



NEWS & VIEWS

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Made in the USA

By: Trisa Mannion - President

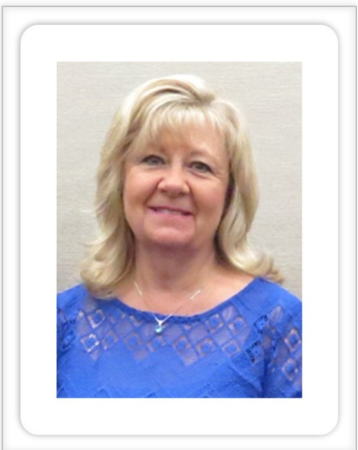
Buying **union made goods** is best for your family and country.

We are heading into the Christmas and holiday season when most people spend extra money on gifts and special items. Many of us have pledged to buy USA and union made goods because, as we know, it helps keep our unions strong and viable all year. Additionally, buying USA and union made goods helps our families.

Let's take a look at several reasons that it helps our families and our country too. When we purchase USA made products, we help keep American jobs for ourselves, children and family members. Union jobs normally have higher paying wages, benefits and retirement packages. Union jobs are more secure, offer better wages, and benefits, which drives local economies up. Other companies must then compete for employees by offering comparable pay packages. Personally, I want my children to have opportunities so they can be successful and have a better way of life.

The USA has higher safety standards to protect workers and children, so we are not contributing to the use of slave

labor or the harm of others. The EPA protects our environment so we have cleaner air, water, and natural resources while other countries are adding to the world pollution, which affects all of us. I have memories of poison crayons, toys laden with lead, contaminated pet food and baby formula to name a few. It is actually a strategically sound practice to be self-reliant and not dependent upon foreign countries that may be hostile to us, now or in the future.



Buying union made goods insures all of the above and more, since if it is union made, it is USA made. Look for the labels to insure where the goods are made.

So, how do we find "made in the USA" goods? Here are a few websites to find the items made in the United States. <https://americansworking.com/> <http://madeinusaforever.com/> <http://madeintheusa.com/>

When you are donating to charities this giving season consider the auxiliary human relations project that is mentioned in another article in this issue. We also have the Nilan Continuing Education scholarships. These scholarships assist those wanting to further their education regardless of their age. We would appreciate donations to either or both of these funds.

We wish each and every member a wonderful season whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukah, Kwanzaa or another holiday of your choice.

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Use Your Voice

By Janice Gillespie - Legislative-Aide-Editor

Midterms are almost here. We need to get as many people to the polls as possible. The United States is second to last in voter turnout of all industrialized nations with a less than 50% of eligible population turnout. What this means is that less than half of all U.S. citizens are choosing our leaders. The mid-term elections in 2014 had only a 35.9 % turnout. This isn't right. All four hundred and thirty-five representatives and thirty-five senators are up for re-election as well as the governor in thirty-six states. The Pew Research Center states that half of the registered voters are more enthusiastic about voting in 2018 and a record number is expected this year. I urge everyone to do what they can to make this a reality. Many of you have been busy door knocking, phone banking, and attending rallies. Statistics show that one out of every fourteen non-voters are swayed by talking to someone at their door and one in twenty by a phone call. Rallies are a good way to

inform the public about the issues affecting the post office. Door knocking works. Phone banking works. Let's not forget those closest to us. Have you checked in with your grown children, your parents, your siblings and other relatives? Are they registered? Do they plan to vote? How about your friends and neighbors? Fourteen states allow registrations on voting day. Does anyone need transportation to the polls? Can you provide it or find a way for them? Our presidential elections are determined by the electoral vote. Our mid-term elections are determined by plurality. This means that the ones with the most votes win. Every voice is important. Every voice should be heard.

States that allow registration on voting day :

Colorado Hawaii Idaho Illinois Iowa Maine Montana
New Hampshire North Dakota Vermont Minnesota
Wisconsin Wyoming D.C.

Changes in the Constitution and Bylaws

As adopted by the 2018 National Auxiliary Convention

ARTICLE VII – ELECTION OF OFFICERS – SEC.

