



# NEWS & VIEWS

News & Views is published monthly – except for July and August by the Auxiliary for the Auxiliary, PO Box 4243, Lincoln, NE 68504. We are a proud member of the APWU Postal Press Association

Volume 32,  
Issue 8

APRIL 2016



## The Consequences and Responsibilities of Elections - What you need to do

By: Kathy Danek, President

Election season is in full swing. We have contested primaries for both the Republican and Democratic Party. Interest is high, but what should we be looking at as APWU and Auxiliary members? We must learn to ask questions about the positions of all candidates. And we should follow up and make sure their answers are verified with actions. So many times someone will say whatever they deem necessary to get elected. Sometimes the comments are outrageous. We need to stop and ask ourselves. – “Can they turn their rhetoric and promises into action?” And, what would it take to make those actions into laws and policies.

**ISSUE ONE** – Protect the USPS and our APWU jobs. The USPS has been on a collision course with itself and the privatization gurus. Somehow there is a belief that they can starve and narrow the focus of the USPS and still remain viable. Customers exist in an environment of good public service. There are all kinds of opportunities to provide feedback on service. For us as Auxiliary members, that feedback should go to the Board of Governors, our elected representatives and most importantly the candidates running for election. The USPS has a responsibility to serve each and every address. Their service is Constitutionally mandated. We must continue our efforts to

elect individuals who will protect and demand service from the USPS. We must protect the men and women who work each and every day to get the mail processed and delivered. And we must work to protect the sanctity of the mail. This service – noting the sanctity of the mail – is a true federally protected service for all of us. Whether it’s your vote by mail ballot or your banking, billing and more, it continues to be federally protected.

**ISSUE TWO** - Protect Social Security and Medicare, not just for today, but for generations to come. Social Security provides a safety net to millions of seniors. They paid into it for years, and it is their right to collect it until they die. Medicare provides all seniors with the medical care they need. It protects them from overcharging, and makes all care available to our seniors. Supplemental insurance like we have with the APWU Health Plan, protects the long term financial security of our seniors. Let’s make sure these programs continue being the safety net and needed service for today, tomorrow and always.

**ISSUE THREE** – Protect the right to collectively bargain and participate in a union. One of the biggest discussions in this election is the loss of income, the stagnant wages and loss of benefits. Those things did not happen by accident. Unions have been made to bear the brunt of the economy – characterizing them as thugs with “big bosses” who force people to belong or else. Nothing could be further from the truth. In the Auxiliary’s Labor Ed for Kids class, we were able to convey very simply the value of our union membership. You see, every child understands the issue of fairness. It should be about fairness in the work place, fairness in sharing in the fruits of our labors, and fairness in how we are treated by those in power. We believe in equal work for equal pay. We believe in health care, sick leave and vacations that allow us to revitalize and balance work and family. We believe in rules that make our work place safer. And we believe that our pay should be measured on the benefit we provide the companies who employ us. We all have a stake in the successes of our companies/jobs. Kids get it - and over-

### Inside this issue:

Labor History 101: Frances Perkins What is a Resolution and How is it Written	2
The Dream of a Lifetime—Clara Hill President’s Article - continued	3
Summary of Regulations Governing COPA Solicitations	4
Auxiliary Requests and Reminders	5
Ask Clara About the Health Plan	6
Des Moines, IA Supports Human Relations Backpack Project National Convention	7
Human Relations Backpack Project	8

Continued on page 3

# Labor History 101: Frances Perkins

By: Bonnie Sevre



Frances Perkins was secretary of labor for the 12 years of Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency and the first woman to hold a cabinet post. She brought to her office a deep commitment to improving the lives of workers and creating a legitimate role for labor unions in American society. Born in Boston, MA on April 10, 1880 Perkins grew up in a comfortable middle class Republican family. After graduation from Mount Holyoke in 1902 she accepted a series

of teaching positions and volunteered her time at settlement houses, where she learned firsthand the dangerous conditions of factory work and the desperation of workers unable to collect their promised wages or secure medical care for workplace injuries. By 1909 she had given up teaching and moved to New York to study at Columbia University, where she earned a master's degree in economics and sociology in 1910. For the next two years she served as secretary of the New York Consumers' League; she successfully lobbied the state legislature for a bill limiting the workweek for women and children to 54 hours. She also became active in the women's suffrage movement, marching in suffrage parades and giving street-corner speeches.

