

PHILLY PARCEL

Official Publication of the Philadelphia BMC Local 7048

Volume XLI Issue II

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“One Workforce - One Struggle - One Union”



The PHILLY PARCEL

Is an official publication
of Philadelphia Bulk
Mail Center Local #7048
American Postal Work-
ers 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.

William LaSalle, Editor

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American Postal Workers Union

Philadelphia Bulk Mail Center

Local# 7048

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- Jim Desher* *Director, Clerk Craft*
- Vacant* *Director, Maintenance Craft*
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- Vince Tarducci* *NBA Clerk Craft*
- Kenneth Lester* *NBA Maint. Craft*
- Shana Parker* *NBA MVS Craft*
- (856) 740-0115 (voice)*



PRESIDENT'S VIEW

by James DeRidder

May 9th, 2024 - We Won't Be Silenced - Washington DC Rally

In the last edition of the *Philly Parcel*, I wrote about the grassroots movement “*We Won't Be Silenced*” movement that has been growing amongst the rank-and-file members within the APWU, other Unions within the Postal Service, and the general public. On May 9th, 2024, APWU Local #7048 Clerk Craft Director Jim Desher, Trustees Melanie Schultz and Raul Ortiz, Christine Tarducci, Shawnesse Taylor, Eastern Region Clerk Craft National Business Agent Vince Tarducci, and myself joined members of Lehigh Valley Area Local, Keystone Area Local, Wilmington Delaware Area Local, Philadelphia Area Local, Puerto Rico, Oklahoma, Kentucky, Illinois, National Executive Vice President Debbie Szeredy, and postal customers Jennifer and Emily rallying outside USPS Headquarters in Washington DC. Overall, there were roughly 70 of us protesting



Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and the USPS Board of Governors' unethical policies of attempting to silence the American public as well as the disastrous policies that have resulted in poor delivery service standards such as the Local Transportation Optimization Plan, poor staffing, workplace harassment, and facility consolidations.

I would like to thank LVAL President Andy Kubat, KAL and PPWU President Kim Miller, Wilmington DE President Trina Wynn, and Philadelphia Area Local Legislative Director Cleon Williams for organizing their members to come out and participate in what I believe was a successful rally. I'd like to thank Penny Matthews Area Business Agent out of Illinois for being in contact with Senator Bernie Sanders office which resulted in Yeongsik Kim of the senator's staff presenting a letter of support that was read at the rally. I would also like to thank Debbie Szeredy for her unwavering support in this movement. Debbie is someone who is never afraid to speak out and stand up for what is right, whether it is popular or not, and I believe that is what true leadership looks like.

During the rally, The USPS Board of Governors open session meeting was changed from 4pm to 3pm. We were unaware of this, as we were not informed by the Postal Service, however thankfully we inadvertently found out, and we were able to fill up the meeting room to capacity. Obviously, the USPS Board of Governors for the most part, based on these actions, don't care about the public's input in regard to the 10 – year Delivering

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PRESIDENT'S VIEW (continued from page 3)

for America Plan. Despite the Board's attempt to silence the American people, Board member Ronald Stroman stood up to PMG DeJoy sharing the same sentiment as many Senators and Congressional leaders to slow down the implementation of the 10 – Year Plan.

During the rally, Associate Office Director from Inland Empire Area Local (Washington state) and founder of the *We Won't Be Silenced* movement Sheri Butler, KAL and PPWU President Kim Miller, NBA Vince Tarducci, and myself had the privilege to appear via telephone on the Philly Labor Show with Joe Doc Jr. and Joe Krause. I'd like to thank J Doc and Krause for the continuous support in the fight to keep the Postal Service the Peoples Post Office and not some private watered-down version of a national service provided to every address in America. It is no secret that there is and has been a battle to prevent the Postal Service from being privatized. I'd like to think that this movement has gained some traction and has influenced members of the Senate and Congress to express our mutual concerns calling on the Board of Governors to pause further plans to implement the DFA until the Postal Regulatory Committee can do a thorough review. While PMG DeJoy did write stating they would temporarily pause some plans until the beginning of 2025, it appears to only be lip service. The fact of the matter is DeJoy is not pausing anything, and my gut tells me he will not until he is either successful at fully implementing his plan ushering into privatization or is forced to scrap it altogether.

