

APWU

Philly PARCEL

Official Publication of the Philadelphia Bulk Mail Center Local 7048, American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
Volume XXXIII Number I February/March 2016
"One Workforce - One Struggle - One Union"

Opening Day of Contract Arbitration

Dimondstein: 'Postal Workers Earn the Right to Be Justly Compensated for Our Service and Hard Work'

On the opening day of arbitration for a new contract, APWU President Mark Dimondstein stated the union's case in an impassioned presentation to the arbitration panel. The text is below.

"The interests of the 200,000 postal workers represented by the American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO, are contained in the preamble of the APWU National Constitution. 'We believe all members of labor have the right to economic, political and social justice.' That is what we are continually seeking, including in this round of collective bargaining, now culminating in this interest arbitration process.

"Postal workers are passionate in our support for the crucial mission of the public Postal Service, which is outlined in the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act: 'To provide postal services to bind the Nation together,' to 'provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas,' and to 'render postal services to all communities'...

"Postal workers are extremely proud of and dedicated to this mission of universal and uniform service to the people from all walks of life -- A mission so eloquently stated at the former Washington, D.C., Post Office, now the site of the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum, which says,

***Messenger of Sympathy and Love
Servant of Parted Friends
Consoler of the Lonely
Bond of the Scattered Family
Enlarger of the Common Life
Carrier of News and Knowledge
Instrument of Trade and Industry
Promoter of Mutual Acquaintance
Of Peace and of Goodwill Among Men and Nations***



See more at: <http://www.Phillybmc7048.com>

**American Postal Workers Union
Philadelphia Bulk Mail Center
Local # 7048**

2075 BYBERRY RD. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19116
UNION HALL Phone, Fax/Voice: (215) 671-1222/3
BMC office, Voice/Fax: (215) 673-9059
BMC office, Voice: (215) 671-7719
E-Mail address: phillybmc7048@aol.com
Website: www.phillybmc7048.com

Vince Tarducci	President
Joseph McGugan	Vice-President
Chuck Camp.	Dir., Industrial Relations
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Bill Schweiker	Dir., Clerk Craft
Robert J. Kovalik	Dir., Maintenance Craft
Joseph Quinlan	Political Director
Peter G. Villa	Trustee
Benson Stephens	Trustee
Ron Dever	Trustee
Ray Pavel	Editor

Legal Counsel

Lionel A. Prince of ...
ZARWIN, BAUM, DEVITO, KAPLAN
SCHAER, TODDY, P.C. ATTORNEYS AT LAW
1818 Market Street 13TH Floor
Phila. PA 19103
Phone: (215) 569-2800
Fax: (215) 569-1606

Michael Gallagher Eastern Region Coordinator
(856) 740-0633 (voice)
(856) 740-0742 (fax)

John Jackson Jr	NBA Clerk Craft
Bob Romanowski	NBA Clerk Craft
Jeff Kehlert	NBA Clerk Craft
William LaSalle	NBA Maint. Craft
Ken Prinz	NBA MVS Craft

(856) 740-0115 (voice)
(856) 740-0731 (fax)
1401 Liberty Place
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Regional Coordinator and NBA's are in the same office.

**Philadelphia BMC Local 7048
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Vince Tarducci - MVS	Ron Leavesley - MVS

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	<u>Alternate Members:</u>
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Barbara Jackson - Maint.	Vince Tarducci - Maint.
Christine Tarducci - MVS	Kathy Finnegan – MVS

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ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE**

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Chris Tarducci	Pete Villa

The **Philly PARCEL**
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Local #7048

American Postal Worker's Union, AFL-CIO

The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or the Local. All members of the Bulk Mail Center community are invited to submit articles for publication.

If you are aware of the death of the parent, spouse or child of a Local member, please contact the Union Office so that an appropriate acknowledgment can be sent.

