



# The Union News

Spring Issue: May 2011 Vol. 41—No. 2

## Chapter Executive Board

David Curry, *President & Legislation Officer*  
(518) 564-4245

Gina Doty, *VP Professionals*  
(518) 564-2537

Gary Kroll, *VP Academics*  
(518) 564-2738

Karen Volkman, *Secretary*  
(518) 564-5305

Bethanne Delgaudio, *Treasurer*  
(518) 564-2124

Robert Keever, *Grievance Officer*  
(518) 564-4133

Kay Branagan, *Part-Time Concerns Representative*  
(518) 564-4249

Patricia Bentley, *Affirmative Action Officer*  
(518) 564-5202

Becky Kasper

Thomas Morrissey

Peter Friesen

Wendy Gordon

Raymond Guydosh

Robert Harsh

David Hensarling

Bryan Higgins

Deborah Zinser

**NYSUT Labor Relations Specialist**  
Kathleen Falcetta  
(800) 356-0306

**Newsletter Editor**  
Marguerite Adelman

**Chapter Office:** Rm 002 Hawkins  
(518) 564-7887  
(518) 564-7880 (FAX)

**Chapter Secretaries**  
Sue Bechard and Melanie O'Connell

*The Union News* is a publication of the Plattsburgh Chapter of United University Professions. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Plattsburgh Chapter Executive Board or UUP.

## Message from the President

As we approach the end of another academic year, we remain in very challenging times. While the New York State budget once again includes significant cuts for the state university, our local campus administration has worked hard to keep virtually all of us employed. And though we are relatively secure, all around us we can see others who are suffering.

Almost every local school district is cutting positions in the next academic year. These are our friends and neighbors. They are local taxpayers whose contributions to our community have helped us all.

Across New York, we are expecting almost 10,000 layoffs of state workers. This will be in addition to very difficult contract negotiations for the rest of us who remain working for the state. There will be a great deal of pressure to cut back some of the benefits we have come to expect from state employment.

Across the nation, governors and state legislatures are proposing legislation to severely diminish the ability of public workers to participate in collective bargaining. Workers rights that have taken a century to gain can be lost in the next year or two if unions do not find the strength to successfully fight back.

And these social and political issues are set against the background of national and global natural disasters. Most recently, we have had the string of tornadoes that ravaged the South, killing over 300 people. This comes after an extremely challenging winter with record snowfalls and cold spells which have stressed many family budgets. And we must not forget the earthquake and tsunami in Japan with the resulting nuclear disaster that continues to unfold. Nor can we forget the disaster in Haiti after their earthquake. They are no closer to resolution of their problems than they were a year ago.

So here we are in upstate New York counting our blessings. We have so much more than so many and it is important that this year we be as generous as possible to those around us who are suffering. If you have time this summer, there will be places for you to volunteer your services. If you have no time, there will be places to send your money. I will keep you informed of these opportunities as they arise, so please read your e-mail this summer. Recharge your batteries and I hope to see you all in the fall.

**David Curry, President**





## Gina's Corner News

by Gina Doty  
Vice President for Professionals  
[dotygl@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:dotygl@plattsburgh.edu)

Professionals, in so many ways, are the backbone to this campus, functioning in direct and supportive roles. What we all do at this

campus is an integral part of the big machine that is thriving and moving forward while in the midst of budget cuts. Each one of us is vital to our campus' mission to teach students and ensure that all students graduate after their 4-6 year programs are completed. Many of us work directly with students and some professionals are in behind-the-scenes roles, but every job we perform is like a cog in the big machine which ensures our students receive an educational experience that is superb.

The past fiscal year budget for our campus has been a rocky road for all of us to work within and it appears this budget climate will stay around for a while. Having a union contract has major benefits, especially during times when the budget is in turmoil. Do not allow your contractual rights to slip away.

The current contract we have ends June 30<sup>th</sup>, but that still means that we are working within the existing contract until a new one is negotiated. Do not allow workload creep, nonexistent or late annual performance programs to occur, or something bothering you to keep you from reaching out to your union officers. That is what we are here for -- to help you in every way we can.

