



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
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President's Report

September 8, 2016

The ballots for our APWU national elections will be arriving in your homes within a week or so. With our Local being the third largest in the state, it is very important that we all take the time to **VOTE**. It is a very simple process, the return envelope is included, and it doesn't even require a stamp. As a large Local, this is the opportunity we have to make **OUR** voices heard. This will give our Central Florida Area Local the opportunity to show that **OUR** votes make us a force to be reckoned with! At the national level, the percentage of voter turnout is tracked by local, they cannot see which candidates we voted for, but they can see if we cast a large percentage of votes and stand strong as a large local. With a large voter turnout, it will benefit **OUR** local in a positive way. With a large voting base such as ours, and with a large voting turnout, when the Central Florida Area Local calls, **WE** will be remembered. Not to say that we wouldn't be answered anyway, but we will be heard I can assure you. Join with your fellow brothers and sisters and cast your votes. I have been asked several times over the last couple of weeks who we support as a local. At our July 2016 Executive Board and General Membership meetings, as well as at our August 2016 meetings, the Central Florida Area Local has voted to support and endorse the following candidates for our upcoming National Elections. See below for a reference guide.

- **President---Mark Dimondstein**
- **Vice President----Jeff Kehlert**
- **Industrial Relations—Vance Zimmerman**
- **Clerk Craft Director---Clint Burleson**
- **Assistant Clerk Craft Director 'B'--- Lynn Pallas-Barber**
- **Maintenance Craft Director—Steve Raymer**
- **Assistant Maintenance Craft Director 'B'—Terry Martinez**
- **Legislative/Political Director—Judy Beard**
- **Health Plan Director—John Marcotte**
- **Research and Education Director—Joyce B. Robinson**
- **Southern Regional Coordinator---Kim Guy**
- **Maintenance Craft NBA, Southern Region 'A'-- John Gearhard**

Local news and updates:

- Our LMOU (Local Memorandum of Understanding) negotiations will be starting within the next two weeks and will last approximately 30 days. As President and chief spokesman, my intent is to open them up and attempt to strengthen all of our LMOUs, not just in the three Plants we



represent, but in all of the approximately 105 Stations/Branches/Installations within our local. As a team we will strengthen the language, remove unnecessary items, and produce concise and understandable documents.

- The Chatter, which is our local newsletter, will be arriving in your homes within a couple of weeks. We will be soliciting any ideas that you may have to see if these are contractual and can be incorporated into our Local Memorandums of Understanding (LMOU) meetings since we are always interested in our member's ideas.
- I will be conducting our fourth Steward's Training Class this year within the next 3-4 weeks. If you are interested in becoming a Steward/Alternate on your Tour and/or Station/Installation, let me know. It is always advantageous to have an APWU presence in every office if possible. You will be provided the tools and guidance necessary to handle issues that arise.
- We have just had approximately 40 PSEs converted to career within our local on September 3, 2016. These conversions were from all three crafts: Clerk, Maintenance, and Motor Vehicle. I wanted to say congratulations to all of the newly converted members! We are still actively fighting for conversions to career for all of the PSEs (Postal Support Employees) within **OUR** local and will not give up that fight!
- We are still seeing a lot of discipline such as: Letters of Warning, Suspensions, and even Removals. Attendance is the most prevalent issue in these instances of discipline.
- We were the Host Local for the 2016 National Convention at the Dolphin Hotel in Orlando Florida two weeks ago. Our local did a great job and I wanted to thank everyone that assisted.
- **ALWAYS** request your Steward when you are having an Investigative Interview, and **NEVER** go in alone with the Postal Inspectors or the OIG! We have had some instances of bullying in a couple of our installations from the management ranks. If that does happen it needs to be reported!

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 every aspect of their livelihood. Organizing our workplace is one of the most important goals of the APWU. We will be having an organizing campaign locally in the upcoming future and I will let you all know the plan and how to get involved as that time approaches.

In Solidarity,



President
Central Florida Area Local

Cc: APWU Bulletin Boards

