

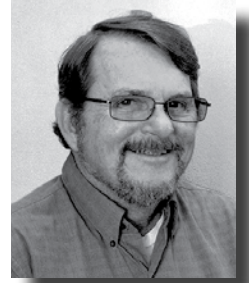


Election Results

The newly elected and returning officers would like to thank the membership for participating in the recent election. We thank you for your votes and we will strive to represent you, the members, to the best of our abilities. The following newly elected and returning officers are:

- Rebecca “Becky” Livingston.....President
- Millard “Gene” Hollenbeck.....Executive Vice President
- Robin “Robbie” Robertson.....Secretary-Treasurer
- Shelia Patton-Harris.....Editor-in-Chief
- Dave ChildersDirector of Industrial Relations
- Claudella “Della” SuggsSergeant-at-Arms
- Dean HathawayDirector of Research and Education
- Melani BrownAssociate Office Director
- Bill BradyClerk Craft Director
- Darren PruittClerk Craft Director A
- Robert “Bobby” Riehl.....Motor Vehicle Craft Director
- Tyler “Grizz” HazelipTied for Motor Vehicle Director A
- Leonard Nunn
- Tom Nanna.....Maintenance Craft Director

From the Desk of President Gene Hollenbeck



This will be my last article as your president. I am truly grateful for the time I have been able to serve in this capacity.

The election is over. The membership has spoken. We can now get back to the business at hand, which is to represent the membership.

First of all, I would like to thank the membership for taking the time to vote in our general election. I would also like to thank the membership for having the confidence to allow me to continue serving you. I pledge that I will continue to do my best to serve you, the membership.

I would also like to congratulate those who have been elected to serve the membership. I want to thank you for stepping up and becoming more involved in your union.

There is no news about any more PSE conversions at this time. We will continue to fight for more conversions as we have in the past. Most often the PSEs will know before we do. We just have to make sure that it is done correctly.

National has notified us that the arbitration for the National Contract will begin on September 4, 2019. This is a major step in finally getting our contract. **Fighting Today for a Better Tomorrow.**

Thank you for your support and always remember: **We are all in this together.**

ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS!

COME TO OUR SIDE OF THE FENCE

We started in 1928 as the credit union for postal workers. Today, we've opened our doors to everyone in our surrounding communities, but our roots remain. We can save you money on:

- Checking accounts with online banking, mobile banking, mobile deposit and more¹
- Auto loans with low rates and no payments for 90 days² (even on refinances!)
- Home equity loans with low rates and no closing costs³
- Mortgage loans with competitive rates
- Savings, CDs, money markets and IRAs
- Club accounts for youth, teens and seniors
- And more!

Start saving money and open your accounts and loans online today!



Federally
Insured By
NCUA



314-892-5400 NeighborsCU.org

Downtown • Fenton • Florissant • Hazelwood
Jennings • South County • St. Peters

neighbors
CREDIT UNION
Where the grass is greener

¹Message and data rates may apply from your wireless carrier. ²Interest will continue to accrue during deferral period. ³If loan is paid off and closed within 24 months from opening of loan, member must reimburse the credit union for fees paid.

Membership eligibility required on all offers. Restrictions apply on all offers. See Neighbors Credit Union for complete details on all offers.

Secretary-Treasurer Report

By *Robbie Robertson*



First and foremost, congratulations to all the new officers of the St. Louis Gateway District Area Local. A special thanks to **The Members Team, The Right Track Team**, and all other candidates who ran for office for being dedicated and determined to the end. We have to learn regardless of what positions we hold in the union, we all are leaders. Our goal is to pursue higher heights, understand proper financial responsibilities, fight for union solidarity, and save the post office from privatization. As leaders, we must realize it takes a team to help build our membership (community). Building leadership and creating solidarity is the key!

National Secretary-Treasurer Elizabeth “Liz” Powell submitted a report in the July/Aug. issue of the “Postal Workers.” As the secretary-treasurer, I am reassuring the members that I will continue my duties according to the guidelines and fiduciary responsibilities of the Labor Management and Disclosure Act. The members re-elected me to work with the local president, trustee committee, and executive board to safe-guard the union finances by practicing accepted accounting procedures. Our outside accountant, Mark Diak, prepares the IRS 990 reports, while our outside accounting firm, Complete Accounting, makes sure other various tax forms such as employee quarterly and annual tax reports and MO-941 requirements are completed. All reports are either submitted monthly, quarterly, and/or yearly. As of the 2019 election results, I am the only member of the new administration who has submitted the LM reports in the last six years. Former President Wolfmeyer completed the administrative part of the LM-2 since he was

the president in 2018 and greatly assisted me with the LM-2 over the last six years.

