

Razorback Scheme

American Postal Workers Union • Fayetteville Arkansas Local 667

December 2014 – January 2015

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Ike Mills, Local President

Well, by the time this newsletter makes it to you, the holidays will be pretty much completed. I hope and pray that you all had good holidays and that the Lord gave you all many blessings to rejoice about. As I'm sure you all have heard by now, management is planning on implementing some massive changes within the mail processing network on January 5, 2015. And with those changes, there will be a total realignment of the bid positions within the Fayetteville Installation. After management lets the Union know what the exact plan is, we will let all know the details. Until then, we all need to be vigilant in contacting our representatives in Washington, DC and let them know we are against the [just retired] Postmaster General's plan to delay America's mail delivery. Unless we get everyone we

know involved, we will lose this battle. Please get active before it's too late.

For you members that are in the smaller offices – the final decision of the arbitrator concerning the Post Plan grievance has been issued, and there are some MOUs and Q&As on the APWU website that concerns each one of you. If you have any questions at all about the settlement and how it affects you and your office, please contact me or Vinny and let us help you protect your jobs.

2015 Choice Vacation picks are well on the way and should be completed on December 15th. Incidental picks for the Full Time employees should begin on December 22nd and leave picks for the PSEs should open up on January 5, 2015.

Yours in solidarity,
Ike Mills



Local Officers Elected 2014-2016:

L. to R. – Jim Jacobs (Financial Secretary), Ted Smith (Vice-President), Rebecca Marks (Recording Secretary), Ike Mills (President), and Loren Adams (Editor-Publisher)

The *RAZORBACK SCHEME* is the official voice of the Fayetteville APWU Local. However, opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual writers and not necessarily those of the APWU, Local, officials or Editor. Articles, artwork, cartoons and/or other material are solicited from member readers who wish to share their views. Although freedom of the press is recognized, contributors are exhorted not to submit derogatory material about any fellow union member or to submit any false or unsubstantiated allegation concerning management or any other individual inside or outside this organization. All letters must be signed (if hard-copied) or emailed via an identifiable, recognized screen name and are requested to have been received by the Editor ten (10) days prior to the announced publication date. Names will be withheld upon request. Send submissions to *RAZORBACK SCHEME*, P.O. Box 654, Fayetteville AR 72702; or email to Editor's screen name listed below or on website. Submissions may be returned upon request.

OFFICERS

President.....Royce D. "Ike" Mills
Vice-President.....Vinny Dachtile
Financial Secretary.....Jim Jacobs
Recording Secretary.....Rebecca Marks
Editor-Publisher.....Loren Adams

STEWARDS – ALTERNATES

Chief Steward.....Ike Mills
Tour One.....Jeremiah Muckleroy
Tour Two.....Cheryl Wing
Tour Three.....Vinny Dachtile
Maintenance.....Tony Crowsey

Safety Representative.....Nancy Sramek
Webmaster.....Jake Lamkins

NEXT UNION MEETING:

Sunday, January 11, 2015
Jim's Razorback Pizza – 1:00 pm

APWU Fayetteville Local – 2300 S City Lake Rd
P.O. Box 654 – Fayetteville AR 72702
Phone: (479) 571-1006 – fax: (479) 442-7131

Websites:

<http://FayettevilleAPWU.tripod.com/>

National APWU website:

www.apwu.org

E-Mail:

President: roycedmills@att.net
Vice-President: draco929@gmail.com
Maintenance Steward:
APWUMaintSteward@gmail.com
Editor: LAdams727@aol.com

Associate Offices:

Elkins, Huntsville, Lowell, Prairie Grove & West Fork

INTRODUCING OUR NEW RECORDING SECRETARY

My fellow brothers and sisters:

At our last union meeting, Sonya Kirsch and I were nominated for Recording Secretary. With Sonya rescinding her nomination, I will now serve as your Recording Secretary. My name is Rebecca Marks. I began my career in January 1987 as a CFS clerk in Fort Smith. I became involved with the Union and served as a steward for 5 1/2 years and was the State Editor for almost 7 years. Over the past almost 28 years I have experienced a lot of changes with the Post Office. When first starting at the Post Office, I was told that our jobs would eventually move to Fayetteville. That was 28 years ago, and I didn't believe it. So, years later when the realization hit and they closed down the plant, I made the choice to make a change to transfer up here.

As with everything, there needs to be changes to propel us in the right direction. Our Union is being chopped away at the pillar, and if we don't stop it, it's going to destroy the structure of what was built for us years ago, our Union – the Union that fought and got for us our good pay, benefits, and rights as employees.

I want to finish my career the way I started my career: in the Union... with a bang!! I bring with me knowledge, ideas, and a listening ear. I'm looking forward to the next two years.

Instead of doing a Christmas party this year, we're going to be giving our members a turkey. At this time we are planning to pick them up Friday, December 19th. It was discussed at the meeting that if you cannot make it to the pick-up point, that your turkey will be donated to a shelter. We will post information at all the offices closer to time.

Again, I look forward to being your Secretary and serving your Local well.

Merry Christmas and happy new year!!!

Rebecca Marks

The National Contract

*Together we stand,
Divided we fall.
We bargain together
Or not at all!*

*Standing together,
Side by side;
Brothers and sisters,
The tears we have cried.*

*Tears of joy,
Tears of pain;
On sunny days
In pouring rain.*

*The easy road,
Far less traveled;
We remain strong,
Vice being bridled.*

*Hardship and loss,
Our union must face –
Gives way to the joy,
Of a strong contract base.*

By Andrew Heyd