



# Indy Info

Volume 42, Number 2  
April 2014



**NEWS FROM THE INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL #130 - APWU - AFL-CIO**

*Our labor unions are not narrow, self-seeking groups. They have raised wages, shortened hours, and provided supplemental benefits. Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor. ---President John F. Kennedy 1962*

## From the President's Desk

by LaTonia Smith, President

**I** would like to thank the membership for electing me to serve as president of the APWU Indianapolis Area Local 130, for the next 3 years. I would also like to congratulate those who were elected to serve as members of the Executive Board, State and National Delegates. The new Administration was installed at the State Convention in Angola, Indiana on Saturday 4/12/14 by our Regional Director and past president Sharyn Stone. We officially took office on Monday 4/14/14.

Allow me to thank the membership for sending me to the State Convention which was held in Angola, Indiana. I learned about the fundamentals of the Maintenance Staffing Package. The MVS craft discussed their work being contracted out. The Clerk Craft discussed creating duty assignments from all desirable work hours, reversions and the hold on excessing.

Elections for APWU State Offices were conducted during the State Convention. I am proud to announce that several of our members were elected to the following positions: Greg Jones ran unopposed as the State MVS Director, Don Packwood



ran unopposed as the State Editor, Kathy Woods ran unopposed as the Business Agent for District 5, and Charlotte Hiatt was elected to the Human Resource position which specializes in OWCP issues.

All of the State Delegates rallied in front of the Staples Office Supply store in Angola, Indiana for 2 hours in protest of Staples selling postage stamps and other postal retail products. I encourage you to inform your family and friends to join with us as we boycott Staples Office Supply stores because "The U.S. MAIL Is Not For Sale".

I would like to thank our past president William Wright, the outgoing Administration and stewards who served the membership during their tenure. During my first 2 weeks in office I met with the Craft Directors and together we have assembled a team of stewards whom we feel will best represent the membership. We are in the process of training several new stewards who have expressed an interest in policing the contract and representing the membership with vigor.

Yours In Solidarity.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**2014**

May 13, 2014

**General Membership Meeting**  
6:00 pm - 1509 E Prospect St

June 7-9, 2014

**National President's Meeting**  
Hyatt Regency Atlanta  
Atlanta, GA

June 14, 2014

**General Membership Meeting**  
10:00 am - 1509 E Prospect St

July 8, 2014

**General Membership Meeting**  
6:00 pm - 1509 E Prospect St

July 21-25, 2014

**APWU 22nd Biennial Convention**  
Chicago, IL

For more information on these events go to: [www.indyapwu.org](http://www.indyapwu.org)

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Indianapolis Area Local #130  
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO  
1509 East Prospect Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46203  
317-634-1783

## OFFICERS

LaTonia Smith.....President  
Loretta Maydwell.....Vice President  
John Guthrie.....Secretary-Treasurer  
Dianna Coleman.....Membership/Insurance Coord  
Janine Yowell.....Recording Secretary  
Lorenzo Tucker.....Sergeant at Arms  
Debra Gilbert.....Clerk Craft Director  
Linda Daniels.....Assistant Clerk Craft Director  
Greg Jones.....Motor Vehicle Craft Director  
John "Mike" Hale.....Maintenance Craft Director  
Don Packwood.....Chief Trustee  
Rebecca Moore.....Trustee  
Richard Manifold.....Trustee  
NOT APPOINTED.....OWCP Director  
Vickie Crouse.....Area Coordinator  
John Guthrie.....Chief Steward  
NOT APPOINTED.....Research & Education

## STAFF

Pat Gregory.....Office Manager  
Lena Williams.....Office Assistant

## STEWARDS' PHONE LINES

P&DC Steward's Room.....(317) 464-6163  
Motor Vehicle Steward's Room.....(317) 464-6404  
Associate Offices.....(317) 634-1783  
MPA & P-1 Steward's Room.....(317) 870-8894

**NOTE: Stewards are not always in the Steward's Room, your supervisor is responsible to make the appropriate contact to the Union for representation, or call the Union hall.**

