



## Quarterly Electronic Newsletter – Fourth Quarter 2018

### Message from Chapter President Dawn Sleva

Today, I had the opportunity to speak with Chairman McWilliams. We discussed the importance of involving front line employees in the critical decisions affecting their work lives. Employee engagement and open communication remain areas where we can and should strive for improvement. I asked that the Chairman continue to support partnership between management and labor. She was open to my comments and committed to learning first what it is that we do and why we do it before suggesting changes. She said that she will not make changes without involving those employees in the field and regional offices who are most impacted. Chairman McWilliams ended the call by asking that we keep the lines of communication open and invited me to contact her with any concerns, questions, or suggestions.

Below are some highlights regarding what is going on with Chapter 242. As always, I welcome your comments, questions, and suggestions. Remember to visit the 242 Chapter website regularly for updated information <http://nteuchapter242.org/>.

### Top Stories

#### Summer Campaign a Huge Success

This year's summer membership recruitment campaign was another resounding success. We gained 21 new members from 13 offices. Thanks to the amazing efforts of our stewards and members, on August 30, 2018, we reached our goal of 70 percent membership! In fact, ten of our offices now have membership of 70 percent or higher, including the Regional Office. Mount Vernon, Elizabethtown, Madison, and Princeton have reached membership levels exceeding 80 percent. Let's keep the momentum going! Congratulations to Ethan Sweno who won our \$250 new member raffle and Chief Steward Dan Peters who won our recruitment campaign raffle by speaking to numerous non-members about joining NTEU!

#### Chapter 242 NTEU Steward News

Chapter stewards have been busy this quarter delivering employee training on the FDIC 2017-2020 collective bargaining agreement. Training sessions have taken place in most of our offices with only a few left to complete. The stewards have expressed great appreciation for the active engagement of employees during these sessions. Employees are encouraged to contact their local stewards with any lingering questions about the agreement. Once all sessions are complete, chapter officers will determine if a make-up session is warranted. Additional details will be shared early in 2019.

#### Legislative News

While the mid-term elections are over, legislative activity continues and you can rest assured that NTEU will remain vigilant in monitoring proposed legislation for its impact on federal employees. For more information on what is happening and how you can become involved, please visit the NTEU website <https://www.nteu.org/legislative-action>.

### Recent Accomplishments

### **Local Wins**

Since the last quarterly newsletter, chapter representatives have been active protecting employees. Chapter 242 stewards represented several employees facing Letters of Warning and Letters of Admonishment. They also assisted employees in obtaining part-time schedules and preparing for PMR discussions. Further, they helped employees challenge unwarranted cancellation of leave requests, overly burdensome individual development plans, and delays in completing requirements for commissioning. Chapter 242 employees also sent over 160 e-mail messages to their local congressmen on issues impacting federal employees.

### **National Wins**

NTEU successfully challenged three anti-union Executive Orders that were issued on May 25, 2018, which attempted to weaken employee protections and severely limit union rights. NTEU launched a social media campaign to remind the public that 'Public Service Deserves Public Respect' and shared 'They Work for Us' videos allowing federal employees to tell their story.

### **Did You Know?**

#### **2019 Will Be a Busy Year**

Our Compensation Agreement expires December 31, 2019, and is subject to re-opening in May 2019. Additionally, our Collective Bargaining Agreement hits its mid-term in March 2019. At that point, either party may re-open any one article. Finally, negotiations are likely to occur regarding the Field Office Modernization and Collaborative Work Space initiatives. Now more than ever, it is vital that our chapter remains active and continues to grow in strength. Chapter representatives will be reaching out to members for their input regarding these negotiations.

#### **Chapter 242 Wants Your Home E-Mail Address**

Chapter 242 is collecting home e-mail addresses for its members, which it uses to periodically send important legislative information or calls to action that cannot be sent using our government e-mail accounts. If you haven't already, please provide or confirm your home e-mail address today! Contact your local steward for assistance.

**NTEU's Mission:** To organize federal employees to work together to ensure that every federal employee is treated with dignity and respect.