



4—Retirees play active role at 2016 Fall DA



7—A word from UUP President Fred Kowal



19—Morrissey named Retiree of the Year

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The Active Retiree

A Newsletter for Retiree Members of United University Professions

Report on AFT retiree conference

by Irene Stern
Stony Brook HSC

The AFT Retiree Leaders Conference, held July 17-18 in Minneapolis, was chock full of interesting information.

The following is a day-by-day summary of conference activities:

Sunday, July 17, Opening Session

Eric Feaver, chair of AFT Retirees, and Denise Specht, president of Education Minnesota, welcomed attendees.

AFT President Randi Weingarten and U.S. Representative Betty McCollum made opening remarks.

The keynote speaker was Rich Fiesta, executive director of the Alliance for Retired Americans.

All of the speakers emphasized the history of labor and hard-won victories, taking pains to point out Minnesota's sometimes bloody role for the progress eventually gained. Attendees were urged to share their stories, "but do it softly," so that younger citizens learn of the struggle and realize these rights need to be protected.

Fiesta summarized some of the issues seniors have been, are and will be facing. see **AFT**, page 13



RICH TYLER

Meet UUP retiree member No. 5,000!

Alicia Thompson, an assistant professor emerita of American literature and literary criticism at SUNY Delhi, can boast that she is the 5,000th UUP retiree to sign a membership card. Her retiree membership took effect Aug. 30.

Thompson was congratulated on being number 5,000 by COARM Chair Jo Schaffer during the Southern Tier retiree meeting Oct. 25 in Oneonta.

UUP's retiree membership has grown to an impressive 5,075.

New: Chapter 'officer for retirees'

by Jo Schaffer
COARM Chair

As you participated at your regional meetings (see reports, beginning on page 8), you have had information about the elections, your continuing union issues and, of crucial importance, your union and retiree benefits.

In some areas, the meetings have not only been at the regional level, but at the campus/chapter site. Many of your elected and appointed members of COARM have been realizing how convenient, more direct and more pertinent it has been to have more meetings at home campuses.

Attendance at our meetings has practically doubled since meetings have been held at individual chapters. Members are so much more comfortable not having to travel distances, staying closer to home, being among their former colleagues, and more at ease and engaged discussing issues among friends.

That fact being recognized, with the leadership of Stony Brook Chapter retiree Charlie McAteer, the Stony Brook, Farmingdale and Morrisville chapters, and the endorsement of COARM, the UUP Delegate Assembly Oct. 1 heartily endorsed and approved a constitutional amendment see **Retiree Officer**, page 13

The Active Retiree

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J. Philippe Abraham/VP for Professionals
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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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NOTICE Act and Medicare's 'observation status'

A new federal law HR 876 called the NOTICE Act went into effect Aug. 6, requiring all hospitals to give patients a notice within 24 hours if they have been admitted to the hospital or if they are in "observation status."

This has been a years-long controversy as the number of observation-status cases has skyrocketed because of financial penalties for unnecessary re-admissions, as well as auditing fears that Medicare would retroactively deny payment for initial admissions.

A patient who has not been admitted for three nights in the hospital would have to pay out of pocket for any rehab in a skilled nursing facility for example. If the patient is given notice, he or she can seek a change to admission status if they will be in the hospital for at least three nights. Part A of Medicare covers inpatient services. If a patient is not admitted to a hospital, then Medicare Part B outpatient coverage is provided for insurance. A similar law has already been in effect in New York state.

Here are seven things to know about the NOTICE Act:

1. The legislation calls for hospitals to provide written notice to patients who are in the hospital under observation status for more than 24 hours. Hospitals would need to provide notification no later than 36 hours after the time observation status begins.

2. The written notice must include why the patient was not admitted to the hospital and the financial implications of observation status, including subsequent eligibility for coverage for a skilled nursing facility.

3. Medicare does not cover skilled nursing facility stays unless the patient was admitted as an inpatient

for a minimum of three nights. In some cases, physicians reclassify people as inpatients when more than observation is needed. Medicare patients who are not reclassified have to either forgo skilled nursing facility care or pay for it themselves, regardless of the length of their hospitalization.

4. Medicare Part A pays for inpatient stays. If you are hospitalized on observation status, payment by Medicare is under Part B, which covers physician and outpatient services. Patients without Part B coverage are often left with the bill for observation status, even though there was not a perceptible difference in the type or level of care they received in the hospital.

5. A number of states, including Connecticut, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia, already require hospitals to give patients notice about observation care.

6. There were an estimated 1.5 million observation stays among Medicare beneficiaries in 2012. The number of observation stays increased 100 percent from 2001 to 2009, likely because of financial pressure on hospitals to reduce potentially preventable re-admissions of inpatients within 30 days.

7. Under the NOTICE Act, hospitals would be required to notify patients about observation status, but patients can only change that status by swaying a physician or the hospital to do so. Yale-New Haven (Conn.) Hospital CEO Marna Borgstrom noticed that after learning they were under observation care, many patients left the hospital against medical advice.

(This article is reprinted from an online blog by gny53—generations of new york—which advocates for patients, families and caregivers. It was posted Aug. 10.)

From the COARM Chair

Constitutional Convention: To be or not to be

Wednesday, Nov. 9 is the date to begin the next big political contest. NO, this is not a campaign to elect or re-elect an individual but to keep the New York State Constitution's democratic purposes intact.

The history of our state's governing document—from its origins in 1777 through at least five other versions—has been long, tortuous, complicated and very political. It is far longer and more complex than even the Constitution of the United States. It is worth a read for better comprehension than this short article because it affects everything in New York from the judicial system to the Legislature to the tax and spending state requirements.

The 2017 vote will be to authorize or not the convening of a constitutional convention at which time the entire document will be opened for review and amendment. The selection of participants is equally complicated with some politicians entitled immediately to seats and others to a somewhat general election. The process will be extraordinarily expensive, costing millions of dollars,

and complicated, heavily weighted to the richer and more privileged candidates.

More important is an understanding of what is protected now and targeted for change and elimination in the proposed edited version.

As of now, the state Constitution guarantees collective bargaining rights and other hard-fought gains for the sanctity of the democratic process.

The state Constitution also:

- Guarantees free public education for elementary and secondary students;
- Prohibits funding religious education;
- Guarantees retired public employees retirement benefits cannot be reduced;
- Determines how a bill becomes law;
- Guarantees that state parks will be forever wild; and
- Determines how judge are elected or appointed.

For a number of years, the opposition has been in place already promoting their point of view. Some have organized under names such as Effective New York Foundation and the New Roosevelt Fund. They are organized and raring to go. We need to pay attention in the coming



months to all reports fomenting opening our constitution to radical revisions and erasures. This is just the beginning of what will be the next most important election of our time.

One final note: If you are receiving this newsletter, it's because you are a retiree member of UUP. Thank you for being a part of your union!

Clarification of the Survivor's Benefit Program for NYS Retirees

by **Walter Apple**
UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator

The Survivor's Benefit Program is a financial protection plan that provides a minimum death benefit to eligible New York state retirees employees of: \$2,000 if you left state service between Oct. 1, 1966, and March 21, 1970; or \$3,000 if you left state service on or after April 1, 1970.

You are automatically enrolled for this benefit if you have 10 years of full-time state service within the 15 years immediately preceding your departure or retirement from the state.

Additionally, you must meet one of the following requirements at the time you left public payroll:

- Retire directly from state service as a member of the New York State and Local Retirement System (NYSLRS) or the New York State Teachers' Retirement System (NYSTRS); or
- Retire directly from state service at age 55 or older, participate in the State University Optional Retirement Program (ORP), and begin collecting your pension within 90 days of your last day on payroll; or
- Leave state service at age 62 or older.

