



# AMP OVERLOAD!



The recent announcement by the Postal Service to conduct Area Mail Processing (AMP) feasibility studies on 252 mail processing facilities nationwide including many within the jurisdiction of Local 308 sent shock waves through the rank and file. This knee jerk reaction from Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe is not at all atypical of Postal management. How many times have we seen this shoot first approach without consideration to the employees that Donahoe himself has described as increasingly productive. The reward for our efficiency, more dislocation and hardship to the working men and women of the Mail handlers Union and their families.

As many already know the purpose of these studies is to determine the operational feasibility of consolidating some or all mail processing operations of two or more facilities into one. Branch Presidents and other Union representatives of each of the impacted facilities within the jurisdiction of Local 308 have already been provided specific contractual information and opening strategies. It is clear that the potential disruption to the lives of the members of this Union and their families is great, but rest assured that we will do everything within our power to eliminate or at the very least minimize the impact. Our National office, although entrenched in collectively bargaining for a new National Agreement, has already provided support to this Local and other Locals in our

efforts to defend against the radical steps the Postal Service has now undertaken. We understand the potential impact to the scores of mail handlers we represent and the anxiety the AMP announcement has created. We are committed to and will continue to provide you with relevant information as soon as it becomes available.

It is not lost on us that there very well may be an underlying management agenda in the timing of this announcement, as all Postal stakeholders lobby Capitol Hill for relief from the burdensome and unnecessary \$5.5 billion dollar payment due at the end of this month. Or to create an incentive for those eligible employees, who, now faced with potential dislocation and reassignment, are forced to retire. Or as a simple negotiating ploy in the midst of bargaining with three Postal Unions. Notwithstanding the potential for their hidden agenda, it is our intention to employ any and all resources at our disposal to fight any violation of our rights as Mail Handlers. In the meantime please do not hesitate to contact your Branch President or me directly with any questions or concerns on this or any other Union related matter.

In Solidarity,  
John Gibson  
President—Local 308



## AMERICA'S POSTAL EMPLOYEES ARE RALLYING IN EVERY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 27TH TO SAVE AMERICA'S POSTAL SERVICE

All four Postal Unions and NAPS as well as other postal supporters will participate in informational rallies across the country in an effort designed to encourage our legislators to pass HR 1351. For those of you who still don't know, HR 1351, The United States Pension Obligation Recalculation and Restoration Act of 2011, legislation introduced by Congressman Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and now supported by 206 of Congressman Lynch's colleagues, addresses both the overfunding of the Civil Service and Federal Employee Retirement Systems, estimated by independent auditors to be overfunded by as much as \$82 Billion, and the requirement to pay \$5.5 Billion annually into the Retiree Health Benefit Fund. A fund, which unlike any private or public sector equivalent, is currently fully funded for the next 75 years. These are burdens that have led to the current fiscal crisis for the USPS. In fact, without the \$5.5 Billion requirement, the Postal Service over

the last four years, a period which witnessed a global financial meltdown and an economy in critical decline, would have recorded a net profit. I did not misspeak, the USPS would have been in the black if not for the unnecessary and burdensome \$5.5 Billion dollar payment.

The effect of this financial burden on the Service is now more tangible than ever before and may be the main contributor to the Service's recent announcement to begin studying the feasibility of consolidating or closing 252 mail processing facilities. (See AMP OVERLOAD).

During these informational rallies, we will visit the home office of each member of the House of Representatives, and thank those members who have signed on as co-sponsors of H.R. 1351. For those who have not signed as co-sponsors of H.R. 1351, we will respectfully encourage them to do so.

Contact Your Branch President for

Rally Locations and Site Coordinator information.

**JOIN US!**

**THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE!**

### POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE



Throughout the history of the Labor movement in North America the greatest strides have occurred as the result of an active and aggressive legislative agenda by working men and women. As a matter of law no dues money can be spent directly by any labor organization to advance the candidacy of any individual. However, we can donate voluntarily to the PAC, which will be used to contribute to the campaigns of those individuals, of any party, who have demonstrated a support for the NPMHU and working people. Please visit [npmhu308.org](http://npmhu308.org) or see your Union rep to find out how you can become a political activist and defend your rights as a working person.

**PLEASE POST**

*NPMHU, Local 308  
President's Report  
September 2011*