

The Local Line

"A PPA Award Winning Publication"

The Official Voice of the
Northwest Illinois Area Local

Floor Edition

Update by: Jackie Engelhart

Local Negotiations to Start on 9-8-16

The parties have agreed to a 60 day time period beginning on 9-8-16 for local parties to negotiate any changes they wish to make in their Local Memorandum of Understanding which contains the following 22 items:

1. Additional of longer wash-up periods
2. The establishment of a regular work week of five days with either fixed or rotating days off.
3. Guidelines for the curtailment or termination of postal operations to conform to orders of local authorities or as local conditions warrant because of emergency conditions.
4. Formulation of local leave program.
5. The duration of the choice vacation period. (prime time)
6. The determination of the beginning day of an employee's vacation period.
7. Whether employees at their option may request two selections during the choice vacation period, in units of either 5 or 10 days.
8. Whether jury duty and attendance at National or State Conventions shall be charged to the choice vacation period
9. Determination of the maximum number of employees who shall receive leave each week during the choice vacation period
10. The issuance of official notices to each employee of the vacation schedule approved for such employee.
11. Determination of the date and means of notifying employees of the beginning of the new leave year.
12. The procedures for submission of applications for annual leave during other than the choice vacation period
13. The method of selecting employees to work on a holiday.
14. Whether "Overtime Desired" lists in Article 8 shall be by section and tour.
15. The number of light duty assignments within each craft or occupational group.
16. The method to be used in reserving light duty assignments so that no regularly member workforce will be adversely affected.
17. The identification of assignments that are to be considered light duty within each craft represented in the office.
18. The identification of assignments comprising a section, when it is proposed to reassign within an installation employees excess to the needs of a section.
19. The assignment of employee parking spaces.
20. The determination as to whether annual leave to attend Union activities requested prior to determination of the choice vacation schedule is to be part of the choice vacation plan.
21. Those other items which are subject to local negotiations as provided in the craft provisions of this Agreement.
22. Local Implementation of this Agreement relating to seniority, reassignments, and posting.

LMOU Negotiations occurs after a new contract.

August 16, 2016

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Special points of interest:

Local Negotiations to Start on 9-9-16
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National Convention in Orlando

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Conversion Date?

Management has yet to announce a conversion date for PSEs being converted because of the new contract but to comply with the "60 days from the date of the award" on 7-8-16, they would have to convert PSEs by 9-3-16. We requested meetings at the plants to answer questions from the soon to be career employees but Palatine has not gotten back to us and CS said they will get back to us. In the Clerk Craft the newly converted will be Full-Time, in Maintenance they could be Full-Time or Part-Time Regular, and in MVS they could be Full Time or PTF.

Seniority for Newly Converted PSEs will begin a new period of seniority as career employees, and all will be converted on the same date so they will be ranked based on their PSE seniority. For Clerks who have the same PSE seniority date there is Seniority Tie Breaker a pecking order in Article 37.

Sign up for the ODL

Palatine Steward Dave Baskin asked me to let newly converted employees know they must sign up on the Overtime Desired List if they want to work overtime. ODL slips should be available in the tour office and in the union room. Once you sign up and are on the ODL you remain on it unless you request to get off of it in writing. You can sign up for extended tour ODL and/or the non-scheduled day ODL, or for both.

New Pay Rates to Take Effect on 9-6-16, Retro Pay on 11-4-16

According to information provided by the Postal Service to APWU the new pay rates under the new contract will begin on 9-6-16 (pay period 17) and will be reflected on paychecks date August 26th. Retroactive pay for the period from 9-4-15 through 8-5-16 are expected in pay period 22-16, with an expected pay date of 11-4-16.

New Postmaster in Northbrook Narbi Miulli, the new Postmaster in Northbrook, has informed me she that she has designated one of her supervisors to discuss step 2 grievances, which in most offices is done by the Postmaster. The supervisor meets at step 1 and the postmaster meets at step 2 unless it is a small office that has only a postmaster. In this case the new postmaster has dumped the step 2's on a supervisor but it telling the supervisor she cannot discuss them by phone as I had requested. At the same time this office has been requiring non-ODL Clerks to work 10 hours per day and 6 days. I contacted Lakeland to find out the status of filling residual clerk vacancies in Northbrook and was told that none have been reported. The last OIC requested a PSE and was turned down by Lakeland so why are they forcing non-ODL Clerks to work OT in this office? OIC Catherine Levermier spoke to the union Steward and myself in an effort to resolve issues, unlike the previous postmaster. but she has returned to her office and we are back to the same old problem. Since management has no residual vacancies and does not need a PSE clerk, why did management deny a clerk a few hours of leave for 8-22-16 to take her daughter to her first day of school? Why did they issue a Letter of Warning to a Clerk who said she needed her day off and who has been working forced overtime although she is not on the Overtime Desired List? Since the OIC who was trying to solve problems is now gone, and the new postmaster does not meet on grievances, talk to the Steward, except to give instructions, and does not return a phone call, the only options are to file grievances. These tactics are familiar and seem taken from the Liz Wulf playbook, which is to make the union's job as hard as possible.

NWIAL Scholarship Winners Chief Trustee Ray Wience and Clerk Trustee Sue Rodriguez conducted the 2016 drawing and the winners were pulled from the "Bozo Drum" by members present at the August 14th meeting: The 2016 scholarship winners are:

1. **Shivam Modi**, son of **Alkesh Modi** (Carol Stream)
2. **Jeremy Casimiro**, son of **Gerardo Casimiro** (CS)
3. **Antonio Penaherrera**, son of **Luis Penaherrera** (Busse)
4. **Pooja Patel**, daughter of **Devika Patel** (Palatine)

Two alternates were selected in case any of the winners are not able to use their scholarship. The alternates who were selected are:

1. **Ashley McClaren**, member
2. **Dillon Davis**, son of **Gilly Davis** (Palatine)

Congratulation to all the winners!
NWIAL Retirement Seminar Human Relations Director Mimi Jackson is in "seminar mode" which means she is getting ready for the annual retirement seminar. The date is on **9-24-16**, a Saturday with Civil Service in the morning and FERS in the afternoon. The seminar is free and is for NWIAL members only and their spouses. Lunch will be served around 12. The seminar will be held at the Union Hall at 194 W. Lake Street in Elmhurst. The guest speaker will discuss material from APWU retirement handbooks and will answer questions on retirement. This will be Mimi's last seminar as she is planning on retiring soon. We thank her in advance for the many years she has put on this seminar with help from the Human Relations Committee, currently Vivian Henderson, Elaine Bartlet-Walker, and Chris James.
National Convention in Orlando Local officers will be at the convention next week as delegates discuss and vote on resolutions in preparation for the next contract.

