



NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL

THE BAY BREEZE

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION AFL-CIO

WWW.NEWAL.ORG

Northeastern Wisconsin Area Local American Postal Worker's Union AFL-CIO

Volume 60 No. 1

Jan/Feb 2017

Happy New Year!!!

Next Union Meeting

Jan 19, 2017
@11:30am
Busters

CFC 2016 We had a total of 38 employees who donated to CFC last year for a total of \$7159.

Donations were collected by :
Jim Tschantz,
Michelle Reinhard,
and Mary Davis.
Thanks to the three or all of your work!

UPCOMING EVENTS

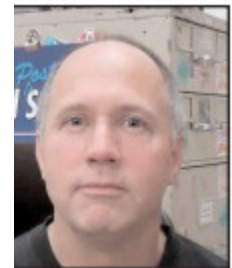
The Polar Plunge @ the Watering Hole on March 4th, 2017 at noon. See page 2 for more information.

www.gbnewal.org

President's Report

by Kelly Heaney

Hello and welcome to 2017. Hope everyone had a good Christmas n Happy New Year. With being on a weekend this year I saw many employees get to actually enjoy the holidays away from work. It has been one year since I took over as President and want to thank all those that have helped me along the way.



With that being said we have along way to go to create unity within the union and not division. LMOU negotiations have come and gone with nothing promising. Management says they want to work with the union and build morale, but we know this is not true. There are problems with annual bidding once again, hopefully this will be straightened out. Once again people are wondering why the window and bulk mail are mixed in with the plant people for annual leave bidding and once again I will say that this is what the membership wanted. I asked for input to local negotiations and brought this up several times at union meeting and no change was wanted without concessions from management which didn't happen.

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President's Report

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I have also heard that employees are upset that I was in Oklahoma for school during the month of December and that I should step down because I periodically have training schools in Oklahoma. This is the deal, I was mandated for this school, why would I want to abandon ship at the busiest time. I have always said you have to do what management says, but grieve later- I had no choice. I will not step down, I think I'm doing a pretty good job trying to change this negative culture here at the plant and in the area. I am not in this alone it take all of us to be on the same page, from executive boards, stewards, and members.

I want to thank all those that helped with the Christmas party. That was a great example of members stepping forward to donate their time to maintain an annual tradition.

Now for a little bit of bad news, our computers went down shortly before I went to school. I know this angered my stewards, but the damage done was extensive. The electricity outage wiped out the server then when the server was fixed the modem went as well and then to top it off no password is available to get the server communicating with the computers and we only have a \$2000 dollar budget for new computers. We are in the process of upgrading it all to the cost of around \$3200. This includes 3 hard drive computers and a new server and for the it guys to hook it all up. I had no less than 8 people trying to fix this problem and good thing we didn't rush to get new computers as they might not have been compatible with the server. There seems to be confusion about annual leave. I did not agree with management on allowing only two weeks on first round bidding. Dave Kroll is filing a grievance. I will go over the language in the Imou for all those interested at the union meeting on 1/19/2017 at 11:30 at Busters. I will say the games have been played with the a.l. picks for several years but i never changed any language in the Imou.

I welcome Kelsey to the new editor position. I know we are still have issues with members showing up as dues paying members. I made calls to national and was told this was taken care of looks like another call needs to happen.

In a quest for true union solidarity I am asking for volunteers to help me jump in and take the polar plunge at the Watering hole on March 4th, 2017 at noon. Donations raised go to special olympics and its a cleansing good time. I have jumped 4 times but not for about 7 years.

Also would anyone be interested in winter bar olympics versus carriers and/or mail handlers?? Let me know your thoughts.

Member Highlight

What do you do when you are not at work? In this section I would like to highlight members that let us know what happens in their lives!

Diane Vaile, along with her husband, retired former Clerk Allen Vaile and their family purchased a Beach-house in Mexico Beach Florida September of 2015. From the pictures on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/bluedoradobeachhouse/#> it looks like Blue Dorado would be the perfect spot for all of us right about NOW.

