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• COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA AFL-CIO •  
**LOCAL 13000 NEWS**  
• THE UNION FOR THE INFORMATION AGE •

**Journal of  
Local 13000  
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**Message from the President**

**A**s the seasons begin to change across the state we are hopeful that our endorsed candidates in this year's general elections will change the make-up of politics heading into 2019. For far too long the gerrymandering that occurred in Pennsylvania has corrupted the integrity of our Congressional Districts. Our voice has been manipulated for years in Congress and the recent Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision will finally provide for a more honest election of a candidate to represent the Districts across the state.



Our friend and current Governor seeks re-election for his 2nd term and we look for him to continue the excellent work he has been doing for working men and women in the state.

Senator Casey, who is also a good friend of the CWA, is also seeking another 6 year term in the Senate to represent the residents of the state in Washington D.C. where his work on behalf of labor is impeccable.

The outcomes here will be very important going forward, since the recent appointments to the Supreme Court and the body's entire makeup quite very well will have their foot on organized labor's throat for the next 30-40 years.

Many on this court do not respect nor do they side with working men and women having a voice and representation in the workplace. These

cases mask the real issue with an underlying theme like "fair share" or "paycheck protection", but as we all know these are just baby step to systematically dismantling labor unions across this country in order to destroy the wages, benefits and working conditions that we have fought so hard to improve and protect for decades.

Just about all of us have walked a picket line either for ourselves or with our brothers and sisters from other labor organizations to protect or improve our quality of life in the country. That same quality of life that can be taken away with the stroke of a pen from the Supreme Court or one of the country's other legislative bodies.

If you don't believe me open up your Collective Bargaining Agreement with your employer and you will see some language that give the Courts or Federal and State Law the ability to rewrite the contract to conform to the law or decision.

We will continue to face these attacks unless some changes in the legislature are made in this country and right here in our state House and Senate.

Just imagine in Pennsylvania if one of the different de-regulation bills had gone to the floor for a vote and been voted in while the former Governor Corbett was in office. Not only would several of our employers have walked away from consumers and the traditional land lines available to residents

*(continued on page 2)*



## Message from the President

(continued from page 1)

of rural Pennsylvania, but the current PUC settlement to upgrade, repair, and replace poor plant conditions for consumers would never have come to fruition.

The impact and turn-around of that alone potentially could have impacted tens of thousands of work hours and would have prevented increased employment opportunities that we are currently seeing today throughout Pennsylvania.

My point for bringing all of this up is that too many times we tell you what to expect should a decision not go our way or what to expect from a particular candidate should he or she be elected or if a decision doesn't go our way. Well in this case not only did we defeat what we knew would be bad for our membership (de-regulation), we also opened up the door for the regulatory body in the state to hold Verizon accountable for poor plant conditions right here at home. Accountability that no doubt would have been overlooked had a de-regulation bill passed and consumer access to communication services destroyed.

Hopefully this article can bring some things full circle for you when you wonder why we put so much time and emphasis into discussing the importance of politics and the role it plays in the work that we may or may not have access to now and in the future.

Since this will be our last article for the year I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. ■

*In Unity,*



**James J. Gardler**  
**President CWA Local 13000**

## IN MEMORIAM

**Pauline H. Austeri-Retiree**

Unit 240, Branch 01  
Deceased

**John E. Bienia-Retiree**

Unit 57, Branch 02  
Deceased

**John A. Bogus-Retiree**

Unit 59, Branch 02  
Deceased April 21, 2018

**Frederick J. Bracco-Retiree**

Unit 41, Branch 04  
Deceased June 20, 2018

**Ralph D. Chianelli-Retiree**

Unit 54, Branch 02  
Deceased September 20, 2016

**Linda A. Flood-Retiree**

Unit 25, Branch 07  
Deceased October 15, 2018

**Ray M. Freeman-Retiree**

Unit 11, Branch 4  
Deceased September 24, 2018

**Anna M. Grippo-Retiree**

Unit 240, Branch 01  
Deceased June 8, 2018

**Michael P. Hammond-Retiree**

Unit 15, Branch 06  
Deceased October 04, 2018

**Dorothy S. Hickey-Retiree**

Unit 240, Branch 07  
Deceased January 22, 2018

**John S. Horn, Jr.-Retiree**

Unit 57, Branch 03  
Deceased April 24, 2018

**Charles McPoland-Retiree**

Unit 42, Branch 04  
Deceased January 26, 2018

**Carl H. Nelson-Retiree**

Unit 57, Branch 03  
Deceased June 22, 2018

**David Quinlan-Retiree**

Unit 41, Branch 03  
Deceased August 05, 2018

**William L. Swanson-Retiree**

Unit 56, Branch 03  
Deceased June 7, 2018

**Ronald F. Welch-Retiree**

Unit 56, Branch 03  
Deceased May 10, 2018

**MacArthur A. Zeigler-Retiree**

Unit 1, Branch 1  
Deceased September 14, 2018

**Harold L. Zimmerman-Retiree**

Unit 32, Branch 01  
Deceased March 14, 2018



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CWA Local 13000 Executive Office  
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### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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*Vice President, Western Region*

