

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

Happy New Years Sisters and Brothers, I hope this Article finds you all healthy. To say 2022 had been a busy year would be an understatement. Some of the changes last year are as follows:

-We saw management once again make changes to the bid structure and mail processing windows within the plant. These changes affected the members we represent in both the clerk and maintenance crafts.

- We had machines added, moved and/or removed from the facility.

-We were able to get hundreds of St Paul installation PSE's converted to career at a quicker pace than the USPS could hire PSE's off the street.

-Contractually the APWU was able to negotiate a salary increase for all APWU represented employees, to include an additional increase in pay for Level 8 employees which has finally resulted in the increase in hiring of much needed PTF TTO's in the MVS Craft.

-Much needed Postal legislation was passed which alleviated the prefunding mandate and allowed a little more flexibility in organizational changes.

-Covid restrictions have eased and, in some cases, lifted.

-The Local filed approximately 1700 grievance on behalf of our members!

-Previous Local President Todd Elkerton was elected to the position of Clerk Craft NBA which resulted in vacancies and the shuffling of positions within your executive board, to include my election to serve as your Local President.

All in all, it was a productive and prosperous year for APWU represented employees. I am sure the year ahead will pose some challenges as usual, but I am confident the Stewards and Officers of the Local are up to the challenge and will defend our membership to their best ability.



I would also like to note that all Local Officer positions and Delegates to conventions will be up for election (2-year terms). This democratic process will start with a call for nominations at the February GMM. A bulletin will go out at the beginning of February explaining the election procedures in more detail.

Also, for those of you wondering/questioning, I did **NOT** get elected to the position of MVS National Business Agent. I look forward and am honored to continue to serve the Members of the St Paul Area Local as President. I do not take the duties of this office lightly and will continue to give the Local 100%.

Dave Cook

President



Only a fool would try to deprive working men and working women of their right to join the union of their choice.

— Dwight D. Eisenhower —

Contact your Congressperson!

(202) 224-3121

Union Bug

Have you ever heard of the term “Union Bug”? It’s something you have probably seen a thousand times but really never noticed it. It could be on t-shirts, envelopes, banners, buttons, campaign items, bumper stickers, brochures, business cards, letterhead and several other printed items.

The invention of the union bug/label concept is attributed to the Carpenter’s Eight-Hour League in San Francisco, California which adopted a stamp in 1869 for use on products produced by factories employing men on the eight- (as opposed to ten-) hour day.

In 1874, that city’s unionized cigar-making workers created a similar “white labor” label to differentiate their cigars from those made by poorly-paid, non-unionized Chinese workers. The concept of the union label was a tool for harnessing support from fellow working-class consumers for unionization.

Bugs usually appear discreetly at the corner of a back page or at the bottom of a title page.... The most common union bug is that of the Allied Printing Trades.



It signifies that all aspects of the work, from typesetting to fin-

ishing, were performed by union labor. This bug contains several important pieces of information. The lower arc contains the geographic region, which may be a city (“New York”) or a broader area (“Northern California”). Coupled with that location is a shop name or number. The number is permanently assigned when the shop is organized.

Some of the purposes of the union label are:

It is a protection against anti- or non-union shops that might otherwise profess union working conditions.

It can be part of a public-relations campaign to induce customers to buy union-made products.

It is a sign of good workmanship and quality standards.

It is badge of union prestige to attract new members.

If you turn to the last page of this postmark you should see the tiny union bug proudly displayed. Now that you know what it is and what it looks like, look around and see what else you have that has the Union bug, you may be surprised.

Jason Stevens
Industrial Relation Director

New Members Read at the November GMM

Chata Amente	Noah Junker	Etana Tujuba
Brittany Bain	Yared Lemma	Gary Walsh
Dawit Bernal	Brittany Martinez	Kuab Yang
Kenneth Cloak	Carlos Sonchi	Zenbensh Yglatu
Shagial Fluker	Delon Simpson-Jacobs	Kilbe Araee
Mirael Goss	Thanh Trang	Bekele Ayele
Samuel Haile	Stacey Weeks	Netsanet Chichisso
Cole Hall	Yemane Woldegebriel	Susan Gille
Megan Hropko Baker	Tewodros Woldememel	Shewit Meselo
Jama Deega	Dawit Abraham	Sarah Moges
Darrell Jones	Amanuel Banjaw	Yenenie Robele
Jessica Koch	Yonas Gebrekristos	Jatin Shah
	Taylor Simmons	Selome Yegezu



NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE ST. PAUL AREA LOCAL APWU RETIREES CHAPTER

Officers:

President Bill Catlin

Vice President Ray Moore

Secretary Joe Marino

Treasurer Dan Blee

Trustee Larry Kramlinger

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Hope everyone is good. Our next meeting is Wed Jan 18th @ 11:00 AM . Hope you can make it (weather permitting) . We will have our 2 - \$50 door prizes and are going to have Dickey's BBQ instead of pizza . We

have elections coming in March and new officers taking over in May . Hope you can show up. Stay well. Thanks,
Bill Catlin

Hello Maintenance

I hope everyone was able to enjoy the holidays with family and friends. It sure has been a few busy months all together. We have been exceptionally busy in the Union office this year and some of the older grievances have been resolved one way or another. As most of you have most likely heard by now the FY 2017 MS-47 Line H grievance for the Plant with Stations and Branches has been settled for 19,657.56 hours, so we will let everyone know when to expect to see that on their checks. I just ask you all to give the Union time to process the payments. This usually takes a few weeks to a month to ensure everyone is paid correctly.

For the first time since 2015 the Union filed Line H cases individually for each Station and Branches separated from the Plant. So far for the FY 2022 Line H cases the Local Union and Management have settled approximately (17) of the 26 Offices for a total of 4221 hours. We will need time to process these payments as well. The remaining offices have been appealed to Step 2 and will soon be discussed. Recently there have been some Pre-Arbitration Settlements that have been resolved that need to be mentioned here to all of you. In the past few years, I have filed several grievances trying to get work back to the bargaining Unit and they have resulted in additional positions being added to our staffing rolls.

We are expected to receive One new Area Maintenance Technician PS-9 position to be domiciled to the 551 Saint Paul Area either to the Plant or one of the Stations or Branches to bring the number of AMT's from 8 to 9 positions, this compliment will remain at this level for a period through the 2024 year therefore it cannot be reverted.

We are expected to receive One new Building Equipment Mechanic PS-9 position to be domiciled to the 551 Saint Paul Area either to the Plant or one of the Stations or Branches to bring the number of BEM's from 13 to 14

positions for no less than 3 .5 years from the date of the settlement.

Additionally, I filed grievances regarding the Unilateral Action of removing the Group Leader Custodial PS-5 positions and the subsequent reversion of the tour 3 GLC-5 position vacated July 2, 2022. The Pre-Arbitration settlements have not only preserved the reverted position, but they have also added an additional GLC-5 position to tour 2 at the Plant, for a total of four (4) positions. These are some of the most recent settlements that have been resolved and we will continue to fight for our contractual rights.

We are still grieving the fact that Management is not complying with the 2008 MOU Re: Reassigning Laborer Custodians within Section at Stations & Branches from Pay Periods 16 through current Pay Periods, where Management has taken unilateral Actions against our numerous agreements.

Let us hope things get better this New Year, and if not, be assured that we will continue to fight for all of our contractual rights. Make sure you are accounting for every minute of work you perform on a daily basis by requesting work orders for everything you do

In closing, I want to thank Matt Garcia for the hard work he has done to fight for our contractual rights, as well as thank Melaney Williams for her hard work, and I want welcome John Robinson as our newest Union Steward, and I look forward to training and working with both new stewards.

Jim Pierce

Maintenance Craft Director

Time to move on forward in to January 2023.

When you call in to work put the confirmation number in your phone under the day or have a tablet that you use for your call-ins to write down the information.

Do you have a condition that can be covered under FMLA? Do you have 1250 work hours or more work hours to be considered to get FMLA? The

Union has a shorter form of FMLA for self or family that can be filled out and also is acceptable.

Do you have a personal goal or need to call in less or do you have live discipline?

Is there a goal of money to save for a trip? Baseball game? Spa Treatment?

Electronics?

The power of positivity and kindness. Pay it forward.

