

MID HUDSON BRIDGES

Representing **Columbia Dutchess Greene Sullivan Ulster** Counties

Volume XXXI Election Issue

NYSUT RC 13

August/Sept. 2022



From The Desk of
the President
Patrick McCarthy

*Welcome Class
of 2022!*



Dear Colleagues,

Retiree Council #13
CONGRATULATES
All Our NEW RETIREES!

We cannot thank you enough for all that you have done as a teacher or school related professional in providing quality instruction and guidance to our youth so that they have the necessary skills to function successfully in our society. Given all that was thrust on you during the pandemic there are not enough accolades for your effort, and you not only met the challenge-you exceeded every expectation.

KUDOS!

Now that you are entering the next great phase of your life I ask you to consider getting involved with your council. We are your voice in retirement, and participate in many of the same activities as our in-service Union

brothers and sisters. We are also providing a variety of opportunities to engage with fellow retirees, in person as well as via ZOOM.

Good News our new website (**retireecouncil13.com**) is up and running. This has been a major endeavor of your board of directors this past year. Take some time to check out the site and do so frequently as you will find updates on a regular basis. You will stay informed on Union issues (**We Are Members For Life**) as well as programming specific to the Mid-Hudson region. In the coming year more and more opportunities to expand your horizons will be made available to you.

For starters, mark your calendars for Thursday, October 13th. Our first Fall Conference since COVID hit will be held at Wiltwyck in Kingston. Our retiree consultant, Sheryl Baker-

Delano, has put together an exciting, diverse agenda that has something of high interest for everyone. You should have already received a flyer with information on how to sign up. Please make every effort to attend.

In closing, it has become clear to many of us just how fragile democracies are, given the events of the past two years. We must all do our part to ensure that democracy prevails by participating in local school board meetings, town meetings, and making informed decisions when voting for candidates. We must continue demanding that our elected representatives work in a bipartisan manner to improve the lives of every American while ensuring that a peaceful transition occurs when one representative leaves office and another takes that seat.

In solidarity,
Patrick McCarthy

Tuesday, November 8th, is election day and in New York State early voting runs from Oct. 29 to Nov. 6. To find out where your voting site is or for early voting you can go to the New York State Board of Elections site, and under Voter Information click on the box "Want to find out if you are registered and where to



vote?" You will then go your county of residence on the drop box, enter your name, birthdate and zip code and both the early voting sites & times as well as your site for voting

Election Day.



2022/23 Calendar
In person OR
ZOOM WITH US



22 New Retiree Event - VIRTUAL ONLY 5:30-7:00 pm

October

- 12 Wed.** - Board/Liaisons, (10:00 am-12 noon)
- 13 Thurs.**- **NYSUT Regional FALL CONFERENCE**
 Wiltwyck Golf Club in Kingston.

November

- 9 Wed.** - Board/Liaisons, (10:00 am-12 noon)

December

- 14 Wed.** - Board/Liaisons, (10:00 am-12 noon)

January

- 11 Wed.**-Board/Liaisons, *Zoom Only* (10:00 am-12 noon)

The RC#13 Board of Directors meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. If you would like to be a **GUEST** contact President Patrick McCarthy (rc13president@retireecouncil13.com). A link will be sent to you the **day** before the meeting so that you may **ZOOM** in.

PLEASE CHECK DATES!

September

- 14 Wed.** - Board/Liaisons, (10:00 am-12 noon)

FYI-Some Facts About the Inflation Reduction Act

The inflation reduction act recently passed by Congress and signed into law by President Biden will address working family and retiree issues by lowering prescription drug prices, health insurance and home energy. It will tackle the climate crisis at a level never before attempted. It is fully paid for, will not cost one cent more in taxes for anyone making less than \$400,000 and will reduce the deficit by at least \$300 billion over 10 years according to the Congressional Budget office.

The IRA will lower prescription drug prices by allowing Medicare to negotiate for lower prices. It will penalize drug corporations if they raise prices faster than the inflation rate for people getting Medicare. It will cap Medicare part D drug costs at \$2,000 and insulin costs for Medicare recipients at \$35 per month. In the original bill there was a cap on insulin for everyone but since this was a reconciliation bill and under the rules of reconciliation costs to private consumers were not a budget item the Republicans in the Senate removed the cap on insulin for everyone and the bill passed while only controlling insulin costs for Medicare recipients. It expands Medicare benefits to include free vaccines. The law will help 13 million Americans maintain health coverage under the Affordable Care Act through 2025 saving them an average of \$800 per year.

The legislation will make historic investments in clean energy that can cut household energy costs by up to \$1,000 per year, address the climate change issue and create up to 900,000 jobs a year for the next decade.

The inflation reduction act is fully paid for by requiring that large profitable corporations pay at least a minimum 15% tax rate. In 2020, 55 of America's largest and wealthiest corporations paid \$0 in taxes. Corporations will also pay 1% tax on stock buy backs. Additionally the IRS will get a boost in funding so they can go after tax cheats who already owe taxes. This will also allow the IRS to expand customer service centers that help taxpayers wanting to get their tax refund on time or their phone calls answered.

Under this bill there are no new taxes on anyone making less than \$400,000 per year.