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**James J. Gardler, Editor** **Elaine Bell, Assistant Editor**



## Grey Matters RAY BUNTING

### THE THIRD RAIL



**G**ood news! In 2019 we are projected to get a 2.8% raise in Social security benefits! This would be an average of \$39.00 per month or \$468.00 per year. This is the largest cost of living adjustment (COLA) in seven years. This is good news for all retirees.

We live in better financial times than our parents. The Social Security Act was enacted August 14, 1935 in Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first term as President of the United States during the "Great Depression" when poverty rates among senior citizens were over 50%. Over the years since, several amendments have been passed and gradually more people are covered and the benefit has increased. President Roosevelt was the first President to advocate federal assistance for the elderly.

The Supreme Court has established that no one has any legal right to Social Security benefits in *Flemming v. Nestor* (1960) that "entitlement to Social Security benefits is not a contractual right." They defended the decision with a long statement in complicated legalese that to make a long story short justified the decision. Fleming was a Bulgarian immigrant who made contributions for the statutorily required "quarters of coverage" and was nonetheless denied benefits after being deported in 1956 for being a member of the Communist party. The Supreme Court has been responsible for many major changes in the Social Security System and has adjusted according to conditions in each decade. The 1960 *Flemming v. Nestor* decision may be part of why Social Security benefits are referred to as "entitlements."

During the 1950s and 1960s Congress was able to grant generous benefit increases, because the system had perpetual short-run surpluses. By the early 1980s, the program flirted with immediate insolvency! From this point on Social Security changes would mean tax increases or benefits reduction, Social Security became known as the "Third Rail of American Politics." Touching it meant political death!

The reason for the change was, when it started Social Security had more people paying in than collecting, during the 1980s more people were getting benefits than people paying into the system. To combat the declining financial outlook, in 1977

Congress passed and President Carter signed legislation altering the tax formulas to raise more money, increasing withholding from 2% to 6.15%. With these changes, President

Carter remarked, "Now this legislation will guarantee that from 1980 to the year 2030, the social security funds will be sound." This turned out not to be the case. The financial picture declined almost immediately and by the early 1980s, the system was again in crisis.

After the 1977 amendments, the economic assumptions surrounding Social Security projections continued to be overly optimistic as the program moved toward a crisis! Two things made matters worse, prices went up while wages did not and unemployment levels went higher both meant less income for the Social Security fund. The National Commission on Social Security Reform (NCSSR) chaired by Alan Greenspan was created to address the crisis in 1983. Amendments to the SSA were based on the NCSSR's final report. Not all of them were adopted. A provision to exclude the Social Security Trust Fund from the unified budget (to take it "off budget") was not adopted so Social Security is still in the Unified Budget. Some of the other provisions were adopted in the hope that the Social Security trust fund would be solvent when the "baby boomers" came of age to collect. An increase in the payroll tax was accelerated; additional employees were added to the system, the full-benefit retirement age was slowly increased, and up to one-half of the value of the Social Security benefit was made potentially taxable income.

I have hope that some good decisions are made regarding retirees both with Social Security and health care. American workers deserve a secure retirement and health care as good as any country in the world. ■

*Yours Fraternaly,*

**Ray Bunting**  
**President RMC13021**



## PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT TO 77TH CONVENTION

Amendment: 1) Amend Article 13, Section 6

**FROM:**

**Existing Language Article 13, Section 6:**

### ARTICLE 13 FUNDS AND EXPENSES

#### Section 6: Surplus Funds

Surplus funds shall be invested prudently with at least 50 percent of such funds in insured investments. Such funds shall not be invested in any foreign government and/or institution. All such funds shall be invested in American (USA) institutions.

