

# *Philly* PARCEL

Official Publication of the Philadelphia Bulk Mail Center Local 7048, American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
Volume XXXV Number II May 2018  
"One Workforce - One Struggle - One Union"

## **PA DEMOCRATS THIS IS WHO WE STAND WITH!**

**US Senator – Bob Casey**  
**Governor – Tom Wolf**  
**Lt. Governor – John Fetterman**

**PA Democrats are competing in EVERY US Congressional district.**

**18 US House Races. 24 PA Senate Races. 180+ PA House Races.**

**We need to Flip 24 seats to "take back" Congress this Fall!**

**This is only Pennsylvania!**  
**Our Primary Election just Concluded.**

**New Jersey's Primary is approaching on June 5.**  
**Delaware's Primary is September 6.**

**American Postal Worker's Union  
Philadelphia Bulk Mail Center  
Local # 7048**

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**The Philly PARCEL**  
Is an official publication of the  
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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** **STATE CONVENTION 2018 & TRI-STATE** **SEMINAR**

Our delegation has just returned from the 2018 Tri-State seminar and State Convention in Pittsburgh, PA. We sent a large delegation of 9 local reps plus 4 national officers in the eastern Region. Two other delegates were approved but had to back out due to personal situations preventing them from going. This was my first convention as a local president and I admit that I was a little, just a very little, concerned about how things would go. Thanks to our delegation, Local 7048 was well-represented throughout the proceedings.

We attended classroom training on topics such as Safe Jobs, Computer Skills, Use of Social Media, Grievance Processing, and Maintenance, Motor Vehicle, and Clerk Craft Issues, etc. The Tri-State seminar was followed by the State Convention which consisted of speakers from local government, national APWU, and more. We also addressed resolutions for the National Convention. Three of the resolutions came from our local and they were passed by the convention body.

As part of the convention, the delegates had to decide the location of the 2020 State Convention, to be held in the Eastern part of Pennsylvania. I am excited to report that Local #7048 will be hosting the 2020 Pennsylvania State Convention in Philadelphia! This will be a special experience and will allow us to send additional people to attend the proceedings. There will be much work that goes into pulling off such an event, but I feel the benefits to our members and stewards will be well worth the effort.

On a final note regarding the 2018 Seminar/Convention, I was extremely proud of the efforts put in by the new stewards of our local that attended as delegates for the first time. Their full participation and involvement in all of the classroom and convention activities ensured that the membership of Local #7048 got their money's worth by sending these stewards to Pittsburgh. The first-time delegates were Creshon Cardwell, Karen Greenfield, Lisa Ray, and Marcus Overton. The other delegates were Benson Stephens, Bob Kovalik, Bill Schweiker, Joe Lockrey and myself. National officers from our local consisted of

Mike Gallagher, Bill LaSalle, John Jackson and Vince Tarducci. As I said previously, we were well represented at the PA State Convention. Now it's time to return to the daily business of the local.

## **NATIONAL CONVENTION 2018**

The 2018 APWU Biennial National Convention will take place in August of this year and also will be held in Pittsburgh, PA. Vice President Bob Kovalik and I are automatic delegates based on our constitution. Additional delegates are authorized by vote and or appointment subject to EB and GMM approval. Joe Lockrey and Bill Schweiker will also represent us at the convention in Pittsburgh. As I write this article, we are attempting to have Joe Lockrey added to a committee. I served on a committee last convention and found it to be a rewarding experience that also benefits the local by having national pick up part of the cost of attending.

## **ASSOCIATE OFFICES AND BENSALEM**

We will be holding our Associate Office meeting for May on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM at McStews. I expect that this newsletter will be reaching you right about that time and hope that we continue to have the great turnout that we usually get from our members at Fairless Hills and Levittown. See you there. We have been filing a number of grievances in Levittown due to management's decision to revert jobs as they are vacated. This flies in the face of creating jobs based on all available work hours. The same problems are being faced by locals throughout the country.

