

The Corner Stone

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

May 2005



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

From the President's chair...



Dwight Slaikeu



Just got back from the State Convention in Sioux City. A big thanks goes to the Sioux City Local for putting us up for the weekend and seeing that we got some useful information as well.

All day Friday was spent in a seminar on OWCP given by National Human Relations Director Sue Carney. As I've said many times before, you never go through these seminars without picking up something new or at least getting a refresher course, but...Boy! A whole day of OWCP is a tough sit! Saturday morning was spent in separate Craft meetings and discussing the recent attack on Social Security and the reasons you should be concerned.

Between the Social Security problems and postal reform, which of course was also brought up in Sioux City, I come to your favorite part of my article this time of year. Our local COPA goal this year, as I believe I've mentioned before, is \$6,000. That means we need to *average* \$60 each. Have you been reading your National tabloid? Have you been paying attention to the newspaper? Do you care if your employment here maintains the status it is currently at? If your answer to the last question is yes, then you need to be helping those who are trying to help you. A lousy \$3 a pay period from everybody would send a tremendous message to those on Capitol Hill, wouldn't it?

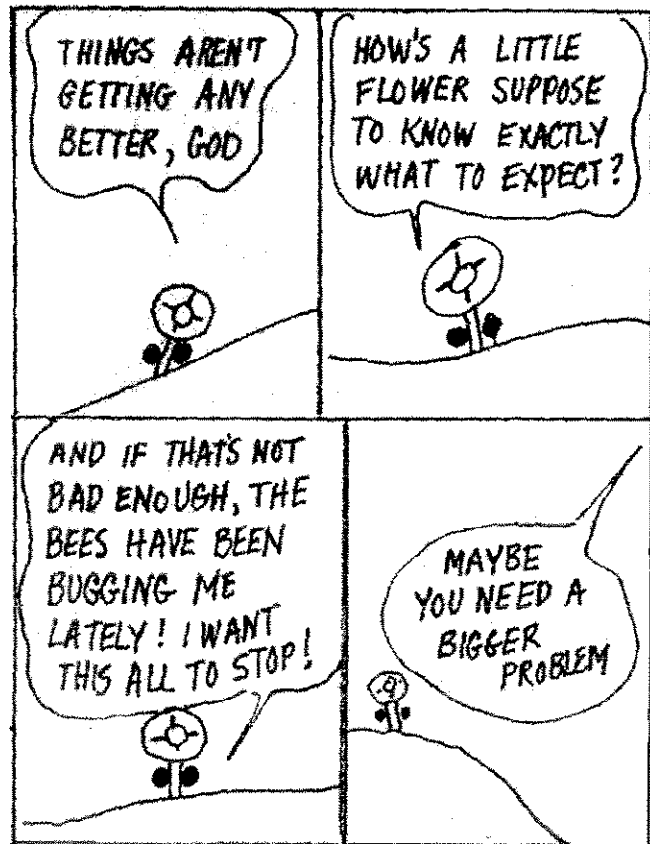
That \$3, or \$78 for the year, whether donated in a lump sum or better yet through a Postal Ease allotment, could not be better spent. In addition, you need to be keeping up on Postal legislative issues as well as labor issues in general and be contacting your Representatives. But, at the very least, if you are not one to be writing or e-mailing messages to those folks, donate generously to COPA so those who will be involved can do it right...for you!

The bidders on the recent postings should be announced by the time you read this. Unless, of course, we have more problems with the person(s) in Des Moines who continue to cause delay whenever possible. We have one more posting that should have been up at the same time as the others but that person in Des Moines seems to be having trouble deciding what number to put on it or something equally important.

Maybe it'll be up, too, by the time you read this. And it used to go so smoothly when we did it locally with the pink cards. Ahh, for the good old days.

That's it...I think Chris is going to have a full paper as it is. Remember the meeting the 21st. And check the board, I think there may be another raffle going on. I'm sure there will be tickets for sale at the meeting...See you there.

@ @ @



The Cornerstone is looking for comments from our union members. Make your voice heard!!

You can send your comments to the Editor by email at local451editor@mehsi.com. You may also hand deliver it or mail it too:

The Cornerstone, P.O. Box 387, Waterloo IA, 50704

Secretary's Meeting Minutes.....



