

# GUILD forum



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## WBNG BOOKKEEPER CELEBRATES 20 YEARS WITH THE LOCAL

### It's a Sure Bet She Knows Your Name!

This July, WBNG marks a milestone of sorts. Bertha Pritchett, the local's bookkeeper, as well as its heart, soul and conscience, celebrates 20 years on the job with WBNG.

Twenty years with WBNG is no small feat. In two decades here, Bertha has worked with four administrative officers, a half dozen organizers, a handful of local reps, and various office managers and secretaries at four different Guild offices. She also has seen thousands of members come and go.

Although many of you may not know her, Bertha probably knows you -- and some 2,000 other WBNG members -- by name and Guild unit, at least.

For years Bertha has recorded payments received from every dues-paying member or agency-fee payer (those who choose not

to join but financially support the Guild's work), and in the process she has recorded in her incredibly detail-oriented mind many members' names and workplaces.

If you don't believe it, just call Bertha some time, identify yourself and see how long it takes her to recall the name of your company. She might remind you if you are behind in your dues. And if you are retired, she might even recall when you went off the payroll!

Bertha also pays the Local 35 bills, balances the books and has been the staff troubleshooter extraordinaire. Though often lamenting how far behind she is in her accounting, Bertha has always helped WBNG staff through such crises as correcting computer problems, getting out mass mailings under deadline pressure, and setting up and running Local 35 elections by the book.

She maybe one of the few staffers in Local 35 history to have read TNG convention proceedings cover to cover. Bertha also has



Bertha Pritchett: 20 years of dedicated service to Local 35

been known to cite portions of the Guild constitution and local by-laws like a preacher citing verses from the Bible.

A firm believer in doing a good job, Bertha knows and cares about Local 35 as few others do.

A native of Martinsville, Virginia, Bertha has one daughter and son-in law and two delightful little grandsons whom she tries not to spoil (too much).

Thanks for your 20 years of dedication and fine work, Bertha. We should be so lucky to have you with us for another 20!

### A Few Bertha-isms:

- "I was so mad, I'd like to have laid him out!"
- "Momma always said, 'It's the empty wagon that always makes the loudest noise.'"
- "My daddy always said, 'Give a man an honest day's work for an honest day's pay.'"
- "If you're right, you're right. But if you're not, then don't come in here telling me something."
- "My thing is this ..."
- "I had to clean up all that mess, and that's where the wheel rolls off!"