

Building Retiree POWER

WA retired members played a big role in last year's elections. And continuing to enlist their activism is vital to winning our key political goals: health and retirement security for all of us, and a stronger union movement.

It means both increasing the ranks of our national Retired Members Council and also building more and stronger Local Retiree Chapters, to extend and energize CWA retiree power throughout our communities.

Council Membership — The Crucial First Step

CWA's retiree program today is based on first signing up retirees as lifetime members to the Council for a very reasonable one-time-only payment of \$25. That gives us a sustained and growing network of retiree activists, and also the legal ability to communicate with them on political issues. (Participation in the Council is no longer dependent on members renewing annual Local Chapter memberships, and members don't lose touch with CWA if a Chapter were to fold.)

At the same time, as we urge newly retired members to sign up for the Council, CWA encourages their participation in Retiree Chapters. The Council shares its growing member list with the Chapters so that you, the Chapter leaders, can reach out to organize them. And in turn, the Chapters are asked to return updated membership data to the Council on a quarterly basis to keep our mailing lists current.

Working Together to Build Our Action Network

Local Chapter leaders are an important part of our program to build a strong action network. Newly retired CWA members in your community will listen to you when you explain that Council and Chapter membership puts them "in the loop" to hear from us about important issues and ways they can have a voice in legislative and bargaining efforts that impact their lives.

Please reach out and turn non-members into lifetime members. The Council is currently 43,000 strong, but our goal is to reach 50,000 this year. Help us meet that goal as we build a mighty force for change — *CWA retiree POWER*.