Our last spring Professional Issues Committee meeting is May 11th at 9:00 am in Meeting Room #1 in the Angell Center. I hope you will come to hear what others are experiencing in their work areas and gain current information about the campus and our union.



Also mark your calendars for our first **Professional Members Retreat**:

**Wednesday, June 22nd**  
**8:30 AM to 2:00 PM**  
**Valcour Conference Center**

The cost is free to attend and lunch will be included. I have invited professionals from SUNY Potsdam and SUNY Canton to attend also. This will be an excellent opportunity to network with our professional colleagues who work nearby.

A few topics that we'll discuss include:

- ☐ Best Practices for Supervising Non-UUP Members
- ☐ Communicating in a Multigenerational Workplace and Voicing Workload Creep
- ☐ The Labor Movement



John Marino, our statewide Vice President for Professionals, and Kathy Falcetta, our Labor Relations Specialist, will attend and lead our discussions. A BBQ lunch will be held at 12:30 PM after all the discussions and workshops have ended. You will receive more information in the near future. I hope we have a large turnout for this important day for us to learn from each other and discuss topics that affect us directly. If you have questions/concerns about this retreat, call me at #5011.

I have been so fortunate to be your Vice President for Professionals for the past four years. I have met so many hard working and dedicated members who give their all for the mission of our campus. I will assist the incoming new VP, Bethanne DelGaudio, for as long as she needs me. I hope you will reach out to her and say hello. I have no doubt she will do great things for our members.

I will be the chapter Secretary and a delegate for the 2011-2013 term, so I will be active in our chapter and continue to give workshops during the semester. If you have a topic for a workshop, please let me know.

In closing, I hope to hear from you during the summer weeks ahead and hope that you are able to take some vacation time to rejuvenate your batteries.





## Services on Campus: The Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center



The Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center (ADAC), located in Room 227 Sibley Hall, offers an array of programs and services to support and assist individuals and families with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders. The Center's services include:

- ☐ Assessment and Diagnosis, including Mental Status Assessment and Neuropsychological Evaluation
- ☐ Support Groups
- ☐ Caregiver Resource Center
- ☐ Education and Trainings
- ☐ Adult Day Program, providing respite for family members

The initial consultation for assessment and diagnosis consists of an extensive history review of general medical, neurological, psychiatric and specialty examination. Following this initial evaluation, a patient may then require no further testing, or may require one or more of the following evaluations: neurological testing, laboratory work-up, Neuro-Imaging (MRI, SPECT, or PET). Once these tests have been completed, a diagnosis is made and a treatment plan is formulated. The patient (and family, if desired) meets with our clinicians for an informing visit. The treatment plan is forwarded to the referring clinician and/or is discussed and finalized in conjunction with the patient and the family as needed.

Support groups for family members and caregivers are offered once a month in a variety of locations:

- ☐ **Plattsburgh Area**
  - Meeting Time: 11:00 am on the first Monday of every month
  - Location: Sibley Hall, Room 403A on Rugar St. on the SUNY Plattsburgh campus
- ☐ **Malone Area**
  - Meeting Time: 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of every month
  - Location: Third Age Adult Day Center of Malone, 24 Fourth St., Suite 7
- ☐ **Elizabethtown Area**
  - Meeting Time: 12:00 pm on the second Wednesday of every month
  - Location: Horace Nye Nursing Home Conference Room, Park St., Elizabethtown
- ☐ **Hogansburg Area**
  - Meeting Time: 11:30 am-1:30 pm on the third Thursday of every month
  - Location: Senior Center, 29 Business Park Rd.
- ☐ **Saranac Lake Area**
  - Meeting Time: 6:00 pm on the fourth Thursday of the month
  - Location: Adirondack Medical Center, 1st floor Conference Room, Lake Colby Drive, Saranac Lake
- ☐ **Ticonderoga Area**
  - Meeting Time: 4:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month
  - Location: Inter-Lakes Health, Ethan Allen Library, 1019 Wicker St.

The Center also provides resource materials for families and caregivers, educational programs and trainings, Adult Day Programs in Plattsburgh, Malone and Elizabethtown that provide respite for family members, the Annual Alzheimer's Memory Walk, and more.