Our local is required to complete the LM-2 report based on our annual receipts, which are over \$250,000 per year. All information can be found on the Department of Labor website <https://olms.dol-esa.gov/query/getOrgQryResult.do>. Our IRS-990 is completed by our outside accountant Diak annually. As an officer, I will exercise the responsibilities of the Labor Management Recording Disclosure Act (LMDRA). Training courses are provided, and our national office is only a phone call away if there are questions about any expenditures in reference to the local financials.

Last but not least, my brothers and sisters, we are a community. Our membership consists of clerks, building maintenance, mechanics, custodians, truck drivers, vehicle maintenance, accounting department, and information technology. We are striving for equality and the only way we’re going to build this membership is by helping one another. Please talk to the non-members and encourage them to become members. Full-time members enrolling career employees will receive \$25 each. Career employees enrolling PSEs will receive \$10. The PSEs will receive an APWU item (ex. hat, apron, or backpack). Sharing the knowledge is **POWER** whether it’s the union financials or contract negotiations.

Special coverings and blessings over every member and their household within the St. Louis Gateway District Area Local. Let’s organize to build a better community. Thank you again, St. Louis Gateway – APWU 8.



Annual Shareholders Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2019
at 4:30 p.m.



Editor's

By Shelia Patton-Harris

Corner



When I was a child, everyone did their shopping at what was called a department store. These were big buildings and they stocked everything from perfume to furniture. Some of the big ones were Famous Barr, Stix Baer and Fuller, and Sears. Famous Barr had several stores but their flagship store was downtown. There were multiple floors and people rode the escalators or the elevators. The elevators were run by elevator operators. You'd tell them where you wanted to go and they would deliver you to the right floor. They were secure in their jobs because as long as there were elevators, someone would have to operate them. Things changed and elevator operators became a thing of the past.

When I was an adult, there was an air traffic controller strike. The air traffic controllers were secure in their jobs because they had skilled positions and not just anybody could land aircraft. They were out on strike when the president of the United States ordered them back to work. When they did not return, he fired them all and replaced them with supervisory personnel, new hires and military.

We are facing a situation where we might all be replaced. The cries for privatization are growing stronger and more strident. If you think it couldn't happen, think again. We have to start making better choices. We have to elect politicians who have our best interests at heart. We have to pay attention to the bills affecting the Postal Service that are in the House and Senate. Don't be afraid to write to these people whom you have elected to represent you. There is strength in numbers. We need to work together as a union to make sure our voice is heard.

There are many things you, as a member, can do. The first thing is to join the union if you are not a member. The union is not only the local but is a national organization. We have a legislature director, Judy Beard, who meets with the different members of Congress to lobby for our interests. When you are asked to call or write the representatives and senators, please participate. If they receive 10 letters or calls, it doesn't make the same impact as 5,000 letters or calls. Another crucial step is to be an informed voter. Look at the candidate's voting record and his/her stand on postal issues. You wouldn't want to

vote someone in office who is in favor of privatization of the Postal Service. Try to attend union meetings. This is your chance to share your concerns and problems with union leadership. Telling your friends and co-workers about a problem will not get a solution.

Change is inevitable. A lot of the jobs at the Postal Service have been eliminated. We used to have LSM clerks, elevator operators, and sack sorters. All gone by the wayside. There are fewer and fewer jobs to bid on. We have to protect the jobs we still have. File grievances when the supervisor is doing your job or when you have to work one to a machine. Come to work. One of the main reasons management cites for using one clerk on a machine is, "The clerks won't come to work." If they can get by with fewer personnel, then why should they hire anyone?

My postal career is almost over. In the 30 years I have been at the Postal Service I have seen many changes. I hope that those of you just starting out on this journey will have long and fruitful careers. Many of you have never worked a union job and don't realize how valuable a union can be. Remember, you put the "U" in union.

HAPPY
COLUMBUS
DAY



Thank You

By Dave Childers, Director of Industrial Relations



I want to thank my sisters and brothers for electing me to the industrial relations director position. I look forward to assisting the membership with any of your needs. I have lived the EEOC and OWCP life and have a vast knowledge of both as well as safety and health. I am pleased to announce the P&DC management, Mrs. Dunaway, has sent me an email saying they have authorization for a new fire alarm system and it will be installed in the near future (per Mrs. Dunaway). Management has also agreed to do air sampling to ensure a safe working environment.

These are just a couple of issues we have been working on.

