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



President's Report February 2025

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

Hopefully many of you had the opportunity to attend the Region 5 Rap Session in Kansas City. As in previous years the classes presented were tailored to the current and future needs of our members. Everyone that participated in the training should make it their number one priority to share it with their members. Educating and working together is what strengthens our union. I enjoyed the legislative class that was geared toward lobbying our Members of Congress. It was a surprise that so many in the class had never made a phone call, or written a letter, much less had a meeting with their elected officials. Based on all the "legislative knowledge" I hear discussed, I assumed everyone was legislatively active.

The main topic of discussion outside of classes was the tentative agreement being voted down by our members. Considering the political climate we are currently operating in; it was a surprise to see that it was voted down by such a large margin. Since President Trump was sworn into office, he has signed executive orders non-stop, with many directed at Federal Offices, and Federal Workers. It is no secret that the President does not care for the Postal Service and has pointed fingers suggesting it was our fault he lost the election in 2020. We will all be watching closely to see if the Postal Service will negotiate a fair agreement that reflects what letter carriers have earned, or if we will be heading off to interest arbitration. Remember, everyone has the right to their opinion on what a good contract consists of. Be respectful of each other. If you get the feeling, you're surrounded by strangers you thought were your friends, you might want to reevaluate how you are communicating with your coworkers.

In closing, make sure to get your registrations in for the State Convention in Des Moines. Branch 352 has covered all the bases for this get together. This is one event you do not want to miss! Take care and God Bless.

In Solidarity,

Herb Copley, President Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO www.iowalettercarriers.org