



# 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 34,  
Issue 9

**MAY 2018**

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

## President Trump's Executive Order – a Misnomer About OUR SERVICE – the USPS

By: Kathy Danek - President

In case you missed it President Trump issued an executive order – on April 12, 2018 to evaluate the finances and operations of the USPS. In his tweets prior to the executive order, Trump assailed the business relationship between the USPS and Amazon, citing the package delivery and how Amazon is cheating the USPS. He further claimed that the USPS is bleeding money and Amazon is to blame.

The Executive Order calls for a full report within 120 days to provide a “thorough evaluation of the operations and finance” of the USPS to include:

- the expansion and pricing of package delivery
- the USPS role in competitive markets, the decline in mail volume, and implications of USPS financing
- the USPS monopoly over letter delivery and mail boxes
- the USPS business model, workforce, operations, costs and pricing.
- According to Bloomberg view columnist Joe Nocera, “Though the president won't like to hear this, Amazon has

played a big role in helping the USPS cut its losses. The Postal Service's package business grew in both volume and revenue by more than 11 percent, while its mail volume fell by 3.6 percent. A task force that looks seriously at the Postal Service's problems is far more likely to recommend that it raise the price of a first-class stamp than charge more in its fastest growing segment”



But the real issue is the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act requirement to prefund retiree health benefits for 75 years over a 10 year period. The PAEA basically demanded a 5.5 billion dollar prepayment beginning in 2007 – which equates to \$55 BILLION for retirees who have yet to be born. No other government agency or private sector company is required to meet these draconian future financial burdens. Yet, we have not seen Congress look to fix their inept 2006 PAEA law.

**The American Postal Workers Union issued the following statement:** “The APWU looks forward to working with anyone truly interested in maintaining a vibrant public Postal Service for generations to come. If given the opportunity to meet

### Inside this issue:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Did You Know?<br>President's Article - continued   | 2 |
| National Convention - Need Credentials?<br>First Zipline Call Held                                   | 3 |
| Committee Countdown - Which One is Right for Your?   | 4 |
| May - Interesting Facts<br>Committee Countdown - continued   | 5 |
| Ask Tina About the Health Plan   | 6 |
| Guidelines for Raising and Spending COPA Funds<br>New Postal Reform Legislation Introduced in Senate | 7 |
| 2016-2018 Human Relations Project - Child Inc.<br>National Officer Listing                           | 8 |

*Continued on page 2*

# Did You Know?

## Your Post Office Receives ZERO Tax Dollars

Taken from [www.AGrandAlliance.org](http://www.AGrandAlliance.org)

- FACT:** The United States Postal Service (USPS) receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.
- FACT:** The Post Office is established in the U.S. Constitution. The public Postal Service is part of the fundamental infrastructure of this nation – binding it together.
- FACT:** The United States Postal Service delivers to every address in the country –157.3 million addresses – no matter who we are or where we live. In contrast, private delivery companies go where they can make a profit.
- FACT:** The Postal Service is consistently the most trusted U.S. government entity. It rates highest among young adults.
- FACT:** While letter mail volumes have been declining, a lot of mail remains. The Postal Service processes and delivers 493.4 million letters and packages each day.
- FACT:** Package volume is increasing. In these days of rising e-commerce and on-line shopping, the public Postal Service is as needed and relevant as ever.
- FACT:** The U.S. Mail is the most secure and private form of communication.
- FACT:** Financial hardships for the USPS were manufactured by the 2006 “Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act.” This Congressional action forced the Postal Service to “pre-fund” future retiree health care costs 75 years into the future. No other agency or company faces this financial drain. The unfair burden is directly responsible for the reduction in the hours of operation, staffing, mail speed, and the quality of postal services.
- FACT:** Congress should fix the problem they created by passing postal reform legislation that ensures the public Postal Service remains vibrant for generations to come.

[www.AGrandAlliance.org](http://www.AGrandAlliance.org)

## President Trump’s Executive Order

President’s Article - *continued from page 1*

with the task force, we will forthrightly tell the truth, share our views and promote the protection of the rights and benefits of postal employees,” said APWU President Mark Dimondstein. “One step toward USPS financial stability is to fix the pre-funding debacle by passing the bi-partisan postal reform legislation currently stalled in both the House and the Senate.” The new Executive Order is of real concern to the APWU and we will continue to keep all members informed and up to date.



