




April 2026 NYSUT Retiree Council 9 Newsletter






NORTH COUNTRY NOTEBOOK:
The North Country Retiree Council (RC) 9 & Sub-Councils Newsletter



Bringing news & opportunities to the Council of Retirees, Franklin-St Council of NYSUT Retirees and



NYSUT Retirees in Champlain Valley
Lawrence United Retirees, Jefferson-Lewis
Southern Adirondack NYSUT Retirees

Which Sub-council do you belong to? These are based upon where the district you retired from was located. A retiree may join a sub-council where they now live if more convenient. (And if you like an activity in another sub-council, sign up!)

RC9 OFFICERS: President: Lynn Hunneyman Vice President: Rod Sherman
Treasurer: Rick Morris *Secretary:* Robin Duncan *Newsletter Editor:* Phillis Walrath RC9Newsletter@gmail.com
RC 9 Website: Sandra Gleason, and Laura Gutenmann RC9webmaster@gmail.com
NYSUT Delegates: Rick Morris, Rod Sherman, Joe Vernon *Alternates:* Tony Fiacco, Lynn Hunneyman, Nan Scinta
NYSUT Retiree Services Consultant : Chris Fowler chris.fowler@nysut.org

SUB COUNCILS

CVCR Co-Chairs: Rod Sherman and Vicki Washburn cvcr.ny@gmail.com
FSNUR: FSNURRC9@gmail.com Acting Chair: Tony Fiacco **SANR:** sanrrc9@gmail.com
Jeff-LewisCNR President: Lynn Hunneyman ljlcnrrc9@gmail.com *JLNRC Webpage* www.jlcnr-rc9.org

President's Report

Fellow RC 9 Retirees,

Spring seems to be slowly arriving in the North Country this year, warm one day and then snow the next. I picked up a few branches today that had fallen into my neighbor's yard, there are lots more to gather when the weather is warmer.

Looking forward into 2026, not only are there elections at the national and state levels, RC 9 will be holding elections along with our four sub councils. We will also be electing delegates and alternates to the NYSUT RA. Rod, Rick, Robin and I will be running again for RC 9 offices. Our generation founded NYSUT and unions in our local districts in the 1970s. It is becoming time for the next generation of leaders to take over our leadership roles. With that in mind, at our Conference in Plattsburgh on May 21st, nominations can be made from the floor. Please consider a role in RC 9. We need you!

On July 8th, at the NYSUT office in Potsdam, RC 9 will be having our full membership meeting and elections for the next three year term. Discussion at the meeting will also include ways to grow our membership and activities that appeal to retirees. You will be able to "Zoom" in for those who want to join the meeting without traveling.

Rod and Bill LaDuke attended the Committee of 100 earlier in March in Albany. Also, Rick and I attended the ED 51 meeting in Utica. The NYSUT RA takes place May 1st and 2nd in Albany. Our four sub councils are busy planning events for 2026, and I hope to once again have the opportunity to meet with many of you across RC 9.

Lynn Hunneyman, RC 9 President

Brief History of NCCCT, North Country Coordinating Council of Teachers

NCCCT first started in 1973, shortly after the beginning of NYSUT and the starting of local unions in area districts. I first attended in 1974 when I became president of the Belleville Teachers Union. This was before Belleville Henderson became a district in 1984. Since the Council was still in the beginning stages, I was chosen to work on the needed By-Laws and Procedures. I became President in 1975 and served two terms from 1975 to 1977. I was followed by Judy Curtiss, Linda Kelts, Sharon Rudd, Carol Frost, Carmine Inserra, Jon Cain, and Sarah Morris and many others.

During the 1970s, NCCCT helped the start of the Children's Foundation along with Joe Rich. NCCCT helped fundraise by sponsoring various events including concerts with Harry Chapin, Victor Borge, and Doug Henning.

NCCCT also was involved with Air Brake establishing the Credit Union. Dick Edwards served on the governing board for many years.

NCCCT has held meetings at Howard Johnson's, the Golden Lion, the Ramada, the Best Western "Savory Cafe," Maggie's on the River, the ARcade, Pete's, and at the Watertown NYSUT offices in at least three locations.

NCCCT has sponsored the annual Legislative Breakfast, locations included the Golden Lion, the Partridge Berry Inn, and the Ramada. NCCCT also went to former Senator Doug Barclay's home at the Manor. Tom Hobart and Al Shanker attended in the 1970s. It was MC'd by Gene Ellis for many years.

Notes from Lynn Hunnyman, long time member, former President of BCS and BHCS, Jeff-Lewis Teacher Center Policy Board Chair, and now President of JLCNR and RC9.

RC 9 Retiree Services Consultant Report March 2026 Chris Fowler

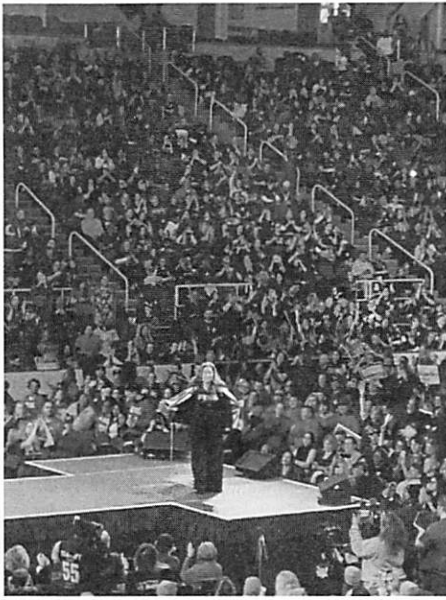
After many years of service, Loretta Donlon is not running for reelection as Director of NYSUT Election District 51. Paul Farfaglia is running for ED 51 Director. In the most recent issue of *NYSUT United*, he stated that he is "a director on RC 7... served as local president for 25 years, and served as a NYSUT at-large director and teacher trustee from NYSTRS."

