



1 2 1 1

Western Arkansas Area Local

# The Paper

April 23, 2004

## The Commission, The Council and The Cookout

By Dennis Taff

The time is near. The recommendations of the President's Commission are now in the hands of our elected officials. Plans are to introduce postal reform legislation by the end of this month.

We *all* have an obligation to be informed and stay informed on these important issues. Keep an eye on our union bulletin board and visit [www.apwu.org](http://www.apwu.org) and [www.apwu1211.com](http://www.apwu1211.com). **Our jobs are on the line!**

I plan to speak at City Council meetings and with local business leaders concerning these important issues that will ultimately effect their mail service. I encourage you to speak to your family members and to members of the organizations that you may belong to and to encourage them to contact their elected officials.

We need to continue to keep giving to COPA. I know many of you have donated in the past, and I am very proud of that, but we have to give more. I am challenging each of you to donate at least \$25.00. That less than 1 one thousandth of your annually salary—less than 50 cents per week—less than one soda per week. It is a small price to keep your job. A great time to bring your \$25 check would be at the union picnic 1:30 P.M. May 23rd at Grand Slam on Zero St.

On the subject of the picnic, please do your best to attend. The picnic committee has put a lot of work in preparation for this event. This is a great time for the members and their families to get together and have a fun time outside of the normal work environment. The picnics in the past have been great and I'm sure that this one be also.

One final note. I announced at the last union meeting that I am running for National Business Agent. NBA Carl Casillas is retiring. Roosevelt Stewart Local President from St. Louis has also announced his intention to run for NBA

See you at the picnic.



# THE PICNIC

## Sunday May 23

### 1 - 5 pm

At

Fort Smith's Grand Slam Fun Center  
5300 South Zero

Activities include:

- LUNCH
- MINIATURE GOLF
- GO-CARTS
- DRIVING RANGE
- BATTING CAGES

## Post Office Closings



## Tell Your Rep's VOTE NO

## March 21, 2004 Summary of Meeting Meeting Called to Order 1:30

- All Officers present
- Dennis read and turned in his report
- Chris gave her report
- Minutes read and accepted
- Financial report read and accepted
- Ron Davis gave his report on the Tri-state convention
- Caleb Smith has joined the union
  
- Mayor Baker is talking to Dennis about doing something else to keep the post office in the light. Dennis is going to get back with the mayor and the city council about what they would like us to do.
  
- Dennis talked about all the competitors who have their sights set on us through the postal commission.
  
- Randy has a copy of the video that president Burrus has sent out on the postal commission interviews. If anyone would like to watch it let Dennis or Randy know. Dennis has asked Braunstein about a video that we could show to the public.
  
- Labor management meeting is scheduled for this coming Wednesday with OIC Ellis.
  
- Motion by Sheryl b. to send \$100.00 to the Ave of flags in memory of Herb Jerue, second by Dena Dyer motion passed.
  
- We will vote on sending delegates to the state convention in Little Rock the first weekend in June at the April meeting
  
- \$50.00 drawing at next months meeting
  
- Next meeting April 17, 2004 at Cavanaugh pizza

Motion to adjourn so moved

**ThePaper**  
PO Box 11196  
Ft Smith AR 72917

**Next Union  
Meeting**

**May 23, 2004**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Grand Slam Picnic**

## Letter for the Legislators

In the very near future you will be asked to sign a letter to Senators Lincoln and Pryor and to Rep. Boozman. The purpose is to thank them for supporting our causes. All three have been a enormous help in keeping the pressure on the Postal Service with regard to Fort Smith Mail Processing. We want to also urge them to support our cause in the midst of the Postal Commission Legislation that is expected sometime this summer. I can't stress enough the importance of keeping them on our side. Please do your part when you are asked.

# BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR

# THE PICNIC

## Sunday May 23

### 1 - 5 pm

At

Fort Smith's Grand Slam Fun Center  
5300 South Zero

## All in All it's a Lesson in Language

By Corky Hunt

**All:**

1. Being or representing the entire or total amount, Constituting, or representing the total extent being the utmost possible. Any whatsoever: beyond all doubt. The whole of one's fortune, resources, or energy; everything one has The entire or total number, amount, or quantity; totality wholly; completely.



**Durable**

1. Capable of withstanding wear and tear or decay, able to perform or compete over a long period as by avoiding or overcoming. Lasting stable. Not depleted or consumed by use.

Recently I learned something valuable to those of us with aging or ill parents. Now I'm not the brightest bulb on the tree but being a confident junior legal scholar I was sure that peradventure I could inscribe a Power of Attorney. Well, not quite! Here's the nuts and bolts of it.

A *General Power of Attorney* (attorney-in-fact) ends when the subject of the power of attorney becomes incompetent and would be judged unable to revoke the power of attorney if they chose to. Just when you need it the most, it becomes worthless.

