

## **The End of the World as we know it?**

I've for some time been espousing the need for change, we have seen the breakdown of our Association in it's ability to bargain with the USPS, we've seen the APWU and the NALC advance their cause in the last negotiations, and once again an Arbitrator decided our fate. The overhaul of the USPS has begun in earnest, we are beginning to see and feel the change in the USPS with downsizing and it's flagrant violations of Labor Law. With not only our Association but from the attached file at least if rumor has it right NAPUS and NAPS.

As you have seen Headquarters is cutting non-essential jobs and our Corporation is on the verge of breakdown.

I certainly don't need to tell you this as the vision of the Post office of the future is a leaner more automated, less labor reliant. Soon the Postal Regulatory Commission will present its report to Congress on

\* "Universal Service Obligation"

( A recent law requires the Commission to submit to Congress by late December 2008, a report on the Universal Service Obligation) and the USPS monopoly.

These are or will be the the decisive moments to determine our future or lack thereof. We have seen a financial meltdown on a global scale on the Financial Markets, we have seen Congress and the Executive leaders print and give trillions to support the failure of those markets. Major corporations globally are laying off it's labor force and if what we are seeing comes to fruition we will be impacted by those layoffs also.

Never before, as in Alan Greenspan's words, " Once in a Century Financial Tsunami" have I seen such turmoil in the markets and the history of the USPS, or my or my fathers career. We are standing at the crossroads of a bleak future and we as an Association is in the way. Organized Labor is on the defense in this economy and we are about to see what direction the P.R.C. and Congress have in store for the USPS and it's labor force. The very outlook of the monopoly and our ability to serve will be on trial and those that will be deciding our future, we will be electing in just a few days.

I don't mean to seem as though all is gloom and doom, but more intend to prepare myself for any circumstance. Our choices in the next week are the most important in recent history and our decisions will affect the world. I'm not talking just the Presidential election but those that will affect us all the way to the local level. We have been tasked to decide what our children's, children will be responsible for because of our decisions.

Soon Congress and our leaders will be making decisions on whether we will be providing Universal Service 6 days a week, or ?

I have made a conscious effort to stay out of the business of endorsing one candidate or another as their visions of my future are not those that I can fully endorse. I do know that only one candidate has received the endorsement of both the NALC and the APWU and this candidate also is the only one that has even mentioned organized labor, and the time has come to ensure not only our opportunity for the support of Unions but for those that follow.

If you want to be frightened this Halloween, watch the news from around the World or even your local station, for if they, are even close to being right things are going to get much worse before they get better and no matter who wins the Presidential Election a world starving for leadership will be looking to what was an experiment in governing that which we call Democracy, in the United States of America.

**We** will be called upon to sacrifice because of the greed over the last decade, and like it or not we will. The Holiday season is upon us and we normally give to those in need, yet lets not forget that those we help before the Holidays will need help after. Find a food pantry and if you can't donate food offer time.

We as a Country are being called upon to lead and we must by example and through gifts inspire a World for the alternative is unimaginable. Our opportunity to change the World is here, our opportunity to change the USPS is here, use your power of the vote to make the change we need for our generation and that of those that follow.

And Thats The Way Jay Sees It