Please be safe and remember to always wear your seat belt. Be aware of your surroundings at all times and if you see a safety hazard, please fill out a 1767 hazard report and make a copy for your steward to send to the hall.

Final Associate Office Director's Report

By Becky Livingston



I would like to start this report by stating that it has been a privilege and an honor to represent the associate office members over the last eight years. I have enjoyed getting to know you and would like you to know that I will be available if you have any questions or concerns as we transition into our newly elected positions. I would also like you to know that the newly elected associate office director and steward, Melani Brown, is excited about the opportunity to represent the members of the associate offices and has been instrumental in filing multiple contractual violation grievances at the Ballwin Post Office over the last several years. Melani is ready and eager to make sure management adheres to the contract and that the associate office members continue to have a voice and are well represented.

I would now like to take the opportunity to thank the entire APWU membership for using your voice and your vote to express your confidence in me to serve as the next St. Louis Gateway District Area Local president. I would like to congratulate all of the newly elected officers and directors. I look forward to working with them to make sure the membership continues to be well represented. The membership has spoken and your voice has been heard. Over the next three years, I would like you to know that I will take the position of APWU president very seriously. I understand that there

will be questions and concerns that will need to be addressed and I welcome the conversation. The APWU has just recently learned of the appointment of the arbitrator who will handle our contract negotiations and we are pleased that the interest arbitration proceedings will soon begin. As we all know the Postal Service and the APWU were unable to reach an agreement due to the Postal Service's request for severe changes and cuts to our wages, benefits and working conditions. I will make sure that the membership is kept updated on any news that we receive regarding the contract negotiations.

In closing, I would like you to know that I will continue to be available 24/7 for questions, concerns and issues that may come up. I take the zero-tolerance policy that was established by the United States Postal Service very seriously and would like for you to notify your steward and me if management and/or co-workers are not treating each other with dignity and respect. I truly believe that if management and the APWU work together moving forward we can create a hostile-free work environment. "Don't assume, ask. Be kind. Tell the truth. Don't say anything you can't stand behind fully. Have integrity. Tell people how you feel." As president, I promise to apply this advice as I represent the St. Louis Gateway District Area Local.

USPS Employee Assistance Program Was upgraded with new features this year

New services were added to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) this year. The program features services to help employees overcome life challenges that can affect their health, family or job performance.

EAP is voluntary, confidential and free. Services are available year-round through the EAP site, online apps, in person or by phone.

Services include:

- **Face-to-face counseling.** District clinicians are available to talk in person about any current concerns.
- **Telephone counseling.** Employees can speak with a counselor by calling 800-327-4968. The TTY number is 877-492-7341.
- **Video therapy.** Clinicians or consultants are available through a video link.
- **Text therapy.** Employees can use Talkspace app to text a clinician, who will respond in a certain amount of time.
- **Online therapy.** The myStrength app includes therapy modules for depression, stress, chronic pain, anxiety, substance use and insomnia.
- **Telephone counseling.** Employees can speak with a counselor by calling 800-327-4968 or the TTY number, 877-492-7341.

The EAP4YOU.com site has more information.

Reprinted from Postal Employee Network

Maintenance Craft

By Tom Nanna, Director

On Sunday night, August 11, it rained hard for an extended period of time. When tour two arrived at work on Monday morning, the EMSYS fire system had fire alarms. Riser 42 the water flow monitors were in an alarmed state. Supervisory alarms were showing a tamper on riser 42, and numerous trouble alarms. We were told to let the EMSYS dry out as some of the ZAMS had gotten wet.

On Tuesday, August 13, an announcement was made that work was being done on the fire system, and if employees hear alarms or see strobe lights in their area going off, to please disregard. In the event of an actual emergency, employees will be notified via a live voice.

Tuesday at 11:35 a.m. the compressor room received a fire alarm that three smoke detectors were in alarm, two on the ground floor equipment

room and one on the first-floor equipment room. A call went out on the radio that the alarms had nothing to do with us working on the alarms pertaining to Riser 42. Five minutes later, at 11:40, I tried to contact Frank Kurtz, Sean Barns, and Justin Etheridge for directions on what was happening in those equipment rooms, but no one would answer the radio.

I called multiple times for any maintenance supervisor to call the compressor room, but no maintenance supervisor responded. Having no response from the emergency response team, I called the safety office to ask what I should do. I was hung up on when they transferred the call to the manager.