For additional information, you would need to contact the Survivor's Benefits Program at 866-805-0990 or by writing to NYSLRS, Survivor's Benefit Program, 110 State Street, Albany, NY 12244. Include the last four digits of your Social Security Number in any correspondence.

Report from Fall DA COARM meeting

by Loraine Tyler
Oneonta

The following are draft minutes of the COARM meeting held during the union's Fall Delegate Assembly, Sept. 30 at The Desmond in Albany.

Present: Jo Schaffer, chair; Loraine Tyler, recorder and Southern District Representative; Stacey Johnson, Western NY; Barbara Maertz, Long Island; John Nixon, North Country; Eric Russell, Metropolitan; Carole Torok, Central NY; Sandra Harper and Patty Bentley, presidential appointees:

Staff: Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter Apple

Guests: Ed Drummond, Irene Stern, Harvey Inventasch, Bob Kasprak, Lawrence Fuller, Charles McAteer, David Curry, Cindy Riedi

Chair Schaffer called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. and welcomed all. Minutes of May 13, 2016, were approved as amended. (moved by Tyler and seconded by Maertz)

Chair's Report

Schaffer has traveled extensively in the last few months to attend as many district brunch's as possible. She's attended ARA as well. All meetings must be approved to be funded. We've just tallied our 5032nd retiree. All chapters should sponsor pre-retirement meetings on campus on a regular basis.

Financial Committee and Budget Report—Maertz

Schaffer thanked Maertz and the Finance Committee for their excellent work.

Maertz discussed the COARM budget for 2016-17 as distributed. RELAG expenses will no longer be funded from our budget. The balance as of March 31, 2016, is \$478,199.68.



KAREN L. MATTISON

Above, Carole Torok, Central NY regional representative, left, raises her hand during the COARM meeting. Looking on is Eloise Briere of Albany.



DARRYL MCGRATH

Left, Loraine Tyler of Oneonta addresses a resolution during a plenary session.

Regional Meetings

Moved by Tyler and seconded by McAteer that regional reports be approved and plans for fall meetings be approved for funding. Passed.

Maertz—Long Island: Meetings are planned for Stony Brook Oct. 25 and Farmingdale Oct. 21. All legislators that representing Farmingdale and Stony Brook will speak to the group after the meal. A pre-retirement session will be held Oct. 24.

Nixon—North Country: A meeting will be held in Canton Oct. 7. Bentley is planning a meeting for Plattsburg retirees.

Torok—Central NY: Meeting slated for Nov. 2. Larry Fuller to have a September meeting in Oswego. Two to three meetings per year are planned for the future.

Tyler—Southern Tier: The retiree

brunch for Oneonta/Delhi campuses is Oct. 25 at Brooks Restaurant in Oneonta. Speaker TBA. The brunch for Cortland retirees is Oct. 28 on campus. A meeting for Binghamton retirees to be in November on the Binghamton campus.

Johnson—Western NY: Fall meetings are planned for several locations.

Al Magid—Capital District (reported by Schaffer): Fall brunch to be Oct. 19, with one speaker.

Russell—Metropolitan: The fall meeting is planned for Oct. 26 with a speaker from the League of Women Voters. A pre-retirement meeting is scheduled for Downstate Oct. 13.

RELAG/Outreach—Bentley

RELAG has been phased out as an ad hoc committee and has been folded into

the UUP Outreach Committee. The mission statement has been rewritten “to advocate legislative issues for active and retiree members.”

Pearl H. Brod Retiree of the Year Award

Thomas Morrissey of Fredonia was selected as this year’s recipient (see related story, page 19).

We need to be working on nominations for next year.

Staff report—Apple

W. Apple is keeping a tally of the number and subject of calls. Most of his calls are from those getting ready to retire or benefits for current retirees. Health benefits is a major problem in contract negotiations. The state wants greater sharing of costs. Stay tuned!

W. Apple presents wonderful pre-retirement sessions. He is willing to come to all campuses.

The Active Retiree

Articles solicited in advance for each issue. The next deadline is Nov. 7. Short articles are needed.

Awards—*The Active Retiree* was named NYSUT’s Best of the Best. The newsletter also received a first-place award and three awards of distinction for exceptional writing for articles written by Judy Wishnia, Mac Nelson and Larry Wittner.

New Business

• Constitutional amendment for Officer for Retirees:

Article VII. Chapters. Section 2. Structure of the Chapters. Paragraph b. Lines 384-394.

b. Adds an Officer for Retirees to the list of officers for local chapters. This officer will not be an automatic delegate,



DONALD FELDSTEIN

Above, Bob Reganse of Farmingdale, left, makes a point during a meeting of a task force discussing the role of retirees in UUP. At right is Cliff DaVis of Cobleskill.



KAREN L. MATTISON

Right, Cindy Riedi of Morrisville shares her thoughts during the Friday afternoon Academic Delegates Meeting.

but must run for the delegate election through normal procedures if the officer for retirees chooses.

The advantage of the amendment is this would give the seven-district representatives a contact person on each campus. A job description is being developed for the campus Office for Retirees.

(Note: This amendment was adopted by delegates Sept. 30).

• Task force to examine issues related to retirees.

The task force is examining the impact of retirees at the Delegate Assemblies.

At this point, retirees have a disproport-

ionate representation. Under discussion are different ways to select retiree delegates to more accurately reflect the number of retirees.

• 2017 Election Timetable: A constitutional amendment was adopted at the Fall DA to change the terms for statewide officers, Executive Board members, and the COARM chair and regional representatives) to three years. This will be less expensive, free up more time at the Delegate Assemblies.

To save costs, Truballot will handle future chapter and retiree elections.

see **COARM**, page 6

COARM

(continued from page 5)

• Listserv: Russell and Kasprak are moderators with very little power. More civility is needed among correspondents.

Russell and Kasprak are charged with forming guidelines to address the use of the listserv, and to create terms of conditions of use. They should search other types of listservs.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.



KAREN L. MATTISON

Above, COARM presidential appointee Sandy Harper, left, and Buffalo State retiree and former statewide president Nuala Drescher find time to discuss retiree issues between DA meetings.



DONALD FELDSTEIN

Left, Farmingdale retiree Barbara Maertz makes phone calls for NYSUT-endorsed candidates following the union's statewide Outreach Committee meeting.

Below, Samuel von Winbush of Old Westbury comments during one of several meetings at the 2016 Fall DA. In back is retiree Jay Gilbert of Empire State College.



DARRYL MCGRATH

Active Retiree Charlie McAteer of Stony Brook explains to delegates why his chapter endorsed an Officer for Retirees at the chapter level.



KAREN L. MATTISON

Editor's note: The following is an email and web update that UUP President Fred Kowal distributed Nov. 10.

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United University Professions

Dear colleagues,

The election is behind us and the results are in. Though I understand the Constitutional imperative that is based in the creation of the Electoral College, I am deeply disturbed that it appears that for the second time in 5 presidential elections, the candidate that won the popular vote has been denied the presidency. I am also deeply disappointed by the results that have brought to power an administration that is the most ideologically extremist in our history.

UUP is committed to fiercely defending the rights of its members. We are dedicated to a quality, affordable public higher education and quality health care. UUP remains unwavering in its battle for diversity, opportunity and equality for all. No election, no president or political party will ever change that. We reject the hate, the racism, the sexism and the xenophobia espoused by Donald Trump during the presidential election and we will be quick to point it out if it occurs in the months and years ahead.

