



NEWS & VIEWS

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Saving the Post Office - Not a Spectator Sport

By: Kathy Danek, President

Saving the Post Office is not a spectator sport. We can't just sit on the sidelines as the families of APWU members and hope that someone else will save our jobs. But saving the Post Office is much more than just our jobs. It is the fabric that binds our nation together. Regardless of where you live, how much money you have, what political party you affiliate with, or how you look the United States Postal Service is legally obligated to serve your home and business with mail service six days a week. They do so efficiently, for the cost of postage and services. Yet, what we hear is: "They are irrelevant. They are inefficient, bleeding money. They are overstaffed with too many locations, too many processing centers....." All I have to say is this is bunk. Thank goodness Auxiliary members from all over this country took the time to gather signatures and addresses from all over this country. We presented the petitions to APWU Mark Dimondstein at the All Craft Conference in Las Vegas. He will present them to the Grand Alliance. Pam Chlopek was one of the petition gatherers. Pam is from Norfolk NE where her community is on hold from moving their mail processing from Norfolk to Omaha. And she took the time to rally her community. President Dimondstein drew Pam's petition from the stack. But Pam was not alone. All over this country people are gaining in understanding the impact of losing service of their USPS.

When you look at the mission of the USPS, you see an

intricate delivery system serving mountain tops, islands, valleys, and the state of Alaska with its remote and unsettled frontiers. You also see a managerial directive to reduce service standards, eliminate processing plants, and eliminate a dedicated trained work force. Their philosophy is "CUT CUT CUT. We need to run this service like a business."

Stop and think about it, if you live on a mountain top in Colorado, Wyoming or Montana or in Hawaii, the Marianna Islands, the Florida Keys, or the great plains of Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, Texas, Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, etc. I could go on and on. The United States is not just large cities on both coasts. We are more than New York City, Washington DC, Chicago, Omaha, Denver, Salt Lake, Las Vegas, Dallas, Houston, New Orleans, Miami, Los Angeles, San Francisco. We serve communities like Great Falls MT or Green River WY, Eau Claire WI, Black Hawk SD. Rural communities exist all over this nation in every single state and thank goodness they do. They provide food and products for the entire world. Yet these very same small towns and remote communities are the very target of the reductions in services from the USPS.

We need to continue pressuring Congress to remove the onerous \$5.5 billion dollar prefunding requirement for the next 75 years of retiree health care. Heck, most of those recipients are not even born. What were they thinking in 2006? Did they see a cash cow to bolster the US debt? Did they see the USPS actually acting like a business and building their public support? Did they see an apple ripe for the picking in their misguided attempt to privatize and profiteer from this beloved public service? Did they see us as complacent and disinterested? No other business – public or private – is required to prefund retiree health care 75 years into the future. And since implementing this red herring, the USPS has shown

Inside this issue:

About Pat - National Auxiliary Secretary Thank You to Volunteers	2
2015 All Craft Conference - Las Vegas, Nevada	3
Bridge Builder Award Guidelines & Application	4-5
Ask Clara About the Health Plan Remember Our Veterans	6
DMI Local Raises Money for Feeding America Backpack Program President's Report - <i>continued</i>	7
Human Relations Project	8

Continued on page 7

About Pat Lewis - National Auxiliary Secretary

By: Pat Lewis



I joined the Auxiliary after my husband and I were married. Honestly I joined because I was looking for something to hold my interest and to keep me coming back for information. A very good friend of mine said, "Pat you could be an asset to this organization". I probably thought, "Oh yeah, right".

I found after attending a meeting that I was very concerned with the plight of the postal service because some of the decisions affected my family as well as the families of other postal workers.

I can recall helping my husband with "The Scheme", which was postal information regarding the routes of the carriers because the clerks distributed the mail into the boxes of the carriers for delivery.

Earlier in my life I graduated from Carver High School in Chester, Virginia. I attended Virginia Union University and upon leaving college I found employment

in sales which ultimately ended in buying sportswear for a prominent store in the downtown Richmond area. When I left this job I went to work in the insurance field--Aetna. I left Aetna when my mother-in-law became ill and I became her care giver until her demise.

