



# The Corner Stone

PUBLICATION OF WATERLOO LOCAL #451  
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO  
MEMBER OF APWU POSTAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

March 2007



Retiree's Get-Together  
Mondays at 1:00pm  
University Ave. McDonald's  
Across from HY-Vee

## Scheduling issues....

From the President's chair...



Dwight Slaikeu



As I write this we've just come off the weekend of another attempt to schedule overtime both on and off the OTDL. Not surprisingly, it didn't work so well. If I mention that it works better if they don't try to do this in a sudden lurch it might work better, will they remember next time? History does seem to repeat itself, all you have to do is wait awhile. I guess the one part I really don't understand is that the message to bump up the overtime to get the delayed flats prepped came out on Thursday afternoon but nothing happened until Friday night. Where'd the missing 24 hours go? Yes, we will be looking at the ramifications.

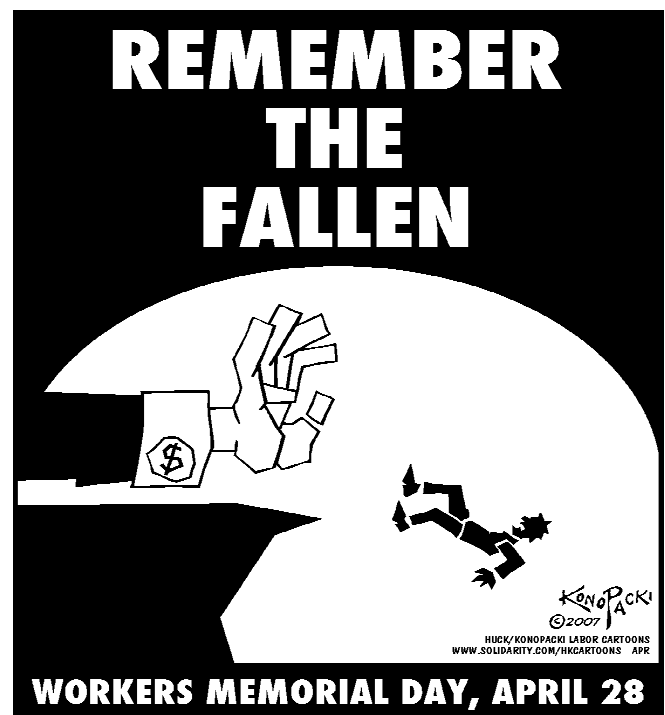
My next subject is something I've brought up to some members and many Supervisors over the years but it continues to be a problem. **The holiday sign-up sheet is for a 3-day period only.** If your non-scheduled day(s) are not a part of that 3-day period, please do not sign the list to volunteer to work your non-scheduled day. An example of what I'm getting at...let's use a Monday holiday. The 3-day holiday period is Saturday, Sunday & Monday. Unless at least one of your non-scheduled days falls on those 3 days, do not sign the volunteer list for non-scheduled day. For all days outside that 3-day period, the normal OTDL rotation must be used. Signing your name to that list only complicates things and causes confusion for some. I'll use the 4<sup>th</sup> of July this year for another example. It falls on Wednesday and let's say you have Saturday/Sunday off. The 3-day holiday period is Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. You certainly may sign up to work your holiday (Wednesday) but to sign up for your days off (Saturday & Sunday) would not be legitimate.

Hopefully your Supervisor is using the OTDL for those days. Now let's switch your days off to Sunday/Monday. Sunday should fall into the regular OTDL rotation while Monday will be assigned per the holiday pecking order so go ahead and sign up for Monday if you want. And a couple of side requests... please don't write in other people's

names, please don't write in "No, No, No" and for sure quit writing in "Hell No". If there's anything I wasn't clear on and you have questions, please, feel free to ask & I'll try to explain it better. I won't make this explanation worse by going into detail but sometime when we hit a Sunday holiday, be sure to check on it because it can be a little weird.

Members, remember to get your COPA raffle tickets for the Hawkeye stuff being drawn for at this month's meeting. Also, check the board for a year-long raffle we have going. Those of you who have COPA donations automatically withdrawn have been entered in the year-long raffle but you'll have to buy separate tickets for the short-term monthly raffles.

Due to the Tri-State Convention the 16th & 17th, the meeting this month has been moved to the 24<sup>th</sup>. Be sure you mark your calendars as such or you'll be eating pizza by yourself. Hope to see you at that meeting and, with any luck at all, the weather will finally be turning towards the better.