One of the pivotal experiences of her political life occurred in 1911, when she watched helplessly as 146 workers, most of them young women, died in the Triangle Shirtwaist fire. Many, she remembered, clasped their hands in prayer before leaping to their deaths from the upper-floor windows of a tenement building that lacked fire escapes. It was, as Perkins later explained, "seared on my mind as well as my heart – a never to-be-forgotten reminder of why I had to spend my life fighting conditions that could permit such a

tragedy."

In 1918, Perkins accepted Governor Al Smith's invitation to join the New York State Industrial Commission, becoming the first female member of the commission. When Roosevelt tapped her as labor secretary in 1933, Perkins drew on her New York State experience as the model for new federal programs. She had large ambitions – not for herself, but for the world in which she lived. Her vision was found in such landmark reforms as the Wagner Act, which gave workers the right to organize unions and to bargain collectively, the Fair Labor Standards Act, which established for the first time a minimum wage and overtime laws and defined the standard forty-hour workweek for men and women. Perkins also chaired the Committee on Economic Security which developed and drafted the legislation that became the Social Security Act of 1935. With the Social Security Act she established unemployment benefits, pensions for the many uncovered elderly Americans, and welfare for the poorest Americans. She also executed many aspects of the New Deal, including the Civilian Conservation Corps, the Public Works Administration and its successor the Federal Works Agency, and the labor portion of the National Industrial Recovery Act. She pushed to reduce workplace accidents and helped craft laws against child labor.

As secretary of labor during the 1930s and early 1940s, Perkins played a crucial role in the outcome of the dramatic labor uprisings that marked the era. She consistently supported the rights of workers to organize unions of their own choosing and to pressure employers through economic action.

In 1945 Perkins resigned from her position as labor secretary to head the U.S. delegation to the International Labor Organization conference in Paris. President Truman then appointed her to the Civil Service Commission, a job she held until 1953.

Following her government service career, Perkins remained active as a teacher and lecturer at Cornell University until her death in 1965 at the age of 85.

(Sources: AFL-CIO and Wikipedia)

## What is a Resolution and How is it Written

Colette Phillippe

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 (on auxiliary website), 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 July 1, 2016, 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.

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.

# The Dream of a Lifetime

By: Clara Hill, District 6 Coordinator



Left to right: Jim Wilmouth Mike Williams, Debbie Clowers, Kim Guy, Jeff Langley, Yvonne Lett, Chad Rose, and Clara Hill.

## President's Report-continued

whelmingly they understand the need for rules and that they need to be fair for everyone.

Union membership has declined over the past 40 years. With that decline, we have seen the real decline of American wages. Globalization and comparing our jobs here in the US with the jobs in third world nations is not only unfair, but causes long term decline here in our nation. We have highly specialized workplaces and need highly trained men and women to fill those positions. We recognize the changes in the workplace and just want fairness in working with those changes. Unions grew out of the abuse of the elite class and how they treated the men and women who worked for them. The abuses were stark including long days, minimal pay, abusing children in the labor force, discriminating against people based on the color of their skin, their gender, language, and more. Unions allow us a voice in our workplace. We need more unions not less. We need stronger unions. And we need a nation to standup and honor the men and women who sacrificed for the benefit of all workers – both union and non-union.

Elections have consequences. We must elect House and Senate members who are dedicated to the families they serve – not just those that can afford to pay. Get involved. Volunteer for a campaign. Make phone calls. Canvass neighborhoods. Write letters or communicate with your friends and neighbors. Help them to understand how each candidate's

I have been in the Auxiliary since 1965 and have enjoyed all my endeavors in this organization. I have walked pickets, lobbied Washington for pay raises and other issues, served on committees and a lot of other things and have been officers on the Local, State and now the National level.

I have dreamed of great things for this auxiliary and worked to make some of them come to fruition.

I was honored on January 12, 2016 to install the new officers of my local, Greater Smoky Mountain Area Local in my capacity of National District Coordinator, in the absence of a National Representative from the APWU.

On April 8, 2016 my dream of a lifetime came true. My local voted to pay national dues for all the members of the union, making my Auxiliary 100%. This is one of the things I dreamed about for all these years and I just came to believe it would never happen. I have walked on air for weeks, and am just now coming back to the ground.

The GSMAL Local also threw down a challenge for all other locals and states to follow them and do the same. The National dues are only \$5.00 per year, per member. I would love to see the challenge met in great numbers. The gloves are off, the challenge is given. Will you answer the challenge?



views might affect them in the future. And don't forget to VOTE. This is our right and not just a privilege. AND this is our responsibility. Get every family member registered and get them informed on the issues. Then get them all to exercise their right to vote.

