



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*

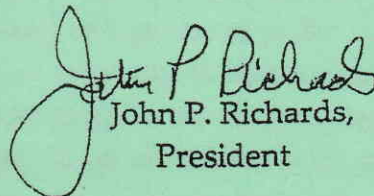
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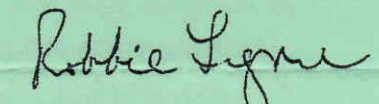
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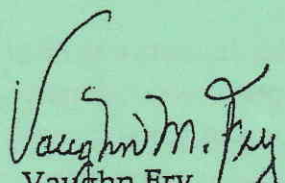
AT THIS
TIME OF
THE YEAR
WHEN WE
COUNT OUR
BLESSINGS, WE
HAVE SO MUCH
TO BE THANKFUL
FOR. WE HAVE LIFE,
FAMILY, AND A SECURE
RETIREMENT THANKS TO
OUR POST OFFICE CAREERS.
ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS
OF OUR RETIREE CHAPTER, WE
TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PAUSE
AND REFLECT ON OUR GOOD FORTUNE
AND GIVE THANKS FOR ALL OUR BLESSINGS
AND WISH
YOU AND
YOURS A
HAPPY
HOLIDAY


John P. Richards,
President

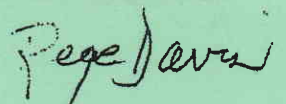

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(over)

2020 ~ WHAT A YEAR!

Major events and happenings during my lifetime included: The Nazis were destroying Europe while America was at peace, until Pearl Harbor was attacked, WWII dragged on for years until VE Day and VJ Day ended it. Fast forward to the rise of terrorism with attacks on our homeland and disjointed politics of distrust, hate, and revenge. This history covered over 80 years. But the single year of 2020 was in a class by itself!

The year began for me on December 5, 2019, the date of our Chapter Gala Holiday Party. While our members gathered for that event, I was whisked via ambulance to hospital, and a more than three month journey through the medical establishment that has left me in a diminished condition. Along the way corona virus-like symptoms, if not the virus itself, had it's way with me. That was the onset of a year long experience that has seen millions of Americans afflicted and a quarter million, as of this writing, deceased. As this is written in early December, a major spike in infection is underway, touching on the White House and senior government officials as well as citizens at large. So far there is no escaping the width and breath of the insidious virus, exacerbated by the refusal of many to observe safety protocols.

With all the mayhem that occurred before this year, what the world has endured as a result of the virus in one year, is unprecedented. While progress seems to be underway in developing vaccines against the virus, it is doubtful that they will be a factor this year. It is likely that the infections and deaths will unfortunately continue to mount well into next year. Who knows what 2021 will look like? Only time will tell.

For those of us that continue to endure, even in the midst of all the chaos, suffering and personal loss caused by the virus, this time of year is when we traditionally celebrated with our families for the holidays. But even this tradition is taking a back seat to virus concerns. Dr. Fauci and other health professionals urge that we **don't** gather as before, but instead limit celebrations to those within the household. If "outsiders" are included, strict observance of the protocols is urged. Moreover, we are urged to stay at home as much as possible, and fully observe the protocols when we must go out.

Even with this distorted backdrop, the sentiments on the reverse of the newsletter will still be the desired recognition of the holidays and the spirit as best as can be. It has been a rough year for the world, for America, for our Union and our Retiree Chapter, and our members. We have cancelled Chapter events rather than have been holding them. **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

PLANS FOR 2021

Ever the optimist, we have reserved a date for the Chapter Holiday Party next year. **You should save the date of December 3, 2021, and mark it on your calendar.** We have reserved this date anticipating that the virus vaccine will have been available and inoculations have been available to our members, and protocols have been relaxed or eliminated.

We have not reserved for the Mid Summer Blast. It is unlikely that conditions will have improved enough by Summer to allow a large group of vaccinated party goers to meet within protocol guidelines. If the situation would allow by then to party, we would adjust.

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