# Secretary's Report

By: Mike Burke



## APWU LOCAL 451

February 17, 2007

The meeting of the APWU Local 451 was called to order at 11:10am. at the OP with 13 members, 1 retiree (Stan Drewelow) and 1 guest (John Schlimmer) from the Janesville P0 present.

A **motion** was made by Glenn Staudinger and seconded by Chris Salinas to accept the minutes as printed in the Corner Stone. **Motion carried.**

The Treasurers Report was read by Glenn Staudinger. A **motion** was made to put the report on file for review by Glenn Staudinger and seconded by Mike Burke. **Motion carried.**

### Officers Reports:

#### Presidents Report:

1. COPA - There was no hat pass because we are going to have a raffle. Chris Salinas has set up a couple of raffles to raise COPA funds. He has some pretty nice prizes, so come to the meetings and get the info. There will be many small raffles throughout the year and in November there will be a raffle for a Sirius Radio. The money raised at this months meeting was \$60.00.
2. Once again!!! Someone has found errors on their pay stub. Please watch them very close, after all it's your money their losing. Just a note here-if you are going to be working at a job which is a higher level, make sure you fill out a form 1723 to get paid.
3. Leave - do not ever go into the new leave year with more than 440 hours to carry over or you will lose it.
4. Tri State Convention - March - If you have any issues that you want brought up at this convention, get them to Dwight.
5. Congrats to Jo Scott and Nate Burdine, they are now regulars!!!! The other 2 ptf's will be converted soon.
6. Retirement Seminar-Dwight recently attended this seminar and stated that if you are in the TSP program you need to be putting in a minimum of 5% or as much of that as you can afford because this will end up being more than 1/3 of your retirement.
7. If you want a copy of the new contract the sign-up sheet is here on this board.

**Editor:** Chris Salinas is still trying to get someone from the Labor Council to come and talk at one of our meetings. The Black Hawk Council meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:00pm. If someone is interested in going to these meeting for our local please contact Dwight.

### Old Business:

The next meeting will be held on March 24 at 11:00 am. at the OP, due to the Tri State which is the third Saturday of the month.

A reminder - the Local 451 will be hosting the State Convention in May of 2008.

### New Business:

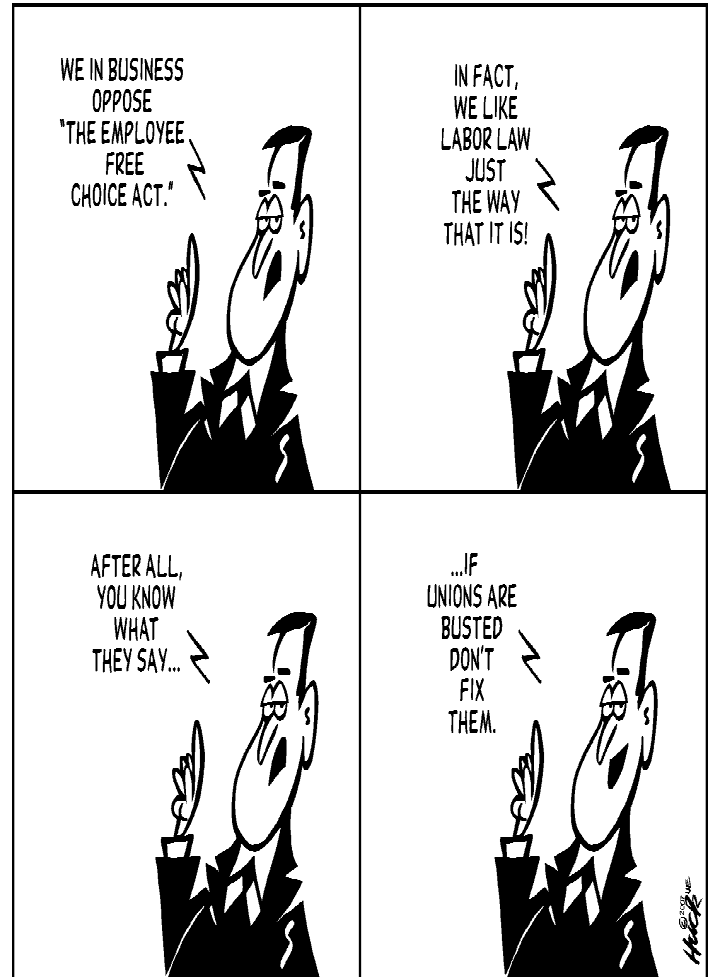
The State Convention in 2007 will be held in Ft. Dodge on April 28 and 29 Registration is \$30.00 and rooms are \$70.00 plus tax. A **motion** was made by Paulette Woods and seconded by Bonnie Salinas to send Dwight Slaikeu, Randy Weverink, Gary Acuff, Jerry Kemmer and Kim Karol to the State Convention with all normal and customary expenses paid. **Motion carried.**

