



# 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

JOHN P. RICHARDS, *President and Editor*

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## ... THE BEAT GOES ON!

A document directed to Retiree Chapters from APWU President Mark Dimondstein dated May 31, 2018, sets forth in relevant part ... "After much thought and based on the contents of the 2008 letter, the NEB (National Executive Board) has adopted a policy that Retiree Chapters should be allowed to submit resolutions to the National Convention, provided that the issues addressed in the resolutions strictly address "retiree" issues."

The document also sets forth, "APWU has reviewed some of the history on (sic) this matter, including a (December 19,) 2008 letter from then President William Burrus to Pittsburgh Area Retiree Chapter President John Richards."

The right of Retiree Chapters to present resolutions at the National Convention has been a simmering issue since 2008. Prior to that time, our Chapter had submitted resolutions that **were considered, and adopted, by the Convention. There had never been any controversy or denial of acceptance.** ~~At the Convention in 2008 our Chapter's resolutions were not~~ accepted for consideration. We protested this in letters to then Secretary Treasurer Terry Stapleton in letters dated September 2, 2008 and October 6, 2008, which he ignored. That promoted our letter to Burrus dated November 14, 2008, to which he replied with the response noted above.

**Burrus resolved the dispute by the following in that letter, "In summation, there are no constitutional restrictions on the submission of Resolutions by the Retiree Locals (sic). However, this conclusion could be superseded by the rules of a specific convention."**

Nevertheless, at the 2016 Convention, Secretary Treasurer Liz Powell refused to accept resolutions from our Chapter. Subsequently, the Retiree Department Conference at the 2017 All Craft Meeting supported our resolution to give standing to the Retiree Chapters to submit resolutions to the Convention. That resolution was being favorably accepted throughout the Union, and it was that resolution that prompted APWU Executive board action that is set forth above. More on that later.

**Hopefully this decade long struggle is finally correctly settled and Retiree Chapters may submit resolutions and they will be accepted for the same consideration as all other proper resolutions.**

It has been a long and torturous decade of hostility toward Retiree Chapters being fully accepted in the Union. While on the one hand the Union reaches out to retirees for support of Union initiatives, COPA, and legislative goals, when it comes to total acceptance of the retirees as bone fide members of the Union with equal voice as other members, we face a barrier, that in my opinion, must and can be overcome. This will play out at the Pittsburgh Convention, where retiree representation will be an issue.

(over)

Comment: For the life of me, I cannot understand the mindset that produced the redundant, unnecessary, unworkable, and provocative caveat contained in the letter, i.e., "...provided the issues addressed in the resolutions strictly address "retiree" issues." Was there really a concern that the Chapters have the inclination or devious intent to undermine the Locals or the Union with resolutions against them? Moreover, were they retiree issues that provided retiree leadership for the three year Staples boycott? Our Chapter has been heavily involved in Letter Carrier issues such as six day delivery, cluster boxes, annual food drive, etc. Will resolutions in support of those efforts not be accepted? Come on NEB, you may and should take another look at that language and rescind it.

**PMAPWU 17<sup>TH</sup> UNION SOLIDARITY PICNIC**  
**SUNDAY, JULY 15, 2018 12:00 NOON-9:00 PM**  
**AVONWORTH COMMUNITY PARK**

The Picnic will be held at Avonworth Community Park located at 498 Camp Horne Road, 15237 which is easy to reach off I-279 or route 65.

Picnic is open to all Members and Retirees in good standing with PMAPWU. May invite up to two guests at a cost of \$15.00 each. Enjoy an all you can eat picnic menu with Baby Back Ribs, BBQ Boneless Chicken, Grilled Hot Dogs and Hamburgers, Italian Salad, Cole Slaw, Baked Beans, Fresh Corn, Watermelon, Nachos, and Ice Cold Soft Drinks. Beer, Specialty Drinks available from 12:00pm to 7:00pm. Swimming is available all day at the Community Pool. We have a limited number of Pool Passes to give out on a first come first serve basis. There is also Kids Kingdom play center, volleyball, horseshoes, Basketball court and baseball fields. Corn Hole tournament with prizes. DJ and karaoke also.

50/50 Drawing, Door Prizes and Members only Drawings. Please fill out the registration form below and return to the address below no later than July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Member (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Facility & Craft \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Significant other (free) \_\_\_\_\_

Member's legally (IRS) Dependent Children are free. (Not Grandchildren, Nieces, Nephews or others)

Child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_

Guests (Other than Children) must not be a Non-Member APWU-Covered Employee. No more than 2

Number of Guests \_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ Make check payable and mail to

PMAPWU-Solidarity Picnic

1414 Brighton Road 4<sup>th</sup>, floor

Pittsburgh Pa 15212

SHUT-IN LIST - Norbert Conway, Veronica Bujdos, Jeanne McCarthy, and Laverne Heil, 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