

From the State President's Desk Convention 2022

July 2022, by now everyone has been able to see a pay raise. The range of the pay raise is different based on your status. There were some errors in the process by management and the APWU has already contacted them on our behalf. I believe another pay raise will be coming to the PSEs in late July. APWU Headquarters is staying on HQ USPS in trying to tie them down on a date for the back pay that we are all due. Keep looking for the email or on APWU.org for updates.

The APWU will be having National Elections this year. ALL of our members will receive a ballot. The only advice I have for ALL of our Members is VOTE!!!

Voting is a right that we ALL have and must perform. Note to mention that the APWU provides incentives to ALL the Locals and State Organizations that have 100 percent voter turnout.

You make your choices and vote your ballots. PLEASE!!!

Now I have went and said PLEASE and will follow with THANK YOU FOR VOTING!!!

Voting is a subject that we will state on. In November, we will be voting again. We need to do our homework and investigate the candidates. I will not go political on ya'll, VOTE for whoever you feel will be the best person for the job. AGAIN VOTE!!!



Now I need to bring the attention to the Mississippi Postal Workers Union Officers. The District Directors have been working hard for you. Our Secretary/Treasurer and Historian continue doing the outstanding jobs of keeping us informed and supported. GREAT JOB Team!!!

Now on the Organization: The APWU just ended an organization drive. We have over 5000 new members nationwide. We need to focus on Mississippi. We have too many non-members. If there are non-members in your office provide us with their names and we can contact them with an application to sign them up.

We are now in the middle of summer and heavy into the vacation season. Please be careful and keep everyone safe.

I would like to Thank You for allowing me to serve!!!


Respectfully Submitted
George

Collins

- George is reminding everyone of the upcoming Penalty OT
- Exclusion period for calendar year 2022. Per the provisions of Article 8.4 and.5 of the CBA – the exclusion period begins PP 26-22 – WK 1 (12/03/22) and ends PP 01-23 – WK 2 (12/30/22).

As you know, the APWU cannot do the work we need to do without members. We have tried to get 5000 new members by July 1, 2022. As of the publishing of this newsletter we have 4,220 new members.

Congratulations to all that participated in this membership drive and welcome to all new members.

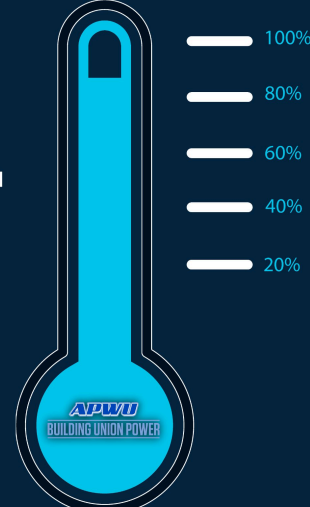


APWU
BUILDING UNION POWER
2022 ORGANIZING DRIVE

PROGRESS METER
GOAL: 5,000
SIGN-UPS BY JULY 1

As of June 27th we've signed up 4,220 new members!
That is 85% of our GOAL!
We have just **THREE DAYS** left to reach our goal of 5,000 NEW members

apwu.org/unionpower





George and Jerry



George and Sunny



George and Jerry

Sunny Thigpen and Jerry Moore were recognized for their years of contributions to the Mississippi Postal Workers Union.



Delegates to State Convention



Delegates to State Convention

There were several national officers that attended our Tri-State.

President Dimondstein spoke and met with members.

Debby Szeredy, Vice-President, Charlie Cash, Industrial Relations Director, Michael O. Foster, MVS Director, Lamont Brooks, Clerk Craft Director, and Kennith Beasley, Southern Region Coordinator gave reports. And of course we heard from NBA's in both the clerk craft and the maintenance craft.

A sincere thanks to all the national officers that attended our meetings and gave reports.



Mark and George



Vice-President
Debby Szeredy

PSE Rights brought to you by your membership dues in the mighty APWU!