# Summary of Regulations Governing COPA Solicitations

1. Solicitations for contributions to COPA, the APWU Committee on Political Action, may only be sent to people who are part of the APWU family.

This group, called our "restricted class" includes:

- ◇ All APWU members and their families;
- ◇ All APWU retiree members and their families; and
- ◇ All APWU executive and administrative employees and their families.

"Solicitations" are broadly defined to include communications that encourage COPA contributions or provide detailed information about how to make them, in addition to outright appeals for donations. This means that, if you use your local newsletter to solicit contributions, you should not send that issue to people outside our "restricted class." Do not send those solicitations to other unions, public officials, or other people who might be on your mailing list. This also means that union bulletin boards and Web pages that are viewed by people who are not part of our "restricted class" may not be used for COPA solicitations.

It is permissible to:

- ◇ Announce the existence of COPA and explain the legal requirements that apply to its activities;
- ◇ Provide information about how much COPA has raised, the number of contributors, and the number of candidates supported; and
- ◇ Identify federal candidates who have been supported by COPA, as long as the publication does not suggest that support for COPA would help elect or defeat those candidates.

2. The [Hatch Act](#) prohibits all "political activities" on postal premises. The U.S. Office of Special Counsel, which enforces the Hatch Act, has interpreted this to mean that COPA fundraising activities are not permitted on the workroom floor or in non-work areas, including steward rooms or union offices on postal premises.

3. All COPA solicitations, in publications or personal appeals, should be accompanied by a "disclaimer" that gives assurances that all contributions are voluntary and that no favor will be bestowed or withheld as a result of a contribution or the failure to make a contribution. The following language, which is on the APWU COPA contribution form, should be reprinted in any publication or correspondence urging COPA contributions:

This COPA solicitation is paid for by the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO, 1300 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. (202) 842-4200; it is not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. Contributions or gifts to COPA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. COPA will use the contributions it receives for political purposes, including making contributions to candidates for federal, state and local offices, and addressing political issues of public importance. Contributions to COPA are voluntary. More or less than the suggested amount may be given, and the amount given or the refusal to give will not benefit or disadvantage the person being solicited. Federal law requires political action committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. 4. Contributors should be asked to use the COPA contribution form [PDF]. This will assist COPA in meeting its reporting requirements and will automatically provide contributors with the disclaimer language shown above. 5. Local unions, state organizations, and APWU auxiliaries may use treasury funds to urge members to contribute to COPA.

Union treasury fund expenditures should not amount to more than one third of the amount raised for COPA. For example, if a local purchases a prize for a COPA raffle, the cost of the prize may not exceed one-third of the amount raised for COPA. (If it does, COPA must return some of the money to the local.)

6. Fund-raising efforts may include:

- ◇ Personal appeals by union officers and stewards directed to APWU members (such as handing a member a COPA contribution form);
- ◇ Articles in your local newsletter, including a COPA contribution form for use in sending contributions;
- ◇ Direct mail appeals for contributions. (Include a COPA contribution form.)

***As auxiliary members we actively participate in many COPA fund raising events. Be aware for the Guidelines for COPA solicitations. We need to be sure we get members to legibly write their information on the COPA worksheets. The legislative department needs this information to know what your donation level is when you attend the National Convention. Remember, COPA monies are distributed to candidates that believe in the United States Postal Service regardless of their party affiliation.***

# Auxiliary Requests and Reminders

## Requests:

### Volunteers

We would be very appreciative if you are in Orlando early, August 19-21, 2016, and would be willing to help with registration.



Please contact President Kathy Danek if this is something you would be interested in doing.

We may need help in other areas as well so don't hesitate to let us know if you are available to help during the

week. As our president Kathy Danek has stated, "It's a great way to meet new friends, catch up with old friends, and finally help your Auxiliary."

### Donations

We will be having raffles to raise money for COPA. If you would like to bring prizes to contribute they would be most appreciated. A gift basket representing your state would be fun. Or we would be grateful for any other prizes you would like to donate. Raffle tickets will be sold and we will have several drawings for prizes throughout the convention. Just a reminder that a lot of those in attendance will be flying so consider this in the choice of prizes you plan to bring to the convention. Of course, some prizes might be consumed while in Florida!



Besides COPA, the Human Relations Backpack Project will also be conducting raffles as well as our Scholarship Fund. We will also have a raffle to raise money for our Auxiliary Equipment Fund.

