

APWU

St. Paul, MN Area
Local APWU AFL-CIO

POSTMARK

Associate Offices

Minnesota:

Afton
Bayport
Bethel
Braham
Cambridge
Cannon Falls
Castle Rock
Cedar
Chisago City
Circle Pines
Cottage Grove
Dalbo
Dennison
Farmington
Forest Lake
Grandy
Grasston
Hampton
Hastings
Hugo
Isanti
Lakeville
Lindstrom
Marine on St.
Croix
Mora
Nerstrand
Newport
North Branch
Northfield
Owatonna
Pine City
Randolph
Red Wing
Rosemount
Rush City
St. Paul Park
Scandia
South St. Paul
Stacy
Stillwater
Vermillion
Welch
Willernie
Wyoming

Wisconsin:

Amery
Beldenville
Clayton
Clear Lake
Deer Park
Ellsworth
Glenwood City
Hager City
Hudson
New Richmond
River Falls
Somerset
Star Prairie
Willson

Due to the Covid 19 restrictions, this issue of the postmark was not printed, nor mailed.

Please stay safe everyone.

ST. PAUL AREA RETIREES CHAPTER APWU

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the St. Paul Area Retirees Chapter APWU at Article 5, in its entirety, as follows:

Election of officers shall be held by secret ballot at the May 20, 2020 regular meeting of the Chapter. Officers are elected to a two (2) year term. To be eligible for office the candidate must be a member in good standing for three months preceding the election.

Offices to be filled and duties related thereto are:

President: Shall preside over all membership meetings and meetings of the Chapter's Executive Board; shall be a member of all committees, except the Election Committee

Countersign all checks drawn against the funds of the Chapter.

Appoint all standing committees and special committees of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

Report to the membership regarding the progress and standing of the Chapter, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

The President is responsible for filling vacant offices, both general and administrative, subject to the approval of the Executive Board.

Recording Secretary:

Keep a record of the proceedings of all Chapter meetings and all Executive Board meetings.

Countersign all checks drawn against the funds of the Chapter and perform as the Executive (sic, Board) may require.

Treasurer:

The treasurer shall receive and receipt all funds of the Chapter as well as prepare and file annual IRS tax forms.

Trustee:

Will form an audit committee of Officers from the St. Paul Area Local to conduct a yearly audit of all expenses and revenues of the Chapter. In the absence of the President they shall preside to the business of the Chapter.

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE ST. PAUL AREA LOCAL APWU

RETIREEES CHAPTER

The next meeting of the St. Paul Area Local Retirees Chapter will be held on March 18, 2020 at 11 AM at the St. Paul, MN Area Local's office, 2261 Waters Dr., Mendota Heights, MN 55120.

The \$50.00 drawing at the January meeting was won by Steve Johnson. The drawing is held at each meeting. You must be present to win.

Thanks to Local President, Todd Elkerton for chairing the November and January meeting in my absence. We can always count on President Elkerton to keep us informed regarding how our APWU national officers are fighting to protect our retirement as well as the welfare of current employees.

Our good friend, local member and longtime advocate for the well being

of postal workers, Larry Gervais, passed away on February 14, 2020. To say that he will be missed is the understatement of the century. His influence is seen in every Article of the Contract, especially big issues like jurisdictional disputes and leave issues. He was one of the most effective negotiators and arbitration advocates in the APWU. Many of us owe the skills we have in union issues to Larry. We send our prayers to his family; for their loss is far greater than ours.

To repeat my plea in every article; PLEASE call your congressional representatives! Ask your family members and friends to call also. The Capitol switchboard number is **202-224-3121**. Let them know how you feel about preservation of the Postal Service, Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and protections for our veterans. Hold them responsible for their decisions

As always, you may contact me via my Email address **lreed6112@aol.com**. You can also call the union office at **651-778-1637** or visit the Local's website at **stpaulapwu.org**. The union office will give out my home phone number if you need it. I welcome your contacts.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. We'll do a little business and finish off with food. It really is fun to catch up on what our retiree friends are doing

Lola Reed Langford,
Chapter President



Call your representative and tell them to support the Postal Service! It's quick and easy!

Capitol switchboard

202-224-3121

Retiree Dues for 2020 are due!

With death benefit— \$18.00

Just membership - \$12.00

Send to:

PO Box 21128

St. Paul, MN 55121

*Check, out the new website **stpaulapwu.org** for the meeting schedule!*

Where are we now?

With everything that's happening at such a rapid pace I thought it would be interesting to compare where we started, where we are now (March 22) and where we will be when you read this article. On March 1 we were told that one of the 1st postal employees from the Seattle NDC was diagnosed with COVID19. At that time there were only a couple hundred confirmed cases in the country. The Dow and S&P had been dropping from there all time high for about a week (29,423 and 3,386) but everything else was pretty normal. The next two weeks were still pretty calm even through the cases continued to rise. There was definitely a shortage of hand sanitizers, Clorox wipes and surprisingly toilet paper.

Then around March 14 everything escalated quickly, governors started implementing business to close down which included; movie theaters, gyms, dine-in restaurants.... Also no meetings, gathering or events of more than 10 people, everyone should stay 6 feet apart. Schools are suspended until April 3, the postal service starts instructing employees if your sick stay home. Several agreements between the postal service and the Union are signed and we are getting service talks and updates.