Postal Support Employees (PSEs) are hired for a term not to exceed 360 calendar days per appointment. The PSE workforce is comprised of employees who don't yet have career appointments but who enjoy union representation and negotiated rights. The Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), which is the union contract between the APWU and the USPS, covers all aspects of your appointment related to wages, benefits, hours, and working conditions.

Price Norwood

James Foster



Finance Committee
Dorothy Tidwell Chairman
Melissa Wheeler
Quibina Shelby



Rules Committee
Juan Manuel Chairman
Cindy Hayard
Ruth Holmes



Constitution Committee
Jamir Evans
Georgia Donerson
Lewis Johnson

When you attend a State Convention, you are not a spectator, you ARE the convention. Every delegate has the right to make motions and vote on every issue. There are some standing committees which the President appoints. Scattered in no particular order are some of the committees and those serving.



District 6
Roger Stuckey



**Maintenance Craft
Director**
Michael Robinson

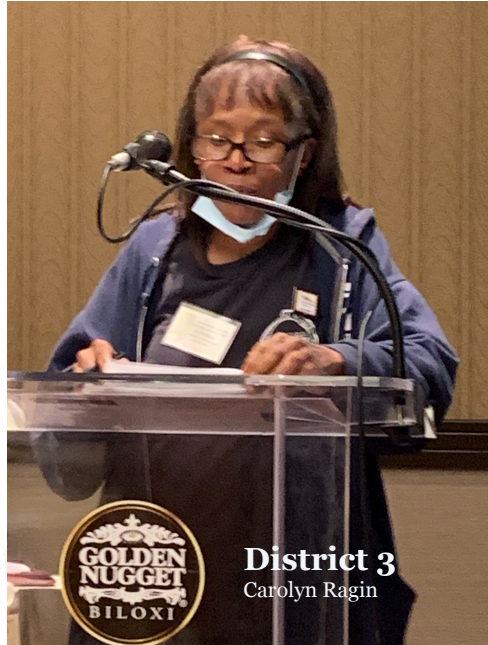


Past President
Jerry Moore

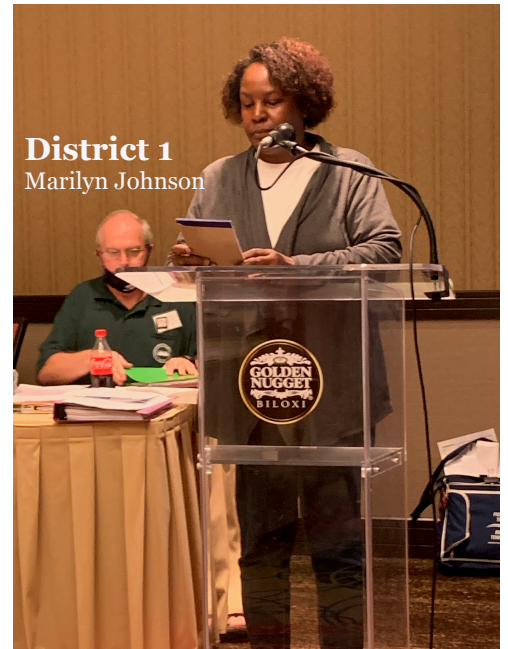
At every convention, all officers are required to make a report to the delegates about their activities since the last convention.



District 4
Michelle Powell



District 3
Carolyn Ragin



District 1
Marilyn Johnson



Did you get your T-shirt? Apply to Pat Lampley.



Auxiliary
Tyrell Collins
Debra Stewart
Arline Holmes

More PSE rights.

Health Benefits

You are eligible to enroll in the USPS-sponsored health plan within 60 days of your “enter-on-duty” date. After that, the next opportunity to enroll will be during Health Plan Open Season. Visit liteblue.usps.gov/benefits and click on “USPS Health Benefits Plan” for more information.