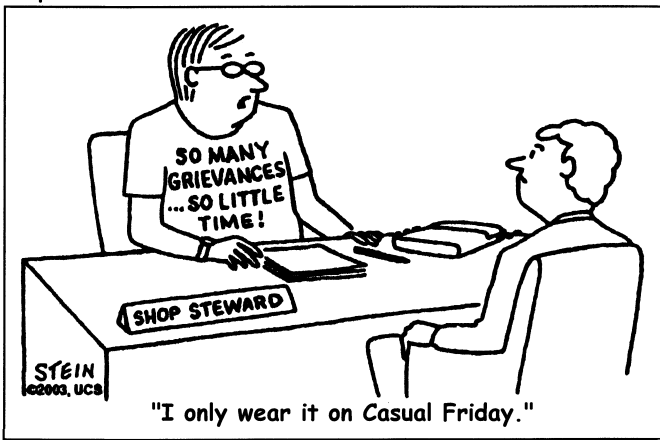
Chris Salinas is going to the State House in Des Moines to lobby for labor issues. If you would like to send a letter to your Representatives get it to Chris by Feb. 24th. Meri Kay Chase will be going to lobby in March also.

**Drawing:** A **motion** to hold the drawing was made by Glenn Staudinger and seconded by Jerry Kemmer. **Motion carried.** Mike Burke won the door prize.

**Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn was made by Paulette Woods and seconded by Meri Kay Chase. Motion carried at 12:07 pm.

**Members present:** Glenn Staudinger, Dwight Slaikeu, Mike Burke, Terry McEntee, Chris Salinas, Gary Acuff, Kim Karol, Linda Youngberg, Jerry Kemmer, Kris Engelmann, Paulette Woods, Meri Kay Chase and Bonnie Salinas.





### Congressman wants answers.

In a recent letter to a U.S Postal Service (USPS) official, Congressman Bart Stupak, D-MI, has asked for an update on a study some fear threatens to close the mail processing facility in Gaylord.

As of March 9th, Stupak had not received a response to his Feb. 7 letter addressed to Tom Day, senior vice president of government relations for the USPS, according to his press secretary Alex Haurek.

The controversy dates back to an Area Mail Processing (AMP) study at the Gaylord facility, which began in December 2005. The study analyzes the feasibility of moving the processing and distribution operations, which generally employ about 80 of the 120 postal positions in Gaylord, to Traverse City.

The AMP survey has drawn criticism from American Postal Workers Union (APWU) officials in the past, spilling into their participation of local APWU members in a nationwide day of picketing last October

Critics of USPS handling of the matter believe the AMP has long exceeded the 180-day time frame to complete such a study, referenced in the USPS Handbook PO-408.

In his letter, Congressman Stupak specifically highlighted reported personnel decisions coupled with installation of modern processing equipment at Traverse City and denial of equivalent equipment for Gaylord as troublesome. Stupak questioned the appearance of unfair treatment for the Gaylord plant, which could skew the AMP results in favor of consolidation with the Traverse City facility.

## Treasurer's Books... By: Glenn Staudinger

March 5, 2007

FEB. Receipts: \$2,567.98

FEB. Expenses: \$346.47

MAR. Receipts: \$0

MAR. Expenses: \$972.27

FOR A BREAKDOWN OF THESE NUMBERS,  
COME TO THE MEETING!

## POSTAL NEWS

### Plan to shutdown 3 postal centers halted.

Acting on concerns raised by labor and community activists, a congressman has stepped in to put a temporary hold on plans to close three Bronx mail processing facilities.

The Inspector General of the U.S. Postal Service will review the controversial proposal following the intervention of Rep. Jose Serrano (D-NY) at the behest of postal union members and community groups.

