

Dozens of UUP active and retiree members took part in an Election night Watch Party at the Cortland County Democratic Committee headquarters. The UUP activists—including Henry Steck, center—had successfully worked to elect Anthony Brindisi to Congress.



ROB TRIMARCHI

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Fill out your temporary UUP Retiree Membership Card. Then cut and fold it and put it in your wallet while you wait for your permanent card to be mailed to you.

The Active Retiree

A Newsletter for Retiree Members of United University Professions

Regional meetings bring retirees together

Long Island/ Suffolk County

by **Charlie McAteer**
Stony Brook

On Oct. 23 at the campus Hilton Garden Inn, about 110 retirees attended a two-hour event that included speaker Perry Gershon, the NYSUT- and NY state AFL-CIO-endorsed congressional candidate for Congressional District 1.

Tina & Craig from Caption Call (1-877-557-2227/captioncall.com) gave a presentation on the hearing assist free phone and service available to persons citizens with hearing issues. The presenter and technician set up a demonstration table.

The two Stony Brook University UUP chapter presidents, Carolyn Kube and Kevin Moriarty, spoke to the group about what's happening on the campuses, the recent U.S. Supreme Court anti-union decision in the *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31* case, and UUP's new contract.

Judy Wishnia presented fellow UUP member Mike Zweig with union's Judith Wishnia Advocacy Award.

Charlie McAteer spoke about the NYSUT endorsement process and the importance of the 2018 midterm elections. He also reported that in winter 2019, the UUP chap-

ter nominations and elections will be held for chapter officers—like the Officer for Retirees—and delegates; the terms are for two years. The UUP Long Island retiree coordinator position is not up until 2020.

UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter Apple discussed UUP retiree benefits, and answered questions about benefit changes and providers.

The next retiree luncheon will be held in the spring.

were taken hostage at the Sherman House in Homer, N.Y.!

It all started with greetings, socializing and brief updates on UUP issues and events by Cortland Chapter Officer for Retirees Dianne Galutz and others.

Following lunch, Cortland professor Charles Yaple, pictured above right, stormed the room dressed in authentic Daniel Boone-style clothing, including powder horn, cartridge box, and musket handed down from his ancestors. He then proceeded to take all the “Tories” hostage!

Southern Tier/Cortland



DAWN VAN HALL

by **Dianne Galutz**
Cortland

Just over a week after Halloween, more than 35 Cortland-area retirees and friends

He used a slide presentation with maps from his latest nonfiction book, *Jacob's Land: Revolutionary War Soldiers, Schemers, Scoundrels and the Settling of New York's Frontier* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing, March 2017). The book chronicles life on New York's frontier before, during and after the American Revolution. It weaves together the stories of three individuals: Joseph Brant, the more or less leader of the Iroquois Confederacy during the war, Simeon DeWitt, George Washington's surveyor general for see **Regional meetings**, page 2

The Active Retiree

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Jamie F. Dangler/VP for Academics
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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

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Regional meetings ...

(continued from page 1)

the young State of New York, and Yaple's ancestor Jacob Yaple.

"I want people to understand, who live in our part of the state, the heritage that they've got, the price that was paid, and the good fortune that we've had that enables the lifestyles that we enjoy today," Yaples told the group. "That's one of my ending messages."

Yaple is a professor emeritus of recreation, parks and leisure studies at SUNY Cortland, and director of the Coalition for Education in the Outdoors.

His first book, *Foxey Brown: A story of an Adirondack Outlaw, Hermit and Guide as He Might Have Told It*, was published in 2011.

No UUP retiree elections in 2019

A 2016 Fall Delegate Assembly vote to amend the UUP Constitution means there will be no retiree elections in 2019.

Delegates voted to extend the terms of office for statewide officers, Executive Board members, and elected COARM members. COARM was included in the term extension because the COARM chair is the sole retiree delegate. (Retirees are currently eligible to be elected as "chapter" delegates during chapter elections, which are held every two years).

The next retiree election will begin in January 2020. Successful candidates will take office in June 2020.



GIVE TO



the UUP College Scholarship Fund through the State Employees Federated Appeal!

It's easy to do. Go to www.sefanys.org and look for **UUP College Scholarship Fund** under "Select charity name." Your donation will help SUNY undergraduate and post baccalaureate students fulfill their dreams of a college education. The one-time scholarships are \$3,000.



**The deadline to donate
 is December 31, 2018**

From the COARM Chair

Short take on a long year

For the most part, 2018 is a year I am relieved to see end.

In hard-fought political victories there were long anxious moments as ballots were counted and recounted before our supported candidates could claim the victory stand or lose by very slim majorities.

There were losses in spite of our dedicated hours and dollars dedicated to our worthy candidates. Even now, in Scott Walker's Wisconsin, the victorious electorate will see their chosen candidates suffer ignoble reductions in their democratic ability to govern.

I will not even deign to review the " Sturm und Drang" of the last two years best described as personal gain in "tax reform," hypocrisy in claiming "good people" on all sides, reactionary candidates claiming to have always supported the need to cover "pre-existing" conditions, and so on.

As retirees, you are more than sensitive to these issues and others that may affect your future security in federal programs to which you are entitled.

So, hello 2019.

It's up to all of us to continue to be active unionists in retirement. We must remain steadfast in advocating for our issues—and the union's—through letters

and visits to elected representatives in their district offices and in Albany, and by responding to the call to make this coming year a better one. All of us must work together to make 2019 a better, more civil and responsive year.

You can be more involved in these efforts by putting your name forward at your chapters to run for "officer for retirees," a UUP delegate, a volunteer for chapter efforts and events—to do your part to continue our long, effective history of participatory unionism wherever you now live, be it in New York or in warmer climates.

SNOWBIRDS AND FLORIDA RESIDENTS

Speaking of warmer climates, I am hoping to organize two UUP retiree meetings this winter, as I did once previously on Florida's East and West coasts—Clearwater to Sarasota and further down; Fort Meyers to Naples.

If you can suggest a good and reasonably priced (UUP requirement) restaurant with an informal space for meetings and adequate parking in any of these areas, please get in touch with me at schaffer@twcny.rr.com.



I look forward to meeting with you in the sunshine soon.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

You've had a chance to read reports from Long Island and the Southern Tier (stories begin on page 1), but meetings were also held this fall in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Binghamton, Delhi/Oneonta and Albany. Watch for reports in the next issue of *The Active Retiree*.

Get the *Organizing Your Vital Records* booklet

Having all your personal information in one place can make it easier to deal with the unexpected.

COARM has created a checklist designed to be an organizational tool that will help you and your family more easily navigate moments of change. It will also assist you in aggregating your important data.

"We hope this document helps give you a view of your

vital information, and some measure of peace of mind for you and those you hold dear," said COARM Chair Jo Schaffer.

The document can be found on the UUP website at <https://bit.ly/2E1jNHx> or by contacting Walter Apple, retiree member services coordinator, at wapple@uupmail.org or at (800) 342-4206.





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Retiree Membership Card

As we grow older, we have to look at our lives from a different point of view. We can't change the past, but we can affect the future and change it.

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