# APWU POSTMARK

St. Paul. MN Area Local APWU AFI -CIO

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Wisconsin: Amerv Beldenville Clayton Clear Lake Deer Park Ellsworth Glenwood City Hager City Hudson New Richmond River Falls Somerset Star Prairie Willson

Sisters & Brothers

For those of you who are not aware, as of November 12, 2022, I have been elected to the position of Central Region Motor Vehicle Services NBA. As such this will be my last article as your President. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the members of the St Paul Area Local in numerous capacities over the last 18 years. I want to thank all Members, Stewards and Officers for their support. I look forward to continuing to represent our members as their Motor Vehicle Services NBA. During this transition I will assist your Local Officers in moving the Local forward.

Peak mailing season is once again fast approaching. The Peak Annex this year will once again be in a facility under the jurisdiction of the NDC, which is represented by the Minneapolis Area Local. As the Peak Annex is not in our jurisdiction it will not be staffed by employees from the St Paul bid cluster. However, as PSE's do not hold bids there is a chance they could be sent to the Annex during Peak season as I believe they were last year. There should be plenty of overtime in the Plant and your Local Officers are meeting with Management to hammer out the PEAK overtime rules.

We expect this to be another high-volume year. Peak mailing season is an important revenue stream for the Postal Service. This is our time to shine and show the American public how vital we are to their holiday season and everyday life. I am sure our members will rise to the occasion once again and make this Peak mailing season successful. your sleep now while you can! As usual, remember to work at a safe pace, take your



breaks and work ergonomically correct. Limit the wear and tear on your body. An injury on the job could follow you the rest of your career or life. I assure you management will leave you to fend for yourself once injured.

> In Solidarity, **Dave Cook** President





Contact your Congressperson!

(202) 224-3121

## **Writing a Grievance Statement**

On the top of your statement write today's date. In the statement write who, what, where, when and why.

Who did it? Where did it occur? When or how long (time frame). Specific details

of the situation by date, time, place, etc. Any witnesses?

Please print your name and sign your name, Tour, hours you work and days off, Employee Number (EIN#), phone number (optional), but encouraged if the

steward or Clerk Craft Director Kim Richardson needs to get a hold of you to ask questions.

Clerk Craft Director

Kim Richardson

## Wanted- Extra Money for the Holidays, and Any and All Days

When you see a supervisor SDO, MDO, 204B, or any other non-bargaining employee doing your work, you can file a grievance and get paid for management doing your job.

You only have 14 days from the date of the incident to file the grievance, so don't wait until the last minute or day to give it to a steward. The steward needs enough time to gather the information, to write up, and to set up and meet on the grievance.

One statement can include multiple supervisors and multiple non-supervisory jobs they are performing. Some of the activities they are doing may only take a minute but all those minutes can add up to several hours over a period of time. There is a lot of extra money to be

made, but most people are not filing these grievances because they don't want to put the effort into watching and writing it down. Those that are putting in the effort have been rewarded immensely and paid extra money, and I do mean a lot of extra money.

Management knows they are not supposed to do our work but they just can't seem to stop.

All you have to do is write a statement and give it to the Union with the following information: Date, time frame, amount of time, your name and employee ID number, witness(es) -is/are encouraged and any specifics on the work management was doing that is other than watching and directing clerks. These include running mail on

machines, sweeping or loading machines or fixing jams, working on any LCTS to include pulling mail off or putting mail on or in any type of equipment, pressing a start or a stop button, bringing mail to machines, scanning, and any other non-supervisory work.

If management is touching the mail or equipment it is probably our work and a grievance can and should be filed. Besides we all could use some extra money for the holidays, and any and all days!!!