In Fairless Hills, we lost 50% of our workforce when Brian M. moved out of the facility and into an EAS position. Brian will be missed. In the immediate aftermath of Brian's move, the postmaster had to take on additional duties. This led to a violation of the CBA when she went over 15 hours work in a week. After a little bit of back and forth discussions, we were able to work out the remedy to pay our remaining clerk for the violation.

Regarding Bensalem and the merger that had been discussed for months and months; that issue is now closed as Bensalem has merged with Eastern Montgomery County Area Local. The matter was decided by the National APWU, which chose to follow the merger guidelines in deciding which local would represent the members of Bensalem going forward.

Those members were fortunate, in my opinion, to be in a position to merge with either of 2 excellent local unions (Philly BMC or EMCAL), and I am certain that they will enjoy the top flight representation given to them by EMCAL. I appreciate the way that everyone kept the process professional even to the point of each of our locals taking a turn representing these members, at our own local's expense, while the process was completed. Good Luck to all!

### **RETIREES AND MOVING FORWARD**

As the days and weeks and months go by, more and more people are retiring. Congratulations to all of those members fortunate enough to have reached the point of benefitting from all of those years of hard work. The USPS, meanwhile, is failing to fill any of these vacant positions all across the country. The results are exactly as you would expect. We are short-staffed and local managers would like more work done by less people in a workforce comprised of more people nearing retirement than of people starting their careers. Sound like typical postal managing, right?

We are responsible to provide a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. No more, no less. Don't work before the tour, during lunch or breaks, or after the tour, off-the-clock, for free, just to make sure the mail gets out. Anyone doing this is doing so at their own peril. Get injured working without authorization, off-the-clock, and then wait and see how many bosses are lined up behind you to help out. ZERO is my educated guess. Besides that obvious downside, free work costs us jobs. Plain and simple. Let postal management face the problems caused by delayed mail as a result of their intentional understaffing. Prove they need less people and you could be the one to go.

On a final note, I want to reiterate how appreciative and excited I am to have new people stepping up as stewards and attending training and conventions, and General Membership Meetings, etc. I think that our future as a local is more secure today than it was 6 months ago and it is because of the new volunteers. That said; there is always room for more. This is an effective, progressive, organized local, with virtually no end to the opportunities for members/stewards/officers to lend a hand.

Have a safe and happy summer!!!!

Peace!

In Solidarity,

*Chuck Camp*

## **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 May 17, 2018.

### **PHILADELPHIA BMC/NDC**

#### **ROD TONKINSON, MAINT. BEM T-3**

Wilson, Shana, Clerk T-2 PSM-4

Emanuel, Herbert, T-2 Dock Clerk

Suarez, Michael, Labor Custodian T-3

Henderson, Kennard, Maintenance T-3

Shuss, Betsy, Data Tech Clerk,

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.*



# Now Available in Union Office

## The Mike Piekieski 2018 Scholarship Information and Applications

Expires on June 1, 2018. Drawing at the June GMM

### What Everyone Should Know about Shingrix Vaccine (Shingles)

#### What's New for APWU Health Plan Members?

The Shingrix vaccine is covered at 100% if performed by in-network providers for adults ages 50 years and older.

Based on recommendations from the CDC, Shingrix is now a covered benefit. This is a new vaccine that appears to offer significantly better protection against shingles, a blistering skin eruption that typically affects people 50 and older. Shingrix is the first new shingles vaccine in more than a decade to be approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Shingrix is a two-dose vaccine to be given to adults starting at age 50, a full 10 years earlier than previously advised for getting the regular Shingles vaccine (also known as Zostavax).



The CDC also recommends that people who have already gotten the Shingles vaccine (Zostavax) should now get Shingrix as well. The new Shingrix is officially the preferred vaccine over the single-dose vaccine. If you have had shingles, which occasionally recurs, you should also get the Shingrix vaccine.

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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 Brendan Lamanna, with any legal problems or needs at 215 569 2800 or his cell 570 351 3177.

