



NEWS & VIEWS

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www.apwuauxiliary.org

Women Won the Right to Vote - Use it!

By Trisa Mannion-President

“The Representation of the People Act 1918 saw British women over 30 gain the vote. Dutch women won the vote in 1919, and American women on 26 August 1920 with the passage of the 19th Amendment (the Voting Rights Act of 1965 secured voting rights for racial minorities)”



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_suffrage

Some people claim it is ineffective to proclaim that women died for the right to vote; it is nevertheless true. Just 100 years ago, some very determined women fought for decades and won the right to vote. Since then, we have come a long way, baby, but too many women simply throw the right to vote away.

Vote your choice. Too many are not even registered to vote; they cannot tell you the name of their Congressional Representative. According to Pew Research, only 55% of women voted in the 2018 Midterm elections. How is it possible that so many people discard one of the most valuable rights ever won? Men do not lull yourself into apathy because you are no better than women in the number of you that vote. This just happens to be the anniversary year for women winning the right to vote. We must change this. Labor must vote to gain the respect we need to get legislation passed and to have Congress listen when we call on them. It is a fundamental right in this country that many women continue to die to gain that privilege in some countries.

Remember history and the Suffragettes? They were in prison and force-fed after they refused to eat. They were jailed, beaten, and humiliated. The least we can do now is to vote and encourage those around us to do the same and appreciate their hard won sacrifices.

We can assist women and men who want to register to vote. Most states make it simple to register to vote by going online to the Secretary of State website and filling in a few lines of type, or, by visiting the local County Clerk’s office in person.

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50 Years Ago

Wildcat Strike

By: Janice Gillespie-Legislative Aide-Editor

The largest wildcat strike in history occurred 50 years ago in March. More than 210,000 postal employees were involved in what was considered an illegal strike against the U.S. government.

The protest, consisting of postal employees and Auxiliary members, began in New York City and soon spread to other cities.

The union members demanded higher wages and better working conditions. A congressional decision to raise the wages of postal workers a measly 4% compared to the 41% congress gave to itself was the final straw. In response to the walkout, President Nixon declared a state of emergency and authorized military control over the Post Office on March 23, 1970, which resulted in 24,000 military personnel forces stepping in to distribute the mail. These replacements were slow and unskilled. The brave strikers, with the Auxiliary at their side, risked their livelihood for

better postal jobs. The Auxiliary to the APWU was called the Women's Auxiliary to the National Federation of Post Office Clerks. These Auxiliary members were instrumental in helping secure union legislation and achieving better and safer working conditions. The strike ended after eight days, with negotiations ongoing between union leaders and the Nixon administration.



A direct outcome of the strike of 1970 was the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. This law was passed by the United States Congress that abolished the then United States Post Office Department, which was a part of the cabinet and created the United States Postal Service, a corporation-like independent agency with an official monopoly on the delivery of mail.

Lets Make Everyday Earth Day

Just imagine 20 million Americans in the streets, on college campuses, and in cities all across the country protesting environmental ignorance and demanding change. Fifty years ago, what started with one man, the founder, Senator Gaylord Nelson, and two other people ballooned into millions, all responding to a world in crisis. Earth day came into being April 22, 1970, when our country was rife with oil spills, smog, fossil fuel combustion, and polluted rivers.

That first Earth Day led to the passage of landmark environmental laws in the U.S. such as the Clear Air, Clean Water, and Endangered species Acts and the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA. People everywhere were becoming more aware of the environment and the consequences of pollution.

That first Earth Day, 50 years ago, is also credited with the modern environmental movement, which is the planet's largest civic movement. The United Nations chose this day to sign the historic Paris

agreement on climate change in 2016. A global holiday, Earth Day, often extends into Earth week, which offers a full seven days to focus on green living.