The Center is open from Monday to Friday from 8 AM to 4:30 PM in Sibley Hall, Room 227. The office is closed during the lunch hour from noon to 1 PM.

If you would like more information about the Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Center, please contact:

### Taher Zandi, Ph.D., Director

Office: Sibley 227  
Phone: (518) 564-3377  
Toll-Free Phone: (800) 388-0199  
E-mail: [taher.zandi@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:taher.zandi@plattsburgh.edu)

### Laura Dominianni

Phone: (518) 564-3377  
Toll-Free Phone: (800) 388-0199  
Fax: (518) 564-2328  
E-mail: [laura.dominianni@plattsburgh.edu](mailto:laura.dominianni@plattsburgh.edu)



## Calendar of Upcoming Events and Meetings



- May 6-7** Albany Desmond Hotel  
***Spring Delegates Assembly***
- May 11** 9:00 AM in ACC, Mtg. Room 1  
***Professional Issues Meeting***
- May 11** 1:30-2:30 PM in Ward Rm. 101  
***Labor Mgt. Mtg.***
- May 18** 4:30-6:30 PM  
Meron's, corner of Beekman St. & Bailey Ave.  
***End of Year Mixer***  
Bring a non-perishable food item. A small monetary donation of \$3 is suggested. You'll get pizza, wings, veggies, and two drink to-kens. Family is welcome.
- May 23** 8:30 AM to Noon  
Place to be Announced  
***SUNY Plattsburgh Town Hall Meeting***
- June 22** 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM  
Valcour Conference Center  
***UUP Professionals Retreat***  
**(Plattsburgh, Canton, and Potsdam)**
- August 26** Save the Date  
Geoffrey's Pub, Corner of Broad Street and Route 9 in Plattsburgh  
***Welcome Back Reception***

Negotiations Bulletin No. 2 is now posted on the UUP Web site. Please see the link on the right-hand column at [uupinfo.org](http://uupinfo.org) or the direct link is: <http://uupinfo.org/negotiations/index.html>





## ★ Your New Executive Board

Here are the results of our recent election:

- ❑ **David Curry** is Chapter President.
- ❑ **Bethanne DelGaudio** is Vice President for Professionals.
- ❑ **Kim Hartshorn** is Vice President of Academics.
- ❑ **Gina Doty** is the Secretary.
- ❑ **Al Mihalek** is the Treasurer.
- ❑ **Kay Branagan** is the Representative for Part-time Concerns.



These individuals will take office, starting on June 1st. For complete election results, including all delegates, visit: [http://faculty.plattsburgh.edu/uup/PSU\\_election\\_results\\_2011.pdf](http://faculty.plattsburgh.edu/uup/PSU_election_results_2011.pdf)

*Dozens of UUP members joined more than 10,000 union activists April 9th in a New York City rally that stretched for more than 5 blocks near Times Square. The UUPers teamed up with NYSUT members as well as Teamsters, transportation workers, sheet metal workers and many more to chant "We Are One," a call to come together to protect the rights of public employees.*



*In the above picture, you can see Plattsburgh's UUP President David Curry and Board Member Deborah Zinser at the rally.*

*In the below picture, SUNY Plattsburgh's Patty Bentley is pictured.*

Members should contact Chapter Leaders with any questions or concerns about their performance programs or evaluations. It is important to inquire as soon as a question arises so that procedural timelines are met. Each situation has unique facts that are best assessed with your Chapter Leaders.

## ★ News You Can Use

### New on the UUP Web Site



The Gender Inequity Study, by UUP members Kathy Burke, Jamie Dangler, with Lisi Krall is now available on the UUP Web site <http://uupinfo.org>. The authors have secured a Copyright, so we can

make it available more widely (previously it was distributed to the Women's Rights and Concerns Committee for their review). Also available on the UUP Web site is the report of the Task Force on a UUP Strategic Plan.

Both of these documents will "reside" in the Reports/Guides section of our Web site (linked from the left-hand NavBar)...but for the next few weeks, you can find them under "Latest Information" in the right-hand panel of the home-page. Please read both and send any comments directly to Paul Smith at [psmith@uupmail.org](mailto:psmith@uupmail.org) and he'll pass them on to the respective authors.