The shock that I and millions of others felt in the wee hours of Nov. 9 has given way to an unshakable resolve to stand our ground in the face of adversity—and this, my friends, is adversity. Dozens of court cases that would tear at the very fiber of public labor unions lay in wait for Republicans to appoint an ultra-conservative justice to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Taken at his word, Trump has promised to dismantle or blot out programs and progressive policies put in place by President Barack Obama that have improved the lives of millions. Women's rights, civil rights, the rights of immigrants and the LGBTQ community, protecting our environment, privatizing Medicare—so many gains we've made over the last eight years are at risk of being turned back.

Not to mention the Affordable Care Act, which Republicans are already eyeing as one of the first things to go under a Trump administration. If they gut Obamacare, 22 million Americans will be left without health insurance. And that will cause chaos throughout the healthcare industry, including deep impacts on our SUNY hospitals.

We cannot and we will not remain silent as the country we love is torn asunder. Throughout our history, we have stood at the fore of the progressive movement. We will continue to proudly hold aloft the banner of progressivism, regardless of the forces aligned against us. To take on these struggles, I need every UUP activist to be engaged in our work as never before, and to recruit others to stand with you. The time for apathy and inaction is over.

We're not about to back down. Now or ever. And all of us must stand together.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Kowal", written in a cursive style.

UUP President Frederick E. Kowal

Affiliations: New York State United Teachers ♦ National Education Association ♦ American Federation of Teachers ♦ AFL-CIO

COARM regional updates

Capital District

by **Al Magid**
Albany

Capital District COARM met Oct. 19 at Alumni House on the UAlbany campus for its semiannual forum brunch. The forum addressed the topic “Humane Treatment of Farm Animals: Practice and Public Policy.”

Two experts, Barry Estabrook and Brian Shapiro, spoke about moral, economic, political, dietary and technological aspects.

An award-winning journalist, author and editor, Estabrook framed his remarks around the theme “Of Hogs and Humans,” in the process calling attention to fascinating characteristics of pigs, their intelligence, sociability (with their own ilk and humans) and cleanliness.

Shapiro’s focus was “An Overview of Farm Animal Protection in New York State.” He is state director for the Humane Society of the United States, and vice president of the state Animal Protection Association, which advocates and lobbies for animal shelters in the state.

A robust Q & A followed the two presentations, in conjunction with a buffet lunch provided by statewide COARM.

UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter Apple remarked upon retiree issues.

COARM’s Capital District Region Executive Committee urges the more than 300 academic and professional retirees from the Albany, New Paltz, and Cobleskill campuses and the retirees from SUNY System Administration to participate in the always lively and informative semiannual meetings, held in May and October. All of the meetings include guest speakers and are keyed to timely issues, with an emphasis on education and public policy, domestic and international.

At the next forum brunch, in May 2017, the topic will be “The SUNY-Empowerment Zone Scandal: What Have We Learned?” Y’all come!



Estabrook



Shapiro



Magid

current examples we learned how scammers operate, especially those that target seniors by telephone, mail order, and the internet. Jean stayed to answer individual questions and is always available to help us keep abreast of identity theft and financial exploitation. Jo Schaffer, COARM Chair, updated us on the latest happenings and brought many resource materials for us.

Central New York retirees and their guests are looking forward to our Fall Meeting on Wednesday Nov. 2 at Coleman’s Restaurant in Syracuse. Our guest speaker is Edward Thibault, criminologist and professor emeritus from SUNY Oswego. Ed will discuss “Cybersecurity,” always an interesting topic, especially with the concerns regarding upcoming U.S. elections.

Thank you to Cindy and Larry Fuller, active COARM members at SUNY Oswego, for planning an early Fall meeting on Thursday September 22 at Vona’s Restaurant in Oswego. It was a beautiful day for Jo Schaffer, Walter Apple, and Carole Torok to also drive there and meet with retiree members. Larry and Cindy also arranged for Sara Sunday to present on services available from the Oswego County Office for Aging.

Long Island—Farmingdale

by **Barbara Maertz**
Farmingdale

The UUP retirees who came to Farmingdale for their fall meeting learned a lot about autumn flowers and trees. In fact, I am going to get two shrubs that I learned about at the meeting for my own garden.

Professor Jonathan Lehrer, chair of the SUNY Farmingdale horticulture department, showed photos of the beautiful Sweet-spire and the Witch Alder (Fothergilla) plants that flower in the fall and are easy to care for.

It was great that so many of our friends (35) attended to remember the working days and to learn about new benefits.

Walter Apple, UUP retiree member services coordinator, told us about two new benefit programs: one for dental and the other a new legal plan. The dental plan will have some coverage for implants and begins in January. Members were urged to compare this plan with the Delta Dental plan.

Information on the Hyatt Legal Plan can be found on page 20.

Farmingdale Chapter delegate Yolanda Segarra told members about the new SUNY Farmingdale campus president and of the need to get out the vote for NYSUT-endorsed candidates.

Long Island Regional Representative Barbara Maertz informed members about the new elected “Officer for Retirees” position, beginning next year. This person will serve on the chapter executive board as a liaison between current and future retirees and the chapter president. At Farmingdale, that person would have a vote on the executive board, but would not necessarily be a delegate. Nominations will be taken in January and voted on by the chapter membership in the spring, for a two-year term. The offi-

Central New York

by **Carole Torok**
SUNY Polytechnic Institute

Central New York retirees enjoyed a late spring/early summer meeting in an outdoor bistro setting at the Greenwood Winery and Bistro in East Syracuse on Thursday June 16th. Guest speaker, Jean Ryan, Consumer Frauds Representative from the Syracuse Regional Attorney General’s Office Consumer Frauds Bureau, provided many take-home materials and resources for “Stopping Scam Artists Before They Strike.” With specific and

cer for retirees could be a retiree or active member.

Maertz also announced that she will step down as Long Island regional representative after serving for 10 years. Only retirees can serve in that position and nominations will take place in January for a three-year term. The rep serves on COARM and votes on all matters affecting retiree members of UUP. This person needs to attend Delegate Assemblies and the occasional COARM business retreat. The coordinator arranges the fall and spring meetings of Long Island retirees.

Finally, the COARM chair will also be elected next year to a three-year term. (See the Notice of 2017-2020 Retiree Elections, beginning on page 16.)

Long Island—Stony Brook



NICK KORIDIS

Long Island Regional Representative Barbara Maertz welcomes Stony Brook retirees to the meeting. UUP President Fred Kowal and a handful of lawmakers addressed about 135 retirees in attendance.

**by Barbara Maertz
Farmingdale**

The COARM brunch at Stony Brook was the scene of a candidates forum, with NYSUT-endorsed candidates speaking to retiree members. We were 133-members strong and interested in the voting decisions we were soon to make.

Among the attendees were state Sens. Ken LaValle and Tom Croci, Assemblyman Steve Englebright, and Congressional candidate Anna Throne Holst.

Attendees heard UUP President Fred Kowal speak about the need for members to make calls of support for pro-education, pro-working family candidates. Lawmakers' votes for issues such as IRMAA and health benefits protections, are crucial for the jobs of the future and the futures of our children.

Kowal spoke about the transparency issue and the corruption involved in the construction projects in Buffalo and at SUNY Polytechnic Institute. When the legislators spoke, there was general agreement that the new ethics legislation aimed at

removing corruption must be approved in the next year and then be voted on by the people.

Anna Throne Holst spoke about her commitment to Social Security and Medicares. Throne Holst has a long history of service as supervisor of the Town of Southampton.

Sen. LaValle spoke about the Water Quality Technology and the Research Park that he was instrumental in funding for Stony Brook. Assemblyman Englebright, chair of the Environmental Conservation Committee, is deeply concerned with the deteriorating health of our shellfish caused by acidification of the water in the sound and the bays. He sponsored a research program at Stony Brook to address this issue. Sen. Croci authored ethics legislation and is very concerned about the corruption in the state government.

