is this important to me as a NYSUT member? What's at stake?

There are lots of reasons why this issue is important to you, your families and the people you serve. First, the constitution establishes a basic organizational structure for state government. If changes are made that give too much power to one branch, for example say the executive, then our system of governance could be upended.

Second, the constitution establishes the fundamental rights you enjoy as a citizen of New York state and as a public employee. Some of these include:

- **Guaranteeing the right to a free public education (Article 11, §1);**
- **Prohibiting reductions in public pension benefits (Article 5, §7);**
- **Rights to workers compensation (Article 1, §18);**
- **Rights to be a member of a union and bargain collectively (Article 1, §17), and**
- **Requiring that the state provide for social welfare needs (Article 17, §1).**

Third, the constitution sets the most important policy goals for the people of New York state, and thus, has an impact on every other law currently in place and on future statutes yet to come. For example, the 1967 convention was specially convened by an act of the Legislature a decade after the 20 year scheduled referendum was voted down in 1957. Following the 1967 convention, voters rejected the proposed changes which included proposed repeal to the "Blaine Amendment" which prohibits the use of state monies to be used to assist religious schools. Had this repeal not been rejected by the voters, public education would look very different here in New York.

How do I help and who else will be with us?

The voters rejected the last required call for a constitutional convention in 1997, but the rejection was not by accident. Many groups worked together to convince voters that holding a convention was not in the best interest of the people of the state. Some of these included:

- **Public and private organized labor;**
- **Environmentalists and conservationists who did not want to see the repeal of the "forever wild" provisions that protect environmentally sensitive areas;**
- **Advocates for public education at all levels;**
- **Social welfare advocates who will seek to maintain the requirement that New York State provide for the underprivileged;**
- **Fiscal conservatives who wanted to keep existing state debt limits in place; and**
- **Some government watchdog groups who just didn't want to "spend the millions of dollars to hold a party in Albany!"**

All of these groups, and more, will need to work together again in 2017 to make sure voters understand just what could happen if we open up the state constitution to drastic changes through a convention.

Since 2017 is an "off" election year for the state Legislature as well as an "off" election year for presidential voting, we will need to concentrate our efforts on this important issue. So, get involved with your local, stay active with the political process starting today, get informed on the important issues surrounding a constitutional convention and be ready to work come 2017.

HAPPY RETIREMENT TO OUR CLASS OF 2017!!! PICS FROM JUNE 2 GATHERING---

Class of 2017 Retirees:

Juliet Aldrich: 33 Years



James Blakely: 17 Years

Barbara Campbell: 30 Years

Lisa Dillman: 27 Years

Jean Green: 25 Years

Debra Grobe-Searles: 31 Years

Martha Haney-Flacke: 34 Years

Joel Hoskins: 32 Years

Kathryn Hyndman: 30 Years

Jane Kehoe: 15 Years

Susan Loomis: 33 Years

John Major: 27 Years

Cathy Mitchell: 29 Years

Barbara Nadeau: 17 Years

Bonnie O'Rourke: 20 Years

Laura Paniccia: 29 Years

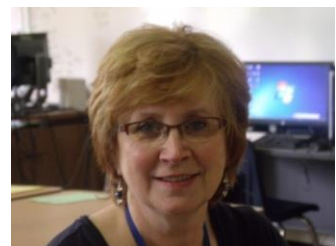
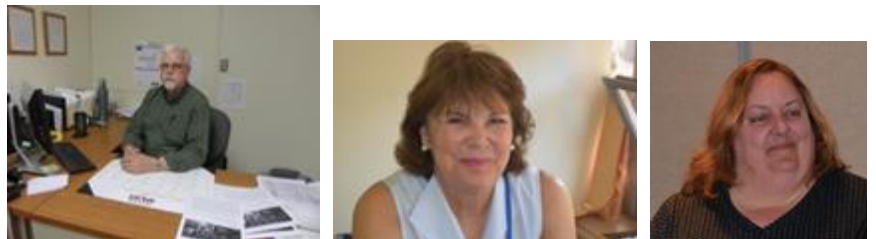
Maria Richards:

Lorna Snapp: 31 Years

Greg Van Duesen: 20 Years

Nancy VanVoast: 31 Years

Elizabeth Wright: 7 Years





NYSUT Member Benefits offers savings, advocacy

Your union is steadfast in its fight for better contracts, safer working conditions, fair pay, advocacy and upholding the labor rights of the dedicated women and men proudly working in the education and health care industries on a daily basis.

But your NYSUT membership does so much more! It also provides you the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of the more than 40 endorsed programs & services offered by NYSUT Member Benefits. Look to Member Benefits for crucial insurance programs such as auto, homeowners, life, disability, or long-term care insurance along with a variety of travel, entertainment & shopping options.

And participation in Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services gives you the added protection of knowing you have a trusted advocate on your side. Each of our endorsed offerings are regularly reviewed and monitored to ensure member satisfaction. Member Benefits is here to help if you should ever have any issues or concerns with any of these programs.

The following is just a sampling of the endorsed programs & services available to NYSUT members & their families:

- Homeowners Insurance
- Auto Insurance
- Legal Service Plan
- Financial Counseling Program
- Life Insurance
- Vision Plan
- Abenity Discounts
- Office Depot/OfficeMax
- Car & Truck Rentals
- Wyndham Hotels
- TripBeat by Endless Vacation
- Premier World Discovery



To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit ***memberbenefits.nysut.org*** or call **800-626-8101**.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

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This is the year that we elect our executive board and delegates to the NYSUT Representative Assembly. The Nominating Committee submitted the uncontested slate at the May rep council meeting.

At our June meeting, the following were elected by the secretary casting one vote: *President Ruth Shippee, Executive Vice President Nicole Mabey, First Vice President-Faculty Grievance Chair Jo James, Second Vice President-SRP Grievance Chairs Deb Viehmann and Mirna Caro, Treasurer Penny Marshall, Secretary Karen Monastero, Membership Chair Deb Beaulieu, and Labor Ambassador Sandie Carner-Shafran.* NYSUT Representative Assembly delegates will be *Ruth Shippee, Nicole Mabey, Jo James and Penny Marshall.* AFT/NEA delegates are *Ruth Shippee and Nicole Mabey.*