1: All candidates prior to being nominated, must be a member in good standing of the auxiliary for no less than one (1) year. (*Re-number the remainder to the sections accordingly*).

ARTICLE VII – SEC. 4: Prepared ballots will be furnished for election to be held from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM on Wednesday and that all delegates must be in line before 12:30 PM to vote. (*Rest of Article VII, SEC. 4 will remain the same*).

BY-LAWS: ARTICLE 1 – PART FOUR (B) A prepared ballot will be furnished for elections, to be held on Wednesday 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or until all eligible ballots have been cast. No business will be conducted during elections.

BY-LAWS: ARTICLE II – ORDER OF BUSINESS, SEC. 1: (G) The Election of Officers shall take place on Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES – SEC. 4: LEGISLATIVE AIDE/EDITOR (G) Prepare, publish and mail **bi-monthly** (*rest of paragraph remains the same*).

ARTICLE VIII – SEC. 5 DISTRICT COORDINATORS Remove Wyoming from District 1 and move to District 2.

BY-LAWS: ARTICLE 1 – PART ONE (C) No credentials will be issued or accepted after 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday of the Convention week.

Oath of Office:

I, (name) having been duly elected to office in the (State), (National), (Local) Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO do solemnly pledge to uphold the Constitution and By-Laws of the Auxiliary to the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO and of the (State)(Local)(National).

I further pledge to perform the duties of the office to the best of my ability. I promise that at the end of my term of office, I will turn over to my successor all bank accounts, equipment, books, papers, records, documents and all other items that are the property of the Auxiliary to the APWU.

Last, but not least, I promise to support and promote the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO and to purchase only union made articles, whenever available.

Well Worth It

Carolyn Denton - Vice President of the California Auxiliary

Those of us in the Auxiliary to the California APWU wrapped up our 2016-2018 human relations project for Children Incorporated in a big way. Our members decided early on to focus our efforts on the Grindstone Indian Rancheria at Elk Creek in Glenn County, at my recommendation. Located in the northern part of California, this reservation is not associated with a casino and the residents are very poor. At our state convention in

Sacramento, we raised \$454.00 for this cause, which we used to purchase t-shirts, socks, and underwear for forty children. My husband, Byron, and I delivered these along with twelve homemade baby quilts and ten dresses



from myself and a group of ladies from my church. I teasingly described myself as the “head honcho” of a sewing group which made the children smile. I was especially pleased when I saw us featured in the “Sacramento Valley Mirror”. The article written by Doug Ross described the reservation and how appreciative the recipients were when receiving our gifts and he was very complimentary towards us which brought attention to our auxiliary. Definitely, an added plus. The children and their families warmed our hearts and made it all so worthwhile.

Bridge Guide-



Builder lines

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.

**your VOTE
is your VOICE**

BRIDGE BUILDERS AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Please send (via US Mail or email) completed form of nomination to: Arline Holmes, 8205 Tarkington Dr, Richmond, VA 23227 or email at am-holmes6@yahoo.com

Deadline December 31, 2018

PLEASE USE Red Ink TO FILL OUT FORM

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!

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 all 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:

6. Officers and level held (state/local, etc.) (Below)

5. Please tell us about any Community Service or Activity they are or have been involved in:

State

Local

7. How many years has this person been a member?

8. Is their family involved: (Please give a brief description of their 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 of local level? (*Please give details*)

11. Name, address and local of person submitting this nomination.

Date submitted:

Ask John? *About the Health Plan*

OPEN SEASON IS UPON US

John Marcotte -National Health Plan Director

The APWU Auxiliary is a wonderful resource for the APWU Health plan and I want to thank each and every one of you for your hard work and support. I will be seeing some of your officers at our Open Season Seminar in San Antonio Texas as once again, the auxiliary will be assisting the APWUHP hold another successful event.

I have always enjoyed partnering with the APWU Auxiliary in your mission to support the APWU and look forward to working with you in any way I can going forward. Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Open Season is November 12th to December 10th. Below are some of the APWU Health Plan highlights and enhancements for the upcoming year.