### Want a Smaller Waistline?

*by Rhonda Craig*

(Ivanhoe Newswire) -- A new study shows that getting up and taking a break from work is not just good for your heart but also for your waistline. Researchers found that there's a connection between the amount of breaks people take while sitting for prolonged periods and various indicators of risks for heart disease, diabetes, and inflammatory processes that can play a role in blocked arteries.



Dr. Genevieve Healy from the University of Queensland and her colleagues analyzed data from 4,757 people ages 20 years and older. "The evidence regarding the links between time spent sedentary and health outcomes has exploded over the last few years. It is important to recognize that even if a person spends an hour each day exercising, what they do for the rest of the day may also be important for their health," Dr. Healy told Ivanhoe.

Researchers found that people who spent longer periods sitting without taking breaks had larger waist circumferences, lower levels of HDL (good cholesterol), and higher levels of triglycerides (blood fats). The study also showed that people who spent a long time sitting but got up for frequent breaks had smaller waists and lower levels of C-reactive protein (an important marker of inflammation).

Researchers found that the top 25 percent of people who took the most breaks had, on average, a 4.1 cm smaller waist circumference than those in the lowest 25 percent. The research also showed that even small changes like standing up for one minute might help lower health risks. Other easy changes people can make in the office include standing up to take calls, walking to deliver a message rather than calling or emailing, or even just taking the stairs when possible.





## Labor History Corner: *The Haymarket Affair* by William J. Adelman

([www.illinoislaborhistory.org/haymarket/the-story-of-the-haymarket-affair.html](http://www.illinoislaborhistory.org/haymarket/the-story-of-the-haymarket-affair.html))



No single event has influenced the history of labor in Illinois, the United States, and even the world, more than the Chicago Haymarket Affair. It began with a rally on May 4, 1886, but the consequences are still being felt today. Although the rally is included in American history textbooks, very few present the event accurately or point out its significance.

To understand what happened at Haymarket, it is necessary to go back to the

summer of 1884 when the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, the predecessor of the American Federation of Labor, called for May 1, 1886 to be the beginning of a nationwide movement for the eight-hour day. This wasn't a particularly radical idea since both Illinois workers and federal employees were supposed to have been covered by an eight-hour day law since 1867. The problem was that the federal government failed to enforce its own law, and in Illinois, employers forced workers to sign waivers of the law as condition of employment.

Although perhaps a simplistic solution to unemployment and low wages, the Eight-Hour Day Movement caught the imagination of workers across the country. Chicago with its strong labor movement had the nation's largest demonstration on Saturday, May 1, 1886, when reportedly 80,000 workers marched up Michigan Avenue.

Two of the organizers of these demonstrations were Lucy and Albert Parsons. On Sunday, May 2, Albert went to Ohio to organize rallies there, while Lucy and others staged a peaceful march of 35,000 workers. But on Monday, May 3, the peaceful scene turned violent when the Chicago police attacked and killed picketing workers at the McCormick Reaper Plant. This attack by police provoked a protest meeting which was planned for Haymarket Square on the evening of Tuesday, May 4.

Most of the speakers failed to appear. Instead of starting at 7:30, the meeting was delayed for about an hour. Instead of the expected 20,000 people, fewer than 2,500 attended. Two of the last minute speakers were Albert Parsons, just returned from Ohio, and Samuel Fielden, an English-born Methodist lay preacher who worked in the labor movement.

The Haymarket meeting was almost over and only about two hundred people remained when they were attacked by 176 policemen carrying Winchester repeater rifles. Fielden was speaking. Lucy and Albert Parsons had left because it was beginning to rain. Then someone, unknown to this day, threw the first dynamite bomb ever used in peacetime history of the United States. The police panicked, and in the darkness many shot at their own men. Eventually, seven policemen died, only one directly accountable to the bomb. Four workers were also killed.