Mike Burke



APWU LOCAL 451

Date: April 16, 2005

The April meeting of the APWU Local 451 was called to order at 11:12 am. at the OP with 14 members present.

A **motion** was made Glenn Staudinger and seconded by Greg Kuehl to accept the minutes as printed in the Corner Stone.

During the discussion Dwight brought it to the members attention that a correction needed to be made. The correction is under Old Business and should read five delegates and include Dwight Slaikeu as one of them.

The **motion to accept was withdrawn** and a **new motion** was made by Glenn Staudinger and seconded by Patsy Millermon to accept the minutes as corrected and printed in the Corner Stone. **Motion carried.**

The Treasurer's Report was read by Meri Kay Chase. The members voted to accept the report as read.

Officers Reports:

Presidents Report:

1. COPA- tickets were sold for the free overnight stay in Dubuque so the COPA hat was not passed this month. The drawing will be after New Business.
2. State Convention- Kelly Schneiderrnan will be going instead of Glenn Staudinger. If anyone has anything concerning this convention talk to Dwight about it soon because we leave May 5th 2005.
3. Dwight will be meeting with management on getting some of the jobs posted that have been vacated for awhile. Dwight also stated that there is a Labor Management meeting coming up. If you have anything that you feel needs to be brought up at this meeting talk to Dwight before Thursday.

Stewards Director:

Cindy Miller stated that if we reach our COPA goal of \$6,000.00, Dwight has to have his beard shaved off, which he says hasn't been off since his daughter was 3 years old.

Let's hit that goal so we can see that baby face!!!!!!!!!!!!

Old Business:

1. The next meeting will be Saturday May 21, 2005 at the OP at 11:00 am.
2. Craft Conferences are August 8-10. Registration is \$50.00 and rooms are \$99.00. A **motion** was made by Jerry Kemmer and seconded by Paulette Woods to send Dwight Slaikeu and Cindy Miller with normal and customary expenses. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

A **motion** was made by Jerry Kemmer and seconded by Cindy Miller to hold a picnic this summer. **Motion carried.** Stan Drewelow has volunteered to head up the picnic again this year. Stan says the picnic will be August 21, 2005 at Exchange (Rocket) Park. Details will be discussed at a later meeting. Thanks Stan !!!!!

Drawing:

A **motion** was made by Jerry Kemmer and seconded by Paulette Woods to hold the drawings. **Motion carried.** Patsy Millermon won the door prize and Jerry Kemmer won the free overnight stay in Dubuque Ia. Congrats!!!!

Adjourn: A **motion** to adjourn was made by Paulette Woods and seconded by Mike Burke. **Motion carried.** Adjourned at 12:11 pm.

Members Present:

Glenn Staudinger, Kris Engelmann, Patsy Millermon, Kim Karol, Greg Kuehl, Nancy Hemsath, Paulette Woods, Meri Kay Chase, Dwight Sleikeu, Cindy Miller, Dave Knebel, Mike Burke, Jerry Kemmer and Stan Drewelow.

Steward Director's corner.....



Cindy Miller



WHERE'S GLADYS?

Do you know where Gladys is??? That's Gladys Cravitz! I think she's working at the Post Office. Not to be sarcastic, but have you seen the nosey neighbor lately? Hanging around your case, or machine or in box section!!! That's just how I feel when someone else is paying too much attention to me. Either they're bored with their own life or their not paying enough attention to themselves. I've always been taught that if I have to question the motives of someone else, that I'm not doing something right for me. I know alot of rumors have been flying around, but just think..... if I tell 4 or 5 people what someone else has told me that is not true, then I am a "liar". Just call me GLADYS!

Now on a more positive note: Each day is a gift! Happiness is something you can decide on ahead of time. It's a decision I make every morning when I wake up. I have a choice: I can spend the day in bed recounting the difficulty I have with parts of my body that don't quite work right, or get out of bed and be thankful for the ones that do. As long as my eyes open, I'll focus on the new day and all the happy memories I've stored... just for this time in my life. Getting old is like a bank account: you withdraw from what you've put in. So, my advice to you would be to deposit a lot of happiness in the bank account of memories. I will still be depositing.

