Vol. 62 No. 4 | May/June 2019

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

Published by the NY Metro Area Postal Union

Tax Day of Action: The U.S. Mail is Not for Sale



This is what democracy looks like



ing a Rank and File Bargaining Committee that plays a role in approving a negotiated contract. There are 13 members of the

he APWU is unique in hav-

Jonathan Smith

Committee, each one selected by a National Executive Board officer. A 14th member represents the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Task Force.

The R&F Committee does not participate directly in contract negotiations, nor do they determine the process of how those negotiations are conducted. They are not there as political friends or enemies to the bargaining committee. Their purpose By picking conscientious, thinking is as a safeguard to protect the interests of the union membership.

Since the national APWU officers come from different crafts and regions, the Rank and File Committee represents the overall members. These are not individuals picked to "rubber stamp" an Agreement, but experienced leaders who are able to understand the implications of contract language and are serious about their duties.

In the negotiations for the 2018 Collective Bargaining Agreement, various TAs (Tentative Agreements) were negotiated that would affect the rules governing each APWU craft. When the entire package was presented to the R&F Committee, the majority found three of approximately 29 of these to be unacceptable and therefore voted against accepting the contract. Despite attempts by our negotiators to re-address these issues

with management, they were unable to satisfy the committee's concerns.

The parties are now preparing for interest arbitration. Voting down the negotiated contract was not an easy decision for the Rank and File Committee. No one wants to surrender our CBA to the power of an arbitrator. Historically we have not done well in arbitration. Previous arbitrations brought us PTFs, casuals and transitional workers. However, the majority of the Committee felt that they could not in good conscience vote yes on agreements they considered seriously problematic.

How does this show democracy in action? Well, if the national officers had selected puppets who would simply rubber stamp their efforts, it would have been simple. people, they created a rank and file group that took its duty to represent the members very seriously.

The process worked like it was supposed to work, the majority of the rank and file committee felt we were not getting enough from the postal service in return for what we were giving up; so let's take our chances in arbitration. I have no opinion on this specifically since I have never seen the TAs.

I remember the maintenance craft feeling this way (not getting enough in return) when the union negotiated MS47 TL-5 that cut maintenance custodian staffing by 1/3. But at the risk of all of maintenance being contracted out, it was decided that the potential consequences were too great to take a chance in arbitration.

Many arbitrators are making decisions based on the manufac-

tured postal crisis created by the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (2006) so the USPS can cry broke, combined with the anti-union climate created by the Trump administration. Clearly the real choices are not Right vs Wrong, the choices are Risk vs Reward.

The APWU has members in small rural post offices, large urban stations, plants, the clerk craft, the motor vehicle craft, and the maintenance craft. PSEs, PTFs, and fulltime regulars. To represent all these interests is not simple.

Democracy means each person has one voice, one vote, but the outcome is everyone's. I trust the process even knowing that it is perfectly imperfect because I believe in democracy and this is a perfect example of what democracy looks like. 🖃

Official publication of the New York Metro Area Postal Union.

The Union Mail (ISSN 0049-5298) is published monthly except combined in March/April, May/June, July/August, November/December by the New York Metro Area Postal Union at 350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Periodical postage paid at New York, NY. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: The Union Mail, New York Metro Area Postal Union, 350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Flo Summergrad, editor

Chuck Zlatkin, acting managing editor Bernadette Evangelist, graphic designer To contact your officers, call 212.563.7553.

www.nymetro.org

President Jonathan Smith Ext. 108 **Executive Vice President** Tiffany Foster Ext. 110 Dir. Ind Relations Kevin Walsh Ext. 106 Secretary-Treasurer Ext. 107 Joseph Martir Dir. Organization Ext. 105 Diane Erlanger







Cover photo Bernadette Evangelist

The need for unions has not changed

By Tiffany Foster, Executive Vice-President



Tiffany Foster

"Workers
Need Fair
Treatment Today
as Much as Ever.
Employers are
trying to shed
responsibility for
providing health
insurance, good
pension cover-

age, reasonable work hours and job safety protections. Additionally, companies are making workers' jobs and incomes less secure through downsizing, part-timing, contracting out, and sending jobs off-shore. "As the nature of work changes, working people need the collective voice and bargaining power unions provide to keep employers from making the workplace look as it did in the early nineteenth century.