*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 many 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 570.351.3177, or send him an email at bglamanna@zarwin.com.*

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# MAINTENANCE REPORT



## SUBCONTRACTING

Most maintenance employees have noticed that there are subcontractors in the building working on numerous projects. Some of these subcontracted projects are governed by the “Due Consideration” language of Article 32.1.A while some of them are not. Contained in our Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) is a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addressing Article 32 exceptions. The MOU lists 16 work items in which management does not have to consider the following 5 factors of Article 32; public interest, cost, efficiency, availability of equipment, and qualifications of employees, prior to making a decision to use a contractor to perform the work. Some of the current

projects that have not been grieved are the chiller tower replacement and the roof

replacement, due to these projects being contained in the list of work items in the Article 32 MOU. This list of items does not preclude the union from filing grievances for other work combined with the work being done in these 16 work items. Employees need to be vigilant when subcontracting is happening. Not all work falls under the list of 16. Contact your union steward whenever you are aware of contractors working on the premises.

Here are some updates on other current subcontracted items. The lighting project was grieved back in 2017 and is currently at the arbitration level. The manhole repair, guardrail repair, and repair or replacement of the overhead garage door at dock 90 have all been grieved and are at various step of the Grievance / Arbitration process.

## OPEN SEASON

Open season for inclusion on promotion eligibility registers concluded March 31<sup>st</sup>. Maintenance employees that failed to apply will have to wait for the next open season. Provided the language in the CBA doesn't

change, that will be in three years. Those employees that did apply now need to be aware that per Article 38.5.B.7 you will receive the results of your application within 150 days from March 31<sup>st</sup> provided that your application has been properly completed. If you applied this year be mindful of the 150-day time requirements for management to return your results.

## ANNUAL LEAVE PERCENTAGES

We are currently in our first choice vacation period for 2018. This means that from the last Saturday in April until the third Friday in September the annual leave percentages increase from 10% daily to 15% weekly,

with the exception of the week encompassing the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday which increase



s an additional 5% to 20% weekly. This increase may or may not have an impact on how many employees are entitled to take annual leave for any given day. It all depends on how many employees are in your occupational group on the tour that you work. In the event that you have been disapproved for annual leave, see your steward so that they can determine if the denial is in violation of the LMOU.

## FAREWELL WILLIAM LASALLE

Long time union activist and APWU union representative William LaSalle will be retiring from his position as our Regional Maintenance Craft National Business Agent later this year. Bill has served in many different positions in our local from Shop Steward, to Secretary-Treasurer, to Maintenance Craft Director. Bill was a union steward on tour 3 when I arrived in this facility. Bill immediately encouraged me to get involved with our local, however it took some years until I finally made the decision to do so. Bill had moved on to his current position as our NBA when I became a union steward for Local 7048, so I did not have the opportunity to work side-by-side with him at our facility, however,

the office still has many who did and there is no doubt that our local has improved and advanced due to his knowledge, leadership and dedication to the union members. In my current position with Local 7048 I have reached out to Bill on many occasions and have always received the highest level of help, advice and direction on many union issues.

At this time I would to thank William LaSalle for his years of service both locally and at the national level. I wish you the best in your retirement from the APWU as well as happiness and success in whatever the future holds for you.

**Have a Safe & Happy Summer,**

***Ron Leavesley***

**MCD APWU Local 7048**

## **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS**

All present and future retirees must keep the Local updated with your current full address in order for the Local to include you in grievance settlements. Failure to do so could exempt you from future payouts. It has been very difficult or impossible to track retirees recently for grievance settlements. Please provide current information to anyone from the local. Thank You.

**Below are a couple of group pictures from the APWU, Pennsylvania State Convention.**





# CLERK CRAFT REPORT *Bill Schweiker.*



Many settlements have been signed and adjustments have been made to pay all clerks on the overtime desired lists in the PPMO/APBS occupational group. The settlements all have to do with Article 7 violations of mail handlers performing clerk work by working machinable parcels on the LCUS sorters on tours two and three. We also file non-compliance grievances every time management allows mail handlers to work machinable parcels in violation of Arbitration awards by Spilker and Brown. We have received numerous payouts for these violations over the years.

