

March – April 2016

From the President

Ike Mills

I welcome all of you – old and new associates alike – as members of the new **Northwest Arkansas Area Local**. The name-change that we voted on and approved several months ago was approved by the APWU at National Headquarters in the beginning of February. This is an exciting time for us as we welcome the employees of Siloam Springs into our Local. The merger being approved and completed makes us the second largest Local in Arkansas behind Central Arkansas Area Local in Little Rock. We have lots of work ahead of us, and I encourage all of you to be active and get involved in our local at whatever level you feel comfortable. Sonya Kirsch was re-elected as Recording Secretary. You can get active as soon as you would like to. The first day you can do this is today, why wait?

Union Meetings have now been changed to 2:00 pm the 2nd Sundays of each month except December. Also the Door Prize rules have been revised.

The National Union has sent all of you stickers to wear on your shirts at work on the opening day of the arbitration hearings of our new Collective Bargaining Agreement. I sure hope you all are showing off your Union Solidarity.

There has been a lot of coverage in the news lately about the ongoing and upcoming primaries. Our state primary is right around the corner, and if you're not registered to vote, you need to get registered so you can vote in upcoming elections. It's your future, so get involved!

I know I say this often, but one of the easiest ways to get involved politically is to donate to COPA. We have just a very few members that are on automatic deductions each payday and even less that donate any of the other ways available to us. It would be great to see those numbers increase. As mentioned, you can get active today; go to the APWU website and sign-up for COPAmatic deductions today. You won't even miss the \$10 or \$20 a pay-period at all. If you can't donate that much to your future, then do at least something – Make a one-time donation. Give something this year to COPA.

The LMOU will be re-negotiated with management [after the completion of the arbitration hearings for our new contract]. So, if you have any suggestions concerning what you would like to see changed or added to our current LMOU, now is the time to write them down and turn them in. We can't try to change the things bugging you if we don't know what they are. You can give those suggestions to any of the officers or stewards.

Once again, it's a pleasure to serve you all, and may God bless you and your families throughout 2016.



First Meeting for NWAAL at Denny's in Springdale, Jan 10th
L to R: Loren Adams, "Barney" Barnes, Sonya Kirsch, Phil Morgan, Sheila Kwiatkowski, Mike Hughes, Tina Delay, Drew Heyd, Cris Martinez, Charlie Hoag, Chris Mantia, Nancy Sramek, and President Ike Mills.

The *RAZORBACK SCHEME* is the official voice of the Northwest Arkansas Area Local of the APWU – AFL-CIO. However, opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and not necessarily those of the APWU, Local, officials or Editor. Articles, artwork, cartoons and/or other material are solicited from member readers who wish to share their views. Although freedom of the press is recognized, contributors are exhorted not to submit derogatory material about any fellow union member or to submit any false or unsubstantiated allegation concerning management or any other individual inside or outside this organization. All letters must be signed (if hard-copied) or emailed via an identifiable, recognized screen name and are requested to have been received by the Editor ten (2) days prior to the announced publication date. Names will be withheld upon request. Send submissions to *RAZORBACK SCHEME*, P.O. Box 654, Fayetteville AR 72702; or email to Editor's screen name listed below or on website. Submissions may be returned upon request.

OFFICERS

President.....Royce D. "Ike" Mills
 Vice-President.....Andrew Heyd
 Financial Secretary.....Tina Delay
 Recording Secretary.....Sonya Kirsch
 Editor-Publisher.....Loren Adams

STEWARDS – ALTERNATES

Chief Steward.....Ike Mills
 Tour One.....Ike Mills
 Tour Two Customer Service.....Cheryl Wing
 Tour Two P&DC..... Andrew Heyd
 Tour Two Alternate.....Vinny Dachille
 Tour Three.....Vacant
 Tour Three Alternate.....Vinny Dachille
 Rogers Steward.....vacant
 Springdale Steward..... Cris Martinez
 Siloam Springs Steward...Darrell Barnes
 Maintenance.....Phil Morgan
 Maintenance Alternate....Tony Crowsey
 Safety Representative.....Nancy Sramek
 Webmaster.....Jake Lamkins

NEXT UNION MEETINGS:

Sunday, March 13 & Apr 10 – 2:00 pm
 Denny's, 4861 W. Sunset, Springdale AR

APWU Fayetteville Local – 2300 S City Lake Rd
 P.O. Box 654 – Fayetteville AR 72702
 Phone: (479) 571-1006 – fax: (479) 442-7131

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<http://FayettevilleAPWU.tripod.com/>

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Associate Offices: Fayetteville, Rogers, Springdale, Siloam Springs, Elkins, Huntsville, Lowell, Prairie Grove & West Fork



**New Emblem for Northwest Arkansas Area Local
 (Voted on at January 10th meeting)**

You're Invited!