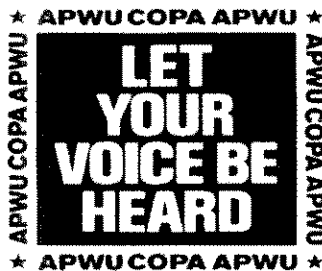
Remember the 5 simple rules to be happy:

1. Free your heart from hatred.
2. Free your mind from worries.
3. Live simply.
4. Give more.
5. Expect less.

(IGNORE GLADYS)

One more thing, don't forget COPA. We'd like to reach our goal of \$6,000. We gotta see what the baby face looks like!

There will be another raffle at one of our meetings for a HUGE basket of Palmer chocolates. 6 tickets for \$5. See you at the meeting.



- Taking long breaks--15 minutes is suppose to start when you leave the work area and end when you return to the work area.
- Using sick leave when you're not sick--I know this is a tough one for the people on FERS, but you know we all need to be responsible for ourselves because you never know when you will need your sick leave.

The list could go on and on, and I am just as guilty as the next person. We need to start looking at the big picture, clean up our act, not divide our ranks, and not give management ammunition against us.

Then there's the saying that most of us have heard before: "If I ain't working, then it's my supervisors fault." That's Bull! We need to stop passing the buck and take responsibility for our own actions. We all know our jobs and how to do them properly so "Just Do It". You should, as an individual, have enough pride and professionalism to do the job and do it right.

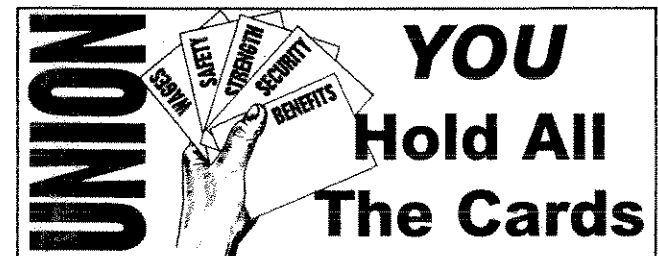
We should help our co-workers, and that means anyone that works in the Post Office. No one person can do his/her job without the help of others. We need to clean up our act and start working together. Be accountable to yourself and your co-workers. Lets put the true union spirit into our job: Do your job, appreciate your job, and work together to get the job done.

Frustrated,
Nancy J Hemesath-Tourl

ATTENTION!!

Steve Adsit has thrown his beard into the COPA ring!! Let's give both Dwight and Steve a clean start (or is that shave!) this year.

2005 COPA GOAL: \$6000



FROM the mailroom floor.....

I would like to talk about our union motto:

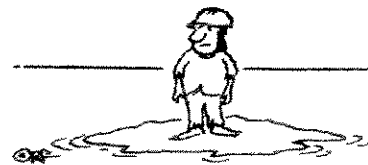
"A FAIR DAY'S WORK FOR A FAIR DAY'S PAY"

This is something I believe we have a problem with here at the Waterloo Post Office. Personally, I think I do get paid a fair wage; and I know I have the union to thank for that. In the past, the union has worked hard and made sacrifices to get us our benefits and wages. Now they are working hard so we can keep them. I really do appreciate their efforts.

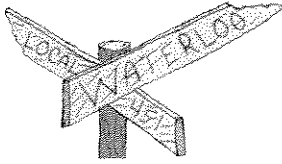
But, when it comes to "a fair day's work", I think there are quite a few of us that fail miserably. We have become complacent about our jobs and work ethics and have developed a lot of bad habits. Here are just a few of the big ones that I see:

- Not showing up for work and not calling in.

NO PERSON IS AN ISLAND



Organize all of our Non-Members!



The Corner Stone

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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Union Meeting

May 21st @ 11am

THE OTHER PLACE

3904 Lafayette Rd
Evansdale, IA

Waterloo Local #451 Officers

President - Dwight Slaikeu	Trustees - Dean Price
Vice-President - Kim Karol	Glen Staudinger
Steward Director - Cindy Miller	Dave Knebel
Secretary - Mike Burke	Editor - Chris Salinas
Treasurer - Meri Kay Chase	

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ALL OPINIONS ARE THOSE OF THE WRITER
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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE WATERLOO
LOCAL #451

Memorial Day, MAY 30th 2005



Never forget those that gave the ultimate sacrifice!