



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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NURSING HOME CRISIS?

As we age and our health diminishes, many of us will find ourselves in nursing homes. That is a fact that cannot be changed, whether the experience is a good one or not so good. In this area some nursing home employees are members of the Service Employees International Union, or SEIU. Our Chapter was informed that SEIU nursing home members in Beaver County intended to hold a rally on March 26 to inform the public of issues of concern to them. They reached out to other Unions for assistance.

The Chapter responded by joining them in the demonstration. Sister Charlotte Richards and brothers Joe Anthony and Joe Radovich and this writer attended and gave a good showing of support as the demonstration took place in front of the Beaver County Court House. Several SEIU nursing home members addressed the demonstration about serious issues confronting them. The most serious items discussed were the alarming number of covid related deaths at nursing homes numbering more than 12,000, exacerbated by grossly inadequate staffing, and low wages for patient care workers. It is obvious that reform legislation is sorely warranted.

Additional speakers were local state legislators. The high note was an address by Rep. Conor Lamb, who enumerated the problems that were raised by the SEIU members. Lamb and the other political figures all pledged to support the workers by addressing the problems raised. There was coverage from several media outlets, including TV coverage. Since the Court House is located on a very busy street, many passers by honked in approval and support of the demonstration. The weather was kind to us by presenting a nice sunny day for the activity. (Due to space considerations, this report could not be published in the previous Retiree Record.)

During the recent successful Staples demonstrations, Beaver County labor were very strong supporters who swelled our ranks when we demonstrated in Beaver County. The Chapter was very happy to return the favor by joining Union Sisters and Brothers in their struggle to improve patient care and working conditions at nursing homes.

APWU COPA

Over the years the Chapter has been recognized by National for the high level of automatic contributors to the COPA fund. The Chapter has earned rewards for this participation in the form of monetary and trophy presentations. The beautiful trophy is displayed on the awards table at all Chapter meetings and gatherings. We would like to list the names of these regular contributors, but that information is not available to us. This is mentioned since we are in the midst of an additional special fund raiser. It is important to understand that there are two separate funding streams. One member who contributed to the special fund raising drive made it known to the Chapter that he also contributes automatically. We are confident that he is one of many regular contributors. We are aware of some others who are similarly engaged. The Union and the Chapter are grateful for that level of support.

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APWU COPA - CONTINUED

The Chapter's COPA special fund raising campaign is winding down. It is not too late to make a contribution, and have your name on the final Honor Roll, using the special envelope that was included with the last newsletter. If it has been misplaced, call 724 947 9374 for a replacement. We are gratified to report that well over \$2,000 has been contributed, and that does not count the check-off forms that were sent directly to the COPA Fund. As stated previously, the Chapter does not have access to that data. Since our Chapter has historically been very generous with the check-off option, we expect that the current activity will repeat past performance. The Chapter is, however, aware of those that contributed by checks or sent the check-off forms to us, which we have faxed to the COPA Fund. The checks were sent to COPA via Priority Mail as per COPA's instruction. While this is therefore an incomplete listing of contributors, their names are set forth here as a:

Partial Honor Roll

**Joseph Anthony; Thomas & Dolores Britting; Frances Burrell;
Ernest & June Coleman; Regis & Jeffery Davis; Frederick & Marguerite Dengler;
George and Carol Figas; Donald Graf; Blair Hayduk; Bernadette Horner;
Ruby Kimball; Martin Kowalewski; Sandra Lee Kowalewski;
Henry & Cathy Lewandowski; John Lockhart; Robert Lucas; Janet Lutinski;
Paula & Robert Majersky; Paul & Linda Malenich; George Melko;
Clarence & Maureen Miller; Thomas Molanick; Rich Neill;
Alice & Michael Nestor; Joseph & Susen Radovich; Charlotte Richards;
John Richards; Leonard Spagnola; Paul & Rose Marie Thompson;
Scott & Jada Thompson; Harriet Wilson; and Janet Wojciechowicz.**

On behalf of the Chapter, we extend our most "THANK YOU, A JOB WELL DONE" to all members who participated in this activity. It is ironic that over the years retirees, who have much smaller numbers than active members, and the least income per capita in the Union, have historically been among, if not, the highest contributors as a group to COPA. Whether that is because of experience, or wisdom gained through years of toil at the Post Office, or a lifetime of learning street smarts, it is nevertheless an indisputable fact. Congress controls our destiny, and that of active members. It only is common sense to try to elect labor, post office, and retiree supporters. COPA helps get them elected. Nuff said!

(The Chapter has reached out to National in an attempt to obtain the names of all who have used the check-off option. If the names are provided we will publish a complete Honor Roll.)

HOLIDAY PARTY UPDATE

As reported previously, the Chapter had set Friday, December 3, 2021, as the Holiday Party schedule. Based on discussions with the Chadwick and in consultation with several members, the Chapter has firmly settled on that date and venue. However, due to current corona virus restrictions, several minor adjustments will be required, although we are hoping that conditions will relax by then so that the party can proceed as it has in the past. As of today, we urge that our members reserve the date now. Hopefully, if all goes well, we can get back on our regular schedule including next years Mid Summer Blast.

SHUT-IN LIST ~ Robert Gesk, Norbert Conway, Jeanne Mc Carthy, 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 DUPLICATED/PASSED AROUND