Shortly after raising the issue with Postmaster General John Potter, Serrano, chairman of a powerful subcommittee with control over the USPS budget, received a letter from Potter backpedaling on the closure plan.

"I understand and take very seriously concerns you voiced regarding this potential consolidation of the Bronx mail processing operations into Morgan Station in Manhattan," Potter wrote. "I have requested the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to perform a thorough review of this proposed consolidation."

"This will at least give a chance to examine the actual effects it would have," said Serrano. "Short of stopping it from happening outright, this was a good result."





### Waterloo Local #451 Officers

President - Dwight Slaikeu  
 Vice-President - Kim Karol  
 Steward Director - Vanda Blankenship  
 Secretary - Mike Burke  
 Treasurer - Glenn Staudinger

Trustees - Dave Knebel  
 Jenelle Brucher  
 Julie Schmitz  
 Editor - Chris Salinas

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## The Corner Stone

AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION  
 WATERLOO LOCAL #451  
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 WATERLOO, IA 50704

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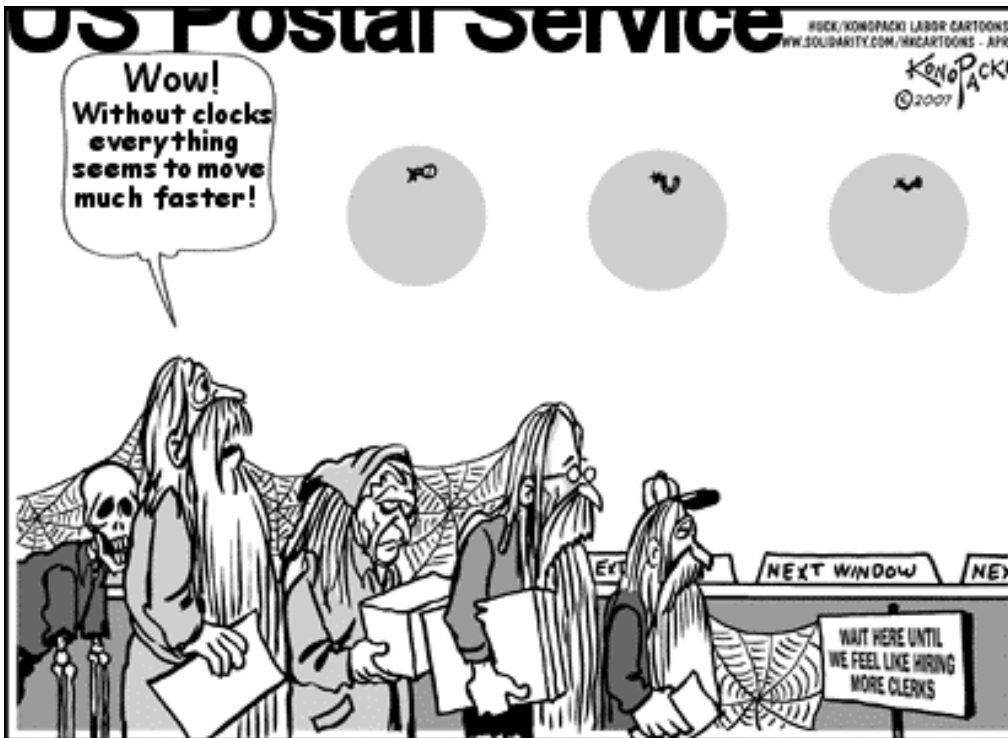
## Union Meeting

March 24th @ 11am

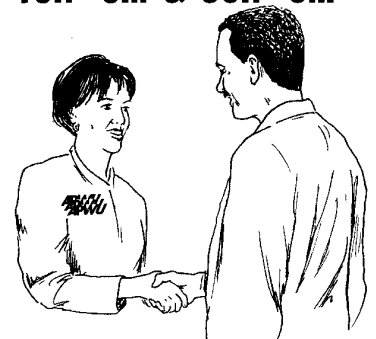
### THE OTHER PLACE

3904 Lafayette Rd  
 Evansdale, IA

Guest Speaker: Steve Abbott  
 Black Hawk Union Council



— CLOSE THE RANKS —  
**Tell 'em & Sell 'em**



**BRING IN A  
 NEW MEMBER!**

**UNITED, WE CAN  
 STAND TOGETHER!**

**DIVIDED, WE BEG  
 FOREVER!**