



CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

June Harris, Central Region Vice President,
Local 306 President, Women's Committee Chairperson

Spring is just around the corner, and I am truly looking forward to a new season. Due to the relaxation of the various COVID mandates, it will be refreshing to be outdoors. This time, I am better able to appreciate the fresh air, flowers, people watching, restaurants, movie theaters, and shared time with family and friends. The anticipation of a return to a somewhat normal existence is enough to bring a smile to my face.

One event that I am anticipating is the 2020 Mail Handlers National Convention. Yes, this is not a typo. The 2020 Convention is coming soon in August 2022. This will be a long-delayed gathering of a great group of folks to conduct the business of our awesome membership. Our Women's Committee members, in unity with National President Paul Hogrogian and the entire National Executive Board, have been working hard to be a valuable asset at the Convention. We want to provide the delegates with necessary information that can be utilized in their daily lives. I cannot give you specific details just yet, but I just wanted to spike your curiosity about the Convention. I guarantee you that you will not be disappointed.

The month of March is also a time for celebration. International Women's Day is being celebrated on March 8th. There is a worldwide celebration of the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The theme this year is #BreakTheBias. The position of the arms crossed signify a commitment to calling out bias, smashing stereotypes, breaking inequality, and rejecting discrimination.

Many may ask, what bias? They assume that there are no biases against women, especially in this day and age. This is a

false assumption that leads many people to reduce the impact and effect that biases against women can cause. Depending on what part of the world that you reside, the bias may vary or be even more extreme. According to a United Nations report, almost 90% of men and women have some sort of bias against females. Across the world, nearly 50% of men say that they have greater rights to a job than a woman. Almost a third of the

people who responded to the UN study felt it was acceptable for men to hit their partners. The biggest eye opener I found was that there were no countries in the world with gender equality. Again, it is imperative that the world recognize the necessity of the female voice.

Thankfully, we are members of a Union that does so. As you look around at our Mail Handler family, you see a larger and larger number of women who are and have been involved and active participants in the governing of our Union. Contributions, great and small, have been at the hands of women who were pioneers. This helps to give the women who follow more confidence that they too can be a part of something great. Women do

have a voice in the decision making of this world. It is important that the contributions made by women and girls are not diminished or swept under the rug. We celebrate our entire Mail Handlers Union membership, both our Brothers and Sisters. It is with the support of our Brothers that we are able to break down the biases against females. We salute you! Thanks for standing with us. But the month of March is for the worldwide recognition and acknowledgement of the fabulous, smart, and irreplaceable women and girls on the globe. Cross your arms on March 8th to show solidarity as we unify to #BreakTheBias!

