

Fellow Members-

Let's get things kicked off by congratulating Aji Singh's daughter, Denise Kaur, on being awarded one of the scholarships granted by the NPMHU. The announcement appears in the latest edition of *The Mail Handler* magazine. We are always happy when one of these scholarships is awarded to one of Local 308's own and especially when they come out of the Lehigh Valley.

Now for the big news, the National has reached an agreement with Postal management to convert 41 MHA's here to full-time regulars by August 14th. Congratulations to all of our MHA's who will be making regular and good luck on your 90 day probations. The fact that we are short of the 41 people means that, like in 2019, people will be getting hired and converted rapidly. Over the next month we will find out what positions are created in order to accommodate all of these conversions, who will start off in unassigned regular schedules. I will be around to canvass the converts and go over the conversion process once the positions are created.

Job bids are slated to go up on Friday, July 2nd. There has been a bit of a snafu with the posting because of all of this restructuring; watch the bid board, this bulletin board, and the Facebook page for more information including the possibility of another manual bid.

The July 4th holiday falls on a Sunday this year which always makes for some confusion for a lot of people, including supervisors. **Sunday is the holiday.** If you are normally scheduled to work on Sunday, then Sunday is your holiday so check the posting to see if you are forced in. Saturday is your designated holiday if your non-scheduled days are Sunday/Monday. The only Mail Handlers in this building with Monday as their designated holiday are Mail Handlers who have Saturday/Sunday as their drop days. Please check the posting to see if you are required to work your designated holiday.

As you all probably know, Juneteenth (June 19) was declared a federal holiday by President Biden, but it was not done in time for the Postal Service and the Unions to negotiate having it observed this year. There will be negotiations nationally to decide how to remedy this issue and to recognize this day. My guess would be A/L slips or something of that ilk for this year and then most likely negotiating an MOU until it can be officially put into the CBA in 2022. That is just me speculating though.

Although mask mandates have been lifted across the area, we still must follow our employer's rule. Until the Postal headquarters releases a memorandum telling us otherwise, all employees are expected to wear their face coverings.

Josh Snyder and Mike Otinda have both been trained to be OJI's for their respective tours. They will be training and recertifying individuals who need PIT equipment training.

The debacle that was Chris Bruno's tenure here continues to reap rotten fruit for the USPS. The LVP&DC was issued a \$236,783 citation for OSHA violations reported and observed during his stay here. He, of course, did nothing to abate the problems, instead choosing to run his yap at the inspecting agent. It's a pity that he didn't have as much to say when he was paid a visit by a U.S. Senator. So much for his HERO profile comment, "We have done house keeping that makes room on the floor for mail." Apparently, these profiles are just self-authored, self-edited, non-fact checked Wikipedia-like bios. If you read his whole entry about his time at Lehigh Valley, it will make you equally hysterical with laughter as it will angry at his lies. Those who were here and lived it, as well as those who didn't receive their mail for months, all know the truth as opposed to his disillusioned tale. There are also a lot of cross-craft and supervisor working violation grievances that are starting to come due too, so his costly tab continues to run even though his time here ended over 5 months ago.

The Picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 28th. See the bulletin board post for more information.

There is a Branch Meeting scheduled (finally!) for Tuesday, September 14th. See the bulletin board for more information.

I can't remind you or stress to you enough that you have 14 days from the time of a violation of your rights for there to be a grievance to be filed. You must see a shop steward and have a grievance filed before the 14 days is up, otherwise you are waiving your rights. Too many people lately have been coming in and trying to grieve AWOL's on their record or leave being taken from them that happened months ago. We can't help you if you don't report the issue to us. Management has two hours to grant you time with a steward, otherwise that also is a grievance. Don't forfeit your rights...ASK TO SEE A STEWARD!!

In the Union's eyes, AWOL is no call/no show. If you call off, do not let them charge you AWOL. Watch our virtual time card and your paystubs on liteblue and let the Union know of any discrepancies ASAP.

Finally, details about the Annex are still hard to come by and sketchy when they are given. When I have an actual meeting about the staffing, times, machinery, and other details I will be sure to relay that information to the membership. Right now there just isn't anything concrete or reliable to share. Stay tuned.

Stay United, Stay Strong-

Sean