

Tentative New Contract

It is with mixed emotions that I tell you we have a tentative new contract. One thing is very clear and that is that the negotiating team worked very hard. For that I thank them. This contract is definitely not from the old school, it is clearly out of the box thinking. I have always believed that the Postal Service represented the dinosaur age in many ways. This contract can definitely change that image. Maybe too much so! What I encourage every member to do is to seriously look over the copy of the contract which you should be receiving with your ballot around April 8, 2011. Then attend the break out session that will be held at the Union Office on April 17, 2011. We will try to answer your questions and concerns to the best of our ability. Make no mistake about it and clearly understand the whether this contract is ratified or not, business is not and can not be as usual for the United States Postal Service. It is my opinion, and my opinion only, that we must work together to make this an opportunity to have our say in shaping the future of the Postal Service. If we do not do it then Congress very well may. Can we afford to allow the current administration to determine the future of the Postal Service?

If this contract is ratified which I and others expect it to be, I along with the other E-Board members will need your input as to what happens in your office, what hours you would wish to work, if there are hours that can be combined in the smaller offices to create jobs, etc. I do not work in Stayton, Lyons, Independence, Albany, Sweet Home, Lebanon, Dallas, Willamina, Aumsville, etc. You need to help me to negotiate your LMOU's if you have an existing one and to possibly negotiate one if you do not have one. You need to help the Union create the type of work environment which you want. This is a very huge opportunity that has been given to us. We can both work together and with management or sit back and allow management to determine what is going to happen entirely. It is your job, your life, and your future. Get informed. Ask questions. Seek answers. Provide information. Shape your future. BE INVOLVED –NOT A TURTLE HIDING IN ITS SHELL.

Your local officers can not do this alone nor should you expect them to. No matter what size office you work in, be it a smaller associate office or at the Salem Installation you will be effected by the outcome of this contract. Take responsibility for the outcome. Come to the meeting on Sunday April 17, 2011 then do the most important part – Vote the contract up or down. Your choice!!!! Your job depends on it.

Janeil Payne
President