



NEWS & VIEWS

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Using Your Voice

Kathy Danek - President



“To bring together persons interested in the efforts of the American Postal Workers Union for better working conditions.” These words are listed in the National Auxiliary Constitution as the first of five objectives of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO. They guide us in our work as partners with the APWU.

Tensions are running high in our nation. The Parkland Florida school shooting has reignited discussions about the safety and security of innocent victims to gun violence. Eighteen school shootings have occurred since January 1, 2018. We’ve witnessed shootings in movie theaters, concerts, schools, meetings – anyplace that a large group of unsuspecting people gather. At our 2017 All Craft Conference in Las Vegas, many of us remember the shooting at a concert. For long time postal workers, it also reignited memories of shootings like Edmond Oklahoma and Royal Oak Michigan – where a shooter (an employee) walked into a postal facility and fired weapons on unsuspecting coworkers. They even coined an undignified phrase of “Going Postal” to describe workplace violence. As the spouse of an almost 40 year postal worker, I remember the stress of him going to work in

that environment. And it was the APWU and Auxiliary that helped to fight to create a safer work environment for our employees.

This is not intended to be political, but rather direct us to reactions of the events. There is heightened awareness and I have been heartened to see that the children and their families decided to find a way to make their voices heard. They formed a grassroots coalition, buried their dead, loaded busses and went to their state capital to demand action. Even though success seemed limited at the moment, they kept their resolve and reminded us all that they will be 18 soon and they will vote. They are the consumers of the future. They are the future. Therein lies my point. They understand that as citizens of this country, they must get involved in their communities, states and nation and become active and engaged voters. Heck, we’ve even seen corporations making changes in what they sell, how and what discounts are given, and actually pulling things from the shelves and changing policies.



Postal Workers and their families have been through many of these changes. We’ve seen everything from a hostile work environment, lack of respect and enforcement of a mutually agreed contract, elimination of jobs (not because of a lack of work but a way to support management bonuses;) and a directive that works on paper but is not applicable in common sense sortation and delivery of the mail.

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Auxiliary Executive Board Meets in Pittsburgh PA

By: Bonnie Sevre - Legislative Aide Editor

In February the Auxiliary Executive Board met in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. This provided us with an opportunity to tour the David L. Lawrence Convention Center where our national convention will be held in August. We also were taken on a brief tour of the Westin Hotel which adjoins the convention center and then on a tour of the city around the convention center. There are many restaurants in the area within walking distance of the hotels and many things to do in the area. Pirates Stadium is across the river from the convention center.

Much of our board meeting was spent planning for the National Auxiliary Convention. Decisions were made on what responsibilities each of us would have in preparation for the convention - pre-convention classes, what raffles we will have for COPA, Children, Incorporated - our Human Relations project, Scholarship - to name a few. We are hoping to have a couple of fun activities in which the delegates can participate.

Time was spent on how we will cover state conventions and multi-state seminars. We are all looking forward to



The Auxiliary Board - l to r - Rebecca Kingsley, Joyce Tanguay, Trisa Mannion, Kathy Danek, Debra Stewart, Bonnie Sevre, Clara Hill and Colette Phillippe

attending conventions and will be there to help the union and the auxiliary any way we can.

All in all, it was a productive meeting, everyone working together and getting a lot accomplished.

Using Your Voice

President's Article - continued from page 1



What we really need to do is reignite our political activism. We are part of a citizen led democracy that demands participation. That participation should always include registering to vote and then following up with getting informed on issues and candidates. And it includes casting your vote. Your vote is the single most precious right as a citizen of the United States. That right to vote casts a wide net on the way we work, the way we live, the way we interact, travel, purchase and consume safe foods, the air we breathe, the effects and solutions of our environment, our military, security, police, infrastructure, health care..... Need I go on? Our vote is a catalyst to getting things in place to secure a better standard of living. That very language, "a better standard of living," is one of the constitutional objectives of this Auxiliary.

