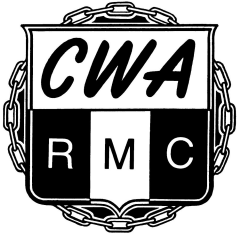


**Report of the Retired
Members' Council to the
77h CWA Convention**

Las Vegas, NV
July 29 -31, 2019



CWA Retired Members' Council

501 3rd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-2797
rmc@cwa-union.org cwaretirees.org

The CWA Retired Members' Council (RMC) plays an important role in our Union, maintaining contact with retired members and giving them a voice in their union and in their nation. The RMC also tries to support our local union brothers and sisters to enhance their power in bargaining, mobilizing, legislative and political action campaigns.

The Council continues to grow in size and influence

- The RMC has over 52,000 members after our audit of membership to remove whose lifetime membership had expired. We have seen an increase of more than 2,500 since the last Convention.
- The RMC now has 227 chapters, covering every CWA district and sector in nearly every state, Washington, DC and Puerto Rico. Four chapters have been added since the last Convention. Two chapters have closed. Chapters range in size from less than 5 to more than 2500. 60% of our members are directly affiliated with a local chapter.
- The RMC's website, www.cwaretirees.org, includes timely features on issues affecting retirees, instructions on becoming a member of the RMC and how to locate a retiree chapter nearby. The website also provides links to allied organizations such as the Alliance for Retired Americans, which has both a national organization with state affiliates in many states.
- The RMC has an active presence on Facebook, sharing useful news and information and tapping retirees' growing interest in online activities. The page has garnered over 9,600 "Facebook likes", expressions of support from readers.
- In the fall of 2016 the RMC began to publish "Grey Matters" an occasional electronic newsletter that goes out to more than 13,000 email addresses.
- Beginning in the summer of 2017, we began to publish a retiree column in the News Guild Reporter.

Activities of the Council and Chapters: Retirees support the union in bargaining, mobilizing, organizing, legislative and political action.

- **SERVICE TO RETIREES:**
 - We work with retirees to resolve benefit issues and represent their views when changes in benefits are contemplated by their former employers.



CWA Retired Members' Council

501 3rd Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001-2797

rmc@cwa-union.org cwaretirees.org

- **POLITICAL ORGANIZING:**
 - We participate in every election to educate and mobilize retirees in all CWA districts and sectors to support candidates fighting for working families and retirees.
 - A Growth Fund grant has brought energetic organizers to four states where they have leveraged active chapter membership to build and strengthen political volunteering and fundraising.
 - Chapters registered new voters and phone-banked to get out the vote for local, regional and national candidates in the 2016 election and we expect to be active again in 2020.
 - Retirees have called, visited and written to their Members of Congress and other elected officials on issues important to the union such as health care, trade, voting rights and collective bargaining rights.
- **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING:**
 - RMC members support of CWA bargaining teams at contract rallies, picket lines and shareholder meetings.

In addition to organizing more local, regional and state chapters, increasing the membership in existing chapters, and strengthening the union, the RMC's seeks to:

- Engage retired CWA members in the ongoing fight for retirement security, economic justice and democracy.
- Grow retirees' participation in the CWA Political Action Fund.
- Work with the Alliance for Retired Americans and other retiree and community-based allies at the national, state and local level for social justice for seniors.