I called the postal police to see what they had discovered when they checked out the equipment rooms, and was told that they had disregarded that fire alarm since an announcement was made earlier. I asked if they were

monitoring the radio when I called out that the BEM employees who were working on the system were not responsible for the fire alarm and that the smoke detectors were in an active state. Postal police stated that they would check out the equipment rooms. At 11:55 BEM personal, who were told that we were not to investigate EMSYS alarm, started to call on the radios that they were in the equipment rooms and that the construction dust had triggered the smoke alarms.

At noon — 25 minutes after the fire alarm — I received the call from postal police that they did not see a fire and confirmed what BEM employees had stated. If this had been an actual fire, the Postal Services new action plan would have failed on all accounts.



Thoughts from Retirement

By Fred Wolfmeyer



Sisters and brothers, greetings from a new APWU retiree. Thank you if you voted in the recent election, and get ready to enjoy great representation from your new president! I have worked closely with Becky Livingston for a long time and I know she will always act in your best interest.

To help get this administration off on the right foot, I'd like to dispel some destructive rumors about the local union. During the recent union campaign, I heard a rumor that I retired from being your president because of accusations of inappropriate behavior or that I was stealing. Nothing could be further from the truth. I retired because I wasn't getting to do enough fishing!

As I told you in my last article as president of the St. Louis Gateway District Local, I **and three other union members were accused of sexual harassment by a person in the local.** Just a week before writing

this article, we obtained a copy of the OIG report and the **conclusion cleared us.** The report states that all allegations filed by the charging party were totally **"unsubstantiated"** and the vice president and I were **exonerated**, as we knew we would be. Far from retiring due to this accusation, I actually stayed on to deal with it, long after my planned retirement.

There is no truth to the allegation that I was charged with stealing, or in fact that there is any problem with the local union's finances. I have never been accused of stealing (except in the rumor mill). The finances of the local are in great shape. The trustees of the local do quarterly reviews and have found everything to be in order. Your elected secretary-treasurer puts out a monthly financial report under her name, and makes a motion for the executive board and general membership to accept these reports at each meeting. In addition, the lo-

cal union uses an independent bookkeeping service to perform all tax filing and payrolls along with monthly and year-end financial reports. The local also employs a CPA to conduct an annual audit and to make sure all IRS and Department of Labor (DOL) filings are turned in and submitted in a timely manner. The annual audit for 2018 was performed this year and we got a clean bill of health. I am confident the local will again get a bill of financial health.

So take a deep breath, confident that your local union is in good hands.



And that thought allows me to retire happy.



Motor Vehicle Craft Director

By Robert (Bobby) Riehl, Jr.

I would like to thank **"every person"** who voted for me in the St. Louis Gateway APWU union election for the United States post office. Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the people who were supportive of my candidacy in various ways. I greatly appreciated all very much.

All candidates were each incredible individuals who put their hearts and souls into the campaign and for that we are immensely proud. Although some were unable to cross the finish line, they have proven they

have a bright future. Their dedication, passion, and spirit give strength to all those around.

I would like to thank every individual, volunteer, supporter and organizer for everything you have done. What you did absolutely matters and made a huge difference.

I enjoyed connecting with all of the employees and engaging in the process of being motor vehicle craft director. Elections are the toughest to decide who is the right person for the position. I love challenges as in the United States Army the saying is;

"You never walk away, pursue the obstacle straight ahead."

I will walk beside you, support you and work hard for each and every one during this journey while I am in the position of motor vehicle craft director.

I know there is work still to be done and our future together is bright and strong.

The change starts today and we look forward to meeting the challenge ahead alongside each of you.

Thank you again.

P.O.W.E.R. CONVENTION 2019

By P.O.W.E.R. Chairperson Mia Smith

First, I would like to thank St. Louis Gateway District Area Local #8 for allowing me and 10 P.O.W.E.R. sisters to attend the P.O.W.E.R. Convention. The 40th anniversary and 19th biennial National P.O.W.E.R. (Post Office Women for Equal Rights) Convention was held August 7-11, 2019, in Chicago, Illinois, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel-O'Hare location. The theme was "Gaining Strength from Our Past, to Fight for our Future." Janis Dumas, Wendy Scales-Smith, Robbin Shelton-Nichols, Robbie Robertson, Carolyn Driver, Kimberly Goodwin, Robin McCurry, Christine Smith (retiree), Cecelia Stevens (retiree), Cierra McDonald, and I were members from our local who attended. Thanks to Chicago Local President Keith Richardson for hosting the convention and sponsoring the hospitality nights. The convention, the workshops, and networking were absolutely awesome! Not to mention the weather in Chicago was gorgeous that weekend.