The Auxiliary: A grassroots organization of volunteers serving out a deep abiding commitment to our American Postal Workers Union and its members. United by common goals and interests, Auxiliary members are engaged in the kind of community and civic involvement that is necessary to present the best possible image of labor to the American people.

Without their help, the APWU would be unable to carry out many of the time consuming “nuts and bolts” activities essential to the success of our union.

Go to www.apwuauxiliary.org to learn more.

The next **APWU Biennial National Convention** will be held Monday, August 15, 2022 thru Friday, August 18, 2022, at the National Harbor, Washington DC.

Pre-Convention workshops are scheduled for August 11th and 12th, with the Craft Conventions slated for August 13th and August 14th.

Check the APWU.ORG website for updates and details.

MORE PSE RIGHTS!

Representation in the Grievance Procedure

Being a union member gives you a way to fight back if your rights are violated. If you believe your rights have been violated, request to see your union steward. You have the right to file a grievance and speak to your steward while on the clock. Do not delay in doing this as there are critical time limits in which grievances must be filed (14 calendar days from the date you first learned of, or should have learned of the grievance). Once you have completed 90 work days or have been employed for 120 calendar days, whichever comes first, you cannot be fired except for “just cause,” and, if you are terminated, you may challenge the decision via the grievance procedure.



Your Union Paper
Keeps You Informed

President's 52 COPA Club 2022

Sherry Estay
James Evans
Patricia Lampley
Lakevia Smith
Marilyn Johnson
Dierdre Buckley
Stanley Smith
Michelle Powell
Ruth Holmes
George Collins
Terrell Collins
Michael Robinson
Becky West
Roger Stuckey
Lewis Johnson
Juan Manuel
Anita Howard
Cunita Lemon
Doretha Bridges
Teresa Smith
Tim Eaton
Hilda Bennett
Jerry Moore
Sundrenia Thigpen
Phyllis Miggins
Marcus Collins
Denise Ray

The President's 52 COPA Club list is a list of members that donated \$52 to COPA at the State Convention.

It is important that we have a voice in Congress that can express our concerns as it relates to Postal Service issues. In order to have that voice, we have to promote candidates that support our views.

The regular dues of our members cannot be used as direct contributions to candidates. COPA is a voluntary contribution to a Political Action Committee, the funds of which go to candidates that promise to promote our views of the issues.

Didn't attend the Convention but would like to be a member of the Club?

No problem, you can still be a member of the President's 52 COPA Club by sending a check to Secretary Pat Lampley.

Please Donate to C.O.P.A Right Now!
Fill out the form below and send it in with your donation

FILL OUT THIS COUPON AND MAIL TO:

APWU COPA, P. O. Box 17343 Hattiesburg, MS 39404

My check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If you want credit for this donation from the National APWU, list your EIN here _____

New PTF Rules

PTFs now get a guaranteed 24 hours of pay per pay period and a guaranteed 4 hours of pay on any day they are scheduled to work.

There are some questions about whether the daily guarantee is four consecutive hours or if it is 4 hours for the day. This is probably a question that will have to be decided by an arbitrator unless the union can firm it up in a MOU or an agreed upon Q&A.

Contact your steward for details.

Mississippi Postal Workers Union Officers

President

George Collins
2365 Trafalgar Drive
Biloxi MS 39531
(228) 806-0121
gtwnc@bellsouth.net

Secretary - Treasurer

Patricia Lampley
P. O. Box 17343
Hattiesburg, MS 39404
(601) 912 - 2158
patricia_lampleyo1@yahoo.com

District 1

(386, 388)
Marilyn Johnson
662-934-4497
1778A Shiloh Rd
Courtland MS, 38620
mj40mj20@yahoo.com

District 2

(387, 389,)
Patrice Norwood
(662) 528-3196
iyanna022802@yahoo.com

District 3

(390,391)
Carolyn Ragin
601-985-8461
carolynragin1966@yahoo.com

District 4

(394 West, 396)
Michelle Powell
P O Box 42
Picayune MS 39466
601-799-7800
mpowellapwu@gmail.com