.....
Ray Pavel, Editor
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The President's View



PRESIDENT'S VIEW

2016 Happenings

There are many events of importance during 2016. We have Contract Arbitration that started on February 17th. We have the PA State Convention in April in Lancaster, PA. There is the National Convention in August in Orlando, FL. There is the PA AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention in April in Philadelphia. We have the National APWU Elections in which ballots are sent out in September. We have Congressional elections, as well the election of them all, for the President of the United States of America. It will be a busy year for all as each event will require work on the part of labor.

STAPLES BOYCOTT /USPS PRIVATIZATION

The USPS was caught in the lies when a secret document was released exposing their plans to privatize many of the postal service retail stores throughout the nation as it relates to the Staples deal. In a recent report by the APWU on its National web site (www.apwu.org) there was a document found during proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) that revealed just why the APWU has been adamant that this deal with Staples—and others like it—must be stopped. See page 8 for the complete story. If our members are still shopping at Staples, you are playing into their hands. We learned that since the Office Max merger with Staples did not go through, many Staples stores are targeted to be closed.

BLIZZARD JANUARY 22-24

Hope everyone survived the community disaster that hit the Delaware Valley. It seemed, at least in our area, the predictions were fairly accurate. I was genuinely pleased that the Philadelphia District made the decision to suspend operations starting at 10 PM Friday the 22nd through the start of Tour 2 on the 24th and that all retail post offices were closed until Monday morning. Now of course, when this occurs we run into some issues that get

investigated by the union to ensure everything was handled correctly. There were grievance investigations being handled for Sunday January 24th into Monday for employees unable to make it to work. The language states for community disasters that it needs to be general in scope rather than personal in nature. Let's hope we have no more impactful storms the rest of the winter.

CONTRACT HEADING TO ARBITRATION

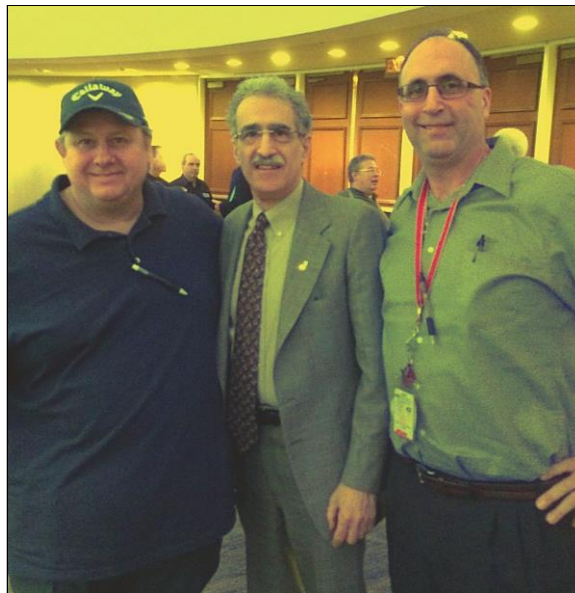
By now everyone should know that the arbitration for a new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties opened on Wednesday February 17th in Washington DC. Chuck Camp and myself, (pictured here with President, Dimondstein), traveled to DC via train to watch a second full day of the National APWU/USPS Arbitration proceedings in front of Arbitrator Goldberg.

I had spoken with President Dimondstein and inquired as to the schedule for the first three days.

The APWU had panels of postal employees who gave testimony about the work they perform. There were six panels scheduled to testify. The first two panels consisted of three maintenance employees each. They included occupation groups of MPE, ET, BEM, and Labor Custodian to name a few. These employees elaborated on the daily work they perform.

The next two panels of three were employees from the clerk craft from both retail and mail processing. These employees elaborated on the everyday work they perform. The attorney (advocate) for the APWU asked specific questions and all panel members had time to respond. I thought they did a very commendable job with their responses.

MVS Craft Director Mike Foster gave his craft's opening statement and the day concluded with the plan to bring on the two MVS craft panels the next day. Steve Raymer and Clint Burleson also gave their craft opening



statements prior to their respective panels giving testimony.

