



## Happy holidays!

**O**ur national convention in Minneapolis was a huge success. The membership decided to put its efforts into supporting President Barack Obama in his bid for re-election. Knowing the many challenges we face in securing our future, we must remember that together we can accomplish great things.

The entire labor movement across our great nation has been under attack at all levels. It seems that the primary goal has been to consider privatization as well as reducing, cutting or eliminating benefits across the board for workers in every union. They even want to challenge our collective-bargaining rights. The middle class has been under a heavy and unwarranted attack. All union members and their families have been affected by the changes that have taken place. The labor movement needs to remain strong for America's future and the future of the middle class. All of us must do our part to ensure our very survival.

With the re-election of President Obama now behind us, we hope that the White House, Senate and House of Representatives can now focus on developing real legislation that will protect the Postal Service for years to come. Hopefully, the Postal Service will be the first order of business for the new Congress when it is seated in January.

I am sure that we all will continue our efforts and do everything we can to protect the Postal Service from being dismantled. Your participation will be essential in making that effort a success. I would like to thank all of our members, branches and state associations for their efforts to get letter carrier-friendly candidates elected this year. Your hard work and perseverance paid off in this election and is very much appreciated. It is truly inspiring to see our membership in action. No other union has the

presence and the capability of the NALC. It is truly amazing and you need to be recognized. Excellent job, everyone.

**It is a good sign to see that the USPS is starting to move** in the direction of innovation. It recently announced a couple of tests it will be conducting that could capture new revenue from Internet orders and offer other types of sales. It will be testing the delivery of packages in several areas of the country involving some of the larger Internet companies. This is one of the ways that we can generate new revenue, which will help offset the volume reduction of first-class mail. We hope that the success of this effort will lead other companies to come to us for trusted delivery of their goods and services. It is a promising sign when major mailers give us such an opportunity. It may also help us to maintain our six-day delivery and may even lead to some Sunday deliveries or to evening delivery. It also was recently announced that the USPS plans to have a mailing promotion calendar in 2013.

Our success with these new areas of revenue will definitely be steps in the right direction to help secure our future. If we can just get the House

and Senate to embrace a constructive piece of legislation, the Postal Service will be able to turn the corner, allowing us to enhance our services and bring in new revenues.

**The holidays are upon us and our thoughts turn to this festive** time of the year with our families and friends. I would like to wish everyone a happy and blessed holiday. May there be joy, love, peace and understanding in your hearts this holiday season and throughout the coming new year. ☒