## ASSOCIATE OFFICES

|               |              |             |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Beech Grove   | Brownsburg   | Carmel      |
| Danville      | Fishers      | Fortville   |
| Franklin      | Greenfield   | Greenwood   |
| Lebanon       | Martinsville | Mooresville |
| New Palestine | Noblesville  | Plainfield  |
| Shelbyville   | Westfield    |             |

## EDITORIAL STAFF

Don Packwood.....Editor  
Martha Foote.....Associate Editor, Clerk  
VACANT.....Associate Editor, Maintenance  
VACANT.....Associate Editor, MVS

## AFFILIATIONS

American Postal Workers Union  
Postal Press Association  
Indiana State AFL-CIO  
Central Labor Council of Marion County  
Indiana Postal Workers Union

The INDY-INFO is the official publication of the Indianapolis Area Local, APWU, AFL-CIO. Opinions are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the Indianapolis Area Local APWU. All copy must be type-written and triple spaced for acceptance for publishing

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EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE  
INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL #130  
AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION

# Changing of the Guard

by Nancy Helms, State & Nat'l Delegate

**T**he 2014 Indiana State Convention was held April 10th through the 13th, in Angola Indiana at the Pokegon State Park. Officers for the State and Local were sworn in. Notably, two long time State Representatives announced that they would be retiring from their State Officer positions. Steve Schoettner who was past State President and is a current business agent, announced that he would be retiring in November 2014.

Delbert Houghton who is the Evansville Area Local President, announced his retirement from his State position. This will be a great loss to the State organization. To lose the knowledge and experience that both of these APWU representatives possess (over 60 years combined) will be a huge loss to the Indiana State organization. Business conducted at the meeting included Constitutional changes and Resolutions that were submitted to the body for concurrence.

Just like every other State, Local and National APWU organization, finances were a huge factor in determining what could be changed. As our membership continues to decline, money is tighter than ever before. As more and more of our work and our services are being given away to outside contractors,

the Indiana Postal Workers Union is feeling the same money pinch as the rest of the country. The USPS continues to contract out our services and our jobs that historically have been performed by bargaining unit workers. Now, selling stamps and other services that are provided by window clerks can be performed in the Staples stores by employees who may be making minimum wage and who could be under the age of 18. Where is the Sanctity of the Mail?

The Local and the State Delegates combined together in a Rally at the Staples store in Angola, Indiana. They marched together in protest for over two hours. The public was very supportive in this endeavor.

Delegates at this Rally came away with the feeling that customers of the Postal Service are on our side. Customers should feel confident when they mail a letter or a package. Customers shouldn't have to worry about what happens to their mail and their credit card or bank information.

Contract employees won't be trained like postal employees and aren't governed by the same rules and regulations that Postal employees are. Contact your local representatives and see how you can help. We have to all step up and help protect our jobs.

## APWU INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL 2014 Meeting Schedule

|           |    |          |
|-----------|----|----------|
| January   | 14 | 6:00 pm  |
| February  | 8  | 10:00 am |
| March     | 11 | 6:00 pm  |
| April     | 12 | 10:00 am |
| May       | 13 | 6:00 pm  |
| June      | 14 | 10:00 am |
| July      | 8  | 6:00 pm  |
| August    | 9  | 10:00 am |
| September | 9  | 6:00 pm  |
| October   | 18 | 10:00 am |
| November  | 18 | 6:00 pm  |

## 2015

|         |    |         |
|---------|----|---------|
| January | 13 | 6:00 pm |
|---------|----|---------|



We welcome original articles, stories and artwork from our union members and their families. All opinions expressed herein are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the editor, officers of the Indianapolis Area Local or the publisher. The editor reserves the right to determine whether the material submitted for this publication shall be printed and may edit letters and articles for length, style, grammar and spelling. Articles submitted must deal with labor issues or related topics, not personalities. Libelous statements or personal, unwarranted attacks will not be printed. **Deadline for submitting material to the editor is by 12:00 Noon on the Wednesday following the regularly scheduled monthly General Membership meeting.** Articles and letters to the editor should be submitted on disk, if possible. All material must have the author's name, address, phone number, and be signed, however anonymity may be requested. All communications concerning the paper should be addressed to:

Indy Info, 1509 E Prospect St, Indianapolis, IN 46203



# We Keep on Truckin'

by Greg Jones, MVS Director for Indianapolis

## HELLO MEMBERS,

Here we are at that time of the year again; I hope all is well with self and family.

