

THE LOCAL LINE

August 25, 2023

President Dave Baskin
Czerwinski

Vice President Jackie Engelhart

News Director Al

Scholarships drawn

On August 13, 2023, we held the drawing for the Local's scholarships. There were 5 winners, and 2 alternates drawn. The scholarships are for \$1,000.00 each. The 5 \$1,000.00 winners are; 1. Kyle Valker – member is Geoff Valker from Carol Stream, 2. Marcus Young – member is Peggy Long Carol Stream, 3. Benjamin Suckow – member is Gary Cordes from Carol Stream, 4. Joy Stokes – member is Kathy Stokes from Mount Prospect, & 5. Patrick Jurkulak – member is Pavel Jurkulak. The 2 alternates, if any of the above 5 fail to qualify, are Rashawd Johnson – member is Melanie Bellmon & Taya Crosswell – member is Peggy Long.

COLA

The 4th COLA from our 2021-2024 contract has been announced. Employees covered by

our contract will receive a 48 cent per hour increase. This increase comes to \$998 dollars a year. It will be reflected in Pay Period 20 pay checks (Sept. 15, 2023). The total cumulative COLAs under the 2021 contract equals \$2.39 an hour or \$4,971 annually. COLAs are separate from out contractual increases. COLAs also do not apply to PSEs. However, once a PSE becomes career, they will receive the benefit of the wage that was increased by the COLA.

Constitution changes

On August 13 the membership passed the 1st reading of 2 Constitution changes. One change was *The Vice-President of the NWIAL shall be compensated at a salary of 48 hours per month, at the prevailing Postal Scale Level 9, Red Circle, and will be required to work 40 hours per month, off the clock of the postal*

*service, for the Union as directed by the President, Executive Board and/or membership. The 2nd proposed change is *The Vice-President of the NWIAL shall be compensated at a salary of 60 hours per month at the prevailing Postal Scale Level 9 Red Circle, and will be required to work 50 hours per month off the clock of the Postal Service, for the Union as directed by the President, Executive Board and/or membership. *This would apply only if the VP is retired as it would be too many hours for someone working full-time at the Post Office. The reason for change 1 is to get the VP in line with the salaries of the rest of the Executive Board. All other Board members are paid at an 80/20 work to pay ratio. The 2nd change is because the need for 2 full-time**

officers did not go away when we changed the VP position from full-time to part-time around 2010/2011, and in fact has increased. We do not have sufficient membership to have 2 full-time officers. Jackie is retired and is currently working around 80+ hours a month while only being required to work 40 hours. This would be a win-win as the Union benefits by the "required" hours increase and whoever the retired VP may be will be more appropriately compensated.

67 Million dollar settlement

Everyone is asking about this. This was a grievance filed by the National Union. The grievants at Training Techs, HR employees, and "ripple effect employees" The ripple effect employees were PSEs converted in 2018. Any former PSE who received payment, it was due to the "Ripple effect" One employee at Palatine got paid due to it being initially awarded to a Training

Tech person to then being awarded to an HR person and then finally ending up with him/her. He was the next PSE being converted.

Condolences

We just got word that Mount Prospect alternate steward, Deloras Riley's son passed away this morning in an accident on the expressway. Deloras has been a steward for many years and we send her and her family our heartfelt condolences on her loss.

Giveaway

We are looking to give away some items that are sitting around gathering dust at the Union building. We have a 52" RCA TV. This was the TV in our meeting room that we used for training purposes. It is not a flat screen. It is large. We also have a ping pong table. If you are interested, you must be at the Union meeting on September 10.

Retirement Seminar

We are in the process of nailing down the date of this years retirement seminar. I know many members are looking

forward to it this year, especially with the change that will take place on January 1, 2025. As soon as we get a firm date we will get it out to everyone.

Zero Tolerance

We had another fight between employees. This time at an A.O. As co-workers, you don't have to like one another but you do have to work together. It is hard for us to defend employees that fight. No issue is worth losing your job over. Being polite to others is not that difficult. Saying hello to each other or saying How are you doing starts the day off right. If someone is having a bad day, remember, we all have bad days. Be understanding and just let them be. Getting into an argument will just get you and them upset and leads to getting walked out. AND PROBABLY FIRED.

Work Safe! Stay calm!