Management has now detailed two PSE clerks as lead clerks on the LCUS 1 and 2 machines. Their job there is to monitor the operation where the mail is dumped to ensure all machinable parcels are culled out. This is a work-in-progress to try and comply with the awards and avoid continuing costly grievances that management has to pay out in settlements. All clerks should keep a close eye on these operations, if you see machinable parcels being worked by anyone other than the clerk craft, report this to a steward and/or stop by the Union office and write a statement.

## **PROTECT OUR WORK TO SECURE YOUR JOB**

If you witness machinable parcels being processed by anyone other than clerk craft employees on the LCUS NMO Sorter and the LCUS Sack sorter, please ask for a steward. Grievances have been filed and settled in the past when this has been done. We have already won this issue in **ABITRATION twice**, but management has ignored this settlement and continues to violate those awards. 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, please contact an officer or steward of the APWU so we can protect **OUR WORK**.

Use of 204Bs in the clerk craft is also a violation of the Collective Bargaining Agreement, so if any clerk is

working their bid area, and a 204B instructs you to do anything, ask for a steward immediately. This work is now the work of Lead Clerks. Management cannot use 204B supervisors in the clerk craft, period.

## **Ballot Box Security**

Voters can check to make sure their registration is up-to-date and ask if their voting machine has a paper trail.

In an age where computers seem to run so much of people's lives, experts say that when it comes to voting, it's best to have a paper trail.

This fall's midterms will be the first national election since the intelligence community revealed that Russians attempted to hack into the nation's voting systems. According to a new Senate Intelligence Committee report, in 2016 Russian operatives tried to access voter information, including registration data, in at least 21 states. The Senate report said the committee found "ample evidence to conclude that the Russian government was developing capabilities to undermine confidence in our election infrastructure, including voter processes."

A year later, the federal government deemed elections a "critical infrastructure," alongside the nation's electricity grid, water supply and many government facilities. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) then created an elections task force that shares information and best practices with elections officials around the country.

In March, Congress allocated \$380 million to the states to beef up election security. It's the first time since 2010 that lawmakers put any federal money toward modernizing elections. "I don't think that's enough, but it's a good first step," says Lawrence Norden, deputy director of the Democracy Program at New York University School of Law's Brennan Center for Justice.



## **H.R. 756, Postal Service Reform Act of 2017**

*“H.R. 756 would change the laws that govern the operation of the Postal Service (USPS), restructure how the federal government pays for health benefits for federal employees and annuitants, and alter how the federal government calculates the contributions that agencies make for retirement benefits.”*

From our national organization through our local union, we are following this Bill. I have reported on it at our meetings. I have detailed info available on the ramifications of enacting this legislation. Of course, it is moving at a snail's **pace** through the process and has a long road to go to get passed.

Following this Bill closely brings back old civics lessons on our government process. This Bill has to get scrutinized in 2 different committees before coming up for a vote on our House of Representatives Floor. So far it is getting “favorable” reviews having “passed” both Committees: Ways & Means; and Energy & Commerce.

**As of this Edition this Bill has not come up for a vote in the House.**

Then it is off to the Senate where it can be changed again or voted on as is!!!

**The latest action on Postal Reform Legislation was introduced in the Senate by a Bi-partisan group of Senators. The Postal Service Reform Act of 2018 (S. 2629) contains many of the elements of the House Bill. The Legislative arm of the APWU will be watching closely as this Senate version makes its way through the legislative process.**

Yours in Solidarity,

*Ray Pavel*, Political Director/Editor

## **Your Local Needs YOU to Check Your Website!!!**

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Get the facts, without the glitz!!! Easily navigate through the pages!!!

Jump to the national pages to get the in-depth info!

Keep up with future events and meetings!