Once again here are some of my thoughts and updates over the last 12-months, the craft updates are as follows some issues such as HCR-PVS are currently pending arbitration. There is no date set, however we would like very much to get this hearing scheduled and heard. Looking at what happened in this case really discouraged the members at Indianapolis PVS and others across the country. The APWU signed a contract with the Postal Service and under that contract work from HCR routes is to come to PVS .....

Now this is a real life "PONZI scam" in it's self. We have filed grievances over the fact that at no time was there any option of giving this work from HCR routes to PVS. I, along with others met with management at the local level to address the issues at hand and am now waiting for an arbitrator to hear the grievance. However, the only arbitrator out there is Klein and she seems to feel the postal service should not be held accountable for any monetary remedy. Unless we are able to have someone hear this case, that will make their decision on relevant facts and contract provisions and not modify the outcome they see fit, maybe this case will be heard. Each day is a continuing violation of the National Agreement.

Back in November 2013 we were at the all craft conference in Las Vegas; the Motor Vehicle Service Division's national officers and members alike extended a warm fair well to Motor Vehicle Director, Bob Pritchard; Michael Foster is now the Director. We are still in good hands with the kind of commitment we have grown to expect. Without a doubt it takes each and every one of us at all levels to get the job done for the craft as a whole. We are constantly working to protect the Motor Vehicle craft bargaining unit work by fighting subcontracting PVS work as they have done over the years. Each month we request the contract activity report from the USPS which shows the work being performed each day of the month and the pay out. Management has been using PVS at all times to perform



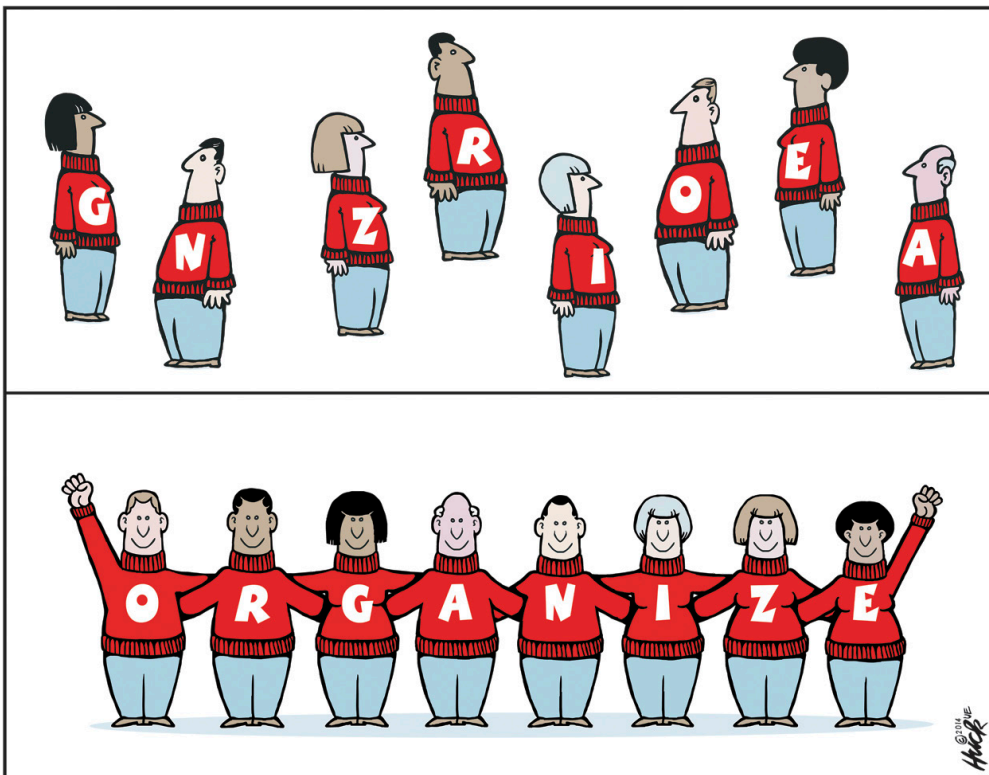
the work they had contractors doing for the last three (3) years. They were calling them emergency contracts, we were able to show that in fact there was no emergency; management was simply using contractors as postal employees to perform MVS work. I talked with Merlie Bell over the last 9-months and he was very helpful in stopping the use of HCR's in Indianapolis IN PVS P&DC.

