



The

Union Mail

Vol. 58 No. 8 | October 2015

Published by the NY Metro Area Postal Union

"The Labor Movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress."—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Whose Post Office? The People's Post Office! **New York Metro turns out in force for the NYC Labor Day Parade** Page 7



NYMAPU Shop Steward Election Rules Pages 8-9

Be part of the union fight



Jonathan Smith

Management does not care about us! Legionnaire's Disease, asbestos, storms, short staffing—they ignore it until the union pushes the issue. At Bryant Station, for

instance, there was something foul in the air; you could taste it when you breathe. The union—not management—got the station closed down until this was fixed.

Clerks, the function 4 review team is not allowed to question you. Don't ignore the union's advice and rush to impress the team by running your mouths. They are mandated to cut window staffing. No function 4 review has ever added jobs; don't trust them.

Custodians, don't sign off on work you didn't do. You're taking money out of your own pocket by covering up Line H violations. In Maintenance, under Line H, management must pay when they don't staff the routes correctly.

PSE custodians, you are hired to fill a vacant bid. Don't let a supervisor con you into "volunteering" to move outside your schedule or installation. This is a Labor Board charge. Management is going behind the back of your representative, the union, to circumvent the contract that protects custodial work.

If the union doesn't enforce the contract, management will rob us.

The money won in Line H cases DVD and NDC was not automatic. Your stewards fought for it. In NYC, we are still fighting for the money

management knows they owe. But when NJ custodians got that money in their checks, many did not even say thank you.

The union wants PSEs to be career

Conversions were frozen because plants in Queens and Stanford, CT, were slated to close. Article 12 of our CBA requires that residual vacancies be withheld to keep spots for people in a 50 mile radius. This protects the workers who are being excessed so they have a place to go. But postal management abuses this. They are trying to hold the entire District hostage under Article 12 while they play around with moratoriums on consolidations. This creates stress.

Management has no right to withhold more jobs than needed. Once they have identified enough slots to absorb the impact, that's it. In this case, Westchester has enough residuals to absorb the impact; we should be released from Article 12 constraints and begin filling residual vacancies—a process that includes PSE conversions under the MOU.

But remember, not all residuals are filled by conversions. The ratio is that for every one job filled through e-reassign, three PSEs are converted.

We have been fighting for PSE conversions, and they are coming. This builds everyone's morale because it is the key to the future of America's Postal Service.

Step Up and Join the Fight

We are fighting for this future. But we need more bodies in the fight. That's why the shop steward elections are very important. The strength of the union is not me run-

ning it from the top down. It needs to be run from the bottom up. A strong steward system and an educated membership make a strong union.

There is too much fear on the work floor. Step up. Get us documents, give statements, stick together. You've got to be part of this fight.

If people get involved, they start to feel some courage. Nobody needs to be an individual hero; we get collective strength from sticking together. Supervisors and managers understand that. That's why they put so much effort into dividing us.

Wake up! Don't let management or scabs trash the union. Help make it better. For those ready to take it on, step up to steward jobs. For everyone else, support your stewards with information and statements when needed. Together, we can stand up and fight back. ☑

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"Ask not what your union can do for you; ask what you can do for your union."

By Tiffany Foster, Executive Vice-President



Tiffany Foster

you done to help your union become stronger?

I ask our members these questions every day, but I get excuses. At some point we have to stop blaming the stewards and/or the leadership for our work conditions and situations and ask ourselves am I doing my part. What can I do better to help? Getting involved can be done in numerous ways. You can help with the Don't Buy Staples Campaign. You can help get "I Stand with Postal Workers" post-cards filled out. You can come to union meetings. You can fill out PS Form 1767s demanding a safe work environment. You can come to rallies to fight for your job. You can read your contract and learn about your rights. You can make written reports about abusive supervisors, illegal activities regarding TACS deletions and crossing craft. You can stand with your union leaders when they come to support you.

