# NAPS OF NOTE

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS BRANCH 16 PO BOX 580333 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55458

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# A Message from Branch 16 President Terri Newcomb-Evans

Greetings to all of my Colleagues,

I would like to say **THANK YOU** to our District Manager, Tony Williams, for keeping us updated with his daily emails during the COVID-19 Pandemic. They are full of information and a delight to see how the community is banding together to show the Post Office support and keeping us mentally strong.

**THANK YOU** to the Marketing and Maintenance team for getting out the sneeze guards in a timely manner and installing them at certain stations and delivering to the rest of the stations.

**THANK YOU** to Trivonda Ray and the finance team for figuring out what was going on with our supply delay and getting that fixed for us.

There is a saying going around "We are in the same boat together" is not true. We are in the same storm together. None of us are hardwired 100% the same and we all have different skillsets and ability to deal with our situation. We are all learning together how to navigate this crisis and keep our eye focused on the future while working through this as a team. Stations have been reaching out to each other and sharing resources with a few Station Managers/Postmasters going to stores to wait in line daily to get wipes, spray, and various other items for their stations and neighboring stations.



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# **May 2020**

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# All Members Welcome!

**May Meeting is Canceled** 



# Next Meeting Reminderl

Due to COVID-19, meetings canceled until further notice.

**Stay Safe!** 



# **Planning for Fair Hills**

**NAPS State Convention** 

**CANCELED for 2020** 

**2021 Dates:** 

June 11-12, 2021

Start thinking now about attending. We would love to have you there!

# Future Meetings NAPS Branch 16:

6:00 PM Social Hour 7:00 PM Meeting Elsie's Bowling Alley 729 Marshall St NE Minneapolis, MN 55413

Future Meeting Dates will be listed here when meetings resume





## **State President's Report**

# Lonnie Lincoln NAPS Minnesota State Branch 926 President

I hope this letter finds all of you staying healthy and following the guidelines set by the CDC, Postal Service, and our District. It's our best chance at staying healthy at home and at work. This pandemic brings about change to how we go about our lives. But change is nothing new to the Postal Service or to NAPS. We always find the way to continue to provide our valuable service to the American public. We have resources available to help you as well. They include coworkers, peers, bosses, friends, family, and EAP.

Everyone helping each other and communicating with each other keeps us connected and informed and makes the changes easier to adapt to. This year, we have decided to cancel the 2020 NAPS State Convention at Fair Hills. It was scheduled for June 12-13. With this cancellation, the next NAPS State Convention will be held in 2021. The dates will be June 11-12. Start thinking now about attending. We would love to have you there.

**Lonnie Lincoln** 

## **Branch 16 President's Report**

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We are learning how to home-school, work from home, work with less staff, and keep our business thriving in this difficult time. Many of us are trying to find comfort in our routine, many of us have developed a new routine and many of us are struggling with the adjustment to their routines.

If you are feeling overwhelmed, underwhelmed, tired, hyper, drained, lethargic all in the same day, that is normal and that is part of processing stress and perfectly normal. It is perfectly fine to feel afraid because there is no perfect solution, there is no end date in site, and there is no guarantee that we will not have more of our team members contract COVID-19. All we have in this storm is our team and building a strong network in coping with this newly added stress.

Look for the good; every day is a brand new day. Even if you feel defeated today, tomorrow will be a new day for you. So stand up straight again and be ready for awesome things to happen. If you want to have a great start to each day, tell yourself that something great is going to happen each morning when you wake up.

Leslie Hong, our EAP Clinician, is available at Phone Number 651-681-2575 and at <a href="mailto:lhong@ndbh.com">lhong@ndbh.com</a> via email. The EAP Hotline is 1-800-327-4968.

