



The Corner Stone

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

September 2008



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

It's Election Time.....

From the President's chair...



Dwight Slaikeu



For the most part it appears Summer has come to an end. Weird weather throughout, huh? I sincerely hope everyone affected by the tornadoes, floods, etc. at least have a good start on getting put back together. Obviously, it'll take longer for some than for others.

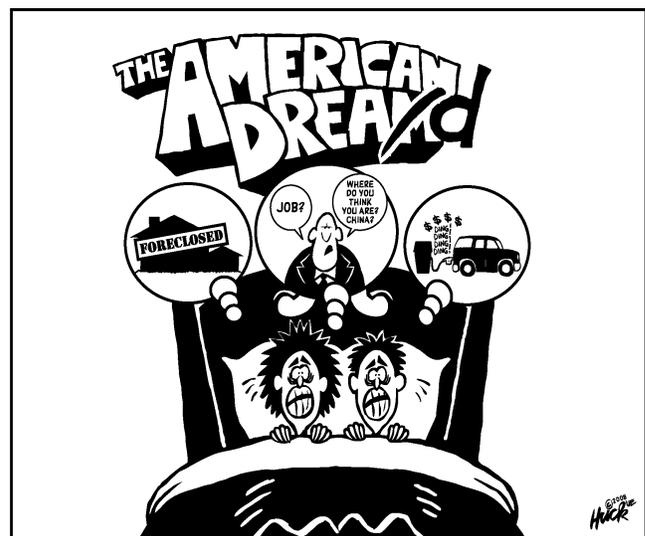
With the onset of Fall, 2008 brings on another set of double elections for us. First, and most important, is the National General Election in November. If you've been paying attention at all to the various APWU writings, you know which candidates are friends of the working people. If you need some help in that direction, or if you're unsure who is who, jump on your computer and bring up the apwu.org website. You'll find all sorts of pro and con information there to help you. For those of you who are having trouble with Senator Obama, take a closer look at both candidates. There really is good reason APWU has endorsed him. **But, whatever you do in that regard, make darn sure you get out there and vote when the time comes!** The outcomes of all races are far too important to just let it slide. It's sometimes easy as Postal Workers to think we're somehow not affected by what happens outside our federal employment. Well we are affected and as time goes on we'll probably be more and more affected. Pay attention or you'll be looking back wondering what happened. You'll hear it again next month, I'm sure, but I'll say it again anyway...VOTE, it's important!

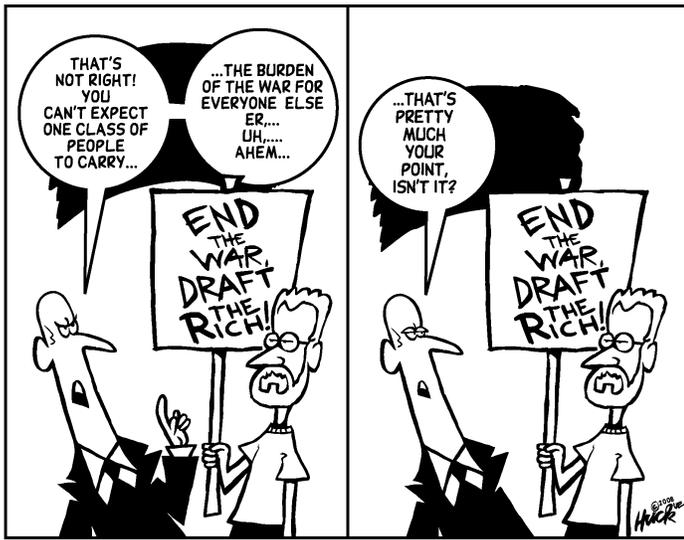
Secondly, our Local election is this year also. Nominations will take place at this month's meeting and the October meeting, with the balloting in November. So, if you, or somebody you know, are interested in a Local officer position, get the nominations brought forward at one of the meetings. And, as with the other election, get your ballot marked and sent back in. Pay attention to the instructions accompanying the ballot. It's important you follow them or your ballot may be disqualified. Your vote may not seem like that big of a deal to you, but it is...VOTE!