"Labor Unions Can Help Stop History From Repeating Itself. Working conditions at the turn of the 20th century, without worker representation, involved:

■ Sweatshops ■ Child labor ■ Unlivable wages ■ 70+ hour work weeks.

"Today and in the future, labor unions will continue to play an important role in our country's workforce and for the quality of life for working families.

"America's working families need the representation, collective power, pride in work and fair treatment in the workplace that they deserve." (Excerpted from UNIONPLUS.org)

Unions fight for safety

On March 25, 2019, people from all affiliations and walks of life gathered

to commemorate the 108th anniversary of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in Washington Place and Greene Street in NYC.

On March 25, 1911, the Triangle fire killed 146 workers. These deaths were preventable. The workers died due to the employers locking the doors and failing to have safety features in place. This fire is remembered as one of the most infamous incidents in American industrial history. It is said that this tragedy brought widespread attention to the dangerous work conditions in factories, and it led to the creation of numerous safety laws and regulations that better protected the workers.

In the February 2019, *Union Mail*, I wrote about the unsafe work conditions in the Bronx Annex [management's "Uptown Peak Parcel Annex."] The fire extinguishers had not been inspected; no fire drills had been conducted; and the EXIT signs were either not lit or dimly lit. No Evacuation Plan was posted, discussed or provided to the employees.

This was the same sort of safety problem that cost lives in the past. The Union vigorously addressed this with management to get the hazards corrected. We even reported these safety violations to OSHA.

Below is an excerpt from the OSHA website about the Triangle Fire:

"Frances Perkins, who became the Secretary of Labor under President Franklin D. Roosevelt, witnessed the horror from Washington Park, recalling later that what she saw convinced her that "... something must be done. We've got to turn this into some kind of victory, some kind of constructive action.' Perkins and other leaders with direct experience of the Triangle fire, like New York Governor Al Smith, soon helped marshal new work-place safety standards into law in the State of New York, setting an example for the rest of the country.

"It is this sustained legacy of reforms that paved the way for OSHA's 40 years of protecting workers. As we celebrate one anniversary and mourn another, OSHA remembers these 146 workers and the more than 4,000 workers who died on the job in 2009 by refusing to accept these tragedies as a normal cost of doing business." - Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health."

"It is by remembering our past that we prepare to fight for our future. We are measured by how we protect the most vulnerable and ensure their health and safety to pursue life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, that is our guiding light." — D. Taylor, President, UNITE HERE

Article 14 of our Contract requires management to provide employees with a safe work environment, but we must do our part too. Don't walk past safety violations! Report them on a PS Form 1767 (Hazard Report) and give it to your supervisor. Give the Union a copy so we can work together to resolve the safety issue.

Unions are needed today as much as they were then. Look at the uprisings across the country where workers are at all costs demanding better wages, hours and work conditions and the right to unionize.

POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Postal Banking takes center stage

By Chuck Zlatkin, Director of Communications

ost of the time legislative and political strategy involves getting our elected officials to introduce, co-sponsor and/or vote for legislation that New York Metro and the APWU supports. A perfect example of this is HRES 33, which expresses the sense of the House that the United States Postal Service remain an independent establishment of the Federal government, not subject to privatization (see page 5). Sometimes the strategy is to stand up and fight back against legislation that would be has provided the foundation for a damaging to postal workers and/or the Postal Service. (An example of this was our successful effort to defeat the McHenry Amendment to last year's appropriations bill which was aimed at destroying any possibility of postal banking.)