**TO:**

**Proposed Change:**

**Amend Article 13, Section: 6 to read as follows:**

### ARTICLE 13 FUNDS AND EXPENSES

#### Section 6: Surplus Funds

Surplus funds shall be invested **prudently** with ~~at least 50 percent of such funds in insured investments~~ **a primary focus on stability and principal protection. A minimum of 50 percent of such funds shall be invested in investment grade fixed income securities or direct obligations of the US Government.** Such funds shall not be invested in any foreign government and/or institution. All such funds shall be invested in American (USA) institutions, **direct obligations of the US Government or securities backed by or insured by the US Government.**

**INTENT:** The suggested change would allow for a wider range of high quality investments while still maintaining a conservative asset allocation of 50% in fixed income securities. This change will allow the investment manager greater flexibility to seek higher long term returns while also investing the funds in a conservative portfolio of American institutions and US government obligations.

**SUBMITTED BY:** CWA LOCAL 13000 EXECUTIVE BOARD



**MESSAGE FROM RETIRED WESTERN REGION VICE-PRESIDENT TOM CRAWFORD**



I have been a proud member of Local 13000 since 1988. I have served this fine Union in nearly every union capacity, job steward, Rep, Unit VP, and Unit President, before being elected to a full time position as the Executive Vice President in 2005. I was elected to my most enjoyable position in 2008 as the West Region Vice President. I mention that so you understand that I was very fortunate to have a great career. Making many friends, both past and present Local Executive Board members, District 2-13 leaders, Unit officers and of course the many members that I have grown to know in all these

years. It has been a pleasure and an honor each and every day to represent you the members.

As many of you know, due to my ongoing health issues and increased doctor visits, I made a very hard decision to retire a few months ago. This decision was made easier by the current Executive Board. The leadership and support that they provide to the membership and Unit Councils let me feel comfortable that you are all in good hands. With the addition of Greg Bialek as West Region Vice President I am confident that all of your issues will be handled timely and efficiently.

I want to stay involved as much as my health allows. I'm looking forward to assisting in any way I can. So, I'll be available to offer my help to anyone who needs it whether it is a simple question, a talk at a membership meeting, a political walk or phone bank.

The Executive Boards, Officers, members, Retirees, and the office staff, have all contributed to an enjoyable career. I want to thank each of you individually for helping me throughout my time here but, if I listed all of you, there would be no room for anything else in this magazine.

Thank you all! And I hope to see each of you sometime in the future. ■

**In Unity,**

**Tom Crawford**

## The Local Buzz The Local Buzz The Local Buzz



*Report of Executive  
Vice President,  
Jeff Reamer*

### VERIZON

**D**espite the reluctance we've continued to see at the Labor Relations level to settle our many outstanding grievances when presented, the volume of new unnecessary and unjust disciplines we are used to seeing from this Company has significantly reduced. At the recent Working Relations meeting held between the Union and Verizon's VP Yoli Stancil on October 23, 2018, she again outlined the Company's new Performance Plus plan aimed at opening the lines of communication between management and associate, as well as those between the Union and the Company. While its not perfect and we have circumstances in specific areas that seem to not adhere to this new direction, the overall atmosphere in most locations, at least on the network side, seems to be improving. With the evidence of the recent shake-up in management, the staffing of more than 504 OPTs on the payroll for an extended period and the ability to work through and reach an agreement on offering our Term Service Techs the ability to be reclassified to regular full time, we are hopeful that this new trend will continue to provide positive results. Nonetheless, members should continue to report issues occurring in the workplace to Union officials to be addressed. ■

### AT&T MOBILITY

**O**ctober 30, 2018 marks the final day on the payroll for those remaining SSR's that declined the offer to move to the RSC title as a result of the Company's surplus declaration and elimination of the SSR title nationwide. We wish all those members choosing to leave the best of luck in their future endeavors and remind them that this Union is a phone

call away should the need exist to organize their new workplaces. Many of our SSRs who are leaving held Union Representative positions in their specific Branches and their exit opens up voids that will need to be filled to ensure continued Representation of our membership. Members interested in stepping up to fill these roles should reach out to their respective Unit Presidents.