Pennsylvania Postal Workers Union 27th Biennial Convention

Kudos to President Chuck Pugar and the Pittsburgh Local for hosting a great State Convention. I would like to congratulate Keystone Area Local President Kim Miller on becoming the new President of the PPWU, as well as and everyone else on the state executive board. With Kim's leadership I am sure the state will be in good hands. Local Industrial Relations Director Ron Leavesley decided not to seek reelection, however APWU Local #7048 Trustee and Shop Steward Dave Smith stepped up and was unopposed for the vacant PPWU Maintenance Craft Director position. Congrats Dave!

Besides nominations and elections being held at the state convention, the body of the membership (which consists of delegates from affiliated locals within the state of Pennsylvania) worked on passing and debating resolutions which, if passed, would then be submitted to the National Convention. Our local had had submitted a resolution that was passed at our April General Membership Meeting pertaining to seniority issues found in the Clerk Craft Residual Vacancy MOU. The proposed resolution passed the state, and will now go before the delegate body at the National Convention in Detroit, Michigan in July this year. If passed, the proposed resolution would encourage the National Negotiating Team to renegotiate some of the language in the MOU that would allow Clerk Craft employees in an impacted facility requesting a transfer to another facility within the district or 100-mile geographical radius to maintain their seniority. The proposed resolution also clarifies the current existing language as it pertains to their seniority in regard to Clerk Craft employees opting reassignment to another facility.

Prior to the beginning of the state convention, there was a Tr-State Educational Conference also held in Pittsburgh. Extensive training on current Clerk, Maintenance and MVS Craft issues, as well as Article 12 issues were just a few of the topics covered. Knowledge is the key to success, and anytime we can send our stewards and officers for further training makes our efforts to enforce our contractual rights stronger and benefits the membership.

Being A Part of the Union

One thing I never truly understood is how anyone could be a scab in a union shop. I do understand that there are many of our members who may not see all of the work we do locally, for example if you are someone who

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PRESIDENT'S VIEW (continued from page 4)

never gets issued disciplinary action because you are always regular in attendance, always do what your told, and never write a statement against management for witnessing any contractual violations that would assist in investigating or the filing of a grievance. That being said, it is not a valid excuse to be a nonmember.

Article 16.1 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement provides that “*No employee may be disciplined or discharged except for just cause such as, but not limited to insubordination, pilferage, intoxication (drugs or alcohol), incompetence, failure to perform work as requested, violation of the terms of this Agreement, or failure to observe safety rules and regulations.*” If weren’t for Unions the employer would be able to simply fire you without any type of just cause, or if they simply just don’t like you.

APWU bargaining unit members have historically received COLAs throughout the various CBAs, thanks to our National Officers being successful at maintaining this right. Work Hours guarantees are also another huge benefit that we all enjoy. Full-Time Career employees are guaranteed 40 hours a week, 8 hours a day. PSEs in the 200 plus work years are guaranteed 4 hours a day they’re scheduled. Additionally, in accordance with the Minimizing Excessing MOU, when employees are being excessed outside their installation or craft, it must be done so to a gaining facility within 40 miles from the losing installation of 50 miles if the reassignment is not feasible. While excessing is never a good thing, the MOU language at least provides as minimum amount of impact on the personal lives of APWU bargaining unit members.

Every APWU member enjoys a voice. If you are a member, you have the right to voice your opinion and raise concerns at our General Membership Meetings. You also have the right to get involved in committees, become a shop steward, run for office, and vote in elections. Nonmembers do not enjoy any of these benefits.

These are just some of the few examples of rights that the APWU fights to protect on a daily basis. Nonmembers reap the benefits on the backs of the membership and it’s a cancer that eats from within. This local has had a strong history of being one of the best organized locals in the nation, however we are not one hundred percent organized. Therefore, I want to challenge every officer, steward, and member of this local to take a few minutes out of their day and speak with these nonmembers who are your coworkers and maybe even your friend and tell them some of things this local and the APWU has done for you. With that said, I want to wish everyone a safe and happy summer.

