UNION MEETING MINUTES FOR FEB.21ST- 2010

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10AM BY PRESIDENT MATHIEU. AFTER THE MORNING PRAYER AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG A ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS AND STEWARDS WAS TAKEN....THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING ALONG WITH THE TREASURERS REPORT WERE ACCEPTED... KELLY WENT OVER OUR FINANCES WHICH ARE IN GOOD SHAPE. SHE ASKED THAT MEMBERS BE PATIENT WHEN WAITING FOR A CHECK. SHE NEEDS A WEEK ON AVERAGE TO PROCESS THEM. DON'T FORGET SHE GETS A CONSTANT BARRAGE OF VOE CHECKS ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER BILLS SHE HAS TO KEEP UP WITH...THANK YOU. PRESIDENTS REPORT: SEE BULLETIN BOARD. **VICE-PRESIDENTS REPORT; SEE BULLETIN** BOARD.

CLERK-CRAFT DIRECTOR; STEVE AGAIN REMINDS
THE MEMBERS THAT IF THEY HAVE MEDICAL
PROBLEMS TO USE FMLA. MANAGEMENT
CONTINUES TO TRY AND FIRE OUR BROTHERS
AND SISTERS. LAST MONTH THEY TRIED TO GET
RID OF A MEMBER WITH 50 YEARS SERVICE.
THEY SENT HIM FOR A FITNESS FOR DUTY EXAM.
THE DOCTOR SAID HE WAS FINE. EVERYONE
MOVES SLOWER WHEN THEIR OLDER AND WE
ARE GETTING OLDER. THE AVERAGE AGE IS 50 IN
OUR UNION. SO, THE UNION SAVED HIS JOB AND
THE FOLLOWING WEEK MANAGEMENT IS TAKING

PICTURES OF THE MEMBERS AND SAYING THANK YOU FOR 50 YEARS OF SERVICE.....STEVE SAYS THREE BIG "CASUAL GRIEVANCES" ARE COMING UP IN MARCH. AT LEAST TWO FOR ARBITRATION. \$\$\$\$\$ IS COMING THE CLERKS WAY SOON. RETIREE'S WHO WERE ON THE ROLLS AT THE TIME OF THESE INFRACTIONS WILL ALSO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENTS... MVS DIRECTOR; BOBBY TELLS THE MEMBERS THAT JOBS WERE SAVED WITH THE TRIPS TO WASHINGTON D.C. AND THE SUPPORT OF THE UNION..MVS HAS A SIX-MONTH TRIAL PERIOD TO STOP MANAGEMENT FROM CONTRACTING OUT THEIR JOBS...THE BATTLE NEVER ENDS. MAINTENANCE REPORT: MIKE HILBERT REPORTED OUT ON THE STAFFING IN MAINTENANCE. A BIG ARBITRATION IS DUE IN APRIL CONCERNING SNOW REMOVAL.MORE \$\$\$\$ WINDOW STEWARD: MARK CONTINUES TO TELL THE WINDOW CLERKS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AND THEIR JOBS. WORKING ALONE IS LIKE HAVING A TARGET ON YOUR BACK... BUILDING MANAGER; BOB MARCOCCIO INTRODUCED A NEW RENTAL AGREEMENT TO BETTER PROTECT THE HALL AND THE UNION. THE EXECUTIVE BOARD WILL LOOK THIS OVER AND PRESENT IT AT THE MARCH MEETING. ALSO

Union meeting minutes Continued;

NEW LOCKS WILL BE PLACED ON THE THREE ENTRY DOORS TO THE HALL. REMEMBER ONLY 8% OF ALL APWU LOCALS OWN THEIR OWN UNION OFFICES AND HALL. BE PROUD.

OLD BUSINESS; THE PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE WAS VOTED ON AND PASSED WITH THE ADDITION OF RULES TO THE 50/50 CLUB WILL BE PUBLISHED..

NEW BUSINESS; MOTION MADE AND PASSED TO HOLD OUR ANNUAL MAY BREAKFAST ON MAY 1ST OF COURSE W/NECESSARY EXP.

MOTION MADE AND PASSED TO SEND TWO PEOPLE TO THE OWC CONFERENCE IN D.C W/NEC/EXP.....

MOTION MADE AND PASSED TO INSTALL NEW LOCKS ON THE ENTRY DOORS TO THE HALL .. A CONSTITUTIONAL BY-LAW CHANGE WAS SUBMITTED. SEE BULLETIN BOARD....
MOTION MADE AND PASSED TO PRESENT 50 YEAR MEMBER DANNY FORRESTER WITH A GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR \$50.

MOTION MADE AND PASSED TO GIVE FREE RENTAL OF THE HALL FOR A MEMBERS SICK CHILD BENEFIT.....

GOOD & WELFARE: THE PRESIDENT TOLD US 41 WATCHES HAVE BEEN ORDERED FOR THE RETIREE'S . THE BAD THING ABOUT THAT IS WE HAVE 41 LESS MEMBERS.....

DEBBIE WHITE WON THE VOE DRAWING OF \$100.

Union meeting minutes Continued;

GOOD AND WELFARE;

RICK MILLER WON THE 50/50 HALL DRAWING OF ABOUT \$1000. GIVE OR TAKE \$900.

NEXT MONTH WE WILL HAVE ABOUT TWENTY \$100. 50/50 DRAWINGS.

MIKE VINAL, PAWTUCKET STEWARD WAS THE CONTRIBUTING CHEF THIS MONTH BRINGING IN A GIANT PAN OF BLADE MEAT SUPREME WHICH THE MEMBERS ENJOYED.