There will be a **NYSUT Retiree Council Leadership Conference, June 2nd and 3rd**, at the Gideon Putnam Hotel in Saratoga Springs. Each RC may bring a maximum of three people, including at least one newer leader. Expansion and succession for RCs are the goals of this conference. Please contact Chris Fowler (chris.fowler@nysut.org) if you are interested in representing RC 9 at this event.

NYSUT's ELT Academy is offering a free Science of Reading Course! Receive 30 Hours of CLT Credit! Find out more here: [CLT Science of Reading](#) – online hybrid of synchronous and asynchronous modules - available to educators at all levels. If you are substituting, this may be for you!

SAVE THE DATE For the RC 9 Spring Conference

The RC 9 Spring Conference will be held at the West Side Ballroom in Plattsburgh on Thursday, May 21st, from 8:30 am – 3:00 pm. The speakers will include Peter Kim, NYSUT North Country Political Action Coordinator about upcoming elections; NYS Troopers Senior Investigator Connelly about avoiding scams and fraud. Three speakers will share about Rev 250, the events honoring the Semi quincentennial of the United States: Kate Keesler, NYS President of Children of the American Revolution; Devin Lander, NYS Historian; Geri Favreau, Clinton County Historical Society. **Registration information will be coming soon in your email and your US mail. You can register now using this link!** <https://nysut.cc/2026RC9>



There was an amazing turn out for the rally to Fix Tier 6 on Sunday, March 8th! There were many powerful speakers from labor, government, and show business. Great entertainment was provided by the Albany City School District Falcons Marching Band and the New York State Professional Fire Fighters Association (NYSPFFA) Pipes and Drums. The whole program was MCed by a stand-up comic; he's a NYC teacher who does stand-up comedy as a side job!

The most emotionally touching part of the rally, however, was the over 15,000 public servants who showed up from all over New York State, from all tiers and from all labor unions to try to fix Tier 6 to better everyone's future!

Rod Sherman and NYSUT President Melinda Person made a Fix Tier 6 video about the cost to districts. Find it on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1Ceq86fkT4/> and Instagram!

SUB-COUNCIL EVENTS AND NEWS:

All members are welcome at all events!

CVCR - Champlain Valley Council of Retirees

Monthly meeting, luncheons speakers on the 2nd Monday each month. Reservations are due the Wednesday prior to the meeting. Contact cvcr.ny@gmail.com.

FSNUR - Franklin St. Lawrence NYSUT United Retirees

Join the group tour of Almanzo Wilder's Homestead in Malone on Tuesday, June 23, 2026, at 10 am.

JLCNR- Jefferson Lewis Council of NYSUT Retirees

May 14th - Lunch with Speaker at Wise Guys Italian Restaurant in Chaumont

September 10th - Lunch with Speaker at Tug Hill Vineyards in Lowville

The JLCNR Executive Board really needs some new members. We meet monthly from April to November in Watertown or by Zoom. Too many of our long-time members have either passed on or health and family issues have kept them from continuing. Please consider joining the Exec Board or attending meetings to support our retirees across the two counties. Elections of our officers for the next three years will be held in July. We kept rising costs in mind while planning our May and Sept events. Look for sign up emails coming soon. We would welcome you to our discussions and planning for ways to reach out to NYSUT retirees in our area. Lynn Hunneyman, President JLCNR

2025 - 2026 SCHOOL YEAR JLCNR NEW TEACHER AWARDS

IRIS TEACHERS AND STAFF AWARD CEREMONY:

Janice Shephard, JLCNR VP;
WINNER Hillarie McIntosh;
 Ann Crosby, Indian River
 President; Natalie Hurley,
 Indian River VP



Jessica Witmore,
 BOCES VP,

WINNER

Nate Dombrowski

Janice Shephard,
 JLCNR VP



**INDIAN RIVER INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
 TEACHERS & STAFF AWARD CEREMONY**



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 Resourceful
 Engaged**

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ALL NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL (RC) NEWSLETTERS
 ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE AT NYSUT.ORG/RCNEWS

**Please let us know if you would like to receive a printed version
 by US mail or be notified when available online - Supply us with
 your full name, mailing address, phone, email & local name
 then send using one of the following:**

- Contact us at retiree.services@nysut.org
- Mail to: **NYSUT Retiree Services, 800 Troy-Schenectady Rd., Latham, NY 12110**
- Visit nysut.org/rcnewsoptin and use the 7-digit number (below)
- Use this QR code: **1386164**



**UNLESS YOU CHOOSE TO RECEIVE IT BY U.S.
 MAIL YOU WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE A PAPER
 NEWSLETTER EFFECTIVE IN THE FALL OF 2025.**

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 [Redacted Address]
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Retiree Council 9 - Nomination Form 2026

I hereby nominate _____ for the following position (circle one)

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer NYSUT Delegate NYSUT Alternate

RC 9 Member's Name _____ Signature _____

Nominee's Acceptance: Name _____ Signature _____

Retiree Council 9 SUB COUNCIL Nomination Form 2026

I hereby nominate _____ for the following position (circle one)

President Vice-President Secretary Treasurer of Sub Council _____

Sub Council Member's Name _____ Signature _____

Nominee's Acceptance: Name _____ Signature _____

Mail form by May 14, 2026, to RC 9 Elections, % Jodi Kelley, NYSUT 513 Watertown, NY 13601