

NEWS & VIEWS

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Getting Back to Grass Roots

By: Kathy Danek, President

Special congratulations to Marie Clark of Portland OR in being honored as a Lifetime Member of the Auxiliary to the APWU. For 50 years Marie has inspired, mentored and challenged members in our organization. With her help, she has shaped many of us into good Auxiliary members who are focused on making the work place better for everyone and the world a better place to live. She truly exemplifies a person focused on growing and advancing the Auxiliary to the APWU. She actually inspired the words in this article because she knows that together we can do anything.

Spring time – a time of renewal, revival, color and seeing just how things grow. We look out into our lawn, bright and green - and sometimes – that one thing pops up – turns into ten, twenty and then a hundred. The dreaded dandelion catches all of our focus. It's really frustrating. No matter how many of them you pick, they keep popping up and they take our focus away from the beauty of our green lawn.

It kind of reminds you of today in politics. We see both

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sides lining up with a litmus test of who might be the most conservative or liberal. AND if you don't believe exactly as the people lined up on both sides, you are out in the cold. sometimes alone and marginalized and wondering where you might belong. That's what happens when both sides say those of us who don't everything with



cannot belong. In fact, they don't even want to work with you on the things you might have in common. So how do we get things done in this polarizing environment. It's not as simple as our lawn. We can spray a little weed control and eliminate a dandelion. But for all of us, we need to keep looking for common ground to help things grow and become better for everyone. That's when we say, "let's get back to our roots – our grass roots."

Grass roots politics is just that. It's working on the things that bring us together. For the Auxiliary, it is focusing on our five objects listed in our Constitution and portrayed by our Auxiliary star.

- 1- Bringing together persons interested in the efforts of the APWU for better working conditions
- 2- Extending a knowledge of political operations of government and the duties and responsibilities of citizenship
- 3- Rendering effective aid in securing passage of desired remedial legislation
- 4- Supporting ALL programs of the American Postal Workers Union

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Child Labor Abuse Awareness Week Begins May 14th

By: Kathy Danek

Child Labor Abuse Awareness Week is the week beginning with Mother's Day. Since 2004 the Auxiliary has overwhelming supported this recognition week. At the 2016 National Convention, delegates again affirmed support of Child Labor Abuse Awareness Week.

Activities should remind our friends and neighbors that no children should be exploited in the work place. There are all kinds of Child Labor Abuses – whether it's in the migrant farm communities, sweat shops making garments, toys, etc., or the fast food restaurants down the block. Remember Child Labor Laws were implemented to help all children gain an education and become more productive citizens in our communities. Plan your activities now to inform and activate your community.

What will you do – how about a coloring contest for the little children, Or an essay contest for the older ones. Maybe your local would like to find a local business who honors all of these laws and congratulation them. How about letters to the editors, marches, informational pickets, or buying a few books for a local library. Read on if you think these things only happen in other countries. We can't close our eyes if we want to solve the problems.

Children in the United States

The United States is one of only two countries in the world that have not ratified the United Nations

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC). Somalia—a country without an internationally-recognized government—is the other. The Children's Rights Division has focused its efforts on United States practice in three areas that fall measurably short of standards included in the Convention on the Rights of the Child—conditions for children in the justice system, detention of children by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), and the use of children as soldiers.

Most of us would be horrified to support a business that exploits children. But chances are you may have done just that on your last shopping trip.

Perhaps you splurged on a handcrafted carpet, without knowing it was made by a seven-year-old from India, where children are chained to looms for 12 hours a day. Maybe you just bought a soccer ball for your son or daughter, without realizing your gift was produced by five -year-old hands inside a dark and silent factory in Pakistan. Even your more mundane purchases— a leather bag, a shirt, a pair of jeans, or produce from the local grocery store—could be the product of child labor.

Around the world today, some 250 million boys and girls between the ages of five and 14 are exploited in hazardous work conditions, according to the International Labour Organization. Most of these children live in the developing world, but even in industrialized countries such as the United States, hundreds of thousands of underage boys and girls are at work in sweatshops, farm fields, brothels and on the street.

There Is
No Reason,
There Is
No Excuse,
Child
Labor
Is Child
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Notice:

The Nilan Continuing Education Scholarship has been suspended pending further review.



It is Time to File the IRS 990N For This Year

By: Trisa Mannion

It is time to file the IRS 990N again for this year

Form 990-N is due every year by the 15th day of the 5th month after the close of your <u>tax year</u>. You cannot file the *e-Postcard* until after your tax year ends. Remember, failure to file this annually will result in the loss of the not for profit status of your organization. That means you are required to file forms as a business and pay taxes. Sending a copy of the "accepted" form to the national treasurer for filing helps protect your organization. You can send this via email or mail.

If you are having trouble with your passwords and did not file last year, you will need to reset your password and user name. The IRS migrated to an IRS site last year.

The following link is the IRS site to use when filing your 990-N.

 $\underline{https://www.irs.gov/charities-non-profits/annual-electronic-filing-requirement-for-small-exempt-organizations-form-990-n-e-postcard}$

Or you can go to www.irs.gov and then use the search and type in 990N.

