

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

January 2015

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The Region 5 Rap Session will be Feb. 28 and March 1 in Overland Park, Kansas. Hope you or someone from your branch takes advantage of the training and information offered by our National Business Agent. I will not be able to attend this year but hope to connect with many of you this coming year at events across the state.

The Iowa State Convention will be in Davenport May 3 – 5. Your branch should have received the convention call material to register delegates and will receive hotel and registration information shortly.

I hope to see increased participation from our carriers this year in COLCPE, e-Activists, Carrier Corps and of course membership in our union. Your steward protects your contractual rights but we – each one of us - must protect the most important aspect of our job – the continued existence of our employer.

House Resolution 12 which would maintain 6-day delivery and House Resolution 28 which would preserve door delivery have been introduced and we need to ask our Congressmen to sign on as co-sponsors of these bills. With enough support, perhaps our new Postmaster General will understand that Congress does not want to see the American public lose its Postal Service. You can read more about these bills at:

<http://www.nalc.org/news/nalc-updates/6-day-resolution-re-introduced-as-congress-convenes> or,

<http://www.nalc.org/news/nalc-updates/door-delivery-resolution-reintroduced-in-house>

So why do you need to know this stuff? If you don't keep up with the important issues that threaten your job and your employer – why would you expect someone in Congress to care? We have to let them know that we do care and we do want something done about it. Read the information and talk about it with your fellow employees. Become comfortable talking about it and then pick up the phone and call your Congressman's office and ask them to support these bills.

So what does the Keystone XL bill have to do with your job? At this time Senator Sanders is proposing an amendment to this piece of legislation that will impose a moratorium on postal plant closings. It remains to be seen if the amendment will be allowed, or debated.

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Staying current is easy. Go to <http://www.nalc.org> and “Click to sign up” in the E-Activist Network box on the right side of the page. You’ll receive occasional e-mails about important legislation.

How do you find your Congressman’s contact information? Click “Contact Your Representative” under the E-Activist Network box and enter your zip code.

Don’t miss the Feb. 28th deadline for the Joe Miller scholarship application for children of Iowa letter carriers who are graduating from high school in 2015.

Congratulations to our new NBA, Brother Mike Birkett from Dubuque. It was a privilege to witness him taking the oath of office.

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

www.iowalettercarriers.org