You now have leaders who come to your station(s) or facilities regularly. Some may say that we don't come around enough. This leadership

Your union leadership has changed, but have you? Have you gotten more involved? What have you done to help your union be the best it can be? What have you done to help your union become stronger? I ask our members these questions every day, but I get excuses. At some point we have to stop blaming the stewards and/or the leadership for our work conditions and situations and ask ourselves am I doing my part. What can I do better to help? Getting involved can be done in numerous ways. You can help with the Don't Buy Staples Campaign. You can help get "I Stand with Postal Workers" post-cards filled out. You can come to union meetings. You can fill out PS Form 1767s demanding a safe work environment. You can come to rallies to fight for your job. You can read your contract and learn about your rights. You can make written reports about abusive supervisors, illegal activities regarding TACS deletions and crossing craft. You can stand with your union leaders when they come to support you. You now have leaders who come to your station(s) or facilities regularly. Some may say that we don't come around enough. This leadership spends more time in the field than we do in the office. In addition to our responsibilities as full-time officers of this union, we still perform the functions of a shop steward. We file personal and class action grievances just like the stewards. We are there in emergency situations. We attend Function Four reviews. We attend town hall meetings to educate the community and local leaders about the plight of the Postal Service and our fight to save jobs and provide them with better service. You didn't have that before. Our workload sometimes carries over into late night hours and weekends. Postal employees receive overtime pay for any time worked in excess of 8 hours, we don't receive any extra pay. Our salary is what it is. There is no extra compensation for anything for the full-time officers. In fact, this leadership's care and concern for the viability of NY Metro and its members went far beyond the call of service. We made the ultimate sacrifice. **WE GAVE UP OUR PENSIONS.** Every full-time officer prior to us is receiving or will receive a pension from APWU for their time as a full-time officer of NY Metro. We won't. When we were installed into office in 2012, we saw the financial condition of NY Metro and right away knew we couldn't afford to be a part of the APWU retirement plan. We gave up our financial security to keep our union above water. No one would have done what we did. No

one was willing to make that sacrifice, but we did.

So when I hear members complain about things like not getting T-shirts (we give out shirts at the rallies and union meetings), not having a basketball team or the \$25 it cost to go to Quassy Park, it bothers me. Are those really important issues? Our jobs are on the line. Management has gotten aggressive with trying to take it, and we better start becoming aggressive to save it. You now have union leaders who fight and show up, even when it's to give bad news. Where are you when it's time to stand up and fight back?

Shop steward elections are coming. I beg each of you to think hard about the part you play in keeping this union afloat and relevant. Think about more than yourselves. What if all union representatives thought about the people they didn't want to deal with? We wouldn't have a union. All of your union leaders are being stretched to the limit. We are covering areas that don't have stewards. This cannot continue. Policing the Collective Bargaining Agreement cannot be done with a few. It takes us all.

I thank all of the stewards and officers for fighting for our jobs and policing the CBA. It's not an easy job. In fact, it's a thankless job, but in the long run very rewarding. **WHAT WILL YOU DO TO HELP?** ☑

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Voting matters

By Nora Mendez

New bill to protect postal facilities

On September 9, 2015, Congressman Raúl M. Grijalva (D-AZ) re-introduced legislation (H.R. 3464) that would prohibit the Postal Service “from closing or consolidating any post office or other postal facility that is located in a ZIP code that has a high rate of population growth.”

Grijalva’s bill would require USPS officials to work with the Department of Commerce—which conducts the U.S. Census and keeps annual demographic data—to ensure that no closure would negatively impact a “high growth” ZIP code, as defined by Commerce officials at the beginning of each year.

“Closing postal facilities in high-growth localities like Tucson threatens jobs and undermines timely delivery in the exact places where we should be doing the opposite,” Rep. Grijalva said. “Our goal should be to catalyze economic development, not stunt it in the fastest growing population centers in the country.”

Rep. Grijalva first introduced this legislation in 2012, and continues to fight for its passage. The bill is co-sponsored by Rep. Ruben Gallego (D-AZ).