And then there comes a time when the strategy is to not push for legislation at all, but to engage our representatives in Congress to get involved in a different way. This is not a time for postal banking legislation; this is a time for the Postal Service to initiate expanded financial PMG states, "We write to urge you services. NY Metro Area Postal Union, and the Campaign for Postal Banking have focused on the establishment of a pilot program for postal banking in the Bronx. The

Campaign has collected nearly 10,000 signatures on petitions.

In October, 2018, the four Congressional representatives for the Bronx (José E. Serrano, Eliot Engel, Joe Crowley and Adriano Espaillat) presented a letter to the Postmaster General of the U.S., Megan Brennan, containing their support for postal banking and expressing their availability to work with the PMG to help make postal banking a reality in the Bronx. This national campaign that has been created by the APWU and the Campaign for Postal Banking. With the leadership of Congressman Serrano, a letter is now being circulated among members of Congress addressed to PMG Brennan that says, "Millions of people across the country, in every state and territory, suffer from lack of access to reliable and affordable financial services. We believe the Postal Service could help address this important issue."

The Congressional letter to the to take immediate action under the existing statutory authority to implement pilot programs offering affordable financial services including ATMs, paycheck cashing, bill pay-

ment electronic money transfers in post offices. With millions of Americans currently underserved by existing financial institutions, these postal financial services are needed in communities across the country."

While this is a national campaign, The Union Mail will keep special track of how the members of Congress who represent the districts where we work and live are responding. If they are not pushing for postal banking, we will have to educate them on how important it is to have a public banking option for the people they represent and what that would mean for maintaining a public Postal Service for their constituent. (As we went to press, Max Rose, new member of Congress from the 11th CD in Staten Island and Brooklyn signed on to the letter.) Postal Banking, which seemed like an

impossible dream, is now taking center stage. 🖃



Thank you, Congressman Serrano!

n March 25, 2019, it was announced that Congressman José E. Serrano, after 45 years in public service, will not seek reelection in 2020. The Congressman has been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease and feels his ability to service in the future will be uncertain. There has been no better friend to postal workers, members of this union, or people who depend on a public Postal Service than Congressman Serrano. In the next issue of *The Union Mail*, there will be a spotlight put on his extraordinary work for postal workers.

STOP POSTAL PRIVATIZATION PART 3

The U.S. Mail Is Not for Sale: Mobilizing the antiprivatization fight



By Chuck Zlatkin, Director of Communications

In the first two parts of this series, the very real threat of the Trump administration policies was examined along with the decades-long goal of the Heritage Foundation to privatize the Postal Service. The concluding part of the series focuses on what we can do about it.

n a nutshell, privatization means less services and higher prices. What we can't forget is that the USPS is the largest and most efficient postal service in the world. Polls show that the public loves the Postal Service. 88% of the American people view the USPS favorably. The Postal Service is run with zero taxpayer dollars. The USPS services 157 million addresses 6 or 7 days a week. The Postal Service serves everyone, everywhere and charges everyone the same fair price. UPS and other private companies add surcharges to almost 70 million addresses in mostly rural and lowincome areas. Today (as has been the case since the founding of the Post Office in colonial times), the Postal Service is wholly owned by the United States government, owned by the public, by each one of us. "The Postal Service shall have its basic function, the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together." The basic function of private sector companies is to return profit to shareholders.

New York Metro Area Postal Union and the APWU are not alone in this fight. In addition to the other

postal unions, there are dozens and dozens of organizations who are our allies in A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service and statements of support from the AFL-CIO Executive Council. But make no mistake, the most powerful voice in this struggle is yours! When asked who they want to hear from in debates about changes in the Postal Service, the public says the first group they want to hear from is postal workers. 78% of the public said they want to hear from postal workers, more than 20 points higher than leaders in Congress or the President.

When we speak to the public, we must be clear in our message. The OMB report suggested selling the Postal Service to private corporations, reducing service and cutting jobs – all in the name of generating profit for shareholders.

88% of voters think the USPS does an excellent or good job today and 96% think the mail service is important to the country. Postal workers have succeeded in winning bi-partisan support for our priorities but opponents to a public Postal Service can be found on both sides of the aisle.