High Option:

- **New Increased Chiropractic visits to 24 visits a year**
- **New 100% coverage for Accidental Injury within 72 hours**
- **New \$15 virtual visits in-network through AmericanWell**
- **New Option of obtaining a 90 day supply of maintenance drugs at a Retail Network Pharmacy (including CVS and Walgreens) at same cost to you as mail order.**
- **New Coverage added for skilled nursing facility**
- 100% coverage for in-network preventive care and screenings
- 100% coverage for in-network maternity
- 100% coverage for labs when you use Quest Diagnostics or LabCorp
- \$25 copayment for in-network doctor visits, including specialists

To remain in the APWU Health Plan, you do not need to do anything. You will automatically remain a member for 2019. You can download the new Brochure or order a paper copy on our website, www.apwuhp.com; or by calling us at 1-(800) 222-2798. See page 16 for a list of all changes. If you have any questions about the High Option, please call us at 1-(800) 222-APWU (222-2798), or visit us on the web at www.apwuhp.com.

Consumer Driven Option:

- **New Increased Chiropractic visits to 24 visits a year**
- **New Coverage added for skilled nursing facility**
- **New Home colorectal cancer screening Cologuard kit**
- **New Residential Treatment Center coverage for mental health and substance use disorder**
- Remember that your Personal Care Account (PCA) balance will roll over as long as you remain in the Plan
- 100% coverage for in-network preventive care
- 100% coverage for in-network maternity
- Coverage for virtual visits; doctor visits from your phone or tablet

To remain in the APWU Health Plan's Consumer Driven Option, you do not need to do anything and you will automatically remain a member of the Consumer Driven Option for 2019. You can download the new Brochure or order a paper copy on our website, www.apwuhp.com; or by calling us at 1-(800) 222-2798. See page 16 for a list of all changes. If you have any questions about the Consumer Driven Health Plan, please call UnitedHealthcare, the administrator of the Consumer Driven Health Plan, at 1-(800) 718-1299, or visit us on the web at www.myuhc.com.

The APWU Health Plan is committed to providing our members comprehensive health care at the most affordable price. Together Better Health.

**TOGETHER.
BETTER HEALTH.**

Get comprehensive health benefits at an affordable price.

APWU
HEALTH PLAN

The People's Post Office

Janice Gillespie-Legislative Aide-Editor

We were needed. We showed up. We rallied from Maine to California. Minnesota to Texas to Florida. "Say No to Privatization" went viral. We flooded Facebook with our posts. We helped to inform the public that the "US Mail is not for Sale". We let them know that the USPS is the "People's Post Office". Postal clerks, mail handlers, custodians, carriers, retirees, auxiliary members, and politicians marched with informational signs all across the US. We brought our parents, children, and siblings. We reached the press in many locations. We were awesome and we have photos to prove it. This was solidarity at it's finest. Thank you for sending your pictures and for all of your enthusiasm and dedication. Kudos to all.



2018-2020 Human Relations Project

By: Karen Wolver - Human Relations Chair

“We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.” ~ Winston Churchill

Well, we made it back from a very successful national APWU auxiliary convention with our work cut out for us. The auxiliary members voted to make the Fisher House Foundation our new human relations project for the next two years. This incredible organization provides housing for the families of hospitalized Veterans and Military personnel. These houses, located near local Veterans hospitals, are houses that contain anywhere between seven to twenty-one suites that can accommodate sixteen to forty-two families at a time. Each house has a common kitchen, dining, and living room and are a “home away from home” for those who need to be near their loved ones.

The Fisher House Foundation, established over twenty-five years ago, has units in the United States, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

The money raised by our auxiliary members will benefit the current seventy-six houses in the US and the construction of new ones. My challenge for all of you is to start collecting items or funds for this project. I provide a container at every function or meeting held by my local union, APWU Local 44, and our auxiliary. I welcome any and all ideas you may have to raise money. Let's put our heads together to make this project successful.

Feel free to contact the staff at your closest Fisher House for their particular needs, as storage space is limited at some locations. In those cases, monetary donations may be preferred.

I encourage everyone to visit the website at www.fisherhouse.org for additional information. If requested, fliers will be mailed out to distribute at your functions.



November



2018 – 2020 National Officers

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