In Solidarity,

James DeRidder, President

SMALL CRAFT ADVISORY

Maintenance Craft Leaders Needed

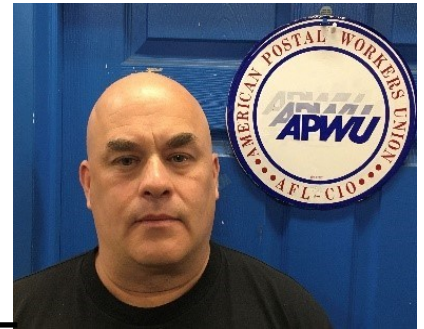
The last decade has seen the retirement of many of Local 7048’s founding activists, and our Maintenance Craft has been no exception. We now need the next generation of Maintenance Craft leadership to step to the plate and help protect all the benefits we all enjoy as members of Local 7048. This Local is among the very best in the country, but it will only stay that way with continued solid local leadership. My association with the APWU and Local 7048 has been professionally and personally rewarding and I encourage you to step up and get involved. It’s a great opportunity in a great organization.

by *William LaSalle*, Editor
Maintenance Division NBA (retired)



CLERK CRAFT REPORT

by *JIMMY DESHER*, Craft Director



Bids & Craft Agenda

The latest round of bids opened on 4/26/24 and closed on 5/5/24 with an effective date of 6/1/24. There were 13 positions posted and 11 that were successfully awarded with 2 residuals. The 2 residual bids will be awarded to the 2 Full Time Flexible employees who are still unassigned. Also, there will be 1 PSE Clerk conversion due from no bidder for a residual at the NDC on 21-day posting regular eReassign. A letter is going out as we speak to the senior PSE clerk. Congratulations!! The next round of bids will open on 6/3/24 and close on 6/12/24.

We recently had 2 retirements in Clerk Craft. Effective 5/31/24, long time active members Joseph Scullin and Gregory Nash retired. Local 7048 wishes them the best in their retirements.

Pennsylvania APWU State Convention

I Recently attended the Pennsylvania Postal Workers Union State Convention that was held this year in Pittsburgh, PA from May 1st thru May 5th and attended classes that were held along with my Local board members and stewards that were educational on what we need to know as stewards and union leaders to protect and fight for our members and our jobs. We also had a resolution passed by the State that will be presented at this year's National Convention that will be held in Detroit, Michigan. And I would like to congratulate all the newly elected board members of the PPWU, as well as our own newly elected PPWU Maintenance Craft Director Dave Smith. I know he will do his best to represent members across the State of Pa.

Clerk Craft Issues

We still have the ongoing bullshit everyday with management not abiding by the contract or our Local LMOU whether it's a seniority violation, discipline or Dignity and Respect. Remember if any member feels aggrieved they need to request a shop steward so we can get the grievance procedure ball rolling. Remember we have 14 days from the time the violation occurred to file a grievance.

Stand-By-Time

There has been for the last few months or so Management putting employee's on stand by time because of lack of work. I need all members to be aware that if management tells you to go on stand by time to make sure you are not working in any other area while on stand by time. If and when you have to come down to work again make sure you hit on operation wherever you are working at. In many cases stand by time is a tool that management attempts to use down the road for their reasoning to propose excessing employee's out of the building, so let's not give management the advantage or satisfaction. There has been no regional notification in regard to an Article 12 excessing event at this time.

Lastly, I would like to say to all of our members it's a privilege to represent you, and I will keep doing my best to serve you. And also, I would like to thank all the stewards on all Tours for their hard work and dedication to this Great Local 7048. BE SAFE AND HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!!

REMEMBER UNION STRONG ALL DAY LONG!!!!!!

NON-MEMBERS LOCAL 7048

The following represents the list of employees as of March 1, 2024 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.

