

Fellow members-

Let's start off by bidding adieu to Carlos Lavergne. Carlos is retiring at the end of this month after 34 years of service. Anyone that knows Carlos knows that he was a dedicated and loyal employee, not to mention a funny and kind dude. He was given quite a send-off courtesy of Marie Baldwin, Dave LaDuca, and many of his other Tour 1 coworkers in an unprecedented powered equipment parade. I'm sure at some point I will miss being called Bob Hope, but for now we wish Carlos good health and good times as he starts the next phase of his life. Congratulations and good luck!!

Now back to business, the EFEL paperwork for absences from March 12th through May 5th was due on May 21st. Hopefully everyone who took off time between those dates handed in their forms, 3971's, and documentation as needed so that Ann could certify the leave. If you need any guidance on this leave or if you have a situation arising from past usage of the leave, then please ask to see a steward or email me.

Next job bids should be posted Friday, May 28th and the closing date will be Sunday June 6th.

The Picnic is scheduled for August 28th and we are hopeful that with restrictions starting to lift that it will be able to go on as planned. I am also working on planning a Branch Meeting for fall and a winter event, maybe dinner-dance karaoke.

Until the Postal Service declares that masks are no longer mandatory, you still are required to wear them while in this building. Please don't think that the CDC's or President Biden's declarations carry weight in here until the law department reviews and releases their versions of the policy to implement. Even when that occurs, you may not receive a stand-up talk about it from management. If you want answers, ask the Union.

There is a lot of talk on the floor about a new annex. The details about the new annex are still few and sketchy. When I have more solid information to give, then I will post it. For now, all that I know is that there will be a new annex and it will be utilized for the NMO/parcel post volume and most likely the Sharps mail. It is being targeted for a July 1 opening date. If this is going to be a long-term building, then I will be pushing for actual bid jobs in there, not details. There are a lot of questions to be addressed such as staffing, hours of operation, transportation, equipment, and other concerns

that I have. I will post more after having official discussions with the management staff.

Grievance activity continues to be heavy as we are still 11 MHAs and 4 regulars under our complement numbers. Of course those deficits are about to increase at the beginning of next month and it appears that help is not on the way because for the last 6 orientations we haven't had any MHAs hired. If you see clerks or supervisors performing Mail Handler work, write a statement to help protect and create jobs and even make a little money.

Josh Snyder received steward training on 4/28-29 and will be a Tour 1 shop steward now.

I am trying to get on Facebook more regularly to keep people in the loop in that medium, but I'm not always on it. I do get on about job bids, but I'm not on it 24/7, so if you need to get a hold of me the best way to reach me is still by email. I do recommend joining the Facebook group, though, because other people post things that sometimes I'm a little late on. If you're on Facebook and not in the group, request to join "NPMHU 308 Lehigh Valley". It's a private group where we try to keep you updated and where we can make fun of a certain transportation supervisor that has delusional thoughts about having been the best Mail Handler ever.

We are still awaiting word on who will be our official plant manager. In the interim, Greg Miller continues to try and steer the plant to better service and higher productivity. Dealing with him is a far cry from what we dealt with from September through December of last year. If you read the former plant manager's profile it appears that he paints himself as a savior, not a problem; the legend of The Fixer continues on (in his mind).

With all of the redistricting and relocations of EAS personnel, the next few months may be turbulent and confusing, but we will continue on and wait to see who lands where.

Stay safe and stay healthy-

Stay United, Stay Strong-

Sean