The next day martial law was declared, not just in Chicago but throughout the nation. Anti-labor governments around the world used the Chicago



incident to crush local union movements. In Chicago, labor leaders were rounded up, houses were entered without search warrants and union newspapers were closed down. Eventually eight men, representing a cross section of the labor movement were selected to be tried. Among them were Fielden, Parsons and a young carpenter named Louis Lingg, who was accused of throwing the bomb. Lingg had witnesses to prove he was over a mile away at the time. The two-month-long trial ranks as one of the most notorious in American history. The Chicago Tribune even offered to pay money to the jury if it found the eight men guilty.

On August 20, 1886, the jury reported its verdict of guilty with the death penalty by hanging for seven of the Haymarket Eight, and 15 years of hard labor for Neebe. National and worldwide pressure did finally force the Governor to change the sentences of Samuel Fielden and Michael Schwab to imprisonment for life. Adolph Fischer, George Engel, Albert Parsons and August Spies were hanged on November 11, 1887. In June of 1893, Governor John P. Altgeld pardoned the 3 men still alive and condemned the entire judicial system that had allowed this injustice.

The real issues of the Haymarket Affair were freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to free assembly, the right to a fair trial by a jury of peers and the right of workers to organize and fight for things like the eight-hour day.

While textbooks tell about the bomb, they fail to mention the reason for the meeting or what happened afterwards. Some books even fail to mention the fact that many of those who were tried were not even at the Haymarket meeting, but were arrested simply because there were union organizers. Sadly, these rights have been abridged many times in American history. During the civil rights marches of the 1960's, the anti-Vietnam war demonstrations and the 1968 Democratic National Convention, we saw similar violations to our constitutional rights.

The Haymarket Affair took on worldwide dimension in July 1889, when a delegate from the American Federation of Labor recommended at a labor conference in Paris that May 1 be set aside as International Labor Day in memory of Haymarket martyrs and the injustice of the Haymarket Affair. Today in almost every major industrial nation, May Day is Labor Day. Even Great Britain and Israel have passed legislation in recent years declaring this date a national holiday.

For years, half of the American Labor movement observed May 1 as Labor Day, while the other half observed the first Monday in September. After the Russian Revolution the May 1 date was mistakenly associated with communism, and in a protest against Soviet policy, May 1 was proclaimed Law Day in the U.S. in the 1960's.





# Summer is the perfect time

Summer is the perfect time for so many things – gardening, vacationing, swimming, catching up on reading, and whatever else one wants to do but can't seem to find the time for during the school year. That's why summers seem to go so fast, because we're so busy!

But summer is also the perfect time to pay attention to those things that we don't have time for during the rest of the year, such as, (groan), our finances. It's so easy to go day-to-day without making any long-term financial plans, setting up a budget, saving for a rainy day, etc.

Fortunately, the **Financial Counseling Program** endorsed by *NYSUT Member Benefits Corporation* can be of great assistance in getting your financial house in order.

When you enroll in the plan, you'll receive toll-free access to certified financial planners and registered investment advisors who will address your various financial questions and situations. You'll also have options for in-person consultations. And you have the added comfort of knowing these professionals are there solely to help you, not to line their pockets by pushing you in one direction or another.

**These financial professionals do not sell any financial products; hence, they receive no**

commissions from mutual funds, brokerage firms, insurance companies or any other third party. These are the professionals of Stacey Braun Associates, Inc., the provider of the Financial Counseling Program.

Stacey Braun Associates is an investment advisory company established in 1977. It provides fee-based professional financial counseling.

## Here is a sampling of topics you can receive advice and assistance on:

- Pre- and post-retirement planning
- 403(b) and 457(b) plan advice
- Mutual fund questions
- Establishing risk tolerance
- Mortgages and refinancing
- Savings
- Estate and inheritance planning
- Financial advice relating to divorce
- Tax planning
- Insurance
- Social Security
- Education funding

The plan also includes no-cost written summaries or reports upon request; access to Stacey Braun's password-protected website, which features all kinds of helpful information and calculators; an e-mail helpdesk; and free admission to regional educational workshops.

In addition to the plan described here, a

403(b) Limited Financial Counseling Program is available.

So why not take a little time out of your busy summer and see how you can benefit from the Financial Counseling Program?

For more information, call  
NYSUT Member Benefits at  
800-626-8101 or visit  
[www.memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://www.memberbenefits.nysut.org).



*For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.*

