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Issue 98

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The Voting Circus

And the IBT AD voting circus goes on. So far we have ineligible people voting while eligible people have not received their ballots. We have those who have not received a ballot and requested a replacement ballot by email. Some have not received their replacement ballot after a week and then there are those who have but when they plug in the activation code it says you already voted! You just can't make this stuff up!

Now, the IBT AD has decided to back the tally day up to February 16th. Really? We already know the AD is in hot water with the International due to this "proposal" even being brought to this membership. They are also being chastised for attempting to allow the furloughs to vote. Per BallotPoint and the IBT AD the union's only responsibility was to provide BallotPoint with a roster of "eligible voters" and it appears they screwed that up!

While this "circus" is going on I have received so many emails from fellow workers asking how can this be? How can a union with a very long history keep screwing things up? Well, if you look at their history, they are very good at screwing things up.

A great many SCAL Mechanics can testify to this fact around the year 2002 when there was a vote and a great many ballots were lost, about 2000. The IBT blamed the post office. Below is an accounting of that incident.

Continental Airlines and Continental Trucking had an election at the same time. The ballots were mailed to the same building and wound up in the same collection area. (blamed post office) Those counting the Continental Trucking ballots simply threw the Continental Airlines ballots away.

The first time they blamed the post office, the second time they believed that the ballots were mailed as instructed. In both instances there was a huge failure to oversee the operations. If you hire a contractor to build your house and you show up on a regular basis to monitor you get a lot better product than if you never show up. Blind trust is for fools or those who do not care.

It is my opinion this "proposal" should never had been brought to this membership. In fact, I am hearing through the grapevine that the International has said the same thing. In fact, I would not be surprised that this vote at some point could be canceled and negotiations continued.

I do know when this proposal was given to the negotiators they initially wanted to recommend a no vote to this membership. IBT Lawyer Ed Gleason was called in and convinced the negotiators to remain neutral.

The question is, with such a terrible proposal, what did Ed Gleason say to these guys to convince them to remain neutral at that time? Well, to find out, the Airline Division told the negotiators, at the time, if any of them speaks out against the proposal or recommend a no vote, they will be removed from the negotiating team. Holy crap! Intimidation alert!

So fast forward to now where the masses have spoken out and the International isn't happy and now some negotiators have jumped on the bandwagon.

It is my opinion when we return to the negotiating table we do so with a new group of "ELECTED" negotiators who will not be intimidated by this membership and not left in the hands of the IBT AD who has done nothing but dictated and intimidated this negotiating team. Yeah, I know, ain't going to happen.

Survey Time

I think it's time to vent people. I have created a new survey addressing the issues I have brought up here. I will bring back the "Your Voice Matters" newsletter which will share the results and comments of the survey. Included on my email list are a majority of the IBT Officers who get what you get. Feel free to make your comments on the survey. It is anonymous. Here's the link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X7MX9SW>

Donations

I am nearing the goal on my gofundme account and will probably be turning it off in a couple of days. I do want to express my sincere thanks to those who donated and gave me words of encouragement. I am overwhelmed by the support from around the system in such a short time. It truly is inspiring to say the least. Here's the link for those who still wish to donate. [gofund.me/swkt7fks](https://www.gofundme.com/swkt7fks)