Terri Griner

Union Steward tour 3

### **New Members Read at the October GMM**

Dawit Abraham
Chala Amente
Brittany Bain
Amanuel Banjaw
Dawit Bernal
Kenneth Cloak
Shagail Fluker
Yonas Gebrekristos
Mirael Goss
Samuel Haile

Cole Hall Megan Hropko-Baker Deega Jama

Darrell Jones Jessica Koch Noah Junker Yared Lemma Brittany Marintez Carlos Sinchi Taylor Simmons Delon Simpson-Jacobs Thanh Trang

Etana Tujuba Gary Walsh Stacy Weeks

Tewodros Woldemechel Yemane Woldegebriel

Kuab Yang Zenbensh Yglatu



#### NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE ST. PAUL AREA LOCAL APWU RETIREES CHAPTER

Officers:	Vice President Ray Moore	Treasurer Dan Blees
President Bill Catlin	Secretary Joe Marino	Trustee Larry Kramlinger

Our Thanksgiving meeting is Nov 16th @ 11:00 AM . We will be giving away 10 " Turkeys " ( \$25 gift certificates ) and our 2 - \$50 door prizes . Come and enjoy , pizza and refreshments served . Also , remember , Dues for 2023 are due . \$20 w/ death benefit - \$14 for just membership . Take care , hope to see you there , stay well --- Bill

## **MVS Report**

Here's another article for you to read, some of the info you might want or some you won't need. Taking cheap shots at management is what I do, I've written a few articles about getting screwed over, maybe one or two. Daily, Weekly, Monthly..it just won't stop, how many people can you screw on the way to the top. You're a newbie, a greenhorn, a baby in MVS, you make comments about everyone and start a big mess. The NLRB made a ruling and straightened it out, now all you do is complain and pout. Multiple requests to get information from you, if it's not provided by the 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt then you know what I'll do. The games have been played and nobody will win, but as the past has shown, I'm the only one with a shit eating grin.

It's time for MVS's yearly bid, I've asked for the changes that management did, they knew bidding time was approaching quick, I asked for documents and the reply made me sick, it was an email swearing at me.

I'm in the works of getting language removed, from the top of MVS schedules and management Boo'd. They think they can change bid runs at any time, go ahead and change our bid duty assignments, and you'll pay every dime.

We're working on making a new overtime list, cuz trying to decipher our current one will just make you pissed. This letter equals that and that equals this, once you're gone ....yeah so is your list. (couldn't rhyme that one)

The DAS work is headed back up to Step 3, maybe we'll get a decision that suits you and me.

Postal peak season is about to appear, package showing up from far and near. Some will work 10 and 12 hours per day, it's contractual so don't complain, just rake in the pay.

This Postmark has rhymed for far to long, informing you of what right and wrong. It's time to stop as my head has a splitter, and this paper must go to the printer.

Fighting For You, Fighting For Us, Fighting To Win..

In Solidarity,

Adam Godes

## October GMM Drawings

#### **Door Prizes**

\$50 - Adam Godes

**\$300 -** Rodney Frederick (not present)

You must be present to win

VOE \$25	Brad Tiemann	Shari Bryant
Mark Pagel	Matthew Deal	
Brian Ramaker	Matthew Kapsner	VOE - \$100
Betty Doffing	James Borsheim	James Robson

#### Hello Brothers and Sisters—Trustee Chair

I would like to start off by welcoming the new stewards from all Crafts. You came on at a very busy time and it will only get a little crazier as the Holidays approach us. Hang in there, and don't be afraid to ask any one of us questions.

Management and Carriers/CCAs etc. have been very busy performing clerk work at the stations. Please remember to document who did the work, the time frame work was done, and what the work was. Also write the Station name, phone number

and fax number. Turn the statements in at the end of each week. Easiest way for you to get the statements to the Steward Office is faxing them to 651-291-8886.

If you are faxing a change of schedule, please include the Station you are at, the phone number and fax number. There are change of schedules coming into the steward office that we do not know where the person is at so we can get it back to the member. As we get busier towards peak season, please remem-

ber to work safe. Any questions you can always call the steward office 651-224-2639/651-225-8721.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving

Shelley R. Fleming

Steward/Trustee Chair/Safety Representative

## **IRD Report**

I would like to start off by thanking Dave Cook for all the years of support and leadership he has shown this local. He has always supported his superiors, motivated his steward and officers and kept this local on a solid foundation. I congratulate him in his new position and know he will continue to make the Union strong and represent the membership in whole.

As you know this has created another vacancy in the Presidency. Similar to when Todd Elderton left to become a Business Agent earlier in the year. At that time, I was worried of the fate of the St Paul Area local because we were losing stewards and officers with nobody replacing them. In the last couple months, we had several new stewards step up. This includes all three tours and all three crafts.

