

News & Views



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Saving the USPS – Our Responsibility By Kathy Danek, President

Some 200 years ago John Adams (President and Vice President of the United States) said, “ *Government is instituted for the common good; for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people; and not for the profit, honor, or private interest of any one man, family, or class of men: Therefore the people alone have an incontestable, unalienable, and indefeasible right to institute government; and to reform, alter, or totally change the same, when their protection, safety, prosperity and happiness require it.*”

The fight to save the USPS and their 700,000 workers weighs heavily on the minds of the APWU and Auxiliary. But the impact reaches much further than our jobs – it is about service to and for the American people. It is a service that is protected in the Constitution of the US. President Adams got it right when he said “Government is instituted for the common good for the protection, safety, prosperity and happiness of the people.....” But today, you would have to wonder if anyone in Washington DC was really listening.

More importantly, you would have to wonder if the American people can see the effects of the crippling legislation as proposed in HR 1486. We take for granted that our mail will be delivered to our homes six days a week, for the same price (currently 49 cents for a first class 1 ounce letter). But who really relies on the mail – and why is it so important. Think about it – really think about it. We use the mail to transact business. Many businesses require important signed documents to be delivered via the US Mail. (They do not accept faxes or scans). And those businesses also find that the US Mail is a very effective tool for communication to each and every household.

The USPS serves every single address – and we are adding about 1,000,000 (that’s one million) addresses each year. We drop it in a box –and as if by magic it is delivered to any address in the country. If a person moves, it is forwarded for FREE for up to a year. The mail is a conduit for public elections – in fact many cities and states use vote by mail as a way to conduct their elections. The state of Oregon is 100% vote by mail. Voting by mail will continue to increase – It isn’t just about the convenience, but rather it is about the integrity and federal protection of the US Mail. It is a federal offense to tamper with the US Mail.

Just like the rest of businesses, the USPS saw a decline in mail during the great recession. Many businesses did not have the excess cash to purchase advertising via the mail, the newspaper, television, etc. But today, things are improving. Job growth is steady – although not vigorous, Unemployment is falling. Our nation is moving forward.

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MARCH

8th International Women’s Day



17th St. Patrick’s Day



Check out our website
www.apwuauxiliary.org

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Saving the USPS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

So, who really uses the mail and why do we need it. Senior citizens rely heavily on the mail and the USPS. That communication to their home on a daily basis is extremely valuable to people who no longer drive, have no availability to mass transit, or are home bound due to illness or life changes. Who will serve the seniors – and don't we have a responsibility to insure that they have access to communication?

Families rely on the mail, especially families with limited resources and income. They need the mail to transact their daily business. They vote by mail, get car licenses by mail, send cards, letters and pay bills by mail.

Businesses communicate with us by mail. Important communications for families comes by mail. In fact many businesses require it. Just try to cash in an insurance policy – the companies require the documents be sent by mail. AND for a bargain of the price of postage, delivery confirmation, etc., you can track that document and make sure it is delivered - a necessity when you are working through those very important fiscal issues. And the businesses want to make sure you see the communications from them. The use of standard mail (bulk business mail) is holding steady over the past two years.

So, what can we do? For starters, you can all write, call and meet with your elected Senators and Representatives. But first become informed. Let them know that they need to preserve and protect the USPS and the Constitutional integrity of the USPS. Many want to quote the Constitution when it suits them. I would question their fervor for the Constitution if they turn their back on the USPS in favor of a privatized business model.

If you are active in your state and local political parties, you could ask them to add the protection of the USPS to their platform. That's exactly what Mesa County Secretary Trisa Mannion (our Auxiliary National Treasurer) did. And all she had to do was become engaged and active – and ask for their help. For more information on getting this done, see the article entitled –“Getting it on the Platform”.

Ask your local organizations, clubs, churches, friends and neighbors to help preserve the USPS. It belongs to the citizens of our country, is protected by the Constitution and is an integral delivery system for business. Saving the Post Office is the responsibility of us all.

Scan QR code to get connected to the Auxiliary Website.



Getting it on the platform

By Trisa Mannion

We would appreciate seeing this kind of language in every state platform. To get this language included begin at your Democratic or Republican party caucus. They are approaching very soon so please make sure you attend. Since there may not be a lot of contested elections it may not be well attended and easier to get this passed. If you can become a delegate to the County Assembly it will give you a chance to champion it once again.

That the "Your State" Democratic Party supports postal reform legislation that would: Secure the continuance of 6-day mail delivery; Stabilize the Postal Service's finances by reforming or eliminating all prefunding of health care obligations; Return service standards to 2011 levels with the expectation of overnight service within a zip code; provide postal banking services to our communities; Retain door-to-door delivery for 30 million plus households and businesses; all with the intent of providing the best, fastest and highest quality of service attainable to the American people.