They rent it out weekly or monthly during winter months, and here is where being a Union Member comes in extra handy-**They offer us discounts!!** I am not sure how it can get much better than that.

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2016 Christmas Party for the Kids

After a failure to plan a party in advance, LeAnn Adams searched out some help to pull one together before the actual holiday so that the kids could visit with Santa and have some holiday fun.

Talk about some Christmas magic!

LeAnn and her helpers; Jenny Ewald, Jenny Starry and Cheryl Schoen managed to get food, gifts, and games together quickly. They even found a day that Santa was available! They gathered everything and threw a party for members' kids and grandkids at Stan's Labor Temple on Elizabeth Street in Green Bay.

Jenny Ewald sent many pictures to me and it looks like they had fun with cookie decorating, games and Santa. You can see more pictures on our Union Website: www.gbnewal.org check in the Clerk Craft section.

Looking forward to a possible Easter Egg Hunt when the snow disappears. (it WILL disappear, won't it?)



More photos available on the gbnewal.org website!

PHOTO CREDIT JENNY EWALD

Member Highlight

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If I could squeeze a little annual leave time in this winter, I'd be on my way in a minute!

Care to make some reservations? Contact Diane at work or find them on Facebook!

Those of us left here in Wisconsin these cold winter months would love to hear about your escapades in Mexico Beach at Blue Dorado! Share the fun! Send your vacation story and pics to newalbaybreeze@gmail.com.

What are YOU doing in your retirement or non-working life?



Share your story with other members here in the Bay Breeze. Contact newalbaybreeze@gmail.com or mail to The Bay Breeze, PO Box 10323, Green Bay, WI 54307-0323

Minutes

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL #2247

Date: Sunday, November 20, 2016

Place: Buster's Bar & Grill

President Kelly Heaney called the meeting to order at 1650 hours.

A quorum was declared with 19 members in attendance.

Kelly Heaney led the Pledge of Alliance and Dave Villwock read the invocation.

The following officers were present:

President: Kelly Heaney, Vice-president: Steve Paradise, Motor Vehicle Craft Director: Tim Alberts, Maintenance Craft Director: Dave Villwock, Recording Secretary: Jenny Starry, and Bay Breeze Editor: Kelsey Helf. Secretary/Treasurer: Bryce Thomas and Clerk Craft Director: Dave Kroll were absent.

Minutes of the October 2016 NEWAL meeting were read by Jenny Starry. A correction to the minutes was made by Jean Wald to change VOE to VOE/Postal Pulse.

A motion was made by Steve Paradise and seconded by Nick Ratajczyk to accept the corrected minutes.

The financial report for October 2016 was not read as Bryce Thomas was not present.

REPORTS

Executive Committee: The e-board recommends spending up to \$2800 to buy the members navy blue t-shirts. If you want a hoodie you have to pay the difference. E-board recommends giving gift cards to Dave Villwock, Tim Alberts, Steve Paradise and Lucy Hauser for helping with the LMOU.

Labor/Management: There was no labor management meeting.

Grievance: There have been denial of steward time grievances filed for Lea and Dave Kroll. Have a coworker nearby when you tell management you need to see a steward. We are up to 187 grievances with the majority being for displacement. A grievance was settled stating if you're on the ODL and they give you less than an hour notice to stay over you can turn it down, but they can mandate. Jeff Grendziak agreed in an email that you can run 1 APC or 30 minutes by your self or run a short program, 896, 894 slickies, BRM or bulky program by yourself.

Scheme:

Automation:

Safety/Health: Don't pull 3 APC's, if you get hurt it will be your fault. There have been issues with people on light duty and limited duty picking what job they want to do. If you're seeking light duty this means you got hurt outside of work and management and the union should meet and decide whether they can provide work for you. Limited duty means you got hurt at work and they have to make more of an effort to provide work for you. The health insurance premiums are going up. It's open season right now.

Legislative: Steve Paradise read the Legislative Report. There is a web site omp.gov you can go to to compare all the health plans that are available. There are several to choose from.

The Wounded Warriors Federal Leave Act of 2015 has been extended to current employees. This is for service members in their first year of federal employment.

The USPS board of governors could lose it's last presidential member in mid December. Unless congress acts quickly, the USPS could become powerless to handle several vital tasks. Setting stamp prices, hiring or firing the postmaster general, and planning new postal products are all powers granted to the nine presidential governors who oversee the USPS. In December, the last presidentially appointed member of the Postal Service's board of governors can no longer sit on the board. Its not clear what the incoming Trump administration wants to do with the USPS, which has defaulted on billions of dollars it owes the U.S. Treasury. The word "postal" did not appear in the 2016 Republican Party platform, and Trump did not discuss any postal issues during the campaign.

Minutes

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The only good thing that came out of this election is we now have 2 more democratic senators so we are up to 52.

In the Postal Employee Network they discussed why some red states turned blue and vice versa. They think it was because of the Hispanic vote and they focused on labor issues.

OWCP: If you get hurt outside of work you get \$14/day from ABA.

Constitution:

New Members: Derek Zurakowski, Amber Reed and Chase Golden

Lost Members:

COMMUNICATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion was made by Dave Villwock and seconded by Jean Wald to spend up to \$3000 to get union made navy blut-shirts for APWU members with the option to pay the difference if you want a hoodie. Motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Jenny Starry and seconded by Nick Ratajczyk to get \$60 gift cards for Dave Villwock, Steve Paradise and Tim Alberts and a \$20 gift card for Lucy Hauser for helping with the LMOU. Motion passed unanimously.

The RI399 and the dirty sort operation were discussed.

The LMOU was discussed. There was a minor change in the VMF on separating the Body Man from the Mechanics. Anyone promoted to Full Time Regular or awarded a different position has 7 days to add their name to the ODL. In Maintenance there was a change in the excessing wording.

A motion was made by Gloria Shermo and seconded by Nick Ratajczyk to allow up to \$100 and up to 8 hrs lost time per person if necessary for the Audit Committee, Lucy Hauser, Art Ciesielczyk, and Deb Nehmer to do an audit. Motion passed unanimously.

20 \$20 Festival Foods gift cards were given out. Everyone in attendance got one and Gloria Shermo got two.

A motion was made by Tim Alberts and seconded by Gloria Shermo to have the next meeting on Thursday, January 19th at 11:30am at Busters's. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Nick Ratajczyk and seconded by Lucy Hauser to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously. NEWAL meeting adjourned.

The \$10 door prize was won by Lacy Buck.

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheet.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Jenny Starry.

Editor resigning

I, Mary Davis, have resigned as editor. At the Oct union meeting my resignation was "officially announced". I would like to take a few moments to thank all who have helped me to publish the 17 newsletters that I have. Thanks especially to those who submitted articles and those who had kind words to say about those newsletters.

I wish my replacement well!

Thanks again, Mary Davis

Local Officers of the APWU

President	Kelly Heaney
Vice President	Steve Paradise
Secretary/Treasurer	Bryce Thomas
Recording Secretary	Jenny Starry
Editor	Kelsey Helf
Clerk Craft Director	Dave Kroll
Motor Vehicle Craft Director	Tim Alberts
Maintenance Craft Director	Dave Villwock

STEWARDS

Packerland Drive Office (GMF)

Tour 1

Clerk Chief Steward	Dave Kroll
Maintenance Chief Steward	Dave Willwock
Maintenance Alternate	Rich Stephenson

Tour 2

Clerk Chief Steward	Bryan Conklin
Clerk Alternate Steward	Mary Oliver
Maintenance Steward	Ekaterina Bouyear
MVS Chief Steward	Tim Alberts
MVS Alternate Steward	Jeremy Linberg