District 5

(393,397)
Lakevia Smith
(662) 361-0822
keevah27@yahoo.com

District 6

(394 East, S H'burg,395)
Roger Stuckey
57 Stone Forrest Trail
McHenry MS 39561
601-287-4299
USPS work hours:
1700-0150, NSD Su/Mo
restuckey4256@gmail.com

Maintenance Craft Director

Michael Robinson
NE Area Local President
(662)803-8107
robjuly72@hotmail.com

Editor - Historian

Tim Eaton
9 Saint Charles Ave
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
eatontd@comcast.net
(601) 818 - 9204

Auxiliary

Carrie Edwards
3824 Miller Ave
Jackson, MS 39213
(601) 354 - 1660

Feds Benevolent Association

Sandra Spencer
1507 Fernwood Dr
Jackson, MS 39213
(601) 981 - 7942

Check out the Benefits Programs offered to Union Members

*Scholarships, Mortgage Loans, Union Plus discounts,
Voluntary Benefits Plan, AFLAC Cancer Insurance, Accident Benefit Association.*

Get the details online at APWU.ORG.

The union needs
U and I
or it's
UNION
Existent

The Postal Service Reform Act Passes the Senate & Will Become Law

In a historic moment, the Senate passed the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 on March 8 with a vote of 79-19. [The House passed the bill last month with a vote of 342-92.](#) The legislation will now go to President Biden's desk, where he will sign it into law. The enactment of Postal Reform marks a turning point in the fight to protect and strengthen the people's public Postal Service.

Go to APWU.ORG for details.



District 5
Lakevia Smith



Alternate Steward
Jennifer Traylor



Alternate Steward
Johnnie Foster

More officers giving reports to the Convention

MORE PSE RIGHTS!

Under the terms of the new Contract, a PSE that has two years is converted to a Career appointment, either PTF or FTF, depending on the size of the office. Check with your steward for more information.



Secretary/Treasurer
Pat Lampley

Join the APWU online at APWU.ORG.

It's now easier than ever to join the APWU and start taking advantage of all the benefits that membership entitles you to. Lot's of discounts offered on the things we all need. Scholarships are available, a great price for medical insurance, mortgage loans, educational loans and many more benefits.

Plus, you have a vote in everything the Union does.

Have you been called in by management for an **Investigative Interview?**

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS!

Request a Union Steward to be present during the interview. Management knows who the stewards are even if you don't, and it's not up to you to get in contact with a steward. Just ask for a steward, and management has to provide one **before** the interview can take place.

From the Editor

Greetings,

I want to thank the MPWU president and all the Local presidents that responded to my request for an updated membership roster.

As a result, we have a net gain of over one hundred members of the APWU that will be receiving the Top Flight newsletter.

It is important that all our members know that they are being represented and that they are getting their money's worth from paying union dues and that's why I want a Top Flight delivered to EVERY member.

I also want to thank all the people that submitted photos of the Convention to me, especially Sandy Wheeler, who submitted hundreds.

Of course, I can't possibly print all the photos in the Top Flight, but if you have an interest in a certain photo, just let me know. I'll try to find it and get it to you.

On Facebook, go to Mississippi Postal Workers Union for "breaking news".

Editor, Tim Eaton

The **TOP FLIGHT** is the official publication of the Mississippi Postal Workers Union. The opinions and views expressed in this publication are those of the writer, and do not necessarily represent the opinions of the Editor or the Executive Board of the MPWU.

All submissions are welcome, but may be edited, when necessary, for space or clarity.

Send submissions and change of address information to:

Top Flight
9 Saint Charles Ave.
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601-818-9204
eatontd@comcast.net

www.msapwu.org

On Facebook
Mississippi Postal Workers Union



TOP FLIGHT
9 Saint Charles Ave
Hattiesburg, MS 39402

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