

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

March 2015

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

What's the latest news? It seems that the Postal Service has been operating with a profit since the beginning of the fiscal year (Oct. 1, 2014) - to the tune of 1.3 Billion dollars.

So what's the problem? Congress has taken it all away – and more. Yes, Congress has demanded that the Postal Service pay for its retirees' health care costs for decades into the future and do it now. Can you imagine what would happen if Congress tried to force private corporations to pay for a 75 year obligation over the next 10 years? In other words, take all of their profits and then force them into debt and bankruptcy? There would be no end to the outrage expressed, and then the lawsuits would follow. I'm guessing it would be illegal to take money from a corporation under such pretense.

Maybe we should all let our Representatives and Senators know that we think it is unfair and needs to stop. It is affecting the quality of mail service to American businesses and citizens and it's affecting our jobs. Go to www.nalc.org for a quick link to contact your elected officials. You can check on the latest legislative and contractual updates as well.

I got a little feedback about my suggestion last month that we help management to get the data right and record things correctly. I know it's their job. But if we don't make sure they're doing it right, it's going to affect us in a negative way. It may even make it look like we're not doing our job if they don't get it right.

Don't forget to get your reservations made for the state convention, the deadline – April 3 - is approaching fast. Hope to see you there.

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

www.iowalettercarriers.org