Each of us needs to be informed on what our elected officials are doing in our name, and that is doubly important when it comes to postal issues. House Resolution 33

speaks specifically to have the USPS remain an independent establishment of the federal government and not subject to privatization. At press time, it has 219 cosponsors, which is the majority of the House. You need to find out if your representative is a co-sponsor. If not, call and make sure that they know that you want them to cosponsor HRES 33. And if they are a co-sponsor, call and thank them for their support.

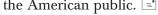
Each of us also must participate in union rallies and actions to fight postal privatization and to support postal banking and other important issues. And organize your co-workers to join you. You can also make the public Postal Service a local issue. Build ties with local chapters of A Grand Alliance partners, other local unions and community groups. Engage with local elected officials and introduce resolutions opposing postal privatization in organizations you belong to.

In the past 50 years, postal workers have a proud history of winning major fights-from the Great Postal Strike of 1970 to saving 6-day delivery, to keeping post offices open, to stopping Staples and defeating the McHenry Amendment to outlaw postal banking. Fighting against privatization is a fight we can and must win. The fight is ours and the time is now!

April 15 Tax Day of Action!

ostal workers all over the country let the public know that the Postal Service operates with ZERO tax dollars. NY Metro members spread the word the USPS takes NO taxpayer dollars! We leafleted in front of JAF (8th Avenue and 31st Street) to people mailing last minute

The leaflets explained the FACTS of how the prefunding law is pushing the post office into the red and how





May Day, the International Workers' holiday

o the current generations of Americans, the idea of May Day as an international workers' holiday, is something "foreign" or "un-American." Most people in this country would be amazed to know that this celebration of the working class has its roots in the proud labor struggle in the United States.

In 1889, May 1st was designated the international workers' holiday by the International Socialist Conference in honor of the Chicago labor leaders framed and executed by the state in 1887. The real "crime" of the Chicago Haymarket martyrs was that they inspired the US working class to take to the streets to call for the 8-hour work day.

On May 1, 1886, Albert Parsons, head of the Chicago Knights of Labor (Union) led 70,000 workers

and their families through the streets in a peaceful one day strike. 350,000 workers across the country stopped work across the country to demand "the 8-hour day with no loss of pay."

Two days later, August Spies, editor of a popular workers' newspaper, spoke at a mass rally to protest the use of scabs at a striking factory. The protestors were attacked by police, who killed four workers and injured many more.

The next day, a peaceful rally was held at Haymarket Square in Chicago to protest the murders. When armed police attacked the crowd, a bomb went off, which was blamed on the labor leaders. History has proved that this was the ing traditions will workers and our act of a political provocateur in an effort to quell the rising labor

movement. Eight activists were charged with conspiracy and murder. Although some of the men were not even present at Haymarket, they were convicted and sentenced to death.

Ironically, a day that was a tribute to the courage and fighting sprit of the US. working class was virtually abandoned in this country during and after the McCarthyite "red scare" during the 1950s. This labor history is largely buried and its internationalism is treated with contempt. Yet in the last few years young Dreamers and fighters for immigrant rights have revived the spirit of workers' solidarity by holding rallies and marches on May Day. Only by reviving our fightunions gain traction in the fight for iustice.

UPDATE ON PORT AUTHORITY STATION DOWNSIZING AND RELOCATION

hile New York Metro Area Postal Union and our allies were able to halt the shameful attempt by the Postal Service to sneak through a down-sizing of Port Authority Finance Station in Manhattan in January, we knew that the USPS would come back with another attempt. NYMAPU was notified by Congressman Nadler's office that the Postal Service had sent a new letter to the Office of the President Borough of Manhattan, Gale Brewer, dated April 3, 2019, and published a "Potential Relocation of Post Office" Notice of Public Meeting and Comment Period. Unfortunately, as of press time, the USPS had not posted the notice at the Port Authority Finance Station. The Union called USPS Real Estate Specialist Kurtis Bullard on April 8, to find out why the notice wasn't posted. Bullard said that he had forwarded the materials to the USPS Area Manager and it was his responsibility to post the information.

