

Harriett Weaver ‘retires’ but really?

If you need a prime example of commitment to one’s union...meet Harriett Weaver. Harriett, a 46-year member of Local 655, serving the last 38 of those years as a rank-and-file vice president from National and then Schnucks on the local’s Executive Board, officially “retired” at the Oct. 17 Board meeting.



LIFETIME UFCW 655 MEMBER – Honoring 46 years as a Local 655 member, 38 of them as a rank-and-file Vice President, Harriett Weaver was presented with a framed Lifetime Membership award by President David Cook (right) and Secretary-Treasurer David Politte at last month’s executive board meeting. *– Labor Tribune photo*

resignation letter she reminded Board members: “...our members’ livelihood is in your hands. Do not forget where you come from because someone also looked out for you.” But for Harriett, “retirement” is just a word. She’s not backing away from the Union or her many other commitments to organizations supporting inclusion and fairness. Her total involvement with the Local began in 1977 during the infamous effort by radical right-wing Republicans to force the so-called phony “right-to-work” law on Missourians. A public vote in 1978 defeated it, but that effort enraged Harriett. The minute the “defeat RTW” campaign began, she volunteered...and hasn’t stopped volunteering ever since. It was her commitment and dedication to do whatever was needed in that campaign, that encouraged the Union to invite her to join the Local’s Executive Board. “If you do join,” her Teamster father told her, “You have to take the Union into your heart.” She’s done that ever since, working for a number of national and local organizations including the national UFCW’s Minority Coalition (executive board), The Faces of our Children (executive board), and locally, the NAACP, A. Phillip Randolph (treasurer) and Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (assistant secretary). While never seeking personal recognition, the UFCW Minority Coalition honored her

AN EXCLUSIVE
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REPORT FOR

UFCW 655
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UFCW 655
MEMBERS &
THEIR FAMILIES

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A PROUD FAMILY joins retired Local 655 Executive Board member Harriett Weaver and President David Cook at a small “thank you” reception following the board meeting at which Harriett announced her “retirement.” (From left) niece Carmon Griffin, great niece Madison Griffin and nephew Bert Griffin. *– Labor Tribune photo*

with its coveted Dr. Rev. Addie Wyatt Trailblazer Award for leadership in labor, civil rights and women’s rights efforts. This past January, the local CBTU chapter presented her with its annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Award. Honoring her service, Local 655 presented Harriett with a framed copy of Lifetime Membership award and lots of hugs from Board members at a celebration after the Board meeting. “I’m not retiring, I’m still going to be with the Union,” she told the Board. “The Union is my life.”

Schnuck secret ballot voting approves 3-year pact

VOTING PROCESS WAS EXACT AND MONITORED to ensure every member attending the Oct. 26 meeting at the St. Charles Family Area had their vote counted.



Explaining the contract in details, Secretary-Treasurer Dave Politte (at podium) went over all the changes from the previous contract clearly pointing out new changes. At right, President David Cook following along.



Union representatives then tallied the votes, again monitored by member volunteers. The volunteers at each voting line then signed each tally sheet to verify accuracy.

(See Page 3 for details of new contract)



Voting.



Carefully sorting into “yes” and “no” piles.



The vote was important enough that many parents bought their children to the meeting.

Know your candidates: VOTE!

Local 655 is proud to provide candidate breakdown guides for candidates all across the St. Louis area to give you the information you need to cast an informed vote. These guides reflect the views of the membership of Local 655, not the views of Local 655’s leadership. Partners should receive the candidate breakdown guides in your mail this weekend so you have them by Election Day, and all of the breakdowns will also be available at ufcw655.org for viewing. Earlier this summer Partners were polled about where they stood on the issues that impact working people on the job. Those issues included Worker’s Compensation, “Right-to-Work,” Paid Family Leave, Paid Sick Leave, Minimum Wage, Equal Pay and the Missouri Non-Discrimination Act. Responses were gathered, and the candidate breakdown guide will provide information about where candidates in your area stand on those issues. Does your state representative candidate, state senator, or congressman, stand with you on Paid Family Leave or raising the Minimum Wage? All that information is available in the candidate breakdown guide. Local 655 is committed to representing the interests of our Partners, and that is

Results of the UFCW Local 655 Partners Survey:

84 percent support raising the minimum wage

78 percent oppose ‘Right-to-Work’ laws

91 percent support Equal Pay for women

85 percent support mandatory Paid Sick Leave

85 percent support mandatory Paid Family Leave

72 percent support passing the Missouri Non-Discrimination Act

67 percent support Worker’s Compensation reforms that keep such claims largely out of the court

92 percent said they vote in all elections

why these breakdowns will tell you whether or not the candidates are with you on the issues YOU told us were important and where you stand. Bring the breakdown with you when you go to the polls on November 8 and cast an informed vote!

Happy RETIREMENT

OCTOBER RETIREES

Marsha Arnold

Schnucks

42 yrs

Sharon Wilson

Schnucks

37 yrs

Beverly Johnson

Dierbergs

20 yrs

Sharon Klein

Schnucks

39 yrs

Mark Foege

Schnucks

45 yrs

Robyn Johnson

Dierbergs

28 yrs

Gary Gusnard

Schnucks

42 yrs

Teresa Wiele

Shop ‘n Save

32 yrs

Lorette Meyer

Schnucks

40 yrs