In spite of all I remained an Auxiliary member. I served as the Local Secretary, State Secretary Local and State Treasurer and then the State President. I continued serving in these areas until there was a need for a District #8 Coordinator. I ran for the office and won. I continued to represent the Eighth District until the opportunity arose to move on. There was a vacancy on the board for a National Secretary. Again I ran and I won and today I am still the National Secretary. Presently I am the Secretary-Treasurer for the Richmond, Virginia Auxiliary.

Let me share with you information about my family and my particular interest. Bernard and I have three children, six grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. I enjoy most music, classical and jazz, old movies, to read and I enjoy cooking.

Thanks to all of you for your support!

We Give Thanks!



Our executive board again worked Registration for the APWU at the 2015 All Craft Conference. We were joined by these wonderful Auxiliary volunteers who shared their vacation time with our executive board as we worked the 2015 APWU All Craft Conference in Las Vegas.

THANK YOU TO THESE WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS:

- Loraine Miller Reading, PA
- Wendy Morrissey Lincoln, NE
- Terry Danek Lincoln, NE
- Hervert Days St. Louis MO,
- Nettie Sabin Schaumburg, IL
- Carolyn Denton Orland, CA (Sacramento)
- Micki Welcome Hill Kansas City, KS
- Sonia La Fauci Raritan, NJ



2015 All Craft Conference Las Vegas, Nevada

All Craft Registration



Trisa Mannion, Joyce Tanguay and Rebecca Kingsley, Clara Hill and Colette Phillippe all worked the registration booth.



Clara Hill



Colette Phillippe

Auxiliary Booth



Micki Hill and Sonia La Fauci manning the auxiliary booth.



Wendy Morrissey selling tickets at the auxiliary booth.



Kathy Danek, Trisa Mannion and Pat Lewis with Marcus Tolliver, Richmond VA, winner of the Auxiliary Gift Card drawing.

Health Plan Seminar



Bonnie Sevre, Carolyn Denton, Bill Kaczor, Joan Kaczor and Pat Lewis at the Health Plan reception.

Auxiliary Executive Board Meeting



Auxiliary President Kathy Danek with National APWU Secretary Liz Powell and National APWU President Mark Dimondstein at the Auxiliary E-Board meeting discussing issues.



2015 BRIDGE BUILDERS GUIDELINES

Rewarding a lifetime of Auxiliary Dedication

The Bridge Builders Award was designed to recognize those members of either the Auxiliary or the APWU who have shown support for the Auxiliary. Those who are honored with this award are active in one or more of the following areas:

1. Assisting the Union/Auxiliary
2. Human Relations
3. Legislation
4. Political Action
5. Public Relations
6. Organizing/ Recruiting

This award is given only once a year and to one person per state. The letter of nomination must come from an **Auxiliary Member** and must list the areas the person is active in. The person may only receive the award one time. We encourage all Auxiliary members, in good standing, to submit a letter of nomination for a member Local or State Auxiliary or APWU. That person may be someone that no one really sees. It may be the member who sells all those entire rolls of raffle tickets to help raise funds, or the member who lugs all the boxes and helps set up. That member may have written countless letters to their representatives or helped during a campaign. The list goes on and on. Those members are out there and they deserve to be recognized and rewarded. Take a few minutes to tell us about that member.

The deadline is December 31, 2015.

Be sure to include name, city and state, local name and tell us about the accomplishments they have done in the areas above.

Please use black ink to fill out the nomination form.

You may mail the completed form to: Clara Hill at wavehill@att.net OR

Mail the form and optional letter by certified mail to: Clara Hill, Chairperson, 2710 Waverly Street, Knoxville, TN. 37921

I know there are members out there that deserve this award. Take a minute and read the guidelines and if you have such a person in your local or state, nominate them for the award.

