

## ATTENTION SCRIBES:

The next issue of *The Postal Record* will be a combined September/October issue, featuring coverage of the Anaheim Convention and the latest news on the fight to “Save Saturday Delivery.” Submissions for Branch Items, State Summaries, Retiree Reports and Elections are due no later than Friday, September 10.



# Rolando names new RAA for Region 4



**N**ALC President Fred Rolando has named Daniel P. “Dan” Versluis as the new regional administrative assistant for Denver Region 4, which serves the city letter carriers in Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Wyoming. The appointment was effective July 12.

Versluis, a member of Carl J. Kennedy Branch 704 in Tucson, Arizona, replaces Al Linde, who retired June 25.

“We are grateful for the many years of service Al has provided to NALC members,” said President Rolando, “and I am sure I join all letter carriers both in wishing him well in his retire-

ment and in wishing good luck to Dan in his new position.”

Since 2003, Versluis has held the office of president of Branch 704. He was also previously a steward, branch trustee and branch vice president, as well as director of education and vice president of the Arizona State Association of Letter Carriers. Before that, he served eight years in the U.S. Marine Corps. Versluis is also a 2007 graduate of the NALC Leadership Academy.

“Congratulations, Dan,” Rolando said. “Together with National Business Agent Roger Bledsoe and RAA Ray Tillman, the letter carriers of the Denver region could not be in more capable hands.” ☒

## Sen. Robert C. Byrd

November 20, 1917—June 28, 2010



**S**en. Robert C. Byrd, the longest-serving member of Congress in American history, died June 28. He was 92.

Elected to the House of Representatives in 1953 to represent his home state of West Virginia, Byrd moved to the Senate six years later and began what would become an unprecedented 52-year career there.

Byrd, a Democrat, was a strong supporter of unions and the NALC. He was also known as a master of even the Senate’s most arcane procedural rules, and was famous for sharing obscure tidbits of ancient Roman history on the Senate floor.

“Letter carriers across America and in the Mountain State have lost a longtime friend,” said NALC President Fredric V. Rolando. “Throughout his remarkable half-century of service in Congress, Senator Byrd never wavered from his support for working people. He came from

modest means and he never forgot his roots.”

Among his accomplishments as majority leader during the 1970s, Byrd broke a Republican filibuster against labor law reform.

“He always stood with workers on workplace safety issues, especially for the coal miners of his state,” Rolando said, noting that Byrd was a co-sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act, the legislation currently languishing in Congress that would help make it easier for workers to win union representation.

Byrd also proudly wielded the power of his position as chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee to funnel billions of federal dollars to his impoverished state.

The search for a replacement to serve the remainder of Byrd’s term through 2012 was still under way as this *Postal Record* was being prepared. ☒