

# News and Views



Volume 39  
Issue 6

News & Views is published bi-monthly - by the Auxiliary for the Auxiliary,  
224 38th Street West Des Moines IA 50265

We are a proud member of the APWU Postal Press Association

Color editions of News and Views may be viewed on the Auxiliary Website:  
[www.apwuauxiliary.org](http://www.apwuauxiliary.org)

## July-August 2023

### My Afternoon at Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream

By: Trisa Mannion-President



This year, the New England States conference was held in Burlington, Vermont, and was one of the spots I wanted to visit during my free time. It turned into much more on that sunny day. The convention chair mentioned a rally near the Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream shop on Cherry Street and dismissed the group for the afternoon. Life seemed to be handing me gifts that morning.

The rally was a group of young adults who mostly went to college and worked at Ben and Jerry's. The purpose of the rally and the tv crews filming the event was that they were forming a union. Senator Bernie Sanders was the guest speaker and always an impressive speaker. Somehow, the young people were the ones that made a big difference in my life that day. They reminded me of what it was like to be young and eager to improve the world around me. To know that my actions can make a difference for those around me. To say they impressed me would be an understatement. It was partially the cause they were advocating. Still, the reasons for their actions have me thinking about that day and remembering that energy and purpose for being a part of something bigger than myself.

Their demands were all simple. They asked for items that would make them safer and their customers safer while

visiting their store. They were not quibbling about raises, benefits, or 401K packages. They were pure in their needs and what they asked of the company. Ben and Jerry's is a great company to work for and believe in paying their employees fairly, so maybe those demands were not the top priority, but knowing when and how to use Narcan and protect themselves and the customers from fentanyl was one of the needs expressed along with other safety concerns.

Do you remember when you first joined the Auxiliary? Do  
cont. on page 2

#### Inside this issue:

Pass it On My afternoon at Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream cont. Zip Line	2
The Right to Vote APWU Press Association	3
State Conventions are in Full Swing	4
More State Conventions	5
And More!	6
Virtual Reality Set Raffle	7
Human Relations Project National Officers Listing	8

# Pass it On

By Janice Gillespie-Legislative Aide-Editor

10 Roads Express is a trucking company contracted to transport mail for the USPS. The drivers were tired of the treatment they were receiving from management and, under the guidance of APWU lead organizer Rich Shelley and organizer Lori Cash along with 10 Roads Express driver Donna Gramms' leadership, went through the steps to form a union. They were successful with a vote of 53-10. Unfortunately, 10 Roads management fired Donna Gramm the morning after the victorious vote in retaliation of her unionism. The other drivers in the newly formed union decided to fight back by walking out. A one-day strike was instrumental in getting more protections for the members and returning Donna to work with full-back pay. The drivers of 10 Roads showed that solidarity and loyalty work. Congratulations, Donna, and to all drivers of 10 Roads.

These unionists risked their livelihoods to fight for what was right. We can all learn from them.



Many of our Auxiliary members belong to the APWU, but how many family members and friends in the Auxiliary have the advantage of being a part of a union? Are we educating our children about the benefits of belonging to a union? Are we including our children in Auxiliary events when possible? The best way for them to understand what we do is for them to observe and help.

We, all of us in the Auxiliary, are the educators and organizers. We are the examples for others to follow. Communicate the advantages of a union and being a part of our Auxiliary. Share your experiences so others will want to join. Personally invite others into the Auxiliary family; word of mouth is the best way. Let them see and share in the camaraderie and fellowship firsthand while assisting the APWU and helping with various human relations projects.

The Auxiliary to the APWU is a vital, necessary, and flourishing organization. Pass it on!

National Auxiliary Officers will be at the APWU All-Craft Conference in Las Vegas, October 2-4. We welcome anyone who would like to join us as we assist the APWU. Please inform President Mannion in advance if you plan to attend. The Conference is being held at the Horseshoe Las Vegas Hotel.

cont. from page 1

you remember the reason you joined us? Remember the first time you were part of helping someone have a better life because you belong to the Auxiliary? That day reminded me of that day. I know you may have needed to be there to feel the emotions, but I hope I can at least remind you of the wonderful feeling you have when you participate in something we are doing that brings you that joy. That joy is far better than the ice cream I ate after the rally, and it lasts in my memory a lot longer than the terrific flavors that lasted that day. I hope to see you soon, helping with an activity that brings you that joy and accomplishment.