We must continue to protect the work that has historically been ours, not just in the motor vehicle craft, but in all crafts covered by the APWU contract. Even with that success, we still need to work harder to accomplish other things such as issues with PSEs, maximization, and making desirable duty assignments. On February 20th 2014 APWU President Mark Dimondstein and Postal Service Vice President Doug Tulino signed a MOU agreement regarding filling residual vacancies in the Motor Vehicle Craft.

Residual duty assignments will be filled by application of Article 39.1.8 .6, Article 39.1.8.7 and Article 39.2.A.10, which states when filling residual vacancies in accordance with these

Articles we will be converting PSEs working in the same position as the residual vacancies (mechanic, TID, MVO) in the same installation. --- I'll continue with my efforts to insure that I'm an activist of the union, and I encourage others as new postal support employees to do the same. We had about fourteen (14) PSEs converted to career employees, the most in the MVS craft across the country, with more to come. Just a reminder - once PSEs reach 1 year (365 days) of service they qualify for health care. PSEs have 60-days to sign up for the health plan of their choice. APWU has their own health plan from which to choose several options. With the APWU Consumer Driven Plan, the members are the primary decision makers of the healthcare they receive and pay for. APWU Non-Career (PSE) cost bi-weekly for this plan is about \$44.96 for self and \$101.15 for self & family. To enroll when the time is right just contact your union steward or someone in Member Services.

I encourage all members to get involved in your local union; you are the ones that provided us with the needed information to bargain collectively. Without your support the union couldn't bring justice or democracy to the shop floor. Stay strong as there are other challenges we will face in the future and remember I, along with others, will be leading the battle to fight for your rights.



# Secretary/Treasurer

**John C. Guthrie**

Secretary/Treasurer



**INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL**

## Balance Sheet As of APRIL 19, 2014

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

#### Checking & Savings

PETTY CASH 100.00

#### PNC BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT

#### INTEREST EARNED

ENTERTAINMENT 5,360.77

EDUCATION 2,924.23

CONVENTION 15,661.53

5% CONTINGENCY 971.07

PNC Bank Savings Account - Other 47.37

**TOTAL PNC BANK SAVINGS ACCOUNT 24,964.97**

|                              |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| ELECTION FUND                | 5,438.13  |
| RESERVE FUND President AL/SL | 14,296.76 |
| POWER FUNDS                  | (126.51)  |
| GENERAL FUND checking        | 8,521.34  |
| PAYROLL FUND checking        | 3,013.72  |

Total checking & Savings 56,334.92

Total Current Assets 56,334.92

|               |           |
|---------------|-----------|
| GOLDMAN FUND  | 2,390.56  |
| RETIREES FUND | 26,578.61 |

*John C. Guthrie*  
John C. Guthrie – Secretary/Treasurer

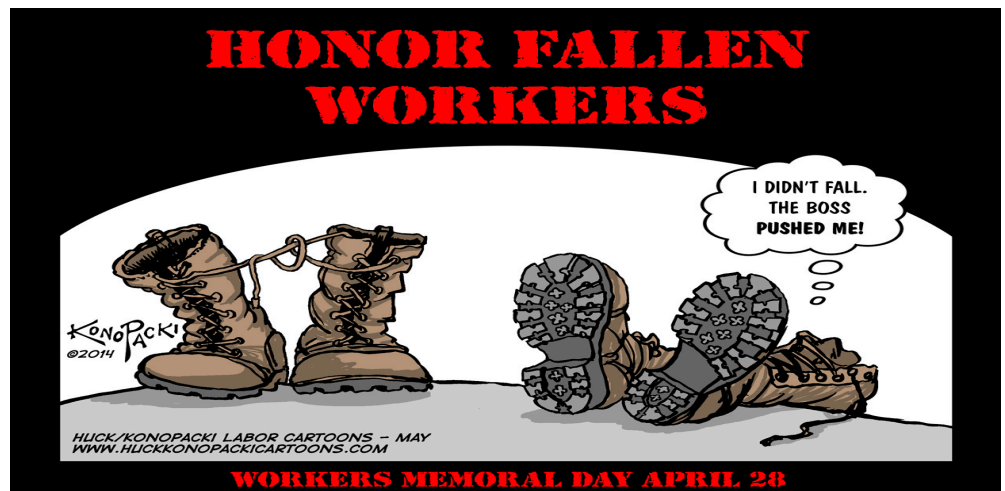
*No deposits have been made for 2014 committed funds for January - April 2014 (\$8292.31x4).  
There was 113 hours LWOP and 45.5 hours of compensatory pay.*

