

By Louis Gabriele

The CWA 76th Convention

"Our work is cut out for us. But let me tell you this: I am 100 percent confident that we are up to the task.", said President Chris Shelton.



Delegates

President Chris Shelton

Delegates

The CWA 76th Convention for Steve Ross, Joe Ayala and me began August 7th at the David Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. For Cheryl Bacon, it began earlier because she was on the Resolutions/Rules Committee. It convened on August 3rd.



Delegates arrived in droves occupying 4 different hotels, the Omni William Penn, Westin Convention Center, Doubletree by Hilton Downtown and the Wyndham Grand Downtown.

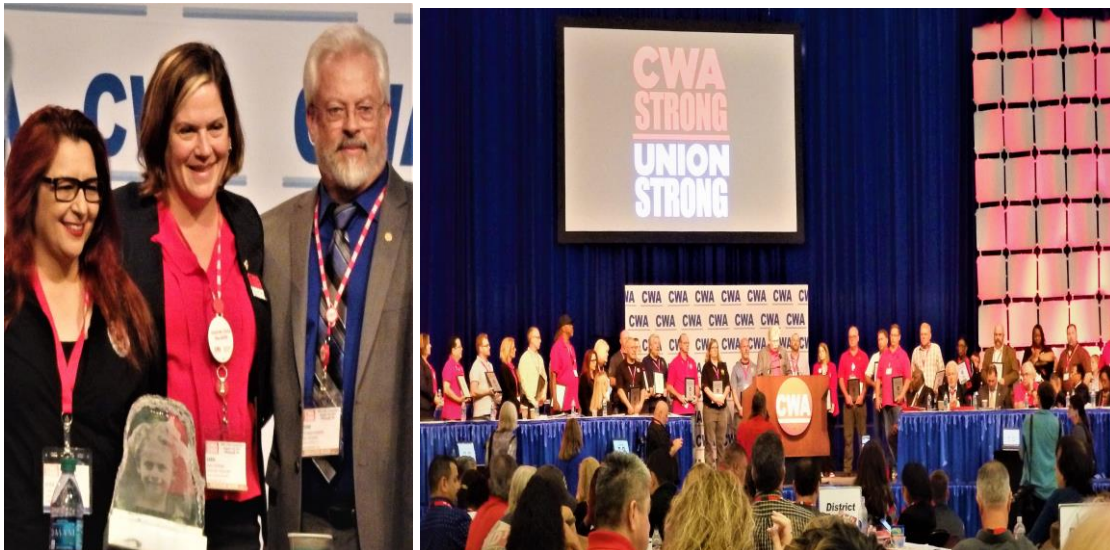
A Storm is Brewing

No sooner after Local 2204 VP Deb Casey's Invocation, Retired Members' Council President Jeanette Spoor sang the US National Anthem and the Canadian National Anthem and CWA Local 3010 President Luis Benitez-Burgos sang the National Anthem of Puerto Rico, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer gave a warm welcoming speech to us Delegates.

President Chris Shelton wasted no time in saying, "I know what CWA is made of. I know that every one of you will do whatever we have to do to save our union and to save our labor movement. I know we are CWA STRONG and that nothing, nothing can break us!"



There was always time for awards:



District 9 Locals received many awards

Reports

After CWA Secretary-Treasurer Sara Stephens' remarks, one committee after another joined the dais to present their issues, reports, amendments and resolutions.



Delegates were permitted to step up to any one of 5 places to make motions (1), privilege (2), for (3) against (4), ask the question (5) plus a second question.

President Shelton said, "Across this union we must renew our commitment to building our union from the bottom up. At the same time, we must continue to reach out to our community allies who will stand with us against our enemies."

Growth is Needed

President Chris Shelton said, "The labor movement will not grow; the labor movement will not survive, if it forgets how to fight. CWA will never forget how to fight!"



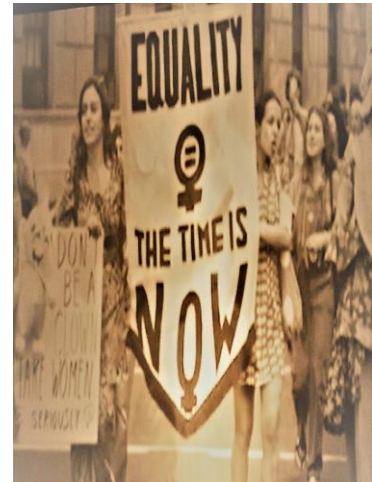
"When we fight, we win. This is what makes us CWA STRONG."

President Chris Shelton recognized CWA members and activists who walked picket lines and stood with striking workers at AT&T, AT&T Mobility, Verizon, and at Momentive.



Video footage provided by Mike Kepka

President Chris Shelton reminded delegates that "always, always, always, working people have risen up to fight for what is right."



"A stronger CWA means a stronger foundation for a progressive movement."



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