Our Auxiliary works best with active participation in meetings, training, and activity in our communities. We should start with asking every APWU member to sign up a member in the Auxiliary. National dues for Auxiliary members are \$5 per member per year. State and local dues vary across the nation. Once you pay those dues, you should engage each other to activate and participate in building a strong local Auxiliary. Use your voice, your volunteer labor, your intellect and your treasure to make a difference. We need a strong active USPS as the

communication and commercial infrastructure of our nation. Call your district coordinator or state officer to get your local Auxiliary moving again. Attend meetings, conventions, and training. Volunteer in your community. Communicate with each other.

We have a very important election in 2018. Preservation of our APWU jobs is imperative. But equally important is the preservation and movement of our nation. We're counting on each of you. Thanks for all you do for our Auxiliary and the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO.



HEAR YE, YEAR YE!!!

Join us for the 2018 National APWU and Auxiliary Convention

By: **Kathy Danek - President**

The Auxiliary to the APWU will convene in convention in Pittsburgh PA August 20 – 23 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. Locals and states should be making plans to elect their delegates for the convention. Members at Large (MAL and LWOL) of the Auxiliary can also be delegates to the convention. Actual voting strength and how to obtain credentials is published in our convention call and will be available on the Auxiliary website.

For more than 100 years, the Auxiliary has been engaged in making the USPS and our communities a better place to work and live. But we need each one of you to set the tone for the future. If you have questions about attending the convention or getting more involved feel free to contact me at kmdanek@aol.com or call at 402-464-8557. I'd be happy to visit with you and help.

We're planning a very exciting convention. We've got a great human relations project to benefit Children Incorporated. Thanks to every APWU and Auxiliary who has already donated to the project. We will have a celebration event to honor individual members as well as local & state Auxiliaries.

But don't wait until August 20 to show up. We have training on Sunday August 19 which will include Political and Legislative Activity, First timers, and Recruiting volunteers...And keeping them. We'll be volunteering with the APWU Registration efforts August 17 -19. What we are really saying is we can't wait to see YOU at this convention.

We'll have election of officers for the 2018-2020 term. We'll debate and pass resolutions for the future. We'll review and improve our Constitution through the Resolution process. And we'll continue work to raise funds for our Auxiliary Human Relations projects and COPA.

AND we'll have fun, see our friends from across the nation, and make new friends through our participation. We hope you will make plans to attend the 2018 National Auxiliary Convention. Watch News and Views for an itinerary of events..

HOTEL INFO: (FROM APWU WEBSITE)

Westin Convention Center Hotel (HQ hotel) 1000 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA
FOR RESERVATIONS: (866) 238-8235

Wyndham Grand Hotel – 600 Commonwealth PL, Pittsburgh PA Rate per night \$159 plus tax
FOR RESERVATIONS: (412) 391-4600; reference

“American Postal Workers Union”
OR online at: <https://aws.passkey.com/e/49560088>

Doubletree Hotel, 1 Bigelow Square, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, Rate per night \$150 plus tax
FOR RESERVATIONS: (800) 737-8054; reference “APW”
http://doubletree.hilton.com/en/dt/groups/personalized/P/PITDTRD-APW-0180814/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Omni William Penn Hotel 530 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15219; Rate per night \$156 plus tax
FOR RESERVATIONS: (800) 843-6664; reference “APWU 2018 Biennial National Convention”
Online reservations: <https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/pittsburgh-william-penn/meetings/apwu-2018-biennial-national-convention>

Save the Date!

National Auxiliary Convention

August 20-23, 2018

Pittsburgh, PA



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 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania August 20-23, 2018 and will continue in daily session until the business of the convention is completed. Official convention headquarters for the Auxiliary will be at the Westin Hotel.

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 guests 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. Dues must be paid current through the first day of the month following 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) State Auxiliaries are entitled to representation at National Convention. Such delegates shall have a total of ten (10) votes. A state representative cannot act as a delegate for his or her respective local auxiliary.
- e) Each National Officer shall be entitled to one (1) vote.
- f) 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 delegation 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.

ONLINE DELEGATE REGISTRATION FOR LOCAL, STATE, MAL OR LWOL – is available at www.apwuauxiliary.org for all delegates. Please remember that 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, 2018 provided they participated in the 2016 National Convention. FOR LOCALS WHO DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE 2016 NATIONAL CONVENTION: Credentials must be requested by the local president via letter, e-mail or fax from the National President – Kathy Danek, P.O. Box 4243, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504 or online at www.apwuauxiliary.org. Credentials will be promptly mailed from the President’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 Auxiliary, P.O. Box 4243, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504.