The workshops included: knowing the rules of the game (parliamentary procedure), legislative issues, understanding the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), leadership development, public speaking and preventing STDs. These workshops are great tools and resources for enhancing leadership skills, and stewardship knowledge. The legislative workshop helped us understand how legislative bills affect the Postal Service.

The TSP workshop gave knowledge of retirement and finances thereafter. For those who are afraid to talk to groups, the public speaking workshop was a good interactive tool to assist with fears of presenting to a group of people. They all were given by P.O.W.E.R. national officers and they did an awesome job! Kudos, POWER national officers!

Friday was the first day of the convention and it started off with recognition of national officers, local and state presidents, national APWU POWER coordinators and alternates, and words from our national president, Mark Diamondstein. The business session began after lunch. All of the convention committees needed volunteers, therefore, I volunteered on the Structure Committee. The Structure Committee met the next morning to go over the POWER structure as it is now, and if there were any proposals or changes needed to be made, we would discuss and make a motion to update/change if necessary. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that no changes to the POWER structure needed to be made.

Saturday, the convention was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance from our own National Business Agent of Support Services Judy McCann. Linda J. Turney, national business agent of Chicago Region spoke on the history and pioneers of the POWER movement. Judy Beard, treasurer of Coalition of Labor Unions (CLUW) spoke on the importance of CLUW and legislative bills. Once all other committees

read their reports, there were closing remarks by Central Region Coordinator Darcy A. Wood. Wendy Scales-Smith was nominated as the second alternate for P.O.W.E.R. coordinators. The installation dinner was that evening at 6 p.m.

Overall, this is my second P.O.W.E.R. Convention and I believe in everything it represents. The phenomenal thing is P.O.W.E.R. was founded in St. Louis by Barbara Protho. On April 28, 1979, the first Women's Conference was held with 130 women in attendance. The need to get women actively involved in the APWU was critical. Our former and current pioneers such as Sister Barbara Protho (RIP), Director of Research & Education Joyce Robinson (APWU AFL-CIO), National Secy.-Treasurer Elizabeth "Liz" Powell (APWU AFL-CIO), Legislative Director Judy Beard (APWU AFL-CIO), and Executive Vice President Deborah "Debby" Szeredy, who have paved the way for our younger sisters who are seeking knowledge and leadership skills to master their union positions. It is was my goal to bring more P.O.W.E.R. sisters to this convention so they could network with women from all over, and experience all the training the workshop offers.

Workshops like these are needed in our local. Be a part of the women's P.O.W.E.R. movement! I challenge the women of APWU to join P.O.W.E.R. and help build union solidarity. Please call the APWU Union Hall at 314-231-7665 to sign up for P.O.W.E.R.!

Thank You,



Attention Power Sisters!
There will be a brief meeting of POWER
immediately after the
General Membership Meeting
On September 8, 2019
at 3 p.m.
Hope to see you there!



POWER: The APWU Women's Committee
St. Louis Gateway District Area Local



What is POWER?

APWU POWER (Post Office Women for Equal Rights), the women's committee within the APWU, was founded in St. Louis, Missouri on April 28, 1979, and incorporated into APWU's National Constitution in Detroit, Michigan in August 1980. St. Louis Gateway District Area Local POWER Committee consists of chairperson, co-chair, secretary/treasurer, and community event planner.

Why is it NECESSARY for St. Louis Gateway?

St. Louis Gateway women providing knowledge and skills needed to level the playing field for legislative and community outreach playing field. St. Louis Gateway POWER women will be responsible for becoming more active within the community, outreach, and COPA (the union's political action fund).

Community Involvement Includes:

- "Adopting" postal union families left homeless due to natural disasters;
- Making yearly monetary contributions to domestic violence agencies;
- Donating books, clothing, toiletries, and supplies to schools, homeless shelters, and senior citizens' home;
- Donate to "Sisters Helping Sisters Fund" which was established in 2005 Hurricane Katrina to help women and children who were left homeless due to disaster;
- Making bi-yearly monetary contributions to UNCF (United Negro College Fund).

Are you ready to be a leader within POWER?

Special elections will take place on Saturday, October 5, directly after the general membership meeting at 9:30 am. All positions available for election:

CHAIRPERSON
CO-CHAIRPERSON
COMMUNITY EVENT PLANNER
SECRETARY

Every female who is a full dues paying member, within the St. Louis Gateway, qualifies to run for these four vacancies.

Please contact Mia Smith (POWER chairperson) at 314-231-7665. Serious inquiries only!

