

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

Fall 2024 NYSUT Retiree Council 9 Newsletter

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!)

RETIREE COUNCIL (RC) 9 Email is NYSUTRC9@gmail.com Website is rc9.ny.aft.org

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: Nona Garrand, 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: Carlos Madan & Voilet Moesch cvcr.ny@gmail.com **FSNUR:** FSNURRC9@gmail.com Acting Chair: Tony Fiacco

SANR: sanrrc9@gmail.com Acting Chair Joe Vernon **Jeff-Lewis CNR President** Lynn Hunneyman jlcnrcc9@gmail.com

JLNRC Webmaster <https://www.jlcnr-rc9.org/> Carole Ashbridge

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dear Fellow Retirees of NYSUT Retiree Council-9,

When you retire, your membership in NYSUT remains with you in retirement. The *Union for Life* slogan means just that. You pay no dues to NYSUT as a retiree.

NYSUT has one of the most active and successful union retiree programs in the country. The NYSUT Retiree Services Program, part of Program Services, was established by NYSUT to help its retirees organize and to act as a service provider for those retiree groups. In an effort to better serve the growing number of retirees, eleven Retiree Services Consultants have been hired to serve members in the field. Our newly appointed Retiree Services Consultant is Chris Fowler; she covers both RC 9 & 10.

As a retiree, you are represented at the NYSUT Representative Assembly by retiree delegates, who also elect Board members to the NYSUT Board of Directors, elected from our Retiree Council 9. RC-9 expands across the North Country from the Watertown area to Plattsburgh and down to Glens Falls. The district is so large that we have four sub-councils, **JLCNR**, **FSNUR**, **CVCR** and **SANR**. Participation fees are paid either to RC-9 or through your local sub-council. If you have already paid through RC-9, thank you. Your \$20 participation fee is evenly split between RC 9 and your local sub-council. Through RC-9 and your sub-councils, your retiree interests and needs are shared and addressed with our local teacher unions, NYSUT Regional Staff Director as well as NYSUT Headquarters staff.

RC 9 and sub-councils representatives attend the:

- **Local Northeast Region Council of Teacher Associations** (NERCTA- Plattsburgh area), **Franklin-St. Lawrence Educators Council** (FSLEC-Potsdam area) and **North Country Coordinating Council of Teachers** (NCCCT -Watertown area), **Southern Adirondack League of Teachers** (SALT - Warren county area)

- NYSUT Legislative Committee of 100 Events
- Health Insurance Advisory Committees
- NYSUT workshops for both retiree leaders and local leaders
- NYSUT Retiree Advisory Committee
- New York State Alliance for Retirees (NYSARA) (AFL-CIO retirees)
- AFT Convention
- The annual NYSUT RA.

Our major goals continue to be "Fix Tier Six" to get Tier Equity for both 5 and 6, and to watch over our health insurance programs. Another item of major importance on the NYSUT agenda and that of NYSARA is improving the retirement COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) for all state pension systems.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

Lynn Hunneyman, President of RC 9 and Rod Sherman, Vice President of RC 9



NYSUT Retiree Recognition Day October 21, 2024!

COMMUNICATION



Take a look at the **RC 9 website:** rc9.ny.aft
Check out the many articles and events that are available to us as retirees. Make sure to send our webmasters info to add!

Would you be interested in joining a private Facebook page for Retiree Council 9?

The board is looking to create one if there is interest. Please contact nysutrc9@gmail.com if you are interested.

The **RC 9 annual fall meeting** will be held at the Potsdam NYSUT office on October 2nd starting at 10 AM. All active members of RC 9 are welcome.

Rick Morris, RC 9 treasurer, and Tom French, FSNUR treasurer, are currently working on a plan to use **Pay Pal** as an alternative way to pay membership fees and fees for workshops and Mini Conferences across RC 9. It is not in place as yet but be looking for an update on this soon.

SUB-COUNCIL EVENTS AND NEWS:

Check out what is happening across Retiree Council 9. Events are open to all RC members- even if the event is in another sub-council. Events are listed at <http://rc9.ny.aft.org/>

CVCR - Champlain Valley Council of Retirees

Monthly meeting, luncheons and speakers on the 2nd Monday of the month. For information contact cvcr.ny@gmail.com. RSVP due Wednesday before the meeting.

September 9 Membership meeting, luncheon and speaker at 11 am at MHAB Fresh of Dormitory Drive on what is referred to as the New Base of the former Plattsburgh AFB

JLCNR - Jefferson Lewis Council of NYSUT Retirees

September 12 Executive Board Meeting 9:30 am in the Watertown Office

September 17 Jefferson County Historical Society Museum visit at 10 am

October 9 Tug Hill Winery event at noon

SANR - Southern Adirondack NYSUT Retirees

September 3 Back to School- Not For Us! 9 am at Common Roots in South Glens Falls

FSNUR - Franklin St. Lawrence NYSUT United Retirees

September 10 FSNUR General Meeting at 10 am in the Potsdam Office

A message from the FSNUR President: *Tony Fiacco*

On July 15th, 2024, FSNUR hosted a Walking Tour of the Thousand Island State Park on Wellesley Island. The tour was led by Tom French, retired teacher from Massena Central and a resident of the Park. About fifteen former teachers and administrators from around the North Country enjoyed a wonderful day. Thank you to Tom and all the participants for making this a successful event.

At the next FSNUR meeting, September 10th, an overview of a future trip to a Yankees game in NYC will be discussed. FSNUR is continuing to plan activities of interest to retired teachers so those in education can stay informed about issues impacting our lives, network with others, and just have fun. FSNUR needs more members to be effective. We want your ideas and your membership. Please consider joining us to support our retirees. All are welcome at our next meeting on September 10, 2024, at the NYSUT building on Lawrence Avenue in Potsdam. The meeting will begin at 10:00am. Hope to see you there!