Clara Hill, Chairperson
Bridge Builders Committee

BRIDGE BULDERS AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please send (via US. Mail, fax or email) completed form of nomination to Clara Hill,

2710 Waverly St, Knoxville, TN 37921 or contact her at Wavechill@att.net, fax # 865-637-1867

Deadline December 31st, 2015

THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR NOMINATION.

LETTER OF NOMINATION IS OPTIONAL, BUT IF IT IS SENT, IT MUST BE DATED AND SIGNED!

If more space is needed, please attach a separate sheet of paper!

All Nominations will receive a letter of acknowledgement from the committee.

	Please write answers in this column	
1. Name of person being nominated:		
2. City and State that nominee is from:		
3. Which of the following areas has the nominee been active in? (Check one or more that apply)		
a. Assisting the Union/Auxiliary ___	b. Human Relations ___	
c. Legislation ___	d. Political Action ___	
e. Public Relations ___	f. Organizing/Recruiting ___	
g. Other ___ Please specify:		
4. Please give details of what they have done in the above areas:	Please tell us about any Community Service or Activity they are or have been involved in:	
5. Has nominee been or is an Officer in the APWU/Auxiliary?	6. Offices held and what level (state/local, etc.)?	
	State	Local
7. How many years has this person been a member?		
<i>Optional question please included with any further details.</i>		
8. Is their family involved? (Please give a brief description of involvement.)		
9. Did they chair any committees for their local or state? (Please give details.)		
10. Did they implement any new programs at the state or local level? (Please give details.)		
11. Name, address and local of person submitting this nomination.		
Date submitted:		
Submitted by (name & Local)		



HEALTH PLAN

Together. Better Health.

2016 Premiums

**2015 Open Season Dates:
November 9th through
December 14th**

High Option

Consumer Driven Option

You Are A	SELF ONLY 471		SELF PLUS 473		SELF AND FAMILY 472	
	You Pay		You Pay		You Pay	
APWU Career	\$68.14	bi-weekly	\$129.46		\$188.46	
Postal Category 1	\$68.14	bi-weekly	\$129.46		\$188.46	
Postal Category 2	\$80.00	bi-weekly	\$155.07		\$215.60	
Non-postal	\$80.00	bi-weekly	\$155.07		\$215.60	
	\$173.34	monthly	\$335.98		\$467.13	

You Are A	SELF ONLY 474		SELF PLUS 476		SELF AND FAMILY 475	
	You Pay		You Pay		You Pay	
APWU Career	\$10.39	bi-weekly	\$22.85		\$24.93	
APWU Career (less than a year in FEHB)	\$43.11	bi-weekly	\$94.84		\$103.46	
APWU Non-career (PSE)	\$51.94	bi-weekly	\$114.27		\$124.65	
Postal Category 1	\$43.11	bi-weekly	\$94.84		\$103.46	
Postal Category 2	\$51.94	bi-weekly	\$114.27		\$124.65	
Non-postal	\$51.94	bi-weekly	\$114.27		\$124.65	
	\$112.54	monthly	\$247.58		\$270.08	

More information coming soon.
Visit www.apwuhp.com and click on "Open Season"



Do you know why Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11th every year?

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in the First World War, then known as "the Great War." Commemorated as Armistice Day beginning the following year, November 11th became a legal federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became Veterans Day, a holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars.

In 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill changing 4 national holidays, including Veteran's day to a Monday holiday.

In 1975 when it became clear that many Americans still observed the holiday on it's original date, President Gerald Ford signed a new law returning the observation of Veteran's Day to November 11th beginning in 1978.

DMI LOCAL AUXILIARY RAISES MONEY FOR FEEDING AMERICA BACKPACK PROGRAM

By: Mark Sarcone

The Des Moines Iowa Area Local 44 Auxiliary has stepped up their efforts again to help others in greater need. In support of the National APWU Auxiliary Human Relations Project, Feeding America Backpack Program, Des Moines raised a total of \$1,677. The money was raised by raffling off prizes that were drawn at the Auxiliary's October 3, 2015 meeting.