Judy Wishnia and Peter Verdon spoke about the proposed Constitutional Convention, which will be on the ballot in 2017. All of the legislators present said they are opposed to a convention, stating that there are better things to spend money on, such as sewers, bridges and transportation.

Walter Apple informed the members about the two new UUP benefits. A full discussion of a constitutional convention and other retiree benefits will take place at the spring 2017 meeting. Hope to see you there.

Metropolitan New York



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY BENTLEY

The union's Metropolitan New York retirees came together over lunch Oct. 26. On hand distributing campaign literature was COARM presidential appointee Patty Bentley of Plattsburgh, above. Also addressing the group was statewide Membership Development Officer Tom Hoey.

North Country—Canton/Potsdam

by John Nixon
Canton

The fall 2016 brunch meeting of Canton and Potsdam retirees was held Oct. 7 at The Club restaurant in Canton. Fourteen North Country retirees attended.

Guests included: Plattsburgh retiree Patty Bentley, who urged retirees to support Hillary Clinton for president; UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter Apple; and Andrea Montgomery, director of the St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging.

Apple gave an effective talk about his office and the benefits available to UUP retiree members, and handed out brochures and UUP paraphernalia.

Keynote speaker Montgomery talked about the programs available through the Office for the Aging, including new transportation opportunities for seniors, a new grant with NYS Legal Aid that provides free simple wills, powers of attorney, and different health-related legal documents. She also discussed the Meals on Wheels centers throughout the county, and about the opportunities for seniors to volunteer in various programs, including Meals on Wheels, the Volunteer Transportation Center, and literacy assistance activities.

All in all, the meeting was successful in bringing together colleagues, and presenting germane information to North Country retirees.

North Country—Plattsburgh



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATTY BENTLEY

Nearly two dozen SUNY Plattsburgh retirees gather Oct. 28 for food and information at the Butcher Block restaurant in Plattsburgh.

by Patty Bentley
Plattsburgh

Twenty (20!) people attended the fall meeting of the Plattsburgh UUP retirees Oct. 28 at the Butcher Block in Plattsburgh. It was the best-ever attendance for a North Country meeting. North Country regional representative John Nixon and I

decided to have sub-regional meetings, as the “North Country” is the largest yet least-populated region in COARM. This seems to be the right way to go!

As a COARM presidential appointee, I discussed UUP’s upcoming election for an Officer for Retirees at each chapter, and the issues of concern to retirees in the upcoming state and national elections. Also, I was able to explain directly to the members why NYSUT endorsed Assembly member Elise Stefanik.

There was a great hum and buzz during lunch as people visited and caught up with one another.

UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter Apple and I answered several questions. It was a good event.

We’ve added at least two more retirees, who were active UUP members but had not yet signed retiree membership cards.

The spring event is scheduled for Thursday, May 25, 2017, at noon at the Valcour Brewing Company. Keynote speakers to be determined; one possible idea is to invite new Assembly and/or Congress members to provide updates on retiree issues, higher education, etc.

Southern Tier—Cortland/Delhi/Oneonta

by Loraine Tyler
Oneonta

Oneonta and Delhi retirees met Oct. 25 at the Brooks Roost in Oneonta under beautiful sunshine and colorful leaves. The 42 retirees and three guests received the latest news and greetings from COARM Southern Tier regional representative Loraine Tyler and Oneonta Chapter President Bill Simons.

COARM Chair Jo Schaffer recognized the 5,000th retiree from Delhi, Alicia Thompson (see related story, page 1), and brought retirees news from UUP. Among the topics discussed: the union’s constitutional amendment adopted at the 2016 Fall Delegate Assembly requiring chapters to elect an officer for retirees; the extension of coverage for surviving spouses; and a clarification of the New York state Survivor’s Benefit Program. Schaffer also urged retirees to vote Nov. 8.

State Sen. Jim Seward spoke about issues facing seniors in New York state. Issues included protecting seniors from elder abuse, tax cuts, and service credit for veterans. He also spoke about Common Core and the overreliance on testing our school children.

Cortland retirees met Oct. 28 at Cortina Mexican Restaurant. The 39 retirees and guests were greeted by Cortland UUP Chapter President Joe Westbrook, Tyler and Schaffer. Schaffer reviewed the union’s constitutional amendment requiring chapters to elect a retiree officer and encouraged retirees to run.

Patty Martinez from the modern language department gave a humorous, enlightening power point presentation on Mexican customs celebrated on the Day of the Dead (Halloween) from Nov. 1-2. The holiday includes parades, decorating graves, candles and food.

The **Binghamton** brunch is scheduled for Nov. 28.



Martinez

Western New York



LARRY SCOTT

Gary Earl Ross addresses Western NY retirees at the Nov. 1 gathering at Sean Patrick's Restaurant.



Johnson

by Stacey Johnson
Buffalo Center

Western NY retirees met at Sean Patrick's Restaurant Nov. 1. They heard what it's like to extend oneself into the world of

retirement, by not retiring, but moving on to one's real love after work.

COARM Chair Jo Schaffer introduced guest speaker Gary Earl Ross as a "recently retired dramaturge (love using that word), author, actor, director etc. He talked about Act 1 -111 for us—living his life as a contributor to the stage."

Ross said there are 26 theater groups in our area, and no one should lack for a place to go for entertainment and engagement.

Those who attended the luncheon heard about the new officer for retirees to be elected at each chapter, and what that could mean for them in the future; communication would be enhanced because of the presence of the officer representing each chapter, and their link to the Western NY representative.

Schaffer encouraged everyone to think about running for chapter officer for retirees.

Outreach in this election year was emphasized by Schaffer. We are in a crucial election, and she asked those present to call everyone they know in battleground states to encourage them to vote.

Also discussed: to have or have not a New York state Constitutional Convention. It is necessary to understand the impact a Constitutional Convention would have on our union and on us as retirees. Watch for articles in *The Voice* and on the UUP website at www.uupinfo.org.

Everyone agreed that we would like to have our spring event in May after the DA. Plans will be shared when they are firm.

GIVE to the UUP College Scholarship Fund



I would like to make a tax-deductible donation.

Please use my gift for Undergraduate scholarships \$ _____
 Post baccalaureate scholarships \$ _____

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Home address: _____

Chapter: _____ Non-SUNY Email: _____

Signature: _____

Make check or money order payable to UUP College Scholarship Fund.
 Send your donation to Accountant Cindie Bayly
 c/o United University Professions, PO Box 15143, Albany, NY 12212

UUP created its College Scholarship Fund in 1985 to celebrate the union's commitment to academic excellence and the life of the mind by awarding up to four scholarships each year to qualified SUNY undergraduates. In 2010, the union awarded its first post baccalaureate scholarship.



Madison Square Garden

has teamed up with the

UUP Member Services Trust

to offer UUP members discounted tickets for New York Rangers and New York Knicks games.

That's a discount of up to 25% off an individual game!*



And to get our members in the holiday spirit ... The Member Services Trust has partnered with **Radio City Music Hall** to kick off its Christmas Spectacular, starring the Radio City Rockettes. **Reduced prices are \$45, \$55 and \$65.***



You MUST be a member of UUP to receive these discounts.

* Specific dates apply.



"United We Do More"

Contact the UUP Member Services Trust at 1-800-887-3863. Our representatives will forward to you an email with all the information on how to receive your discounted tickets.

AFT

(continued from page 1)

— The doughnut-hole for Part D Medicare (an attempt by the Bush administration to begin privatization of Medicare) needs further attention.

