



# NALC REGION 5



February 2015

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

For those of us that have driven LLV's since they were introduced back in the late 80's, relief may finally be in sight. The postal service has announced that they will be testing 20 different vehicles in the near future and amazingly will be asking for letter carrier input. I'm willing to bet that with letter carriers involved, we won't end up with a dual track snow plow in the winter and convection oven in the summer.

The numbers are in...an 18% increase in parcels over last season with an estimated 524 million packages delivered in December. You have once again stepped up and delivered as you always do. The mailers and the public count on you to get the job done day in and day out and you never let them down. Let me be the first to congratulate all of you for a job well done. You probably won't hear that from your supervisor.

**Testing** – For those of you in Central Plains District, the Overtime Equitability Test has been extended through March 31, 2015. For those of you outside CP District, the test simply counts all overtime in a quarter. A test which began in San Francisco with letter carriers delivering groceries for Amazon Prime customers is expanding to several other metropolitan cities. In New York, letter carriers have been delivering bottled water for Nestle's. USPS is now delivering to all of the Amazon Parcel Lockers, located in many convenience stores throughout the country. Sunday delivery of Amazon parcels is now occurring in over 7,000 zip codes and expanding. In Phoenix, we are testing same day delivery of orders made before ten o'clock a.m.

**CCA Conversions** – In April of 2013 there were 28,000 CCA's working in the postal service. With the Step 4 agreements, M-1824/M-1834, 13,876 CCA's were converted as of December 1, 2014 or almost 50% of those who were working just a year and a half earlier.

**Scanners** – The initial deployment of the new scanners has been completed. All will be deployed by the end of this year. Sign on glass technology will be implemented this year as well as two way messaging.



# NALC REGION 5



**CDRAAP** – For those of you whose office has been chosen for evaluation under CDRAAP I would urge you to check the daily workhour/workload data (it should be posted daily) to ensure the data is correct. Make sure auxiliary assistance is tracked, your hours and volumes are correct. The first line of defense in ensuring a fair evaluation is you.

**Profits** – The USPS has reported it ended 2014 with a 1.4 billion dollar operating profit. Along with 6 billion in cash on the balance sheet, signs are good.

**PMG** - By the time many of you read this, Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe will have retired. Good riddance! The only amazing thing about his tenure as PMG is that we survived his slash and burn style of management. On his way out the door, he managed to take shots at postal employees, the mailing industry and lawmakers. Seems he only forgot Mother Theresa... At the National Press Club, he was quoted as saying, “In today’s world, does it really make sense to offer the promise of a government pension to a 22 year-old who is just entering the workforce?” “How reliable is that promise?” He blames the unions for not supporting the contracting out of work to companies like Staples as he believes that would expand business. The whole time he has cut hours, closed offices, closed plants and made it more difficult to use our services. This has been the leader, the man who has set the direction for this company. Myopic, short-sighted, insulting and full of xxxxt!

Michael J. Birkett  
National Business Agent  
NALC Region 5 (St. Louis)