## Reminders:

### Auxiliary Achievement Award



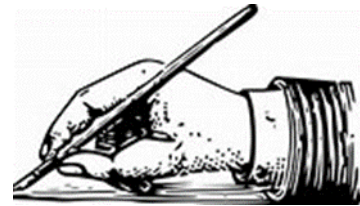
Don't forget to fill in your Activity Achievement Award forms and send them to Bonnie Sevre. The forms are on the auxiliary website or you can request a form from one of the National Auxiliary Officers. Remember this is an ongoing Achievement Award that shows each one of us the many things we do for the auxiliary.

### Let's Make it Happen

#### Membership Organizing

Check the auxiliary website under Contest and Awards for details! There are contests for state and local organizations as well as individuals.

### Submit your Resolutions



Resolutions that you wish to be considered at the National Auxiliary Convention must be signed and submitted to the National Auxiliary President, Secretary, Editor and Treasurer by July 1st, 2016. This insures that your resolutions make it onto the auxiliary website and into the Consolidated Report.

### Scholarship

The Nilan Continuing Education Scholarship deadline is July 1st, so be sure to get those applications mailed in before the due date. The scholarship form can be found on the auxiliary website or in the February 2016 News and Views.



**Website: [apwuauxiliary.org](http://apwuauxiliary.org)**



Many people who have family members suffering from asthma or have suffered themselves understand this chronic disease that affects the airways and lungs, is nothing to take lightly. Asthma is a serious health problem affecting over 18 million adults and over 7 million children in the US with approximately 9 asthma related deaths daily. An asthma attack causes swelling of the airways, restricting the ability to breathe and can vary in severity from mild to fatal. The symptoms include coughing, shortness of breath, wheezing, chest tightness and pain. No one knows with certainty what causes asthma and there is currently no cure; but there are effective medical treatments to help sufferers manage the disease.

### If you have Asthma beware of common triggers:

- Allergens (mold, dust, pollen, animal dander)
- Exercise
- Poor air quality (pollution, chemical toxins)
- Smoking (tobacco, cigarettes)
- Respiratory infections

### Treatment includes:

- Immediate symptom relief
- Long term management through physician prescribed medications
- Avoiding known triggers

Generally, inhaled corticosteroids are prescribed to clear the airways and quickly combat an attack. There are a number of effective medications so a long term asthma management plan should be explored to address your individual needs. If you believe you have asthma see your doctor to develop a treatment plan to determine which medicines works best for you.



### Asthma Triggers

(800) 222-2798



[www.apwuhp.com](http://www.apwuhp.com)

# Des Moines, Iowa Raises Money for Backpack Project

By Mark Sarcone

Christine Sarcone, President of the Des Moines Iowa Area American Postal Workers Union Local 44 Auxiliary recently presented a check in the amount of \$1,769.39 to Michelle Book, CEO of the Food Bank of Iowa. The money was raised in support of the National Auxiliary to the APWU's biennial Human Relations project to raise money for the Feeding America Backpack Program.

APWU Auxiliaries across America were challenged by the national executive board at the National Convention in 2014 to raise funds for their local's Feeding America Program. The Des Moines Auxiliary raised most of their funds selling raffle tickets for cash and other cool prizes awarded at the local Auxiliary's meeting October 3, 2015.

The "Feeding America Backpack Program" sends children home with healthy food and snacks for the weekends and vacations when school meals are not available. At the National level of Feeding America, every dollar raised equals 11 pounds of food, 9 meals or \$19 worth of groceries (wholesale value). The National APWU Auxiliary has adopted the "Feeding America Backpack Program" as its Human Relations project for the term of 2014-2016.

Thank you again to everyone who contributed to make this project a big success!



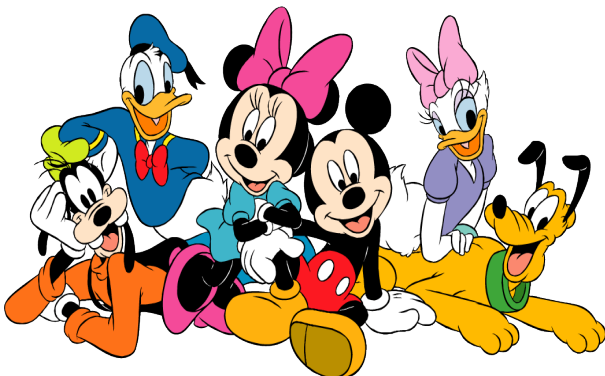
Christine Sarcone presenting a check for Feeding America Backpack Program to Michelle Book, CEO of the Food Bank of Iowa.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**National Auxiliary  
Convention**

**August 22-25, 2016**

**Orlando, Florida**



**NATIONAL CONVENTION –**

**By: Kathy Danek**

We need each and every local and state organization to elect their delegates to the National Convention. Members at large can contact Patricia Lewis, Secretary for credentials. If you attended the 2014 convention in Chicago, then credentials should be sent to your organization's president. If they are not received, or you need additional credentials, please contact Patricia Lewis for state and local credentials as well.

