



Western PA. Postal Workers Solidarity Committee

August 22, 2017

RICHARDS SELECTED AS CHAIRMAN

At it's meeting today, APWU Retiree Chapter President John P. Richards accepted the nomination as Chairman for the Western PA Postal Workers Solidarity Committee. Bob Montana, Secretary-Treasurer of the Pittsburgh Metro Area Local, placed Richards name in nomination at the previous meeting on May 23, 2017.

Richards was hired at the Pittsburgh General Post Office in 1958 as a Sub Clerk. He transferred to the Maintenance Craft by 1960, and became active in the National Postal Union shortly thereafter. He held several offices in that Union including Business Agent, an office he held until merger in 1971, continuing as Business Agent until 1974 for the APWU Local, when he became the full time President. He continued in that capacity until he retired in 1994. He also served as the APWU Director of Industrial Relations from 1980 to 1983. He was a founding member of the Retiree Chapter, serving as President since its inception.

Richards was a local leader in the 1970 Great Postal Strike that resulted in the merger with several craft organizations into the APWU.

"The Western PA Postal Workers Solidarity Committee has the potential for Post Office Workers and retirees in this area to speak with a strong unified voice to protect our vital interests when threatened, and support improvement and advances to improve our condition," Richards said upon accepting this honor. "These are difficult times for Post Office workers and retirees with threats coming from many quarters, including the President Of The United States. Standing and working together is our best course."

(Richards can be contacted at 724 947 9374, at Post Office Box 39, Slovan PA 15078, and at Jprichards1@verizon.net.)

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