

OSA's LABOR HEROES OF 2018

OUR MEMBERS – “STICKING TO THE UNION”

Oh you can't scare me. I'm stickin' to the union.

Those memorable words are drawn from the famous labor ballad “Union Maid,” written by Woody Guthrie in the 1940s.

This year, those words especially resonate as the Supreme Court of the United States ruled in June that public sector workers represented by unions for collective bargaining do not have to contribute to the costs of their representation unless they voluntarily sign a union membership card.

The same conservative faction of the Supreme Court that found corporations to be people and entitled to unlimited political spending in the *Citizens United* case, stated that unions may not charge agency shop fees in *Janus v AFSCME* because all union activity is “political.”

Those represented by unions extensively benefit from that representation in terms of better wages and benefits, due process



rights, sick and vacation leave, workplace health and safety standards and pensions, among many other gains.

The key to all of these gains lies in the spirit of solidarity with which workers have joined together in union, again and again, to fight for their rights and dignity on the job. It

was that spirit of solidarity that kept early OSA members fighting for the right to unionize for thirty years and then enabled the union to grow more than 100 fold over the next thirty.

Each year, the Organization of Staff Analysts celebrates a labor hero in the pages of our City's civil service newspaper, the *Chief-Leader*.

Some years, we honor an individual who has devoted their life to the labor movement; other years it's an entire social movement that has made a significant contribution, like Occupy Wall Street.

For 2018, OSA honors the overwhelming majority of our members who have chosen to live by Woody Guthrie's words and are “stickin' to the union” in the face of the ongoing, massive assault on public sector workers and our unions.

We celebrate our members' spirit of solidarity and commitment to the values that underlie the labor movement.

They understand that the victories that many now take for granted were hard-won and cost the lives of countless workers in myriad fights over the entire history of our nation.

To those members who have chosen to “stick with the union,” we say thank you.



ORGANIZATION OF STAFF ANALYSTS

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OSA LABOR HERO AWARD WINNERS

2017 Arthur Cheliotas & Gloria Middleton
2016 Joint UFT/OSA Organizing Team & OSA Uniformed Chapter Activists
2015 OSA Chief Negotiator Tim Collins
2014 DC37 Exec Director Lillian Roberts, CWA 1180 VP Linda Jenkins, and Doctors' Council President Dr. Barry Liebowitz
2013 OSA's Ida Chin and Cecelia McCarthy