Although we still have a couple gaps and can always use more, we at least have enough so we are not losing ground when it comes to defending the contract. Now as always, we need your help too. You are our eyes and ears on the workroom floor. Management rarely use to do our job and when they did they knew a grievance was coming shortly thereafter. Now they consistently are working and nobody files on them. We need your statements to file these grievances.

As you read this, the Thanksgiving holiday should be right around the corner along with Christmas and New Year's. This means that the dreaded Month of December is soon to arrive. For those new employees get ready to work 10 to 12 hours a day. For those that have been here awhile this is the opportunity to put a

little more money in the bank account or pay off some bills.

If the years in the past have taught us anything, it's that Management will be doing our work. To be clear, they are not helping us, they are stealing our jobs right out from under us. They have the sole responsibility of hiring employees. If they need more people they should be hiring more. The more work they do, the less manhours they earn and every year it will get worse. Every time you see a supervisor or manager performing our work grieve it!

Jason Stevens

Industrial Relations Director

### **Hello Brothers and Sisters—VP Report**

Hello Brothers and Sisters.

It has been a busy time in the Union office. I want to say congratulations to our President for winning his election to Motor Vehicle National Business Agent. The President's position is open as I write this article. We will try to fill the position by November 14.

Also a referendum ballot will go out to the membership by Nov 2 to make a decision to uphold the decision of the trial board and the members at the Sept GMM to remove the current Secretary from her position due to her not showing up and not performing her du-

ties. Please read the information that will be provided in the letter sent to you and please vote.

The Union has been fighting with management on whether or not they have to post open positions for things like the Data center at the AO offices, Customer Service offices and the plant. The Union showed management where it says they are to promote advancement at the PO, so they agreed to post. Please look for these at your office. If you do not see them, let the Union know if they don't get posted at your office.

We have started to meet

with management on Line H grievance to see if there are any violations in 2022. If there is a violation, the Union will file the grievance.

I would also like to thank our NBA Marty Mater for all the hard work he did for St Paul as our business agent and to enjoy his retirement.

I would also like to thank the membership for sending Dave Cook and me to the WI fall conference in October.

Bruce Gutzke

Vice President

## Open Season! Open season for health benefits will run from November 14. December 12.

There will be a health fair at the Plant November 22: 7:00-10:00 am and 5:30-7:00 p.m. Most if not all the available plans will have a representative there to answer your questions.

Be sure to check out all your options this open season, as most plans have had increases.

#### **Recent Grievance Settlements**

The Union settled grievances for a total of \$104,417.54 recently.

The Union is working hard for you!

We need you to step up to the plate! If you know a non-member, please ask them to consider joining, we all need to pull together as a Union.

The Local is approximately 92% organized.

ST. PAUL, MN AREA LOCAL APWU AFL-CIO PO Box 21128 St. Paul. MN 55121 2261 Waters Dr Mendota Heights, MN 55120

Phone 651-778-1637

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#### **OFFICERS**

Dave Cook ......President Bruce Gutzke.....Vice President Jason Stevens .....IRD Camille Tucker .....Secretary Tim Strong...... Treasurer Kim Richardson ....Clerk Craft Director Jim Pierce.....MNT Director Adam Godes ...... MVS Director Shelley Fleming......Trustee Chair Sue Rodriguez ....Trustee Clerk Matt Garcia .....Trustee MNT Kris Halbmaier.....MVS Trustee

#### Retiree Dues for 2023 are due!

With death benefit— \$20.00 Just membership - \$14.00

Send to:

PO Box 21128

St. Paul, MN 55121

#### **General Membership Meeting Schedule**

2022

January 25 11:00 A.M. February 22 6:15 p.m. March 22 6:15 p.m. April 26 6:15 p.m. May 24 11:00 a.m. June 28 6:15 p.m. No meetings in July or August

Sept 27 6:15 p.m. October 25 11:00 a.m. November 22 6:15 p.m.

No meeting in December

## Moving? Please send us your new address!

#### **Retiree Meeting**

November 16th 11:00 am

**Union Office** 

10 \$25 dollar gift certificates will be given out!

## **General Membership Meeting November 22** 6:15 p.m.

Refreshments served

If you would like to attend via zoom, please contact the office for the link. 651-778-1637