THE MEETINGS ARE TURNING INTO A COMBINATION OF A COOKING SHOW AND DIALING FOR DOLLARS.

SEE YOU NEXT MONTH MARCH 14TH FOR OUR ANNUAL ST.PATRICKS DAY BUFFET..

COME ON DOWN....

Bob herron/sec/APWU Lova D. Herron

President's Report

Good Morning Brothers and Sisters,

 $\underline{\text{Un} - \text{ion}}$: a n umber of persons, states, etc., joined or associated together for some common purpose.

What is that common purpose? The purpose of continuing the struggles of the brave men and women whom came before us and laid the groundwork for establishing unions.

The purpose of continuing the struggle for better working conditions.

The purpose of continuing the struggle for equality for all.

We do this by coming to union meetings and discussing which road we must take to achieve these common purposes. This is our forum brothers and sisters.

We also do this by holding events so we all can come together and put aside petty differences for a day while breaking bread.

I am bringing this to your attention as a reminder brothers and sisters. A reminder that just paying dues does not cut it in my book. As I speak to members daily one constant saying seems to appear..."I have been a member for 20 plus years". Really, congratulations. But how many union meetings have you been to? They answer "none". How many events have you volunteered for? They answer "none". Have you ever been a steward or officer? They answer "no". Same questions, same answers. It is not enough just paying dues. It has to mean more than that to those who believe that's all they have to do. So I have a message to those I speak of here today. Do me a favor...when you speak the words "unions" don't! You have no concept of the word "union".

You call or send e-mails when it affects "you". When it affects your brother or sister it doesn't even enter your thoughts. I have sat here previously and stated that I would challenge this membership. I will stick to my promise. I challenge those, who believe their dues are enough, to step up like the men and women in this hall today. Come to a meeting, volunteer for a sunshine fund event, bring your family to one of our functions. Do that, and if after you still feel the same *then* and only *then* will I question those who believe in the true definition of "UNION".

In Solidarity,

Ronald Mathieu, President PRIAL 387

Good Morning Brothers and Sisters

First I would like to clear up a mistake I made in last month's report; I said that the three cases were scheduled for this month, they are scheduled for March. Steve and I met with NBA Tom O'Brien to go over the three case files. The first case we went through was the CILO (casual in lieu of) case, to get it ready for arbitration. Tom feels we have a strong case. The remedy for this case will be and equal share to all the clerks in the installation on the rolls at the time of the infraction. The reason being is that all clerks in the installation were harmed, by the use of casuals to perform the work instead of career employees to perform the work.

The second case we talked about was the casual overtime case Tom feels that these cases are strong also. The remedy for these cases will be and equal share by the quarter for those career employees on the overtime list. So if you were on the overtime list for three quarters then you would get three quarters of what the equal share would work out to be.

We did not talk about the cross sectional overtime case. Only one of these cases will be arbitrated on the date in March. Management put forth the CILO case to be heard if managements witness shows up. So, most likely that is the case that will be heard on that date if not the casual overtime case will be heard.

The OIG put out a report that Recommends Better Oversight of Postal Employees Unscheduled Absenteeism. As some of you are aware supervisors are starting to issue attendance discipline. So, if you're going out sick get FMLA to protect your absence. You read the article at the following link. Here is a link to the article. If link does not work copy and paste it in your browser.

 $\frac{http://www.postalreporternews.com/2010/02/19/usps-oig-recommends-better-oversight-of-postal-employees-unscheduled-absenteeism/$

Station & Branch closings, USPS has trimmed down this list to 162 unfortunately Cumberland's Valley Falls branch is still listed. We have tracted the Mayor of Cumberland several times to keep him informed on the issues. I would like to thank Brother James Ozanian and Mike Vinal for their work on this issue. Here is a link to the article.

http://apwu.org/news/webart/2010/10-008-s-b_closures-100129.htm

Debbie W contacted me two weeks ago to hold a meeting with the Union about bid jobs in the plant with In-Plant Support. She gave me two dates they could meet us but, the two dates we already had meetings scheduled with are NBA Tom O'Brien. I gave her two different dates we could meet them but, Katrina Dow has not responded to Debbie's email. We are not holding our breath on the rescheduling of this meeting. There are grievances filed on all issues concerning bid jobs.

On February 5th President Obama's fiscal budget for 2011 includes language that shows his administration supports 6 day delivery requiring the Postal service to deliver 6 days per week. Here is a link to the article

http://www.apwu.org/news/webart/2010/10-010-100205.htm
On Feb 18th there is an article that the Postal Service is still pushing for five day delivery in Congress;

In Solidarity/ RAY KEARNS
VICE-PRESIDENT APWU/LOCAL 387

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND AREA LOCAL APWU AFFILIATED WITH THE ALF-CIO REVISED

Article 2

Old

3. Any member retired may retain his membership without voice or vote for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) per year paid for by this local – or he may pay full dues and retain membership with full privileges.

New

3. Any member retired from Postal Service ¹, May retain his membership without vote for the sum of one dollar (\$1.00) per year paid to this local – or he /she may pay full dues and retain membership with full privileges. Not deferred retirement, if you defer your retirement you must pay full dues to this local until your retirement date to receive any benefits of this Local.

¹ Means: to withdraw from office, business, or active life, usually because of age: to retire from Postal Service.

Union Meeting Schedule 2010

January 17
February 21st
March 14TH
April 18th
May 16th
June 13th
September 19th
October 17th

November 21st

In Solidarity,

Ronald Mathieu, President PRIAL 387