Note: Not one Republican voted for this plan

Reprinted from: *Alliance for Retired Americans Aug 22*

Retiree Council #13

OFFICERS:

- President: Patrick McCarthy Sullivan BOCES (845) 701-1825
- 1VP: Kathy Taylor Ulster BOCES 417-4623
- 2VP: William Rule Wallkill 687-0849
- Secretary: Susan Eagan Marlboro 889-4416
- Treasurer: Mary Lou Davis Spackenkill 223-5544

NYSUT RA DELEGATES:

- Patrick McCarthy, Kathy Taylor, Donna Matthews
- Alternates: Paula Ptaszek, William Rule

AFT DELEGATES:

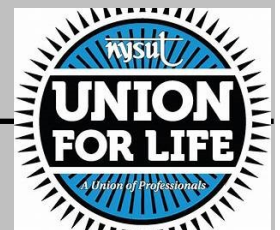
- Patrick McCarthy, Kathy Taylor

Presidents Emeritus:

- Marvin Eisenberg, Matt Ostoyich, Janice Scriber, Victoria Schulte

DIRECTORS:

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- Irene Romano Red Hook (876) 758-0333
- Janis Bianco Rondout Valley (845) 338-0215
- Donna Mathews Ulster BOCES (845) 706-6973
- Laurie Silver Sullivan BOCES (845) 626-3468
- Cliff Foley Wappingers (845) 297-1875



OUR VOICE, OUR VALUES



NYSUT VOTE-COPE

The need for VOTE-COPE does not diminish in retirement as many political issues effect our retirees directly.

VOTE-COPE voluntary contributions ensure that our collective voices are heard on the local, state and federal level on the issues that are so vital to us, such as pension protection, defending and advocating for increased support for Social Security and Medicare for all retirees, improving COLA, and affordable and accessible health care.

It allows us to take a stand for a commitment for social justice, fighting discrimination, hatred and bigotry, and supporting the Right to Vote for all Americans.

It allows us to build a strong and vibrant democracy by working to elect candidates, regardless of political affiliation, who are pro-public education and pro-labor.

Last year, your colleagues contributed over \$11 million to VOTE-COPE to help in this fight. To get more information on VOTE-COPE and how you can contribute go to www.NYSUT.org and click on the Take Action Tab and select VOTE-COPE or access the links directly on RC #13's new website www.retireecouncil13.com under the VOTE-COPE Tab.

To request a Pension Deduction or Direct Contribution Form for VOTE-COPE email Patrick McCarthy at: rc13president@retireecouncil13.com or call (845-701-1825), with your name, mailing address & name of the local you retired from and a direct contribution/pension deduction form will be mailed to you pronto! Contributing to VOTE-COPE is more important than ever.

Contributions to VOTE-COPE can be mailed to the following address:

**VOTE-COPE
P.O. BOX 295
Canajoharie, N Y 13317-0295**



The only thing between us and Wisconsin, where the Governor and Legislator took away bargaining rights, is VOTE-COPE.

Thank you to all who have and continue to contribute.

MID-HUDSON/ED 13 2021 TOP 10 RETIREE CHAPTER/UNIT VOTE-COPE Units

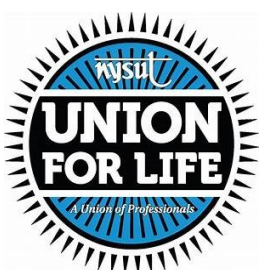
Unit-#members, #contributing	\$ collected	\$ per contributor	\$/unit member
Red Hook FA(131/81)	\$5,976.50	\$73.78	\$45.62
Eldred FA((37/16)	\$978.06	\$61.12	\$26.43
Pine Plains FE(118/58)	\$2,903.00	\$50.05	\$24.60
Kingston TF(81/291)	\$19,593.50	\$67.33	\$23.92
Marlboro FA(154/46)	\$3,346.00	\$72.73	\$21.72
Hyde Park TA(290/107)	\$6,247.96	\$58.39	\$21.54
Sullivan BOCES TA(72/22)	\$1,442.00	\$65.54	\$20.02
Wallkill TA(211/49)	\$4,042.00	\$82.48	\$19.15
New Paltz UT(166/35)	\$2,387.00	\$68.20	\$14.37
Wappingers CT(643/137)	\$8,392.00	\$61.25	\$13.05

PLEASE NOTE:

Many retirees receive mailings from a organization called Retired Educators of New York (RENY). **THIS IS NOT OUR UNION!**

It is an independent organization that offers some benefits and membership at a COST.

We are **NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS (NYSUT)** and you are a **MEMBER for LIFE!**

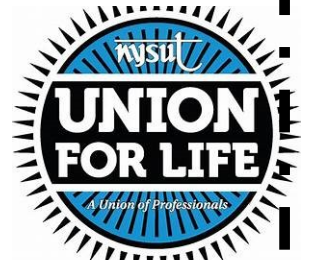




MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION FORM NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL #13

Representing: Columbia, Greene, Dutchess, Sullivan, and Ulster Counties

January 1 – December 31, 2023



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

(E-mail addresses are for RC13/NYSUT use only)

Retired from _____ School District _____

\$10.00 yearly recommended contribution Checks should be made out to **NYSUT RC # 13** and sent to:
TREASURER RC #13 NYSUT

201 Stockade Drive, Kingston, NY 12401

I would be willing to work in the areas of: **Newsletter (Bridges)** _____ **Travel/Social Events** _____

RC# 13 meetings are open to all NYSUT retirees & are held at the above address. The meeting calendar is in **MID-HUDSON BRIDGES**.



SAVE THE DATE:
NYSUT Regional Conference
October 13, 2022



**Strong Union
Active Retirees!**

About Retiree Council #13



Mid-Hudson Bridges, is a quarterly publication of the Mid-Hudson Retiree Council 13, serving: Columbia, Greene, Dutchess, Ulster, & Sullivan Counties.

Email articles to: Paula Ptaszek, Editor of Mid-Hudson Bridges, at ptaszekp@gmail.com

Co-editors are: Mary Lou Davis at maryloudavis125@gmail.com
William Rule at wvr12@aol.com

Electronic files are appreciated attached as a Word document or embedded as text of an email.

Next issue deadline: October 13th

Visit our website for other useful information:
retireecouncil13.com