\*\*\*\*\*  
**Zipline**  
Join us at the next Zipline meeting!  
July 4, 2023  
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <https://zoom.us/j/368309307>  
Or iPhone one-tap :  
US: +16699006833,,368309307# or  
+16465588656,,368309307#  
Or Telephone:  
Dial for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):  
US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 646 558 8656  
All meetings are at 8pm EDT  
\*\*\*\*\*

# The Right to Vote

B: Janice Gillespie-Legislative Aide-Editor

Americans' freedom of speech and religion is embedded in the Bill of Rights but not the right to vote. The founding fathers apparently could not agree on the standards that needed to be implemented. So, they left decisions such as voter qualifications to the states and the choice of Senators and the President in the hands of state legislators.

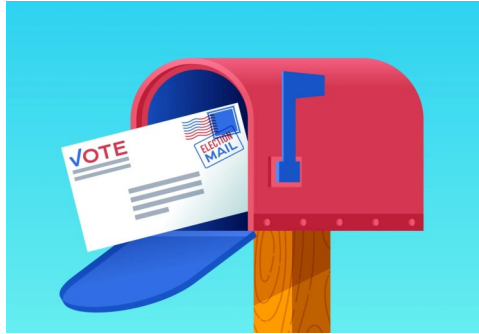
Numerous constitutional amendments prohibit denying women, racial minorities, citizens over 18, and people unable to pay fees like poll taxes the right to vote, and several Supreme Court rulings deal with the meaning of those amendments. The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment implicitly implies the guarantee of voting rights and has been a central argument in court for plaintiffs.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 enforced the voting rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution. This act was amended five times to increase its protection.

As initially ratified, the United States Constitution granted each state discretion to determine voter qualifications for its residents; However, even though the amendments and the voting rights act of 1965 were helpful, the enforcement of these rules was erratic at best.

Advocates for voting rights have tried to get a new constitutional amendment guaranteeing all citizens the right to vote but to no avail.

Times are changing, and centuries-old precedents can be reinterpreted. We need to keep on our members in Congress to allow automatic voter registration and tighten up voting laws to guarantee everyone easy access to the polls and expand voting from home.



Two bills in Congress now would allow easier access for Americans to vote.

H.R. 1439 would amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to allow all eligible voters to vote by mail in Federal elections and the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to provide for automatic voter registration

and other purposes.

S.700 would expand voting by mail in federal elections and provides for automatic voter registration through state motor vehicle authorities.

Voting from home is convenient; you can fill out your ballot at a time that is best for you, has less voter fraud, is less costly for most jurisdictions, increases participation, decreases political influences, and is very secure. Voting by mail is also a win for APWU and Auxiliary members since it would increase mail volumes and the public trust in the postal service.



## APWU National Press Association

Are you a communicator? Do you write for an Auxiliary or APWU publication? Are you an officer in your local or state Auxiliary? Do you advocate for the Auxiliary? Check out the Postal Press Association. Membership is affordable and gives you access to a wealth of information on their website, such as writing tips, reference material, a monthly newsletter, and so much more. They also have a Biennial Conference chockfull of hands-on workshops and a chance to meet writers and union advocates nationwide. Their 23rd Biennial Conference is July 19 –22 in Madison, Wisconsin. Please check out their website at [apwupostalpress.org](http://apwupostalpress.org). for information on becoming a member or registering for the conference.

# State Conventions are in Full Swing



**Michigan**



**Illinois**



**Montana**



**Wisconsin**

**Maine**



# More State Conventions



**Oregon**



**Iowa**



**Wyoming**



**Nebraska**



# and More !



**California**



**Arizona**



**Indiana**

# VIRTUAL REALITY SET RAFFLE

Meta - Quest 2 Advanced All-In-One Virtual Reality Headset - 256GB



(\$500.00 VALUE)

**Tickets \$10.00**



**NO KID SLEEPS  
ON THE FLOOR  
IN OUR TOWN!**

ONE WINNER TO BE DRAWN  
DRAWING TO BE HELD ON OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2023.  
AT THE ALL-CRAFT CONFERENCE, LAS VEGAS  
NEED **NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

