



National Postal Mail Handlers Union

National Executive Board

John F. Hegarty
National President

Mark A. Gardner
Secretary-Treasurer

Jefferson C. Peppers III
Vice President Central Region

Kevin L. Fletcher
Vice President Eastern Region

Paul V. Hogrogian
Vice President Northeastern Region

Lawrence B. Sapp
Vice President Southern Region

Rudy Santos
Vice President Western Region

The Mail Handler, ISSN:1098-5689, is published quarterly by the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, 1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036. Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Mail Handler, 1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036 Copyright 2013: National Postal Mail Handlers Union. All rights reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The Mail Handler is published for the members of our union. For additional copies please send \$2.00 to: National Postal Mail Handlers Union—National Headquarters, 1101 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 500 Washington, DC 20036, (202) 833-9095

National Postal Mail Handlers Union

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

IT'S TIME TO GET INVOLVED

Dear Members,

As this issue of "The Mail Handler" goes to press, there is still a great deal of uncertainty surrounding so-called "postal reform" legislation. One thing is certain, however; if we don't get involved, at all levels of our Union, we lose our right to complain about whatever does eventually come out of the legislative process. It is time for all elected Union officials, and indeed for all members of this great Union, to get involved, and to contact our Senators and Representatives in Congress to educate them as to our views on "postal reform." The place to start is on the NPMHU web site at <http://www.npmhu.org> where we have posted a number of documents relevant to this complicated issue. We urge you to review those materials, and then set up an appointment with your representatives to have your voice heard. It may sound like a cliché, but your job depends on it. Please review the related Article in this edition of the magazine.

As we struggle to convince Congress to do the right thing by passing positive legislation, we are also continuing our fight with Postal Headquarters as



JOHN F. HEGARTY, National President

management continues its slash and burn tactics. I've said it before, and I'll say it again: "taking the service out of the Postal Service is no way to run a business." Instead of closing facilities, and ruining overnight service standards, management should be improving service by building on our core strengths. The Postal Service consistently ranks at the top of the

**"Instead of closing
facilities,
and ruining overnight
service standards,
management
should be improving
service by building on
our core strengths."**

The Mail Handler | 3



most trusted government agencies. We have achieved record on-time service and efficiency, despite massive cut-backs in personnel. Package volume is growing by leaps and bounds, so what is the PMG trying to do? Does he want to close so many processing centers that we can't keep up with volumes? It just doesn't make sense. This is part of the message that Congress needs to hear from us, loud and clear.

Another issue crucial to the future of our Union is the growth of our Craft, and of our membership. To that end, and in keeping with the recent Fishgold Arbitration Award, we are seeing an influx of new Union members who are starting as Mail Handler Assistants. MHAs are the new, bargaining unit, non-career workforce awarded by Arbitrator Fishgold. They will be the first ones hired as career when openings occur. Please welcome these new Sisters and Brothers into our Craft, as they start on what hopefully will be a lengthy and rewarding career with the U. S. Postal Service.

On another note, we hope to have the printed copies of the new National Agreement out to every member of the Union before too long. We have dotted all the "i's" and crossed all the "t's" after incorporating all of the changes outlined in the Fishgold Award. A final check of the proof copy will be made, and it's then off to a Union printer for finalization and distribution. We will have these out to the field as soon as possible. Every dues paying member will receive a copy of the new National Agreement; they will be mailed directly to each member's address of record.

Brothers and Sisters, let me once again thank you for your membership in the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, and refer you back to the title of this Article: It's time to get involved.

Fraternally,

John F. Hegarty
National President

"If we don't get involved, at all levels of our Union, we lose our right to complain about whatever does eventually come out of the legislative process."