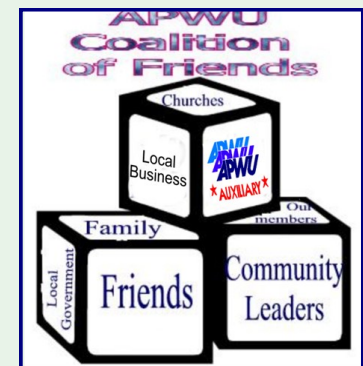
If you need assistance with this process call Kathy Danek or Trisa Mannion.



WWAST SCHEDULE

MARCH
14-16 Surprise, AZ
21-23 Ft. Worth, TX

APRIL
11-13 Rocky Mount, NC
25-27 Norfolk, VA



Share your Blessings with those in need.

Collecting Food for the hungry
Warm Clothes
Sharing gifts from the heart
A child's Gift
A Warm Blanket

Do you know what a resolution is or how it is written?

Colette Phillippe-District 1 Coordinator

State conventions are either in full swing or are approaching. Have you assigned delegates to a resolution committee? Do you know what a resolution is or how it is written?

A resolution is a formal proposal put before the delegation for action. At conventions, resolutions are used to make changes to constitutions and to establish a policy or procedure. Resolutions may be submitted by an individual, by officers, by committees or by local or state Auxiliaries.

A resolution lays out the reasons for a proposal and formally states the proposal as a Main Motion. Sometimes, resolutions are not acted upon at conventions because they are improperly written or don't really say what the maker of the resolution intended. It really is not that hard to write a resolution. On pages 84 and 85 of the Auxiliary Handbook, it explains how to write a resolution. It even has examples for you to follow.

If you plan to write a resolution and submit it to the National Auxiliary for consideration at the National convention, please submit it so that it arrives before June 1, 2014, so that it may be included in the Consolidated Report. Resolutions must be signed by the President and Secretary of your state or local auxiliary.

Make 3 copies of each resolution. Original is sent to the National Auxiliary Secretary; a copy is sent the National Auxiliary President and a copy is retained for your files.

If you do not have time to get your resolution(s) sent by June 1, then you must bring it to the National Convention in Chicago and submit it to the Resolution Committee before 3:00 PM on Tuesday of the convention week.

If you have written a resolution that is effecting elections, it must be submitted no later than the close of business on Monday of the National Convention.

The National Constitution and By-Laws also states on page 18, Article XI, Sec. 2: "That in the event that any such resolution has not been submitted in enough time to be included in the Convention Consolidated Report, the bringer of such resolution shall provide enough copies to be disseminated to the entire body of delegates."



**Submit resolutions before
June 21st, 2014**

Just a reminder—You could be Eligible to win our 2014 Nilan Scholarship

If you have been a member of the Auxiliary for the past year (and this new year), you now are eligible to apply for our **\$750.00 Nilan Adult Continuing Education Scholarship?** Whether you are interested in improving skills you already have in computers, writing, languages, music, etc., or have a wish to learn something completely new, this scholarship is a good way to go. It is **completely free**-no paying back-and will be available to you for the Fall of 2014. So why not set a goal to enter? You could be our next winner!

Applications requests are available on the Auxiliary to the APWU website. All you need to do is:

Fill out the official application form.

Write an essay on the 2014 topic:

"Why is buying USA or Union-made products so important?"

All essays must be typed, double-spaced on white paper and be between 175-250 words.

Send your **application and essay** together in an envelope via Certified Mail, Return Receipt requested, to:

Mary Lois Clayson
180 W. Apple Blossom Way
Salem, UT 84653

Entries must be postmarked on or before **July 1, 2014.**

You will be notified by mail whether or not you have won.



**"Why is buying USA or
Union-made products
so important?"**

Auxiliary Convention Call

TO ALL LOCAL AND STATE AUXILIARIES AND MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

LOCALS WITHOUT LEADERS

AUXILIARY CONVENTION CALL

Official notice is hereby given that the National Convention of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union will convene in Chicago, Illinois July 21-25, 2014, and will continue in daily session until the business of the convention is completed. Official convention headquarters for the Auxiliary will be at the McCormick Place Convention Center.

The Legislative objectives of the American Postal Workers Union, extending knowledge of the political operations of the government and support of the Human Relations programs of the APWU are the primary purposes and the programs of the Auxiliary. Our parent organization needs and expects our support and activities in the legislative, political and Human Relations fields as well as in other areas. Future Auxiliary support and activities will be formulated at this convention, plus review of the constitution and by-laws of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union.

