



The RETIREE RECORD

A NEWS BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS
AFFILIATED WITH APWU POSTAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

PITTSBURGH AREA RETIREE CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO

POST OFFICE BOX 39 ◊ SLOVAN ◊ PENNSYLVANIA ◊ 15078

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JUDGE DEALS STAPLES A KNOCKOUT BODY BLOW

On Wednesday, May 11, Federal Circuit Court Judge Emmett Sullivan upheld the Federal Trade Commission decision to block the Staples/Office Depot proposed merger! Pending appeals by Staples, this ruling sets to rest once and for all Staples attempt to create a monopoly in the retail office supplies market. The victory is especially sweet to those loyal and dedicated rank and file union members and retirees and others that have participated in Staples demonstrations in this area going on three years.

The APWU battle with Staples over installation of quasi-postal services in their stores now moves back to the National Labor Relations Board, or NLRB, where litigation has been ongoing over the use of untrained part time Staples employees rather than dedicated Postal Service workers to conduct these operations. The Union has maintained since day one that wherever Postal services may be provided to our customers outside of traditional postal settings, the Union is entitled to have that work done by Postal Service employees. What is at stake in the NLRB litigation is significant damages, meaning \$\$\$\$\$, to the Union and it's members, if the desired outcome is achieved. According to reports, the NLRB Hearing will resume later this month. We will be keeping our eye on that litigation with the hopeful anticipation that the Union will prevail there too.

On a personal note ~ Working within the Western Pa. Postal Workers Solidarity Committee, under the leadership of Branch 84 NALC President Mike Plaskon, we have cajoled, begged, and nagged for more rank and file to be involved in the Staples demonstrations. There were instances where substantial numbers responded, and there were instances where the minimal response was, frankly, embarrassing. Had it not been for the support of other unionists and retirees to swell the ranks, in those cases, only a mere handful of rank and file attended.

Are Postal workers spoiled because of the fruits won by those that have gone before and did what had to be done (read 1970 Post Office Strike) to make Postal jobs good jobs, or merely arrogant to the point that they do not feel a need to "dirty their hands" with concerted activism? The Pittsburgh Metro Local is a case in point. Most Executive Board members were seldom seen at the demonstrations. Also, the Local did not make the effort a priority, despite that it was widely know that the national APWU made the effort a national priority.

This is an era of worker activism. UPMC hospital workers fought for and won concessions from a recalcitrant management. Fast food workers are demonstrating for and are winning increased wages. The Pittsburgh Casino continues their struggle for recognition. Steel workers fought for by striking and won a new contract. Yes, this truly is an era of worker activism, except for the majority of Postal Service workers in this area. The recent State APWU Convention would not even demonstrate at Staples in Lancaster! This may be my last word on this subject. **OPEN YOUR EYES RANK AND FILE POSTAL WORKERS. THE SHIP OF WORKER INVOLVEMENT IS LEAVING THE DOCK---AND YOU ARE NOT ON IT. BUT THERE IS STILL TIME TO WAKE UP AND GET INVOLVED. DO IT!**

(over)

PIRATE'S BALL GAME AND TAIL GATE PARTY



**28th Annual
North Side
Community Night**



Pirates vs. Giants

WEDNESDAY June 22, 2016

Hosted by

**NorthSide/NorthShore
Chamber of Commerce**

Tickets \$45.00 per person

Tailgate Party with DJ and Games and more...

**TICKET PRICE includes: tailgate food,
beverages, Penn Brewery & Rivertowne Beer,
event t-shirt, a game ticket**

Parking near the tailgate party is limited to event sponsors.

Tailgate party is rain or shine.

You may pick up your ticket, shirts and tailgate instructions at the

Union office Tuesday afternoon prior to the event.

If not they will be available at the tailgate location.

Return this Coupon with your check to:

**PMPWU
1414 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212**

**Tickets must be
purchased by
June 06, 2016 To
ensure you get the t-shirt
size you request.**

Name _____

Address _____

Email: _____

Daytime Phone _____

Total Enclosed is for _____ tickets at \$45.00 per person, cost \$ _____ Sub Total

For additional
information call
412-321-4700



Please reserve t-shirts in the following sizes: _____ Small _____ Medium _____ Large _____ X-Large

_____ XXL and _____ XXXL shirts are available for an additional \$3.00 a shirt _____ Sub-Total

\$ _____ Total Order Cost

SHUT IN LIST ~ Norbert Conway, Veronica Bujdos, Jeanne McCarthy, Laverne Heil, and Ruth Marlett are on the shut-in list. Please keep a good thought for our shut-ins. There but for the grace of God..... (To be included on the shut-in list, call the Chapter at 724 947 9374.)

MAY BE PASSED AROUND/DUPLICATED