VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2 March/April

COASTAL



DFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF BROWARD COUNTY AREA LOCAL 1201

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO



Jeff Riddell President

I want to be on record to congratulate the Motor Vehicle Craft, and the National APWU, for the recent arbitration award concerning the contracting out of MVS work in the entire state of California. The ramifications of this award will be widespread, and have a direct impact on any current or future contracting (article 32) issues that effect all crafts. (Do you really think that as a window clerk your work can't be contracted??)

The time for complacency has passed. No longer can we take the attitude of "I'm good---none of that has anything to do with me. I'm safe!" In today's postal service, it is all related. If you have a question about that, just go down to the L&DC and ask the employees. Ten years ago they all would have said it was impossible for their plants to close----and I would have agreed. There is not a single career employee in an APWU represented craft that works at the L&DC who was hired off the street. Everybody comes from another installation! Times are a changin'!!

For the drivers of the MVS, this was a "doomsday" case. If the case was denied, there was not much question that there would be mass contracting of their work throughout

TRUTHS OR RUMORS

the country-----basically eliminating the craft. While I surely cannot predict what tomorrow will bring, I know that this is a major victory for all APWU crafts. And for the moment, most of all the drivers.

As concerns the drivers of Ft. Lauderdale, the USPS has temporarily suspended all pvs mode conversions.

Rumors

There is a rumor that continues to get traction on the workroom floor. So let's clear it up with facts.

Rumor: PSE's have a contract to the amount of hours they can work. This is **not** true.

There is only one contract----that is the one negotiated by the USPS and the APWU. That contract says that a PSE will be guaranteed 2 hours of work when scheduled and they report to work. That is a fact.

Another fact----in article 8 it is stated that before a PSE can work beyond 8 hours in a day, those on the overtime desired list who are qualified and available, doing similar work in the work location where the employee regularly works will be selected to work.

Other than that, it is all rumors!

Management in some installations, and from what I am told in the district, has put their own "cap" of 30 hours on the total for the week that PSE'S can work. That is their rule----not a contractual one. If that PSE works 36 hours, it is not a grievance. The only grievance is where overtime is considered.

Do not get me wrong----we absolutely will grieve to have full time regular bids posted

where a PSE has worked enough hours to support a full time position. That is the reason management has its self-imposed limit on their hours. Just remember though, a full time regular job nowadays can be a 30 hour bid!!! No employee who was a full time regular at the signing of the agreement can be involuntarily assigned to a bid of less than 40 hours.

As your president I want to remind you that you can make a difference. If you are in an office, or on a tour, that does not have a steward, please remember---it doesn't have to be that way. Come to a steward meeting and learn to make a difference. A union is only as strong as its members. And yes----you can do it!!!!!

Save Our Service supporters at a recent rally in Pembroke Pines.



COASTAL BREEZE VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2



It takes all of us working together to achieve It takes all of us working together to achieve #704" po

It takes all of us working together to achieve our common objective; defending the terms of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Each one of us has an important job.

You know the old saying ... "If you're not part of the solution ..."

COLA

Good news, career APWU members will receive a \$207 annual increase in pay, effective March 9 and will be reflected in paychecks issued March 29.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED

Contact Congress today and support S. 316 and H.R. 630.

This legislation addresses many key issues facing the U.S.P.S. and would help it return to financial stability. The easiest way to contact your legislators is online. Go to www.APWU.org and follow the links. You can also call the Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 to reach your representative and senators. Or write to your member of Congress: at U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515, and U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510

WINDOW

Just when we thought we couldn't annoy the customers anymore, "Lithium Batteries and Perfume" join our repertoire. You can't even get the words "fragile and liquid" out of your mouth before the customer interrupts and roars "No, No, No and No!"

Sometimes I mess around, and ask each question one at a time.

"Does your article contain anything fragile?" Customer "no".

"Does your article contain anything liquid?" Customer "no, it's just a book".

"Does your article contain anything perishable?" Customer "NO ... It's still a book".

"Does your article contain anything potentially hazardous ... such as ... Lithium Batteries or Perfume? (TA DAH!) "NO!!!" (it could have been one of those Kindle Books)

If you have acceptance questions ask your supervisor for "USPS Notice #703 and #704" poster which explains lithium battery acceptance.

Some of the nuttiest grievances I've filed is when the Post Office fails to follow "their own authored" manuals. Somebody thought of some good ideas, made up some rules, wrote them down in a Handbook and gave them to the supervisors to follow, but the labor unions are the ones directing management to follow their own instructions. Crazy!