The theme for Earth Day 2020 is Climate **Action**. Climate change is one of the biggest challenges for the future of humanity. We need to address this obstacle with a vengeance, do all we can to minimize our carbon footprints, and educate our children to do the same. We can do this in small ways by recycling in our own homes and workplaces, walking instead of driving when possible, and in big ways by urging lawmakers to pass stronger governmental policies for climate change. The planetary mess we are in is going to take legislative action and global response. We must practice greener living and join forces worldwide to combat this downward spiral.

Lets make everyday Earth Day.



More Voices

By Rebecca Kingsley-District 4 Coordinator

Happy tidings from District 2. As the year ended with quality family time, holiday celebrations, and a much-needed vacation, it was also spent setting new priorities, and with the help of Donnita Cameron from District 5, showing our officers how to do a Vision Board, I have newfound inspiration and goals for myself and my district.



One goal is to send out letters to my states with what's new and some challenges within our District.

We have loud voices, and now is the time to bring in more voices so that we can be heard and

change what needs to be changed. When I made that first big leap at the Chicago Convention in 2014, only a few delegates were representing District 2. One of my goals after that convention was to grow our presence, and I succeeded by having over 20 delegates at the National Convention in Pittsburgh, August of 2018.

This 2020 convention, I get the honor of counting in our Wyoming delegates as they are now a part of District 2. This year I look forward to just as many, if not more. Our Auxiliary members need to be involved so that they are inspired and educated with Auxiliary information to go out and spread the news and gather more members.

National Convention Hotels

The APWU has arranged special room rates with three hotels in the Los Angeles area for the 2020 National Convention. The hotels are Westin Bonaventure, JW Marriott, and Sheraton Grand. Room blocks will open on Friday, March 6, 2020. Each hotel has their own guidelines and rooms will go fast. The APWU website has detailed information and is updated regularly.

Convention Hotels & Rates

reprinted from www.apwu.org

The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites Address: 404 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071 Rate: \$175.00/night plus tax Registration Cutoff Date: July 31, 2020 at 5:00 pm Cancellation Policy: 48 hours prior to arrival Incidental Deposit Policy*: \$100 is automatically held from the credit card or deducted from the debit card that is put down by the individual to cover incidentals expenses. If incidental expenses go above \$100, the hotel will automatically hold or deduct another \$100 and will continue to do so until the incidental expenses are covered. If a person uses cash to cover incidental expenses, they are required to put down \$100 upon check. If charges to the room exceed \$100, the ability to charge will be cut off. Paying by Check: Please contact 2020convention@apwu.org for additional information

JW Marriott LA Live Address: 900 W Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90015 Rate: \$249.00/night plus tax Registration Cutoff Date: July 21, 2020 at 5:00 pm Cancellation Policy: 72 hours prior to arrival Incidental Deposit Policy*: \$50/night to a max of \$250 when paying by credit or debit card; \$250/night to a max of \$500 when

paying by cash. Paying by Check: Please contact 2020convention@apwu.org for additional information.

Sheraton Grand Address: 711 S Hope St., Los Angeles, CA 90017 Rate: \$224.00/night plus tax Registration Cutoff Date: July 21, 2020 Cancellation Policy: 72 hours prior to arrival Incidental Deposit Policy*: \$100 is automatically held from the credit card or deducted from the debit card that is put down by the individual to cover incidental expenses. If incidental expenses go above \$100, the hotel will automatically hold or deduct another \$100 and will continue to do some until the incidental expenses are covered. Cash is not accepted at check in to cover incidental expenses. The individual will need to put down a credit card to cover the incidental expenses but may choose to pay with cash at check-out. Paying by Check: Please contact 2020convention@apwu.org for additional information.



We will publish a special edition of the News and Views later this month. It will have all of the pertinent information convention goers will need.

Patrick J. & Marcella Sally Nilan Memorial Scholarship

By: Arline Holmes-District 6 Coordinator

Auxiliary members, do you want to develop a new skill to help advance and enrich your lifestyle? Do you want to better position yourself for a raise or promotion at your current job? Then why not apply for the Nilan Scholarship?

