

# THE LOCAL LINE

JUNE 16, 2023

President Dave Baskin Vice President Jackie Engelhart News Director Al Czerwinski

I would like to thank everyone, on behalf of the Executive Board, for voting this past election. We appreciate the trust you have place in us. We hope tp never let you down. If we do, please let us know. We learn by mistakes and everyone makes mistakes so, if there is something we are not doing or need to do differently, please let us know. My cell phone number is 630-885-1615. My email is [daveb257@sbcglobal.net](mailto:daveb257@sbcglobal.net)

The Union building is 630-833-0088.

## **The Executive Board**

The Executive Board consists of myself (Dave Baskin), V.P. Jackie Engelhart, Treasurer Janice Alexander Scott, Secretary Arlene Thomas, 600 Clerk Craft Director Marcia Lloyd, 601 Clerk Craft Director Elaine Barlett Walker, A.O. Director Kathy Stokes, 600 Maintenance Director Joe Golden, 601 Maintenance Director Anthony Pritchett, 600 MVS Director Walter Mitchell, 601 MVS Director Kellen Gamble,

and Chief Trustee Ray Wience. I am very impressed by all of our officers as they have shown me that they share in my pursuit of representation for all our members. They have all worked hard.

## **PSE Conversions**

On 5/20, 11 Carol Stream PSEs were converted to career due to residual vacancies. On July 1, there will be additional conversions due to residuals. Carol Stream – 7 PSEs, Palatine – 29 PSEs, Glenview – 1 PSE, Wilmette – 1 PSE.

Congratulations to all the newly converted and soon to be converted PSEs. These conversions are because of the efforts of the 600 Clerk Craft Director Marcia Lloyd and the 601 Clerk Craft Director(s) and stewards at Carol Stream. Their diligent tracking of residuals forced management to convert PSEs. Management would never have done it on their own.

**New Stewards** We have 3 new stewards. Dave Easter – MVS Palatine

T-3, Ron Monita –T-1 MVS Carol Stream, & Verzesta Johnson – T-1 Alternate Clerk Carol Stream.

## **We Need Your Help**

We are still in desperate need of Stewards in some of our offices. We need a Clerk steward for T-1 & T-3 Busse. We need a Clerk steward for T-3 Palatine. We need an alternate MVS steward for T-1 Palatine. We need a Maintenance steward for T-1 We need newer, junior members stepping up and becoming stewards to replace us. Losing stewards would be a win for management and have an extremely costly effect on our local and our members. We have to have new stewards who will learn what we have learned, in order to protect the hard fought rights we now have and to fight for even more rights in the future. Please send me a letter volunteering to be a steward. You will also be paid 8.00 hours a month at Level 6.O. for regular stewards or \$75 a month for being an

Alternate steward. It takes being dedicated, but it is rewarding. Our National Business Agents have agreed to hold training meetings for our stewards. This will be a fantastic opportunity for all of our stewards, to learn & talk to our Business Agents about issues. The Business Agents discuss our grievances at step 3 and are our advocates at Arbitration.

#### **Witness Statements**

I have received several witness statements this past month. While we appreciate your writing statements, they need to tell us more information. We need dates, times (from this time to that time or the total hours). We need names so we can get clock rings. If management or carriers are performing Clerk work, we need to know what they are doing. We need to know who, what, when, and where.

#### **Request a Steward**

Whenever you are called off the work room floor, you need to request a steward. Do not trust management to be your friend or to want to help you. 9 times out of 10, they are out to get you. Help yourself. Get a

steward. Do not say anything to management until the steward arrives.

#### **Old 3971's**

Management may try to give you some old 3971's to sign. If you want to sign them you can, but, and this is important, do not back date it. Put down the date you are signing the 3971's. Back-dating them only helps management and can hurt you.

#### **Did You Move?**

If you have moved, it is not enough to fill out a change of address form with your local post office. You must notify your facility of the move and you need to also notify the Union. If you don't, mail from work and mail from the Union will continue to go to your old address.

#### **Attendance Issues**

Management is once again cracking down on attendance. If you need to be off, please put in a 3971 in advance if possible. If it is not possible, you must call. Get your confirmation number. Keep your confirmation number. Also, management is charging employees with AWOL instead of LWOP, Annual Leave,

or Sick Leave. Let us know when they charge you with being AWOL when you call in. This is a blanket policy change coming from the national postal headquarters. It is designed to be better able to get discipline to stick. If you have a medical condition that can be covered by FLMA, GET FMLA! Protect yourself from discipline. ALL CALL-INS ARE AN UNSCHEDULED ABSENCE. Even if you provide documentation afterwards.

#### **Holiday Pay**

Employees are expected to work on a holiday when scheduled. If you cannot come in due to being sick, CALL IN. Even if the system won't take it due to being a holiday. At least you can claim you called. Per the contract, management can refuse to pay you if you are scheduled to work your holiday and you do not show up. If you are sick, and you tried calling, that gives us something to argue in the grievance.

**Work Safe! Stay calm!**