PHILADELPHIA BMC/NDC

Donna Guice, MOS Cleck Maint T-3

Davis, Sarah, PPDM Clerk T-1

Booker, Saquan, General Clerk T-1

Patel, Niravkumar, MPE T-3

Patel, Pratnik, MPE T-3

Emanuel, Herbert, T-2 Dock Clerk

Suarez, Michael, Labor Custodian T-3

Roye, Jermaine, Labor Custodian Tour 1



Any member who signs one of these individuals to join APWU is eligible to receive a \$100.00 bounty.

COPA Disclaimer: Contributions or gifts to COPA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. COPA will use the contributions it receives for political purposes, including making contributions to candidates for federal, state and local offices, and addressing political issues of public importance. Contributions to COPA are voluntary. More or less than the suggested amount may be given, and the amount given or the refusal to give will not benefit or disadvantage the person being solicited. Federal law requires political action committees to report the name, mailing address, occupation, and employer for each individual whose contributions aggregate in excess of \$200 in a calendar year.



Welcome Daisy!

Well, look at what we have here! It's recently retired Local President (and long time Local 7048 member/activist) Chuck Camp with his first and brand-new granddaughter Daisy! The world and her parents, Shawn and Ashley Camp, welcomed **Daisy Summer Camp** at 12:01pm on May 10, 2024. For those that like to keep track of such things, Daisy weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces and is 20 inches tall. Daisy, her mom and dad, and Chuck are all doing well. We congratulate the Camps on their beautiful new addition, although we suspect this means a little less time on the golf course and a little more time on babysitting and diaper duty for our recently retired friend!



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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APWU Pitchalonis Hall – Voice 215-671-1223 Fax 215-671-1222
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President

Bill Schweiker
Vice-President

Joe Lockrey
Secretary/Treasurer

Ron Leavesley
Director, Industrial Relations

Jim Desher
Director, Clerk Craft

Vacant
Director, Maintenance Craft

Vacant
Director, Motor Vehicle Craft

Teaira Wright
Political Director

Melanie Schultz
Dave Smith
Raul Ortiz
Trustees

Bill LaSalle
Editor

Scott Zlotnick and
Keith Gomer of Zarwin,
Baum, DeVito, Kaplan,
Schaer & Toddy
Legal Counsel