## From John's Desk

*by John Guthrie, Secretary-Treasurer*

I would like to thank the members of the Indianapolis Area Local for electing me a your next General Secretary-Treasurer. I would encourage all members to become aware of the Union business by attending our monthly meetings. It takes all of us working together to make the Union strong. I have returned from the State Convention where information on contract issues was given on a wide range of topics. We attended a rally to Stop Staples from taking our jobs and members should visit the StopStaples.com website. I thank you for your support and encouragement as we move forward together with vision and purpose.

In solidarity,  
John Guthrie



## A Note of Thanks to All

*by Don Packwood, Chief Trustee & Editor*

I would like to thank all of the members who cast a vote for me in the 2014 election and re-electing me to the Chief Trustee position. I was also re-elected to the post of editor for the Indiana Postal Workers Union at the State Convention in Angola, IN.

President Smith has shown her confidence

in me and appointed me editor of the Indianapolis "Indy Info" as well. I will strive, as always, to do the best job in these positions and would encourage you to assist me in this endeavor. If you would like to submit an article, or have ideas on how to make our publication better, please let me know. You can submit articles to me by email at [dpackwood@indyapwu.org](mailto:dpackwood@indyapwu.org)

# RESULTS FOR THE 2014 ELECTION

## Election Committee Report

March 26, 2014

Chairperson James Whitaker

The Election was concluded on March 26, 2014, with the counting of ballots. The following results are reported.

Winners of each race are indicated in bold print.

### GENERAL PRESIDENT

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= 546

**LATONIA SMITH 280**

WILLIAM WRIGHT (WW) 266

### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office=538

**LORETTA MAYDWELL 250**

MACLAWRENCE FORD 199

"STEVI RAY" VAUGHN 89

### GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= 531

**BIG JOHN GUTHRIE 267**

MARTHA FOOTE 264

### MEMBERSHIP/INSURANCE

#### COORDINATOR

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= 468

**DIANNA COLEMAN 308**

DIERDRE A. BROOKS 160

### RECORDING SECRETARY

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office =506

**JANINE YOWELL 289**

FLOYD STANLEY 217

### MAINTENANCE CRAFT DIRECTOR

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= III

**JOHN (MIKE) HALE 68**

STACY WILLIAMS 43

### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

YOU MAY VOTE FOR ONE (1)

