

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

December 2013

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As 2014 draws closer, many reflect on the year behind us.

There were disappointments to be sure. Congress does not seem to be in a hurry to fix the legislation that has crippled the Postal Service. The contract imposed by the arbitrator could have been better - and many within our ranks fail to see the connection between the two. Maybe they don't care – or maybe they think there is nothing they can do to effect change.

If the Postal Service had not started each year 5 billion dollars in debt, do you think we may have received a more substantial increase in salary? If the postal service had been operating in the black, would we still have PTF's working towards retirement instead of CCA's waiting to convert to career status? If there was no debt imposed by Congress on the Postal Service, would we be able to provide first class service that would benefit businesses across the country?

We need friends in Congress who will support a strong Postal Service. How do we get friends in Congress? By being aware of which candidates will support us; by working to get them elected to represent us and educating them about our issues; by making our friends and business community aware of what is at stake by contributing to [COLCPE](#).

What will 2014 bring our way? That depends on us. It may seem like it is a long way off, but it is an election year and letter carriers across the country need to make our voices heard so that the Postal Service is not further damaged by shortsighted Congressional leaders. A strong Postal Service will support a recovering economy.

Make plans for the upcoming regional rap session on March 1 & 2 in Kansas City, and Iowa's spring training May 4-6 at Prairie Meadows in Altoona.

For those NALC members who have a son or daughter graduating this spring, the application for the 2014 Joseph Miller Scholarship is available on our website: www.iowalettercarriers.org

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO