

NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL



AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION
AFL-CIO

Volume 65/Issue 1
January/February 2022

THE BAY BREEZE



Next Meeting:

February 16, 2022

1 pm

Gallagher's Pizza

2655 West Mason St.



Hello from the President,

Ok I thought I gave a briefing on my trip to Wisconsin Dells seminar a few months back, but if no one remembers here it goes. I took maintenance classes on line H for small offices. This is the constant battle the union has on how facilities get cleaned. Then we had a maintenance break out session talking about contractual issues being discussed at negotiations for the new contract. Then I talked to national officers and voiced my concern about taking on Wausau mail, my local clerk burnout, and the problem with EAP or lack thereof.

Now back to reality. We lost Jeremy Linberg on the executive board, and I am looking for a vmf/mvs employee to take his spot. If there are no takers, please keep me informed with any concerns you have. We also have a vacancy as Kelsey Helf, our editor is leaving us. Billy Kabacinski is taking over for now we will see if he wants it after observing the workload. We lost Clerk Craft director Dave Villwock and Clerk Craft director Steve Paradise. Thank you for your time on the eboard. Taking their places are Lance Bouyear and Chris Opolka. We have new alternate stewards in Emily Ewald, Sam Fritz, and Jenny Ewald for the plant. Dave Sass is showing interest to help at Cofrin. Any others willing to help the union would be greatly appreciated. You can learn somewhat about steward duties by going to APWU.org, then click on my local and click on steward's corner.

We should be getting a vote for the contract soon in the mail and I don't know what is

taking so long.

Although I don't know all the details a detail of the contract can be found on APWU.org. I don't tell others how to vote and there are pros and cons all over

the internet saying how we should have gone for more like other companies have done. I would like to remind the membership that we are compared to other delivery service companies (i.e., Fed ex, UPS, letter carriers, rural carrier and mail handler contracts as well). I am voting yes for the contract; I think the cola will be a good raise with inflation and voting no you risk losing this benefit in arbitration. Remember arbitration is where we got pse's and that new employee category has been messed up for quite a while.

Yes, we are getting burnt out from the added letters from Wausau and from many employees quitting and new ones not getting hired fast enough. I have asked labor and the nba's to bring in the district leaders for a good old-fashioned meeting, but that is falling on deaf ears. What else can I do? Our business is service. Without service there is no business and no Post Office. Should I let them close Green Bay and we could all be excessed to other crafts? Yes, restrictions are the only thing that is going to save your body and mind from the grind. If you have ideas, please let me know. If you are tired of everything going on here, please contact your senators, APWU, Dejoy; anyone that will listen and create change for the better, see if you can get farther than me.

Kelly Heaney-NEWAL President



President	Kelly Heaney
Vice President	Dave Kroll
Secretary/Treasurer	Art Ciesielczyk
Recording Secretary	Jenny Starry
Editor	
Clerk Craft Director	Steve Paradise
Motor Vehicle Craft Director	Vacant
Maintenance Craft Director	Dave Villwock

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

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 newsletter. 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.

STEWARDS

Packerland Drive Office (GMF)

Tour 1

Clerk Chief Steward	Christine Bouyear
Clerk Alternate Steward	Kelly Heaney
Maintenance Chief Steward	Dave Villwock
Maintenance Alt Steward	Frank Sleik

Tour 2

Clerk Chief Steward	Steve Paradise
Clerk Alternate Steward	Ekaterina Bouyear, Kelly Heaney
Maintenance Chief Steward	Ekaterina Bouyear
MVS Chief Steward	Vacant

Tour 3

Clerk Chief Steward	Vacant
Clerk Alternate Steward	Kelly Heaney, Christine Bouyear, Steve Paradise
Maintenance Chief Steward	Kelly Heaney
Alternate Maintenance Steward	Vacant

VMF

Chief Steward	Vacant
Alternate Steward	Vacant

AO Stations

Clerk Chief Steward	Chris Opolka
Clerk Alternate Steward	Vacant

DePere Post Office

Clerk Chief Steward	Sheri Beauleau
Clerk Alternate Steward	Alex Mahn

All other AO's

Clerk Chief Steward	Kelly Heaney
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KNOW YOUR POSTAL ACRONYMS

- APC _____
- BMEU _____
- GPC _____
- SEP _____
- CCA _____
- SSA _____
- LSSA _____
- RSS _____
- DIOSS _____
- AFCS _____
- ANK _____
- VAC _____
- HFC _____
- GMF _____
- POOM _____
- SDO _____
- OIC _____
- BMC _____
- UTF _____
- FWD _____
- CR-CL _____
- WR _____
- DBCS _____
- LCST _____
- PFS _____

- LLV _____
- MTE _____
- CSS _____
- AWOL _____
- MHA _____
- AFSM _____
- EMM _____
- RCA _____
- LN _____
- EAP _____
- VMF _____
- BRM _____
- PARS _____
- COA _____
- NEWAL _____
- APWU _____

These are only a few (obviously) of the acronyms that I learned from the post office. Geeze I didn't put USPS haha.

Anyway-do you know them all? Acronyms used by clerks, carriers, mail handlers, supervisors. See how many you can guess! Add to the list and share with your co-workers. It doesn't hurt to know as much as possible-especially these days when everyone is doing everyone else's job to help with the labor shortage! ugh

The Rumors Are True!

Hello everyone. I took over the position on Secretary Treasurer on 4/1/2020 and was recently reelected to office at the end of November. I would like to take a moment to say, "thank you." Thank you for voting for me, thank you for even voting, as it shows that you take interest in your union. I would also like to thank Bryce Thomas and Pam Krause whose work went on behind the scenes in getting everything that goes into holding a secret ballot election right. There were no issues or surprises that I was made aware of and the election was success (no rerun).

There is a rumor going around the plant that I am in line to become the new MOS Clerk. I am awaiting word to see if this is indeed the case. I have accepted a detail for a month as a MOS clerk while everything sorts itself out. Until it becomes official, it is only a detail and a "rumor".

I recently became Power of Attorney Finance and Medical for my mother who is 87 years old. If she makes it to April 25th, she will be 88. These last two months have been a personal struggle getting her affairs in order. I thought we had done everything to get ready a few years ago, but the banks and the nursing home didn't think it was good enough, so everything had to be redone to their satisfaction. We are at the tail end of it, so now it is just trying to get her adjusted to her new residence. If anyone has any questions or wants some advice in these matters, I have a wonderful attorney that I can refer you to. There is a big difference between short-term (rehab) and long-term care. Again, I am not an expert in this, but I could offer some guidance. Please don't take your parents for granted. I have been down to one for 14 years and my world will change forever when my mom does pass away.

If you have any questions that I can try to answer from the union's perspective as a treasurer, please ask, and I will try to explain things the best that I can. I cannot answer any question about employee grievances, as I am not a union steward and those are separate matters. If anyone out there has any time or interest in helping the union in any way, please let me know and I will try to

direct you to the right people. The union could use an influx of talent. I know that everyone is busy from working unlimited overtime, but the union really could use some extra stewards.

Again, thanks for giving me the opportunity to be your union Secretary Treasurer. I am honored and humbled at the same time. I promise to always do my best for you and the union.

Sincerely,
Arthur G. Ciesielczyk

farewell, adios, adieu, aloha, ciao, sayonara,
au revoir, sib ntsib dua, annyeong
(I sure hope I didn't mess any of those up)

I am writing to say good bye to y'all as I have resigned from the USPS and therefore can no longer be a part of the APWU.

I have decided to leave the stress and overwork of the USPS and start my own business. Yep-for my 59th birthday, I bought myself a franchise. I have hired NEWAL's webmaster, <https://algomawebsitesdesign.com/>, to do my website: www.groutsmithwi.com. She is fantastic at her job, as you all can see whenever you visit NEWAL.org, so if you ever need a webmaster.....or a grout cleaner..... you know some right here!!

I wish the very best to all of you. I feel as though I have worked with a fantastic bunch of people and have made some wonderful friends as well. The people who work for the USPS are a solid and resilient group who do not get the respect nor the gratitude that I feel they so much deserve.

I doubt that management will ever realize that the people are more critical than the parcels, and that is why I left. Who cannot see that without the people, the packages just sit there!?! Perhaps it's those who are blinded by profit.... In any case, I don't want to bitch; I just want to wish you all the best, and thanks for being awesome.

Be good to your new editor; it's not always the glamorous job it seems to be.

Much love and always remember to be kind to each other.

Kelsey



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

Thomas Hendra, Keith Skonning, Susan Hill, Diane Corn, Elizabeth Richards, Nia Weathersby, Amy Garrity, and Dee Mongial.

TO ALL OF YOU MEMBERS OLD AND NEW:

REAP THE BENEFITS OF BEING AN APWU MEMBER AND BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER TO HELP ACHIEVE A RESPECTFUL AND DECENT WORK ENVIRONMENT FOR EVERYONE!

VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH A PARTY OR AN EVENT WITH NEWAL. YOU ARE UNION MEMBERS NOW-THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS AVAILBALE TO YOU-REACH OUT AND GRAB THEM!

SOLIDARITY



WORKS

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL

#2247

Date: Sunday, January 26th, 2022**Place:** Gallagher's

President Kelly Heaney called the meeting to order at 3 pm. A quorum was declared with 15 members in attendance. Kelly Heaney led the Pledge of Allegiance and Steve Paradise gave the Invocation.

