



A Union of Professionals

## AFT Washington Retiree Chapter Local 8045R

# Spotlight on Retirees in Action

**ANNOUNCEMENT:** The AFT Washington Retiree Chapter Executive Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 27, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Northgate area. Lunch will be provided. Please let Susan Levy ([sjlevy.01@gmail.com](mailto:sjlevy.01@gmail.com)) or Merrilee Miron ([mmiron@aftwa.org](mailto:mmiron@aftwa.org)) know that you will attend and to get directions to the location. All are welcome!

**Renee Potter (Pierce College)** In 2016 I phone banked for Hillary Clinton and other candidates and I realized how important it is for everyone to register and vote. Since that time I have given some money to candidates in Washington and throughout the U.S. and have filled out numerous surveys and signed petitions. However, I think the most important thing I can do is to encourage friends near and far to register to vote and to vote. I've called friends and gone to organizational meetings to make sure this message is heard and acted on.

**Glenda Hanson (Renton Technical College)** I am one of the hundreds of community volunteers helping lawful permanent residents on their paths to citizenship. One America and Washington New Americans organize Citizenship Days throughout the state. Last year I helped copy and process packets of documents for over 80 applicants and will be volunteering again at Renton Technical College on September 8. Volunteers work throughout the state. Information about this very rewarding and exciting service event can be found at <https://wanewamericans.org/volunteer>

**Bobby Righi (Seattle Community College)** I have spent hours gathering signatures to get I-1631 on the ballot in Washington. Now I am working with others to talk to voters so that we pass this historic initiative. It would put a tax on the biggest carbon polluters and use the funds to support clean energy projects around the state. It is supported by a historic coalition including tribes, communities of color, unions, and faith groups. It is so exciting to work on this!

**Debby Dodd (Renton School District)** I have been very active in helping and caring for others throughout my work career and I am continuing these activities to a lesser extent in retirement. I try to remain knowledgeable about community issues, special populations, and their needs. I see the decline of resources for the disabled, seniors, and veterans and appreciate the work and support of AFT Washington on these issues.

### **Ann McCartney (Shoreline Community College)**

After retiring, I completed my doctorate, which served as a capstone experience to pull together my career knowledge and skills and to explore new ways to continue to make a difference in the world. I am a Certified/ Professional Registered Parliamentarian and a good percentage of my service has been pro bono. As a certified mediator, I volunteer with the Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center in small claims court cases and community mediations. I also work with the Washington State Dept. of Commerce for foreclosure mediations to help borrowers negotiate with beneficiaries for loan modifications or other ways to avoid foreclosure if possible. I have been a weekly volunteer reader for a group at a nursing home for 19 years.



*AFT Retiree Chapter E-Board Members  
Ann McCartney, Burt Weston, and Renee Potter*

### **Ruth McCormick (Edmonds Community College)**

After retiring, I went to China to teach English. This awakened my interest in teaching ESL. I volunteered for several different programs and eventually found that Greenwood Senior Center offered me the opportunity to do many of the things I loved doing. Eight years ago, I began a class called "Talk Time." This provides an opportunity for seniors from other countries to practice speaking English. Meeting people from all over the world and learning of their lives has enhanced my own love of different cultures. We continue to meet every Monday morning and learn from each other, in English!

**Susan Levy (Shoreline Community College)** I am currently president of the Retiree Chapter and work on behalf of all retirees with such groups as Puget Sound Advocate for Retirement Action and Social Security Works. I have access to up-to-date information on such topics as social security, Medicare, Medicaid, health care, and long-term care. Additionally, I enjoy volunteering for theatres and dance groups in the Seattle area.