Yup, you heard right, there's been a rash of attendance related discipline handed out. And just so you know, it's not only been happening in Waterloo. For those of you who have a problem with some situations being defended by your union, I will say that, yes, we will step up on each and every one to do basically the same thing your Supervisors should have done in order to make sure they followed the proper procedures. But, believe me, APWU does not condone or promote mass absenteeism. We will look for mitigating or procedural defects on a case-by-case basis and the chips will fall where they may. Management has the contractual right to follow disciplinary steps if circumstances warrant; our job is to make sure they have just cause and follow the due process requirements. Simply put, if you are missing a lot of work without documented or acceptable reason, you can expect some negative repercussions.

Didn't leave much room for a Nat. Convention report, did I? Thanks for again sending me. I have all the resolution work we did so if you would like to see it let me know. Keep in mind, though, contract resolutions are only a wish-list for future negotiations, not to be invoked until successfully negotiated.

See you at the meeting on the 20th.





Secretary's Meeting Minutes.....



Bonnie Salinas



APWU LOCAL 451

July 19th, 2008

In the absence of the President, Kim Karol (Local Vice President) chaired the meeting.

In the absence of the Secretary, Chris Salinas was acting secretary for recording minutes.

The meeting of the APWU Local 451 was called to order at 12:00 p.m. at the OP with 10 members and retiree Stan Drewelow present.

A **motion** was made by Chris Salinas to accept the minutes as written in the Cornerstone, seconded by Gary Acuff. **Motion carried.**

Glenn Staudinger presented the Treasurers Report and a **motion** was made by Glenn to put the report on file for review. The motion was seconded by Jerry Kemmer. **Motion carried.**

Officers reports:

Presidents Report:

1) COPA – Right now we are at \$4569.00 this does not include what was raised today for raffle drawing

2) There is no August meeting.

3) Nominations for all Officer positions will be held at the September meeting, concluded at the October meeting and election-taking place in November. Kim Karol stated that there is an election committee, chairman for this committee is elected. There was discussion on a Nominations committee, (which solicits people to run for an office). It was suggested that there be an August newsletter (normally not put out) because nominations are in September, to encourage people to run for an office.

Vice Presidents Report:

- 1) A policy has come down from the District on Dignity and Respect, basically covering code of conduct during work. Please ensure that you conduct yourself in a professional manner, encourage others around you to do the same. No inappropriate language, clothing etc.
- 2) They are starting to do Attendance reviews on a regular/quarterly basis. This is not necessarily a job discussion, they are just letting you know if you need to improve in this area or your attendance is fine.

Old Business:

The next meeting will be Saturday September 20th, 2008 at 11:00 am at the OP.

New Business:

There is an issue that we need you to be aware of – Cedar Falls has approached us to become an area local. In order to do this we have to decertify as the Waterloo Local and recertify as the Waterloo Area Local. At this point it is in the discussion stage, we need to determine the impact it will have. Members concerns were noted. We can/will discuss at September meeting.

Drawing: Jerry Kemmer made a **motion** to hold the drawing, seconded by Linda Youngberg. **Motion carried.** Jerry Kemmer won the door prize.

Adjourn: A **motion** was made by Gary Acuff to adjourn, seconded by Chris Salinas. **Motion carried.**

Members Present: Chris Salinas, Glenn Staudinger, Kimberly Karol, Gary Acuff, Jerry Kemmer, Bill Rice, Roseann Garvey, Terry McEntee, Lora Thompson and Linda Youngberg.



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AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION
WATERLOO LOCAL #451
P.O. BOX 387
WATERLOO, IA 50704



Waterloo Local #451 Officers

President - Dwight Slaikeu
Vice-President - Kim Karol
Steward Director - Vanda Blankenship
Secretary - Bonnie Salinas
Treasurer - Glenn Staudinger
Trustees - Dave Knebel
Jenelle Brucher
Julie Schmitz
Editor - Chris Salinas

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Vote
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'08



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**NON-MEMBERS of the APWU
Waterloo Local 451**

~ ~ ~

**Marcie Turner
Nancy Kannegieter
Tammy French
Jackie Murray
Dave Palmer
Kim Mettner
Betty Murphy
Kathy Leyen**

**WE NEED THEM MORE
THAN EVER!**