Both the APWU (Phil Tabbita) and USPS arbitration panel representative were given the opportunity to ask any question they may have had. The craft panels handled themselves very professionally.

It is important that our members keep themselves informed either by reading the bulletin boards at work, attending union meetings, checking both the local and national web site, reading your newsletter or just asking a union official for periodic updates.

As a reminder, one of the major reasons the parties were unable to settle during negotiations was because the postal service wanted a new type of employee that would have no rights, less pay, and cause more of a division amongst postal employees. Stay tuned!!!

LOCAL NEGOTIATIONS

Once the contract is eventually finalized, the local parties get to negotiate local contract items which Article 30 identifies. There are 22 items that range from overtime desired list issues, holiday scheduling, light duty, wash up, vacations, annual leave, etc. I will be working with Eastern Regional Coordinator Mike Gallagher and Northeast Regional Coordinator John Dirzius doing LMOU training at the upcoming President's Conference and the Tri-State Educational Conference in Pennsylvania.

The PPWU State Convention will take place April 1-3 in Lancaster, PA. We will have 10 delegates from the local which include myself, DIR Chuck Camp, Clerk Director Bill Schweiker, Maintenance Director Bob Kovalik, Secretary-Treasurer Joe Lockrey, Trustee Benson Stephens, Steward Neil Dossick and our three National Officers of Mike Gallagher, Bill LaSalle and John Jackson. There will also be educational training classes that each delegate will be attending during the trip. We will report on the Convention after our return.

In closing, I am following up on an announcement I made at the January GMM regarding my intentions to run for one of the Clerk Craft National Business Agent positions from the Eastern Region. Current NBA Jeff Kehlert announced late last year his intention to run for Executive Vice President of the APWU leaving his NBA position open.

Remember in unionism, there is no Favoritism.....

Vince Tarducci, President

NON-MEMBERS LOCAL 7048

The following represents the list of employees who are not members of this local union. They freely give up any rights to a voice or vote, which ultimately gives them absolutely no say whatsoever in how the local union is run. Though this may be his or her right, there is much confusion as to why anyone throws away such a RIGHT. We make this list available for the sole purpose of informing the membership.

This is as of February 23, 2016.

PHILADELPHIA BMC/NDC

EMANUEL, HERBERT, T-2 DOCK CLERK

Suarez, Michael, Labor Custodian T-3

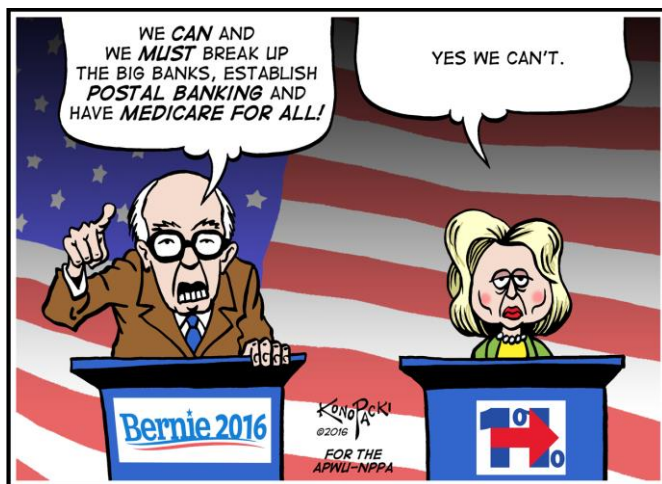
Henderson, Kennard, Maintenance T-3

Shuss, Betsy, Data Tech Clerk,

Howard, Tyrone, Clerk FSS T-3

Raymond, Thomas, Clerk Tour-3

A member who signs one of these individuals to join the APWU is eligible to receive a \$100.00 incentive.



Why Purchase Life Insurance?