CBTU Convention 2019 – Report

By *Robbie Robertson*

I would like to thank St. Louis Gateway District Area Local for allowing Christine Smith and me to represent them as delegates to the Coalition Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) 2019 Convention May 25-28 in Atlanta, Georgia. This convention was dynamic and very informative for black leaders within the many local and state organizations.

1. CBTU basic objectives are:
2. Improve economic development and employment opportunities for black workers,
3. Work within the framework of the trade union movement to provide a voice and vehicle for greater black and minority participation,
4. Increase union involvement in voter registration, voter education and voter turnout projects,
5. Organize unorganized workers,
6. Actively support civil rights and civic groups working to improve living and working conditions in the black community,
7. Most importantly, truly increase the effective alliances between labor, churches, and the general community within the St. Louis Area.
8. Christine Smith (retiree) and CBTU was a vital part of the “Vote NO on Prop A” by pressing the la-



(L-R) *Natasha Pickens* (President, CWA 6355-St. Louis), *Rev. Terrance Melvin* (CBTU International president) and me (*Robbie Robertson*).

bor community to add resources to the black communities. St. Louis CBTU Chapter is strong and vital to this day.

The highlights of the convention included: The men’s committee workshop presentation which allowed a panel discussion on what black men are facing in American as labor leaders. The town hall meeting titled “2019 – How Do We Vote Our Own,” a very informative panel discussion which included Claude Cummings, vice president CWA District 6 from Houston Texas, Tiffany Loftin (NAACP, national director for youth and college), and two other local panelists. Claude Cummings explained how he was able to receive resources from PAC organizations to make sure pertinent elections were won. One election was the Missouri State Senate. Christine Smith (sergeant-at-arms, St. Louis CBTU Chapter) was an instrumental asset in assisting Missouri State Senator Karla May into office. As leaders, our primary goal should make sure we are electing people for the best interest of the community. The panelists also discussed gerrymandering, voter suppression, voter restoration, and black votes and how they affect the community as a whole. They also had a panel discussion on building coalitions with the trades (IBEW, Laborers Union, Pipefitters



Members of the St. Louis CBTU Chapter with President Jay Ozier and retiree Christine Smith (SAA for the St. Louis CBTU Chapter).

Union, etc.). The beautiful thing about this panel discussion was being able to relate to how the trades in St. Louis are working towards the goal of building a coalition between the black community and the labor trades. This task has not always been easy, but we need to start somewhere. This year, the trades have partnered with United Way, Slate, and other organizations to bring more women and blacks into the trades. The workshops and business were conducted during the day session. Most of the town-halls and panel discussions were conducted in the evening. Now you’re wondering what this has to do with the American Postal Workers Union (APWU) – community outreach. Educating one another builds a solidarity foundation because we are going to need **every** affiliate and labor organization to support the APWU during this “US Mail is NOT for SALE” campaign. We **cannot** fight this alone. We need allies at the local, state, and federal level. Special thanks to Christine Smith (retiree) for continuing the fight after retirement. She’s truly an asset to the St. Louis Gateway District Area Local Chapter and St. Louis CBTU Chapter. I am looking forward to more members becoming active within our community.



(L-R) *Rosa Faye Marshall* (APWU retiree), *Sharyn Stone* (Central Regional coordinator), *Shirley Taylor* (NBA), *Elizabeth “Liz” Powell* (APWU secretary-treasurer), *Robin “Robbie” Robertson* (St. Louis Gateway – secretary-treasurer), *Judy Beard* (legislative director), *Christine Smith* (retiree), and *Donna Willis* (AFGE-St. Louis Local)

Big Changes Coming to TSP Withdrawal Options

On September 15, big changes are coming to your Thrift Savings Plan withdrawal options. You'll be gaining options of how and when you can access money from your TSP account. TSP breaks it down here:

Flexible Withdrawals Begin September 2019	Current Rules
<p>You can customize your installment payments and change your payment frequency at any time as your needs change. You can choose among monthly, quarterly, and annual installment options.</p>	<p>Requests to change monthly installment amounts can only be made once each year during a designated open season.</p>
<p>You never have to make a full withdrawal election. When you need to make IRS-mandated required minimum distributions (RMDs) at age 70 and after, we'll automatically send you the right amount if you don't withdraw enough during the year.</p>	<p>A full withdrawal election is required the year you are separated and 70 years old, or your account becomes abandoned.</p>
<p>You'll request withdrawals easily using fast and secure online tools by logging into My Account on <i>tsp.gov</i>.</p>	<p>Paper forms must be submitted by mail or fax to make or change a withdrawal election.</p>
<p>You can choose to withdraw traditional money only, Roth money only, or a proportional amount of both.</p>	<p>All withdrawals include both traditional and Roth funds as a pro rata (i.e., proportional) distribution.</p>
<p>Any in-service withdrawals you make have no effect on the number of post-separation partial withdrawals you can make. You can make partial withdrawals even if you receive installment payments.</p>	<p>Only one age-based in-service withdrawal or one post-separation partial withdrawal allowed in a lifetime. Then a full withdrawal election is required.</p>

Now is a great time to review your TSP account and ensure your information and contribution is current and accurate, visit *TSP.gov* or LiteBlue.

