To: USO Members

Fr: Chuck Agerstrand, PSA President

*Date: March 26, 2009 RE: 2009 Report* 

It always seems that with every year we are faced with new and varying issue's and this past year has proved no exception. Certainly I would not be able to stand before you and report on so many successes if it were not for the assistance I have received from Vice President, Nancy Knight, Secretary, Joyce Phelps, and Treasure, Ruth Beier, as well as the members who comprise the PSA Executive Committee.

This past yea PSA along with USO, agreed to enter into negotiations with management in order to address our travel and expense account issues. While these talks have not concluded in a settlement, the PSA bargaining team led by our chief negotiator David Stafford is working hard to that end.

In addition to bargaining this year, PSA's Grievance Committee led by Chuck Herring has found itself faced with numerous grievances covering a wide variety of contractual issues. Our Grievance Committee has been very successful in resolving a number of difficult issues and it is a credit to their advocacy and skills that we are so effective.

This year, as we have done in previous years, PSA along with USO hosted a successful reception for MEA members attending the MEA Statewide Bargaining and PR Conference. The event focused on building relationships. During this past year, we have expended considerable time in undertaking efforts to further improve on and develop new relationships with MEA members and governance.

PSA prides itself with a high level of participation on the part of our members in the internal operation of this union. PSA, like USO, has faced significant challenges this year, however I believe we continue to do an outstanding job in representing our members at all levels within this union. Much of this work goes unnoticed, and sometimes we are not at liberty to discuss certain details that directly involve our membership. However, thanks to those members who serve on the PSA Executive Committee, and our committee chairpersons, I can say again with pride that PSA is working hard to meet the needs of our union members and to effectively address member concerns.

PSA membership support is critical as we begin to embark on our next journey...to bargain a successor contract. I will remind everyone that we will undertake this journey together demonstrating to everyone how a "union" can work together to accomplish our mutual bargaining goals. I look forward to working with the new leadership within PSA in assisting them in accomplishing our union goals. I have elected not to run again as PSA President and later in May, PSA will elect new leadership. I welcome the opportunity to continue to work with USO, and appreciate the invaluable support and assistance I have received over the years from Tom Greene, USO President.