The following officers were present: President Kelly Heaney, Secretary/Treasurer Art Ciesielczyk, Recording Secretary Jenny Starry, Clerk Craft Director Steve Paradise and Maintenance Craft Director Dave Villwock. Vice President Dave Kroll and Bay Editor Kelsey Helf were excused.

Minutes of the November 2021 meeting were printed in the Bay Breeze. A motion was made by Steve Paradise and seconded by Dave Villwock to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

The financial reports for November and December were read by Secretary/Treasurer Art Ciesielczyk.

Executive Committee: The e-board discussed the State and National Convention, the 4 State Caucus, and the Health Plan Seminar. The staff shortage at the plant was also discussed.

Labor/Management: 31 items were brought up, 13 of them maintenance items. The reverting of jobs and missing jobs were discussed. The minutes are posted.

Grievance: A class action crossing crafts grievance for November for over 600 hours was settled and paid out to 78 clerks. December was a free for all because of all the overtime that was declined. Payment is pending on a sub-contracting grievance at Cofrin for \$15,000. Payment is pending on a RI-399 grievance for \$6000.

Safety/Health:

Legislative: Steve Paradise gave his last Legislative report. He talked about the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act to protect our right to vote. The new chair of the U.S. Postal Board of Governors was nominated by then President Donald Trump, so Postmaster Louis DeJoy is here to stay. A bill dubbed the DeJoy Act, H.R. 2230 has been introduced in the House Oversight Committee. It requires the Postal Service to maintain service standards that were in effect on January 1, 2021, before Postmaster General's 10-year plan. He also asked members to support State of Wisconsin Assembly Bill AB476. This bill ensures privacy and protection for breastfeeding moms in the workplace. It would ensure they are provided a private space with an electrical outlet, a sink with running water and a refrigerator when they return to the workplace.

OWCP: If you have or had Covid, file an OWCP claim. There

are pamphlets in the breakroom or on apwu.org.

Constitution:

New Members: Thomas Hendra, Keith Skonning, Susan Hill, Diane Corn, Elizabeth Richards, Nia Weathersby, Amy Garrity, and Dee Mongial.

Lost Members: Vah Thao quit and Neil Ratzburg quit.

Communications: Thank you letters were received from the Salvation Army, the N.E.W. Community Shelter and the House of Hope for our donations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**NEW BUSINESS**

A motion was made by Dave Villwock and seconded by Chris Opolka to spend up to \$5000 on the picnic on the first Sunday in August. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Art Ciesielczyk and seconded by Karilee Hookana to send Jenny Starry to the Health Plan Seminar in San Diego in October to include lost time, per diem, transportation, registration, and lodging. Motion passed.

OTHER BUSINESS

Lance Bouyear was sworn in as Maintenance Craft Director and Chris Opolka was sworn in as Clerk Craft Director.

NEXT MEETING

A motion was made by Pam Krause and seconded by Clade Adkins to have the next meeting on Wednesday, February 16th at 1pm at Gallagher's. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Steve Paradise and seconded by Dave Villwock to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 4:35 pm.

The \$10 door prize was won by Jenny Ewald.

The t-shirt/beanie door prize winners were Jessica Meza and Jenny Starry.

The \$320 rolling jackpot winner was Steve Heim. He was not present so it will be \$340 at the next meeting.

Attendees: See attached sign-in sheet.

Minutes submitted by Recording Secretary Jenny Starry.



**NORTHEASTERN WISCONSIN AREA LOCAL
APWU, AFL-CIO
UNION MEETING**

Wednesday, February 16th, 2022

Executive Board 12:30 pm

General Meeting – 1:00 pm

Gallagher's Pizza West

2655 W Mason Street

Green Bay, WI 54303

Pizza, Soda, & Cookies will be provided

\$10 Fleet Farm Gift Card Door Prize

\$340.00 Rolling Jackpot

2 Union Apparel Prizes

Just a note:

While I was editor, I worked from Cofrin and did not have the energy to go to the plant to print the Breeze on my (one) day off, so I used a local printer, at my own cost. I would complete the mailing and ask a VMF driver to get it to the BMEU for mailing. Well, twice I blew that by not taking it there myself. This mailing has stamps on it because we have been suspended from our permit due to my neglect of the rules. I apologize for that and have made sure many of you get this Bay Breeze. Any future ones might have to be online only as NEWAL cannot afford to keep cleaning up my mess. Learn to visit our website newal.org where you can find the minutes, the Bay Breeze and lots more information on a more regular basis.

Once again, I thought I could leave with my head held high and alas, I cannot. I apologize for messing up our permit and hope it does not cause anyone too much anguish.

Sincerely, Kelsey

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



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Green Bay, WI

Electronic Service Requested



"I have decided
to stick with love,
for I know
that love
is ultimately
the only answer to
mankind's problems."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.
August 16, 1967