



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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POLITICAL REALITY

It is an understatement to note that national politics are in a state not witnessed before in our life time! Under our administration of the Chapter, and for more than 20 years before that under our administration of the Pittsburgh Metro Area Local, we witnessed the progressive decline of the political scene. The antics of the previous national administration and the current House Of Representatives deterioration, should give retirees on Medicare or receive Social Security, concern. Some members, and spouses, are very heavy users of Medicare, including this writer. The very first thing the new House majority announced was the intent to take a serious whack at these life and death benefits. No guess work or deep analysis is required to see the dangers we are faced with. They put those threats in stark black letter announcements. These benefits, that we earned through our labor, are threatened. This is the dilemma in which we retirees find ourselves..

COPA

The Union, our Union, the APWU, is very active in the political arena. We have the Legislative/Political Department at National Headquarters that has an able staff conversant in the issues important, if not critical, to retirees. AND THEY ARE OUT THERE FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT, BUT THEY CAN'T DO THE JOB ALONE. Here is how we can help.

One component where we can help is fund raising through C O P A, the Union Committee On Political Action. You may not be aware that the C O P A Committee has been very forthcoming in support of our local political candidates. We frequently communicate with the Legislative/Political Department and the C O P A Committee at election time. We have asked for financial help for candidates like Senator John Fetterman, Congressman Connor Lamb, and others. And they have delivered for us to the max.

Supporting C O P A is very easy. On the reverse of this newsletter we have included a copy of the form for your consideration and an envelope to return it the Chapter. Completing the form only takes a few minutes. Several contribution ranges from as low as \$2.00 and up provides a painless method for our support. The Union and The Chapter provides a wide range of services for you. Our publication of a monthly or more frequent newsletters, and the two huge holiday and mid-summer blasts meetings every year are examples of Chapter services available for you. Massive events such as the Staple demonstrations and other 'outside' activities are provided for your participation. I dare say that our Chapter leads and is an example for others to emulate.

While we all are in the same boat with lower incomes and facing the maladies that come with aging, we can't imagine that we can't pitch in a few bucks when those bucks will be used to protect and advance our well being. Nuff said! For those who have contributed in the past and are continuing to support C O P A, we can't thank you enough. (National will not provide your identity despite that we asked for the list of Chapter donors many times.)

(over)

CONTRIBUTE TO APWU COPA

The Committee on Political Action

The benefits you have earned including your annuity and health insurance are not safe. Congress can reduce or eliminate these essential benefits, and has shown an interest in doing so.

The APWU is committed to continuing the fight to protect your rights and benefits, even after you retire. This is a top priority of our organization, along with protecting postal jobs and preserving the USPS as a public service. To continue the fight, we need your help!

YES! I want to contribute to APWU COPA, the union's Committee on Political Action, directly from my OPM retirement check. After all, as a retiree, Congress' votes can determine my future!



COPA CONTRIBUTION

(Check One)

\$2/month \$5/month \$10/month Other: \$ _____/month

Checking one of the above boxes authorizes OPM to deduct my COPA contribution from my retirement check each month.

Authorizing Signature

Date

REMOVE HERE

REMOVE HERE

REMOVE HERE

(Please note: The Chapter will add your address.)

WHY COPA? WHY NOW?

The next election, which will be critical for retirees, is right around the corner next year. The House Of Representatives and several Senate seats will be up for grabs, as well as the office of President. It behooves us to prepare for the onslaught NOW. There will be many forces at work against retiree interests. We must prepare and be ready to take on our adversaries and be victorious.

Unions are prohibited by law to contribute to candidates or political parties. COPA was created as a means to legally raise resources by APWU members who voluntarily contribute to the fund. Money has been described as The Mother's Milk Of Politics. One could not miss seeing the tremendous number of expensive television commercials not to mention the flood of mail sent to our homes, last election, also at a tremendous cost. To compete in elections these days costs a pretty penny. We hope you are convinced to support COPA.

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.)