2016 LTS Recap

Over 500 NAPS and auxiliary members from across the country arrived in Washington DC for our annual Legislative Training Seminar (LTS) the week of March 6-9, 2016. The focus of the 2016 LTS centered on educating Congress about passing postal reform legislation and Merit System Protection Board (MSPB) rights for all EAS.

Highlights of the LTS included the following:

Prior to the start of LTS, delegates and guests attended a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The honorees representing NAPS were Greg Murphy, Branch 102 - Connecticut; Virginia Price-Booker, Branch 131 - Missouri; Jesse Austin, Branch 122 - Texas; and Karen Douglas, Branch 183 - North Carolina.
Senators Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Jon Tester (D-MT) delivered enthusiastic speeches about the need for postal reform.

Deputy Postmaster General Ron Stroman delivered the keynote address on Monday morning, discussing the USPS' efforts on Capitol Hill and the need for comprehensive postal reform in the near future.

Delegates also heard from Nanci Langley, Vice Chairman, Postal Regulatory Commission, who spoke about the exigent postal rate; David Williams, Former Inspector General, US Postal Service, was recognized by NAPS for his years of service.

Tammy Whitcomb, Acting Inspector General, U.S. Postal Service, joined NAPS Executive Vice President Ivan Butts and Legislative Counsel Bruce Moyer for a
Bruce Moyer, NAPS Legislative Counsel, was dynamic as usual. Not only did Bruce provide insight on the future of legislation impacting NAPS members and the USPS, but how delegates and all NAPS members must continue NAPS's legislative message when they go back to their respective Congressional Districts.

NAPS had over 43 LTS first-timers. The first-timers experienced firsthand how important their presence on Capitol Hill and back home in their Districts will be in impacting the legislative process for NAPS and themselves. They also heard about how SPAC donations provide NAPS access to Congressional leaders that allow NAPS to have their legislative agenda heard.

On Tuesday and Wednesday of LTS week, NAPS delegates headed to Capitol Hill for meetings to discuss NAPS's legislative agenda. Though the House was not in session, most NAPS delegates met with House staff members. On the Senate side, many of our delegates were able to meet with their Senators, along with staff.

Executive Vice President Ivan Butts presented the "Gold Standard in Legislative Advocacy" award to Paul Norton, Indianapolis Branch 8. This award originated to honor the long-time legislative advocacy of Stanley Gold, Branch 146. The award was named after Stanley Gold, Miami Branch 146, recognizing Stanley's decades-long commitment to lobbying for NAPS on the Hill and his generous support to SPAC. Besides Paul Norton, NAPS recognized the Top-5 SPAC contributors for 2015.

The 2015 generous SPAC donors were:
1. Kym Mullins, Branch 81
2. Ann Konish, Former New York Area VP and Branch 11
3. Ivan Butts, Executive Vice President and Branch 355
4. Jim Warden, New York Area VP and Branch 100
5. Kevin Trayer, Michiana Area VP and Branch 142
2015 CCC Aggregate

Central $25,048
Western $23,088
Southern $22,381
Eastern $21,546
Northeast $18,662

2015 CCC Members

Central 81
Western 66
Eastern 64
Southern 61
Northeast 52

During the 2016 LTS, delegates raised over $30,280 for SPAC. In addition, NAPS' SPAC Café welcomed many delegates signing up for USPS payroll and OPM pension deductions to support SPAC. NAPS' new SPAC promotion, "Drive for Five" was a big success too. Many delegates increased their current SPAC payroll deductions by an additional $5.00 to be sure they were part of the new SPAC initiative.

Finally, delegates were not just educated on legislative affairs at the LTS. In conjunction with LTS, over 200 branch presidents or designees attended President Atkins' President's Training, on Sunday, March 6. The training focused on the role of the branch president, including duties and responsibilities. Training material used was from the NAPS Officer Training Manual (OTM) which can be found on the NAPS website at www.naps.org.

To view the gallery of pictures from this year's LTS, click on the two links below.
New York Area Training
March 18-20, 2016
Villa Vosilla Resort Hotel
Tannersville, NY 12485

Central Gulf Area Training
April 8-9, 2016
Biloxi, MS

MINK Area Training
April 7-9, 2016
Des Moines, IA

Texas Area Training (TX)
April 29-30, 2016
Doubletree Hotel
502 W. Cesar E. Chavez Blvd
San Antonio, TX 78207

Illini Area Training (IL)
May 26, 2016
Holiday Inn Rockford
Rockford, IL 61108

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

2016 NAPSHQ2U Publication
Schedule:

February - 2/5/2016
April - 4/8/2016
May - 5/6/2016
June - 6/3/2016
July - 7/8/2016
August - 8/5/2016
September - 9/2/2016
October - 10/7/2016
December - 12/2/2016