Postal Pulse Survey Winners

\$100 per Person


Ashley Lockett
Helen Eiland
Norman Bundren
Joe Hathaway
Virgil Murphy
Jeffrey Brown
David Huelsing
Marvin Benford

Claudella Suggs
Randall Wilson
Mia Smith
Ricky Bush
Kelly Palmisano
James McDaniels
Tamara Quinn
Stanley Brown



Clark, Lareco
Samuel, Ashley
Hewitt, Zina
Anderson, Austin
Hopson, Sabrina
McCurdy, Jessica
Patton, Joshua
Dunn, Brittney
Howell, James
Pennix Miltanya
Jackson, Darius
Bowdry, Darius
Worthy, Karlin
Lyles, Justin
Jordan, Varisha
White, Malikka
Seddens, Michelle
Earl, Ayrrica
Blackman, Reed
Mora, Sheanna
McElmurry, Sandra

Clark, Christina
Hardy, Jerrell
Douglas, Brittany
Salvador, Silva
Grosbauer, Molly
Moore, Tanya
Corpus, William
Jones, Daraylria
Hill, Eutophia
Rains, Andrew
Briggen, Bernard
Ray, Ashley
Peterson-Moor, Sherone
Wilson, Caprice
Bland, Princes
Smith, Brittany
Henderson, Naomi
Watson, Aaron
Jones, Deja
Johnson, Stephanie



**Our Condolences to
the Friends and
Families of:**


MARY JANE JARVIS
Mother of Mary Ann Jarvis
Support Services

JOE VAUGHN SR.
Father-in-Law of Lillie Vaughn
Support Services

APWU ST. LOUIS GATEWAY
LOCAL #8, AFL-CIO
P.O.W.E.R. PRESENTS

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

PLEASE DONATE SCHOOL SUPPLIES
NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2019



***PLEASE SEE ANY UNION STEWARD FOR YOUR
DONATIONS or DROP OFF AT THE UNION HALL
1705 S. Broadway, St. Louis, MO 63104**

Do You Play Golf or Skeet Shoot?



**Contact the Union Hall
If you are interested**

**For more information
314-231-7665**



Fact Sheet #3

Look around your workplace. If you see something that concerns you, ask yourself: Can it hurt me? Can it make me sick?

Use this checklist to help you identify unsafe conditions:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are aisles kept clear at all times?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are machines staffed adequately?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is rolling stock in good working order?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is red-tagged equipment fixed before it is returned to service?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are wires properly contained?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is your workplace clean and free of excessive dust?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is your workplace free of sharp edges?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are restrooms operating properly?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are the restrooms clean?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are employees afforded regular rest breaks and mealtimes?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are emergency exits clearly marked and clear of obstacles?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Is the temperature in the building in a normal range?</p> | <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are fire extinguishers regularly inspected and verified to be in working order?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are you free from exposure to hazardous materials?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Does management conduct regular safety talks?</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Are PS Form 1767s readily available in the workplace?</p> |
|---|--|

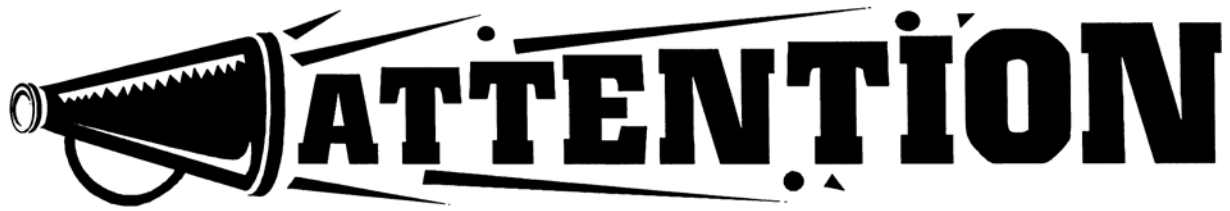
If the answer to any of the above is “no,” or other unsafe conditions exist, talk to your coworkers and stand together for safe workplaces. Here are some of the things you can do – among others.