John Louis Jackson Jr.
Clerk Craft NBA

Vince Tarducci
Clerk Craft NBA

APWU BMC LOCAL #7048 STEWARD ROSTER

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

<p>* All stewards listed are authorized as alternates for all tours and crafts. *</p>	
<p>NDC CLERK CRAFT</p> <p>Tour One – Regulars: JIM DESHER, Ronald Johnson <i>Alternate:</i> MELANIE SCHULTZ, RICHARD EUGENE, Tiffany Belser, Gordon Weaver, Zayana Rios, Rafiq Pouncy-Jones, Raul Ortiz, , Michael Ruff, Rasean Lavenhouse, Harold Genao, Brandon Relerford, Curtis King, BILL SCHWEIKER, RON LEAVESLEY, JAMES DERIDDER</p> <p>Tour Two – Regulars: BILL SCHWEIKER, JIM DESHER <i>Alternates:</i> JAMES DERIDDER, TEAIRRA JONES-WRIGHT, MELANIE SCHULTZ, Raul Ortiz, Rebecca Smith, NEIL DOSSICK, Christine Tarducci, Lisa Ray, Keonah Palmer,</p> <p>Tour Three - Regulars: RICHARD EUGENE, Tiffany Belser <i>Alternates:</i> JIM DESHER, JAMES DERIDDER, MELANIE SCHULTZ, Michael Ruff, Rasean Lavenhouse, Harold Genao, Brandon Relerford, Ronald Johnson, Raul Ortiz, Gordon Weaver, Zayana Rios, Cherice Hughes, Rafiq Pouncy-Jones, Curtis King, BILL SCHWEIKER, Christine Tarducci</p>	
<p>NDC MAINTENANCE CRAFT</p> <p>Tour One – Regulars: Ronald Johnson <i>Alternates:</i> Anthony Bullock, Steve Austin Richard Eugene, Tiffany Belser, John Gushue, Jim McIntyre, Dave Smith, Shawnesse Taylor, RON LEAVESLEY, JIM DESHER, JAMES DERIDDER</p> <p>Tour Two – Regulars: RON LEAVESLEY, Shawnesse Taylor <i>Alternates:</i> Dave Smith, BILL SCHWEIKER, Steve Fluharty, JIM DESHER, Teaira Jones-Wright, Melanie Schultz, Rebecca Smith, Neil Dossick</p> <p>Tour Three – Regulars: Dave Smith <i>Alternates:</i> Jim McIntyre, John Gushue, Melanie Schultz, Rebecca Smith, Richard Eugene, Shawnesse Taylor, RON LEAVESLEY, BILL SCHWEIKER, JIM DESHER, JAMES DERIDDER</p>	
<p>NDC MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICE CRAFT</p> <p>Tour One – Regulars: Ronald Johnson <i>Alternates:</i> Keonah Palmer, JAMES DERIDDER, RICHARD EUGENE, JIM DESHER, RON LEAVESLEY, Eric Bidmead, George Feeney</p> <p>Tour Two – Regulars: JAMES DERIDDER <i>Alternates:</i> Dave Smith, MELANIE SCHULTZ, BILL SCHWEIKER, Neil Dossick, Raul Ortiz, Rafiq Pouncy-Jones, Keonah Palmer</p> <p>Tour Three – Regulars: JAMES DERIDDER, <i>Alternates:</i> Ronald Johnson, RICHARD EUGENE, JIM DESHER, Rafiq Pouncy-Jones, Eric Bidmead, George Feeney</p>	
<p>LEVITTOWN POST OFFICE. ALL TOURS</p> <p>Clerk Craft – Regulars: JIM DESHER <i>Alternates:</i> Janaya Holland, BILL SCHWEIKER, JAMES DERIDDER</p> <p>Maintenance Craft – Regulars: RON LEAVESLEY, <i>Alternates:</i> JAMES DERIDDER</p>	
<p>FAIRLESS HILLS POST OFFICE. ALL TOURS</p> <p>All Crafts – Regulars: JIM DESHER <i>Alternates:</i> BILL SCHWEIKER, JAMES DERIDDER</p>	

Revision #24/03 (06/06/2024)

Motor Vehicle Service Craft Report

by *James DeRidder, President*



Safety

As some of you may see or hear recently in the news, a fellow USPS Tractor Trailer Operator named David Taylor recently lost his life while driving on the clock in Delaware when his tractor was hit by another driver under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

While this unfortunate situation was at no fault of his own, it should serve as a reminder for all of us to stay vigilant and safe in the performance of our duties on a daily basis. No postal employee should have to go to work with the fear that they may not return home, but that is the risk many of you take when you get behind the wheel of a spotter or tractor.

While I have written about this several times in the past, I must continue to stress the importance of reporting safety hazards, specifically in our case to the truck yard when contract drivers are entering onto the premises and are operating their tractors in any unsafe manner which might result in an accident. This should be reported immediately. This protects you and places an obligation on management to properly investigate the reported hazard. To report a hazard, simply to fill out a PS Form 1767 and give it to your supervisor. Your supervisor is reasonable for investigating the hazard and initiating immediate corrective action, as well as completing their portion of the 1767 and returning to you a signed copy as receipt. Your supervisor is also responsible for notifying you on the status of the reported hazard until it is resolved. If all of these things do not happen, please ask your supervisor for a shop steward so we can file the appropriate grievances.

IN MEMORIUM

Long-time APWU Local 7048 member and activist Michael J. Boyne of New Hope, PA died peacefully at home surrounded by his loving and devoted family on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. He was 71. Mike was the beloved husband of 51 years to Diane Minuto Boyne. Born in Philadelphia, PA. Mike was a proud veteran of the United States Navy. He was a MPE mechanic for the United States Postal Service for over 30 years. Prior to his retirement in 2012, Mike served our Local as Maintenance Craft Director, Trustee, and shop steward. Mike will be greatly missed, but eternally loved and remembered by his co-workers and everyone who was lucky enough to be a part of his life.



