

CLARK V. SAVIDGE

Serving The Letter Carriers of Olympia, Lacey,
Tumwater and Shelton, WA since 1892

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AUGUST 2008

President's Corner

By Al Floyd

First, let me start with the most asked question, "Is the postal service offering early outs? I have not heard anything on the subject until a few members said something. On the NALC website, the president states that the USPS has asked for permission to have voluntary early retirement, but will not say any more until the USPS has received a response from the Office of Personnel Management. So, until I get some more information, this is where we are at.

SUMMERTIME!

Summertime has finally arrived and I am feeling good. All of you should be also. First, the sun is shining. Second, the sun is shining. Third, the sun is shining all day. This time of the year might reek havoc on those that like to go to bed early, and also reek havoc on those who do not like the sun. You know the ones, the ones that start crying just because the sun is out. Waaa, waaa, waaa, it's too hot. Or, I can't sleep, the sun is still shining. Me, I'm loving every minute of it. I keep my head shaved to make sure there is no hair to block the sun. It feels so good. This is barbeque season, even though I do it all year long, I still love this time of the year. I hope every one takes some time out of their busy lives to enjoy a good barbeque and a tall glass of "something" cold to drink. Also, the vacations! What, say no more? Okay. Wait, one more thing...Hottubs...



ANNUAL BRANCH PICNIC

BURFOOT PARK

Aug 17, High Noon—Till???

Hot Dogs, Hamburger, Ribs

Please bring a side dish

Games for all ages

Donations for the raffle please contact Debby Dixon at Lacey PO

Stewards Report.

By Al Floyd

Main office.

- Grievance filed at informal step A for improper time disallowance not resolved appealed to formal step A – resolved.
- Grievance filed for not allowing steward time. Resolved at formal step A
- Grievance filed for improper posting. Not resolved at informal step A. Appealed to formal step A. Not resolved. Appealed to step B
- Grievance filed for improper posting. Not resolved at informal step A. Appealed to formal step A. Resolved
- Grievance filed for harassment. Resolved at informal step A.
- Grievance filed for not allowing carrier to speak with shop steward in timely fashion. Resolved at informal step A.

Investigation for management working carrier outside of modified job offer. Still pending.

It seems that this is the season for grievances. I have noticed a rapid increase in the number of grievances. Some carriers may feel that the union is filing too many grievances. You might say that, if the Union was losing those cases, but we're not. So what does that tell you? So what I'm asking is that everyone help your stewards.

We must put a stop to all the violating of the contract. The grievances that I have listed are just a few, there are many more....but you get the picture.

Brain Tease

1. A PTF works 10 hours Saturday through Wednesday, and six hours Thursday and Friday, and a TE works 6 hours Saturday through Friday. Is there a violation?

A. Yes

B. No

2. A PTF works out of station A and is told to go to station B to carry auxiliary help. Is the PTF entitled to be paid for his mileage from Station A to Station B?

A. Yes

B. NO

3. If an employee elects to continue medical treatment with the postal doctor after the first visit, is that doctor now his initial doctor for that ailment?

A. Yes

B. No

NALC Biennial Convention

July 21-25, 2008 * Boston, MA

Male Unbifurcated Garment (MUG) Resolution



Eleven score and twelve years ago our branch brought forth on this continent a new resolution, conceived in Comfort, and dedicated to the proposition that [all men and women are created equal](#).

Gettysburg Address (Modified to suit our purpose)

Chief Chop Steward Report

Heading off to Boston, Massachusetts tomorrow for the National Convention. I will write to you next month on the Convention and update you with my activities as Chief then. Stay safe and enjoy life!

In Unionism,
Debbie Dixon

Lacey Shop Steward Report

NEW MANAGEMENT=REPEATED ISSUES

Cell Phones:

If you don't want Management to call you on your cell phone, TELL THEM. If they do not listen, TELL ME. If your told you can't bring your cell phone to the street if you don't want Management to call you (as was done in another station), TELL ME. If you are retaliated on for Management not being able to manage using YOUR personal cell phone, TELL ME. Your cell phone should NOT manage the Postal Service.

Your responsibility with the use of cell phones is as follows: "*The Dispute Resolution Team has RESOLVED this grievance. In accordance with Seattle District policies, personal cellular telephones are not prohibited but cell phone usage should not negatively impact or disrupt the productivity of the operation. Cell phones shall only be used when it is safe and reasonable to do so.*" This DRT decision was issued on January 28, 2005. Nothing has changed. Don't disrupt your work, be safe, be reasonable, AND don't be bullied into thinking you must use your phone in order for management to manage!

