

# *Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers*



## *President's Report*

February 2015

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

### **Some events of importance—**

**#1:** the Regional Rap Session in Overland Park, KS on Feb 28 and March 1. This will be an opportunity to meet the new occupants of our NBA's office. Congratulations go out to Stephanie Stewart and Charlie Sexton on their appointments as RAA's for our region. They bring knowledge, experience and expertise to the carriers in Region 5.

**#2:** the Iowa State Convention in Davenport May 3 – 5. As a reminder, the delegate credentials sent to your branch from our state secretary, Tim Skidmore should have been returned to him indicating who your branch elected as delegates. Branch 506 sent invitations to each branch with information about registration fees and hotel arrangements. April 3<sup>rd</sup> is the deadline for making hotel reservations and for sending registration fees to Davenport for those delegates and guests who will be attending.

**#3:** the Food Drive on May 9. When this time of year rolls around I think about a day many years ago when I was having lunch with my kids. When my son asked for more mac and cheese I must have had a look that indicated I was going to remind him of his manners. Before I could speak, my daughter, a first-grader who was looking out for her younger brother, firmly informed me that, "You don't have to say 'Please' for food." No, you shouldn't have to, I just smiled and filled his plate. I hope we can all smile while we make an extra effort to fill some plates for those in need.

**#4:** Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for the Joe Miller scholarship application for children of Iowa letter carriers who are graduating from high school in 2015.

### **#5: CDRAAP**

The evaluations and adjustments are data driven. If your adjustment team has bad data, what kind of adjustment do you think you will get? How can you provide good data? Make accurate clock rings, provide accurate and complete data on any 3996, check the workhour/workload report for inaccuracies and make sure they get corrected.

If you deliver part of another route but don't know how to use the time clock to record it, find out how to do it. Swing carriers, OTDL's and CCA's should be experts. Your supervisor should be able to show you as well.

The 3996 has many blank spaces. Use them. Whether you're the carrier informing your supervisor of your inability to complete your assignment in 8 hours or you're the carrier providing assistance – fill in the blanks. Instructions are on the back if you need a little guidance. It's used for office assistance

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as well as street assistance. Names, date, route number, beginning point and end point, beginning time and end time, travel and delivery time – all are important.

The workhour/workload report shows you the volumes and hours that were recorded on your assignment. It should be posted every day. Once you figure out how to read it, it will only take you a few seconds to check the information for accuracy. Postmasters and supervisors have been known to make an error now and again. If something is incorrect, you should inform them and your union steward so that it can be corrected.

You can even help with a 3999 – the form management completes when they go with you to inspect your assignment. Tell the examiner what you're doing- leaving the line of travel for lunch, stopping for a break, using the restroom when I deliver to this business, reloading trays from the back, going back to deliver a parcel I missed, this next block are dismounts, etc. You should receive a consultation after a 3999 is completed; the examiner should explain why time was recorded as "waiting other" for example. Look at it and ask questions about anything you don't understand.

If you have something to say, or suggestions to make during initial or adjustment consultations – speak up. Maybe the data doesn't tell the whole story, especially if it wasn't being recorded correctly.

**#6:** Fall training will be in Coralville Oct. 25-27<sup>th</sup>, more information later.

**#7:** I have appointed Herb Copley of Branch 471 in Mason City as Vice-President of the Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers. Congratulations to Herb, I look forward to working with you as we advance our legislative efforts.

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

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