

## TALKING POINTS

### For Local, State, Retiree Chapter Officers and Shop Stewards

*Below are some ideas we hope you will share with retiring union members to encourage them to join the APWU Retirees Department. Thank you!*

- Your union dues stop once you retire. To remain a member of the APWU, you must complete an application.
- Union dues for retirees are considerably lower than dues for members who are on the Postal Service rolls. Dues for retirees are just \$3 per month or \$36 per year. Your union recognizes that retirees are on a fixed income.
- The APWU will continue to be your voice on Capitol Hill, and to do so, *we need your support!* The benefits you have earned – including your annuity, cost-of-living adjustments, and health insurance – are not safe. Congress can reduce or eliminate these essential benefits – and some politicians are advocating tampering with them right now!
- Continuing your membership in the APWU is the best way to protect your rights. It allows you to remain active and to contribute to COPA, the union's Committee on Political Action.
- We need all members, including retirees, to send a message to Congress:
  - *Save America's Postal Service*
  - *Protect Postal Jobs and Benefits – Including Benefits for Retirees*
  - *Stop Cuts to Social Security and Medicare*
  - *Improve the Standard of Living for Families in Need of Assistance*
- To retain your coverage with the APWU Health Plan, you must continue your APWU membership. To remain eligible for discounts offered by Union Plus, and for coverage by the Accident Benefits Association, or the Voluntary Benefits Plan, you must be a member.
- Members of the APWU Retirees Department automatically receive \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance coverage through the Voluntary Benefits Plan – at no cost.
- Retiree members stay connected to the union by receiving the APWU bimonthly magazine, *The American Postal Worker*, and periodically receiving pertinent information.
- Retiree members receive educational information on subjects related to aging and improving their quality of life, as well as discounts through Union Plus.

**Join the APWU Retirees Department today!**