

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

July 2013

Greetings Sisters and Brothers,

Watch the news and NALC web site for information on the postal reform hearing that is scheduled to take place July 17th. It seems that Chairman Issa wants to once again float his idea of ending Saturday delivery immediately, ending door to door delivery for millions of our customers by placing NDCBU's all over the country, and allowing just about anyone to access our customers' mail receptacles.

If these steps were necessary to save the Postal Service, I would be in favor. It would be a bitter pill to swallow, but if necessary, OK.

BUT IT IS NOT NECESSARY.

Congress simply has to remove the pre-funding mandate. Recognize the true cause of the red ink flowing from L'Enfant Plaza and correct the legislative nightmare that is forcing the failure of the Postal Service. The Postal Service has overfunded its own retirement funding obligations. Congress isn't giving it back but that is not enough, so Congress has forced the Postal Service to pour billions more into a 'future retiree health benefit fund.' What company does such a thing? The only one that is forced to do so by the US Government- the US Postal Service.

They should quit collecting a hidden tax from everyone who buys stamps. Part of the price of postage goes into the 'future retiree health benefit fund.' I would like to see some numbers genius figure out how much of the 46 cent stamp is a hidden tax paying for this Congressional mandate.

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Be ready to contact your Congressman and Senators when needed. Information can be found at www.nalc.org

Watch out for your CCA's. Educate them so that they know what rights they have. Management is doing all that they can to take away those rights and intimidate them into taking unsafe shortcuts, shortcuts that could be unsafe for them and our customers.

Don't forget about the MDA Golf Tournament in Waterloo on September 1st, if you can't golf, consider buying some raffle tickets or sending a donation to sponsor a hole. There is a link to the entry/sponsorship form at www.iowalettercarriers.org

Also block on your calendars **October 20-22** for our annual fall training.

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

www.iowalettercarriers.org