Tour 3

Clerk Chief Steward	Lia Mahabir
Clerk Alternate Steward	Steve Paradise

AO Stations

Clerk Chief Steward	Amy Zehms
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DePere Post Office

Clerk Chief Steward	Sheri Bealeau
Clerk Alternate Steward	Sandy Murphy

All other AO's

Clerk Chief Steward	Kelly Heaney
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The Bay Breeze is the official voice of the American Postal Workers Union, Northeastern Wisconsin Area Local, and Published six times a year. The due date for publication is the first day of the odd month unless otherwise published.

The Bay Breeze attempts to keep the membership abreast of all important issues. We are proud members of the National Postal Press Association and International Labor Communications Association. We are also members of the APWU of WI, Wisconsin State AFL-CIO, Greater Green Bay labor Council and were the first local in WI to join the APWU Accident Benefit Association as a 100% local.

Letters, correspondences, and articles by members and officers are encouraged. Send them to the return address on this news-let-ter. Articles must be signed by the author and names may be withheld upon request. Opinions are those of the contributors and not necessarily the Union, the Officers, or the Editor.

The Editor reserves the right to delete, edit, or rewrite to fit the format or this newsletter, to disallow any attacks of individuals, and to refuse to print any article deemed improper or unfit for publication. Articles that are not credited are those of the Editor.

Hello from the new Editor

My name is Kelsey Helf and I am attempting to undertake the multiple duties of the Editor position of the Bay Breeze, as Mary Davis has resigned as of October 2016. (see her resignation memo included in this newsletter)

I started at the USPS Green Bay facility as a PSE in December 2015. I was gratefully converted to a career position in July 2016. I do not have a lot of knowledge about the USPS or the APWU but I am eager to learn.

I had just a few minutes with Mary before Christmas and she gave me a LOT of information to work with. Although I have had no training for this position, I am going to try to get at least close to the quality that Mary delivered to you in each newsletter. That being said, I have tried to gather information from people around the plant and you are reading in this newsletter whatever I could get. I am confident that I can learn this position and better get the reporting to you on a timely basis. It is my intention to utilize our local's website; WWW.GBNEWAL.ORG to keep things up to date between newsletters and of course, for those who do not have internet access, print the information in the bi-monthly newsletter for your reading pleasure.

I hope everyone is having a wonderful 2017 so far and I look forward to working with and for our union.

Please send any and all questions, comments and suggestions to: newalbaybreeze@gmail.com or via mail to: Bay Breeze, PO Box 10323, Green Bay, WI 54307-0323

In Memorium:

Francis (Frank) D. Muehlbauer October 9, 2016

Condolences:

Nancy Taylor- Brother passed

Retired:

Lois Semrau

Dennis Dellebreau

APWU Web News Article 01-2017

We Won!!

The USPS and Staples Deal is Over!

01/05/2017 -

Postal management informed the APWU in writing that the "Approved Shipper" program in Staples stores will be shut down by the end of February 2017. This victory concludes the APWU's three-year struggle.

The boycott against Staples is over!

"I salute and commend every member and supporter who made this victory possible," said APWU President Mark Dimondstein. "I never doubted that if we stayed the course, stuck together and kept the activist pressure on, we would win this fight."

Read more at www.APWU.org

APWU The Bay Breeze
PO Box 10323
Green Bay, WI 54307-0323

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www.gbnewal.org

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

You can find up to date information from committee meetings, submit questions and answers about union or postal activities before it gets printed in the Bay Breeze and check out past editions of the Bay Breeze.

Send your comments, questions, suggestions etc. to GBNEWAL@GMAIL.COM. You can remain anonymous if you request to. It would be great to see new members asking questions and the more experienced members providing answers here for all to learn from.

There are APWU links to information, booklets, news, etc. Check it out today! I look forward to hearing from everyone!