— The basis for cost-of-living increases for Social Security needs revision to reflect the actual lifestyles of senior citizens.

— TPP provisions need to be monitored. There is potential for increased drug costs for Medicare and Medicaid programs that may have a negative effect on the federal budget.

It was stated that Social Security should be solvent until 2034, the Social Security Disability fund until 2023, and Medicare until 2028.

Fiesta noted that the ARA provides advocacy training. He also listed several informational resources that may be of interest to our members:

- retiredamericans.org, which provides fact sheets and reports; and
- ARA Friday Alert, a weekly e-newsletter. Sign up at retiredamericans.org

Monday, July 18

There were four concurrent workshops offered in two sessions. The two I chose

were “Anti-Union Attacks and Counterattacks” and “Election 2016: AFT Issues and the Senior Vote.”

The “attacks and counterattacks” workshop was basically an ALEC and Koch brothers informational. It was good to be reminded of this organization’s devious methods and the damage to our rights ALEC has already illustrated, as well as to be informed about labor’s successful attempts to defuse, disable and sometimes overcome these efforts.

Useful links were provided:

- Websites—standuptoalec.org and alecexposed.org;
- Facebook—Stand Up To Alec.

The “Election 2016: AFT Issues and the Senior Vote” workshop emphasized the importance of the upcoming election.

The AFT is working on a member mobilization program that will allow phone banking from home in an attempt to increase the numbers of activists, as well as internal and external rapid response teams. The plan is to use all tools available: digital, mail and phones.

Thursday, July 21, 2016

Three resolutions from the Retirement Committee were unanimously adopted at the convention.

The lead-off resolution was “In Support of More Accurate COLA Adjustments to Social Security.”

The rationale for this resolution was that because there is a difference in spending patterns for those who are retired, this difference should be considered when determining Social Security COLAs.

Seniors spend twice as much on health care as the younger working Americans. Those 75 and older, spend three times as much. The resolution urged the AFT to call on Congress to use the CPI-E as the basis for annual COLAs.

The second resolution, “Protect and Expand the Social Safety Net,” directed the AFT to continue its “advocacy for the protection and expansion of the social insurance programs that support the economic security of members, students and all Americans.”

In addition, the resolution supported lifting the Social Security tax to be assessed on all income above \$250,000.

The third resolution, “Promote Retirement Security through Full Funding, Investment Manager Transparency, and Accountability” directed the AFT to promote these outcomes.

Retiree Officer

(continued from page 1)

that states that each chapter must elect an Officer for Retirees.

The retiree officer will have a seat on the chapter executive board. That person need not be a retiree (but it would be a good idea if that were so), and will be elected by all chapter members, but will not automatically be a delegate.

Statewide COARM and UUP are working together to gather ideas as to how to make this position the “missing link”—or conduit—for better information in and out, from and to, the retirees, pre-retirees and chapter membership to better serve all. It is also conceived as a better means to get pertinent information to all retirees.

As a visual person, I can see either a pyramid structure (base down and point

up, or the other way round) for bottom-up participation and direction.

The position will be offered for the first time in next year’s chapter elections, set to begin in January.

Please consider how you might fit into this new position and help us to develop its future function as it might fit into the established structure of a retiree statewide chair, seven regional representatives and two presidential appointees.



What your beneficiaries need to know

Don't forget to remind your beneficiaries that, upon your death, they need to inform the campus Human Resources Department *and* contact UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator Walter

Apple at (800) 342-4206. If they don't contact the campus or UUP, they won't get the survivor's benefits: that's \$3,000 from the state and \$1,000 from UUP. Remind them to make the calls!

Notice of 2017-2020 UUP Retiree Elections

In early January, UUP begins the process for its 2017-2020 Retiree elections.

Watch for nomination forms that will be mailed Jan. 18 from the UUP Administrative Office.

As election materials are mailed to members, copies will also be posted on the UUP website. Except for ballots, these items will be downloadable and printable.

Policy for retiree statements

Nominees may submit written statements in support of their candidacies. Each candidate may submit 500 words; if he or

she wishes to submit more, it will be printed in smaller type to give all candidates equal space. Color photos of candidates are also welcome, but not necessary.

Statements must be received by the UUP director of communications' designee (kmattiso@uupmail.org) in the UUP Administrative Office by 5 p.m. **Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2017.**

Statements will be printed in a special Election Edition of *The Active Retiree*.

If anyone wants labels to distribute campaign literature on behalf of any candidate, the UUP Executive Board has approved the following policies and procedures for retiree requests:

UUP Policies and Procedures for Distributing Campaign Literature in UUP Elections

To provide equal and uniform access to all candidates for the distribution of campaign literature, UUP will include the following policies and procedures in the conduct of its elections.

These policies and procedures provide equal and uniform access to all candidates for the distribution of campaign literature. Equally important, they ensure members' privacy and fulfill UUP's obligation to conduct fair and honest elections.

All duly declared candidates shall have equal access to appropriate membership information, to mailing privileges and to publications of UUP in accordance with procedures issued by the UUP Elections and Credentials Committee.

Duly declared candidates may request mailing labels of members' last known home addresses for distribution of campaign literature. Candidates shall sign a statement governing the use of mailing labels and limiting their use to UUP elections. Such signed statements shall be submitted to the Office of the Secretary of UUP, which shall check eligibility and the parameters of the mailing labels. All declared candidates may obtain mailing labels by contacting the UUP Secretary's Office in writing (or by email). Such requests must specify the category(ies) of eligible members for whom they wish labels. Candidates will cover the cost of labels and mailing.

Mailing labels will include only UUP members, including contingents, Regular (Active) and Retired in good standing as of the certification date for eligibility to participate in a given election.

Candidates must specify in their formal requests which of the following categories of eligible members, including contingents, they wish to receive their mailings.

Retired Delegate to the Delegate Assembly:

- All Retirees
- Retired Academics Only
- Retired Professionals Only

Retiree Regions:

All options listed below are available in each Region

All Retirees; Academics Only; Professionals Only

- Capital District—Region A (*Albany, System Administration, Cobleskill, New Paltz*)
- Long Island—Region B (*Farmingdale, Old Westbury, Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC*)
- North Country—Region C (*Canton, Plattsburgh, Potsdam*)
- Western New York—Region D (*Alfred, Brockport, Buffalo HSC, Buffalo Center, Buffalo State, Fredonia, Geneseo*)
- Central New York—Region E (*ESF, Morrisville, Oswego, Upstate Medical, Utica/Rome*)
- Metropolitan—Region F (*Downstate, Maritime, Optometry, Purchase*)
- Southern Tier—Region G (*Binghamton, Cortland, Delhi, Oneonta*)
- Empire State Chapter Retirees will be included in the Region in which such member's primary work site was located prior to retirement.



Retiree Elections
Request for Labels

Print Name _____ Academic Professional

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Address (Include Street, City, State, Zip) _____

I am a candidate for _____ Date Requested _____

Indicate the categories of eligible **Retired Members** for labels. (Check All Boxes That Apply)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Capital District – Region A: (Albany, System Administration, Cobleskill, New Paltz)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Long Island – Region B: (Farmingdale, Old Westbury, Stony Brook, Stony Brook HSC)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

North Country – Region C: (Canton, Plattsburgh, Potsdam)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Western New York – Region D: (Alfred, Brockport, Buffalo (All), Fredonia, Genesee)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Central New York – Region E: (ESF, Morrisville, Oswego, Upstate Medical, Utica/Rome)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Metropolitan – Region F: (Downstate, Maritime, Optometry, Purchase)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Southern Tier – Region G: (Binghamton, Cortland, Delhi, Oneonta)

All Retirees Academics Only Professionals Only

Empire State Chapter Retirees will be included in the Region in which such member's primary work site prior to retirement was located.