# National Convention – Need Credentials?

## Join us for the 2018 National APWU and Auxiliary Convention

By: Kathy Danek - President

It has been the practice of the Auxiliary to mail credentials to state and local organizations who were represented at the previous (2016) convention. We will mail credentials to the state and local president on file with the National Auxiliary. Requests for credentials should be made by writing to:

Auxiliary to the APWU  
PO Box 4243  
Lincoln NE 68504

Please indicate in your request either State, Local, MAL or LWOL credentials. Credentials should be received not later than 30 days before the convening of the National Convention (August 20, 2018). The credentials chairperson shall not accept any

credentials, which have not been properly authorized by the officers of their respective Auxiliaries. Alternate delegates may be seated in the permanent absence of regular delegates upon presentation of proper credentials

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 20 days (July 31st) prior to the opening of the National Auxiliary Convention (August 20th). Dues must be paid current through the first day of the month following the National Convention (September 1st).

## First Zipline Call Held

The Auxiliary held its first Zipline call on April 3, 2018. Auxiliary members were given an opportunity to speak with national auxiliary officers and ask questions they might have regarding auxiliary matters.

We had a few people who were on the call. People only knew about the call from word of mouth. We were pleased to have some involvement since the call had not been advertised in News and Views before the call was held. Hopefully, now that the “Zipline” has been promoted in our newsletter more people will participate in the next call.

Think about questions you might have that you would like answered. With officers on the call you should be able to get your answers quickly. You might have questions about the upcoming convention or perhaps how to get more active local auxiliaries. Hopefully, your questions will be answered.

We will plan to have about three topics that will be discussed. Also, the call will be kept to an hour or less.

Our next “Zipline” will be held on Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 7pm EDT. Be sure to put the date on your calendar so that you can participate. You can join the group either by video or call in. The number needed to call is posted on the Auxiliary website. If you don't have internet access you may call Trisa Mannion (970-245-3912). She will be able to give you the number to call to get on the Zipline.



## Save the Date!

### National Auxiliary Convention

August 20 - 23, 2018

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



# Committee Countdown - Which One is Right for You?

Exactly what makes a National Convention exciting and educational? Is it the work? Or maybe it's the location; or still, maybe it's the people. Well, the answer is ALL OF THE ABOVE!

Those of you who have attended a National Convention can share the experience of the first time jitters. As a matter of fact, getting up and speaking at the microphone may seem like an impossibility. But actually it's the first step in being an active participant in this event.

Enhance your experiences, take a chance and be a member of one the many committees needed to maintain our Auxiliary. Committees not only enable you to learn more about your organization, but they also introduce you to members from across the nation to share ideas from your own states and locals. Many lifetime friendships share a beginning at a National Convention committee meeting.

## The Committees are:

- Resolutions – Constitution
- Resolutions – Miscellaneous
- Consolidated Report
- Rules
- Political Action
- Courtesy and Greetings
- Auditing and Finance
- Nominations and Elections
- Human Relations
- Planning and Ideas
- Credentials

For those of you who enjoy learning about the guidelines of the Auxiliary you might like the CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS COMMITTEE. Resolutions come from all over the country, as well as our Executive Board. The committee studies these resolutions and can recommend them for consideration by the entire delegation or kill the resolutions in their committee. The committee may also suggest their own substitute amendments to the delegation.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS are also submitted from across the nation. Those resolutions included such things as the new logo, endorsements of political candidates, the TWO-CAN-DO projects, Labor Education, legislation and so on. Both resolution committees give you the opportunity to learn how to write a resolution, amend a resolution and support or defeat a resolution.

For those with a political interest perhaps the NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE is your forte. Your responsibilities include setting up the nominations according to the Constitution, putting together the ballot, running election and making certain each delegate receives the proper number of votes as accorded by the Credentials committee. You then count the votes and present the elected officers and vote tallies to the delegations.

The CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE is responsible for the assignment of appropriate voting strength for each delegate. Upon arrival at the convention, delegates are asked to present credentials bearing the signatures of the President and Secretary of their state or local Auxiliary. The Treasurer verifies the dues. After all of this the delegates are seated (allowed to be on the convention floor and vote). A daily credential report of the number of delegates present and voting strength is given to the delegation. Guidelines for the voting structure are in the National Auxiliary Constitution and By-laws.

Financial wizards may prefer to be on the AUDITING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE. An independent audit of the National Auxiliary Treasurer's books is done and presented to the convention. The committee looks over the books and records as well as the auditor's report and reports back to the convention their findings. The Finance Committee also makes recommendations that could be helpful to the National treasurer.

For those who want to know everything that went on in the past two years, consider being on the CONSOLIDATED REPORT COMMITTEE. They look over the prepared consolidated reports of the officers and committees from the National Auxiliary Executive Board.

RULES COMMITTEE members meet to decide the schedule of convening and recessing each day of the convention. Rules for delegates' participation at the convention are also a responsibility of this committee. Usually rules from previous convention are submitted to the committee for them to study, amend and recommend to the delegation.

The POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE members use innovative ideas to raise additional COPA dollars from the Auxiliary. Other legislative activity may also be directed from this committee.

COURTESY AND GREETINGS COMMITTEE If you like to spread sunshine, this is the group for you. Salutations, greetings, and gifts are presented under the

*Continued on page 5*

# May - Interesting Facts



By: Rebecca Kingsley - District 1 Coordinator

- # The month of May was named for Maia, the Greek goddess of fertility.
- # May's birthstone is an Emerald. Which represents Love and Success
- # It was once a "Rue" to marry in May.
- # The Empire State Building was officially opened on May 1st, 1931.
- # No other month, other than May, begins or ends on the same day of the week.
- # May 5th is also known as Cinco de Mayo. A Mexican holiday to celebrate the win of the Battle of Pueblo.
- # In 1914 President Woodrow Wilson signed "Mothers Day" a National Holiday.
- # For you Star Wars fans, "May the Fourth be with you"
- # Birthday – Irish-born American labor leader Mary 'Mother' Jones (1830 – 1930) was born in County Cork, Ireland. She endured misfortune early in life as her husband and four children died in the yellow fever epidemic of 1867. She also lost all of her belongings in the Chicago Fire of 1871. She then devoted herself to organizing and advancing the cause of Labor, using the slogan, "Join the Union, boys." She also sought to prohibit child labor. She remained active until the very end , giving her last speech on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- # Best day of May, my mothers birthday. Happy Birthday Mom!!



## Committee Countdown - Which One is Right For You?

*Continued from page 4*

direction of this committee. Special courtesies are extended through this committee as well as condolences, get well wishes and so on.

The **HUMAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE** work to raise money for the current human relations project. The committee comes up with ideas for the Auxiliary's project for the next two years until our next national convention. The Wounded Warrior Amputee Softball Team and the Feeding America Backpack Project are a couple of the organizations we've had as our human relations project. Those interested in projects for charitable giving, this might be the committee for you.

Thinking ahead the **PLANNING AND IDEAS COMMITTEE** sets the direction for the future. This is the committee of vision – the maker of dreams. From

the notebooks of this very committee came the Nilan Scholarship, the Auxiliary cookbook and our new logo.

Committee participation allows us to share ideas. It enables our delegation to learn more about each other and about the actions to be taken. Give a little of your time on a committee. It will make the week fun, informative and filled with excitement. We will enrich our knowledge of the Auxiliary. But mostly, we will find out more about ourselves by sharing with others the gift of our ideas.

*So don't forget to fill out that little line on your credential that says,*

**COMMITTEE PREFERRED:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Ask Tina? *About the Health Plan*

### Teens Often Think E-Cigs, Hookah Pipes Harmless: CDC

Teenagers who use tobacco products other than cigarettes often see their habit as harmless, a new U.S. government survey finds. The report, from researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, asked teenagers whether they considered themselves tobacco users. It turned out that kids who favored products like electronic cigarettes, hookahs (water pipes) and smokeless tobacco often failed to see themselves as tobacco users.