On the wireless technician side, the small cell maintenance trial that was negotiated in bargaining has begun to be systematically rolled out across the "Orange" footprint and is set to begin in Philadelphia in November. The importance of getting this work back from contractors and into the bargaining unit will be a big factor in terms of job security for our technicians going forward. Technicians should report all issues or roadblocks to Union officials to be addressed with the Company to ensure the success of this trial. ■

### AT&T (Legacy T)

**O**ctober 14, 2018 marks 6 months since expiration that our Legacy T members have been working without a contract. Since the end of August bargaining has been at a complete standstill and mobilization efforts are now taking off across the country. If you believe this Greedy Company will eventually just cave to our demands without your involvement... you are sadly mistaken! If you haven't gotten involved... Get Involved! Reach out to your Local Union officials and find out what you need to do to get involved in this fight. Text "LegT" to 69866 to sign up for bargaining updates and mobilization actions. ■

### NEWTOWN TOWNSHIP

**N**egotiations continue at the bargaining table for our firefighters whose contract is set to expire December 31, 2018. While tentative agreements were attained on several proposals, our key priorities of fair wage increases, retirement security and working hours continue to be the sticking points unresolved at the table. The main roadblock at the table continues to be the Township's Board of Supervisors. Despite sitting on a major surplus in



## The Local Buzz The Local Buzz The Local Buzz

funds and the continued lucrative financial state of the Township, this Board continues its retrogressive stance towards its firefighters. At the last bargaining meeting the Township declined the Union's revised proposals aimed at reaching a full tentative agreement on all issues. The Union has now placed all of our original proposals back on the table and has rejected the Township's proposals. While bargaining is set to continue, our optimism of reaching an agreement outside of the binding arbitration process is now skeptical at best. Updates will be relayed to the membership as bargaining continues. ■

### AMERICAN RED CROSS

**T**he coalition of Unions and the Red Cross have entered into an agreement to extend the existing agreement until November 9, 2018 to allow the parties to complete local negotiations as well as the ratification process surrounding the tentative agreement reached on the National Addendum back on August 30, 2018. Also in the agreement is the provision that if ratified, the economic provisions of the new agreement will be retroactive back to October 1, 2018. Our Local 13000 ratification process was completed back on October 5, 2018 and those results will be added to the final tally of all Coalition ratification results. Updates will be relayed to the membership as events unfold. ■

### WINDSTREAM

**B**argaining is set to resume on November 5, 2018 in Carnegie, Pa for all our Unit 103 members fighting for a fair contract. As we approach the November 9th deadline of the extension agreement reached in previous bargaining sessions, your bargaining team remains committed to settle for nothing less than a fair contract. Updates on upcoming bargaining will be relayed to the membership through Union officials.

On another note, A conference call was held between the Company and all the CWA Locals in the Windstream footprint on October 19, 2018 regarding the "Dispatch Me" app that the Company plans to roll out by the end of the year. Among the various issues

raised by the Union on the call, the safety concerns over technician's pictures as well as their first and last name being provided over the app to customers took the forefront. The Company has assured us that the pictures are strictly voluntary and that technicians can opt out of having their picture used in the app. We are waiting on the Company for the answers to their re-evaluation of using the technicians last name. Regardless, we have already notified the Company that we demand bargaining over the app itself and this issue will be addressed in our upcoming bargaining in November. Updates on the Company's plan going forward will be relayed as events unfold. ■

### RS BELLCO CREDIT UNION

**P**reparations are in full swing for the upcoming bargaining for our RS Bellco members in Unit 54 whose contract is set to expire on December 31, 2018. Bargaining surveys have been sent to the membership and will be collected and tallied in our upcoming pre-bargaining membership meeting. Notice has been sent to the Credit Union of our intent to begin bargaining. Your bargaining team will be setting our agenda based on the results of those bargaining surveys collected. Upcoming bargaining dates will be relayed to the membership once scheduled. Members should keep in contact with Union officials for updates and actions needed. ■

### A Personal Holiday Message

I would like to extend my sincerest wishes to both you and your families for a Safe and Happy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. It has again been my pleasure to work with and for all of you over this past year and I look forward to continuing our fight to ensure the advancement of our working families in 2018.

*Happy Holidays,*

**Jeff Reamer**  
Executive Vice President Local 13000

**WESTERN REGION UNIT PRESIDENTS**

Unit 31	Dan Long	Unit 57	Bob Gourdie
Unit 32	Mike Reeder	Unit 59	Andy Miller
Unit 35	Tony D'Angelo	Unit 101	Joe Kopac
Unit 41	(vacant)	Unit 103	Pat Catalano
Unit 42	James Stiffey	Unit 104	Vic Shaffer
Unit 43	Troy Scott	Unit 111	Jaytricia Tremel
Unit 44	Dave Hoskowitz	Unit 115	Mark Onofrey
Unit 54	Scott Efferin	Unit 116	Jack Follmer
Unit 56	Mike Corignani	Unit 119	Jamie Fetterman

**Western Region**



**T**o start, I would like to thank everyone for participating in the election process and electing me as your new Western Region Vice President. Throughout this election, it was a pleasure to meet some of you and I look forward to meeting the rest of you at membership and council meetings.

