

President's Report – May 2026

Strong Oneonta Representation at the Spring 2026 Delegate Assembly

The **Spring 2026 Delegate Assembly** saw a powerful turnout from the Oneonta UUP Chapter, demonstrating our chapter's ongoing commitment to statewide union governance and member advocacy. Representing Oneonta were: **President Shirley Clark, Vice President for Professionals Jessie Simpauco, Secretary William Simons, Acting Treasurer Michael McAvoy, Officer for Retirees Jerianne Jerminario, and Delegates Ed Wesnofske, Ethan Fox, Achim Koeddermann, Matthew Unangst, Christine Edwards, Anthony Nichols, and Penina Kamina.**

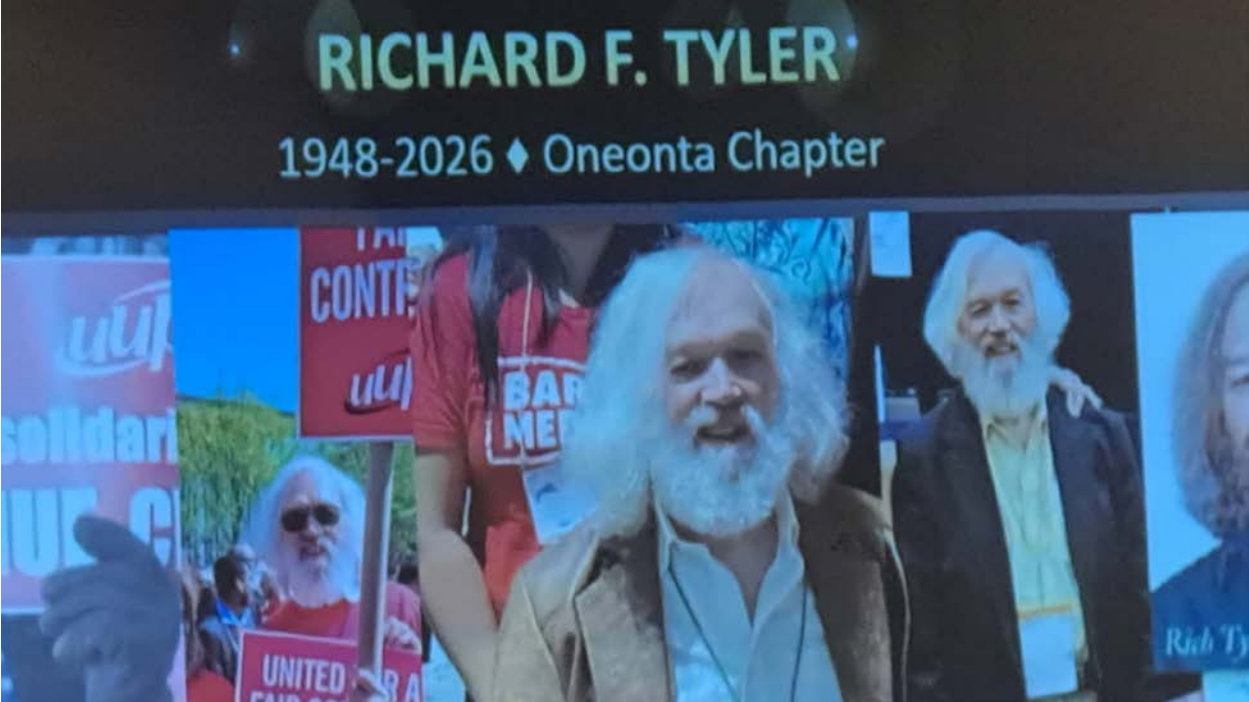
A Resolution Honoring the service of **Richard F. Tyler**, past Treasurer, was read by the Chapter President, Shirley Clark during the Spring DA.

Held in **Albany** from **April 23–25**, the Assembly brought together UUP members from across the state to discuss priorities, vote on leadership, and strengthen our collective voice. While statewide leadership elections went uncontested, the Executive Board elections saw meaningful democratic engagement. **Matt Smith** of **ESF** unseated **Susan Orr** of **Brockport** for an academic seat, and **Brendan McGovern** secured a professional seat that had been vacated. These elections reflect the healthy, participatory nature of our union and the value we place on member-driven leadership.















Union Advocacy on Compensation and Economic Pressures

As we move into the summer months, your Oneonta UUP Chapter leadership continues to prioritize one of the most pressing issues facing our members: fair and competitive compensation. With the cost of living rising across New York State, affecting everything from groceries to utilities, our chapter remains steadfast in pushing SUNY Oneonta to address wage stagnation and ensure that compensation keeps pace with economic realities.

We recognize the financial strain many members are experiencing, and we are committed to advocating for salary structures that reflect the true value of your labor, expertise, and dedication. UUP's statewide contract negotiations are ongoing, and we extend our appreciation to the contract committee for their tireless work. Their efforts are central to securing a contract that protects our rights, strengthens our benefits, and ensures that SUNY employees are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Community Engagement and Member Stories

As union members, we understand that our strength extends beyond the workplace and into the communities we serve. Many individuals in our region face challenges far greater than our own, and UUP remains committed to supporting efforts that uplift and strengthen our broader community.

If you participate in community service this summer, whether through volunteer work, environmental stewardship, or local initiatives, we encourage you to share your experience with us. Member stories highlight the compassion, leadership, and civic responsibility that define our chapter. Please send us a brief article or reflection so we can celebrate your contributions and inspire others within the membership.