

Fellow Members-

Let me start off by saying this, thank you to all of you who showed up for work and gave their best effort to try and process the mail in time for Christmas in spite of management's lack of organization, leadership, knowledge, and forward-thinking that was evident. Unfortunately, it seems like you are shoveling crap against the tide when the people who are the ring leaders of this circus appear to make every move they can to assure that we do not provide the service our customers deserve and expect. In 19 years, I have never seen a Christmas as bad as this one in terms of organization and in terms of getting the mail out. It amazes me, but does not surprise me, that the USPS as a whole can be so ill-prepared for a holiday that comes every year and is known to be our busiest time of year. Starting in Washington and sweeping right down to a majority of the front-line supervisors, it was a complete debacle. There used to be a sense of duty, pride, and teamwork made in the weeks and days leading up to Christmas, and honestly, I didn't see a whole hell of a lot of that from some of the supervisory staff. They just continued on with their everyday business-as-usual attitudes of coming to work to collect a paycheck, to duck accountability, and for quite a few, to treat people in a substandard unprofessional manner. Let's wonder again why morale is in the toilet and why there isn't a lot of pride in doing the jobs. Some misguided souls in "the company" feel that all we have to do is follow some of the examples set for us and follow the misdirection of nonsensical tools such as the RPG and F1 Scheduler. They think crunching numbers repeatedly will get the desired effect. Why use common sense, employee input, organization, communication skills, and knowledge of the situations and your workers? Don't try to adapt to situations; instead just keep plugging numbers into the same failing mechanism and make excuses for why something isn't working the way the printout says that it should. The chasm between the work floor reality and the land of make believe front offices grows wider. Hopefully a new year will bring a new outlook on how to do business.

The list of \$40 Wegman's gift certificates courtesy of Local 308 is as follows:

Branch Meeting 6/20 #1---Teresa Craig (drawn by Sean Craig)

Branch Meeting 6/20 #2---Kim Yoo (drawn by Teresa Craig)

Branch Meeting 12/12 #1---LaShonda Cox (drawn by Luis Everth)

Branch Meeting 12/12 #2---Joy Carlino (drawn by Adriana Nieves)

Tour 1---John Morkowchuk (drawn by Alan Sienkiewicz)

Tour 2---Nancy Martin (drawn by Floyd Steinmetz)

Tour 3---Susan Duhaney (drawn by Tony Urbanavage)

All Tours---Joe Bujak (drawn by Bonnie Cannizzaro)

Congratulations to all and remember the more meetings that you attend, the more chances that you get to win.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment in this lasting posting of the year to recognize a few people. Congratulations to all of those brothers and sisters who retired this year. Mike Loschiavo, Pam Baum, Melody Flynn, Rich Russo, Kevin McQuaite, Bill Jablonski, Carol Schuler, Lola Daggres, and Joy Carlino (in 4 more work days) have all moved on to the next phase of their lives this year and we wish them all good health and good times. I'd also like to take a moment to remember those brothers that moved on to eternal rest this year. Please keep the families of Rob Seruga, Bill Smith, and Garry Maurer in your thoughts this holiday season.

Merry Christmas to all of you and I hope that we all have a safe, happy, and healthy new year!!

Stay United, Stay Strong-

Sean