

WHAT WILL IT TAKE

By Chuck Locke, National Business Agent, Clerk Division

THAT IS THE QUESTION WE ALL NEED TO ASK OURSELVES. What will it take for me to get involved in my Union, in my community or in our political process?

Unions and the working class are under attack in our country by the wealthy and the Republican Party. They have taken a strong stance against Unions and the middle class. They want us to feel guilty for making a livable wage and earning benefits. They are against workers earning a livable wage. They are against workers having retirement benefits. They are against workers having good health benefits. They are against an increase in the Federal minimum wage. They are against maintaining a strong public school system. They are against maintaining the United States Postal Service for the good of all Americans.

We must ask ourselves, why and who are they representing? If we take an honest look at that question the answer is clear, NOT US! It is hard to believe that a political party would work so hard every day to destroy the middle class in our Country.

They are working hard to keep the American middle class and poor suppressed and struggling. After all, who are we to think we have a right to livable wages, good health care, strong children and a working for 30 years. happy to have a job that After all, Walmart is the America and they pay minimum wage with no their orientation, Wal-Mart shows their employees how to apply for food stamps and medical. Taxpayers are subsidizing Walmart while they continue to suppress workers' rights.

As part of their orientation, Wal-Mart shows their employees how to apply for food stamps and medical.

education for our retirement after We should just be pays minimum wage. largest employer in their employees benefits. As part of

SO WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO MAKE THINGS CHANGE? IT WILL TAKE YOU! Working together we can make a difference. Our Union is a great example of the power of the people. Our Union has successfully fought

for good wages, benefits, retirement, health care and work rules for our members. All workers deserve to be treated with dignity and respect and be fairly compensated for their labor.

We can no longer live by relying on others to look out for our interests, waiting for chance or simply hoping our problems will all work out. If most of us would put half the effort we put into our job into fighting to protect our job and middle class values, we would be amazed at the difference that would make.

One thing is for sure Sisters and Brothers; the past is dead and gone. We can't go back. The future is the only thing we have control over and right here and now is the only time that we can control. Don't put it off till tomorrow. Start right now to make a difference for the future.

The middle class in our country is facing huge challenges and so are we as postal employees. There are two ways of facing challenges. You either get involved and make a difference, or you simply look the other way. I challenge you to get involved in your Union, in your community and in your future.

Once again I must ask, "What will it take?"

"The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything." –Albert Einstein