Even among teens who agreed that "all tobacco products" are harmful, there were many who thought their product of choice wasn't. That included three-quarters of kids who used e-cigarettes, and 56 percent of those who used hookahs. "Teenagers might not realize the products they use contain nicotine and are addictive," said Erika Sward, assistant vice president of national advocacy for the American Lung Association. That means education efforts have to do a better job of tackling the products that are popular with kids these days, Sward added. "We can't just be talking about cigarettes anymore," she said. However, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced on Thursday that it plans to try to lower the amount of nicotine in cigarettes to make them less addictive.

The CDC report comes from a survey of over 20,000 U.S. middle school and high school students. Overall, 558 kids said they'd used e-cigarettes in the past month. But 60 percent did not consider themselves a "tobacco user." The same was true of over 80 percent of kids who used "roll your own" or pipe tobacco. Similar patterns were seen among students who'd smoked only cigars or hookahs. Meanwhile, there was a disconnect between what kids thought of tobacco products as a whole, and how they saw their product of choice. Of kids who used e-cigarettes, most (80 percent) agreed that "all tobacco products" were harmful. Yet only 22 percent thought e-cigarettes were risky. There was a similar disconnect among kids who used hookahs or smokeless tobacco.

A hookah is a large water pipe that uses charcoal to heat tobacco, which may be sweetened or flavored. Hookah "lounges" are popular, and Sward said many young people may see hookah smoking as a social activity, rather than



tobacco use. As for e-cigarettes, she said, kids may not consider them tobacco products because they are smoke-free. But e-cigarettes do contain nicotine -- which, Sward said, can affect the developing adolescent brain and cause addiction. "Kids who use e-cigarettes are more likely to go on to smoke combustible cigarettes," she noted. On top of that, the U.S. Surgeon General has warned that e-cigarettes may contain other harmful substances -- including heavy metals and ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deeply into the lungs.

According to study co-author Dr. Israel Agaku, a researcher with the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health, "Youth use of tobacco products in any form, including e-cigarettes and hookahs, is unsafe." The CDC report was published online March 15 in the journal *Pediatrics*. It's important for adults to set a good example by being tobacco-free, Agaku said. And it's up to everyone -- parents, teachers, doctors -- to talk to kids about the risks of all tobacco products, he explained. Sward added, "We've had this problem for years with smokeless tobacco," referring to kids' misperceptions that it's "safe." Now, she said, there are additional products, including e-cigarettes and hookahs, drawing kids in. "Parents need to be aware that these products have a vice grip on kids today, the way cigarettes had on [their generation]," Sward said.

**More information:** The U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse has more on [tobacco, nicotine and e-cigarettes](#).

**SOURCES:** Israel Agaku, D.M.D., Ph.D., M.P.H., senior service fellow, Office on Smoking and Health, U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; Erika Sward, M.A., assistant vice president, national advocacy, American Lung Association; March 15, 2018, *Pediatrics*, online

**By Amy Norton - HealthDay Reporter - THURSDAY, March 15, 2018, Copyright © 2018 HealthDay. All rights reserved.**

(800) 222-2798

**TOGETHER.  
BETTER HEALTH.**

Get comprehensive health benefits at an affordable price.

**APWU**  
HEALTH PLAN

WWW.APWUHP.COM

# Guidelines for Raising and Spending COPA Funds

**Giving to COPA is a very effective way for APWU members to make our voice heard in Congress.**

Through COPA, our union's active and retired members can pool our resources to help elect legislators who will stand up for postal workers and retirees. This is especially important in protecting postal jobs, wages and benefits amid the ongoing postal "reform" debate. COPA dollars also help elect politicians who will defend Social Security, Family and Medical Leave Act benefits and collective bargaining rights for working people everywhere.

There are many ways to run an effective COPA campaign, but there are a few guidelines we need to follow to comply with the law. Here is a brief list of a few "Dos" and "Don'ts."

## Summary of Regulations Governing COPA Solicitations

### You Must:

**You must** document all income and expenditures from raffles or other events. Send copies of receipts and other documentation to APWU COPA, 1300 L St. NW, Washington, DC 20005.

**You must** record the name, address, union local number and the amount received from each COPA contributor. Send this information and all funds raised to APWU national headquarters.

**You must** promptly send in COPA contributions. Contributions over \$50 must be received by COPA within 10 days after they are made. Contributions of \$50 or less must be received by COPA within 30 days after they are made.