Activists file lawsuit against the FEC

Level the Playing Field and the Green and Libertarian parties filed a lawsuit in June against the Federal Election Commission. The lawsuit seeks to direct the FEC to find that the Commission on Presidential Debates’ rules governing who can

participate in general-election debates are too restrictive and violate the law—specifically the CPD’s requirement that candidates must poll at 15 percent or higher within weeks of the first debate. Those behind the lawsuit say it’s impossible to meet and designed to keep others out of the debate. Under a strict reading of the rules, Ross Perot would not have qualified to debate as he did in 1992.

The FEC regulations also say that debate sponsors must be non-partisan; plaintiffs argue the commission is really bipartisan rather than nonpartisan, run by forces in the Democratic and Republican parties with an interest in keeping the two parties in power.

“American voters want a more open and competitive political system,” said Alexandra Shapiro, the lawyer representing the plaintiffs. “The American people are tired of the duopoly and they’re looking for a new voice and someone who’s independent of these two parties.”

Primary debates would not be affected by the lawsuit.

President Dimondstein wants to hear from YOU!

What do you think as we head into

the 2016 presidential primaries and election? Are you tired of the same old “politics as usual” and the same old two-party, corporate-controlled political system? Would you like to see our union and the AFL-CIO chart a more independent political course, including helping to build a new labor-based third party? Do you think Democratic Party politicians take union support for granted? Do you wonder why even when “our” candidates win, we lose? Do you believe, like gyrocopter pilot and postal worker Doug Hughes, that big money must be removed from politics? Would you like to see unions focus more on issue-based referendums that allow voters themselves to cast ballots on issues such as raising the minimum wage? Share your thoughts with President Mark Dimondstein at a special email account he set up to hear your views on the 2016 election:

APWU2016@apwu.org

With elections around the corner, who deserves our vote?

Our founders understood that affordable, universal postal service was critical to the nation.

Unfortunately, many in Congress are willing to sacrifice service as a means of solving financial problems unrelated to its operations. Reform is critically needed since the agency continues to flirt with financial insolvency caused by a crippling obligation to prefund decades of retiree health care costs for people not even born yet. Maybe it’s time to only support those who support us. ☐



Our Sisters have P.O.W.E.R.

By Flo Summergrad

Nine delegates from NY Metro Area Postal Union attended the 2015 Biennial P.O.W.E.R. Convention in Atlanta, GA. Among them was Eleanor Bailey, President of the Moe Biller Retiree Chapter, one of the founders of P.O.W.E.R. The Hon. Councilmember Natalya

Mosby Archibong of Atlanta, GA acknowledged Eleanor as a role model for all the sisters, as she continues to serve the union through her tireless activity.

This tribute, the training workshops, and the entire convention experience, sent the delegates back into the field with increased knowledge, strength, and solidarity. The sisters returned home to build the community-labor coalitions needed in the fight for Good Jobs! Good Service! and a Good Contract! They also resolved to stand up and fight back against the political attack on women's rights

Why P.O.W.E.R.?

After 1963, women and men were hired into the post office from the same register. Yet as they entered the



Installation dinner for Regional P.O.W.E.R. Coordinators

USPS in the late '60s and early '70s, female postal workers experienced discrimination at work—not just from



Retirees Dolores Young, Eleanor Bailey, and Leona Draper

management, but also from male coworkers, and even inside the union.

Although there were women delegates to the APWU National Convention, they found themselves shut off at the microphones. Issues

related to childcare and healthcare problems were silenced as unimportant. Sexual harassment at work was not confronted by the union and domestic violence was considered a “private problem.”

At the 1978 APWU Convention, sisters caucused behind the scenes and determined to chal-

lenge the male chauvinist culture. The Post Office Women for Equal Rights (P.O.W.E.R.) was born and officially became part of the APWU Constitution in 1980. NY Metro's women played a major role, encouraged by then-Local President Moe Biller, who understood the importance of equality in building a strong union.

Every woman in APWU is automatically a member of its women's caucus, P.O.W.E.R. Training, workshops, information and support have developed many of our sisters into strong leaders at every level of the organization. There are now four women at the highest level, the Executive Board of APWU, and thousands of Local officers and stewards. ☐

HR 3134, Defunding Planned Parenthood, is a hot button bill

Defunding family planning is not about abortion—which constitutes less than 3% of the organization's work and is (by law) not funded with government money. Planned Parenthood is a trusted health care provider offering affordable quality healthcare to 5,000,000 people at over 700 locations around the country, whose main clinical interactions are cancer screenings, HIV screenings, and treatment of women's reproductive health issues.

