## **CHOICES**

June Harris, Central Region Vice President, Local 306 President, Women's Committee Chairperson

mportant word, with significant consequences. Our right to exercise our choice can shape elections and influence the outcome of future events. That's why we need to vote whenever the opportunity arises. As a voter, we play an important role in various elections including Presidential, state, municipal government, and contractual ratification. It is important that we, as members of this great Union, take the time to vote on the terms of our employment and livelihood. Sure, some didn't agree on certain provisions, but that's okay.

That's how democracy works. We have the freedom to voice our constitutional rights.

Diverse perspectives and opinions are what make this world better. Right or wrong, ideas are needed to spark a spirited debate and discussion on important matters. This shouldn't cause the disruption of friendships or stop people from speaking to one another. A difference of opinion is no reason to declare war against one another. There

are some instances where we must take a stance on our position and be willing to go distance to be heard. That's what the National Postal Mail Handlers Union fights for on a daily and continuous basis. Bargaining was difficult, but our NPMHU leadership and representatives fought to achieve a contractual agreement that has long-term benefits and stability for our members including pay increases, decreased time to reach the top Step of the pay grade, and no lay-off protection to name a few. These are benefits that few employers offer.

The month of March is also International Women's Day. This celebration of achievements by women worldwide occurred on March 8, 2023. The theme for this year is "Embrace Equality". This is a collective push to ensure that women receive an equal opportunity for jobs and careers, with equal payment as their male counterparts. This is not

> an issue that we have within our craft, due to the protection that is afforded to ALL of our craft, regardless of gender. Again, this is another reason to appreciate the work of the NPMHU leadership, past and present. Our pay is the same at each level and grade regardless of one's gender. Our Brothers and Sisters have an equal opportunity to bid on and secure higher-level positions in our craft. If you have the skills and seniority, you

have an opportunity at various positions. In places around the world, this benefit is sometimes taken for granted, and is not afforded to female workers. Gender is used as a roadblock to promotions and equal pay. I celebrate our Union for not allowing such a blatant discriminatory action against anyone, male or female; equality for all. Thanks, NPMHU for being a protector for ALL!

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## NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION – WOMEN'S COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

**N** ational President Hogrogian has affirmed the recommendation of the National Executive Board and appointed Local 310 President Lisa Greer and Local 332 President Edvina Tesch to the Women's Committee of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union.

The Women's Committee was formed in 2017 with the following mission statement:

The mission of the Women's Committee of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) is to encourage, recruit, and engage women of all backgrounds to join and be active members in the NPMHU and the trade union movement. We believe that all working women have the right to a safe and decent living at a reasonable wage. We believe that all members of society are entitled to equal and fair justice. We want to strengthen our sisters and help them achieve a better quality of life for themselves and their families.

Sister Greer and Tesch are proven labor leaders with the experience and knowledge to contribute to the excellent work of the Women's Committee. The additional members of the Women's Committee are Chairperson June Harris, Central Region Vice President / Local 306 President, Teresa Harmon, Manager Contract Administration Department, Yvette Johnson, Vice President Local 300, Felandria Jackson, President Local 305, Kelly Dickey President Local 322, Joyce Weber, Treasurer Local 318, and Roxie Olds-Pride, Treasurer Local 311.

Additional information about the Women's Committee is available on the NPMHU website.



LISA GREER