# Human Relations Project

## *Sleep in Heavenly Peace*

By: Janeil Payne-Committee Chair

### Sleep in Heavenly Peace, “No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town “

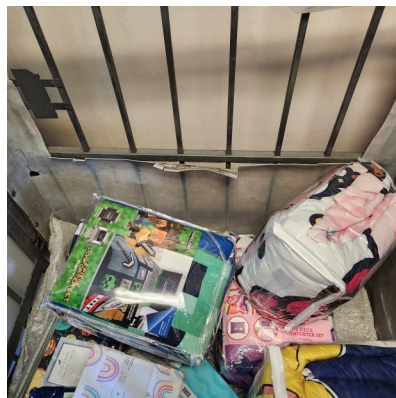


I hope you are all having a wonderful summer! I also hope that you have found a way to attend a local build for Sleep in Heavenly Peace or been fortunate enough to help deliver a bed to a child who does not have one in which to sleep. This should be the perfect weather for attending one of these activities. It is also the perfect weather for collecting those new single-bed items which are necessary to go with each bed. Just in case you might have forgotten, SHP needs new twin-size sheets, pillowcases, mattress covers, comforters, pillows, quilts, or Afghans.

One great idea for collecting things has come out of the Greater Oregon Area Local in Bend, OR. The local there has received permission from the OIC to place a container in their breakroom for collecting bedding. They plan to have someone from the local SHP chapter attend one of their upcoming meetings so they can present them with the goods they are collecting. Did I mention the name of Bend, OR? They had a Big Build on April 1, 2023, where they built 100 beds in a day! That is amazing!! They project that these beds will have been distributed by the middle of May. This was the largest number of beds built in a day for Eastern Oregon. They plan to have another build on June 9, 2023. Wonder if they will do as well or even top that!

What is happening in your area? Will you please share and take pictures? You can find more information and stories (including the write-up for the Bend, Oregon build) on the SHP website, [www.shpbeds.org](http://www.shpbeds.org). Let me just say, that this is an inspirational website.

If you have not had a chance to purchase your raffle ticket, this is a reminder that the National Auxiliary is selling tickets for \$10.00 each for a chance to win a **Virtual Gaming System** which we will raffle off on October 4, 2023, at the All-Craft Conference in Las Vegas, NV. This is a complete system with a value of \$500.00. You can purchase a ticket at your next convention or contact your District Coordinator or National Officer. All proceeds from the sale of tickets will go to Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Please be sure to stop by the table at your next convention and purchase a ticket or two!



## National Officers

**PRESIDENT** Trisa Mannion  
970-424-5131 (fax) 970-424-5856  
3038 Cloverdale Ct  
Grand Junction, CO 81506-1960  
[tmannion@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:tmannion@apwuauxiliary.org)

**SECRETARY** Karen Wolver  
515-771-7183  
4631 NE 29th St  
Des Moines, IA 50317-4833  
[kwolver@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:kwolver@apwuauxiliary.org)

**TREASURER** Bonnie Sevre  
612-788-3440 (cell) 612-889-4111  
2836 Highway 88  
Minneapolis, MN, 55418-3243  
[bsevre@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:bsevre@apwuauxiliary.org)

**LEGISLATIVE AIDE-EDITOR** Janice Gillespie  
515-664-1154  
224 - 38th Street  
West Des Moines, IA 50265-3917  
[jgillespie@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:jgillespie@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 1** Janeil Payne  
503-931-3441  
4678 Duke Ct NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301-2025  
AK, ID, MT, OR, WA,  
[jpayne@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:jpayne@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 2** Rebecca Kingsley  
562-355-3308  
8502 Duchess Drive  
Whittier, CA 90606-3335  
AZ, CA, CO, HI, NM, NV, UT, WY  
[rkingsley@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:rkingsley@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 3** Kath Walker  
651-395-0919  
1363 Roselawn Ave W  
Roseville, MN 55113-5823  
IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND, SD  
[kwalker@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:kwalker@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 4** Debra Stewart  
817-534-9130 fax 817-534-2279  
6400 Guilford,  
Fort Worth, TX 76119-7111  
AR, LA, MS, OK, TX  
[dstewart@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:dstewart@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 5** Barbara Maciejewski  
414-550-2169  
635 Shumway Ave  
Faribault, MN 55021-4418  
IL, IN, KY, OH, MI, WV, WI  
[bmaciejewski@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:bmaciejewski@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 6** Arline Holmes  
804-266-2451  
8205 Tarkington Dr  
Richmond, VA 23227-1448  
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VA  
[aholmes@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:aholmes@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 7** Lisa Beer  
610-762-5759  
3006 N 5th Ave  
Whitehall, PA 18052-7404  
CT, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT  
[lbeer@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:lbeer@apwuauxiliary.org)