A very capable George Dakun has agreed to continue running our site into his retirement!!!

Submit your e-mail to keep in daily touch with your local!!!

Your local's e-mail address: **[phillybmc7048@aol.com](mailto:phillybmc7048@aol.com)**

## **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. \*\*

### **NDC CLERK CRAFT**

**Tour One** – Regulars: Ron Dever

Alternates: **JOE LOCKREY, CHUCK CAMP, JOE LUKOMSKI,**  
**ROBERT KOVALIK, BILL SCHWEIKER,** Michelle Petrillo, Rich Krzemien,  
Ron Leavesley, Benson Stephens,

**Tour Two** – Regulars: **BILL SCHWEIKER, JOE LUKOMSKI,**

Alternates: **CHUCK CAMP,** Neil Dossick, Pete Villa, Christine Tarducci, John Upchurch,  
Lauren Johnson, **JOE LOCKREY** Michele Petrillo

**Tour Three** – Regulars: Ron Dever, Jim Desher

Alternates: Creshon Cardwell, **JOE LUKOMSKI, ROBERT KOVALIK,**  
**BILL SCHWEIKER, CHUCK CAMP,** Michelle Petrillo, Benson Stephens,  
Christine Tarducci, Pete Villa, **JOE LOCKREY,** Jim McIntyre

### **NDC MAINTENANCE CRAFT**

**Tour One** – Regulars: **ROBERT KOVALIK,** Benson Stephens

Alternates: Jim McIntyre, Ron Dever, Jim Desher, **RON LEAVESLEY**

**Tour Two** – Regulars: **RON LEAVESLEY, CHUCK CAMP**

Alternates: **ROBERT KOVALIK, BILL SCHWEIKER, JOE LOCKREY,**  
Joe Lukomski, Benson Stephens

**Tour Three** – Regulars: **ROBERT KOVALIK,**

Alternates: Benson Stephens, Jim McIntyre, **RON LEAVESLEY,**  
**BILL SCHWEIKER,** Ron Dever, Joe Lukomski, Jim Desher

### **NDC MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICE CRAFT**

**Tour One** – Regulars: Benson Stephens

Alternates: **JOE LOCKREY, ROBERT KOVALIK,** Ron Dever, Jim Desher,  
**CHUCK CAMP, RON LEAVESLEY**

**Tour Two** – Regulars: **JOE LOCKREY**

Alternates: **CHUCK CAMP, BILL SCHWEIKER,** Joe Lukomski, Pete Villa,  
Neil Dossick

**Tour Three** – Regulars: Benson Stephens

Alternates: Ron Dever, **JOE LOCKREY, CHUCK CAMP,** Joe Lukomski, Jim Desher,  
Creshon Cardwell, **ROBERT KOVALIK**

### **LEVITTOWN POST OFFICE, ALL TOURS**

**Clerk Craft** – Regulars: **BILL SCHWEIKER**

Alternates: **RON DION, ROBERT KOVALIK,** Pete Villa, **CHUCK CAMP,**  
Joe Lukomski, **JOE LOCKREY, JOE QUINLAN**

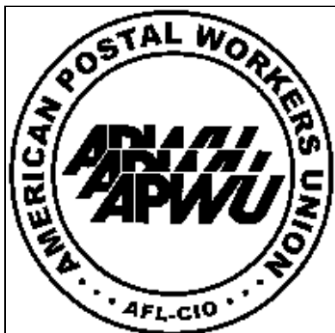
**Maintenance Craft** – Regulars: **RON DION**

Alternates: **ROBERT KOVALIK, JOE QUINLAN**

### **FAIRLESS HILLS POST OFFICE, ALL TOURS**

**All Crafts** – Regulars: **BILL SCHWEIKER**

Alternates: **CHUCK CAMP, JOE LOCKREY, ROBERT KOVALIK**



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NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

**Thursday, June 28, 2018 at 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.

## **Updates From Your Local Union**

To receive updates from your President, 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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