Well the most important manual you'll find is Handbook EL 912.

Management describes this as the "APWU's" Contract.

The official title is "Collective bargaining Agreement between the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO and U. S. Postal Service".

With that said, it is just as much the USPS' Contract, and their Handbook.

There is no dispute that Article 3 of the contract provides management the right to manage. Nevertheless the Article 3 continues ... "subject to the provisions of this Agreement".

The "provisions of the agreement" restrict crossing of craft work assignments and prohibit management from performing our work. Yet violations continue.

When a line supervisor violates the "USPS" contract the Post Office should be made aware. These violations often result in monetary remedies and cost the service dearly.

diminishes we must address our fiscal responsibilities. The proposed changes to our Local's Constitution were approved. The result was a decision to make the office of the Local's Vice President (currently held by

The last membership meeting brought

changes to our local. As our membership

me) a part time position. This will require adjustments and offer challenges but the responsibilities remain the same, membership representation.

With this in mind we must recognize the important role each individual member plays. We all have a responsibility to police and monitor our contract.

There is no dispute that Article 3 provides management the right to manage. Nevertheless the Article 3 continues ... "subject to the provisions of this Agreement".

The "provisions of the agreement" restrict crossing of craft work assignments and prohibit management from performing our work. We all must protect our jobs.

When violations occur, do something about it. It is not good enough to stand by and just complain. If you witness a violation, confront management and request to see a Union Steward. If you don't take the contract seriously ... you can rest assure that management will not take the contract seriously.

"The Union" is not the National Officers; it is not the Local, and not the steward.

"The Union" is the collective. Everyone together makes a union. We need each other.

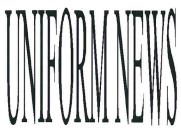
Definition of LABOR

UNION (as defined in the

Websters Dictionary)

an organization of workers formed for the purpose of advancing its members' interests in respect to wages, benefits, and working conditions COASTAL BREEZE VOLUME 18 ISSUE 2



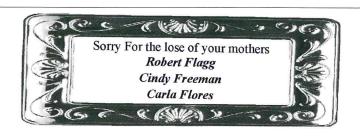


Jackie Quintana Human Relation Director

Uniform Program

I am a window clerk with a uniform allowance for approximately 7 years now. Each year when I receive my allowance, I assess "what I have " and then try to determine "what I need." I have now accumulated about 25 shirts, 2 sweaters, a sweater vest, and a variety of button covers, ties, belts, etc. In the beginning I tried the uniform pants, skirts, and skorts, but nothing ever seemed that attractive nor did they fit well. I purchase these with my own money. As far as the shoes go, I find that the companies that we usually order from carry shoes that are geared more for carriers. They are clunkier, heavier shoes and boot styles meant more for outdoor walking. So, along with purchasing pants with my own money, I also spend my own money on shoes as well. This year, when I received my reminder that my allowance date was approaching, I thought to myself, I sure would love some nice new work shoes because HOW MANY SHIRTS AND SWEATERS DOES A PERSON NEED!!!! Thus, I set out on a mission to thoroughly investigate our uniform allotment program. I was pleasantly surprised at what I discovered. I was able to pull up online about 200 or so vendors across the country that we can order from! Some of these companies are strictly shoe stores only. When I continued viewing the vendors, I realized that some of the stores showed their inventory choices while others did not. After calling around, I realized that we can choose from SAS shoes, Aerosoles, Clarks, etc. To make a long story short, I ended up purchasing my favorite \$148.00 SAS shoes from my allotment, with free shipping!! No more purchasing these expensive shoes with my own money.

Just log onto the Lite Blue website. Look for heading that reads "Craft Employee." Then "Uniform Program." Then, under Uniform Program again, click on "Licensed Uniform Vendors." Then "Uniform Allowance Vendor Listing." You are then directed to open a file that will give you the complete list! HAPPY SHOPPING!!!!