Therefore: State and Local Auxiliaries are urged to send their full quota of delegates. Delegates should be elected early. The delegates should be well informed on the purpose, activities of the Auxiliary, and actions desired by their State and Local Auxiliaries. Members-at-Large and members of Locals Without Leaders (LWOL) are also urged to attend and avail themselves of progress of our Auxiliary. Visitors are encouraged to register as guest and attend all meetings and functions of the convention.

Excerpts from the Constitution and by-laws ARTICLE V – REPRESENTATION

- Sec. 1 a) Per capita tax representation shall be based on the amount of per capita tax received twenty (20) days prior to the opening of the National Auxiliary Convention.
- b) In order to be seated as a delegate and able to vote on any issue during the National Convention, the per capita tax must be received by the National Treasurer at least twenty (20) days prior to the opening of the National Auxiliary Convention.
- c) The minimum age to be seated as a delegate on the National Convention floor shall be twelve (12).
- Sec. 2 a) Every Area Local and Local Auxiliary shall be entitled to a minimum of five (5) votes plus one (1) additional vote for each ten (10) members or major fraction thereof
- b) LWOL chapters shall be entitled to four (4) votes. National Convention credentials for LWOL delegates must be verified by the Credential Committee and signed by the credential chairperson, and/or the National Auxiliary President and the National Secretary.
- c) Each member-at-large attending the convention shall have one (1) vote.
- d) Each National Officer shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- e) Any past National President of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union shall be seated as a delegate on the convention floor with one (1) vote.
- Sec. 3 One or more delegates may cast the full number of votes to which their Auxiliary is entitled provided no vote is divided smaller than one (1) vote per delegate. No proxy votes shall be allowed.
- Sec. 4 a) Credentials of delegates shall be sent so as to reach the National Secretary not later than thirty (30) days before the convening of the National Convention. These credentials shall be tabulated by states in alphabetical order and shall be furnished to the National President not later than fifteen (15) days preceding the National Convention. State Delegates credentials shall be accepted later, in the event State Conventions are held less than thirty (30) days prior to the National Convention. The credentials chairperson at the National Convention shall not accept any credentials, which have not been properly authorized by the officers of the respective Auxiliaries.
- b) Alternate delegates may be seated in the permanent absence of regular delegates upon presentation of the proper credentials.
- Sec.5 State Auxiliaries are entitled to representation at the National Convention. Such delegates shall have a total of ten (10) votes. One or more delegates shall cast the full number of votes to which their state is entitled, provided that no vote is divided smaller than one (1) vote per delegate. A state delegate cannot act as a delegate for his or her respective local auxiliary.

Auxiliary Convention Call

ONLINE DELEGATE REGISTRATION FOR LOCAL, STATE, MAL OR LWOL – is available at www.apwuauxiliary.org for all delegates. Please remember in order to be seated at the National Convention delegates must bring a completed credential, signed by the President and Secretary of the Auxiliary they are elected to represent and present it to the Auxiliary registration desk at the Convention Center..

MAL and LWOL delegate credentials are signed by National President & Secretary.

LOCAL CREDENTIALS, MEMBERS AT LARGE/LOCALS WITHOUT LEADERS (LWOL)

Credentials shall be automatically issued to the Local Auxiliaries in good standing as of January 1, 2014 provided they participated in the 2012 National Convention. **FOR LOCALS WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE 2012 NATIONAL CONVENTION:** Credentials must be requested by the local president via letter, e-mail or fax from the National Secretary—Patricia Lewis, 1500 30th Street Richmond, Virginia, 23223 or online at www.apwuauxiliary.org. Credentials will be promptly mailed from the Secretary's office to the Local President when the above information is received. As soon as delegates have been elected, the delegates name, address and respective local Auxiliary should be either sent *by the Local President* to the National Secretary.

NOTE: Only the local President should make credentials request. This is to eliminate receiving duplicate request for credentials in the Secretary's office.

MEMBERS AT LARGE AND LWOL'S must request credentials via letter, e-mail, online or fax from the National Secretary—Patricia Lewis, 1500 30th Street Richmond, Virginia, 23223.

STATE CREDENTIALS:

Credentials will be mailed to the State President. Return the completed original copy, signed by State President and State Secretary, to the National Secretary not later than June 20, 2014, thirty days prior to the convening of the convention..

Duplicate credentials should be filled in and retained by the delegate or the member-at-large to be presented at the registration desk at the convention.

Alternate credentials should be filled in and retained by the alternate delegate to be presented at the registration desk at the convention in the event the elected delegate is unable to attend.