The letter to the Borough President, states: "The Postal Service must consider relocation because its current Land Lord will not enter into a new long term lease. The Postal Service is currently negotiating a long term lease for an alternate quarters located at 426 West 14th Street. . . " As determined at the first hearing that location is in 10014, while the existing station is in 10011!

NYMAPU will work to mobilize the community to attend the meeting on April 22, 6pm, at the Bayard Rustin Educational Campus, 351 W. 18 St. Additionally, for 30 days after the public meeting, anyone may submit written comments to: Kurtis Bullard, Real Estate Specialist, United States Postal Service, PO Box 27497, Greensboro, NC 27498-1103; Michael.k.bullard@usps.gov

Justice for farmworkers now!

By Chuck Zlatkin, Director of Communications

t is inconceivable that in 2019 in New York state, there are workers that do not have basic labor rights to get paid for overtime, to have a day off or be able to organize for a union. But that is the case for farmworkers in New York state. It goes back 80 years. To gain support for his New Deal legislation from Southern legislators, then President Franklin D. Roosevelt excluded agricultural and domestic workers (who were mostly African-American), from federal labor laws.



Cesar Chávez

States then followed suit and maintained the same exclusions in their laws. It was an outrageous denial of basic protections that has gone on too long.

Ten states passed laws that now include farmworkers in worker protections. Unfortunately, New York state is still not one of them. There is a campaign to finally pass legislation in New York to provide rights to farmworkers giving them the right to a day of rest, overtime pay, workers' compensation and collective bargaining. The Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act that is being introduced in the New York State Assembly by Kathy Nolan, A.2750, and in the New York State Senate by Jessica Ramos, S. 2837, would remove this unjust and immoral exclusion.

On Cesar Chavez Day, March 31, 2019, "Justice for Farmworkers: 80 Years Overdue!" was held in New York City to promote actions that can be taken right now to help pass the necessary legislation to bring labor rights to farmworkers in New York. Reverend Richard Witt of the Rural & Migrant Ministry has been active in the Justice for Farmworkers Campaign for over two decades. He talked about the ongoing need of farmworkers for basic rights and how there has not been a better moment for passage of the legislation than 2019. Monica Ramirez from Justice for Migrant Women talked about the gender-based violence and need for gender equality among farmworkers and how much passage of this legislation would uplift those who have been victimized for so long.

Librada Paz, from the Rural Migrant Ministry, spoke of the plight of migrant farmworkers who have been denied basic medical treatment when injured on the job by employers who would tell them if they went to a doctor they would be fired. She, herself, had worked on farms when she came to the United States at 15, and did so for over 10 years while attending school. She earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the Rochester Institute of Technology, while being a fierce advocate for farmworkers rights.

Vincent Alvarez, President of the New York City Central Labor Council, talked about the vast contributions made by Cesar Chavez to farmworkers and to the labor movement. He was enthusiastic that this was the time for union members in New York to stand up for the rights



of farmworkers and achieve passage of the Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act. He encouraged all union members to be proactive in this campaign.

It is time for us to stand up and take actions on behalf of our fellow workers in New York state who have been denied the rights that we take for granted. Please take a few minutes to support them by helping to get this legislation passed.

It is essential for each of us to send emails to New York State
Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins at: scousins@nysenate.gov, to New York
State Assembly-member Carl Heastie at: speaker@nyassembly.gov, and to Governor Andrew Cuomo at:
Governor.Cuomo@xec.ny.gov, with the following message:

Dear _____, For too long our brothers and sisters in the fields have suffered without basic labor protections afforded to all other workers. Please do the right thing and see that the Farmworker Fair Labor Practices act becomes law this year.

You can also text the word FARMWORKER to 21333 and you will receive a list of resources and actions from the Hispanic Federation, telling you what you can do to help ensure passage of this important legislation. They will connect you directly to Governor Cuomo's office.