We'll have an exciting national convention in Orlando. We hope you all make plans to attend. There are a few changes this year. It is only a four day convention, convening on Monday, August 22 and adjourning on Thursday, August 25. Preconvention workshops will be held on Sunday, August 21. The Ice Breaker and Parade of States will be held together on Sunday evening. The National Auxiliary will also be volunteering their time to work registration. If you are travelling with a union participant who will be attending their classes and craft conferences, we would be appreciative of your volunteering to help out. It's a great way to meet new friends, catch up with old friends, and finally help your Auxiliary.



# APRIL 2016

## NOTE:

The Parade of States will be held on Sunday August 21st in conjunction with the Icebreaker. For those of you who have been at previous conventions, you know that the Parade of States has been held on Thursday evening. With the convention shortened to four days this is no longer an option.

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

## Human Relations Backpack Project

Joyce Tanguay, District 7 Coordinator  
Rebecca Kingsley, District 2 Coordinator  
Bonnie Sevre, Legislative Aide-Editor

For 35 years, Feeding America has responded to the hunger crisis in America by providing food to people in need through a nationwide network of food banks.

The concept of food banking was developed by John van Hengel in Phoenix, AZ in the late 1960's. Van Hengel, a retired businessman, had been volunteering at a soup kitchen trying to find food to serve the hungry. One day, he met a desperate mother who regularly rummaged through grocery store garbage bins to find food for her children. She suggested that there should be a place where, instead of being thrown out, discarded food could be stored for people to pick up – similar to the way “banks” store money for future use. With that, an industry was born. Today one of the programs is the Feeding America Backpack Program which the National APWU Auxiliary has adopted as its Human Relations project for 2014-2016.

## 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](http://www.apwuauxiliary.org)



Auxiliary News and Views

## 2014– 2016 National Officers

**PRESIDENT** Kathy Danek  
402-464-8549 402-464-8557 (fax)  
4261 Knox, Lincoln, NE 68504-1955  
[kmdanek@aol.com](mailto:kmdanek@aol.com) or  
[kmdanek@apwuauxiliary.org](http://kmdanek@apwuauxiliary.org)

**SECRETARY** Patricia Lewis  
804-644-3843 (fax/voice-office)  
804-644-6454 (home)  
1500 N 30 St, Richmond, VA 23223  
[netta15@aol.com](mailto:netta15@aol.com)

**TREASURER** Trisa Mannion  
970-245-3912 (fax) 970-243-7706  
3038 Cloverdale Ct  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
[tmaux@aol.com](mailto:tmaux@aol.com) or  
[tmannion@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:tmannion@apwuauxiliary.org)

**LEGISLATIVE AIDE-EDITOR** Bonnie Sevre  
612-788-3440  
2836 Highway 88  
Minneapolis, MN, 55418-3243  
[bsaux@aol.com](mailto:bsaux@aol.com)

**DISTRICT 1** Colette Phillippe  
406-453-6085  
5600 57th Ave. SW,  
Great Falls, MT 59404  
AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY  
[cpauxdc1@aol.com](mailto:cpauxdc1@aol.com)

**DISTRICT 2** Rebecca Kingsley  
562-355-3308  
PO Box 93686  
City of Industry, CA 91715 -3686  
AZ, CA, CO, HI, NM, NV, UT  
[rkingsley@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:rkingsley@apwuauxiliary.org)

**DISTRICT 3 VACANT**  
Please contact President Danek  
IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND, SD

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

**DISTRICT 5 VACANT**  
Please contact President Danek  
IL, IN, KY, OH, MI, WV, WI

**DISTRICT 6** Clara Hill  
865-637-1867  
2710 Waverly St  
Knoxville TN 37921  
AL, FL, GA, NC, SC, TN, VA  
[wavechill@att.net](mailto:wavechill@att.net)

**DISTRICT 7** Joyce Tanguay  
207-772-8521-  
236 Westbrook Street  
South Portland, ME 04106-3326  
CT, DE, ME, MD/DC, MA, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT  
[jetang@maine.rr.com](mailto:jetang@maine.rr.com)