Credentials should be filled out as directed and signed by properly authorized officers. APWU credentials will not be accepted as Auxiliary delegate credentials. If delegates are selected too late to request credentials, the delegate must bring to the convention a letter, signed by the President and/or Secretary certifying that they are representing their Auxiliary. This letter should be presented at the Auxiliary Headquarters Office at the convention and credentials will be issued. When credentials have not been issued, delegates will be required to have a letter or a telegram for verification showing they are authorized delegates. Personal verifications cannot be accepted.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolutions must be prepared in duplicate and signed by respective officers or delegate(s). Only one resolution may appear on a page and each resolution should have an appropriate title. To be printed in the Resolution Booklet, resolutions must be received on or before June 20, 2014. All resolutions must be accompanied by a financial impact statement. Statements will be forwarded by the National Secretary to the National Treasurer for verification of the accuracy of the impact statement.

Prior to the convening of the National Convention, resolutions shall be sent to the National Secretary. The National Auxiliary requires resolutions submitted via fax or email to also have an original signed copy of the resolution sent via the US Postal Service to the National Secretary. The original copy should be sent to the National Secretary, Patricia Lewis 1500 N. 30th Street-Richmond, Virginia 23223. The duplicate copy should be sent to the National President, Kathy Danek, 4261 Knox St, Lincoln, NE 68504.

Resolutions submitted after June 20, 2014 and prior to 12:00 noon July 21 2014 (the first day of the National Convention) will be presented to the Convention for consideration and action, but may not appear in the Resolutions Book. Resolutions presented after 12:00 noon August 20th will be considered in accordance with the approved rules of the 2014 National Convention. Resolutions may be e-mailed to the Secretary at Netta15@aol.com. A signed copy of the resolution must still be mailed to the President and the Secretary.

NOTE: No delegates may switch status after registration at all, except in the case of an alternate delegate who may switch only once. No further registration of delegates after 5:00 PM of the day preceding nominations at the National Convention. All delegates who wish to be withdrawn from delegate status must request it in writing or report it to the National President.

Fraternally Yours:

Kathy Danek, National President

Patricia Lewis, National Secretary

Stop Staples

Staples, why so secretive?

“As a matter of policy, we are unable to provide details on this program or on our agreement with the United States Post Office.”

– Staples' response to APWU members in Connecticut

Get the full story:

StopStaples.com

For APWU & Auxiliary Members Stop Staples NOW

Information taken from the message from APWU President Mark Dimondtein

Sign the online petition and send Staples a message at <http://StopStaples.com>
DO IT TODAY – PROTECT & SAVE YOUR JOBS

By now, most of you have heard. The backroom deal struck by Staples and the USPS is just the latest move to outsource public postal services and eliminate jobs. **The Staples pilot program lays the groundwork for a future without local Post Offices, where postal services are instead performed by private companies that pay low wages.**

Privatizing postal services will replace good paying union jobs that strengthen our communities with low-wage Staples jobs that hurt our economy. Staples CEO Ron Sargent will keep making millions, while working families pay the price.

The APWU has launched an online campaign to protect APWU jobs, keep our Post Offices open, and defend the integrity of the mail. Please join the APWU members who rallied this week by adding your voice to the petition now.

The good news is that Staples is already feeling the heat. Over the past two weeks they've seen protests and high-profile media coverage from ABC, CBS, and NBC. **Staples is making headlines, but not the kind they – or any company – want.**

We need everyone to get involved in spreading the word right now, so we can keep the pressure on Staples while we have their attention. **Please forward this email to your friends and family to tell them about the Stop Staples campaign.** Make sure you're following the APWU on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to see photos from the protests -- and please share and retweet our latest posts.

If Staples wants to have Post Offices in their stores, postal employees must be assigned to perform the work. Period. If Staples refuses, they should expect more protests and more headlines. And they should expect customers to start taking their business elsewhere. Staples bosses are waiting to see how this pilot program goes before they say “yes” to expanding the program to all 1,600 of their locations.

WHAT DO WE WANT?.....JUSTICE——WHEN DO WE WANT IT?.....NOW



The APWU & Auxiliary can win this fight, but needs all hands on deck. Get involved today—from APWU President Mark Dimondtein

Is Staples feeling the Pinch – working the grass roots to Stop Staples from stealing our jobs.

Staples doesn't just want to sell stamps. A lot of our grocery stores sell stamps. They go to the post office and purchase the stamps to sell in their stores. Our clerks sell those stamps. But Staples has ventured into something a lot more intrusive. They want to operate full service retail units in their stores – using employees with no connection to the USPS or the APWU. That really means we have little protection of the mail until that mail is delivered to a post office and enters into the mail stream. They want to handle certified, insured and registered mail. Postal employees take an oath, are overseen by postal inspectors, and know that it is a federal offense to tamper with the US Mail.

