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## President's Report August 9, 2018

Since last month there has not been much reported concerning the negotiations for our upcoming Collective Bargaining Agreement. As the negotiations progress, I will update you via e-mail and my weekly videos or you could always go to <a href="https://www.apwu.org">www.apwu.org</a>.

## **Local news and updates:**

- The In-Service Register for the **Custodial Craft** in the Orlando P&DC has been posted and is now down, and there were 39 employees signed up. The first 14 are from APWU represented Crafts and they will be first in line for the Custodial residual vacancies prior to other non-APWU crafts.
- We are in the process of settling a rather large out-of-schedule pay grievance for close to \$7800.00 in the VMF (Vehicle Maintenance Facility) at the Orlando P&DC. Apparently, management arbitrarily changed the work-schedules for many employees, for a rather long time, without any notification to the APWU.
- The Maintenance Craft in the Orlando bid cluster just had 10 Custodian bids from some of the 23 Stations and Branches re-posted, along with the 6 residual vacancies from the P&DC at the same time. What occurred was that the USPS was altering the work-schedules and locations where the present jobs travel throughout the work week, and rather than the USPS creating PTR (Part-Time Regular) positions to cover some of those offices, it was in our member's best interests to keep 40 hour per week full-time regular duty assignments. Those assignments in the Stations and Branches will still have the Saturday-Sunday and Sunday-Monday off days. Remember to UPDATE your DREAM SHEETS (PAR)! You do not want to forget and then be assigned to a job you do not want!
- The **Seminole P&DC** has quite a few issues going on, primarily in the Clerk Craft with the Mail Handler's performing **OUR** work! We are filing grievances on these so request a Steward from management when you observe this, and then give a written statement to your Steward. I still have a couple of cases at the Step 3 level where I demonstrated 12 additional duty assignments from all available work-hours which also includes the PSE and overtime hours.
- In the **Orlando P&DC** we also have a couple of cases at the Step 3 level demonstrating 12 duty assignments from all available work-hours to include the PSEs and overtime. These cases are either certified for arbitration and/or being held in abeyance at that level. We are hopeful that we will prevail so that we would be able to have additional duty assignments posted for the current full-time regular employees as well as PSE conversions to full-time regular!
- I am advised that the **Lakeland P&DC** is planning on bringing in an additional 4 PSEs in the upcoming future, and they are interviewing as I am writing this.
- The **Kissimmee Installation** continues to be one of our more problematic areas of grievance activity, and we are staying on top of management here, where we have an array of violations on a variety of issues.
- We are having some issues with the 'deems desirable' issues as of late and we should challenge each and every one of them!



- There have been more PTF and PSE conversions this past month throughout our local in our level 22 and below offices, and we are diligently working on additional conversions.
- As of this writing we still have a few Letters of Removals, Letters of Warnings, and several 7-Day
  and 14-Day Suspensions for predominately Attendance related concerns. ALWAYS request your
  Steward when you receive discipline as you only have 14 days to file a grievance!
- The One-Person Staffing on the DBCS machines is still an ongoing problem in the Orlando P&DC, as well as virtually in every plant in the country that has these machines. We must continue to keep filing grievances on this! The USPS still has not sent the APWU it's management Step 1 Designee for the DBCS issues, even after I have requested so in writing twice already, so I have instructed the Stewards and Officers to send these grievances directly to Step 2 so we can meet with Labor!
- If you see management or other Crafts performing Clerk Craft work in your facility/installation request a Steward. We **MUST** protect <u>all of our work</u>, not just Clerk work, but Maintenance, MVS, and VMF work as well!
- Our **Open House/Mortgage Party** is still scheduled, not for the traditional 2-3 hours, but from 2 pm until 8 pm (6 hours) on Thursday, September 13, 2018. We are celebrating the payoff of **YOUR** union building, which we paid off 3 years early and saved approximately \$7900.00 in interest by doing so! Representing 3 Crafts on 3 Tours, in 3 different P&DCs, and 102 **Stations, Branches, and Associate Offices**, we realize that 2-3 hours would not be enough, and with our members starting work virtually every hour of the day, we are hoping to see as many members as possible within this 6-hour span. As you know, since many of you stop by the office from time to time, we are open from approximately 7am-4pm Monday-Friday, so feel free to stop by, relax and have a drink or eat some snacks.

## \*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PSE'S AS POSTED ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE\*\*

"On July 30, 2018, the Postal Service notified the APWU that there will be a special enrollment period for PSEs to enroll in the USPS Health Benefits Plan. <u>The enrollment period will be open from August 20, 2018 through October 4, 2018. Coverage will become effective on October 13, 2018.</u>

This special enrollment is being conducted in accordance with the settlement agreement, RE: Workforce Benefits Fund. The settlement calls for the Postal Service to make additional contributions to USPS Health Benefits Plan for self plus one and family enrollments for PSEs. With these changes, it is necessary for the Service to offer eligible PSEs the opportunity to enroll.

<u>Each eligible PSE</u> will be receiving a letter from the Postal Service giving enrollment deadlines, enrollment methods, and plan premiums. The letter will instruct the employees to go the https://liteblue.usps.gov/uspshbp to learn about the plan. Enrollment will be through PostalEASE via liteblue, self-service kiosks in some offices, or by calling the HRSSC at 1-877-477-3273.

This enrollment is for the USPS non-career health benefits plan and should not be confused with the APWU Consumer Driven Option (CDO) plan. Enrollment will not be open for the APWU CDO plan during this special enrollment.

PSEs are eligible for enrollment in the APWU CDO plan after completing their first 360-day appointment. PSEs may enroll in the APWU CDO plan within 60 days of being appointed to a second term as a PSE or during regular Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) open season held in November and December of each year after meeting eligibility requirements."

If you hear of any members that are not on my e-mail and video lists and would like to be, simply tell them to send an e-mail to me at <a href="mailto:JPaulAPWU@gmail.com">JPaulAPWU@gmail.com</a> and I will add them. Thank you all for being members of our Central Florida Area Local family! In closing, remember to always speak to a non-member and explain to them why they should become a member of the organization that fights for <a href="mailto:every">every</a> aspect of their livelihood.

In Solidarity,

