



## Western PA. Postal Workers Solidarity Committee

### A TALE OF TWO SUNDAYS

When we demonstrated at the Cranberry Staples on Sunday, July 31, it was a glorious day! Despite threats of rain, the demonstrators were greeted with brilliant sunshine from beginning to end. But that is not the reason that made the event 'special'. It was the history of what had occurred at previous demonstrations there.

As we reported at the time, our first experience saw police force us onto the side of the road. When we returned for another demonstration, there was another confrontation with the police. Only that time we prevailed and demonstrated right in front of the store after we provided the judge's opinion and the DA Zapalla letter that settled the question. For this event, no Staples protest, no police, no problem. We completed the demonstration without any incidents. Later, when we were enjoying pizza at the after demonstration get together, that victory made the 'party' a very happy place.

A week earlier, on Sunday, July 24, it was another glorious day, for the Pittsburgh Metro family picnic. When the storm hit later in the day, spirits were not dampened one bit. The picnic saw a participation of more than 300 members, retirees, and guests. (On behalf of the retirees, this writer thanks the Local for including us in the festivities.)

While clearly a picnic is not a demonstration, and a demonstration is not a picnic, the difference in attendance at both provoked our curiosity. One conclusion is there is a significant number of members that don't work on Sundays, such as window clerks, for example, that are available to help out with the Staples initiative. Beyond window clerks, other members are similarly available on Sundays. The reason Sundays were designated as demonstration days was because that is the day most members are available to join in.

We understand that availability is not an absolute. It is Summer time with all the demands of the season. There are family obligations, religious obligations, post office overtime in some facilities, and emergencies that occur without warning, etc. Nevertheless, taking all that into consideration, there are still significant numbers of members available on Sundays from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM to join us 'on the line'. The activities of our committee clearly has backed Staples management in this area into a corner. While they cringe behind the counter we take up our stations in front of their stores. Our demonstrations have had such a strong effect that they were 'covered' in the CBA arbitration award.

We extend an open invitation to all members to join us to put the nails in the Staples coffin by providing mass if not massive demonstrations at the stores listed on the reverse. The APWU acknowledges our effort by publishing pictures of our events on their webpage. We urge you not to miss out on this union solidarity opportunity. May we see you 'on the line'? We will welcome you with open arms! And you will be a part of labor history.

August 8, 2016

Chuck Pugar, President  
Pittsburgh Metro Area Postal  
Workers Union

Mike Plaskon, President  
Branch 84 National Association  
Of Letter Carriers

Kelly Dickey, President  
Local 322, National Postal  
Mail Handlers Union

John P. Richards, President  
Pittsburgh Area Retiree  
Chapter Of The American  
Postal Workers Union

Frank Wozniak, Assistant  
District Representative  
National Rural Letter  
Carriers Association

PITTSBURGH METRO AREA POSTAL WORKERS UNION

AFL-CIO

400 EPICENTER • 1414 BRIGHTON ROAD  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15212



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Pittsburgh, PA  
Permit #294

Stop Staples Rallies  
All Rallies 11:00am to 12:30pm

Staples- Uniontown Pa  
Sunday August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
3 Work Parkway  
Uniontown Pa 15401

Staples- Robinson Township  
Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
6521 Steubenville Pike  
Pittsburgh Pa 15205

Staples- New Kensington Pa  
Sunday- September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Riverview Plaza  
100 Tarentum Bridge Road  
New Kensington, Pa 15068

ALL POSTAL WORKERS FAMILY AND  
FRIENDS INVITED

STOP THE PRIVATIZATION OF THE  
US MAIL