Our **new Retiree Services Consultant** is **Chris Fowler**. Chris retired in June from Schodack Central School District in Rensselaer County where she taught middle school English for thirty years. During her four years as Schodack Faculty Association's co-president, she emphasized the value of the union to her members. "Get the most out of your dues!" she was fond of saying. Chris sees a connection to that idea in her new role. There are so many NYSUT member benefits for retirees to use, as well as the community-building trips and activities, opportunities for advocacy, sense of camaraderie and solidarity that come from being a part of RC 9. She can be reached at chris.fowler@nysut.org or 518-783-7977.

NYSUT has a Peer Support Line. It is FREE and available for retirees who need assistance with life's obstacles or a listening ear. Find out more and read about a fellow retiree's recent experience at

<https://memberbenefits.nysut.org/free-member-benefits/peer-support-line>.



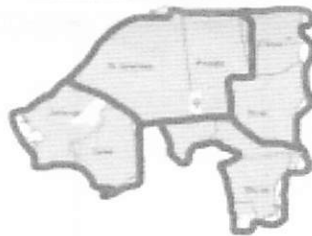
Join or update your membership!

Complete and mail this form today!

NYSUT Retiree Council 9 and Sub-Councils Membership Form (2024-2025)

Which Sub-council do you belong to? These are based upon where the district you retired from was located. The JLCNR area is Jefferson-Lewis retirees, the FSNUR is Franklin- St. Lawrence, CVCR is Champlain Valley, and SANR indicates Southern Adirondack NYSUT Retirees.

A retiree may join a sub-council where they now live if more convenient. *And if you like an activity in another sub-council that looks interesting, sign up! For more information, look for our mailed quarterly NYSUT RC 9 North Country Notebook Newsletter and visit our website at <http://rc9.ny.aft.org/>*



Your union connection as a NYSUT Retiree!

Membership year is July 1 to June 30 following School calendar year.

NYSUT Member's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

E-mail address: _____

Email used strictly for Union communication for RC and our affiliates.

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____

School District retired from: _____ Year Retired: _____

County: _____

If CVCR are you in CEWW Health: Yes No

School District I live in: _____

Check your sub-council (*unsure- look at map above*): CVCR FSNUR JLCNR SANR

I am renewing my RC 9 & Sub-council membership OR new member

Make check out for \$20 Participation Fee to RC 9: RC 9 and sub-councils split this fee for their programming.

Check Number: _____ Date of Check: _____ I am over 80 years old _____

Members over 80 do not need to pay a participation fee *if you have contributed participation fee previously.* but need to complete annual form to update Sub-councils and RC 9.

Mail form and \$20 check made out to RC 9 to: Jodi Kelley c/o RC 9 Membership
513 Washington Street Suite #3 Watertown, NY 13601

If you have already sent in form and participation fee for 2024-2025, you do not need to send in again.

I KNOW I 'WAS' A MEMBER OF MY LOCAL AND CONNECTED TO NYSUT BUT...

This is a chart to help us understand how we retirees are connected to the various levels of our Union.

	When I was working:	In retirement:
Closest to me: <i>at my school district or place of employment</i>	My local union who negotiated contracts and working conditions for me and my fellow union members. We were obligated to follow the language in our contracts AND so was the District. We paid dues to local, state, and national organizations by payroll deduction.	My local union and/or its retiree chapter continues to look out for retiree member needs. Stay connected to your local so they are aware of the impact of any proposed changes in the negotiated contract that would change retirees' benefits.
Regional or District: <i>as our area has such a large geographic area, we are broken into 4 sections. When retired, the sub-councils and Retiree Council ask members for a voluntary participation fee of \$20/year and membership form.</i>	ED 9 (NYSUT Election District) and sub-groups: <i>NERCTA</i> (Plattsburgh area) <i>FSLEC</i> (Potsdam area) and <i>NCCCT</i> (Watertown area), <i>SALT</i> (Southern Adirondack)	RC 9 (<i>Retiree Council</i>) and sub-councils of <i>CVCR</i> (Champlain Valley), <i>FSNUR</i> (Franklin-St. Lawrence Counties), <i>JLCNR</i> (Jefferson & Lewis Counties), and <i>SANR</i> (Southern Adirondack)
State level:	NYSUT	I still belong to NYSUT!
National level:	AFT (American Federation of Teachers) NEA (National Education Association) AFL/CIO (American Federation of Labor/Congress of Industrial Organizations)	I still belong to: AFT/NEA, AFL/CIO!

nysut
Retirees

Experienced
Resourceful
Engaged

NYSUT – A Union of Professionals
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SAVE the date:
The RC 9 Fall Conference will be in
Malone on October 16.
We hope to see you there!

See inside for more details about RC 9 events and/or visit <https://rc9.ny.aft.org/events>.

- SANR Back to School- Not For Us! **September 3** 9 am Common Roots South Glens Falls
- FSNUR General Meeting **September 10** 10 am- Potsdam
- CVCR Membership meeting, Luncheon and speaker **September 9** 11 am Plattsburgh at MHAB Fresh of Dormitory Drive on what is referred to as the New Base of the former Plattsburgh AFB
- JLCNR Executive Board Meeting **September 12** 9:30 am Watertown
- JLCNR Jefferson County Historical Society Museum visit **September 17** 10 am
- RC 9 Fall Meeting: **October 2** 10 am Potsdam
- RC 9 Fall Conference **October 16** at Malone Golf Course
- Register at nysut.cc/rc9fall-2024 or use this QR code

