Every morning when I open my eyes the first thing I do is to thank God for allowing me to wake up. After that, I wonder what changes USPS is going to announce today. The USPS is facing the most difficult challenges in its history. It has been well noted that attempts are being made to deliver more of the mail including groceries but at a slower pace. This does not follow good customer service practices. And again, the USPS can't pay $5.5 billion for the pre-funding health care bill and will fall into default. A Postal Service reform bill is being talked about again in Congress but we have been disappointed too many times to begin cheering.

If the facts be known, the Postal Service overpayment into CSRS is bailing out the U.S. government. That is correct -- our stamp purchases are bailing out our taxpayers. Our Congressmen have been using Postal Service monies to pay for retirement payments to federal employees.
Service revenues for years -- using them to make the federal deficit appear smaller than it really is. Today the USPS is forced to pre-pay health care benefits for employees the agency haven't even hired yet - in fact, for many future employees who haven't even been born yet - all to make the US deficit appear SMALLER THAN IT IS. It's not the cost of delivering mail that put the Postal Service in this financial dilemma but an irresponsible Congress that doesn't want to right the wrong that harnessed the USPS in 2006.

This bill provides for Medicare integration with our present health care service. It will be mandatory for all current and retirees to join Medicare when he/she qualifies for Medicare. It's important to note that the USPS is financially self-sufficient. Congress just needs to do the right thing and address the health care pre-payment fund.

A few reminders that we need to keep on our radar screen. Pay talks are coming up later this year or early 2017. As we are always reminded this is an awful time to be in pay talks. The most successful negotiations leave both parties satisfied and in a win-win situation. We are preparing and ready to start pay talks as soon as the largest union is announced and have concluded their contract (that is NALC).

I believe that heroes are the people who do what has to be done when it needs to be done, regardless of the consequences.

The Resident Officers believe in change and making NAPS better each and every year. Many don't embrace change; they are negative and don't seek better.
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<td>Cotton Belt</td>
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*Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.*

---President Barack Obama

**Ivan's Den**

**House "Gang of Five" takes Postal Action**

I would not have believed that on July 8, 2016, we would still be talking about Postal legislation or any real legislation for that matter. However, here we remain. On June 15, 2016, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), Ranking Member Elijah E. Cummings (D-MD), Reps. Mark Meadows (R-NC), Gerry Connolly (D-VA), and Stephen F. Lynch (D-MA) introduced a bipartisan discussion draft of postal reform legislation.

NAPS applauds the effort of this bi-partisan Team to create this bi-partisan legislation. NAPS views this as a great starting point to move forward in a rational manner to ensure a sustainable future for America's USPS. NAPS believes that the incredibly hard work that has been done by EAS at most levels (lowest to highest) have returned the USPS to profitability that makes the dire straits mentioned by the Committee, not so urgent, but still makes real reform necessary.

What NAPS does believe is that we cannot afford to be
so hasty for reform. We must remove to the best of our ability with the help of our Legislative Champions any poison similar to what was in the 2006, Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act where the pre-funding of retiree health benefit became 80% of financial losses for the USPS.

Below are the sections of the discussion draft NAPS is currently reviewing:

* Postal Service Retiree Health Care Benefit Funding Reform
* Postal Service Pension Funding Reform
* Governance Reform
* Conversion to Secure, Centralized Delivery
* Postal Rates
* Non-postal Services
* Fair Stamp-Evidencing Competition
* Efficient and Flexible Universal Postal Service
* Review of Postal Service Cost Allocation Guidelines
* Chief Innovation Officer
* Inspector General of the Postal Community
* MSPB Appeal Rights
* Contracting Reforms

NAPS notes that our Champions in the House have been true to their commitment to fight for inclusion of our MSPB provision. Champions such as these are the result of your SPAC dollars in action though

Southeast Area Training
Sat. Sept. 24, 2016
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Buena Vista Suites
8203 World Center Dr
Orlando, FL 32821-5407

Come visit us at our homepage: www.naps.org
Have a question or concern? Email Us!

Communicate With NAPS!
Reservations: 1-800-537-7737
(Ask for Group: NAPS SE Area Training Seminar)
Room Rate $99 + tax
Queen/Double, $109 King Suite
Registration Fee: $30.00 before Sept. 15, after that date $50.

Click here for the Southeast Area Training Seminar Registration Form

For more details, visit the training center at naps.org!

2016 NAPSHQ2U Publication Schedule
July - 7/8/2016
August - 8/5/2016
September - 9/2/2016
October - 10/7/2016
December - 12/2/2016

REMINDER

Brian's Scoop
Repeat after Me -- Apply! Apply! Apply!