**By Michael Kerper – Chairman and CEO
Federal Prep, Inc. mkerper@federalprep.com**

We've all heard about the importance of having life insurance, but is it really necessary? Usually, the answer is "yes," but it depends on your specific situation. If you have a family who relies on your income, then it is imperative to have life insurance protection. If you're single and have no major assets to protect, then you may not need coverage.

In the event of your untimely death, your beneficiaries can use funds from a life insurance policy for funeral and burial expenses, probate, estate taxes, day care, and any number of everyday expenses. Funds can be used to pay for your children's education and take care of debts or a mortgage that hasn't been paid off. Life insurance funds can also be added to your spouse's retirement savings.

If your dependents will not require the proceeds from a life insurance policy for these types of expenses, you may wish to name a favorite charity as the beneficiary of your policy.

Whole life insurance can also be used as a source of cash in the event that you need to access the funds during your lifetime. Many types of permanent life insurance build cash value that can be borrowed from or withdrawn at the policy owner's request. Of course, withdrawals or loans that are not repaid will reduce the policy's cash value and death benefit.

When considering what type of insurance to purchase and how much you need, ask yourself what would happen to your family without you and what type of legacy you would like to leave behind. Do you want to ensure that your children's college expenses will be taken care of in your absence? Would you like to leave a sizable donation to your favorite charity? Do you want to ensure that the funds will be sufficient to pay off the mortgage as well as achieve other goals? Life insurance may be able to help you meet these objectives and give you the peace of mind that your family will be taken care of financially.

The cost and availability of life insurance depend on factors such as age, health, and the type and amount of insurance purchased. As with most financial decisions, there are expenses associated with the purchase of life insurance. Policies commonly have mortality and expense charges. In addition, if a policy is surrendered prematurely, there may be surrender charges and income tax implications. Any guarantees are contingent on the financial strength and claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company.

If you are considering the purchase of life insurance, consult a professional to explore your options.

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If needed, you can access your W-2 statement on line at www.liteblue.gov/usps and follow the links to the correct page.

–Editor.

Clerk Craft Report



Deja Vu

CHRISTMAS ANNEX

I hope everyone and their families had a great Holiday season and enjoyed your time together. While I'm on the subject I would like the membership to know that the local filed numerous class action grievances because casual mail handlers performed distribution work that we are contending is clerk craft work at the Christmas Annex. These are the same violations that occurred last year and years prior. The violations include the processing of all priority mail at the Annex, manual distribution of machinable priority parcels on the 89 belts, Bullpens, Sack Racks, and on an Originating NMO spider.

BIDS

The next round of bids went into effect on 2/20/16. There were six bids posted with one bid posted as a manual bid due to the fact that we are still under sectional bidding for level 7s on tour two. Below is the clerk craft bid schedule for 2016.

CLERK CRAFT BID SCHEDULE FOR 2016 (TENTATIVE)

Open	Close	Final Award	Tentative Effective Date
1/22/16	2/2/16	2/11/16	2/20/16
3/4/16	3/15/16	3/24/16	4/2/16
4/29/16	5/10/16	5/19/16	5/28/16
6/10/16	6/21/16	6/30/16	7/9/16
7/21/16	8/3/16	8/12/16	8/21/16
9/2/16	9/13/16	9/22/16	10/1/16
10/14/16	10/25/16	11/3/16	11/12/16
11/30/16	12/12/16	12/21/16	12/30/16

DATA TECHS

Management will be posting a DETAIL position for Data Collection Technicians on tour one, the detail will be worked out with the union and will be governed under our local detail policy. We believe the detail will be for three months on tour one. Everyone in the clerk craft will be eligible to apply for this detail, this is a best qualified position so they will be looking for the best qualified applicant. They are also looking into moving the tour one bids with 0300 start time to 0100 start time.