TO YOUR UNION MEETING

Sunday, March 13, 2016 – 2:00 p.m.
Denny's Restaurant, 4861 W. Sunset,
 Springdale

Just off Exit 72 of I-49

**You could win \$50 Door Prize!
 Soft Drinks & Snacks on-the-house**

TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED:

- ✓ \$50 Door Prize change of rules
- ✓ Updated Contract Information
- ✓ LMOU Proposed Changes
- ✓ Officers & Stewards' Reports
- ✓ Grievance(s) Status
- ✓ Conversions
- ✓ News From Headquarters



A GOOD ATTITUDE, POSITIVE MORALE, and FEELING OF BLISS

Where do you work? – the U.S. Postal Service?

Oh my gosh! I'm glad I'm not in the room with others reading this. O, the comments I would be hearing!

But here's the simple fact – there's not a whole lot anyone can do to improve your outlook unless you bring something out in yourself.

Yes, there's a lot of mail to work; yes, we're short staffed, and at times it may look overwhelming and daunting. Then there are the times when just the workplace and/or personal interactions take a toll on you. That's just part of life.

Smile. Try to put a happy thought in your mind – if only for a moment. Do a little two-step / butt wiggle. Just the image of that hopefully made you smile. Make yourself smile and those around you.

No, I'm not on any “happy pills” – it's just been a little stretch of a stressful time lately dealing with situations outside the workplace. All of us deal with outside forces that have little to nothing to do with the workplace. And we all, from time-to-time, take the stress from outside and bring it to work. That's normal.

Just breathe. Take a step back, this is your job – it's not your life. (Unless you're the local president.... But we're not going to touch that). Try not to let the negative remarks of others affect your attitude / your morale. Personally, I try to listen to some music to lift my spirits, especially before I go home. I sure don't want to take a bad attitude from work to my family.

By Andrew Heyd, Local Vice-President

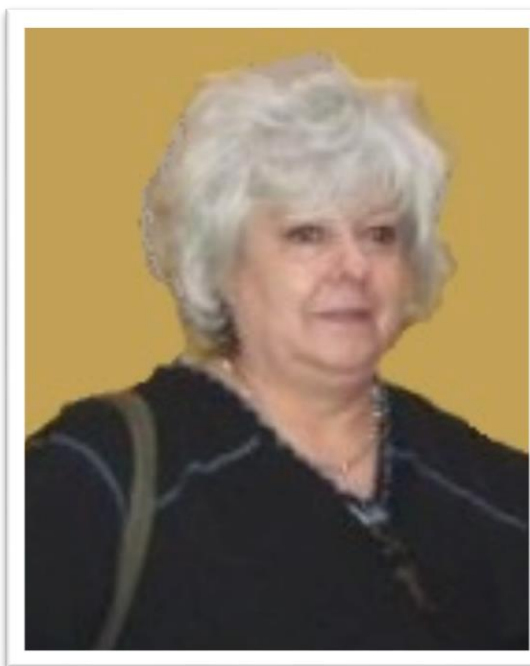
Congratulations to Tony & Laurie Crowsey who were married recently!

The Virginia Hickman Memorial Scholarship

The *Virginia Hickman Memorial Scholarship* was established in honor of Gini Hickman, our Financial Secretary for 18 years. The Local shall award one (1) scholarship of \$500 per year.

Eligibility requirements for the scholarship are as follows:

- a) The applicant shall be the son, daughter, grandson or granddaughter of a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian who is a member in-good-standing of the Fayetteville Local APWU for at least one (1) year.
- b) If the member (parent, grandparent, or guardian) is deceased and was a member in-good-standing for at least one (1) year of the Fayetteville Local APWU prior to the time of his/her passing, the son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter shall be eligible to apply.
- c) Applicant must be a senior attending high school or another equivalent secondary school.
- d) Applications for the scholarship must be made on an official application form. Completed application forms must be sent to the Financial Secretary of the Fayetteville APWU at the Local's official mailing address listed on the application form or handed to the Financial Secretary in-person. The Scholarship Committee will draw for the award. Applications can be submitted April 1 through June 30 of each year. Applications received after June 30th will not be accepted.
- e) Applicant must be a senior attending high school or another corresponding secondary school.
- f) Applicants must submit a copy of his/her high school or secondary school transcript as an attachment to the official application.
- g) Scholarship recipient must attend an accredited college or vocational institution of his or her choice. The scholarship must be used towards pursuing an undergraduate degree or vocational career. The applicant must submit proof of application to be accepted at an accredited college, university, or vocational institution.



– APPLICATION –

THE VIRGINIA HICKMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Please attach a copy of your high school or secondary school transcript and mail to:
Northwest Arkansas Area Local • P.O. Box 654 • Fayetteville, AR 72702

APPLICANT INFORMATION

FULL NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME / CELL PHONE: _____

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ EMAIL: _____

APWU PARENT INFORMATION

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY / STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME / CELL PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

WORK LOCATION (Postal Facility): _____

EMAIL: _____

APPLICANT EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

HIGH SCHOOL or SECONDARY: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

COLLEGE or SCHOOL of CHOICE: _____

MAJOR (if decided): _____