

The Local Line

"A PPA Award Winning Publication"

The Official Voice of the
Northwest Illinois Area Local

Floor Edition

August 14, 2019

Update by: Jackie Engelhart

Membership Endorses National Candidates

(I) indicates Incumbent
E is for Endorsement

President

Mark Dimondstein (I) E
Greg Bell
John L. Marcotte
Tony D. McKinnon

Vice President

Debby Szeredy (I)
Sam Wood E
Jonathan Smith E

Secretary-Treasurer

Elizabeth Powell (I) E
Jeane Gardiner

Industrial Relations

Vance Zimmerman (I) E
Scott M. Hoffman

Legislative/Political

Judy Beard (I) E
Courtney Jenkins
Thomas Benson

Organization Director

Anna Smith (I)
Doris Simmons E

Research & Education

Joyce B. Robinson (I) E
Dena Briscoe

Human Relations

Susan M. Carney (I) E
Nannette J. Corley
Daleo Freeman

Health Plan Director

Robert Furbush E
Sebrina E. Maynard
Sarah Jane Rodriguez

Regional Coordinator

Sharyn M. Stone (I) E
Roscoe Woods

Clerk Director

Clint Burelson (I)
Lamont A. Brooks E

Assistant Director A

Sam Lisenbe E
Michael Macho

Assistant Director B

Lynn Pallas-Barber (I) E
Christine Chris Pruitt

Clerk NBA Chicago

Mike O'Hearn (I) E
Devendra Rathore "D"

Maintenance Director

Idowu Balogun (I)
Sayed Moustafa

Assistant Director A

Jimmie Waldon (I)
Kenneth Wall

Assistant Director B

Terry B. Martinez (I)
Steven Duckworth

Retirees Director

Nancy E. Olemukor (I) E
Jennifer D. Fulbright
*only retirees can vote
for this office

Uncontested Offices

All other offices are uncontested including our Clerk NBA's Linda Turney and James Stevenson, our Maintenance NBA Craig Fisher, and our MVS NBA William Wright or WW for short. Motor Vehicle Director Michael O. Foster and Assistant Director Javier Pineres are unopposed.

*We forgot to discuss endorsements for national Maintenance Craft officers and will bring it up at the September 8th meeting.

Mailing of Ballots

Ballots will be mailed by the American Arbitration Association to all APWU members on or after 9-10-2019 but no later than 9-15-2019. Many of our members do not vote in the National election or even in the Local election. It matters who is elected to these offices and there will be articles in the national Postal Worker magazine by the candidates to help you make informed decisions when you vote. These are the people who negotiate your contract and fight management. All our NBAs are unopposed except for Mike O'Hearn. Wake up Call! Take 5 minutes and vote in this important election.

Jackie Engelhart
President
Walter Elerby Jr.
Vice President
Alan Czerwinski
News Director

Special points of interest:

Membership Endorses National Candidates
Uncontested Offices
Mailing of Ballots
Bid Changes at Busse
Abolish Palatine IPP Bids
Congratulations to NWIAL
Scholarship Winners for 2019
Alternates are:
Hostile Work Environment at
The Northbrook Post Office.

Northwest Illinois Area Local
American Postal Workers Union
194 W. Lake Street
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone 630-833-0088
Fax: 630-833-0248
Email: nwial7140@yahoo.com
Web: nwial7140@yahoo.com

Bid Changes at Busse...

The Union does not change bids and we do not abolish any bids. Management has the right to schedule and staff per Article 3 and the Union has the right to argue against the changes which usually falls of deaf ears, and the right to file grievances if the contract is violated in the process. When the tour, non-scheduled days, or Principal Area of Assignment are changed the job must be reposted. When the time is changed but the NS days, tour and Principal Area of Assignment are not changed the incumbent has the option for the new starting time. Tour 1 General Expeditors and the General Clerk are not affected. Tour 2 Mail Processing Clerks are not affected but tour 2 General Expeditors are affected with the section being reduced by one and some non-scheduled days changes made which calls for one GE to be excessed out of the section and in section bidding from the first GE no match for the NS days posted. Tour 3 is the big tour for Clerks and that is where the changes are. Two GEs do not match with the proposed NS days and will have to bid. Management is increasing the number of 1600 NMO Clerks from 11 to 14 and increasing the 1930 NMO bids from 18 to 20, but changing some NS days resulting in Clerks losing their bids. We met with In-Plant Support on 8-13-19 to clarify how changes should be made per the contract and to minimize disruption to the affected Clerks. We were told that the bid changes will be effective on 9-14-19 which means they will be posting bids immediately. Paper bidding will be used for this posting only, no on line bidding. As Mailhandler President Lazus said in his newsletter "*Staffing changes do not come from the union. Management makes the decision to change staffing.*"

Abolish Palatine IPP Bids...

We received a letter on 8-8-19 from Palatine stating all IPP bids and IPP/LCTS bids will be abolished due to the arrival of the new Universal Sorting System which will begin operation on 9-18-19. The USPS at the national level assigned all work on this machine to the Mailhandlers on 7-12-19 even though manual distribution is involved. Unlike the High Speed Tray Sorter which directs trays to the exact container, the employees working the USS must sort the NMO mail similar to a Low Cost Tray Sorter. We have seen that postal management also tries to give Low Cost work to the MHs in spite of the Clerk Craft being the primary craft for distribution. We see that the USPS seems intent on replacing Clerks in the plants with MHs just as they replaced the few MHs in the Post Offices with Clerks years ago. The RI-399 Process has allowed the USPS to assign new work however they please because the RI-399 Dispute Process was a joke known as the black hole with neither union winning back work. The new RI-399 process agreed to last year now requires national disputes to be heard within six months which is an improvement over cases sitting for years and sometimes decades. The APWU has filed a timely dispute on the assignment of work on the USS to Mailhandlers and it must be heard by the end of the year. Based on the fact that the machine does not distribute the mail we have a case. In the meantime the USPS is kicking more Clerks to the curb as they assign our work to the MHs. I have been very disappointed in our National President for his weak leadership on protecting our work in the RI-399 process. He needs to focus on RI-339 and fight to prevent more Clerk work in the plants from being taken from us.

Congratulations to NWIAL Scholarship Winners for 2019

1. Tiona Robinson, granddaughter of Palatine member Vera Wilkerson.
2. Clare Hur, daughter of Carol Stream member Eun Joo Hur
3. Sonae Bishop, granddaughter of Palatine member Kathy Bishop.
4. Malik Ross, grandson of CS member Dorothy Felder.

Alternates are...

1. Katelyn Geisler, daughter of Busse member Tim Geisler
2. Zach Joseph, son of Carol Stream member Savio Joseph

Hostile Work Environment at the Northbrook Post Office...

We all know or at least most of us know how management uses the Zero Tolerance policy against the craft employees for minor issues. I have seen over the last two years how Postmaster Narbi Miulli uses discipline as a way to intimidate Clerks who are not scared of her. I have contacted (Lakeland) Post Office Operations Manager William Misinski, Labor Relations Manager Fred Schroeder, former A District Manager Deron Bray, and current A/District Manager Richard Moreton with my concerns of the hostile work environment for Clerks in Northbrook created by Postmaster Miulli. They sent some managers out months ago to interview some of the Clerks but the hostile work environment has gotten worse. In my opinion, there is something very wrong in this office since the arrival of Narbi Miulli and they (Lakeland management) do not seem to care and fail to respond. Contrast this with a Northbrook PSE being issued a Removal because a parcel was throw at her feet and she complained about it.