PROTECT OUR WORK TO SECURE YOUR JOB

On a daily basis machinable parcels are again being processed by non-clerk craft employees on the LCUS NMO Sorter. Grievances have been filed and settled in the past when this has been done. We have already won this issue in ABITRATION. Processing machinable parcels is CLERK CRAFT WORK! Any member who witnesses machinable parcels being worked in any area by non-clerks is asked to write a statement so that we can continue to document these violations and file the appropriate grievances. As soon as you witness one of the violations tell your supervisor that you need to speak to a steward. We will need for you to write a statement about what you saw and you will be helping your Union to fight to protect your job.

Bill Schweikert, Clerk Craft Director

We Can Handle All of Your Legal Needs Including:

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Criminal
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Wills and Estates
Real Estate
Contracts
Business Issues

Our team of 65 attorneys, led by Lionel Prince, has worked with your membership and its leaders for more than 20 years. We continue to offer a 25% discount from our standard fee for members of APWU and their families.

Please call Lionel Prince, Esq. with any legal problems or needs at 215 569 2800 x 116 or his cell 215 620 8383.

Brendan Lamanna will now be assisting long time counsel to BMC Local #7048, Lionel Prince. Brendan has been a practicing attorney with Zarwin Baum for eight years. He counsels individuals, businesses and charitable organizations on a variety of matters. He also practices general civil litigation, including personal injury, medical malpractice and business litigation. If you have any questions - legal or otherwise - for Brendan, you can reach him at 267.765.9629, or send him an email at bglamanna@zarwin.com.

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Secret Document Exposes USPS Privatization Planning



Staples NLRB Case:

01/29/2016 - A document unearthed in proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) reveals why the APWU is adamant that the Postal Service's deal with Staples – and others like it – must be stopped.



The March 26, 2012, document exposes the secret privatization recommendation a Postal Service consultant made to USPS management: Eliminate most retail facilities throughout the country, along with the work of APWU employees.

The document is covered by a [“protective order”](#) that prohibits its disclosure, but the Administrative Law Judge presiding over the case has ruled that the contents can be summarized and brought out from behind the veil of secrecy.

As described by the judge in his order, the document reveals that the Postal Service's consultant made a number of proposals to the USPS, including that the Postal Service invest in high-traffic Postal Service locations and that it eliminate the majority of the standard-volume Postal Service locations and migrate that work to retail partners that are not staffed by APWU members.

The judge's order says, “The document was not prepared by the [USPS] and does not, on its face, reveal whether the [USPS] adopted any of the proposals contained in it.” As the APWU sees it, the deal with Staples is consistent with this recommendation.

“The USPS claim that the Staples deal is about providing customers with better access is a hoax. It is clearly a privatization scheme to transfer postal services – and our work – to the private sector,” APWU President Mark Dimondstein said.

“This document proves we are on the right track and should double down to stop this dirty deal in its tracks. Continue the boycott of Staples and QUILL.COM and continue to encourage our co-workers, families and friends to do the same.”

OCCUPY AND BERNIE: THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES

Both the National Executive Board of the APWU and Local 7048 have endorsed the presidential campaign of Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders. His decades of support for preserving postal jobs in a public Postal Service has made him our most reliable friend in Congress. We recommend him without reservation.

Senator Sanders' tremendous victory in New Hampshire signals a turning point in the fight against economic injustice. Corporate Democrat Hillary Clinton – a former member of the Walmart Board of Directors – was thrashed by a Democratic Socialist. Big money interests took a well - deserved beating – hopefully, the first of many.

But while we celebrated Bernie's big win, let's not forget those who helped make it possible. I'm referring to the unsung heroes of the Occupy movement. Occupy was eventually beaten down with tear gas and nightsticks, but it succeeded in one important respect. It focused the attention of the American people on the ever-widening gap between the rich and everybody else. Occupy made “the 1%” a part of America's political vocabulary.

Members of our shrinking middle class began to understand that economic injustice was a problem that needed to be solved. A problem requiring a political solution...

