

Fellow members-

Firstly, I'd like to recognize Tour 2 APPS Group Leader Tony Miller for being on-the-spot when he recognized that it was a fellow Mail Handler that had been in a car accident and then he went and pulled that employee to safety from her smoking car. Way to go Tony!

Secondly, if you happen to see Alan "Tiny" Sienkiewicz around wish him well, as he has decided to retire effective the first of June. Tiny will be using leave before he goes, but he may stop in to clear out his locker and eat cake. Congratulations to Tiny on his years of service and his impending retirement.

Usually, I use my platform here to keep the members updated, in addition to chastising management about their poor decisions and abusive behavior. As a change of pace and in light of some recent incidents, I'm going to use my forum to try and correct the behavior of some of my fellow Mail Handlers in this building.

The first issue I have is with group leaders doing the work of equipment operators. These are two separate bid positions. Please stop helping management to consolidate and do away with jobs. There is plenty of scanning, loading, unloading, and other work that is integral to doing the group leader function. If you are just voluntarily grabbing Powered Industrial Equipment on your own, please stop. If you are being told to do so by a supervisor, do what you are told but immediately request to see a shop steward. We are really acting as our own worst enemies when we help management to downplay our job duties at a time when they are cutting jobs without any rhyme or reason. We are losing needed and viable jobs!

Next up is a problem that we seem to encounter at least once a year, ergonomic rotations on machines. If your machine has an ergonomic rotation set up to try and prevent repetitive motion injuries, then that rotation should be followed every day and by every person. Ergonomic rotations were not set up just for career employees or just for people who are working on a job the whole day. MHAs, overtime regulars, and people excessed into your section should be given the opportunity to rotate just like any regular that is holding a bid job in the area. The HSTS/ATU, AI/AFSM, APPS, and APBS all have rotations and I would expect every employee to follow the rotations and get to work the different positions. Please help to minimize any chance that you and your fellow employees get hurt. We are all people that are here to earn a living and go

home safe and in one piece at the end of each work day. Whether you are a regular or not, or have a bid or not does not make a difference on who deserves to be safe.

The third issue that I have is the way that we are treated in relation to the way we treat people. Let's make sure that we are treating each other with respect and the way that we would want to be treated. I'm not saying that we need to agree with what people, including supervisors, say but let's hear them out before raising our voices, cussing them out, or walking away. When a supervisor tells you to do something that you don't believe that you should be doing, you nevertheless have to carry out the instruction unless you consider it unsafe, illegal, unethical, or immoral. When you are given the instruction, ask to see a shop steward. Do not scream or curse at supervisors. If they scream or curse at you, take account of who is around and make sure to inform a steward of the witnesses. Always report incidents and discipline to a shop steward. The Union is not aware of discipline that you receive until you make us aware of it. Don't expect respect if you don't give it. That saying also holds true for management, but we should be the bigger people.

My final point is one that we have been trying to beat into the heads of our members, scanning and swiping are both vital to keeping our jobs. If you received and read your latest issue of "The 308 Post" then you saw that just about every article written had to do with the Function 1 Scheduler and ways of protecting our jobs. It was not planned that everyone would write articles about the same topic, but it goes to show how big of a problem that Megan's misguided miscreants are causing with their ill-contrived and poorly implemented staffing system. The Union is making every effort to stay ahead of this stupidity, but we need your help in the fight. When you get moved out of an area, swipe over to that operation number; this helps in so many different aspects. Make sure to be scanning every package, container, placard, or truck that you are tasked with. If you see supervisors or employees from other crafts doing our work, write a statement. Perform one job, not multiple people's jobs. Help us to fight and stave off this latest batch of USPS nonsense. For more insight into the problems that we are facing, be sure to read your edition of "The 308 Post". If you haven't received your copy, then be sure to update your address with the Union.

Just a reminder that the Lehigh Valley/Scranton Union Picnic is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Bethlehem Township Community Center Pavilion #1 from 1-7PM.

Stay United, Stay Strong-

*Sean*

