

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

January 2019

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Death and taxes, according to the saying, are the only certain things in this world. Will Rogers took it one step further when he said, "The difference between death and taxes is death doesn't get worse every time Congress meets". Congress may not make our tax situation worse every time they meet, but during the last decade their attacks on the USPS have been relentless. Privatization, fewer delivery days, ending the monopoly on the mailbox, larger contributions to the retirement system and health benefits, reduced or elimination of the COLA for retiree pensions, are just a few of the damaging proposals that have been suggested. Do you ever wonder what stops these proposals from becoming law? Your union! The NALC! The National Association of Letter Carriers! This union does the fighting for you, and they do it without the use of your union dues.

How do we do it? We do it through our Political Action Committee (PAC), the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF). By definition a PAC is a group formed to raise and contribute money to candidate's campaigns that are likely to advance the group's interest. In our case the interest is Postal Reform Legislation. To receive support, it does not matter what political party the candidate belongs. I was recently surprised at a branch meeting by a member with close to eight years of employment, that did not know what LCPF was. It was at that moment that I realized why a union such as ours with a voluntary enrollment of 93% membership in the NALC, has a LCPF contribution rate of around 10% nationwide. 10% my friends, is a pathetic statistic! Iowa's participation around 12% is not much better. It is time to step up and give support to the individuals in your union that are doing the work, to secure your jobs, and the existence of the USPS, as we know it. We cannot leave Postal Reform Legislation to misinformed politicians.

We have a great opportunity in the 116th Congress to get meaningful, and lasting Postal Reform Legislation introduced, and passed. In order to be successful, we need everyone to step up, and contribute to the PAC. There are no good excuses not to. If you are currently signed up, I thank you. If you are not, it is time to step up and take personal responsibility for your jobs, and not rely on others to use their talents, and assets for your benefit. I would suggest that if you have not yet signed up for a contribution, that you go to the NALC website, click on Government Affairs, and click on Political. Go to the Letter Carrier Political Fund site to choose your sign-up choice. Retirees, contribute \$5 a month from your annuity by enrolling by phone at 202-662-2877, or 1-800-424-5186, or enroll online at www.servicsonline.opm.gov, or enroll by mail with a completed form. Active members can have a payroll deduction through *PostalEase* with an online enrollment, by phone, or use an electronic fund transfer. Take the time to do it today.

In Solidarity,

Herb Copley, President
Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO
www.iowalettercarriers.org