

## ***Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers***



### *President's Report* December 2018

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to start by saying Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year. Most people have a true sense of the “Christmas Spirit” this time of year, where family traditions, include gathering together to feast, and exchange presents. It is also the time of year where recognition of those less fortunate than ourselves prompt us to be more charitable toward our fellow man. There are many opportunities to help others, whether it is donating to the Red Kettles of the Salvation Army, or donating to, Toys For Tots. Go visit an old friend or neighbor in the nursing home. Challenge yourself to give your time or money to improve someone’s holiday. You will be surprised who receives the blessing.

As a union we have much to be thankful for. Our National Officers were installed December 1<sup>st</sup>, in Washington D.C. and Iowa and Region 5 were well represented on stage by NBA Mike Birkett, Director of Health Benefits Stephanie Stewart, and Secretary Treasurer Nicole Rhine. I personally consider it a blessing to have these leaders in place while our union continues to face legislative challenges from Congress, and the Trump White House. One of those continued challenges was noted December 4<sup>th</sup>, with the release of the White House Postal Task Force report. The report is still being studied at this writing, but an all-out attack was directed at collective bargaining rights of postal employees- calling for the revocation of the right to negotiate wages by America’s postal unions.

So as always, we as a union must continue to rise to the legislative challenges as they present themselves. Trust that our leadership is on top of the latest threats and follow their directives when asked to do so. Do simple things to protect yourselves. Stay informed. Read your Postal Record. Get the NALC app. Contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund. Use common sense and stay safe. I would be remiss if I did not say how thankful I am for every member, branch, and officer, of the Iowa State Association, and for all the work that you do to follow the lead of our National Officers when called on to do so. Thank you!

In Solidarity,

Herb Copley, President  
Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO  
[www.iowalettercarriers.org](http://www.iowalettercarriers.org)