

The Active Retiree

Election Special Edition

Watch for ballots soon; deadline is March 22

This election special edition of *The Active Retiree* is sent to each retired member of UUP. It includes the 500-word statements by candidates for Retired Delegate, as well as Regional Members of COARM, who chose to submit them.

The notice of election/call for nominations was mailed to each retired member as of the certification date for this election, Jan. 18,

2017. Nominations close Feb. 15, 2017. Ballots will be mailed no later than Feb. 22, are due March 22, and will be counted March 23. Results will be published in *The Active Retiree*.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to vote for your retired representatives. Look for your ballot shortly.

Dave Kreh & Jeanne Galbraith, Co-chairs, Elections & Credentials

Nominations close 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15. As they are received, nominations are posted on the UUP website at www.uupinfo.org/elections; the final list will be available after 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17.



Be sure to return your ballot so it arrives no later than the deadline of 5 p.m. Wednesday, March 22!

INSIDE: Statements from candidates who chose to submit them.

The Active Retiree

UUP Officers

Frederick E. Kowal/President
J. Philippe Abraham/VP for Professionals
Jamie F. Dangler/VP for Academics
Eileen Landy/Secretary
Rowena J. Blackman-Stroud/Treasurer
Thomas C. Hoey/Membership Dev. Officer

COARM Members (2015-2017)

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 31 Pearl St. schaffer@twcny.rr.com
 Cortland, NY 13035 (607) 753-7245

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 2525 Rich Road tylerll@oneonta.edu
 Oneonta, NY 13820 (607) 433-2452

Carole E. Torok Central NY Region
 7278 Lakeview Dr. fctk@sunyit.edu
 Ava, NY 13303 (315) 822-5283

Alvin Magid Capital District Region
 2200 Grand Blvd. magid2@juno.com
 Schenectady, NY 12309 (518) 377-9542

Barbara T. Maertz Long Island Region
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 Oakdale, NY 11769 (631) 957-2499

Eric P. Russell Metropolitan Region
 134 Smithfield Ct. ericprussell@hotmail.com
 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

John T. Nixon North Country Region
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Anastasia K. Johnson Western NY Region
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 Buffalo, NY 14222 (716) 885-2486

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Patty Bentley Presidential appointee
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Thomas C. Hoey Ex-officio member
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UUP Retiree Member Services Coordinator
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UUP Associate Director of Communications
 Karen L. Mattison kmattiso@uupmail.org

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and not necessarily the opinions of United University Professions.

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In accordance with union policy, all candidates running for Retired Delegate and Regional Member of the Committee on Active Retired Membership (COARM) are eligible to submit a 500-word statement and photo for publication in an election issue of *The Active Retiree*.

Statements longer than 500 words

were set in smaller type to ensure fairness for all candidates. The statements are printed as received, with minor editing for consistency of style. The following pages contain the statements of those candidates who chose to submit them.

By reason of the office, the Retired Delegate is also Chair of COARM and a nonvoting Executive Board Member.

Statement for Retired Delegate/COARM Chair

Jo Schaffer Cortland



It has been an honor and privilege to serve as your elected Retiree Representative and Chairperson of the Committee on Active Retiree Membership (COARM) for the past two years. During my first term, the membership has gone way beyond 5,000 and is growing rapidly. We can be a force to reckon with!

With your help and active participation, we pushed back on potentially damaging legislative programs. With your help, I led the charge for the new position, Officer for Retirees, which is ready to be filled at each chapter. It is position just waiting for you to make retiree concerns and issues known to your campus and to the union's statewide leadership in return.

With the great assistance of our communications department, I have edited award-winning editions of our publication, *The Active Retiree*. It has won the Best of the Best, 2010 and 2016, of all the NYSUT statewide publications for general excellence and articles by our own retirees.

With a team of experienced and dedicated retirees, I helped maintain and negotiate our continuing insurance policies for you. We have carefully guarded our finances to enable stability and future services for you with minimum increases in dues.

I have traveled across, up and down most of the state to visit many of your

chapters and regional meetings, even out-of-state meetings, to share our successes and to encourage you to be more involved in protecting your earned, and well-deserved, benefits as well as the continuing health of our parent union, UUP. Each visit has con-

firmed the value of the contributions you make in these efforts.

