

I attended all three Crafts Conferences there was spirited debate in all three on the resolutions in each craft, the craft directors will report on their craft.

Some highlights from the convention

APWU President William "Bill" Burrus spoke to the Delegates. He spoke on the following issues:

Membership

83% of eligible employees are APWU - Members (meaning 17% nonmembers). There are currently a total of 250,896 APWU members. Total Non members 37,576. The APWU went from a \$7 million deficit back in 1984 to a \$10 million surplus in 2010.

APWU CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

- Will begin as soon as he returns back to Washington.
- Message to Management "The APWU does not go backwards" and "Come to the table with an open mind"
- No give backs
- We can achieve everything without arbitration
- Improve conditions for employees.
- Restricting Excising
- Restrict Article 19 changes where management attempts to change language that is normally done through the collective bargaining agreement.
- The APWU does not want to go to Arbitration to get a new contract.

Several resolutions dealt with dues increase, there was a lot of debate the resolution. Burrus said the union had 10 million-dollar surplus. The resolution failed, so we tried to amend the resolution for National to give back more money to the Locals and State Organizations; there was not enough time to do so. We will have it ready for the next convention

APWU members vowed to escalate the fight against the Postal Service's plan to eliminate Saturday mail delivery on the fourth day of the union's 20th Biennial National Convention, unanimously approving a resolution to engage in "rallies, marches, and pickets" in concert with other unions and public interest organizations. The declaration also denounced the "forced relocation" of postal workers and other USPS attacks on employees.

Delegates also approved a resolution that would allow the Postal Service to use its \$75 billion overpayment to the Civil Service Retirement System to offset the requirement to pre-fund the retiree healthcare obligations. A bill to fix postal finances (H.R. 5746), which was introduced by Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA), would achieve this goal.

Delegates also voted to approve Resolution #49, which advises union negotiators to seek to increase to seven the number of successful bids employees may have during the life of the contract

The National Executive Council (all elected national officers) will meet in 2011 to address the APWU, AFL-CIO Officer's structure. They are to report back to the 2012 National Convention.

On Wednesday we marched through the streets of Detroit with the Rev. Jesse Jackson to Save Saturday Service and rally for good jobs.

The hottest issue debated on Friday was a Labor Management issue stating the APWU, AFL-CIO would have a top priority of ensuring the APWU, and AFL-CIO remained a part of the Federal Group and Health Program. This issue or position was discussed and approved by the delegates.