

# You are Invited!

*You are Union For Life! No need to worry, NYSUT ~ your union, continues to protect and enhance your rights in retirement. NYSUT works to preserve income security including Social Security and Medicare. NYSUT also provides educational opportunities on topics relevant to retirees and works to enrich the lives of retiree members through social activities. Stay engaged with your union, experience all that is available to you. Elevate your knowledge base, join your fellow retirees on May 19<sup>th</sup> to learn new strategies for maximizing life in retirement.*

*What a wonderful life!*



**To register online for the conference, either scan the QR code or go to:**

<https://nysut.cc/rc123and44-2026>

***NYSUT Regional Conference for Retiree Councils 1 - 3 and 44***

***Empower 2026 – The Knowledge Advantage***

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

Buffalo Marriott Niagara  
1340 Millersport Highway  
Amherst, NY 14221

Time: 8:30 AM – 9:00 AM Registration  
2:30 PM - Wrap-Up

Cost: **\$ 40.00** per person covers  
Continental breakfast and  
deluxe buffet lunch

Register: **By May 5, 2026**



## Directions to the Buffalo/Niagara Marriott

**The Buffalo/Niagara Marriott is located at 1340 Millersport Highway in Amherst**

### Traveling from the North:

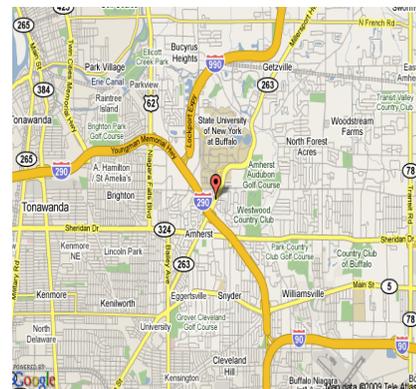
I-190 S to I-290 E to NY 263 N/ Millersport Hwy.  
Take exit 5B from I-290 E to merge onto NY 263 N/Millersport Hwy.

### Traveling from the South:

I-190 N to I-290 E to NY 263N/Millersport Hwy.  
Take exit 5B from I-290 E to merge onto NY 263 N/ Millersport Hwy.

### Traveling from the West:

I-90 W to NY 263 N/Millersport Hwy.  
Take exit 5B from I-290 E to merge onto NY 263 N/Millersport Hwy.





**Experienced**  
**Resourceful**  
**Engaged**

**NYSUT Retiree**  
**Regional Conferences**  
**Stay Connected!**

**Only \$40 per person**

**Empower 2026 – The Knowledge Advantage**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026**

**NYSUT RC #1, 2, 3, & 44 Conference**

**Buffalo/Niagara Marriott -1340 Millersport Highway, Amherst, NY**

**DELICIOUS FOOD – ENGAGING SPEAKERS**

8:30 - 9:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 9:20 AM	Introductions, Opening Remarks and Recognitions Joe Cantafio, NYSUT WNY Regional Staff Director Janet Goddard, NYSUT WNY Retiree Services Consultant Lynn Mele, NYSUT WNY Retiree Coalition President
9:20 - 9:50 AM	Ron Gross, NYSUT Second Vice President
9:50 - 10:40 AM	Steven Kramer, Esquire, Elder Law
10:50 - 11:35 AM	Session 1 Workshops
11:35 - 11:50 AM	Break
11:50 - 12:35 PM	Session 2 Workshops
12:45 - 1:45 PM	Lunch
1:45 - 2:30 PM	Union Games, Evaluations, Raffles

**THE FIRST 50 RETIREES TO REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE WILL RECEIVE AN EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT OF \$5 OFF THEIR REGISTRATION!**  
*See QR Code or Registration Link below*

**Please select ONE Workshop in Session 1 beginning at 10:50 a.m. and ONE Workshop in Session 2 beginning at 11:50 a.m.**

**Workshop Descriptions:**

**The Artifact Detective – Lauren Kausner, Buffalo History Museum.** The “Artifact Detective” program is part of the Buffalo History Museums Community Outreach initiative. The program is designed to engage participants in exploring and understanding historical artifacts while fostering a deeper connection to the region.

**Artificial Intelligence in Education – Rachael Webb.** This session explores the rapidly evolving role of generative AI in education, with a focus on both opportunities for teaching innovation and challenges to academic integrity. Attendees will gain practical strategies for choosing and using AI tools effectively, while also examining ethical considerations such as bias, privacy, and policy needs. Through real-world examples and guided discussion, participants will leave with concrete approaches to responsibly utilize generative AI tools and support student learning.

**Chair Yoga – Stephanie Simonetta, Retired teacher, Certified Yoga Instructor.** We will use the chair both seated and standing to create space in the body. Breath and mobility will be used to enhance and expand your inner sense of peace.

**Medicare Fraud– Tiffany Erhard, NY Senior Medicare Patrol Director, NY Statewide Senior Action Council, Inc. Aaron Snyder, Outreach Counselor.** Medicare is big business for criminals. Medicare loses approximately \$60 Billion annually to fraud, errors, and abuse. Learn about the latest Medicare scams, how to best protect yourself, and report discrepancies to the NY Senior Medicare Patrol.

**Member Benefits – Jackie Davis, NYSUT Member Benefits Coordinator.** Are you taking advantage of NYSUT Member Benefits? Jackie Davis will review the numerous travel and shopping discounts available to NYSUT retirees as well as reinforce the traditional savings and availability of various insurance programs.

**The Sword vs the Pen – Steve Banko.** After three decades of writing for others, Steve Banko found retirement liberating in that he was freed to write what he wanted to write. He’s had three novels published since turning 70. Steve will share his journey as a writer and hopefully give his audience encouragement as to what’s possible after retirement.



**REGISTER TODAY**

**Register for the conference by either scanning the QR Code at the left, or go to : <https://nysut.cc/rc123and44-2026> or by using the registration form below.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Choose ONE Workshop Session 1: (10:50 a.m. – 11:35 a.m.) Choose ONE Workshop Session 2: (11:50 a.m. – 12:35 p.m.)**

- |                                                                      |                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Artifact Detective</b>               | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Artifact Detective</b>               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Artificial Intelligence in Education</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Artificial Intelligence in Education</b> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Chair Yoga</b>                           | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Chair Yoga</b>                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Medicare Fraud</b>                       | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Medicare Fraud</b>                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Member Benefits</b>                      | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Member Benefits</b>                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Sword vs The Pen</b>                 | <input type="checkbox"/> <b>The Sword vs The Pen</b>                 |

**Please return this form with your check for \$ 40.00 (which includes breakfast & Lunch) made payable to NYSUT by May 5, 2026 to: Lynda Brown at NYSUT, 270 Essjay Road, Williamsville, NY 14221 / (716) 634-7132**

**\* Indicate here if you require any assistive device or accommodations as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act.**