



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

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A CALL TO ACTION

Recent statements from Trump and PMG Delay* and concurrent developments throughout the Postal Service should have even the most sanguine disbelieving rank and file on edge. For too long too many have pooh poohed the alarms about privatization threats coming from the Trump administration and his minions. The current trend is to look only to national to oppose our adversaries. A word of advice to our active colleagues - - **GET OVER IT! THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO REST ON YOUR LAURELS, IF EVER THERE WAS A TIME. NOW IS THE TIME FOR MASS ACTIVITY TO ALERT THE PUBLIC ABOUT WHAT IS GOING ON, AND THE DANGER THAT THEIR POST OFFICE MAY BE LOST. NATIONAL IS LEADING THE WAY WHILE HOBBLING BY BEING SHUT OUT FROM THE UNION HEADQUARTERS BY THE CORONA VIRUS. NEVERTHELESS, PRESIDENT DIMONDSTEIN HAS BEEN ALL OVER THE MEDIA GIVING INTERVIEWS AT MAJOR NEWS OUTLETS. BUT THAT ISN'T ENOUGH!**
(*We intentionally misspell the PMG's name since he is the reason for mail delays.)

The public is rising to the occasion, by demonstrating spontaneously at post offices all across the nation. But that also isn't enough. A tidal wave of rank and file presence demonstrating at the post offices where they work is desired and badly needed. Some Locals have risen to the occasion when called by national for group activities. But too many still haven't gotten the message. Despite the activities by a few Local leaders, in way too many cases, the rank and file are still are not responding in massive numbers.

The lesson was learned in the Staple demonstrations. Some areas like Western Pennsylvania witnessed hundreds of rank and file demonstrating every other Sunday for @ three years. At the recent Pittsburgh Post Office demonstration, a few handfuls of rank and file hit the line. Kudos to the Mail Handler's Local for sponsoring that demonstration. Where was the APWU Local, except for a few officers?

In our time when demonstrations were held at the GMF, California Avenue was shut down because there were so many marchers. And while the stakes were high in those days, the actual existence of the Postal Service was not at stake, **but it is now!** Also, when we struck in 1970, Grant Street and 7th Avenue were disrupted as hundreds lined sidewalks.

A WORD TO THE WISE

It is time to face the facts. In too many jurisdictions, either by choice or by chance, the rank and file are not being motivated and involved so that they would champ at the bit to hit the streets when called by local leadership. That is not to say that there are not exceptions. For that the Union thanks them, but more, much more participation is warranted and needed. This Laissez-faire attitude works against the goals of the Union. Our membership has paid our dues. This generation of membership must either step up or accept the consequences.

(over)

TRUMP THE CON MAN

Recent statements by Con-man Trump warrants close attention. Our purpose here is to separate his cons from the truth. Keep your eyes on him as you evaluate the facts from his wild claims:

Trump claims if Joe Biden is elected there will be riots in the streets. **Fact** - The unrest he predicts **is going on under his watch!** Trump claims he has the corona virus under control. **Fact** - He refused to take the situation seriously at the onset, claims he has it under control, yet thousands are dying daily, while he says to drink disinfectants and take bogus meds for a cure. **Fact** - He claims Joe Biden will cost thousands of jobs if elected. Yet on his watch millions have filed and are filing for unemployment since they lost their jobs due to the pandemic that he is responsible for. He says he wants a fair election. **Fact** - All the while he is trying to destroy the US Postal Service to create chaos for mail-in votes. **DON'T FALL FOR THE BIG CON! Usually whenever he makes these and similar wild assertions, the facts are just the opposite. He is playing a shell game with his supporters and our democracy. DON'T FALL FOR IT. REPEAT - DON'T FALL FOR IT! USE YOUR VOTE WISELY. LATER REGRETS COUNT FOR NOTHING.**

WHO IS FOR US, WHO IS AGAINST US?

There **has** been a lot of activity in Congress about rescuing the Postal Service with a bailout. So far the House has passed a bill in support, the Senate has not, and Trump is on record being against it to hamper vote-by-mail. From our area two Representatives have spoken with their vote:

Conor Lamb, who represented the 18th District after Tim Murphy resigned in disgrace, now representing the 17th District, voted for us. His bid for reelection should be **supported** if you reside in his district.

Michael Doyle, who represents the 18th District, has been in retirees and Post Office workers corner for years, has also voted for us. His bid for reelection should be **supported** if you reside in his district.

Guy Reschenthaler, who represents the 14th District, voted against us. His bid for reelection should be **rejected** if you live in his district.

Mike Kelly, who represents the 16th District, has been in lock step with Trump. His bid for reelection should be **rejected** if you reside in his district.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST ~ A previous Retiree Record described how Young Turks caused the dormant Labor Day Parade to be reinstated. Desi Neurohr, now an officer in the Florida State APWU Retiree Chapter, who was Assistant To The President at the time, (a full time appointed position in our administration,) has reminded via a photo that he was one of the Young Turks. (Our full time staff consisted of two elected full timers, President and Secretary-Treasurer, and two appointed full timers, Business Agent and Assistant To The President.). I pulled Desi from his assignment as a letter sorting machine operator on Tour 1. His primary job for the Local was to oversee our copyrighted computerized grievance operation staff.

SHUT-IN LIST ~ Robert Gesk, Norbert Conway, Jeanne McCarthy, 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