Workplace safety: Triangle Factory Fire remembered

By Flo Summergrad

n March 25, 1911, 146 garment workers – most of them young women and teens – died tragically in a fire at the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire, a block from Washington Square Park in Manhattan. Officers, members, and retirees of NY Metro Area Postal Union joined in the annual commemoration at the site. The names and ages of the dead were read to the tolling of a bell. "19, 14, 23 17, 26, 16 . . " Young immigrant workers who made up the city's thriving



needle trades were trapped on the 8th and 9th floors behind doors locked "to prevent theft." Many women leapt to their deaths under the horrified gaze of helpless firefighters; Fire Department ladders could only reach the 6th story. Broken bodies covered the street.

Each victim was symbolized by a wooden stick topped with a shirt-waist. Each blouse bore a sash with the worker's name, waving sadly above the heads of the crowd. Unions, students, relatives, and elected officials listened as speakers paid tribute to the legacy of the dead – a wave of safety reforms that

POSTAL UNION

APWU AFL-CIO

resulted from the tragedy. New laws in NYC mandated sprinkler systems and fire drills in large workplaces;

> new standards called for fire escapes and doors that opened outward, not inward.

Now, 108 years later, jobs are still dangerous. A lasting memorial to the Triangle Fire victims will be a reminder of why the fight for workplace safety is so important. By this time next year, the building, which still stands on the corner

of Washington Place and Greene Street, will be swathed with plates of steel, etched with the vic-

tims'



names. This artwork is a result of unflagging efforts by the Triangle Fire Memorial Committee, the NYC Central Labor Council, family members of the victims, and grass roots supporters. Governor Cuomo has authorized \$1.5 million for the project, and another million has been raised from other sources.

Mary Anne Trasciatti, head of the Triangle Fire Memorial



Coalition, spoke at the event.

"My mom was a garment worker, and I remember her telling me she knew that she and the other women in the factory were safe because of Triangle." She explained the significance of the site: "Creating a memorial that names women who worked hard and struggled and whose lives were lost, especially in this city where there are so few memorials to women, especially immigrant women, it's a really big deal."

Photos by Diane Erlanger

POSTAL PRIDE

USPS Network—A unique Federal asset

n February 1, 2019, *The Atlantic* ran an article called, "The Quiet Heroism of Mail Delivery." The efforts of postal workers during natural disasters "help communities return to a sense of normalcy."

As disasters (from forest fires to floods to polar vortex) impact the country, the USPS keeps the lines of communication open. There are 285 USPS emergency-management teams to plan protection and delivery of people's mail during crises. Their success depends on brave and dedicated postal workers.

Tales of carriers bundling up to deliver in the frozen streets, or trudging through flooded fields, are incredibly vivid. After the deadly wildfires in Santa Rosa, CA, the Postal Service responded to a plea from evacuees to pick up any mail that could be salvaged. "[A] drone caught footage of a USPS worker, Trevor Smith, driving through charred homes in that customary white van, collecting mail. . . . The operation is familiar, but the scene is apocalyptic."

In a 2011 USPS study, the agency stressed that its massive infrastructure is a "unique federal asset" to be called upon in the event of disaster or terrorist attack. Mike Swigart, Postal Director of National Preparedness explains that the USPS can play that role "because we're in literally every community in this country ... We're obligated to deliver to that point on a daily basis."

Postal News Briefs

PITTSBURGH NDC CLOSED FOR HAZMAT CLEAN-UP

On Sunday, March 24, 2019, there was a spill of mercury at the Pittsburgh NDC (Network Distribution Center). Due to the toxicity of mercury (which can become vapor in the air), the facility closed during a lengthy clean-up which has extended over two weeks. The Postal Service said, "Our priority is the safety of our employees and customers." Environmental contractors were called in to make sure the workplace is safe for those who work there and ensure that all packages that were in the NDC mail stream are mercury free.