I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to the provisions of UUP Policies and Procedures for Distributing Campaign Literature in UUP Elections. I request labels in accordance with UUP Policies and Procedures. I understand that each set of labels of names and home addresses, provided by UUP, is limited to use in a UUP election.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

Please FAX or MAIL this request to UUP

Fax Number: 1-866-812-9446

PO Box 15143, Albany, New York 12212-5143

UUP will not be involved in any other distribution of campaign literature for candidates, except for official publications that provide for candidate statements on an equal and uniform basis.

UUP and NYSUT provide a variety of lists and labels of members' home addresses necessary for UUP to conduct its programs and business. Candidates may not access or use these in the distribution of campaign literature, except for the printed list available in the Chapter office provided by Elections and Credentials committee and/or the Leadership Directory.

In election years, UUP will publish these policies and procedures in *The Voice* and post them on the UUP website prior to the beginning of the election cycle. A copy will be in each Chapter Office and upon request to the UUP Secretary.

The UUP Secretary and the Elections and Credentials Committee will be responsible for implementing these policies and procedures. Questions should be directed to the UUP Secretary.

2017 Election Calendar

If you plan to run for COARM, as a delegate from your chapter or as a delegate to affiliate conventions, here is the election calendar. We urge all retirees to continue to be active on their campuses, to run for chapter Officer for Retirees, to run for a seat on COARM. Elected regional representatives are responsible for meetings in their regions, but many individual campuses have meetings as well. So ... join us and become active!

Mail chapter, retiree, affiliate convention nomination forms1/18/17
Chapter, retiree and affiliate convention nominations close2/15/17
Chapter nomination lists mailed to chapter presidents and posted to UUP website2/17/17
Mail retiree election ballots2/22/17
Mail chapter election ballots3/8-10/17
Retiree election ballots due3/22/17
Counting of retiree ballots3/23-24/17
Chapter election ballots due4/12/17
Counting of chapter election ballots4/13-14/17

** Dates may be modified*

You must self-nominate if you run for COARM, but a nonretired member must nominate retirees for affiliate conventions.

Retiree praises book on Vietnam war

by Judy Wishnia
Stony Brook

Our retiree colleague, John Marciano of Cortland) has written a thought-provoking book: *The American War in Vietnam: Crime or Commemoration* (eBook available from Google).

Reviewers, including several veterans of the war, have praised the book. One reviewer wrote that it is an excellent primer on the war, its historical context, the terrible crimes committed against the country and why the truth about the war still matters.

Marciano debunks the official view, current in classroom history texts, that the war in Vietnam was a “noble cause.” The U.S. did not send tens of thousands of Americans to kill and die in Vietnam in order to defend democracy and freedom. It was to quell an independence movement.

He reminds us that aside from the terrible loss of American soldiers, there was mass destruction of the country. The U.S., with its superior firepower, killed approximately 3.8 million Vietnamese (remember My Lai) and created 14 million refugees.

In addition, the environment was destroyed by the use of 20 million gallons of herbicides like Agent Orange and, of course, the use of napalm.

With Vietnam as an example, Marciano sees a continuation of anti-democratic foreign policy over the years and today.



Retiree recalls how he courted fame in '54

by Rand Bishop
Oswego

Reading Mac Nelson’s very nice memoir, “Baseball is my Game,” in *The Active Retiree* (Summer 2016), I am prompted to recall an event from my own distant past.

I was a senior at the University of Michigan in the spring of 1954 and played on a pretty good basketball team (Alpha Tau Omega). In fact, we won the intramural championship that year. A team member, Dick Canfield, who had played at Arthur Hill High School in

uled the next day and was planning for an all-night cram session (my favorite exam-taking technique in those less-than-cum-laude days), but if that was the case, I quickly abandoned the plan.

We played, I believe, in the Jackson High School gymnasium. I was pinching myself continually during the game. I think the score was 100-24. (In case you’re wondering, we were the team that scored 24). But that’s hardly the point. We went through the motions while the Globetrotters delivered their usual, very entertaining routine. I “guarded” (to use the term about as facetiously as possible)



Rand Bishop

“(Globetrotters) Tatum and Lemon and the others were all most gracious in answering the clusters of questions from this green, wide-eyed group of college 20-year-olds.”

Saginaw, Mich., knew someone who played professionally for the Washington Generals, the team that travels with and plays regularly against the Harlem Globetrotters.

Dick’s friend called him one afternoon that spring and said, “We’re scheduled to play the Globetrotters tonight in Jackson, Mich., (about 30 miles west of Ann Arbor), but we’re stuck in a blizzard in Boston and can’t fly out of here. Could you possibly get a team together and go to Jackson and take our place?”

Dick immediately called all the team members and—guess what?—we jumped in our cars and raced over to Jackson in record time. We would have walked, if necessary

I can’t recall if I’d had an exam sched-

the great Goose Tatum, as Meadowlark Lemon and the team performed their sleight-of-hand magic with the basketball.

The best part of the evening, however, came after the game, when both teams shared the same locker room and we had wonderful conversations with each of the Globetrotters. Tatum and Lemon and the others were all most gracious in answering the clusters of questions from this green, wide-eyed group of college 20-year-olds.

I have never gotten over the thrill, and I doubt I ever will.

(Bishop is a professor emeritus, American humanities. He earned his Ph.D. from Michigan State University in 1970. He retired from SUNY in 1995.)

Cubs win World Series! Too bad I missed it ...

by Mac Nelson
Fredonia

This is a twist on the joys of an aging Chicago Cub fan's fall classic. All through the 2016 World Series I transcended geezerdom, stayed awake, and watched every minute of every game—until the seventh and deciding one. I liked the pitching matchup—Cleveland Indians' star Cory Kluber on little rest versus Kyle Hendricks for the Cubs, and that proved prophetic. The Cubs built up a four-run lead and Hendricks seemed to be cruising. And I was near the happy end of 71 years of watching, waiting, hoping. And still awake, though sleepy.

Then Hypermanaging reared its ugly head. Cubs' manager Joe Maddon is a bright, sharp, funny guy, but he is often too early with the hook, pulling a pitcher who doesn't need to be replaced. Ball four. There's no tomorrow, so out comes Hendricks, in goes starter Jon Lester on not much rest. OK, he's doing well too. Then out comes Lester too, on little provocation, and in goes the star closer, Aroldis Chapman, who was clearly tired from three straight days of work. And the lead drops from 5-1 to 6-3, 6-4, and WHOOPS a two-run homer in the eighth ties it and the momentum is all Cleveland's. Oh my. Will we lose again?

At this point the Gods intervened—rain had been threatening all night, and it came, hard. Cue the ground crew.

"That's it," says I, "it's damn near midnight and the tarp could be on for an hour. Who am I to argue with Jupiter Pluvius?" I left the watching to my son Ted, rolled over, and crashed.

The rain delay was brief, 17 minutes during which the Cubs held a meeting and vowed to one another that they would win. (They had come back from 1-3 down in games just to get to this seventh game.) After scoring two runs, and surviving a nail-biting tenth inning with good work from the bullpen, the Cubs won 8-7.

Not that I saw it, you understand. It had been 108 years since my Cubs won the Series; my memories of that are vague. But hey, I needed my sleep. Ted shook me awake with the great news and I smiled and zonked out again, to wake at three to watch highlights.

For me, the whole season was a high-light reel. Damn, it was close. The Indians were superb opponents, and they will be back: Each team scored 27 runs. The victory is splendid, but I am sternly avoiding any careless phraseology such as "Now that we have won I can die happy." Uh-uh. I want MORE.