NOTE: Only the local President should make credentials request. This is to eliminate receiving duplicate requests 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 President – Kathy Danek, P.O. Box 4243, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504.

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 President not later than July 21, 2018, 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 July 20, 2018. All resolutions must be accompanied by a financial impact statement. Statements will be forwarded 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 Auxiliary. The National Auxiliary requires resolutions submitted via fax (402-464-8557) or email to also have an original signed copy of the resolution sent via the US Postal Service to the National President. The original copy should be sent to the National President, Kathy Danek, P.O. Box 4243, Lincoln, Nebraska 68504. The duplicate copy should be sent to the National Secretary, Patricia Lewis, 1500 N. 30th Street, Richmond, Virginia 23223.

Resolutions submitted after July 20, 2018 and prior to 12:00 noon, August 20, 2018 (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 2018 National Convention.

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

Ask Tina? *About the Health Plan*

People at High Risk of Developing Flu–Related Complications

Most people who get the flu will have mild illness, will not need medical care or antiviral drugs, and will recover in less than two weeks. Some people, however, are more likely to get flu complications that can result in hospitalization and sometimes death. Pneumonia, bronchitis, sinus infections and ear infections are examples of flu-related complications. The flu also can make chronic health problems worse. For example, people with asthma may experience asthma attacks while they have the flu, and people with chronic congestive heart failure may experience a worsening of this condition triggered by flu. Listed below are the groups of people who are more likely to get serious flu-related complications if they get sick with influenza.

People at High Risk for Developing

Flu-Related Complications:

- Children younger than 5, but especially children younger than 2 years old
- Adults 65 years of age and older
- Pregnant women (and women up to two weeks postpartum)
- Residents of nursing homes and other long-term care facilities
- Also, American Indians and Alaska Natives seem to be at higher risk of flu complications



People who have medical conditions including:

- Asthma
- Neurological and neurodevelopmental conditions
- Chronic lung disease (such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease [COPD] and cystic fibrosis)
- Heart disease (such as congenital heart disease, congestive heart failure and coronary artery disease)
- Blood disorders (such as sickle cell disease)
- Endocrine disorders (such as diabetes mellitus)
- Kidney disorders
- Liver disorders
- Metabolic disorders (such as inherited metabolic disorders and mitochondrial disorders)
- Weakened immune system due to disease or medication (such as people with HIV or AIDS, or cancer, or those on chronic steroids)
- People younger than 19 years of age who are receiving long-term aspirin therapy
- People with extreme obesity (body mass index [BMI] of 40 or more)

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/disease/high_risk.htm

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White House Budget for 2019 Continues Attacks on Postal and Federal Workers

APWU Web News Article #17-2018

The White House introduced its proposed Fiscal Year 2019 budget to Congress last week. This non-binding proposal begins an annual, months-long government funding process and also showcases the Administration's funding priorities, setting the tone for budget negotiations.

For postal and federal workers, this budget is largely a reintroduction of last year's failed attacks on our pay and benefits, but takes them even further. It:

- Increases employee FERS contributions 1% a year for each of the next six years;
- Eliminates FERS Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), and reduces CSRS COLAs by 0.5%;
- Eliminates the special retirement supplement;
- Reduces retirement benefits by using a "high five" salary average formula, rather than the current "high three" average;
- Lowers the G-fund interest rate to provide worse returns on Thrift Savings Plan investments;
- Increases the share postal and federal workers pay for care under the FEHBP;
- Slashes Postal Service personnel costs and reduces mail service to the American people to achieve \$44 billion dollars in postal-specific savings;
- Decrease FECA compensation for injured workers and institute a new waiting period before they can receive benefits;
- Cuts \$237 billion from Medicare.

Each of these proposals would be severe cuts to dedicated postal employees, both active and retired.

"We've been down this road before, and once again we cannot allow the budget to be balanced on the backs of working people," said President Mark Dimondstein.