The contract for the American Red Cross has been ratified. It was a long and hard fight for the bargaining team. This was a good contract for the members with NO GIVE BACKS. The members received wage increases, benefit improvements, along with other key improvements. I would like to thank each and every one of you for sticking together throughout this fight for a fair contract.

Our fight with Windstream is ongoing. Bargaining will resume the first full week of November. The company is fighting us over every detail of the contract. Windstream has agreed to extend the current contract until November 9, 2018. Even though some issues have tentatively been achieved with gains in bereavement, inclement weather, discipline, seniority, half day vacations and scheduling, there are still many MAJOR hurdles to be cleared including healthcare and wages. Please make sure to support your local bargaining team and stay united.

R-S Bellco Federal Credit Union bargaining will begin shortly. Bargaining surveys have been mailed out to the membership. We will be meeting with these members to discuss their concerns. This contract will expire on December 31, 2018.

Comcast South Hills Sales Consultants also have their contract expiring December 31, 2018. We have already had discussions with these members and have mailed out bargaining surveys. We will fight to obtain good working conditions and wages for all of these members.

My goal as Western Region Vice President is to keep providing all members with good jobs, good and safe working conditions while keeping all the companies accountable and making sure they follow the contracts. We need to defend all contracts with the best of our abilities and make sure that all grievances are properly and timely filed to defend all members. I will be in constant communication with all Unit Councils to keep abreast of all issues the members are facing within the Units.

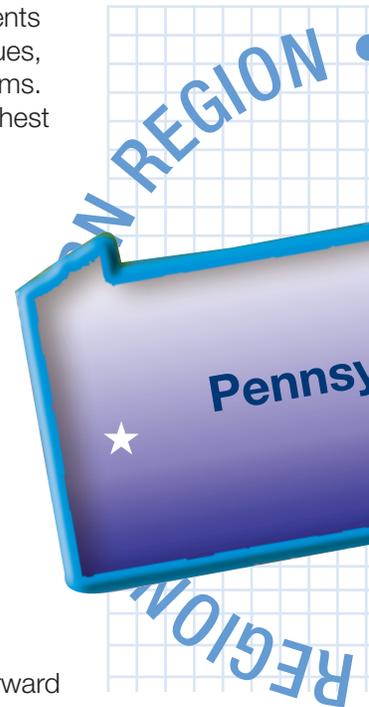
In this position, I have already held meetings with Verizon Vice Presidents for discussions about vacation issues, lateral transfer issues and other items. We will continue to work at the highest levels to get issues resolved to the benefit of the members.

I would like to take a moment to congratulate Tom Crawford on his retirement. Working with Tom directly over the past four plus years has been a great learning experience for me. Tom has shared his vast knowledge of all contracts that are the responsibility of the Western Region. This has been very educational for me. I wish him well in his future endeavors.

I am honored to be your Western Region Vice President and look forward to working with all of you. ■

*In Unity,*

**Gregg Bialek**  
**Western Region Vice President**



## EASTERN REGION UNIT PRESIDENTS

Unit 1	Tom Romantini	Unit 23	Bill Scott
Unit 11	Jaime Schools	Unit 25	Harry Arnold
Unit 13	Charlie Butz	Unit 33	Craig Brasten
Unit 14	Orland Jones	Unit 34	Tom Schank, Jr
Unit 15	Chris Wackerman	Unit 37	Nathaniel Evanetz
Unit 21	Joe Kincade, Jr.	Unit 211	Wynnetta Ward
Unit 22	Joe Peruggia		

# CWALOCAL13000NEWS



## Eastern Region



**T**he company declared a Long Term Service Difficulty (LTSD) for both the Eastern and Central Operating Areas during the month of September. This declaration lasted three weeks, with the third week involving just the Bloomsburg (Central) and

Lehigh (Eastern) Areas. The only portion of the Central Operating Area in the Eastern Region is the Scranton, Wilkes Barre & East Stroudsburg Areas. To date, there has not been any LTSD's called for Philadelphia this year. To be clear, any time that an LTSD is called in an operating area, whether it is for a single location or the entire area, the company is still charged with one of the ten that they can use for that area. Additionally, if it is called for 1 day it is still considered one of the ten weeks. Their most recent declaration is proof, because it began on a Friday in areas scattered through Central and Eastern Operating Areas, and it continued for three weeks with certain areas dropping off along the way.