A *Durable Power of Attorney* continues past the subject's disability and can help you to avoid a plethora of people becoming involved in *your* business. An attorney-in-fact and a conservator (guardian) both have authority to handle a the subject's finances but the attorney-in-fact does so *without* court involvement and supervision while a conservator or guardian must be appointed and supervised by the court. Now that we understand the difference between *general* and *durable* here is another twist.

Opinions expressed by the writers of articles in this paper are those of the individuals and not necessarily those of *ThePaper*, APWU, or Local 1211.

editor@apwu1211.com  
www.apwu1211.com  
Office 479-484-6323

A *Durable Medical Power Attorney* allows you to appoint an agent to make your medical decisions for you if you're incapable of making them for yourself. You can give your agent instructions as to what type of medical care you want or do not want. Without a properly drafted and signed Durable Medical Power Of Attorney, your spouse and/or children may not be able to control your medical care. You may already have a power of attorney but, unless the power of attorney specifically states medical or healthcare powers the healthcare providers might not accept it. Just simply stating that "I appoint X to handle ALL of my business" will not cut it. Many states have specific language for A Durable Medical Power Of Attorney. Many, healthcare providers or resident healthcare facilities *require* that a Durable *Medical* Power Of Attorney be present before treating a patient that is not competent to make their own decisions. I don't mean in cases when it's an emergency and immediate treatment is needed, but when the dust settles and its time to make long term healthcare decisions about any person who is unable to make decisions on their own. Remember the title of the document must contain the word Durable so that it indicates that it survives the competence of the subject.



Just simply stating that "I appoint X to handle ALL of my business" will not cut it. Many states have specific language for A Durable Medical Power Of Attorney. Many, healthcare providers or resident healthcare facilities *require* that a Durable *Medical* Power Of Attorney be present before treating a patient that is not competent to make their own decisions. I don't mean in cases when it's an emergency and immediate treatment is needed, but when the dust settles and its time to make long term healthcare decisions about any person who is unable to make decisions on their own. Remember the title of the document must contain the word Durable so that it indicates that it survives the competence of the subject.

**Western Arkansas Area Local Officers**

Dennis Taff	President
Chris Hagen	Vice-President
Randy Cope	Secretary-Treasurer
Corky Hunt	Editor

**Stewards**

<b>Dennis Taff</b> Window Services	783-7898
<b>Chris Hagen</b> Mail Processing Tour 3	484-6371
<b>Karla Shaffer</b> Mail Processing T1 T2	484-6371
<b>Randy Cope</b> Maintenance T1 T2	484-6384
<b>Thomas Henry</b> Maintenance T3	484-6384
<b>Kerry Botteicher</b> CFS	484-6344
<b>Bob Harp</b> Window/Customer Svc.	484-6425

## April 18, 2004 Summary of Meeting

### Meeting called to order at 1:30

- Officers present president, vice-president and secretary
- Dennis gave his report and turned in a copy
- Chris gave her report on what she has been working on since the last meeting
- Editor arrived to meeting all officers present
- Minutes read and accepted
- Financial report read and accepted

#### Old Business

- Dennis is going to get with the mayor about what he is interested in and to see if Dennis can come and address the city council meeting.
- Dennis and Chris met with the OIC for the labor management meeting items discussed included; single operators on the DBCS's, management ordering supplies is still clerk work, the new call in procedure, Harold Brody's job not being filled

#### Other items discussed

- The Van Buren settlement
- Another letter writing campaign
- Senator Pryor working for us against the postal commission report

#### New business

- Carrier crossing crafts and working in the clerk craft Dennis is going to check into this.
- Delegates to the state convention in Little Rock on June 3,4,&5. Ron Davis, James Hunt and Randy Cope. Motion to send these three members to the convention by Sheryl Breedlove 2nd by Flo Stumbaugh motion passed
- Dennis announced that he would be running for central region NBA this year.
- Dennis read a letter that was being passed around to Oklahoma APWU members that addresses the Presidents Commission. Oklahoma members are sending these letters to the Oklahoma representative's. He thinks we need to do something similar before the vote on the postal commission report, which will be voted on before the middle of summer.
- Corky was appointed as committee chairman to look into finding something the union can do to get the word out to the community.
- Motion by Sheryl Breedlove to spend up to \$1000.00 to help get the word out to the public about the postal commission report. 2nd by bob Ballard motion passed
- Chris Hagen's name was drawn for the \$50.00 this month
- Next meeting is the picnic at grand slam on may 23, 2004 @ 1:00 p.m. meeting will be at 2:00 p.m.
- June's meeting will be at Cavanaugh pizza on the 6th of June @ 1:00 p.m.
- Motion to adjourn so moved at 2:25