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= 489

**LORENZO A. TUCKER 152**

VINCENT (VENO) NORRIS 139

CHANTEL BECKWITH 78

GLEN 'DINO' BOYD 78

MICHAEL SUTTON 25

CASEY RICE 17

### CLERK CRAFT DIRECTOR

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office= 352

**DEBRA GILBERT 216**

NANCY HELMS 136

### ASSISTANT CLERK CRAFT DIRECTOR

VOTE FOR 1 Votes Cast for this Office=341

**LINDA DANIELS 153**

KATHY WOODS 130

ROBIN MILES 58

## INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL #130



### TRUSTEE

VOTE FOR 3 Votes Cast for this Office= 1,409

**DON PACKWOOD 254**

**REBECCA (LAFEBER) MOORE 204**

**RICK MANIFOLD (MANNY) 182**

CHARLOTTE HIATT 172

VICKIE CROUSE 158

PAMELA PLUMMER 144

CHARLES ROBINSON 100

THOMAS MCGRONE 62

JEFFMOORE 60

TINA HASKETT 41

JACKIE WILLIAMS 32

### NATIONAL CONVENTION

#### DELEGATES

VOTE FOR 14 Votes Cast for this Office=5,581

**DEBRA GILBERT 248**

**LORETTA MAYDWELL 243**

**LATONIA SMITH 238**

**WILLIAM WRIGHT (WW) 237**

**NANCY HELMS 229**

**DON PACKWOOD 226**

**KATHY WOODS 224**

**BIG JOHN GUTHRIE 215**

**MACLAWRENCE FORD 206**

**MARTHA FOOTE 202**

**DIANNA COLEMAN 194**

**VINCENT (VENO) NORRIS 190**

**"STEVI RAY" VAUGHN 183**

**STACY WILLIAMS 176**

JANINE YOWELL 173

RICK MANIFOLD (MANNY) 171

LINDA DANIELS 165

PAMELA E. HILLIARD 160

REBECCA (LAFEBER) MOORE 160

CHARLOTTE HIATT 159

LORENZO A. TUCKER 159

FLOYD STANLEY 150

KELLY WILLIAMS 133

PAMELA PLUMMER 133

VICKIE CROUSE 129

LORETTA C. TAYLOR 109

DIERDRE A. BROOKS 106

CHANTEL BECKWITH 103

JEFF MOORE 98

ROBIN MILES 94

MS. PHYLLIS E. COFER 86

CHARLES ROBINSON 81

TINA HASKETT 65

LARRY ROBINSON 58

JACKIE WILLIAMS 45

CASEY RICE 33

## STATE CONVENTION

### DELEGATES

VOTE FOR 14 Votes Cast for this Office=5,486

**DEBRA GILBERT 233**

**LORETTA MAYDWELL 231**

**LATONIA SMITH 228**

**BIG JOHN GUTHRIE 227**

**WILLIAM WRIGHT (WW) 221**

**DON PACKWOOD 218**

**NANCY HELMS 209**

**MACLAWRENCE FORD 207**

**KATHY WOODS 202**

**MARTHA FOOTE 196**

**JANINE YOWELL 188**

**DIANNA COLEMAN 185**

**VINCENT (VENO) NORRIS 181**

**LORENZO A. TUCKER 170**

RICK MANIFOLD (MANNY) 163

LINDA DANIELS 162

CHARLOTTE HIATT 160

FLOYD STANLEY 156

"STEVI RAY" VAUGHN 155

STACY WILLIAMS 155

PAMELA E. HILLIARD 154

PAMELA PLUMMER 137

REBECCA (LAFEBER) MOORE 134

VICKIE CROUSE 132

KELLY WILLIAMS 124

MS. PHYLLIS E. COFER 107

JEFF MOORE 106

CHANTEL BECKWITH 104

LORETTA C. TAYLOR 102

DIERDRE A. BROOKS 99

ROBIN MILES 98

CHARLES ROBINSON 85

THOMAS MCGRONE 63

TINA HASKETT 63

LARRY ROBINSON 57

JACKIE WILLIAMS 38

CASEY RICE 36

The following nominee was unopposed and therefore did not appear on a ballot:

### MOTOR VEHICLE SERVICE

#### CRAFT DIRECTOR

**GREGORY A JONES**

*Congratulations to  
all the  
newly elected  
and  
re-elected  
officers  
and delegates!!*

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**Dianna Coleman**

Membership/Insurance Coordinator



**INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL**

**APRIL 2014**

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Clerks.....        | 886          |
| Mail Handlers..... | 4            |
| Motor Vehicle..... | 131          |
| Maintenance.....   | 213          |
| Associate.....     | 14           |
| Check Off .....    | 1,248        |
| Cash.....          | 4            |
| Total.....         | <b>1,252</b> |

*Including 226 PSE's*

Non-Pay.....51

*Including 25 PSE's*

Cancel.....1

Death.....0

Retired.....0

## NEW MEMBER

Toyia Johnson (REG)  
Iesha Campell (REG)  
Torryana King (REG)  
Michael Jones (PSE)  
Lindsae Boyd (PSE)  
Brian Bridges (REG)  
Roxie Diggs (REG)  
Ranetta Johnson (REG)  
Diaon Gartin (REG)  
Kathi Sawyer (REG)  
Teri Kirk (RET)

## SIGNED BY

Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
Orientation  
L. Smith  
Self

*TALK TO NON-MEMBERS*



**PERSUADE THEM  
TO JOIN THE UNION**

## CANCEL

Kevin Knapp

## SEPARATED

Joseph Andretta  
Simone Smith  
Cody Brissey  
Shauriante Coleman  
Ashlee Davis  
Ashley Hinton  
Felicia Johnson  
Thomas Johnson

## HONORARY MEMBER

Linda Minix

IN SOLIDARITY  
*Dianna Coleman*  
DIANNA COLEMAN  
MEMBERSHIP/INSURANCE COOR.