The Cubs have some big stars—Bryant, Rizzo, Lester, Arrieta—but they are,



Mac Nelson

above all, a fine team, with a new hero almost every game. Javier Baez, a second-string second baseman, propelled them through the National League championship series. And they are mostly young, so I can hope for a dynasty, maybe another World Series

soon. (And maybe a day game or two? Nah. Forget it. Suck it up, old man. And stay awake next time.)

Maddon helps keep 'em loose. They flew back from the West Coast twice this season, all wearing onesies. Sluggers in Footie Jammies. For their last road trip of the year, to Cleveland on Oct. 31, you guessed it: Hallowe'en costumes. Somewhere, Bill Veeck—who planted the ivy in Wrigley Field and once sent a midget up to bat—is laughing in hearty approval. (Eddie Gaedel, all 3 feet 7 inches of him, walked on four pitches.)

Baseball is a hard, big money business. I am so glad that it can also be fun, and still a thrilling game. And I miss it already.

When do pitchers and catchers report?

(Mac Nelson lives in Brocton. His prize-winning book TWENTY WEST: The Great Road Across America [SUNY Press] is available in paperback.)

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 <http://bit.ly/1kJD2LR> or by contacting Walter Apple, retiree member services coordinator, at wapple@uupmail.org or at (800) 342-4206.



2017 Pearl H. Brod Outstanding Retiree Award



I. Eligibility: Any active UUP retiree who has rendered outstanding volunteer service to his/her community and has provided exemplary service to UUP and to SUNY *after* retirement is eligible to be nominated. (A candidate may qualify if outstanding in all or any combination of the criteria listed.)

DEADLINE: April 1, 2017

II. Name of Nominee: _____

Address _____ Phone No. _____

UUP Chapter _____ Year retired from SUNY _____

III. Nominee Activities

A. Service to Community

Description _____ Organization _____ From-To _____

B. Service to UUP

Description _____ From-To _____

C. Service to SUNY

Description _____ From-To _____

D. Other Accomplishments

Description _____ From-To _____

(i.e., continual professional accomplishments)

(If additional space is needed, attach a separate sheet.)

IV. Name of Nominator _____

Address _____ Phone No. _____

Signature _____

V. Endorsements

A. One or more letters attesting to the candidate's accomplishments since retirement from SUNY.

B. Letters from leaders of organizations served, describing scope and quality of volunteer service to the community, UUP and/or SUNY.

Send completed nomination form, including letters of endorsement, to:

**Jo Schaffer, COARM chair
c/o United University Professions
P.O. Box 15143
Albany, N.Y. 12212-5143**

The award will be presented during the 2017 Fall Delegate Assembly.

DEADLINE: April 1, 2017

Morrissey named retiree of the year

by Donald Feldstein
UUP Media Relations Specialist

Fredonia Chapter retiree member Tom Morrissey has burned hundreds of gallons of gasoline and worn through lots of tire tread making the 600-plus mile round trip trek to Albany to advocate for UUP.

It's a trip he's made nearly 100 times.

His dedication to advocating on behalf of UUP is among the reasons he was named this 2016 Pearl H. Brod Outstanding Retiree of the Year.

As an active member, he served as Fredonia Chapter president for eight years and chaired the college's history department for seven years.

He hasn't slowed down since his retirement in 2007.

An advocate and mentor

"Since his retirement, he has, if anything, become more dedicated to 'lobbying' for SUNY, for our retirees, as well as our active members," said Mac Nelson, a fellow Fredonia retiree member. "No UUP retiree has done, or is doing, better work for the union and the University."

Morrissey has been a member of UUP's Outreach Committee since the mid-1980s, and has helped to recruit other advocates. Fredonia Chapter President Ziya Arnavut is proud to be among them.

"I was inspired by Tom, a man who thoroughly dedicated his life to UUP and



EL-WISE NOISETTE

Tom Morrissey of Fredonia accepts this year's Pearl H. Brod Retiree of the Year Award from UUP President Fred Kowal, left, and COARM Chair Jo Schaffer.

has been actively serving the last 37 years for this cause," Arnavut said. "To me, he is a mentor. He is a great colleague, and a man who is deeply committed to UUP and its values."

Morrissey's commitment extends to his service as a statewide union delegate, a member of the Fredonia Chapter executive board, and as the award-winning editor of the chapter newsletter.

Community service

Morrissey is also well known for the breadth of his community service. He's been involved in the Dunkirk-Fredonia

Labor Council for more than 30 years, working with members of other unions to support local workers. He's a member of the Dunkirk-Fredonia Center for Peace and Justice, noted for his role in an annual drive to raise funds and collect school supplies and clothing to help children in rural Nicaragua get an education. Since his retirement, Morrissey created a scholarship for dependents of CSEA members working at Fredonia and he helps raise funds for it.

"Tom truly embodies the values this award symbolizes," said COARM Chair Jo Schaffer of Cortland.

"Not only is Tom being recognized for his years of

activity with UUP at his campus and statewide, but for his community participation as well. He exemplifies all of the criteria required for this annual award. I am thrilled that he is being honored for the good deeds he performs on campus and off."

Morrissey received the award at the 2016 Fall Delegate Assembly in Albany.

The award is named after the late Pearl Brod of Farmingdale, a long-time academic delegate who served as elected chair of COARM from 1999-2003 and as the committee's Long Island Region representative from 1993-2009.



Berger

UAlbany retiree pens book on 20th century African women

Iris Berger, a professor emerita of history at the University at Albany, recently published a new book, *Women in Twentieth-Century Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2016).

The book explores the apparent paradox in the conflicting images of African women—as singularly oppressed and dominated by men, but also as strong, resourceful, and willing to challenge governments

and local traditions to protect themselves and their families.

Berger earned a Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activities in 2012, the President's Award for Excellence in Research and Creative Activities in 2011, and the Collins Fellowship for extraordinary institutional commitment and service in 2010.

It pays to be a member of UUP

Being in UUP has always had its advantages: negotiated health, dental, vision and prescription drug programs for eligible employees, and a free, \$1,000 life insurance policy among them.

Now there's even more.

Retiree members of UUP are now able to enroll in new and expanded voluntary programs through the union's Member Services Trust.

Effective Jan. 1, 2017, the new and expanded plans include:

- Dental and vision programs that will cover previously ineligible people;
- A new legal service plan through the Hyatt Group, available through payroll deduction; and
- A new group universal life insurance plan administered by MetLife, also avail-

able through payroll deduction.

All Member Services Trust programs require purchase.

Dental, vision enhancements

Currently, the Member Services Trust offers voluntary dental and vision programs to retiree members, and to members who work part time and are ineligible for benefits.

Effective in 2017, the dental and vision programs will be available to surviving spouses/domestic partners of UUP members, and dependents until age 29.

Legal plan

Members can now protect themselves with affordable legal services through the Hyatt Group.

The plan offers the member, spouse and



Doreen M. Bango, Director,
Member Benefits & Services

dependents legal services from experienced attorneys.

The plan is \$15.75 a month, or \$21.75 a month to include parents/parents-in-law.

"We are pleased to extend our voluntary benefits plans to people who sign membership cards, and to those who may otherwise have fallen through the cracks," said UUP President Fred Kowal. "UUP will never leave any member behind."

More on these benefits on pages 21-22.

Hyatt Group Legal Services.

Legal matters, both planned and unplanned, are part of life. Enrolling in the Hyatt Legal Plan gives you the financial and emotional peace of mind to know you will be covered for expected and unexpected legal events.