President Nixon signed Title X in 1970, so that “no American woman should be denied access to family planning assistance because of her economic condition.” This is in direct contradiction to those Congressmen who want women to be powerless sexual objects; whether children can be cared for or not is unimportant.

Family planning is about quality of life. HR 3134 is about disempowering women. ☐

The role of labor in the 2016 presidential race

By Nora Mendez

Union members are among the most highly registered groups in the country. Over 75% of union members are registered voters. Whom labor unions endorse is very important.

Do labor unions make the pragmatic decision and go with Hillary Clinton, who is the frontrunner for the Democratic nomination? Do they side with Bernie Sanders, who could hardly be more pro-union if he had been cooked up in a secret union laboratory? Or should they break free of a political party that takes them for granted and support a labor-based third party?

It will likely be a split game, as the AFL-CIO itself, a federation of 56 individual unions, is unlikely to make an endorsement anytime soon. Instead, the battle is on for support from individual labor groups.

Hillary Clinton's machine is trying to woo individual leaders one by one, looking to methodically win over unions as she faces off against an insurgent Bernie Sanders. However, some labor activists remain wary of Clinton due to her time spent with the employer-friendly Rose law firm (which helps employers fight unions), her ties to Wall Street and anti-union corporations like Wal-Mart—where she was once a board member. Clinton is also out of step with the AFL-CIO on the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal and has thus far declined to support a \$15 minimum wage.

Bernie Sanders' campaign appears red hot among union leaders and the rank-and-file member-

ship. The Vermont senator has been attracting thousands of union members at appearances throughout the country, and over 5,000 union members—and some leaders—have signed onto the “Labor for Bernie” campaign.

“Bernie Sanders has been an outspoken champion of postal customers, postal workers and the public Postal Service—demanding expanded services for all Americans, an end to mail delays, and an end to the closure of postal facilities... he has been a forceful advocate for working people for decades,” said APWU president Mark Dimondstein. “He’s not in the pocket of big corporations. There has been tremendous interest and excitement about his campaign in the labor movement.”

The rise of anti-union rhetoric
Meanwhile the norm for Republican presidential candidates has now become demonizing unionized workers.

■ Carly Fiorina has blamed unions for pay disparities between men and women, though that disparity is much smaller among unionized workers.

■ Sen. Rand Paul (R-KY) has called for ending collective bargaining for postal workers and implementing “right-to-work” nationwide.

■ New Jersey Governor Chris Christie touted during his campaign launch his years-long battle with the state’s teachers unions, in which he stripped away their tenure protections and pensions.

■ Former Texas Governor Rick Perry advocated for a national law outlawing automatic union dues collection. In his last run for president, he also called for eliminating entire federal agencies—though he couldn’t remember which ones—and said any federal workers who disagreed with him would be reassigned “to some really God-awful place.”

■ Jeb Bush vowed to “take the power...away from the unions.”

■ Donald Trump may say he has a good relationship with unions but his own employees disagree. In August, housekeepers, cooks and bartenders rallied outside Donald Trump’s hotel to draw attention to their efforts to unionize workers at the property just off the Las Vegas Strip. The Culinary Union alleges the hotel tried to coerce employees not to join, retaliated against them and in one case fired an employee. The NLRB is investigating.

Importance of voting

Our interest in NYMAPU is not to build the power of a political party or candidate. It is to improve the lives of our members, our families and our communities. That is why we educate our members to make informed decisions and urge our members and their families to vote.

EVERY VOTE COUNTS! ☑

“Nobody will ever deprive the American people of the right to vote except the American people themselves and the only way they could do this is by not voting.”

— FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

NYMAPU turns out for the Labor Day Parade

By Flo Summergrad

NY Metro members made a proud statement at the 2015 Labor Day Parade. Joined by retirees, sisters from the mid-Hudson Local, family members, and Clerk National Business Agent Bernie Timmerman, the largest NYMAPU contingent in recent history marched up 5th Avenue. It was a colorful display of neon green shirts proclaiming “The People’s Post Office!,” bright red “Stop Staples!” stickers, and hundreds of red, white, and blue balloons and signs with APWU slogans like: “Keep Them Open!” and “Save Your Post Office!”

Along the route of march, we got the message out by distributing hun-

dreds of fliers to other unions and the public. “Good Contract! Good Jobs! Good Service!” and “Don’t Buy Staples!” got enthusiastic responses. People signed the “I Stand with Postal Workers” cards and cheered us on. Extra fun was giving helium balloons with union slogans to children at the parade.

When we passed the reviewing stand at the end of the 20-block march, there were cheers as the names of APWU President Mark Dimondstein and NYMAPU Local President Jonathan Smith were announced. A contingent of NYMAPU retirees, lined up at the side in the Local’s green parade shirts, was there to lead the applause.

A special moment of solidarity occurred after our turn was done and we were watching the unions that followed. A huge United Federation of Teachers (UFT) float and contingent marching with blue and white umbrellas passed by. The postal workers gave them a huge cheer and they cheered us back. Then one of our brothers called out, “Remember—Don’t Buy Staples!” Teachers, whose support for the boycott is critical at the start of school shouted back: “Oh, yes! We got that! We got that!” Our activists waved the Stop Staples! leaflets.

I felt good to know that postal workers are a strong part of a growing labor movement. ☐



New York Metro Area Postal Union 2015 Shop Steward Election Rules

In accordance with Article 11, Section 5 of the New York Metro Area Postal Union Constitution the Election Committee adopted the following rules for the 2015 Shop Steward Elections:

1. A copy of these Shop Steward Election Rules shall be posted on all Union bulletin boards no later than October 5, 2012, and published in the October issue of *The Union Mail*.
2. The candidate for a Shop Steward position must be a member in good standing **continuously** for one (1) year prior to the Shop Steward Election.
3. To be eligible to vote in the election, you must be a member in good standing on the date of the election.
4. By certified mail, return receipt requested, the candidate shall state his or her desire to run for Shop Steward within her/his designated Pay Location/Section/Station name to the Secretary-Treasurer of the New York Metro Area Postal Union **postmarked no later than October 27, 2015, and received at the Union office, located at 350 West 31st Street, New York, NY 10001, no later than November 3, 2015.**
5. **All incumbents must also submit a certified letter expressing their intent to continue as the Shop Steward for their Pay Location/Section/Station.**
6. The candidates' letter **must** include the following:
 - a. Full name
 - b. Proper address or P.O. Box
 - c. EIN number (all 8 digits)
 - d. Pay Location/Section/Station name
 - e. Telephone number
 - f. Candidate's signature
7. The candidate **must** hold a bid assignment in the Pay Location/Section or Designated Section(s). PSE candidates may run by tour and craft.
8. Any employee who holds a voluntary managerial, supervisor or EAS position for a two-week period and/or the equivalent of a two-week period in the year prior to the election, shall be ineligible to run for the position of Shop Steward.
9. Members can only vote for a candidate in their respective Pay Location/Section or Designated Section(s).
10. The New York Metro Area Postal Union Election Committee or its designee shall conduct and oversee the elections. Elections will be conducted on each tour with a maximum of four (4) hours voting per tour.
11. Each candidate may select an observer who shall be off the clock while elections are in progress. The candidate shall inform the Election Committee in writing as to their choice of observer at:

William Bachmann
NYMAPU Election Committee Chairperson
c/o NY Metro Area Postal Union
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10001
12. The election process shall commence at 8:00 am on **November 13, 2015** and end at 5:00 pm **November 20, 2015.**
 - a. Shop Steward Elections shall close for tour-1 at 8:00 am on November 20, 2015.

b. Shop Steward Elections shall close for tours 2 and 3 at 5:00 pm on November 20, 2015.

13. The Election Committee shall count all eligible ballots immediately after the voting is closed. Any ballot on which a candidate's name is written, is marked or marred or where more than one candidate has been selected will be **voided** and set aside.