Those of us who work in an NDC (BMC) know how quickly things move through the mechanized system. It is no surprise that proper clean-up is a long process. Post offices around the country (including

the NJI&NDC) have helped by providing filters to replace all the filters at the Pittsburgh NDC which may have been contaminated by mercury.

RIGHTS ON CHANGES IN MAIL DELIVERY

In parts of the country, the USPS is seeking to convince customers to change their mode of delivery to cluster boxes or centralized delivery. The public has rights under the Postal Operations Manual (POM) 631.7 to refuse these inconvenient mail delivery methods. The customer must **agree** in writing to delivery change or else the Postal Service is obligated to con-



tinue the current mode of delivery. In new housing developments or buildings, agreement must wait for a year before customers decide. Under ELM 667.12, postal employees "in active status must not engage in campaigns for or against changes in mail service. This regulation must not be construed to infringe on the rights to participate in a labor organization." The NALC is pro-

viding these rights in detail to their members, including the fact that retired carriers can be active in their communities on these issues.

VICTORY FOR THE ARCTIC

On March 29, 2019, a federal judge struck down Trump's 2017 Executive Order over-riding the ban on offshore drilling in the Arctic Ocean, ruling that the EO exceeded his authority. Environmental protections for the

Artic region were put in place in the '50s under Eisenhower and expanded under Obama. Environmental groups filed suit against Trump and Big Oil, protesting that the many drilling sites would be a death sentence for the wilderness and wildlife in the area, including the cari-



bou, critical to the survival of the Gwich'in native peoples. The emissions from oil and gas development would release substantial amounts of methane and other toxins into the air, greatly exacerbating global warming and harming the whole planet.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, May 15

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, June 19

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)

As per the NYMAPU Constituion:

NO MEETINGS IN JULY AND AUGUST

Have a great summer!

PRIZES at EVERY MEETING!

Door prize—\$100 gift card March winner: Lillian Yousif

COPA 50/50

March winner: Jacquelyn Owens \$41.00

COPA donation \$39.75

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of February 1, 2019	\$1,278,934.78
Total Revenue February 2019	\$ 144,704.08
Operating Expenses February 2019	_\$ 182,63.66
Total Net Income February 2019	\$ -(37,929.58
Ending Balance as of 02/28/2019	\$ 1,241,005.20

ALL SISTERS WELCOME! Monthly P.O.W.E.R. Meeting

(As an APWU woman, you are already a member of P.O.W.E.R.)

May 22 June 26

Where: Union Office, 350 W. 31st Street, 3rd floor When: 1:00 pm, the 4th Wednesday of every month

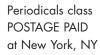
Membership has its Perks

As a member of New York Metro Area Postal Union, APWU, AFL-CIO you are automatically enrolled for Group Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) insurance coverage. Effective April 1, 2019 AD&D insurance through the group policy holder, APWU, will be underwritten by New York Life Insurance Company (New York Life) under Group Policy G-39316-0 and Group Term Life Insurance Policy 0315439-18. When you receive your annual membership card in the mail, tear off the AD&D section and fill out your elected beneficiary portion and mail to: Voluntary Benefits Plans P.O. Box 12009, Cheshire, CT 06410. It pays to be a member!

Membership is growing!

By Joe Martir, Secretary/Treasurer

anagement's ultimate objective is to divide and conquer -- workers against workers, members against members, members against non-members. We must continue to remind not only ourselves but our non-member co-workers that we need to stand together to preserve the rights and benefits we currently enjoy. Our Sisters and Brothers are beginning to understand the importance of a Union. Therefore, I am elated to inform you all that according to APWU we are now 86.15% organized. According to recent 1187s (membership forms) I anticipate that number to grow. Great job to all!





STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR UNION:

Sign up for Metro email blasts. Get the latest information including regular reports from NY Metro leadership.

Fill in below and give to any NY Metro officer or steward or mail to NY Metro Area Postal Union, 350 West 31st Street, 3rd floor, New York, NY 10001.

NAME:	FACILITY:	
ADDRESS:		
PHONE:		
COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS:		
www.nymetro.org		unionmail@nymetro.org