What's your major? Have you applied to any colleges yet? Are you planning to attend a state college? How do you plan to pay for college? These are just a few questions parents ask their children either before or after high school graduation. Fortunately, NAPS has an answer for one of those questions. Here's the scoop.

Annually, NAPS sponsors the Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded in memory of the late NAPS president to honor his dedication to NAPS members and their families.

To be eligible for a Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarship, students must be the children or grandchildren of a living NAPS member, active or associate, at the time of drawing. Sorry, nieces, nephews, and 3rd cousin twice removed don't qualify. In addition, eligibility requires the child or grandchild to be attending or have been accepted to attend an accredited two- or four-year college or university.

In 2016, NAPS will award ten-$1,000 Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarships. Since this is a NAPS sponsored scholarship, there will be two winners randomly selected from each of the respective NAPS...
For those running for election at the 2016 NAPS Convention --

If you want to host a hospitality on Thursday night, August 18th, your contact person is:

Katherine Bradley of Gaylord Resorts & Convention Center.

You may reach her at:
Katherine.bradley@gaylordhotels.com

Room assignments for these hospitalities are on a first come/first served basis.

Regional Areas (Northeast, Eastern, Central, Southern, and Western). The deadline to apply for the Palladino Scholarship is fast approaching. Therefore, applications must be received at NAPS HQ on or before July 31, 2016. Scholarship applications received after this date will not be honored.

Winners of a Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarship will be announced at the 2016 NAPS National Convention in National Harbor, MD the week of August 15. After the announcement, scholarship winners will have their names published in the next available issue of The Postal Supervisor magazine. In addition, scholarship checks are mailed to the respective winner, with checks payable to their selected college or university.

The Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarship application is available on the NAPS website at www.naps.org or in past 2016 issues of The Postal Supervisor magazine. You may also click here to download and print the application. The rules and procedures for applying for a Vince Palladino Memorial Student Scholarships are also listed on the application.

If this article seems familiar, it is. Sometimes you need to repeat a message over and over again to ensure members learn about the great scholarship opportunities available to their family members.

Because there are so many selections, I know I won't repeat my ice cream flavor of the week recommendation - Double Peanut Butter Pie!

Did you know?
Below are the current stats of the 2016 NAPS National Convention as of July 7, 2016:

Total Registered (Delegates/Auxiliary/Guests): 935

Delegates Registered: 821

First-Timers: 79

Branches Registered: 165

Percentage of Hotel Room block filled: Sold Out

Gaylord National Resort Room Block "Sold Out"

NAPS HQ has procured an overflow hotel at the Hampton Inn & Suites National Harbor/Alexandria Area. The Hampton Inn reservation information is below or click here to reserve your NAPS room at the overflow hotel.

Group Name: NAPS National Convention 2016
Group Code: NAP
Check-in: 14-AUG-2016
Check-out: 20-AUG-2016
Hampton Inn & Suites National Harbor/Alexandria
Delegates staying at the overflow hotel (Hampton Inn & Suites), but prefer to stay at the Gaylord National Resort, they need to contact Secretary/Treasurer Brian Wagner, via email at naps.bw@naps.org or by phone (703) 836-9660 to be placed on a first come-first serve list to be transferred to the Gaylord National if or when rooms open up. NAPS will give the list to its convention planner to coordinate.

If any member is holding multiple Gaylord National Resort reservations or even one reservation and they are not going to use the rooms or room, DO NOT contact the Gaylord National Resort to cancel. Contact NAPS HQ directly and as soon as possible. If a NAPS room block reservation is cancelled through the Gaylord National that room is lost and NOT placed back into our NAPS block. The Gaylord is NOT required to return cancelled reservations to our NAPS Block.

NAPS is asking the following from the membership:

1. Review your NAPS national convention room reservations to make sure you are not holding more rooms than needed.

2. DO NOT cancel any NAPS Room Block reservations through Gaylord National Resort.

3. Contact NAPS HQ via phone at 703-836-9660 or email at naps.bw@naps.org cancelling a NAPS Room Block reservation.
4. Provide NAPS with the name of the person the Gaylord reservation is held and the Gaylord reservation confirmation number to ensure NAPS can get the cancelled room returned to the NAPS room block.

**Grand Banquet Tickets Now Available**

*Update: Children meals available, too.*

NAPS heard you and responded. Besides pre-purchasing a regular Grand Banquet ticket for $100, delegates may now pre-purchase a children's meal Grand Banquet ticket for only $50. To order your tickets complete the Grand Banquet Order Form (click here) and follow the instructions on the form. Children's meal information is on the form. The National Convention Grand Banquet will be held the evening of Friday, August 19.

Call NAPS HQ at 703-836-9660 and speak with National Secretary/Treasurer, Brian Wagner, if you have any questions.