April 26, 2011

Charlotte P&DC Charlotte L&DC Charlotte VMF Charlotte City Albemarle Belmont Bessemer City Blacksburg **Boiling Springs** Chester Clover Concord Cornelius Davidson Denver Ellenboro Forest City Fort Mill Grover Harrisburg Huntersville Indian Trail Iron Station Kannapolis Kings Mountain Lattimore Lowell Matthews Midland Monroe Mooresville Morven Mount Holly Newell Norwood **Oakboro** Paw Creek Peachland Pineville Polkton Rock Hill Rutherfordton Spindale Stanfield Stanley Troutman Wadesboro Waxhaw Wingate York



President's Report

LeRoy Moyer, General President

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Charlotte Area Local, American Postal Workers Union 704-394-5104 (office) 704-394-5404 (fax)

Charlotte Area Local, 375 UNION MEETING NOTICE

May 21, 2011 9:30 a.m.

3521 Mulberry Church Road Charlotte, NC 28208

Please make every effort to attend the monthly union meeting. Two \$50.00 raffles will be held at the union meeting.

The Executive Board will meet after the regular monthly meeting.

Things You Should Know

Office Phone System

I have received numerous questions about the office phone system. The phone system is not new and cost \$7,341.54 when purchased in 2005. Upon taking over as local president I determined that most of the features the local had paid for were not being utilized.

The system comes with a target attendant which is an answering system to transfer calls to various extensions, which is the main function of the system. We actually had the office secretary answering the calls and then transferring them to the extensions. In many cases the steward or the officer was tied up with another call or out of the office and the call went to the extensions voice mail. Now the system is set up for you to directly select the officer/steward you are seeking.

Other features such as the ability to check messages remotely were not being used. One feature that I have placed on my office phone is the ability to have the office phone call my cell phone at a pre-determined time each day and tells me if I have messages on my phone, which I can then listen to while out of the office. If we are going to pay that much money for a phone system we should at least take advantage of the features we purchased.

Donated Leave

Many of the issues that I write about are because something has occurred in the past month that requires an explanation or an issue arises and I believe the membership must be advised of that issue. Donated leave is one of the issues that was a problem last month.

Some supervisors or managers believe that you must use all of your s/l and a/l before you can submit for donated leave. That is not true. The instructions from management state " Must be known or expected to be absent from work 40 hours more than his or her own earned S/L and/or A/L balance will cover." Which means if you provide documentation that you will need to be absent 40 hours of LWOP beyond your a/l or s/l balance, the form should be submitted and donations can begin.

If you are in such a situation make sure to contact a union steward for assistance. I have also posted instructions issued by management related to Donated Leave on our web site under Stewards Resources. Take time to visit the web site and register so that you can have access to all the information posted.

Local Negotiations and Contract Updates

Over the past two weeks I have attempted to reach as many members as possible to discuss the highlights of the new Contract. I apologize if my travels didn't include your work area or office. Please visit www.apwu.org for important updates about the contract and explanations of same.

If ratified we will be provided with an opportunity to open up local negotiations. We have each LMOU posted on our web site and we are soliciting possible changes to your LMOU. Take the time and become familiar with your LMOU and offer suggestions that may improve on your current LMOU.

Vote, Vote, Vote

Ballots must be returned by **May 10, 2011** if you want a voice on the approval or rejection of the new contract. If you haven't voted yet, please look for your ballot and complete it today. Every vote counts!

Another VERA?

This may be the most asked question over the past few months. The answer is simple, there have been no official conversations being held at the national level. However, with the ratification of the new contract comes the postal service's ability to hire lower wage employees.

I'm sure the employer is looking at ways to offer early retirements to higher wage employees to make room for those making a lower wage. The question is when and will there be any incentives? I suggest you keep checking the local and national web sites for updates. If we hear anything official we will make sure the membership is informed.

Audit of the Books

Consistent with the Local's Constitution the books of the local must be audited 30 days prior to the election. This audit was performed and the results of this audit are provided within my report this month. As always, I would like to thank the audit committee for a fine job.

www.charlotteapwu.com

Charlotte Area Local

3521 Mulberry Church Road Charlotte, North Carolina 28208

Office: 704-394-5104

Fax 704-394-5404

Clerk Craft - Maintenance Craft - Motor Vehicle Craft

4/21/11

The Trustees of the Charlotte Area Local have thoroughly audited the financial records of the Secretary/Treasurer as required by the Constitution. Our findings are as follows:

Secretary/Treasurer Wayne Carelock has competently and adequately accounted for the finances of this local. All monies are properly recorded and in compliance with the LM-2 yearly reporting.

Since April 30, 2008, the local has improved its financial standing. The savings accounts have seen growth and the yearly operational expenses are no longer in the negative. As of December 2008, the Local ceased operating in the negative and has seen a financial improvement to reflect decreased expenses for supplies and daily operational expenses as well as realizing a substantial cost savings on utility and other recurrent expenses. We are satisfied that our current Officers are doing an excellent job managing the finances of this Local.

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Kandy Pierce

Fletcher Long

Miriam Bell

If You Don't Receive a Ballot for the Local Elections

Ballots for the local elections of officers will be mailed on April 28, 2011. If you haven't received a ballot by May 5, 2011 please contact the union office at 704-394-5104, extension 0 and request a duplicate ballot. Please provide your <u>name</u>, <u>craft and address</u>. A new ballot will be mailed to the address you provide. If no address is provided the ballot will be mailed to the address on record with the local. You should utilize the duplicate ballot to vote in the election. If you return your original ballot and the duplicate ballot, only the duplicate will be counted.

Ballots must be received in the appropriate post office box no later than 8:00 a.m. on May 20, 2011 to be counted in the election.

Chris Rice, Committee Chairperson

WWW.CHARLOTTEAPWU.COM

Charlotte Area Local, 375 American Postal Workers Union 3521 Mulberry Church Road Charlotte, NC 28208

PLEASE POST ON APWU UNION BOARD

APWU Member 30th Street Station 110 Matheson Ave. Charlotte, NC 28206