# STEWARDS

## MVS

Greg Jones, Craft Director -T2

Richard Manifold -T1

William Wood -T2

James Dishman -T3 \*

## MAINTENANCE

John (Mike) Hale, Craft Director -T2 <sup>1,3</sup>

Paul Sevenish -T1 <sup>2</sup>

Stacy Williams -T1

Phillip Ashby -T2 <sup>1,3</sup>

Helean Franklin -T2

Steve W Vaughn -T2

Charles Finney -T3 <sup>1,2</sup>

Larry Robinson -T3

## CLERKS

John Guthrie, Chief Steward -T1 P&DC

Tami El Amin -T1 P&DC

Christopher Johnson -T1\* P&DC

Loretta Maydwell, Vice Pres. -T2 P&DC, HSRA

Debra Gilbert, Craft Director -T3 P&DC

MacLawrence Ford -T3 P&DC

Lorenzo Tucker -T3 P&DC

Julie Alums -T3 \* P&DC

Charles Jemison -T3 MPA

## CLERKS, Station & Branches

Linda Daniels, Asst. Clerk Craft Director <sup>A</sup>

Dianna Coleman <sup>D</sup>

Robin Miles <sup>C</sup>

Pamela Plummer <sup>B</sup>

Connie Williams <sup>E</sup>

## CLERKS, Associate Offices

Vickie Crouse, Associate Office Coordinator

Tina Haskett

Kathy Miller-Hunt

Jeffrey A Moore

Suzanne Wiltermood

Jackie Williams

\* Alternate Steward

<sup>1,2,3</sup> Alternate Steward in addition to tour assigned

<sup>A</sup> Garfield, Brightwood, Castleton, Cumberland, Eastgate, Nora, Linwood, Lawrence, Mapleton, Southport, Wanamaker

<sup>B</sup> Circle City, New Augusta, Oaklondon

<sup>C</sup> Bacon, Broad Ripple, District

<sup>D</sup> Clermont, CFS, Eagle Creek, MOWS, Rainbow, Speedway

<sup>E</sup> Park Fletcher

# SAVE THE DATE

THE INDIANAPOLIS AREA LOCAL  
**ANNUAL PICNIC**

WILL BE **SUNDAY AUGUST 3, 2014** AT  
**FORT HARRISON STATE PARK**

VENDOR TABLES WILL BE AVAILABLE WITH A \$50 DONATION TO COPA



Mark Dimondstein  
President

## AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release  
March 6, 2014

Contact: Jamie Horwitz  
202-549-4921 (cell) [jhdcp@starpower.net](mailto:jhdcp@starpower.net)  
Or Sally Davidow  
202-842-4250 | 202 368-3324 (cell)  
[sdavidow@apwu.org](mailto:sdavidow@apwu.org)

### Statement by American Postal Workers Union President (APWU) Mark Dimondstein on Staples Earnings Report and Decision to Close 225 Stores

#### *Further Proof That It's a Bad Idea to Move U.S. Post Offices into Staples Stores*

Staples announced today that its sales are declining, its earnings are less than expectations, and it will close 225 stores in North America by the end of 2015. This proves, more than ever, that it's a bad idea to turn public services over to a private company that can close stores at will, with no public input and no public comment.

Staples currently has a no-bid, sweetheart deal to operate postal counters – staffed by poorly trained, low-wage, high-turnover employees – at more than 80 of its stores. The U.S. Postmaster General has said he plans to expand this “pilot plan” to 1,500 U.S. Staples’ stores. And bills pending in Congress would make it easier to close and sell off U.S. Post Offices.

What would happen if service is moved to a Staples store, the nearby Post Office is closed and sold – and then Staples closes its store?