14. The Election Committee shall return to the Union office all election ballots, tally sheets and election paraphernalia at the conclusion of the Shop Steward Elections. The Election Committee shall verify all ballot counts at the New York Metro Area Postal Union offices. The results of the Shop Steward Elections shall be posted at each Pay location/Station within one week of the close of the election period and published in the next available *Union Mail*. The Election Committee shall retain and preserve the election records for a period of one (1) year.

The above election rules have been approved by the Executive Board. Copies of the adopted rules shall be made available to any member who requests a copy.

Election Committee may adopt additional rules or clarify the above rules when necessary.

Election Committee:

- Bill Bachmann, Chair
- Eleanor G. Bailey, Member
- William Pinedo, Member
- Dolores Young, Member

NYMAPU Shop Steward Elections November 13-20

RUN! VOTE!

*If you see that management is doing people wrong every day;
If you know the difference between US and THEM is between workers
and bosses; If you care about the future of Postal jobs;*

YOUR UNION NEEDS YOU!



No diploma or experience needed. If you work for the Postal Service, you already know what goes on at the job. If your heart and head are in the right place, you're qualified. The NYMAPU is committed to giving you the training and help to be a good representative. Local and National APWU officers will give you the materials and skills you need.

You are already standing up to injustices every day. As a shop steward, you will have the authority to police management to enforce our Collective Bargaining Agreement. It is a legal and binding Contract that supervisors and managers try to ignore. Not all unions elect their stewards. NYMAPU has defended that right in our Local Constitution.

Don't miss the chance to run and vote in the shop steward elections. ☐

A STRONG STEWARD SYSTEM MAKES A STRONG UNION!

Union Wins Cleaning Route Case

How often do custodians get assigned more than one route – each of which is supposed to take a full tour? In Grand Rapids, Michigan, the Union filed a grievance on this and won.

Under the MS-47 Handbook, management is supposed to assign custodians to the cleaning routes as established. By giving two routes of 7.2 hours each to one person (clearly impossible to do in one tour), management violated the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), Article 19. Arbitrator Donald W. Cohen (Case #J06T-1J-08334391) ruled that the remedy was that the grievant be paid overtime for the 7.2 hours that should have been scheduled for another employee. The grievance was filed on behalf of the custodian who should have been brought in for overtime.

In addition to the representative grievance, 11 custodians from companion cases were also paid overtime for this violation.

The 12 cases were grieved during a five month period in 2008.

The union argued that Items 1 through 31 of Form 4852 are mandatory cleaning routes, with job requirements already agreed to by both parties. Therefore, the Arbitrator ruled that this scheduling is not management's exclusive right. ☐

Stewards who have questions or want a copy of the case, send your email address to NYMAPU Maintenance Director Bill Kreutter at bill.kreutter@nymetro.org

Postal News Briefs

INCREASE IN DELAYED MAIL

The U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General (USPS OIG) found in the first 6 months of 2015 delayed processing increased by almost 50% as compared to the same period last year. OIG urged USPS management to immediately address the timeliness of mail processing and to put all further closures of mail-sorting plants on hold until service is stabilized. "The impacts on customer service and employees have been considerable," Inspector General Dave Williams wrote.

The agency did not agree with the inspector general's recommendation that plant closings stay on hold until service improves across the board. Postmaster General Megan Brennan has temporarily halted the closings; it's unclear when they'll resume.

SANDERS WRITES TO PMG REGARDING DELAYED MAIL

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) sent a letter in August to Postmaster General Megan Brennan urging the Postal Service to reinstate overnight mail delivery standards in light of a recent report finding significant delays in the delivery of mail.



"It is abundantly clear that the Postal Service's decision to shut down more than 140 mail processing plants a few years ago and to eliminate overnight delivery standards this year has been a disaster that is negatively impacting Americans all over this country," Sanders wrote in the letter. "I would urge the Postal Service to reinstate overnight delivery standards and speed up the delivery of mail as soon as possible."