As justification for attacking our paychecks and retirement security, the White House cites the need to reduce the federal deficit; however, the White House and its allies seemed unconcerned with the deficit when they passed a \$1.5 trillion bill to finance tax cuts for the



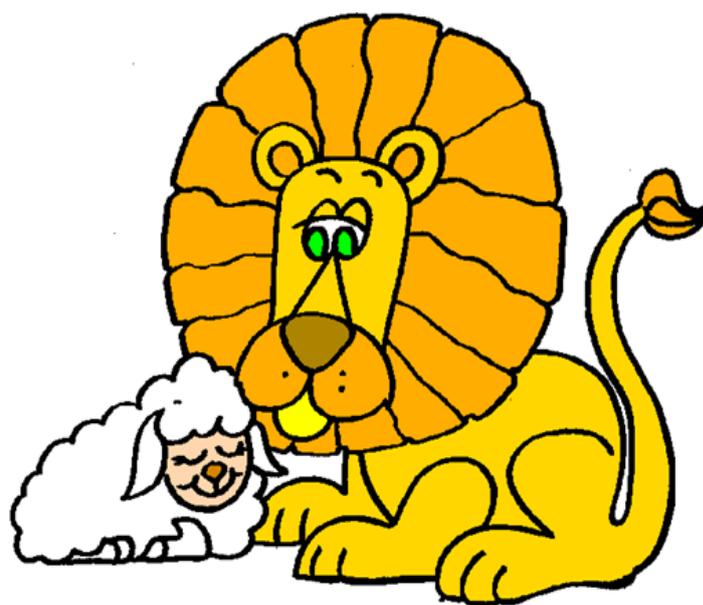
wealthy elite.

"Just as we feared when we fought against the disastrous tax proposal, the White House is coming after our hard-earned pay and benefits to 'fix' the deficit they are growing," said Legislative and Political Director Judy Beard.

Many of the Administration's disastrous proposals were incorporated

into last year's House budget, as part of a \$32 billion dollar cut targeted at federal and postal worker pay and benefits. Postal workers, active and retired alike, rallied last year against the budget attacks and stood arm-in-arm with our sisters and brothers in the Federal-Postal Coalition to defend our livelihoods. We flooded Congress with tens of thousands of calls on our coordinated Day of Action against the budget, and thanks to our activism, we were victorious. Congress ultimately abandoned the House budget and instead adopted the Senate budget which excluded these terrible provisions.

As this year's budget process begins anew, we will bring that same vigilance and action to succeed.

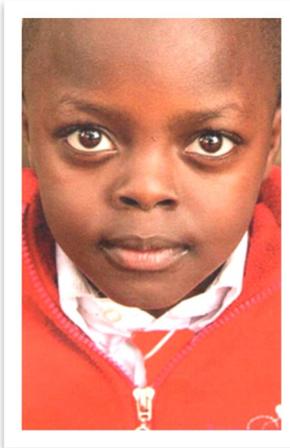


2016-2018 Human Relations Project

By: Joyce Tanguay - Human Relations Chair

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

Since we started this Project back in 2016 I have been asked many questions about Children Incorporated. I have listed a few of them here. Many of you already have this information but I thought it might be helpful for newer members.



- Location and how many program sites?
Administrative office is in Richmond, Virginia. They maintain nearly 300 program sites in 12 US states and 22 foreign countries.
- Does Children Incorporated have a religious or political affiliation?
No. It is an independent charity with no religious or political agenda.
- How many staff members?
They employ sixteen (16) paid staff members in their office in Virginia.
- Do they work with many volunteers?
They work primarily with volunteers at their nearly 300 sites comprised of schools, orphanages and community centers.
- How do you know if the volunteers are implementing their services correctly?
Each volunteer must submit reports verifying that he or she has appropriately managed the Children Incorporated funds and they are carefully audited at the Richmond, Virginia office.
- Why are we only assisting children in the United States?
Many of our postal workers and auxiliary members know how much poverty there is in the 12 states being helped by Children Incorporated so the delegates voted to keep the donations here.

Some of this information has been taken from the website, childrenincorporated.org so if you have any other questions please check it out or contact me and I will do my best to find the answers for you.

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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