



# 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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## POSTAL EMPLOYEES RELIEF FUND ~ PERF

The special PERF collection conducted by the Western PA Postal Workers Solidarity Committee is now completed. Our Retiree Chapter was fully engaged in that activity. We are proud to report that a total of almost \$7,000.00 was collected and forwarded to PERF. An Honor Roll of contributors was previously posted in this publication. However, after that Honor Roll was posted a couple donations were received. They are set forth below in an addendum addition to the Honor Roll:

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**SPECIAL POSTAL EMPLOYEES RELIEF FUND (PERF)  
COLLECTION BY THE WESTERN PA POSTAL WORKERS  
SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE HONOR ROLL ADDENDUM  
(DONATIONS THAT WERE NOT PART OF THE SPECIAL COLLECTION ARE NOT INCLUDED)**  
January 15, 2018

**DESI NEUROHR, FLORIDA APWU RETIREE CHAPTER  
BRUCE STEFANKO, BRANCH 84 NALC**

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**ANALYSIS:** The Committee and our Chapter undertook this project after the APWU and other national Postal Unions made contributions to PERF after the horrible string of hurricanes caused havoc in Florida, Texas, Louisiana, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and wild fires destroyed parts of California. Our strategy was to seek donations from the Locals and our Chapter, then reach out to our memberships seeking contributions from the rank and file. This effort resulted in contributions from the Locals and the Chapter.

The outreach to the rank and file members was to be done by direct mailings into the member's homes. That was the method used by our Chapter and Branch 84 NALC. The response to those mailings resulted in significant contributions, which made up the bulk of the total. The Pittsburgh Metro Area Local rejected using the direct mail method, opting instead to do a bulletin board solicitation. Unfortunately, that resulted in just two (2) contributions, and one of those was from my wife, who is an active Postal Worker.

At the onset of the campaign we reached out to District Manager Troy Seanor inviting him to join the effort. **He didn't even bother to respond to the letter!** I subsequently sent a **personal note to Postmaster General Megan Brennan with the newsletter that highlighted Seanor's indifference.** One can never be sure how correspondence to the PMG will be handled. It is our belief that there was a 'behind the scenes' reaction to Seanor's failure to at least respond to our communication. After all, Brennan's home is in the Pittsburgh Postal District, so she likely has an interest in how the district is functioning. In any event, we did all we could do to support PERF and our fund raising drive.

(over)

**WESTERN PA POSTAL WORKERS SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE**  
**A SOLID HISTORY OF EFFECTIVE ACTIVISM AND ACCOMPLISHMENT**

The Western PA Postal Workers Solidarity Committee was created several years ago in response to a call for a 'day of action' from the national Postal Unions. At that time the leaders of the Locals in this area and our Retiree Chapter jointly held a demonstration in front of the General Mail Facility on California Avenue. We were joined by the president and secretary/treasurer of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, and the president of the Allegheny County Labor Council.

A short time later noises were heard from the Congress about proposals to curtail six day delivery of mail and end home delivery. Our Committee sprang into action by developing a plan to oppose the threats. Shortly thereafter those threats to our brother and sister Letter Carriers subsided and became diminished issues at that time.

Almost immediately the Staples scheme to steal Post Office jobs was a new threat! The Committee developed a plan of action to join the boycott called for by the APWU. The plan was to demonstrate at the various Staples stores in Western Pennsylvania. A schedule was developed to conduct the demonstrations **nearly every other Sunday, rain or shine, winter and summer, until the boycott was called off. This schedule held for nearly three years, including throughout the football seasons and the Pittsburgh Steelers games!**

**We were joined in the demonstrations by members of the Allegheny, Beaver County/New Castle, and the Westmoreland County Central Labor Councils. We were able to obtain proclamations in support from the Mayor of Pittsburgh and members of the Allegheny County Council. It was a 'full court' press. It was a sweet victory when Staples backed out of the agreement, thus ending that threat and the boycott.**

Currently the Committee is head and shoulders into the campaign for the 18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District seat that was vacated by the philandering hypocrite Tim Murphy, who claimed to be moral and pro life, then allegedly took a secret mistress who he asked to cover up the affair by having an abortion! When those reports became public, he was forced to resign.

The Committee considers that seat and the election to it to be of extreme importance. We are gearing up for a lot of activity in that race, and have engaged already. This seat is of such importance that the Committee is reaching out to our members seeking active participation by as many rank and file that can be mustered. If you are willing and able to assist, please give a call to 724 947 9374.

**ON A PERSONAL NOTE** ~ It is undisputed that the creation of the Committee and the activism that has continued over the years since it was formed, is unprecedented. Because of the scope of membership and the solidarity among the various Unions and our Chapter that continues year by year, and the effective activism, I would have thought that the National Unions would have taken note and given a little publicity and accolades for what has been accomplished. While I personally take that failure to be a slight, we will persevere.

**SHUT-IN LIST** ~ Norbert Conway, Jeanne McCarthy, Laverne Heil, George Skrbins, and Veronica Bujdos, 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**