The Eastern Region Office has filed a grievance in response to the most recent LTSD so that the company can provide an answer to the true purpose of why it was called. It is the belief of the Union that there are alternative solutions prior to forcing people to work against their will. The most evident being that they can ask the union to help secure volunteers in accordance with the CBA. Furthermore, the company does not always utilize the "all hands on deck" approach making it frustrating for employees. If there is

a need to lift the overtime caps in areas, then a logistical approach to covering the work should be administered.

All grievances that involve HR related issues such as staffing, promotion bypasses, wage credit issues, worker's comp or other benefit related matters as well as all grievances heard at the Labor Relations level (excluding terminations) will be mailed to the bulletin board caretakers so that they can be viewed by the membership in work locations. This has been done in the past and it is my belief that it is important to see grievances throughout the area so that we can all become aware of matters in the region.

The most recent list of term employees on the payroll provided by the company has dwindled considerably from recent years. Now that Service Technicians have been reclassified to regular full-time, the remaining term employees in the Eastern Region consist of Outside Plant Technicians (OPT) and Assistant Technicians. It is our goal to have every term employee to have the opportunity to become reclassified.

We were able to partner with a Union supplier that will dropship our products, so now members have the opportunity to purchase CWA Local 13000 haberdashery online through our website. This can be accomplished by going on the CWA website, [www.cwalocal13000.org](http://www.cwalocal13000.org) and obtaining a password in the "Member Login Request" section so that you can access the link.

Finally, as we close out the 2018 year, I would like to wish each and everyone a safe and healthy holiday season and a Happy New Year. ■

*In Unity,*

**Richard R. Dezzi**  
*Eastern Region Vice President*





Marisa MacCrory  
Secretary-Treasurer

## REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

### Community Services Fund:

At the end of 2017 the CSF had donated \$18,847.00 to various non-profit organizations. Every donation is the result of a direct request from one of our members with the purpose of supporting our members communities and promoting CWA Local 13000's values. Thank you to everyone who has and continues to donate.

### Union made CWA clothing:

Great news, you can now purchase CWA Local 13000 clothing from our online store at <https://www.cwalocal13000.org/local-13000-store>

### Membership Trends of 2018:

Membership is on the rise for people younger than age 35, according to data from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics. There were almost 400,000 more union members younger than age 35 in 2017 than there were in 2016.

[\(https://qz.com/work/1399288/labor-unions-are-on-the-rise-for-people-under-age-35/\)](https://qz.com/work/1399288/labor-unions-are-on-the-rise-for-people-under-age-35/)

## Updates on the past year

In the previous issue of the magazine, the third quarter financial report of our fiscal year was published. The Union ended the 2017-2018 fiscal year on September 30<sup>th</sup> and we are preparing for our annual audit, and our year end financial report which should be published in this periodical early 2019. The audit is conducted in November and consists of a 13 month time period. It involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

Per our Local Bylaws we are not only required to conduct an audit from an independent auditing firm annually, but also a Membership Audit consisting of one rank and file member from each region. I'd like to thank Brian Marynowitz from Unit 15 Branch 6 and John Crispo from Unit 35 Branch 6 for stepping up and helping the Local fulfill our required Membership Audit this year.

On December 12-14, 2018 CWA Local 13000 will hold its 77th Convention at Hershey, PA where delegates convene biennially to "establish the policies to be followed by the Local Union with the limitations set forth in these Bylaws and Rules and the CWA Constitution."

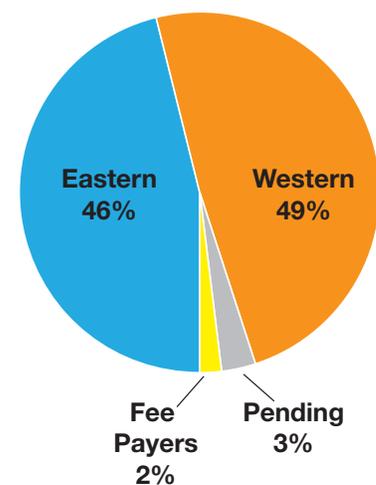
On June 2nd and September 15th I had the opportunity to participate in both the Western and Eastern golf outings. Both had a great turnout, and between both the Local raised \$15,000 respectively for both the Community Services Fund and Fox Chase Cancer Research Center.

In May 2018, we were able to reconcile all Membership Relief Funds from the 2016 Verizon Strike, finally closing the books on expenses resulting from that strike.

