

News and updates



**Judy
Willoughby**

After months of political commercials, debates, articles and talk shows about the candidates, I am ready to turn on the television to see normal, routine shows and commercials. (I never thought I'd ever wish to see commercials.) A lot of mud was slung over the campaign months and, as I write this article, the election is still in progress. Our members were supporting candidates on all sides, and social media sites were lively.

The one thing to remember: This is America, the land of opportunity, freedom and diversity. Similar to our great union. Let us not forget, we are brothers and sisters and must come together, because together we are

strong. We must continue to remain alert, no matter the outcome of the elections. Postal reform may come up in the lame-duck session and we need to be prepared to act if called upon.

The NALC will be monitoring the actions of Congress to ensure any proposed reform is something we can support. Notifications to the members is imperative, so I ask you to download the NALC Member App on your iPhone or Android phone, sign up as an e-Activist and read your *Postal Record*. If urgent, use a phone tree to reach out to as many members as possible. This way, they can communicate to our representatives whether or not we support a particular bill. Remember, numbers do count. If representatives don't hear from us, they assume we are fine with any Postal Service bill(s) in their current form.

Retirees

Throughout the year, I've had the opportunity to attend some retiree events. I am amazed with each event how many years of union membership are represented within the branches. We've been told letter carriers are some of the healthiest individuals, which I believe after seeing the mobility of the members receiving their 50-, 55-, 60-, 65-, 70- and 75-year awards. It is fantastic to meet these members and hear their stories of days past.

I want to thank each retired member for all your years of service and loyalty to the NALC, and may you all continue to enjoy your retirement in good health and with much happiness. Everyone who started their careers after you is now enjoying the benefits you fought so hard to achieve. Thanks for blazing the path for so many. A special thank-

you to those who participated in the 1970 strike, as it was a pivotal event in NALC and labor history.

New members

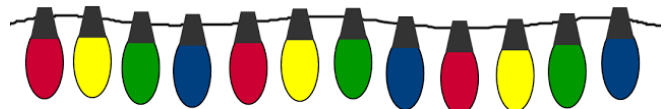
Those letter carriers who have started their careers in the last several years start out in a non-career status. We are fortunate to have many convert to career within two years; however, some have actually converted in less time. (This, of course, depends on where you are working.) Many CCAs have already joined the NALC and we are so glad to see them becoming involved in union activities. Some already have stepped into leadership roles and, like us old-timers, they are doing a great job.

CCAs today are our career carriers of the future. These individuals are tasked with continuing our legacy of representing our members so we may maintain rights and benefits we have achieved through the years. Thank you to all the CCAs who made the decision to join the union. To those who have not made that decision, I ask every member to reach out and personally invite them to join our family.

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The 12th month

December is the 12th month of the year and a month of many festive activities. I am thankful for many things and blessed with a great family, friends and union. Our members celebrate in various ways, so I want to wish each and every member, their families and friends a safe and happy holiday season.



**Happy
Holidays!**