

The Local Line

"A PPA Award Winning Publication"

The Official Voice of the
Northwest Illinois Area Local

Update by: Jackie Engelhart

Michael Kotula is the New CS Plant Mgr.

In the last newsletter we reported Carol Stream A/Plant Manager John Colao was appointed the CIMSC Plant Manager. CIMSC stands for Chicago Military International Service Center. A week later CIMSC Plant Manager George Kitula has been appointed CS Plant Manager. We were informed that Tour 1 MDO Jeff Wisner will be detailed to Fox Valley as A/Plant Manager to replace Plant Manager Mathew Perry. John Colao has a long history at CS and will be missed but I doubt the same can be said for Jeff Wisner. John had people skills and cared about the employees while Jeff was the opposite. He did not give consideration to the employees and did not want to talk to them or to the union. We hope Jeff's detail becomes permanent and feel bad for Fox Valley. We have heard some negative things about Mr. Kitula but we hope to get along with him. Carol Stream is a good facility and hopefully that will not change.

Quintin Mayberry is Palatine A/Plant Mgr.

Bob Prah was recently named Senior Plant Manager for Lakeland District. Gary Kaiser, the A/Plant Manager in his absence went back to Wisconsin. Quintin Mayberry was named A/Plant Manager at the Palatine P&DC. He was the A/Plant Manager at Carol Stream while John Colao was detailed to Champaign. Quintin will manage a facility that is understaffed in the Clerk and Maintenance Crafts but Maintenance has been filling jobs on e-reassign. Palatine has seven Clerk residuals but refuses to bring back any Clerks and now say they want to revert these residuals. These residuals require Clerks to be retreated. All excessed Clerks must be offered retreat rights before PSE Clerks can be converted at Palatine. For the June posting Palatine reverted seven more tour 1 Automation jobs and two tour 2 Automation jobs. Management's reasons are low BPI and "business conditions". A Grievance is being filed because Palatine works one Clerk per machine on a night basis

Some PSE Custodians to be Converted at CS

We filed grievances at Carol Stream for management not including all residual vacancies for the Filling Residuals MOU. One was for management not posting residual Custodian jobs per the MOU on Filling of Residuals. The response at Step 1 was "Denied as CID is in the process of converting PSE Custodians to regular custodians." PSEs must be converted by installation seniority so the 15 residuals we count must be filled by converting CS PSE Custodians to career. The grievance is appealed to Step 2 pending some proof that CS is converting the PSE custodians. The other grievance filed was for 14 Clerk NTFT jobs not included on the Central District posting. Management has agreed to post these jobs per the MOU but they will most likely end up going to CS PSE Clerks by seniority. It is unlikely that career Clerks will bid on these NTFT jobs on e-reassign so they will probably be filled by converting CS PSE Clerks to career by their installation seniority. Some good news at CS.

Floor Edition

June 16, 2014

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Special points of interest:

Michael Kutola is the new CS Plant Manager
Quintin Mayberry is Palatine
A Plant Manager
Some PSE Custodians
to be Converted at CS
Many Issues at Chicago Metro
APWU Non-Members
July Membership Meeting is
Cancelled, Next One on 8-10-14

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Palatine Update on Payouts

The arbitration date for the **Dobry** Award non-compliance grievance is July 19, 2014. VP Elerby Jr. will be doing the case for APWU, after winning the original case. I will serve as his Technician. The Clerks have been paid for the Step 3 settlement arising from management not allowing excessed Clerks to bid on **NTFT** jobs posted at Palatine and awarding the jobs to junior Clerks not excessed out because they opted to become Part-Time Regulars. NBA Linda Turney settled this case and calculated the payouts. The tour 1 **ADRP** grievance that many have been waiting for is now in the hands of Lakeland Labor Specialist Ron Colby who is on a detail to Labor at Palatine. He informed me this week that he will have to review all of the clock-rings and prepare spreadsheets to verify the Union's calculations. He said the earliest he will be able to get that done is the beginning of the fiscal year which is October. The union has identified 34 Clerks as being entitled to the monetary remedy for being out of schedule. Mr. Colby said this payout will be over \$300,000.00 and he has to have all his information together before taking it to the District Manager who would have final approval over paying the money. Until management tells us they will not comply with the settlement we will work with them. The second **Kenis** non-compliance Arbitration should be scheduled before the end of the year after we asked to have the case moved up. The Union filed this grievance for guaranteed pay after management paid the out-of-schedule pay. The original grievance was filed for management allowing Palatine Clerks to go senior in lieu of to the Mailhandler Craft within the installation during the excessing. If you have questions, call me.

Many Issues at Chicago Metro

An overdue Labor-Management meeting is scheduled for 6-17-14 at Chicago Metro. Our agenda is unusually long this time because there are so many problems now. Busse Maintenance management has never been good but its as bad as its ever been and when I talk to Manager George Davis he talks but never resolves any problems. Therefore I have appealed some issues to the Plant Manager but she has not been helpful either. Agenda item #1 asks "*Why has management not provided 1723 Assignment Orders for the 20 non-facility employees performing Maintenance work in this building since 5-19-14? Why is it necessary to relocate 20 skilled maintenance employees, put them up in a hotel, and pay them out of schedule pay for eight weeks to work on equipment that has not been properly maintained because management has chronically understaffed the facility and failed to perform preventive maintenance for years? We are asking why no OT is being called for Custodians when they are short 14 Custodians and have only 4 PSE Custodians. The plan seems to be to not staff to maintain the equipment and the cleaning of the building and then bring in non-facility employees and contractors to fix things after years of neglect and understaffing. In addition to chronic understaffing the employees are subject to at least one bullying supervisor who is a new addition to the facility. Management at this facility likes to play games with peoples lives as they forced an employee from tour 2 to tour 1 after he declined the tour 1 position. He says he verbally told the supervisor and left a letter for him in two places but the supervisor said he never got it. Devette Murphy said it's the employee's responsibility. You need a witness at Busse.*

APWU Non-Members

APWU currently has 145,000 dues paying members and 16,000 dues paying PSE members. There are also 40,000 associate members enrolled in the Health Plan and 40,000 Retiree members. Member dues keep the union in business to negotiate and enforce the contract which means our pay, benefits and rights as employees. Members pay dues for the 42,000 non-members and 11,000 non-member PSEs who don't pay. Postal unions are an open shop by law which means we have to file grievances for the non-members. Unions at the national level would like to get the law changed to a closed shop or at least have non-members pay for services used. Most Non-Members (NM) want whatever the union can get for them and some particularly bold scabs have filed complaints or threatened to, when they were not included in a money settlement. In one case Step 3 left off the NM's name and in another case the NM was not part of the class. Instead of asking the union they filed or threatened to file complaints because as NMs they did not want to come and talk to us. Instead they file a complaint that we have to respond to and waste union time and member money. As of 5-5-14 the NWIAL was 88% organized with 1612 members and 222 non-members taking advantage of their co-workers. There is no good reason to work a union job because it is a good job, but refuse to pay your fair share to help protect that union job. It takes a lack of integrity to take something you refuse to pay for. **July Membership Meeting is Canceled, Next One on 8-10-14** Many Locals do not have meetings in July because of vacations and December because of OT etc. We cancelled the July meeting so our next meeting is on 8-10-14.