Thank you to all of the Auxiliary Members who sold raffle tickets. Thank you to all that purchased raffle tickets for this worthy cause. A special thanks to the following who donated prizes or prize money: Marsha Herman, Sally Whitman, Karen Tallman, Cindy Weems, Christine Sarcone, Robin Arnold and Debra Dickerson. Further, thank you to the DMI APWU Retiree Association for donating \$200 and to Terry and Sharon Glenn for their donation of \$50.

The best part about this fundraiser: ALL monies will go to the Food Bank of Iowa to be used locally.

According to the National Auxiliary's webpage: More than 21 million children qualify for free or reduced-price meals through the National School Lunch Program and the National School Breakfast Program. For many of these children, school meals may be the only meals they eat. What happens when they go home over the weekend?



Pictured from left to right: Robin Arnold, Debra Dickerson, Mike Bates, Cindy Weems, Mark Sarcone, Christine Sarcone, Karen Tallman, Vancee Ringleb, Bernita Jones, Cindy Housh, Morrie Ringleb and Lonnie Matticks.

For more than 15 years, the Feeding America Backpack Program has been helping children get the nutritious and easy-to-prepare food they need to get enough to eat on the weekends. Today, bags of food are assembled at more than 160 local food banks and then distributed to more than 450,000 children at the end of the week.

President's Report - continued

By: Kathy Danek, President

financial losses. But if you remove this \$5.5 billion requirement, the USPS is operating in the black – making money – serving our communities and our citizens. They are doing so with a leaner workforce.

Reducing service standards was shortsighted. The privatizers and profiteers see the USPS as their next big "kill". UPS and FedEx both utilized the last mile of delivery from the USPS. AND they charge extra to do so. As Auxiliary members, we need to write our members of Congress and demand their assistance in fighting to restore next day delivery. The House Resolution 54 is a good start. If they have already signed on please thank them. If they haven't, please convince them to do so. We have a responsibility to improve our services. We can also ask them to expand services in our underserved neighborhoods where banks no longer exist. Why can't we cash a check at the post office? Why are we barred from providing services in these underserved areas?

Build that relationship with your Congressional Representatives and Senators. Hold them accountable. AND get involved in the elections in your communities. Make sure you are registered to vote and follow through by voting in every election. The largest voter turnout is during a presidential election, but all elections have consequences and we need to be active and involved.

Work in your civic and volunteer organizations to engage the discussion on the USPS. Remember people still use it every single day. It's correspondence, business, delivery, information, and communication. It's about the personal touch that enters each and every home and business. It's up to you. We can win this fight if we all work together. Thanks for all you do on behalf of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union. Now, let's get to work!





NOVEMBER 2015

2014-2016 National Officers

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THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Check the "Dues Expired" date on your envelope label. If your dues are not current, please send a check for \$5.00 per year for National dues. Mail them to:
Treasurer Trisa Mannion at
3038 Cloverdale Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81506
- State and Local dues should be paid to your state and local treasurers.

Color editions of News and View can be viewed on the Auxiliary website: www.apwuauxiliary.org

Please keep District 4 Coordinator Debra Stewart and her family in your thoughts and prayers as her mother and brother are both very ill.

Human Relations Back Pack Project

During the All Craft Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada we had an Auxiliary booth where a 50/50 raffle was held raising monies for the Feeding America Backpack Project. Thank you to all who participated in the drawing.

To date we have raised over \$10,000 for the Feeding America Backpack Project. Thank you to all of the state and local unions and auxiliaries as well as individuals who have donated to this worthy cause.

At the All Craft Conference the Auxiliary also raffled off a handmade shawl donated by Rebecca Kingsley, District 2 Coordinator with the proceeds of over \$300 going to the Scholarship Program.

An iPad Air 2 was raffled off with the proceeds going to the Riso fund. The iPad was won by Jean Williams from Chicago, Illinois.

Care to Donate?

Please make checks payable to:

National Auxiliary APWU

and mail to:

Trisa Mannion

3038 Cloverdale Ct

Grand Junction, CO 81506

www.apwuauxiliary.org



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