Your Clerk Craft Director,

Kim Richardson

November GMM Drawings

Door Prizes

\$50 - Sandra Rodriguez

\$300 - (not present) John Marier

You must be present to win

Cub Gift Certificates: Keith Landsman Shelley Fleming

Adam Fimon

Ann Ziemer

Terri Griner

Pam Karas-Johnson

Keith Landsman

Silvio Bultron

Sandra Rodriguez

Alton Johnson

Ann Ziemer

Lanette Garcia

Winter

W	E	B	E	C	A	L	P	E	R	I	F	Y	L
L	E	L	N	M	R	W	I	W	O	S	D	O	T
E	F	A	O	W	F	D	R	N	I	O	S	A	I
W	A	N	E	I	I	L	G	O	I	N	G	K	W
N	I	K	E	O	D	O	L	S	R	E	D	E	W
L	C	E	I	N	A	K	O	F	N	T	I	Y	F
N	O	T	S	H	R	Y	V	O	O	E	I	B	R
A	A	S	F	D	K	E	E	S	S	I	N	O	O
M	T	W	S	E	C	I	S	A	O	T	N	S	S
W	S	W	O	O	L	L	Y	H	A	T	R	A	T
O	R	N	S	L	W	F	R	E	E	Z	I	N	G
N	B	I	E	M	T	O	S	D	L	O	C	L	K
S	O	T	G	N	I	W	O	N	S	F	I	I	S
P	I	S	S	N	E	T	T	I	M	S	O	Y	N

WOOLLY HAT
FREEZING
COLD
ICE
SNOWMAN
WINDY
MITTENS
COATS
GLOVES
FIREPLACE
FROST
BLANKETS
DARK
SNOWING

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/998/>

Hello Brothers and Sisters

Hello Brothers and Sisters

I cannot stress it enough to the Membership to request a steward when a Supervisor/Manager asks to see you in the office. Members are not asking for stewards, they are given discipline (Letter of Warning/Notice of Seven (7) Day Suspension/Notice of Fourteen (14) Day Suspension/Removal) and not grieving it. If you want your job, you need to let the APWU fight for you. If you request a Steward and are not given a chance to speak

with one, call the Steward Office to make us aware of it 651-224-2639 OR 651-225-8721.

On the Safety Side, we had a meeting scheduled in December. APWU (Clerk / Maintenance / MVS) and NPMHU (Mail Handlers) were in attendance, but Management DID NOT show up, therefore it had to be canceled. I am hopeful we will meet in January 2023.

I have been entrusted with the task of the Secretary duties for the re-

mainder of this term. Thank you Executive Board for the vote. I would also like to thank Sue Rodriguez, Matt Garcia and Kristoper Halbmaier for the great job you have done as Trustees of your Crafts.

In solidarity

Shelley R. Fleming

Steward/Secretary

Safety Representative

***The Local has learned of the deaths of the following members.
Our sympathies to their families and friends.***

Antoinette Denzer

Mark Hayden

Roger Thyen



Recent Grievance Settlements

The Union settled grievances for a total of 65,561.39 in November and December

The Union is working hard for you!

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 as a Union.

The Local is approximately 92% organized.

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

Phone 651-778-1637

We're on the Web!
stpaulapwu.org



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OFFICERS

Dave Cook.....President
Bruce Gutzke.....Vice President
Jason StevensIRD
.....Secretary
Tim Strong..... Treasurer
Kim RichardsonClerk Craft Director
Jim Pierce.....MNT Director
Adam Godes MVS Director
Shelley Fleming.....Trustee Chair
Sue RodriguezTrustee Clerk
Matt GarciaTrustee MNT
Kris Halbmaier.....MVS Trustee

Retiree Dues for 2023 are due!

With death benefit— \$20.00
Just membership - \$14.00
Send to:
PO Box 21128
St. Paul, MN 55121

Retirement Seminar

January 21, 2023 Noon—3 p.m.

St Paul MN Union Office—2261 Waters Dr, Mendota Heights

**Call the Union office to reserve a spot
651-778-1637**

**General Membership Meeting
Schedule**

2023

January 24 - 11:00 am
February 28 - 6:15 p.m.
March 28 - 6:15 p.m.
April 25 - 6:15 p.m.
May 23—6:15 p.m.
June 27 - 6:15 p.m.
No Meetings in July or August
Sept 26 - 6:15 p.m.
October 24- 11:00 a.m.
November 28 - 6:15 p.m.
No Meeting in December

Retiree Meeting

1/18/23

11:00 a.m.

Refreshments from Dickey's BBQ

**General Membership Meeting
Refreshments served**

If you would like to attend via zoom, please contact the office for the link. 651-778-1637