The U.S. mail is not for sale. Instead of using public resources to bail out a company that is not succeeding, the U.S. Postal Service should use its unmatched nationwide network of people and facilities to take advantage of new opportunities such as package delivery for e-commerce sales and offering new services – like low-cost basic banking – that meet the needs of American consumers.

*The American Postal Workers Union represents 200,000 employees of the United States Postal Service. The union is affiliated with the AFL-CIO.*

###

## Solidarity and Support

by Martha Foote, State & Nat'l Delegate



The Election is over and the new Executive Board has been installed. I wish to thank all the members who voted for me. I truly enjoyed working for the membership over the last 29 years.

John Guthrie and I worked together to change over the responsibility of the union records to him. At first I worried anyone running for the office of Secretary-Treasurer did not realize the amount of time required to do the job. During the last three years I spent untold hours getting the office back in shape and I certainly did not want the office to revert back to what I inherited. After working with John, I am very comfortable giving him the reins; I am sure he is up to the task and will do right for the members.

I wish John and all the members of the Executive Board the very best and it is my hope all the members will rally behind the new Executive Board and move forward with the business at hand.

I encourage our younger members to involve themselves in our union; someday some of you will be at the helm leading the union. Now is the time for you to step up to the plate; you can start by attending union meetings.

I hope my health allows me to stay involved in whatever way I can and I will see you at the union meetings.

Martha Foote, Associate Editor

1300 L Street, NW • Washington, DC 20005 • 202-842-4200 • [www.apwu.org](http://www.apwu.org)



## Report from the Convention

by Charlotte Hiatt, State Convention Delegate

I would like to thank everyone for their votes in our 2014 local election and electing me as a State Delegate. The state convention was held at Pokagon State Park, April 10-13.

This year our State elections were held and I was elected Human Relations Director. I was on the Constitution committee for

the first time and it was a great learning experience because we had 6 resolutions to concur or non-concur.

The Indiana Postal Workers Union 2014 convention workshops were PSE Updates, Custodial Staffing, and Residual Vacancies and Conversion MOU. Thanks again my union brothers and sisters. Charlotte Hiatt





# Indy Info

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## The 2014 State Convention

by **Loretta Maydwell, Vice President**

Hi,

The 2014 State Convention was held at the Pokagon State Park, in Angola Indiana. It began on April 10th through April 13th. The first day we went over Custodial staffing for the Maintenance Craft, which was a good idea, because our instructors typically train on things pertaining to your craft. After that there were craft breakouts, (Clerk, MVS, Maintenance) which provided information that was craft specific. On April 11th we took care of a little convention business, and then we loaded up the buses and headed to Staples. We marched up and down the street, in front of staples for 2 hours, shouting THE U.S MAIL IS NOT FOR SALE! A police officer came by told us to stay on the sidewalk, the Channel 15 news was there, and even our own Mary Dando (Monday morning memo), from Indianapolis was sitting across the street watching us, (the whole time 😊).



On Saturday April 12th, we were put on committees. I was the Chairperson for the Resolution Committee (I absolutely hate being chairperson). The Resolution Committee reviews resolutions that individuals or locals want added to our next contract. The Resolution Committee decides, if they concur or non-concur (agree or disagree). Here is an example of 1 of the resolutions: background (last year we decided to do away with the winter

*winter meeting be held in Indiana during the years Indiana does not host the Tri-State meeting.*

My committee voted non-concurrence on this issue, because the membership is still declining, and the new employees (PSE's) only pay partial dues. Also attendance has not only dropped, but locals just don't have the money. This motion was voted down by the delegates.

We also voted for state officers (State Election time). The Indianapolis Area Local previously had 3 State Officers they are Greg Jones (MVS Director) Don Packwood (Editor) and Kathy Woods (District 3 Business Agent). Well, we have another one. Congratulations to Charlotte Hiatt, she was elected Human Relations/OWCP Director. All other Officers remained. Saturday night we had a nice dinner and all Officers of the State and the Indianapolis Area Local were sworn in by Central Region Coordinator Sharyn Stone. I am Loretta Maydwell, Vice-President, and thank you for allowing me to represent you at the 2014 State convention.

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meetings due to declining membership and funds). Kokomo Area Local submitted the following resolution. *Therefore be it resolved: That the winter meeting be returned to the training / state meetings, rotated on a limited basis. And also be it resolved: The*