The Hyatt Legal Plan provides you, your spouse and dependents with fully covered legal services from attorneys experienced in estate planning documents, civil suits, adoption, identity theft issues and much more. Sign up for a convenient payroll deduction of just \$15.75 a month or \$21.75 a month for the plan that includes your parents/parents-in-law, and save hundreds over typical attorney fees...with no deductibles, no co-pays, no claim forms or usage limits when using a plan attorney. We'll automatically deduct the cost from your paychecks.

Choose from more than 14,000 attorneys nationwide.

Receive fully covered legal advice and representation for a wide range of legal matters. You can consult with your attorney on the phone or in person. You can also use a non-plan attorney and get reimbursed for covered services according to a set fee schedule.*

It's easy to access the right attorney. Online. By Phone. In Person.

Once you're enrolled, simply go to members.legalplans.com or download our Mobile App. You can also call Hyatt Legal Plans toll-free at 1-800-821-6400 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST. A representative will confirm your plan eligibility and give you a case number and the address and phone number of the appropriate attorney(s) near you. Service is just a click or call away.

High quality legal services without the high fees.

Court Appearances

Administrative Hearings
Civil Litigation Defense
Consumer Protection Matters
Incompetency Defense
Juvenile Court Defense
Personal Property Protection
Restoration of Driving Privileges
Traffic Ticket Defense (excludes DUI)

Document Review & Preparation

Affidavits*

Deeds*

Demand Letters*

Elder Law Matters*

Mortgages*

Promissory Notes*

Review of Personal Legal Documents*

Small Claims Assistance

Family Matters

Adoption
Domestic Violence Protection
Guardianship
Name Change
Prenuptial Agreement

Immigration

Immigration Assistance

Financial Matters

Debt Collection Defense

Foreclosure Defense

Identity Theft Defense

**LifeStages - Identity Management Services*

Negotiation with Creditors

Repayment Schedule

Repossession

Personal Bankruptcy

Tax Audits

Wills

Living Wills*

Powers of Attorney*

Trusts

Wills*

Codicils*

Real Estate Matters

Boundary or Title Disputes

Eviction and Tenant Problems (for tenants)

Home Equity Loans (primary, secondary or vacation home)

Property Tax Assessment

Sale, Purchase or Refinancing (primary, secondary or vacation home)

Security Deposit Assistance (for tenants)

Zoning Applications

*Services in bold are available to parents/parents-in-law through The Legal Plan that includes your parents at \$21.75 per month

TOP TEN REASONS TO ENROLL

10. Convenient payroll deduction
9. Relieves your stress
8. Superior customer service
7. Freedom to choose any Attorney, Anywhere, Anytime.®
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5. Unlimited access
4. Nationwide attorney network
3. Covers a wide variety of legal matters
2. The legal plan can save you money
1. It's like having an attorney on retainer

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9260131 - Legal Plan

0380020 - Legal Plan including your Parents

The Hyatt Legal Services Plan (MetLaw®) is a United University Professions (UUP) Member Services Trust-endorsed program. The Member Services Trust receives an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the Participation Fee received by Metropolitan with respect to the Group Legal Services Policy to defray the costs of administering the Group Legal Service Policy.

Member Services reminds you that benefits provided under the Group Legal Services Policy are provided by Hyatt Legal Plans, Inc. and neither UUP nor the Member Benefits Trust is responsible or liable for any of the benefits or services you receive or claim thereunder. Please contact Member Services at 800-342-4206 if you experience a problem with any endorsed program.

Group Legal Plans are provided by Hyatt Legal Plans, Inc., a MetLife company, Cleveland, Ohio. In certain states, group legal plans are provided through insurance coverage underwritten by Metropolitan Property and Casualty Company and Affiliates, Warwick, Rhode Island. **This benefit provides the Participant with access to LifeStages Identity Management Services provided by ID1911, LLC. ID1911 is not a corporate affiliate of Hyatt Legal Plans.

Please see your plan description for complete details. No service (including consultations) will be provided for: employment-related matters, including company or statutory benefits, matters involving the employer, MetLife® and affiliates, and plan attorneys, matters in which there is a conflict of interest between the employee and spouse or dependents in which case services are excluded for the spouse and dependents, appeals and class actions, farm and business matters, including rental issues when the participant is the landlord, patent, trademark and copyright matters, costs and fines, frivolous or unethical matters, matters for which an attorney-client relationship exists prior to the participant becoming eligible for plan benefits.



UUP Member Services Trust Dental and Vision Programs Expanded!



The UUP Member Services Board of Trustees is pleased to announce new enhancements to the Member Services Trust Voluntary Delta Dental and Davis Vision programs.*

Currently, the Member Services Trust offers Voluntary Dental (PPO plan) and Vision programs to:

- Retiree members
- Part-time members who are not eligible for benefits

Effective January 1, 2017, the Member Services Trust Voluntary Dental and Vision programs will be expanded to offer these plans to:

- Surviving spouses of UUP members
- Surviving domestic partners of UUP members
- Aged-out dependents can be covered until age 29

Additionally, the new Voluntary Dental Program will allow UUP members to choose from two dental coverage plans—the Delta Dental PPO plan or the Delta Dental DHMO plan. Both programs are offered on a national level.

**You must be a UUP member to purchase these plans.*



"United We Do More"

If you have any questions regarding the new enhancements to the Member Services Voluntary Dental and Vision programs, contact the UUP Member Services Trust at 1-800-887-3863.



Save with **NYSUT Member Benefits**

We salute our hard-working members for their dedication and the sacrifices they make on a daily basis to help improve the lives of others.

And NYSUT Member Benefits is proud to offer you—the hard-working UUP bargaining unit member—an opportunity to participate in the more than 40 endorsed programs & services offered by NYSUT Member Benefits.

Look to Member Benefits for crucial insurance programs such as life, long-term care or vision plans. Member Benefits also offers a variety of travel, entertainment & shopping options to help you with everything from daily purchases to those special once-in-a-lifetime excursions.

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

- Life Insurance
- Vision Plan
- Financial Counseling Program
- ID Watchdog
- PayCheck Direct
- Car & Truck Rentals
- Wyndham Hotels
- Endless Vacation Rentals
- Buyer's Edge, Inc.
- American Solar Partners



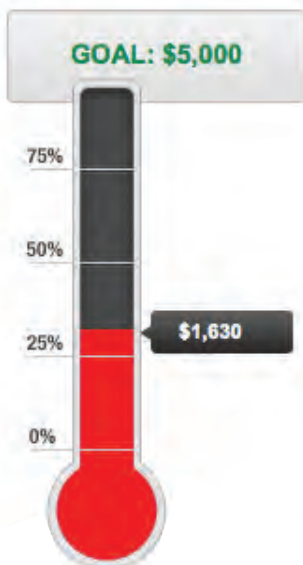
To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.



HELP for HAITI

UUP sets fundraising goal of \$5,000 by Dec. 31

UUP is raising money to help the Haitian victims of Hurricane Matthew, which devastated many inland and coastal communities in Haiti Oct. 4, and left at least 550 people dead and more than 175,000 homeless or displaced.



Help for Haiti is UUP's fundraising drive to help Doctors Without Borders provide vital medical care, food and emergency services to hundreds of thousands of people hit by the storm. Even the smallest donations to Doctors Without Borders help save lives. Donations of:

- \$50 can vaccinate 50 people against meningitis, measles, polio, and other deadly epidemics;
- \$100 can provide infection-fighting antibiotics to treat nearly 40 wounded children; and
- \$250 can provide a sterilization kit for syringes and needles used in mobile vaccination campaigns.

To donate, go to our fundraising page at <http://bit.ly/2eOM2xc>
Click the **Donate Now** button in the top center section of the page to make a contribution.