FTC PROBES STAPLES-OFFICE DEPOT MERGER

The FTC is reportedly looking more closely at how a combined mega-office supply store could restrict competition when it comes to commercial customers. The Federal Trade Commission in the last several days has sent out a second round of subpoenas to Staples and Office Depot customers after already conducting a full review of the merger proposal, three sources close to the situation told The New York Post.

"The [FTC] staff must have serious concerns," one of the sources noted. "This means they are trying to build a case so they are prepared to file a suit" to stop the deal.

UPS PILOTS CALL STRIKE VOTE

After four years of contract talks the leadership of the Independent Pilots Association called on its members to authorize a pilot strike against United Parcel Service. According to IPA President, Captain Robert Travis, UPS management has created a bitter standoff with its pilot employees. In sharp contrast, UPS archrival Federal Express recently announced a tentative agreement with its pilots. If ratified, the FedEx pilot deal will bring labor peace to our main competitor, given that the pilots are the only major employee group at FedEx covered by a collective bargaining agreement.



Little Flight Photography

Both UPS and FedEx have contracts with the US Postal Service. ☐

CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 21

5:30 pm

General Membership Meeting

Hotel Pennsylvania

401 Seventh Ave (between 32 and 33 Streets)

Paris/Zurich Room, 6th Floor

(check calendar in lobby for room change)

Wednesday, November 18

5:30 pm

General Membership Meeting

Includes annual "TURKEY RAFFLE!"

Hotel Pennsylvania

401 Seventh Ave (between 32 and 33 Streets)

Paris/Zurich Room, 6th Floor

(check calendar in lobby for room change)

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of 08/01/2015	\$ 132,911.13
TOTAL REVENUE 08/2015	\$ 106,556.08
Total Operating Expenses 08/2015	\$ 52,607.07
TOTAL NET INCOME 08/2015	\$ 53,949.01
Closing Balance as of 08/31/2015	\$ 186,860.14

October/November

Don't Buy Staples! Rallies

will be scheduled throughout our area. For locations and times, check www.nymetro.org or call Union office, Kevin Walsh, 212-563-7553

Stewards: Coming Soon—The WIN Column!

We know you win a lot of cases. President Smith put out a call at the September meeting for us to publish them. Send *The Union Mail* news of your wins. (Short and sweet!)

Email to: florence.summergrad@nymetro.org, nora.mendez@nymetro.org, or call the office and leave a message for Flo or Nora to call you.

POSTAL PRIDE

The US Postal Service is the only national network that really knows where people live. For the disabled and elderly, post office clerks and carriers may be their main contact with the world. Often unheralded, these workers often save lives in the communities they serve. After Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Sandy, it was the post office who tracked many people who were displaced. In the day-to-day, concerned carriers save lives.

This summer, "just doing his job," 15-year letter carrier Felix Bocchicchio saved a life. Delivering mail for 13 years in Mount Ephraim, New Jersey, Felix knows the customers on his route. When he noticed that a 93-year-old woman's mail remained in her box, he got worried.

After looking in the window and seeing her unmoving on the floor, he contacted a neighbor who had the key. Finding the door bolted, he made a 911 call that brought EMTs to the scene. The woman was taken to a rehab for severe dehydration and is now back home getting her mail.

Bocchicchio said he didn't do it for recognition; he just knew something was wrong. "The hug and smile when she came home was great. I'm glad I was able to be there to help." 📧

The Union Mail wins two PPA Awards

The APWU has a Postal Press Association (the PPA) which shares resources among all the locals of our great national union. The PPA has been the source of cartoons, labor history, and other information for *The Union Mail*, and it now shares publications on line as well.

This past August, first place and honorable mention awards in 14 categories were presented at the PPA biennial conference. Although our editors were not in attendance, *The Union Mail* was proud to receive two of these awards for our work in 2014: **Honorable Mention for Overall Excellence** and **First Place for Best Non-Postal Labor Story: "Fast-food strike goes global."**

This is a meaningful tribute from colleagues who have the same goals we do as APWU labor communicators. Thanks to everyone in NYMAPU who has contributed to our efforts to put out a good paper. 📧





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