Without Occupy, and the political education they gave us, Senator Sanders would probably not have been able to build a movement to challenge the power of the 1%. But this emerging movement needs YOUR help!

Are you registered to vote? The registration deadline for the 4/26 Pa. primary is 30 days prior to election day. You can register online at votespa.com. Delaware's primary is also scheduled for 4/26. The registration deadline for the 6/7 New Jersey primary is 21 days before the election.

In Solidarity,

Joe Quinlan, Political Dir., Local; 7048



ABOVE: November GMM, scenes and 3 more Retirees: Ron Feyas, Maint.; Dawn Kurz, Clerk; Bill Horst, Dock Clerk.

Retiree not shown, Ed Harrison, Maint.

3 lovely Clerks sporting our new Local tan tee shirts. (See our ad on pg. 10.) Left to right: Kelly Noel, Karen Greenfield, and Lisa Ray.

DIR Report



CHANGES ARE COMING

It's early 2016 and things have been unusually quiet at the BMC. The "temporary" detail that took T. Morrow out of our hair for the time being has settled things down quite nicely for the employees on both the management and the bargaining unit sides of the workforce. We are just getting to know our new acting plant manager, Roselyn Bowens. I wish her luck in her new assignment here and hold out hope that we can create an atmosphere in which craft and management, with the union as the organized voice of the members, work **together** to make the BMC/NDC successful into the future.

While we have seen many co-workers retire over the past few years, and many more are contemplating retirement currently, there are still the vast majority of us who plan to be here for years to come. A productive, pleasant work environment benefits us all.

On the subject of changes/retirements, I anticipate that a number of our long-term active stewards and officers will be moving on to other endeavors over the next few months, years, or decades. With this in mind, it is imperative that we identify people who are both interested and capable of filling the shoes of some very effective union leaders when the time comes. We must start this process NOW so that no one gets thrown into the fire without proper training and a chance to learn from the people who are responsible for the successes

we have experienced over the last 40 years. We need people to step up in all areas of union involvement. Become a steward, help with elections, organize the non-members or new hires, attend meetings, join committees, pass out union flyers/info., etc. There are an almost infinite number of ways that any member can get involved, and thereby become a much bigger part of the union that we rely upon every day as we work for the USPS. All you need to do is ask.

While you think about ways to get involved with the local union, do what you can now to support our national leaders as they fight for our next contract. Wear union gear and/or blue shirts every Thursday until we have an acceptable contract. From the reports we are getting back from President Dimondstein, it is clear that this has indeed been a battle for respect, fair wages for ALL (including future members), and protection of what we have earned over the last 40 + years. Take the time to show our UNITY by wearing blue and being informed about the status of our quest for a contract. An informed member is our strongest member.

In Solidarity,

Chuck Camp

DIR APWU Local #7048

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***This famous Quote is emblazoned on the back of this current edition of our Local Tee Shirts!
(See our Tees being modeled on pg. 9.)***

APWU LOCAL #7048 STEWARD ROSTER

» **Step 2 Designees Denoted with Bold, Cap, Underline**

*** All Stewards listed are authorized as Alternates for all tours and crafts. **

BMC TOUR 1

Clerk Craft – Regulars: **JOE LOCKREY**

Alternates: Kenyatte Temple **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **ROBERT KOVALIK**, Ron Dever,
Joe Lukomski, Benson Stephens, Michelle Petrillo, Ron Leavesley, **BILL SCHWEIKER**
Rich Krzemien

Maintenance Craft – Regulars: **ROBERT KOVALIK**, Benson Stephens

Alternates: **JOE LOCKREY**, **JOE QUINLAN**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**,
Joe Lukomski, **RON LEAVESLEY**, Madonna Duffy, Pam McNeil