This form is simple to complete and after you register, it only requires about 10 minutes for completion.

I can help you file this form and register, if you need help, just call. (970)245-3912





Buy Your Tickets Today - \$5 each

Win an Apple® - 9.7-Inch iPad® Pro with Wi-Fi + Cellular - 256GB

Value approximately \$1,000

Drawing will be held at the 2017 All Craft Conference in Las Vegas Nevada October 2017

Make checks payable to: Auxiliary to the APWU

Need <u>not</u> be present to win



Tickets may be purchased from any National Auxiliary Officer or by contacting Trisa Mannion, Treasurer, 3038 Cloverdale Ct, Grand Junction CO 81506 or on the Auxiliary website: www.apwuauxiliary.org Follow the links to buy tickets.

All proceeds go to the Auxiliary to the APWU Equipment Fund (Risograph copier)

Marie Clark Awarded Lifetime Membership

By: Trisa Mannion. Treasurer

Lifetime Membership was awarded to Marie Portland, Clark from Oregon on April 20, 2017 on the 50th anniversary of her membership. She is an amazing member of the Auxiliary who has held virtually every office in the local and organization. She was the District Vice President, Legislative Aide/Editor and the last position was as Coordinator. District 1 She served on so many committees in the organization, over the 50 years that she has been a



Trisa Mannion (left) and Colette Phillippe (right), presenting Lifetime Membership Award to Marie Clark, Portland, Oregon auxiliary member

member, that we do not have space to list them all.

She has been a mentor and leader for many members and officers always finding a way to look for the best in all people. Her reasoning is usually beyond reproach, while her listening skills are infinite. She is a friend to all who know her and a calming influence in the midst of chaos.

It was with great honor that Colette Phillippe and Trisa Mannion presented the award on behalf of the Executive Board who approved of the award unanimously. The presentation was made at Oregon State convention in Portland. The group gathered for the occasion gave her a standing ovation showing their tremendous of approval this recognition. She was surprised and gracious while receiving the award and then without hesitation or preparation gave rousing acceptance speech normal Marie fashion.

This award is only given to members that have

dedicated their lives to the organization and been a tremendous asset to the organization. It is a very rare occasion that it is presented and only to those who have shown unwavering love and devotion to the betterment of the organization and the members.

Marie has shown all of these qualities in many ways over and over during the years. We congratulate Marie for being recognized for all of the wonderful things she has done.

Organizing Your Auxiliary Our Slogan: "Each One - Reach One"

By: Debra Stewart



You know that as an Auxiliary we organize on a local and state level. Who can join? Family, friends, retirees, and APWU members may join the Auxiliary to the APWU. To help make a difference in your community, politically, and socially. A few things you need to know when you are organizing your Auxiliary.

- Recruit Volunteers: Show them what to expect.
- Spread the Word: Tell them about our postal members, about postal jobs, better benefits, and better environment.
- Inspire auxiliary members: Speak to our friends, families, communities and local and state. Ask them to come and be a part of a team, a cause, and a family.

So let's get out there and organize these Auxiliaries!

~Each One - Reach One~



Join the Auxiliary to the APWU ~ Each one – Reach one ~

We will place a ticket with your name on it in a drawing for each new member that you sign up.

The drawing will be October 2017 at the All Craft Conference.

1st Prize \$250

2nd Prize \$100

Another \$50 drawing will be held for each member that joins or pays dues.

Who can join? Family, friends, retirees, and APWU members may join the Auxiliary to the APWU.

Why Join?

- ♦ Be a part of a team ~ a cause ~ a family
- ♦ To help make a difference in your community, politically and socially.
- Spread the word for our postal members about better postal jobs, better benefits, a better environment.
- Speak to our friends, family, community, and local/state government representatives about why the United States Postal Service is important to us all. It is in the United States Constitution because it is a service to our family, businesses (small and large), and our communities.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union

Address		
City	State ZIP	Phone()
Email Address		
Sponsoring APWU Member Name		
Local Name		
	Local Dues	
	Local Dues State Dues	
		\$5.00/year_

Make checks payable to: Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union

Mail to: Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union

3038 Cloverdale Ct

Grand Junction, CO 81506

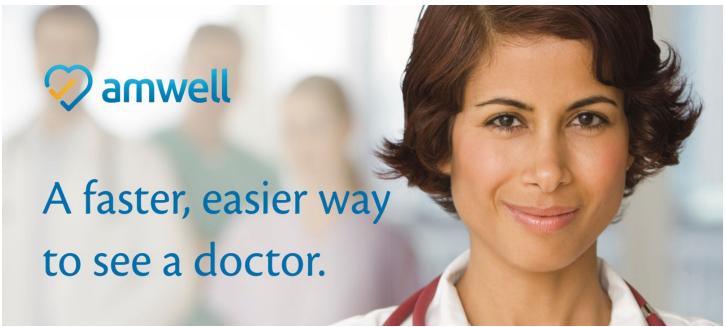
Or: www.apwuauxiliary.org

Follow links to join or pay dues

National dues - \$10 for 2 years *or* \$5 per member per year

Ask Tina? About the Health Plan

The doctor is always in – midnight or midday, we're available.