As I write this article it is March 22, 2020. Global cases are now at 300,000 with 13,000 deaths. The United States currently has 27,000 cases with 300 deaths. The Dow is now at 19,174 down 33% for the year and the S&P is at 2,304 or down 29%. You still can not get hand sanitizers, Clorox wipes and toilet paper. Now stores close earlier for restocking purposes and most stores are low or out of meats, can goods, pastas, breads, rice, eggs and milk. Gas price have dropped almost a dollar and is at \$1.55 a

gallon. Currently there is no postal employee in the St Paul bid cluster or Northland district that has been confirmed to have COVID-19. There are currently 6 states that are on lockdown. The government is debating given everyone 1,000 to 2,000 dollars each.

NOW as you read this article, Forecasters are saying the job numbers that come out on April 3, 2020 will be between -500,000 to -5,000,000. The worst month of job loss during the financial crisis was in March 2009 at -800,000 jobs. My predictions are I think the stock market has continued to drop, several employees in the Northland district including St Paul bid cluster will be confirmed as having COVID-19. I think most or all of the states will have some kind of lockdown in place. I think the stores will be restocked but there will be limits on the quantities. I think the kiddos will finish their school year at home working from the computer and the number of COVID cases is still rising.

Jason Stevens

Industrial Relations director

The next meeting of the St. Paul Area Local Retirees Chapter will be held on May20th at 11 AM at the St. Paul, MN Area Local's office, 2261 Waters Dr., Mendota Heights, MN 55120.

The \$50.00 dollar drawing at the March meeting was won by Joe Marino. Joe donated the money to the East Side Freedom Library. The drawing is held at each meeting. You must be present to win.

We did not have a quorum for the March meeting; however, we had some interesting things to discuss:

On June 21st the Solidarity Kids Theatre will celebrate its 25th year at the East Side Freedom Library 1330 Conway Street 55106 from noon to 5 PM. The group was started by Greg Pofel and friends to help educate people about the importance of unions and labor history. I hope you will be there to help us celebrate this important occasion. It will be fun and educational.

May is our election of officers' month. Please be there. We must have a quorum to take care of this important matter. We must elect a President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, and Trustee. Nominations will be from the floor. To be eligible for office a member must be in good standing for 3 months prior to election. Official notice will appear elsewhere in this edition of the Postmark.

I have finally edited our Constitution and By-Laws to include a Vice President in the officer structure; however, we can't act on that until the committee reviews it and hopefully approves my suggestions and we have a quorum to handle that.

To repeat my plea in every article; PLEASE call your congressional representatives!!!! Let them know what you think about how the Covid-19 pandemic is being handled and what you need for your safety and health. The Capitol switchboard number is **202-224-3121**. Ask your family members and friends to call also. We must hold them responsible for their decisions about how this extremely serious disease is handled. Our lives and the lives of our loved ones depend on it. It only takes a minute.

I hope you and all your loved ones are safe and healthy.

As always, you may contact me via my Email address **lreed6112@aol.com**. You can also call the union office at **651-778-1637** or visit the Local's website at **stpaulapwu.org**. The union office can give out my home phone number. I welcome your contacts.

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Lola Reed Langford, Chapter President

Winners from the February GMM

You must be present to Win!

\$300

Monica Rocha

(not present, you must be present to win)

\$50

Shelley Fleming

50/50

Al Weisse

Recent Grievance

Settlements

The Union settled grievances for a total \$47,157.

The Union is working hard for you, both in the grievance procedure and in the fight to Save America's Postal Service. We need you to step up to the plate! If you know a non-member, please ask them to consider joining, we all need to pull together to protect the Postal Service. The Local is approximately 90% organized.

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APWU AFL-CIO
PO Box 21128
St. Paul, MN 55121
2261 Waters Dr
Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Phone 651-778-1637

OFFICERS

Todd ElkertonPresident
Dave CookVice President
Jason StevensIRD
Shelley FlemingSecretary
Tim Strong..... Treasurer
Bruce Gutzke.....Clerk Craft Director
Jim Pierce.....MNT Director
Adam Godes MVS Director
Kim Richardson.....Trustee Chair
Terri GrinerTrustee Clerk
Matt GarciaTrustee MNT
Gary Walsh.....Trustee MVS

The new website is up and running!

Check it out !

Stpaulapwu.org

General Membership Meeting **Schedule**

January 28 - DAY MEETING 11:00 a.m.
February 25 - 6:15 p.m.
March 24 - 6:15 p.m.
April 28 - 6:15 p.m. CANCELLED!!!
May 26 - 11:00 a.m. DAY MEETING
June 23 - 6:15 p.m.
No Meetings in July or August
September 22 - 6:15 p.m.
October 27 - 11:00 a.m. DAY MEETING
November 24 - 6:15 p.m.
No meeting in December

Free Pizza and Prizes!!!

We're on the Web!
stpaulapwu.org



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Twin Cities, Minnesota
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Return Service Requested

If attending the Union meeting and you need an ASL interpreter please notify the Union
the Tuesday before the meeting.

651-778-1637