

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

January 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we enter a new year what are our expectations of the Postal Service? The Postal Service is still trying to evolve into a leaner more efficient entity. A couple of weeks ago Des Moines APWU President Lance Coles had a very nice letter to the editor in the Des Moines Register that I hope everyone read. Brother Coles simply put don't blame long lines at the window or late delivery on the working folks but ask management "WHY?" Yes we have been doing more with less but at what cost to our mission "Service"? The American public still holds the Postal Service and you the Letter Carrier in high regard. Volumes have dropped to all time lows since the great depression. Postmaster General Potter stated this past year that our contract with our employees is our WORD. What a JOKE! 2009 grievance levels for article 8 settlements nationwide had to be in the millions! But, oh silly me, that comes out of a different pot! **BS!** That money comes from Postal Revenue plain and simple. Here's a novel idea let's take the grievance money straight out of the offending managements paycheck and see how fast the contract gets honored. Seems fair craft employees seem to have to follow all the asinine rules or face discipline on a daily basis. So why shouldn't management have to follow the CONTRACT. Can you say HMMMMM!

How do we defend against all the forces that seem to line up against Letter Carriers? One word COLCPE, the NALC must have the resources it needs to protect the wages and benefits of its members. The NALC does not use dues money to fight these battles. This is where each and every one of you comes in. Isn't \$5.00 a paycheck worth saving your wages and benefits? As we enter the New Year let's take that step and sign up to become an automatic COLCPE contributor. It's simple, you can do payroll deduction or have it come straight out of your personal checking account. This also means retirees too, we face the same battle with the forces that would like to attack our healthcare benefits. For many years the retirees of the NALC were the largest contributors to COLPCE. But now it seems it's the opposite. I challenge my brother and sister retirees to donate to COLCPE we can help make a difference. The February Postal Record is devoted entirely to COLPCE contributors. My question to everyone "Is your name going to be in it"? If not, why not? And don't forget to become an e-activist. Many things that come up politically need to be dealt with within hours. See your Union Steward or Branch officers to get signed up TODAY.

Yours in Unionism,

Mark "Big Daddy" Fallis

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers AFL-CIO

www.iowalettercarriers.org