

December 19, 2021

Fellow Members-

It's the holiday season and the end of another year, so this will be the final bulletin board post for 2021. It's been a year of gains and losses here in the LVP&DC, but we can recap all of that a little bit later; let's start with the pressing matters at hand.

The Christmas holiday list is posted and the New Year's one should go up this Tuesday. The list is subject to change, so please keep an eye on the bulletin board for any changes. If you wish to volunteer to work Thursday, Friday, or Saturday then get a buck slip in to me ASAP. The current list of who is expected to work each day is posted next to this rant in the main hallway display case.

The Union is giving away **\$50 gift certificates** for the holiday raffle. This year, the Lehigh Valley is given 13 certificates (1 per 15 members) to award. Members who attend Union meetings get more entries into each raffle category. I used the website "www.wheelofnames.com" to select this year's winners; it sure beats cutting up all of those little pieces of paper like I used to do. And the winners for each category are:

Tour 1...Martin James
Tour 1...Tyeshia Willis
Tour 2...Lorita Pun
Tour 2...Ajinder Singh
Tour 3...Jacqueline Cuadrado
Tour 3...Monica Morrison
All tours...Rafael Henriquez
All tours...Joseph Lawler
All tours...Patrick Souder
All tours...Vincent Ferraro
Meeting...Zakiyyah Holiday
Meeting...Cynthia Baldwin
Meeting...Ryan Barna

This year the Mail Handlers experienced a year of growth and prosperity. Every Mail Handler here in the plant received the majority of their Union dues for the year back in grievance payouts. Most people eclipsed the amount that they paid and quite a few members that write witness statements were substantially compensated for their time

and efforts. It is good to see that so many people are keeping an eye out and helping the stewards to protect our jobs and to help create new ones.

Speaking of new jobs, in 2021 we had two mass conversions which resulted in our overall job and employee complements being raised by over 60. We still have not gotten even close to filling all of the positions that need to be filled, so there will be more movement in the new year.

We have a brand new parcel annex and a new plant manager. Both of these situations should help to alleviate the congestion and delay issues that we experienced last year. So far, Greg Miller has been good to deal with as the plant manager, but he needs to work on getting his support staff to be more professional and competent. The NPMHU will be scheduling labor-management meetings with him for the beginning of 2022 in order to try and get everything on track here.

This year we also switched over to being in the DE-PA2 District which puts us under Philadelphia's watch. That move has been nothing short of a disaster in just about all aspects, but none more so than the HR department that is in charge of our hiring, conversions, and job bids. The cherry on top is the ever delightful and always professional and personal nurse with her wonderful bedside manner. Let's hope for a New Year's resolution of them getting their crap together. Good luck.

This year we saw the joyful retirements of Tony Miller and Carlos Lavergne. Both of these valuable employees rode off into the sunset to start new chapters in their lives. What was a joyous event for them was a loss for the productivity of his building, as both were productive and reliable employees for many years.

Sadly, this year we also said a tearful good-bye to two real good guys. Kevin King and John Kromer both passed away rather suddenly and much too soon. Their departures have left huge voids in the lives of not only their families, but also of their coworkers and friends. We also had to bid adieu to former members Mike Shearer, Jordan Davis, and Fritz Schadl. Please remember them and their families in your thoughts and prayers during this holiday season.

During this time of year, as with all year long, please be mindful of your coworkers and treat them the way that you would wish to be treated. It is a stressful time for everyone and you also don't know what others are going through just like they don't know what you have going on in your life. By the same token, do not tolerate people

treating you poorly; report these infractions to the Union and to your supervisors (if it's not them being abusive).

Please continue to come to work and to work safely. Management is and will continue to be cracking down on unscheduled absences and I'm sure that the heat will only be ratcheted up when the calendar flips to 2022.

I hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday season, as well as a healthy and promising 2022. "God bless us every one", as Tiny Tim was fond of saying (not the "Tiptoe through the Tulips" guy, the Dickens' character).

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Stay United, Stay Strong-

Sean