- Raise your concerns at Safety Talks.
- Fill out PS Form 1767, Report of Unsafe Conditions.
- Request to see your shop steward.
- Red-tag broken equipment.
- Call OSHA if violations pose a risk of serious harm (1-800-321-OSHA).
- Follow up with management until unsafe conditions are corrected.

Everyone has the right to leave work in one piece.

JOIN THE FIGHT FOR SAFE JOBS!





All APWU Members

We will be starting new
STEWARD TRAINING SESSIONS
beginning

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays
at the APWU Union offices at 1705 South Broadway.

The first class will start at **9 a.m.**
with an evening class starting at **6 p.m.**

These start times will be subject to change
to fit the varying schedules of the participants.

Any member interested in attending this training should contact:

Dean Hathaway
Director of Research and Education
Phone: 314 231-7665
Email: hathaway@stlouisapwu.org

Postal Workers and Allies Flood Congress with Calls for “Postal Service Fairness”

Thousands of APWU members participated in the nationwide phone action on Tuesday, July 23, to tell Congress to fix a bad law that has put our public Postal Service in jeopardy. More than 5,000 postal workers, allies and community supporters called their representative in Washington, D.C., and asked them to cosponsor the USPS Fairness Act (H.R. 2382) following a call to action from APWU President Mark Dimondstein and Legislative & Political Director Judy Beard.

The legislation would repeal the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act’s (PAEA) burdensome pre-funding mandate for retiree health care. That mandate is pulling billions of dollars out of the Postal Service, which has caused job and service cuts across the USPS.

The USPS Fairness Act would do a lot to put the U.S. Postal Service back on the road to sustainability.

Calls Made All Over the Country

In one day, APWU members contacted all 435 House representatives. “When we speak together, there is power in our collective voice,” said APWU Legislative and Political Director Judy Beard. “A special shout out to the Central Region for making the most calls!”

As the day drew to a close, seven new members of the House of Representatives had signed on as cosponsor of the act, and five more had become cosponsors on Wednesday, July 24.

“The fact is, in 2006, Congress damaged our public Postal Service. We are working hard to pressure them to undo that damage,” said President Dimondstein. “Too often, big moneyed interest and corporate lobbyists roam the halls of Congress wielding undue influence over the people we elect to represent us. That’s why it’s so important that they hear from the working people. If we don’t speak up, then the privatizers who want to sell off our public Postal Service will go unanswered.”

As of July 25, there were 201 representatives signed on to support the bill.

Reprinted from the Postal Employee Network



St. Louis Gateway APWU
 1705 S. Broadway
 St. Louis, MO 63104
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Press On

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Shelia Patton-Harris ... Editor
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Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
 Saturday: 8 a.m. - noon

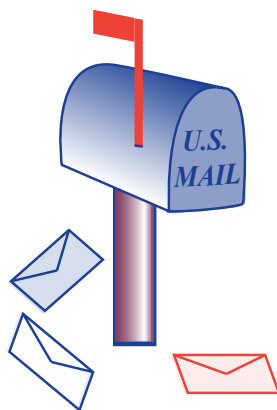
Steward Booths, Downtown
 Clerk ... 314-436-5331
 Maintenance ... 314-436-4668
 MVS ... 314-436-5027

GATEWAY LOCAL CALENDAR

September 2 (Monday)	Labor Day Holiday
September 4 (Wednesday)	Executive Board Meeting (2 p.m.)
September 8 (Sunday)	General Membership Meeting (3 p.m.)
September 9 (Monday)	Stewards' Training (9 a.m. & 6 p.m.)
October 2 (Wednesday)	Executive Board Mtg. (2 p.m.)
October 5 (Saturday)	General Membership Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
October 7 (Monday)	Stewards' Training (9 a.m. & 6 p.m.)
October 7 (Monday)	PWBC Annual Meeting 4:30 p.m.
October 14 (Monday)	Columbus Day Holiday
October 30 (Wednesday)	November E-Board Meeting (2 p.m.)
November 3 (Sunday)	General Membership Meeting (3 p.m.)
November 4 (Monday)	Stewards' Training (9 a.m. & 6 p.m.)
November 11 (Monday)	Veterans Day
November 28 (Thursday)	Thanksgiving Day Holiday

There will be no General Membership Meetings
 in the months of **July** and **August**.

The Union Hall will be closed on holidays.



Moving?

*Send us your new address
 so we can stay in touch.*

Help Nancy, our office secretary, by sending us your address changes. Your union spends many work hours and pays significant postage fees to obtain your correct address. We cannot get your union paper to you on time without your correct address. Thank you.