Out with the Old and in with the New Newly Retired Members

Miguel Rivera-Orta John Vatral Stephen Schlesser Stephen Acheson Betty Anderson Michele Anderson Jacques Andre TheresaArrigo Ofelia Atkinson **David Barrett** Philip Benoit Lorna Bosse Ida Bush Joseph Cervalli Veronica Cervalli Michael E. Clark Linda Cooper Susan Cortes Barbara Deal Alicia Douffet Hilloreen Douglas William Filer Steven Fleischer Emma Freeman Maria Garcia Marva Glasper Deanna Harris Avis Holloway Daniel Hornbeck Dianne Hudgins Naomi Jackson Donna Jammes Kenneth Kahl Robert Kelly Shelli Kelly Kathy Kerrigan Leona Kolodziej Florentino Lopez Barbara Lynch John Mackenzie Steven Martz Glenn McCarthy Dorothy Merman

Norma Miller Maria Miranda Mercedes Montesinos James Moody William Moser Carmen Navalo Ramonita Negron John Oldfield Johanna Parker Patricia Pevton Jacquelyn Quarterman Daniel Rev David Roesler Sallie Rumbaugh Fred Santoro Thomas Schelhouse Cora Smith Randy Teets **Bob Turner** Lilia Ulmos Belinda Wallace Jonell Wallace Debra Wright Ray Youstin William Zatorsky Tom Zingarelli Grady Brown Albert Hernandez **Edward Miller** Kenneth Nandlal Mary Rowells Jon Spoon Leon Thompson Jose Albino Fred Bailey Dennis Bosma Henry Griffin Scott Heffren Teresa Isom Jesus Lasanta Peter Picard

Daniel Tarantino Chester McNeil Antwon Navlor Shawna Mitchell Nitza Puerto-Lorenzo **Brittany Evans** Robert Rachel Latorya Stringer Daniel Serrano Christiana Belvant Anica Bell Jalesa Floyd Colisha St. Georges Thomas Markivia Michelle Alcindor **April Williams** Daris Hearn Akina Richardson Christina Wilson Twania Eatman Jessie White Kevin Bridgelall Natasha Irby Shawntrell Davis William Hornedo Antonio DUmpit Nathaniel Egerton Nora Alpizar Jenny Morales Kirby Augustin Roman Fondon



Congratualtions to all the people that retired in January and February. Hope we didn't leave anyone off the list.

Larry Shuler

Hector Soto

And congratulations to all the people that are now members of the Broward County Area Local 1201. Welcome!



AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION BROWARD COUNTY AREA LOCAL 1201 6500 W SUNRISE BLVD PLANTATION, FL 33313



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SIGN UP A NON-MEMBER

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Coastal Breeze

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COPA Coordinator. Jackie Quintana Health Plan Director. Doug Elbaum
Retiree Chapter PresidentRon Barish STEWARDS
FT. LAUD. MAIN FACILITY Tour 1BOB SCHIFFBAUER
Tour 2DALE LOPEZ, CARL JOHNSON, LUIS GUERRA Tour 3KEVIN ZEIM
Maintenance – Tour 1BOB SCHIFFBAUER Maintenance – Tour 2BILL PICK
Maintenance – Tour 3KEVIN ZEIM VMFSHELLI KELLY, KEVIN ZEIM
MVO-Tour 2BILL PICK MVO-Tour 3BOB LEHOUX alt. CARL JOHNSON
OPA LOCKA Carol City
HALLANDALE STEWARD Golden IsleFELICIA MCGRIFF
HallandaleFELICIA MCGRIFF
DEERFIELD BEACH STEWARDS Deerfield AnnexMICHAEL CLARK
Deerfield BeachMICHAEL CLARK

Deerfield Village.....MICHAEL CLARK

STATIONS & BRANCHES	
FT. LAUDERDALE STEWAR	<u>₹DS</u>
Alridge	CARL JOHNSON
Amex Tour 2	CARL JOHNSON
Amex Tour 3	CARL JOHNSON
Causeway	TAMI ACHESON
Colee	TAMI ACHESON
Coral Ridge	TAMI ACHESON
Crossroads Annex	CAROL ROZIER
Davie	DOUG ELBAUM
Everglades	
Galt Ocean	TAMI ACHESON
Gateway	TAMI ACHESON
Inverrary	DIANE NORTH
Melrose Vista	CAROL ROZIER
Northridge	
Oakland Park BrancH	CARL JOHNSON
Plantation	
Sabal Palm	
Sawgrass	
Southside	
Sunrise	
Tamarac	BRIDGETTE ANDERSON
Weston	
Westside	
HOLLYWOOD STEWARDS	
Chapel Lakes	
Flamingo	
Hillcrest	
Hollywood Main	
Hollywood Maintenance	DANIEL TABANTINO
Miramar	CHANA VILLAD
Pem. Pines Annex	
Pembroke Pines	
Univ. Postal Store	
W Hollywood HillsVE	
VV FIORYWOOD THISVE	NOMINA DUTLER- MILLER

POMPANO STEWARDS Atlantic	
L&DC OPA LOCKA STEWARDS Tour 1	
DANIA STEWARD Dania	