The Nilan Scholarship serves as an adult continuing education option and maybe the assistance you need to achieve your next goal.

To be eligible for the scholarship, a member must have held membership for at least one year prior to application.



SCHOLARSHIPS

For an application form, rules and guidelines go to: www.apwuauxiliary.org or contact: Rebecca Kingsley, chairperson, PO Box 93686, City of Industry, CA 91715-3686 or email her at rkingsley@apwuauxiliary.org.

Please complete and mail the form with your essay by July 1st.

The Patrick J & Marcella "Sally" Nilan Memorial Scholarship is funded through the National Auxiliary "Book of Memories," establishing a living memorial to deceased Auxiliary family members.

Remember to File Your 990n

The *e-postcard* is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your tax year. For example, if your tax year ended on December 31, the *e-postcard* is due May 15 of the following year. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the due date is the next business day. **You cannot file the *e-postcard* until after your tax year ends.**

Dues Reminder

Due dates are found before your name on the label of your News and Views
If due, please send a check for \$5.00 per year for National dues. Mail payable to:

Auxiliary to the APWU
Bonnie Sevre-Treasurer
2836 Highway 88
Minneapolis, MN 55418

State and Local dues should be mailed to your state and local treasurers.



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Are your eligible family members registered? Let's get them registered. This is as a project that your local or state can promote.

Next, they need to vote! Are you saying to yourself that you do not like the choices of candidates? Voting in the primaries can make a difference in who will be the candidate. Get involved in your county caucuses. All you need to do is be registered and affiliated with a party. Go to the caucus. Vote your choice. Make a difference by voting for the person that you think best represents your values. It takes an hour. It is also fascinating, and you meet other people with similar ideas and

values that are your neighbors. Better yet, take a friend or family member with you.

Are you happy with the way things are going in this country? Do you want to actively assist the APWU to gain better working conditions and benefits for your family? Do you want the glass ceiling to shatter? Then, you need to vote!

Call one of the National Auxiliary Officers for details on how to be a part of this century-old movement of getting people registered to vote and then using their fundamental right under the 19th Amendment to vote. It will make a difference for you, your family, and your country. Let's vote in record numbers this year.

Postal Workers Help Deliver Holiday Cheer!

By Jerry Guenther
reprinted from the "Norfolk Daily News"

There are certain organizations that are regular contributors to the Norfolk Good Neighbors program, such as the American Postal Workers Union and its Auxiliary Bonnie Kroeger, who is the secretary-treasurer for the local auxiliary 1187, said the organization



began donating years ago to the food pantry before the Good Neighbors took it over in late 2011. Since then,

the auxiliary routinely donates funds to both Good Neighbors and the food pantry. Along with those donations, the Norfolk Postal Workers Union 1187 also routinely donates, including \$500 to Good Neighbors last year. Bonnie's husband, Gene, was a member of the postal workers union until his retirement. Many spouses of workers belong to the auxiliary, including Bonnie. Kroeger said every year the union has a state convention that rotates cities, including Norfolk. Last spring, it was Norfolk's turn. As part of the gathering, the auxiliary often collects food and other donations for charity. Last year, the union auxiliary collected 151 stuffed animals and 152 books for the Wesley Center, Northeast Nebraska

Child Advocacy Center and the Salvation Army Also collected was \$1,493 in food and donations for the food pantry and \$1,302 for the Boyd County Flood Relief Program. Kroeger said the auxiliary likes to donate cash to the food pantry because Allene Johnson, who manages the local Good Neighbors and food pantry, purchases food when she can obtain twice as much for the same price. In effect, she makes the funds go twice as far, she said "Allene has been a rock down there," Kroeger said, "She has told me a lot about the food pantry." The Kroegers also belong to the First Congregational United Church of Christ, one of the churches whose members both donate food and time the food pantry. The Kroegers also have a pear tree that produces pears by the five-gallon bucket. Bonnie often brings some of the bounty into the Good Neighbors and the pears are donated to people who will eat them or can them. The pear tree produces pears in late fall, often right up until the first heavy freeze. Once picked, the pears ripen in a cool place, usually after three or four days. Kroeger said the pear tree has been producing pears for "46 or 47 years", almost as long as she and Gene have been married. They celebrated their 50th anniversary last summer. The last of the pears only recently ripened from this year. So have the Kroegers ever seen a partridge in their pear tree this time of year? No, we have never seen a partridge, but that would be a good one." she said with a laugh.



