Wishing you a happy new year



Timothy C. O'Malley

s this is my first article since the recent NALC national election of officers, I want to thank the membership for placing its trust and faith in me and allowing me to continue to serve you. It is truly an honor and privilege to serve our members. I want to thank the membership for your loyal support over the years, knowing that without it, my job would be much more difficult. I have been very fortunate to have held so many positions in the NALC over the years, and I look forward to the years ahead. Also, thank you for putting your trust in all of the other officers, NBAs and trustees. It takes a full team to keep things moving forward.

Many branches recently have held branch elections. I would like to congratulate all of the elected officials across the country. Your duties will be many, and you surely will deal with many issues in the com-

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ing years. The membership depends on you. Your strength will be based on the support you receive from the membership. We must all do our part by attending branch meetings and supporting our branch officers and shop stewards.

The new year will bring many new challenges for our union and its members. The results of the midterm elections have changed the balance of power. Both the House and the Senate now are controlled by Republicans. We will need everyone to be focused on building long-term relationships with those newly elected officials. This will be critical to protecting our jobs. The attacks on unions and the Postal Service will surely continue. We will need everyone working harder to try to change the mindset in Washington to achieve our goals. We have had a very good defensive strategy, and we now need to cross the goal line with a successful piece of postal reform legislation. Your help will be pivotal in achieving that.

Being an e-Activist and being a COLCPE contributor is more important now than ever before. As an e-Activist, you can join tens of thousands of other letter carriers to make your voice heard. NALC will send you e-mail alerts when it's time to act on issues affecting active and retired letter carriers concerning the future of the Postal Service.

What is COLCPE? The Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education, created in 1975, is the non-partisan fund used to develop educational programs for letter carriers about critical political topics and to support candidates for federal office. The next issue of The Postal Record will list all of our members who contribute to COLCPE. If you already contribute, thank you. If you are not currently making a contribution, please consider making a donation to protect your job. This is our lifeline to protect the USPS, our retirement program, life insurance and health benefits. It is essential to all of us that we recognize this need. Whether you are an active carrier or are retired, protecting the Postal Service and our benefits are a must-do. Without your help, we will not be able to prevail. Currently 10.6 percent of the membership is making contributions to COLCPE. This percentage should be much higher and we need your help. Active members can sign up on PostalEase to have a donation taken right from their check. Retired members can have a donation taken directly from their retirement check. Protecting our benefits is important-please consider making a payroll or annuity contribution.

I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. Here is my wish for the new year: May it bring us new postal reform legislation that protects six-day delivery and door-to-door delivery, and provides the Postal Service the opportunity to offer more innovations and gain significant growth in the package industry. And may the USPS continue to thrive in the electronic era.