### Membership Totals

East: 2251 West: 2420  
Pending: 160 Fee Payers: 71

### Membership as of September 30, 2018



## WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

Marisa MacCrory, Moderator

Wynnetta Ward (Unit 211 President)

Jaytricia Tremel (Unit 111 President)

Daisey Ellerby (Unit 34 VP)

Dana Bialek (Unit 54 VP)



## CWA LOCAL 13000 WOMEN'S VIEW

**T**he Women's Committee would like to thank the members, retirees, family and friends of CWA Local 13000 for their generous donations for our 1st statewide donation drive.

The women's committee has dedicated their efforts to help other women within our local communities. Without your support, we would not have been able to provide much needed supplies to three shelters across the state. During the drive, we collected not only items needed but gift cards and monetary donations used to purchase additional items these shelters are in dire need of. The three shelters chosen as recipients of your generous donations are listed below.

Women Against Abuse serves over 13,000 individuals each year in Philadelphia through direct services, education, outreach and advocacy. This shelter serves a diverse population of survivors of domestic violence and the community at large. The majority of the clients receiving assistance earn below federal poverty guidelines. Some of the programs provided include safe haven, legal aid and transitional housing. Many of these women are leaving their situation with just the shirt on their back and with your donations we are providing them with items necessary for survival.

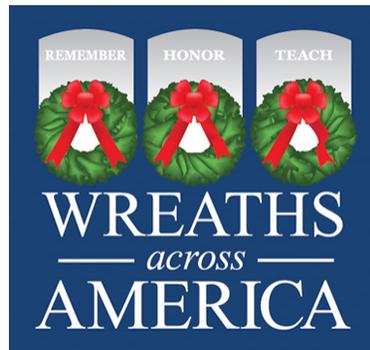
The Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County is located in New Castle, PA serving victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, other serious crimes, older victims of any crime, as well as services to human trafficking victims, while working to prevent violence and abuse through prevention education, intervention training and public awareness. This shelter serves nearly 1,500 victims/survivors annually welcoming anyone in need of assistance. Your donations will help survivors and victims' obtain needed services to move forward with their lives.

Family Services, Inc. is located in Altoona, PA which helps homeless men, women and children. This shelter has case management services to assist in job training, employment, social service and appropriate housing. They also provide new direction for people to start a new journey in their lives. Your donations will help this shelter make a better tomorrow for an individual's life and help set them on the right path of success.

Without your generous donations, we would not have been able to help so many individuals in need within our community. This donation drive has enabled the Women's Committee to educate, inspire and empower women in our community through these shelters. We feel incorporating the labor movement into our communities will give women the encouragement they need to be successful in their careers. We would like to continue collecting items for future donations, please contact your representative or regional office to drop off additional items. ■

## CWA LOCAL 13000 VETERANS COMMITTEE

PLEASE JOIN US ON  
NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2018

ALL CEREMONIES START AT NOON

In many homes, there is an empty seat for one who is serving or one who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. Please join CWA Veterans Committee and friends at any of the more than 1,400 participating locations done simultaneously in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. On Saturday, December 15, 2018, help us show our veterans and their families that we will not forget. We will **never** forget.

It takes many hands and hearts placing a wreath on each veterans grave to carry out this mission of honoring our brave service men and women. Save the date on your calendars and bring your family and friends to a location nearest you. Contact your regional office to coordinate participation or to find a specific location go to:

[www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org)

### Special Reminder

**Donations for phone cards for our dedicated troops serving overseas.**  
Please be generous to our troops by enabling them to stay in touch with their families.  
Especially for the upcoming holidays with your **“Gift of Conversation.”**

**Thank you for your Support**

**CWA LOCAL 13000 VETERANS COMMITTEE**

**Brian Berry**

Eastern Region office: 215-561-1321

**Vic Shaffer**

Western Region office: 412-429-9292



## CWA LOCAL 13000 POLITICAL ACTION

Local 13000 and District 2-13 staff volunteer to work on upcoming General Elections in Pennsylvania.



## Joe Beirne Foundation Scholarship Program



### ABOUT THE SCHOLARSHIP

Sixteen partial college scholarships of \$4,000 each are being offered for the 2019-2020 school year. Winners, selected in a lottery drawing, also will receive second-year scholarships of the same amount contingent upon satisfactory academic accomplishment. Part-time students, less than 12 credits, will receive half of the scholarship monies.

Eligible for the awards are CWA members and their spouses, children and grandchildren, including those of retired or deceased members.