**You must** make clear that all donations are voluntary and that they will be used to support candidates for federal office.

**You must** print the following message on the front of all COPA solicitation materials: "A copy of the COPA Committee report is filed with the Federal Election Commission and is available for purchase from the Federal Election Commission, Washington, DC."

### You Can:

**You can** use local dues or treasury money as "seed money" to help raise COPA contributions provided that your costs do not exceed 33 cents for every dollar raised.

**You can** spend union dues money to print and distribute literature that educates your membership on the candidates' positions on the issues.

**You can** use dues money for non-partisan voter registration and "Get Out The Vote" drives aimed at APWU members and their families.

**You can** have APWU Auxiliary members and retirees as well as active APWU members conduct phone banks to raise contributions and/or pledges for COPA.

### You Can Not:

**You can Not** raise money from, or sell tickets to, non-APWU members, non-retirees or non-Auxiliary.

**You can Not** mix COPA funds with local treasury or personal funds. A separate COPA account should be set up, and all COPA funds raised should be sent to national headquarters.

**You can Not** send the COPA money you raise directly to a candidate. All contributions must be made through the union's national COPA account.

**You can Not** accept free merchandise from a corporation to be used as prizes in a COPA campaign.

**You can Not** accept anonymous or unidentified cash contributions over \$50.



## New Postal Reform Legislation Introduced in the Senate

### APWU WEB NEWS ARTICLE #: 32-2018

03/23/2018 - On March 22, *The Postal Service Reform Act of 2018* (S. 2629) was introduced in the U.S. Senate. The APWU recognizes the efforts of the four bi-partisan Senators who worked to craft and co-sponsor the proposed legislation - Tom Carper (D-DE), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO). "The APWU appreciates their efforts to achieve postal legislative reform that is fair to the APWU members, postal workers in general, the public Postal Service and postal customers," said Legislative & Political Director Judy Beard.

Much of the Senate bill is based on the foundation of H.R. 756, a bill introduced in the House of Representatives, which the APWU supports (while still

seeking some improvements). H.R. 756 is currently stalled in the House.

The new Senate bill also includes a number of elements from the *Improving Postal Operations, Service and Transparency Act*, introduced in the last Congress by Sen. Carper.

There are many positive elements in this proposed legislation that the APWU supports as a basis for further legislative action. This includes addressing the unfair and absurd pre-funding mandate for future retiree health care costs, imposed on the USPS by Congress in 2006.

The key to passing needed postal reform is strong bi-partisan support. The APWU will continue to work with representatives of both political parties as we remain actively engaged to achieve quality postal reform.

## 2016-2018 Human Relations Project

By: Joyce Tanguay - Human Relations Chair



# Underneath it All

**Did you know that simple basic items like socks, underwear, t-shirts, shoes, and jackets are something not everyone has? Did you know that many children here in the U.S have none of these?**

The Auxiliary's Human Relations project since the 2016 Convention in Orlando is working with Children Incorporated to raise funds for their many sites within the states that are in need of all of these items. So how can you help? You can drop off items at your local. Local's, please send the items to the National Convention with your delegates. If you're a delegate, you can drop off items at the Auxiliary table. **AND DON'T STOP THERE!** You can bring cash, gift cards (Target is recognized in most states), packages of underwear, socks, t-shirts, scarves, gloves, and more socks. Sizes range from 2 to 18 years.

Items collected at the National Convention in August will be donated to a school affiliated with Children Incorporated in Kentucky.

If you have any questions regarding Children Incorporated or this Human Relations project please feel free to call Joyce Tanguay (207)772-8521 or (207)409-6032.



## 2016- 2018 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](mailto:kmdanek@apwuauxiliary.org)

**SECRETARY** Patricia Lewis  
804-644-3843 (fax/voice-office)  
804-644-6454 (home)  
1500 N 30 St, Richmond, VA 23223  
[Pat.Lewis1500@aol.com](mailto:Pat.Lewis1500@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 612-889-4111 (cell)  
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** Tina Beaton  
816-786-5572  
409 Belmont Dr.  
Raymore, MO 64083  
IA, KS, MO, MN, NE, ND, SD  
[tbeaton@apwuauxiliary.org](mailto:tbeaton@apwuauxiliary.org)

**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)