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HOW A SCAB's MIND (?) WORKS

Some postal workers never get around to joining the union. They may not want it widely known that they are non-members, for fear that they might be ostracized at work, or they might be brazen enough to tell their co-workers that they are getting a free ride at others' expense. If you pin them down, some will offer excuses. Here are some of the most common:

1. "I can't afford it." Translation: "I'm cheap."

You can't afford NOT to join, since members' dues pay for national and local negotiations that DO affect your pocketbook. You can also save hundreds of dollars on many refinances if you are a union member. That should get people's attention with the current very low interest rates.

2. "I stay out of trouble, so I don't need the Union."

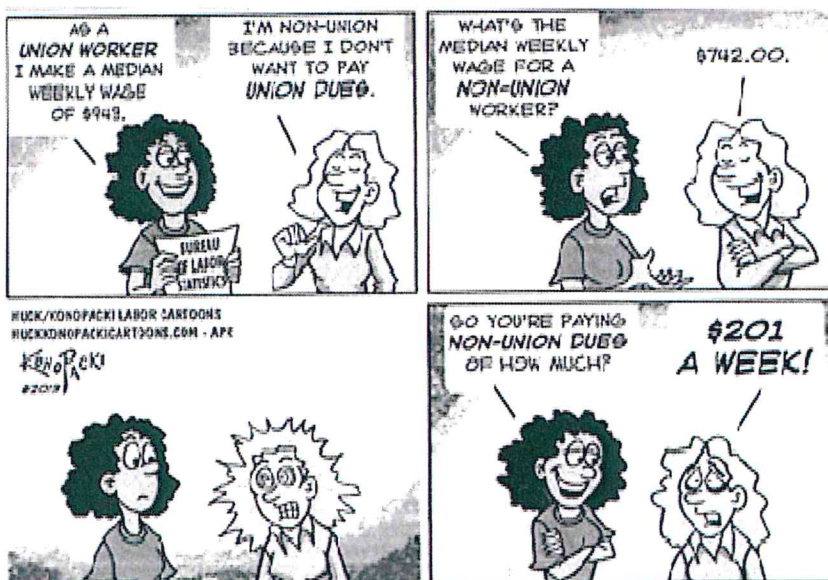
Sometimes trouble finds YOU, in the form of an abusive or biased supervisor. If you are too embarrassed to ask for representation from an organization you don't support, you might end up hiring a lawyer at your own expense.

3. "I can't stand my shop steward/local officers/national officers."

If you do not participate, a really bad official can continue in office unchallenged. The organization's mission is more important than the personalities of a few individuals.

4. "Nobody ever asked me to join."

You undoubtedly heard from a Union representative when you started your postal career. There is a Union presence on the floor: introduce yourself to your shop steward. (It does seem to be true that when shop stewards and officers approach nonmembers one on one, they are often able to sign these people up. Some people just like to be courted.)



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It's A Date

- Retirees Chapter Meeting - 6/19/13
- MVS Steward Training - 6/25 & 30/13
- Holiday—7/4/13
- General Meeting - 7/10/13
- Local Arbitration - 7/10/13

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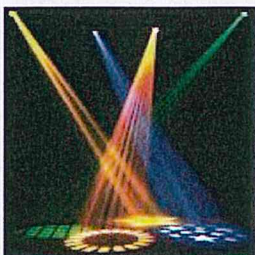
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Joseph E. Griffin

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**Welcome!**

FORWARD TO THE PAST

The Oakland Local has successfully negotiated, via Article 12.5.C.5.b (6) of the CBA, the return of the 7 employees to the Oakland installation who were excessed from the installation in early 2009. All of them will be returned to the Tour 1 Automation Unit on June 29, 2013. The employees are: Catherine Apostal, Obidiah Campbell, Mark Hatlen, Aurelio Hilo, Jr., Josephine Ma, Jason Simpson and Margaret Zeng. Welcome back to Oakland! The other employees who had retreat rights decided not to return to Oakland, thus terminating their retreat rights.

HOW A SCAB'S MIND (?) WORKS *(Continued from page 1)*

5. "I can make my own arrangements with my supervisor."

Well, you did not negotiate your salary and benefits. And these days, management's primary objective seems to be to get rid of employees. If they are under pressure, they will trim the rolls anyway they can. There are fewer and fewer perks — pleasant details, and so on — that your buddy can offer. What happens when that supervisor retires?

6. "This cheap-a__ Union never gives us anything — not even a free pen!"

If you think trinkets are more important than being represented, YOU are the cheapskate. Non-members are like people who refuse to be vaccinated and then depend on herd immunity to protect them from preventable diseases. When there are enough of them, they weaken the resistance of the group. If you are a non-member and you are bothering to read this, you may not have considered what message management is getting when a local does not have a huge majority of the people it represents signed up. Management sees that facility as a weak, vulnerable group which can be attacked at will. You will become a target, and you will have only your own selfishness to blame. If Scabs have minds, now is the time they should start using them.

IT'S A KIDS' WORLD — EAT, PLAY AND BE MERRY

Many restaurants offer free or discounted food for kids. To be eligible, special rules may apply: Kids must be under a certain age or must order from special menus at specified times. To find a location for your family, go to:

www.familyfriendlyamerica.com or www.coupondivas.com.



THINKING ABOUT BUYING A HOME SOON?

HUD has a "Buying a Home" page at <http://go.usa.gov/Xu6>. To find a HUD-sponsored counseling agency that can offer free or low-cost advice on buying and borrowing for

a home, visit www.hud.gov/offices/hsg/sth/hcc/hcs.cfm or call 1-800-569-4287. My-money.gov has additional tips at www.mymoney.gov/category/topic1/dealing-mortgages.html. Also, NeighborWorks America, a national nonprofit organization created by Congress, promotes homeownership

through education and counseling. Visit www.nw.org/network/consumers/index.asp.

-FDIC Consumer News

