

Recently I attended the 2011 all craft conference in Las Vegas along with several of my local Union brothers and sisters. These conferences and conventions are different than the previous ones I have attended, as the topic of discussion is more towards the survival of the postal service rather than just day to day battles and grievances. After 25 years with the USPS, I never thought I would see times like these, fighting to just stay in business, fretting over bills being passed or not passed to shut down the USPS. I guess many of us have been spoiled during our career, at times we could make as much money as we wanted, working overtime, Holidays, it was there if we wanted it, now we are hoping to keep 40 hours a week. Penalty overtime is a thing of the past, and for most of us, so is overtime.

President Cliff Guffey discussed the recent rallies nationwide where all the postal Unions got together to protest and show support. He said a “ Do not lay me off” rally for USPS veterans is in the planning stage.

He discussed the billionaires in Washington who are bent on shutting down the post office, like he said; the USPS has an 85% approval rating, while Congress has a 12% approval rating with the American people. Who are you going to listen to?

I am trying to be positive and hope we as postal employees prevail and get thru these difficult times, I ask each of you to mail your bills rather than online bill pay, put a stamp on a greeting card rather than e-cards, ask the companies you order from if they can use the USPS rather than FedEx or UPS.

If any of you would like to receive updates and notices of upcoming events, such as rallies, pickets, or just news from our National APWU, get on APWU.org, you can also send me your e-mail address and I will e-mail you when we have events in out local.

Hang in there with us and thank you for your support !

Linda Daniel

Vice Prez.