Motor Vehicle Craft – Regulars: Joe Lukomski,

Alternates: **JOE LOCKREY**, Robert Kovalik, Benson Stephens, Vince Tarducci,
Ron Dever, Ron Leavesley, **JOE MCGUGAN**, **JOE QUINLAN**

BMC TOUR 2

Clerk Craft – Regulars: **JOE QUINLAN**, **BILL SCHWEIKER**

Alternates: **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **JOE MCGUGAN**, **CHUCK CAMP**, **WALT SHERMAN**,
Pete Villa, Christine Tarducci, John Upchurch, Neil Dossick,

Maintenance Craft – Regulars: **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **RON LEAVESLEY**

Alternates: **WALT SHERMAN**, **ROBERT KOVALIK**, **BILL SCHWEIKER**,
JOE QUINLAN Chuck Camp, Benson Stephens

Motor Vehicle Craft – Regulars: **JOE MCGUGAN**

Alternates: **WALT SHERMAN**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **CHUCK CAMP**, **JOE QUINLAN**
PETE VILLA, Bill Schweiker

BMC TOUR 3

Clerk Craft – Regulars: **JOE LOCKREY**, Ron Dever,

Alternates: **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **ROBERT KOVALIK**, **CHUCK CAMP**,
JOE QUINLAN, **BILL SCHWEIKER**, **JOE MCGUGAN**, **WALT SHERMAN**,
Joe Lukomski, Pete Villa, Christine Tarducci, Benson Stephens, Michelle Petrillo,
Kenyatte Temple

Maintenance Craft – Regulars: Benson Stephens

Alternates: **ROBERT KOVALIK**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **JOE QUINLAN**,
WALT SHERMAN, **BILL SCHWEIKER**, Ron Dever, Joe Lukomski,
RON LEAVESLEY, Jim McStravick

Motor Vehicle Craft – Regulars: Joe Lukomski

Alternates: Ron Dever, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **JOE LOCKREY**, **JOE QUINLAN**,
JOE MCGUGAN

LEVITTOWN POST OFFICE, ALL TOURS

Clerk Craft – Regulars: **BILL SCHWEIKER**

Alternates: Ron Dion, **ROBERT KOVALIK**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, Pete Villa,
CHUCK CAMP, **JOE MCGUGAN**, **JOE QUINLAN**, Antwan Roach

Maintenance Craft – Regulars: Ron Dion

Alternates: **ROBERT KOVALIK**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **JOE MCGUGAN**, **JOE QUINLAN**

FAIRLESS HILLS POST OFFICE, ALL TOURS

All Crafts – Regulars:

Alternates: **BILL SCHWEIKER**, **JOE QUINLAN**, **VINCE TARDUCCI**, **CHUCK CAMP**

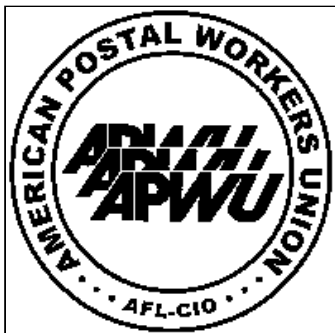


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NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Wednesday, March 9, 2016

4:30 PM

CANCEL YOUR LEAVE IN ADVANCE

If you have pre-approved annual leave in the book and know you no longer need it, please cancel it so that your fellow sister or brother union member who was disapproved can take their annual leave. On some occasions employees who have 8 hours approved for a given day, show up to work their tour and the person who was disapproved for 8 hours is told if they want it they can leave. By this time the employee already traveled to work and it is too late for them to make arrangements. Suggestion is to ask for a steward when your annual leave is disapproved so a steward can check the leave book. Sometimes it is learned that an employee may have canceled their leave at the last minute.

Daily Updates From Your Union Local

To receive updates from your President almost daily, please return this page to the Union Office with your E-Mail address. Please make it legible!!! Please include your full name, and address so we can verify to whom we are e-mailing!! Or, just give us this page with your mailing label included!! Thank you.

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