Consult with a doctor by mobile, web or phone

- Affordable, easy, and convenient
- Your choice of U.S. board-certified doctors
- No appointment, no waiting
- 24/7/365 mobile or web access
- Consults and diagnoses, prescriptions as appropriate

The Health Plan's Virtual Visits Benefits for High Option

- Please see www.AmWell.com, or call 855-818-DOCS for information on virtual visits.
- \$20 copayment (No deductible)



Mother's Day - a May Celebration

By: Tina Beaton

Mother's Day was first celebrated in 1908 when Anna Jarvis held a memorial for her mother at Saint Andrews Methodist Church. Her campaign to make Mother's Day a recognized holiday in the United States began in 1905 the year her mother passed away. Anna wanted to honor her mother and all mothers because she believed that they were the person who has done more for you than anyone in the world. By 1911 all US states observed the holiday. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation designating Mother's Day to be held on the second Sunday in May, as a national holiday to honor mothers. Mother's Day is celebrated in more than 46 countries throughout the world but on different days.

Moms work hard. From cooking, cleaning, doing laundry and making sure the kids are taken care of. Not to mention, going to work, kid's sports and school events. Moms rarely take the time to take care of themselves. They are the real superheroes, they just don't wear capes. We often forget this. This day is a day for us to remember the hard work they put in every day.

Every mom has a bad day where everything just seems to go wrong. We feel like we are the worst mom in the world. And we all have to stop and think, others have been here before and this is all normal. These are the moments when moms need to stop and take care of themselves.

I know my mom is a hard working woman. Even as an adult, I can count on her for anything. When I was a child, she was always there for me, through sicknesses, bad days, good days, sports, school work, anything I needed she was there. She is my best friend. And I am happy to say she is my mom. As a mom, I can respect everything she did for me. It is hard work. But, the reward is absolutely amazing!

This year Mother's Day is on Sunday May 14th. So, don't forget about your mom! And remember to thank her. It is the little things that mean the most.

Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there!!



Getting Back to Grass Roots

President's Article - continued

5- Supporting workers in their efforts to secure a higher standard of living

Practically, that means organizing at the local level to find family, friends and retirees who understand our mission. It also means looking for people to represent us and work with us to make these objectives realities. How do we do this – start with your local APWU and get a meeting or event with our family members. Spouses, children, parents – we all care about the strength of our APWU and we rely on it for the secure jobs of our families. We can't grow much nationally if we don't have a strong foundation at the local and state level.

Our members are the seeds of our organization. We don't want them blowing aimlessly in the wind like that dandelion seed, but rather we want to help them to find roots, where others with similar interests and needs can come together. We need to be there for our Members at Large, but they will feel more engaged if we can find a way to bring them together. That's how we form a local Auxiliary. We put at least four Auxiliary members together and form a local Auxiliary in our

communities.

Our locals are the roots - where we need to nurture them, guide them, encourage them and help them grow. We guide them with suggestions of projects that will encourage others to get involved. We teach them how to make connections with their local, state and national elected officials. That connection strengthens our voice and helps us to get other people involved. And our locals need to be encouraged and appreciated. If you are a local officer "Thank You". We appreciate you working tirelessly on behalf of the APWU and our Auxiliary.

Many of you have taken that second step – and that might be to get involved in your state Auxiliary. That's where all of our locals and members at large come together to celebrate and engage each other in the work of our Auxiliary. And finally our national organization depends on each and every one of you to make our Auxiliary a living, breathing and strong organization. We need to get back to our roots – our grass roots and we need to get involved. If you have a family member who is not a member of the Auxiliary sign them up. Then get them together to grow and grow and grow.

Thanks to all of our officers for the work they do to keep our organization moving forward. AND thank you to each and every one of our members. You are the seeds for our success. Together we will take root and grow into a stronger Auxiliary. It's all about the grass roots.

2016-2018 Human Relations Project

By: Joyce Tanguay - Human Relations Chair

"People who give will never be poor" ~Anne Frank~

Spring is finally here. After an early April snowstorm the snow is finally gone here in southern Maine. crocuses are peeking through the soil and the birds on my feeders are singing louder than ever. How fortunate am I to be able to acknowledge and enjoy all of this while in the some of impoverished areas of the United States there are children out there who may never know or see how beautiful life can be. Child **Inc.** relies on people like you and me to help those children so that when they grow up they too may enjoy



what some of us take for granted. As a Union or Auxiliary member, or family member of either, you can make a difference in the lives of the underprivileged children in this country.

Please take the time to go to https://childrenincorporated.org for more testimonials and information. No donation is too small (or large) and checks may be made payable to *Auxiliary to the APWU* (designate Child Inc.) and sent to:

Trisa Mannion, Treasurer Auxiliary to the APWU 3038 Cloverdale Court Grand Junction, CO 81506



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