Mike Boyne (1953-2024)

LABOR HISTORY

by *Ron Leavesley*

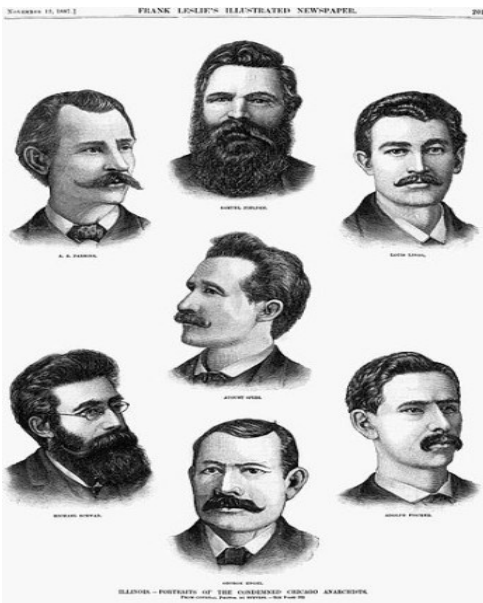
Director of Labor Relations

National Typographical Union founded May 3, 1852



The International Typographical Union (ITU) was founded in 1852 by fourteen local printers' associations. Initially called the National Typographical Union, it changed its name in 1873 as Canadian printers joined. Thirteen years later, the ITU helped launch the American Federation of Labor. From the start, ITU was one of the most progressive unions in the AFL. One of the few unions to admit women, the ITU fought for the 8-hour day and other social legislation while maintaining a robust practice of internal union democracy. By the time it helped found the CIO, the ITU had locals in all major cities and many smaller ones throughout the United States and Canada and had established member benefits like pensions, mortuary funds, and retirement homes for their members.

May 4, 1886: Haymarket Tragedy



In Haymarket Square in Chicago, Illinois a peaceful demonstration for the eight-hour day ended in tragedy when the police barged in, and a bomb exploded. Although no one knew who threw the bomb eight labor organizers, all known anarchists, were blamed and tried for conspiracy. Despite there being no evidence tying the eight men to the bombing and the fact that several men were not even present at the demonstration that day, these men were singled-out for their political beliefs.

Pictured left: Seven — Samuel Fielden, Albert Parsons, Louis Lingg, August Spies, Adolph Fischer, and George Engel — were sentenced to death and one — Oscar Neebe — to 15 years in prison.

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LABOR HISTORY (continued from page 10)

New Jersey Bulk and Foreign Mail Center July 21, 1978

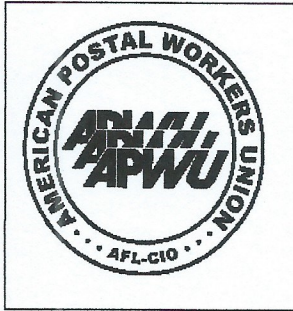
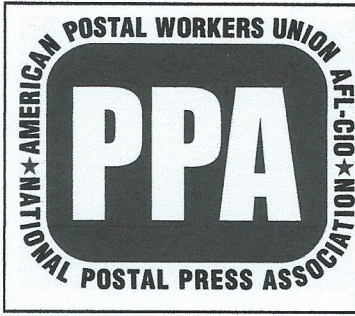


A wildcat strike begins by postal workers at the New Jersey Bulk and Foreign Mail Center in an attempt to nullify the tentative national contract agreement between the postal unions and the United States Postal Service. The conflict spread until eventually 4,750 postal workers were on strike nationwide. After the strike was broken, 125 workers were fired, 130 were temporarily suspended and 2,500 received letters of warning. The union memberships did not ratify the proposed settlement and an arbitrated contract settlement was imposed.

To read more about this strike visit: <https://libcom.org/article/1978-postal-wildcat>



APWU Eastern Regional Coordinator AJ Jones (at microphone) administers the oath of office to newly elected Pennsylvania Postal Workers Union officers. Local 7048 Trustee Dave Smith (second from right) is the new PPWU Maintenance Director.



NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

Sept. 20, 2024-1am

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 disappointed can take their annual leave. On some occasions, employees who have had 8 hours approved for a given day, show up to work their tour and the person who was disappointed 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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