Legislative Update

A house resolution bill, H.R.2382 has passed in the house, which is a step closer to repealing the pre-funding mandate that was imposed on the Postal Service in 2006. This bill also will forgive all defaulted payments. A companion bill to H.R. 2382 is now in the Senate. S.2965 is a bi-partisan bill that is identical to the house resolution. The USPS Fairness Act would eliminate 90% of the Postal Service's losses and as a result bring it to financial solvency. The next step, if passed by the Senate, will be for the president to add his signature. APWU and auxiliary

members along with the public made phone calls to their representatives in the House and we had a national call day to Senators on February 25 It's not too late. We can still call, write, e-mail, text, or tweet, our Senators to get on board to rid the Postal Service of this unfair burden.





Colorectal cancer screenings can save lives

Colorectal cancer screenings can save lives

Colorectal cancer usually develops slowly. That's why routine screenings starting at age 50 are so important. When found early, doctors can stop colorectal cancer before it starts.

What is colorectal cancer?

Colorectal cancer often starts as a small growth, called a polyp, in the colon or rectum. The colon is the final part of the digestive tract, while the rectum is the last several inches of the large intestine. Over time, polyps can become cancerous.

Early detection is the key

Colorectal cancer is usually preventable. However, it's the second-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among U.S. adults because one in three people who should get screened don't. You can have polyps or colorectal cancer without knowing it.

Cancerous polyps don't always cause symptoms. That's why most men and women should be screened for colorectal cancer starting at age 50 and continue getting screened until age 75. Colorectal cancer is easier to treat when it's found early, before symptoms develop.

Ask your doctor about which screening is right for you

Screenings for colorectal cancer are part of recommended preventive care for men and women age 50 and older. Preventive screenings are covered 100 percent when you see a network provider. (Refer to your plan documents for your specific coverage.)

There are different types of colorectal cancer screenings, but the colonoscopy is considered the most thorough, effective, and comprehensive exam. Ask your doctor about which screening is right for you.

Link: https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic_info/screening/index.htm



www.apwuhp.com

(800) 222-2798

AUXILIARY ZIPLINE INVITATION

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/368309307> Meeting ID: 368 309 307

The first Tuesday of even numbered months at 8 pm EST

April 7, 2020

June 2, 2020

August 4, 2020

October 6, 2020

December 1, 2020

Each time you attend the meeting your name will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card.

The next drawing will be at the National Convention



2018-2020 Human Relations Project

By: Karen Wolver -Human Relations Chair

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” ~ Winston Churchill

Our Human Relations Project committee members have been busy sending out letters each year since our last convention requesting donations from the 500 largest locals. This year, Fisher House has touched many hearts. This is being proven by the number of donations that have poured in and continues to pour in. We can't thank you enough for all you have done and continue to do in reaching our goal for this great organization.

They currently have 86 houses up and running and are continually building houses where and when there is a need.

Fisher House always tries to provide a home away from home to help families support their loved ones during hospital stays, but one of the great things about the home environment is that it helps families lean on one another.



The support networks that grow in Fisher Houses can help military, veterans, and their families get through especially tough diagnoses and long/short term care.

Anna Braun from Plano, Illinois,, was the Auxiliary member who suggested Fisher House at the 2018-2020 Convention in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Thank you, Anna! The monies we are collecting will make a huge impact on people's lives, and I can't wait to present them a check at the 2020 Convention in Los Angeles, California

Remember, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the next Human Relations project, please share them and present them to us. If you are unable to attend the convention this year, drop me an email or give me a call.



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