



**Report of the Retired  
Members' Council to the  
79th CWA Convention**

St. Louis, MO  
July 10 - 12, 2023



## **CWA Retired Members' Council**

501 Third Street NW, Washington, DC 20001-2797  
rmc@cwa-union.org [www.cwaretirees.org](http://www.cwaretirees.org)

Good Morning Brothers and Sisters,

I'm Judy Fries, President of RMC for District 7 retirees.

Once upon a time we were all active working members fighting for the benefits you now have. In retirement we continue that fight alongside of you.

With your support we continue to grow. We have over 60,000 Lifetime members, an increase of over 1,000 since the last convention. We have 224 Chapters covering almost every state.

When members retire, we need to encourage them to join the RMC and tell them why it is so important to continue to band together even during our retirement. We cannot put away our union card, sit back and reap the rewards and benefits of a long career.

We want **ALL CWA** retirees to join as LT members – so we can reach out to them, so they are better informed and make sure they are aware of their benefits. **We want all retirees to get the facts directly from CWA and not from other sources.**

Your Local can benefit enormously from active retiree chapters and we encourage you to support the work of the council in several ways.

1. Give the gift of the Lifetime membership to the retiring member. It is a one-time fee of \$25 per retiree.
2. Create a retiree chapter in your local if you do not have one.
3. Add a link on your Local website for the retirees.

When we were active members of CWA, we enjoyed the protection and benefits of a strong union committed to negotiating good contracts with safe working conditions, quality benefits and good compensation in exchange for our work. Each of us stood shoulder to shoulder with our brothers and sisters, to get the best contracts we could bargain.

We want to extend and energize CWA Retiree Power throughout our communities. Retiree Chapters are a way to stay connected to the Union for social, political and mobilization purposes, thus giving retirees a voice in matters that affect them.

Retirees are a powerful force in public opinion and voter polls where politicians and corporations understand the power we hold when we are an organized unit speaking with one voice.

## Our membership determines our strength

Active Retiree Chapters increase our power as retirees. Chapters are our main venue for keeping our retirees informed.

Retirees have a wealth of knowledge and experience, and we want to channel that for the betterment of all of us. We continue to gear up for bargaining with all the companies we support. We stand ready to help you.

Our brochure for CWA Retirees is "**When we Fight, We Win**". I'm hoping all Locals will order them to talk about in their union meetings and hand out when members retire.

Bottom line is:

We are Union!

We are Family!

We are Proud!

When we **Fight, We Win!**

In Solidarity,

Thank you,  
Judy Fries, President RMC District 7