



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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HAPPY NEW YEAR - 2023

The Chapter prays that you and yours had the happiest holiday period! It seems that the year passed so quickly. A sign of old age? The calendars seem to go by so fast anymore.

It was just a few weeks ago that the Chapter hosted our annual Holiday Party at the Salvatore event center. Now that the Chapter has found a venue south of Pittsburgh, we have already set the date there for the Mid Summer Blast for June 22. The decision to repeat there was based in part in that we had a string of events at the Chadwick in Wexford, after losing Peter's Place, that was also south of the city. Our plan is to alternate between the Salvatore and Chadwick venues. The Mid Summer Blasts will be scheduled at the Salvatore venue, and the Holiday Parties will be scheduled at the Chadwick, beginning in 2023.

With Chapter members scattered over the southwest Pennsylvania area, it is more than difficult scheduling our events in close proximity to accommodate the members. We have arrived at this arrangement as a means to provide maximum opportunities for members to enjoy a party in your vicinity. In the event that a venue can be found to the east of the city, adjustments will be made.

THE HOLIDAY PARTY

The registration was aptly handled by Trustee Betty Koch for the sign-in book, Trustee Vaughn Fry checked for Chapter Membership Cards, Trustee Val Golphin sold 50/50 tickets, with assistance from Vice President-Treasurer Joe Radovich, volunteer staff, and Sue Radovich, Joe's wife, Lynn Garafola, my daughter, and Charlotte Richards. The Chapter's awards were spread out on a large table. On a separate table two sheet cakes with appropriate icing decorations were located. The inscriptions on the cakes were: WELCOME RETIREES AND GUESTS; and CHAPTER HOLIDAY PARTY 2022. The Chapter always creates and provides the cakes as desert for the meal. Party favors of long shoehorns and eye glass cleaners, courtesy of Retiree Department Director Nancy Olumeker, were distributed at each place setting by Staff Barbara Capo, Sue Radovich, and helpers. As members completed registration, Barbara Capo handled signing cards for our shut-ins and Recording Secretary Robbie Lynn, who is experiencing serious medical issues. Special Guest Harriet Ellenberger, Secretary of the GWC CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL, spoke and donated a holiday basket that was won later by Val Golphin. The hors d'oeuvres station opened promptly at 11:00. Swedish meatballs, mushrooms stuffed with hot sausage, and assorted pepperoni and cheeses were served for the hour that the station was open, before the sit down luncheon.

At the sit down luncheon, a prayer blessing was offered by Kenya Thomas, USAF Retired Chaplain, guest of her mother Grace Thomas-Dickerson, before the mixed green salad led off the meal. Three entrees were available. They were selected during the mail-in reservation process: Beef Salvatore, Stuffed Chicken Breast with gravy, and Scrod, English Style. According to diner's comments heard throughout the room, the entrees were well received and enjoyed.

RECOGNITION WAS GIVEN

The Postal Service is the largest employer of military veterans. When we called for those present to stand or otherwise identify themselves, a large number accepted the ovation that followed. Next, those that joined the Great Postal Strike of 1970 were asked to rise. While those numbers diminish each year, there was a significant number in attendance. There was wild applause for them. Those members risked careers and prison charges to achieve collective bargaining! So much was won for so many by so few!

The Chapter Executive Board was recognized: Vice President/Treasurer Joe Radovich, Trustees Betty Koch, Vaughn Fry, and Valerie Golphin. Volunteer Staff/member Charlotte Richards and her sister, Barbara Capo, were recognized. Officers of the **Pittsburgh Metro Local** who joined the **Retiree Chapter** upon retirement who were in attendance were also recognized: Joe Anthony, Ex. Vice President/Business Agent, who was present at creation of the Chapter and served many years; Charlotte Richards, Recording Secretary; and Ed Devey, Maintenance Craft Director. Candy prize drawing helpers were Donald Steines and Tom Carroll. Unsung heroes who assisted in many ways were Sue Radovich, and Lynn Garafola.

PRIZES~~PRIZES~~PRIZES

A short Membership Meeting was held. Recording Secretary Robbie Lynn was absent due to illness, therefore no minutes were available. Vice President/Treasurer Joe Radovich gave the Financial Report. It was adopted unanimously. Then on to prize drawings! We encourage members show the Chapter Membership card at registration. Two \$50.00 gift cards were won by those members: Don Thompson and Dan McPoyle. \$25 gift cards were won by: Dorothy Melensky; Ken Pollack; Maureen McCamey; and Lorraine Augustine. Sarris Candy Samplers were won by guests: Brian Guthrie; Sue Radovich; Nancy Ingold; Lynn Bottoroff; Lucy Miller; Carol Figas; Ken Urban; Patti Kaczynski; Terry Peiritsh; Kenya Thomas; Frances Moloney; Nancy Phillips; and Henrietta McConnell. Members: Thomas Tengowski; Carol Vodarick; Gemma Pizzuto; Gary Vereb; Edmund Manderick; Maryann Diethorn; Jim Duff; Gary Keller; John Korbe; Sandra Kowalewski; Del Phillips; and Betty Koch.

THE MAJOR AWARD

At each Holiday Party we present "THE MAJOR AWARD" from the movie A Christmas Story, the iconic Leg Lamp, to a member. The winner this year was Patty Marmarelli. CONGRATULATIONS SISTER MARMARELLI!

50/50 \$ \$ \$ \$ 50/50

The 50/50 was won by member Mike Duff. \$918.00 was collected. Brother Duff's share was \$459.00. Brother Duff donated \$100.00 back to the Chapter. Thank you, Brother!

DONATIONS

There were other donations to the Chapter by Gene Smith, \$20.00, and the Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council - Harriet Ellenberger, \$30.00. The Chapter thanks you for your support.

SHUT-IN LIST ~ Robert Gesk 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.)