



BUILDING ON SUCCESS



Much has transpired since our last report, not the least of which has been the election of officers the members of this Local wish to represent them over the next three years. As a component of the transition from our 2011 leadership team into the 2014 version, I have met with Brother Sean Craig, our new Lehigh Valley Branch President and Brother Joseph Stancell our new Delaware State Executive Board Member and Wilmington Branch President to discuss their newly elected responsibilities as well as the support they can expect from this office. The 2014 version of this Local's Executive Board has already held its first meeting which was productive. The minutes from that meeting will be available to members within the coming weeks. The next three years will see this Local continuing to move forward, securing and enhancing a vastly improved financial standing with an ever-increasing focus on the day to day protection of the rights of mail handlers. As many of you know, we have made real progress over the last several years. And I say WE because it is all of us who share in the credit for this phenomenal resurgence. Just three short years ago this Local was more than \$700,000 in the red and today we are more than \$200,000 to the good and growing, a turnaround of close to \$1 million. Stabilizing the financial condition of this Union directly relates to our ability to defend our rights, and as many of you have heard me say; **revenue equals representation**. We have and will continue to focus our resources on what is most important - representing the Members of this Great Local. Focus that includes training and instruction for our stewards and advocates, challenging the Postal Service in

arbitration and even the courts where necessary, as well as continuing the established regular and direct communication with those we represent through Monthly bulletins from my office and a regularly published newsletter along with our semi-annual member's social events. I would say however, that the single most important evidence of this Union's resurgence is the purchase of a Union Hall we can call our own. Brothers and Sisters we have indeed made great progress, but our work continues as we strive over the next three years to build on this progress and I am honored and proud to be a part of it.

As previously reported the Area Mail Processing events that are now on hold indefinitely, releasing residual vacancies which should result in the filling of full-time mail handler positions with voluntary transfers through reassign and/or the conversion of our MHAs to career status to fill the obvious career need. For example, the Legree S. Daniels facility in Harrisburg has converted 16 Mail Handler Assistants to career. Further, the Trenton facility has accepted a number of voluntary reassignments into the mail handler craft in that facility. Unfortunately, the employer has not filled all positions, and as is the case in both Harrisburg and Trenton, not filled them in accordance with the contract. The Union has responded to these infractions by filing the appropriate grievances. While the notice to hold in abeyance all AMP movements and lift the Article 12 withholding provisions is a relief to many, the impact of AMP studies still affects the Local. The challenge to the AMP action implemented in both the Reading and Williamsport facilities is ongoing as we fight to retreat impacted mail han-

dlers to those plants. Within the South Jersey District the Union moved forward with its challenge to the Lakewood impact and was able to secure a settlement at the table to return two part-time flexible mail handlers to the facility. The remedy process for the South Jersey relief mail handler case decided by Arbitrator Bello has been far from trouble free. Following months of joint calculation, the Service unilaterally determined to reduce the scope of remedy from sixty-one mail handlers to fifteen mail handlers. This has resulted in the scheduling of a third hearing before Ms. Bello to resolve this dispute which is to occur April 25, 2014. The "decided" casual case out of the Southeastern facility has seen postal management drag their feet on remedy. We have been informed, erroneously it turns out, on a number of occasions that the internal management paperwork had been completed. This was not the case and we have requested another hearing before Arbitrator Owens to finalize the remedy for the violation. The moment additional details are available we will report them to you. The Union has also recently arbitrated a number of issues in each of the three districts under the Local's jurisdiction including such issues as containerization on the AFSM in Trenton, consolidation within the Philadelphia NDC, cross craft and Article 12 transgressions in Reading, as well as disciplinary defenses within the Trenton and South Jersey facilities. If you have any questions or concerns regarding these or any other Union related matter please do not hesitate to contact this office at your convenience.

In Solidarity,
John Gibson

NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED LOCAL UNION OFFICERS SWORN IN



Top Row: Joseph Stancell-DE State Executive Board & Branch President, Steve Bahrle-Vice President & Trenton Branch President, Mike Rembelinsky-PA State Executive Board & Phila PDC Branch President, John Gibson-Local President, John Hegarty-National President, Paul Hogrogian-Northeast Regional Vice President, Shelby Root-Lancaster Branch President, Joe Zelenenki-Recording Secretary & Phila NDC Branch President, Brian Carson-Harrisburg Branch President,
Bottom Row: Nick Campellone-NJ State Executive Board & South Jersey Branch President, Bob Glycener-Scranton Branch President, Sean Craig Lehigh Valley Branch President, Mike Mohan-Local Treasurer, Mark Gardner National Secretary

*NPMHU, Local 308
President's Report
March-April 2014*