### ORIGIN

The CWA Joe Beirne Foundation was established in October 1974, by the Communications Workers of America Executive Board to honor the name and memory of the founding President of CWA, who served for more than 30 years. In his capacity as the first CWA President, Joe Beirne took great pride in the roles he played in the fields of education, learning and other areas of social concern. On April 26, 1999, the CWA Executive Board voted to combine the Joseph Anthony Beirne Memorial Foundation and the Ray Hackney Scholarship Fund, thereby creating the CWA Joe Beirne Foundation.

### ELIGIBILITY

CWA members, their spouses, children and grandchildren (including dependents of laid-off, retired or deceased CWA members) may apply. Applicants must be high school graduates or at least high school students who will graduate during the year in which they apply. Undergraduate and graduate students returning to schooling may also apply. Prior winners may not reapply.

### DATES

Applications are accepted during the months of November through April. Final deadline for the 2019-2020 school year is April 30, 2019.

### SELECTIONS

Winners are chosen by lottery drawing and only winners will be notified.

### STUDY REQUIREMENTS

No specific studies are required. Scholarship winners may pursue whatever courses they wish.

### FUNDING

The CWA Joe Beirne Foundation has been built up by voluntary contributions and is self-perpetuating. Contributions and pledges are received from CWA Locals, members and officers.

### APPLICATIONS

Applications should only be submitted through the website:

<http://www.cwa-union.org/pages/beirne>

### Who was Joe Beirne?

Joseph Anthony Beirne is considered CWA's founding leader.

The son of Irish immigrant parents – his dad was a union railroad worker – Beirne grew up in Jersey City, N.J. and went to work in 1927 for Western Electric, the Bell Telephone System's manufacturing arm. With the New Deal labor reforms and passage of the Wagner Act in 1935, Beirne and others were inspired to begin organizing the nation's phone workers.

After the National Federation of Telephone Workers was formed in 1938, the fiery and charismatic Beirne soon ascended to the presidency in 1943 at the age of 32. He set himself the mission of molding this loose federation of autonomous unions into a true international union. That goal, forged in the fires of a tough nationwide strike by 350,000 Bell System workers in 1947, was achieved the following year with creation of the modern Communications Workers of America.

With a strong new national structure and affiliation with the militant CIO in 1949, CWA under Joe Beirne's leadership broadened its organizing focus, grew steadily in numbers and strength, and used an innovative pattern bargaining strategy to raise wage and benefit standards throughout the communications industry. The union also became a leading force in the political and legislative arenas, community services, the civil rights struggle, and global labor affairs.

When Beirne, who was seriously ill, stepped down from the presidency in June of 1974, CWA had become recognized as one of the most dynamic and progressive unions in the world – qualities that also described its leader for more than three decades.

Joe Beirne died on Labor Day 1974. The Joseph A. Beirne Foundation honors his lifelong commitment to education and progressive social causes.



## CWA Local 13000 Scholarship Information



### **UNION PLUS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Applications are available starting middle of June. Complete application must be received on or before 12:00 PM (ET) on January 31st of the year in which the scholarship is awarded.

[www.unionplus.org](http://www.unionplus.org)

### **CWA JOE BEIRNE FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

Online Application forms are accepted during the months of November through April. Final deadline is March 31st of the year in which the scholarship will be awarded.

[www.cwa-union.org](http://www.cwa-union.org)

### **ANNUAL VINCENT & PATRICIA MAISANO LABOR SCHOLARSHIP**

Applications will be accepted during the months of December through March.

- One (1) scholarship, to be paid at the rate of \$1,000.00, will be awarded to an eligible applicant from the District 2-13 Potomac Region.
- One (1) scholarship, to be paid at the rate of \$1,000.000, will be awarded to an eligible applicant from District 2-13 Pennsylvania/Delaware Region.

Final deadline is March 31st of the year in which the scholarship will be awarded.

[www.district2-13.cwa-union.org](http://www.district2-13.cwa-union.org)

### **PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY CONTEST**

Write an essay of topic to the Category in which you are competing. Complete application form with references and submit by January 31st of the year in which the scholarship will be awarded.

[www.paaficio.org](http://www.paaficio.org)



*Wishing the Membership  
of CWA Local 13000  
Our Friends and Your Families  
a Safe and Blessed Season  
and All Good Things in 2019!*

**James J. Gardler, President**  
**Jeff C. Reamer, Executive Vice President**  
**Marisa MacCroy, Secretary-Treasurer**  
**Richard R. Dezzi, Vice President, Eastern Region**  
**Gregg Bialek, Vice President, Western Region**