I ask for your vote for a second term. There is still so much more to do as we fold the efforts of all our retirees into the goals of UUP and for a satisfactory and secure retirement for *all* our members. Among our important issues this coming year will be to find a way to survive the past election, to work together in the coming elections, to protect our benefits and to prepare for the coming vote concerning the NYS Constitutional Convention, which has the potential to change a lot of what we hold dear: public education, the right to organize, environmental protections, and the security of state pensions and benefits.

One of my dedicated goals is to help the new Officers for Retirees work closely with our regional representatives to create a dynamic and effective union retiree force to make our issues known in Albany and Washington ... and to keep our earned benefits, Medicare, ACA, Social Security and our pensions whole!

There is much more to do—to preserve, protect and move forward—together!

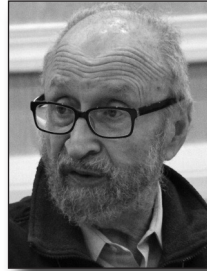
Statements for Regional Members of COARM

Al Magid: Capital District—Region A

I have served several terms as regional chair of the Capital District Region of COARM. My experiences have provided me great satisfaction relating to my sense of having been effective.

As Capital District chair, I've worked with an executive committee adept at mounting imaginative and stimulating forum/brunches each October and May, those events held at Alumni House on UAlbany's main campus and centered on guest speakers addressing important issues mostly of public policy in the political, economic and educational spheres, domestic and international. I want to be available to help shape those events. Attendees have come from the Albany, New Paltz and Cobleskill campuses and from SUNY System Administration, providing an opportunity for retired SUNY academics and professionals to meet and exchange. The proceedings have been enriched also by the participation of UUP staff members Walt Apple and Rob Trimarchi, as presenters of important and timely information about SUNY retiree benefits and other matters.

I am a contributor of articles to *The Active Retiree*, the



statewide COARM newsletter, and to a SUNY System Administration organ, the *SUNY Retirees Newsletter*, and a member of the latter publication's editorial committee.

As a regional representative on the statewide COARM, I continue to engage retiree issues and concerns that have state and even national resonances, affording me many opportunities to see, think about and

act upon matters of both narrow focus and broad sweep. Apropos, I am a co-plaintiff in a lawsuit filed by NYSUT and other public sector unions against the State of New York, which lawsuit challenges changes made to the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) by Gov.r Andrew Cuomo in 2011, to the percentages of premiums that retirees must pay for their health coverage. The lawsuit is progressing through the state courts.

Collectively, these interests in SUNY retiree affairs motivate me to seek re-election as chair of the Capital District Region of COARM. I welcome the support of those who think I should continue in that office.

Charles McAteer: Long Island Region—B

My name is Charlie McAteer and I am running for the COARM's Long Island Representative. I worked at Stony Brook University for 37 years prior to retiring as a professional in the Campus Planning, Design & Construction group in 2015. I have lived on Long Island my whole life, and am a proud product of the SUNY system in both my undergrad, graduate work and professional training.

I have held several chapter officerships (treasurer and vice president for professionals) and UUP statewide committee assignments (Outreach/RELAG, Finance and Task Force for Retiree Issues). I have had the honor of receiving statewide awards for Advocacy & Organizing from two organizations (UUP 2016 Judy Wishnia Advocacy Award from Outreach Committee and the AARP-NY 2016 Organizer of the Year for their Statewide Legislative Advocacy Group).

This brief biography shows I am committed to working and excelling in the work I do for my organizations and here is what I plan on doing for *you* on Long Island as a retired member of our UUP union. I want to work with the newly created chapter Officer for Retirees from the four Long Island chapters (Stony Brook HSC, Stony Brook, Farmingdale and Old Westbury), as well as Empire State College Chapter members who worked on



Long Island when they retired.

I was the author of the UUP constitutional amendment to create this missing link in our COARM structure—that being a contact person in each UUP chapter, the new Officer for Retirees. As your COARM representative statewide representing Long Island, these Officers for Retirees will be the link working with myself, your chapter

and COARM to better serve your needs and assist in organizing our very popular UUP Long Island retiree luncheons. I look to continue the tradition of having these fall and spring get-togethers in both Nassau and Suffolk counties.

I ask for your support for my candidacy for the Committee on Active Retired Membership's Long Island Representative position, so that I can continue the great work of Barbara Maertz, who has served in this position for the last 10 years. I look forward to representing our collective interests as UUP retirees, both here on Long Island and up in Albany with UUP's COARM structure. I know and will work with UUP staff and officers on retiree and advocacy issues. I look forward to working with your Officer for Retirees and you as we advocate for our interests and communicate important information/changes when we receive it. I ask for your vote.

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