Driving on sidewalks:

You are bound by laws in accordance with the National Agreement, handbooks and manuals of the USPS. *WAS 106-116-203; Specific parking prohibitions. (4) Parking and/or driving on sidewalks is prohibited.*

Previous grievances have been filed and the Dispute Resolution Team has resolved that letter carriers will follow the laws and therefore, not drive on sidewalks.

Within the *WAS* there is no definition of a *rolled* sidewalk or a *rolled* curb. Do the right thing; don't park on a sidewalk and don't drive on a sidewalk.

Civilian clothes with case and go's:

President Floyd received a letter stating that beginning October 1, 2008 this Past Practice will be eliminated from the Lacey Post Office. I have already filed an Informal A grievance on the matter.

I really would like to see our Management work on some new, important issues. Route adjustments, Auxiliary Route 71 being made a full route, Route 53 adjusted appropriately into two routes, DPS issues taken care of and so on. As always though, work safe, work diligently and be proud of what you do! You are an awesome crew of Letter Carriers!

In Unionism,
Debbie Dixon

2009 ROTATING DAYS OFF CALENDAR

WITH THE RISING COST OF AIRFARE AND LODGING FOR OUR DELEGATES TO ATTEND THE NATIONAL CONVENTION & THE RISING COST IN OTHER EXPENSES,

BRANCH 351 IS FOLLOWING OTHER NALC BRANCHES IN PRODUCING OUR OWN 2009 CALENDARS. COMING IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE WILL BE A FULL COLOR PULL-OUT OF NEXT YEARS CALENDAR.
EDITOR

Tumwater Shop Steward Report

Congratulations Mr. Abbott on your own route! My apologies to Cliff; I said that he went to the Main and that should have been the Westside. Welcome to Marie. My dealings with Marie have been on several different subjects and I do believe that we worked well together. I am in great hope that the future will bring a great working together atmosphere at the station.

Grievances:

7-day Suspension-Appealed to the Dispute Resolution Team

7-day Suspension-Resolved; reduced to an Official Discussion

8 hour guarantee on own assignment violated-Carrier paid out of schedule premium

In Unionism,

Debbie Dixon

ANSWERS to HUNGRY MIND'S

1. The first U.S. commemorative stamps was issued in 1893, at the World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, Ill
2. ZIP code usage began in 1963 (Zone Improvement Plan)
3. Transcontinental airmail service begin in 1920
4. V-mail service is offered in 1942
5. Ben Franklin is appointed postmaster general in 1775
6. The first U.S. postage stamp is issued on July 1st, 1847
7. The U.S. Postal Service was organized in 1971
8. U.S. residential mail is reduced from two daily deliveries to one in 1950 by Postmaster Jesse Donaldson
9. Airmail is abolished as a separate rate category in 1977
10. Street letterboxes appear in the United States in 1858



Bonus: In 1860, this short-lived but famous postal service began between Missouri and California.

“The Pony Express”

Union meetings are held on the third floor at the Labor Temple :

119 1/2 Capitol Way
Olympia, WA

(360) 754-8600

branch351@hotmail.com

Branch 351 holds its union meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm, unless otherwise noted.

The Branch Union office will be opened every Tuesday & Thursday from 2:30 pm till 5:30pm. If I can't help you, I know where to get an answer for you.

Your VP,
Sam Samuels

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Union Stewards / Alternates and Phone Numbers

	Station Numbers
Chief Shop Steward - Debbie Dixon 923-9197 Cell # 628-3320	
Alt. Chief Steward - Al Floyd Cell # 628-3319	
Main Office Shop Steward - Al Floyd	357-0222
Main Office Alt. Steward - Debbie Dixon 923-9197	
Westside Station Shop Steward - Al Floyd	352-0222 or
Westside Station Alt. Steward - Debbie Dixon 923-9197	455-1120
Lacey Station Shop Steward - Debbie Dixon 923-9197	459-8988 or
Lacey Station Alt. Steward - Vincent Corsi 493-1622	455-1120
Shelton Office Shop Steward - George Vocke 426-5928	426-4291
Tumwater Shop Steward - Debbie Dixon 923-9197	455-1120

BRANCH OFFICERS AND PHONE NUMBERS

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HBR Representative - Vacant
Sergeant of Arms - Kevin Hageman
Trustees - Ryan Troy (08-09)
Karen Colpo (07-08)
Cliff Darnell 431-6599 (07-08)

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