Gary Phillippe, President of the Montana Postal Workers gave the following example, “If you feel comfortable letting someone watch you put a \$20 bill in a Christmas Card don't be mad when it does not get there.” That really is the name of the game in a nutshell. Postal employees are sworn to secure and deliver the US Mail.

Seattle postal workers have also joined the fight with a hand delivered letter to their Staples Stores. It's a really ingenious idea to broaden the scope of our fight. Auxiliary and APWU members could also draft a similar letter that shares this message. Thanks to Myrna C Umali, President, GSAL APWU for the letter. Basically, if you staff the Staples retail center with non career USPS Employees, we will not shop in your store. I have altered the intro slightly to reflect the Auxiliary membership. Similar letters could be drafted from large and small APWU & Auxiliary locals.

The text of that letter is on following page;

HAND DELIVERED

Staples

Attn: Store Manager
Address of your staples

Your city, Your State and Zip

Dear Sir/Madam:

As members, family and friends of the APWU Auxiliary, we protest the opening of pilot "postal units" staffed by non-USPS employees in more than 80 Staple stores in various parts of the country. Only postal employees are allowed to provide services wearing a postal uniform; are fully accountable to the public, and sworn to uphold the sanctity of the mail.

We understand that Staples wishes to increase customers by placing these units into their stores. However, if these "postal units" are not staffed with postal employees, we will have no other choice than to ask our members, families, friends and colleagues, many of who are Staples customers, to refrain from doing business with your store.
Sincerely,

Your name, title and address

SHAMROCK SHAKES

Ingredients

- 2 cups milk
 - 2 cups lime sherbet
 - 2 ripe bananas.
 - optional green food coloring.
- blender**



Directions

Put the ingredients in a blender (add a bit of green food coloring if you like to make it a brighter green) and blend until frothy.

Serve immediately.

ASK CLARA ?
About the Health Plan

Be Active

MONDAY
30 minutes of brisk walking or 45 minutes of doubles tennis

TUESDAY
30 minutes of jogging, weight lifting or 60 minutes of playing softball

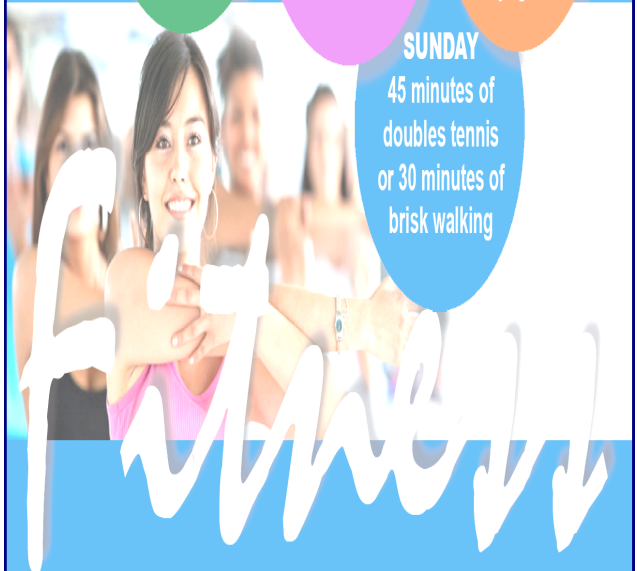
WEDNESDAY
Resistance band exercises, yoga or 30 minutes of brisk walking

THURSDAY
Weight training or 30 minutes of mowing the lawn

FRIDAY
25 minutes of singles tennis or 30 minutes of vigorous hiking

SATURDAY
Heavy gardening, resistance band exercises or yoga

SUNDAY
45 minutes of doubles tennis or 30 minutes of brisk walking



Be active.

There are many ways to accomplish this goal...and you don't have to run a marathon. There are many activities that count as "exercise".

The variety will surprise you. Basically anything counts, as long as it's at a moderate or vigorous intensity for at least 10 minutes at a time. If you're not sure where to start, we have provided some examples of weekly activity routines you may want to try. According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 150 minutes a week of moderate intensity aerobic activity AND 2 days muscle strengthening will help you **Be Active**.



HEALTH PLAN

Together. Better Health.

1-800-222-2798

www.apwuhp.com

Auxiliary to the APWU , AFL-CIO
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Save the Date

*National Convention to be held in
Chicago, Illinois
July 21st-25th, 2014
Look for preconvention workshop
information coming soon.*

REMEMBER!

*Get your membership dues sent in
as soon as possible.*



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