

## ***Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers***



### *President's Report*

October 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Summer has come and gone. We should have beautiful fall forage this season with all the rain we had this past summer.

To recap a little bit about the National Convention, It was my honor to represent my fellow Union members at our convention in Anaheim. President Fred Rolando is a breath of fresh air running the convention. Anyone that wanted to speak was given the opportunity to express their opinion even at times to the mundane. I congratulate Fred and his executive board on being re-elected. Also to Brother Danny Pittman on being promoted to Business Agent I know he will do a fine job representing Letter Carriers in Region 5. During the Convention I attended many Legislative and Political training seminars before and after the convention. I was also very proud to be one of the 3,500 Letter Carriers that attended the Job's Rally in downtown Los Angeles it was quite impressive to see such a huge turnout for a solidarity rally for jobs.

On the political front H.R. 5746 a bill to make restitution to CSRS retirement fund to the tune of \$50-\$55 BILLION dollars that the Postal Service has been overcharged. This along with the pre-funding of the retiree health care over funding to the sum of \$75 BILLION and this is still a separate issue still pending. Low and behold the USPS would have still shown a profit 3 out of the last 4 years! Also it has been proved that FERS retirement system has been over funded also but oh just \$6.8 BILLION dollars. So the moral of my story here, "Do you think that some of the powers that be are out to stick it to the USPS, and drive us into financial ruin then swoop in and cherry pick the cream" Just something that makes me go HMMMM. Iowa's Congressional delegation has stepped up to support us on this issue, Congressman Bruce Braley, Congressman Dave Loebsack, and just today I got a commitment from Congressman Leonard Boswell. Congressmen Latham and King have been no-committal on H.R. 5746. If your Congressman is a

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co-sponsor please thank them, give their office a call or send an e-mail or better yet a letter to their local offices and thank them for standing up for hard working Letter Carriers! If your Congressman is not a co-sponsor please contact them and urge them to sign on.

Now I would be remiss if I didn't bring up this fall elections (Hey it's my job). How you vote is as always a personal decision. The Governor's race Chet Culver, everything he promised during his campaign he has gotten done. Did Labor get everything we wanted not exactly? Former Governor Branstad is anti Labor and brags that any Labor friendly bill that reaches his desk is dead on arrival. Our brothers and sisters in AFSCME had to sue the state when Branstad was governor to get him to abide by an arbitrators binding decision for a very modest pay raise. Working families can't afford Terry Branstad and his anti working family's agenda.

In the Senate race Roxanne Conlin will put working men and women of Iowa first over corporate profits. Personally if I wanted someone representing me in Washington D.C that's going to fight for Letter Carriers and the Postal Service she's my pick.

Chuck Grassley has been in elected office since 1958 it's time we thank Chuck for his service and send him back to the farm so he can enjoy his retirement. He has not been a friend to Letter Carriers this past fall he tried to block the bill to save the Postal Service \$4.5 Billion dollars on the retiree healthcare issue. Had that bill not gotten through on that very day it would have cost the USPS \$5.5 billion instead it paid \$1.4 billion. This fund is already prefunded to the tune of \$ 39 billion more than any fortune 500 company or any other federal agency does.

In the coming weeks (50) days as of this writing day until the election, the attack ads are going to roll. Don't be fooled by what is being said, ask yourself this which of these candidates is

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going to put working men and women like us first over corporate profits. CEO's of this country have reaped millions shipping jobs overseas. They don't blink an eye when they can make an extra million in bonuses by shipping jobs overseas. Duh let's see nobody here has a job to purchase the goods made overseas and it's somehow always the Unions fault. I digress, please just remember who our friends are that support Postal and working family's issues come Election Day they have stood by us and continue to, so let's do our part and support them on Election Day. Remember you can request an absentee ballot and don't have to worry you're going to be working late on Election Day.

This year we have a choice between two candidates and two very different outcomes. One candidate will move this economy forward, and the other candidate will take our economy backward. What we can achieve and what we risk losing depends on our choices.

I would like to say Thanks to the Branches that participated in the State Wide Major Project for Muscular Dystrophy this year. The following Branches in no particular order participated by selling the raffle tickets. Muscatine, Ft. Dodge, Clinton, Iowa City , Boone, Iowa Falls, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids, Sioux City, Mason City, Cedar Falls, Ft. Madison, Des Moines, Council Bluffs, Bettendorf, if I missed anyone I do apologize See the attached sheet with the grand totals and golf results.

Yours in Unionism,

Mark "Big Daddy" Fallis

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers AFL-CIO

[www.iowalettercarriers.org](http://www.iowalettercarriers.org)

**2010 MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY STATEWIDE  
GOLF TOURNAMENT & TV RAFFLE RESULTS**

FLIGHT WINNERS

*1st FLIGHT (59-61)*

1<sup>ST</sup> Place Mike Sinclair, Dave Atkins Jason Berkley, Kelly Mcannich

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Mark Fallis, Jeff Case, Rick Kessler, Mark Dembiski

Both teams tied with a score of 59 1<sup>st</sup> Place team won on a card back

*2<sup>nd</sup> FLIGHT (63-67)*

1<sup>st</sup> Place Kim Gould, Lori Strottman, Deb Strottman, Kelly Grimes

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Mike Weir, Dan Pittman, Mike Birkett, Tony Gessel

Both teams tied 1<sup>st</sup> Place team won on a card back also

*3<sup>rd</sup> FLIGHT (68 & up)*

1<sup>st</sup> Place Gerry Todahl, Jack Woods, Grant Todahl, TJ Moberg

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Rick Garrett, Gerry Mc Cauley, Denny Muarry, Don Kelly

The winner of the Sony TV was Will Everman of Waterloo a nephew of Cedar Rapids carrier  
Renee Keller

**A special thank you to all those who participated and a very big thank you to the folks that  
came out to help with registration and on course events:**

Joe Miller, Mykle Fallis, Stephanie McCollom, Mike Mc Kinney,

Michelle Brown, Stephanie Stewart and our MDA Fundraising Coordinator Jenna Croft for an  
excellent JOB

A Thank you to the Host Branch #352 Des Moines for all their support and the Iowa State  
Association of Letter Carriers for theirs as well, without their financial support we couldn't have  
raised such a large total.

**Our gross total for the State wide TV raffle and Golf Tournament was \$13,367.00**

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Fallis  
2010 Branch #352 MDA Golf Chair