In Solidarity,

**Terri Newcomb-Evans** 

# Heroes Act Would Provide USPS Emergency Financial Relief and Hazard Pay

May 13, 2020

Reprinted from NAPS.org

Yesterday, the 13 House Committee chairmen with jurisdiction over coronavirus relief introduced major legislation to, in part, provide emergency financial assistance to the U.S. Postal Service. The "Heroes Act", H.R. 6800, would provide \$25 billion in the form of an emergency appropriation to the USPS. In addition, the measure would eliminate the Treasury Department-demanded conditions that were attached to the \$10 billion in increased postal credit authority enacted last month. In addition, the bill would provide "Pandemic Premium Pay" for postal employees, which includes frontline postal supervisors, managers and postmasters. The pay would be an additional \$13 per hour up to a maximum of \$10,000. Among the H.R. 6800's sponsors was House Oversight and Reform Chair Carolyn Maloney (D-NY). It is important that NAPS members urge their members of Congress to vote in favor of the measure. The bill could be considered as early as Friday.

### NAPS Board 2020

### **OFFICERS**

#### President

Theresa Newcomb-Evans tnapsbr16@gmail.com

### **Vice President**

Vacant

#### **State President**

Lonnie Lincoln lincolnlonnie@amail.com

#### Sgt. at Arms

Mark Hellermann bgmn10@hotmail.com

#### Secretary

Patty White dawgslw@gmail.com

#### Treasurer

Bruce Kuiper brucekuiper@yahoo.com

#### **Legislative Rep**

Curt O'Donnell cpj012@gmail.com

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Curt O'Donnell Derek Hazen Gina Hellermann Mark Peterson Mark Schannauer Valerie Vasquez-Elms

NAPS members must attend three or more board meetings during the year in order to meet the qualification requirement for *Officer* and *Executive Board* nomination. Elections are held every January. All NAPS members are strongly encouraged to attend and take part in the decision-making process.

# **Newsletter Editor**

#### Ken Gardner

kgnaps16@aol.com



# **Anthony Williams**Northland District Manager

5/4/2020

The Postal Service continues to be a staple in every community throughout Northland District. Our employees are standing up during this pandemic to ensure that each letter and each package is making it into the hands of our customers six days a week, some locations even seven. I have had the opportunity to see the pride in our employees and their love for what they do. Our customers are rallying to our side, supporting our people through feel-good messages, essential supplies and words of encouragement. While we, like businesses across the world, are adjusting to our new normal and the financial aspect that has come with the coronavirus.

Businesses are responding to COVID-19 by temporarily closing their doors, states are shutting down their unessential businesses and we are coming to a point in time where somebody walking into a room without a mask gets a glance. Here in the Postal Service, First Class Mail and Marketing Mail have taken a quick and steep 27% decline compared to this time last year. With many Americans staying home in an effort to remedy the spread of COVID-19, ecommerce and online shopping has grown. We are seeing parcel growth that is anywhere from 30%-40%, leading to parcel volume similar to the holidays in our plants and our stations.

The American Public needs us now more than ever. The Postmaster General, Megan Brennan, has shared some scary numbers with us, "We now estimate that the COVID-19 pandemic will increase the Postal Service's net operating loss by more than \$22 billion dollars over the next eighteen months, and over \$54 billion dollars over the long term, threatening our ability to operate". An organization that supplies the American public with social security checks, political correspondence and essential medications is now having to ask for funding to keep doing the good work that we do.

We continue to monitor the factors that we can control - operating expenses, work hours and overtime hours. While you all have been diligent in controlling what you can, our organization has had to ask for help from Congress.

"As Congress and the Administration take steps to support businesses and industries around the country, it is imperative that they also take action to shore up the finances of the Postal Service, and enable us to continue to fulfill our indispensable role during the pandemic, and to play an effective role in the nation's economic recovery," Brennan emphasized.

Don't listen to the rumors. We won't be shutting down in June. While our leaders handle their plans to ensure that we move forward through this, it is up to all of you to keep the positive vibes in your work areas. You as leaders of your people will set the tone for your entire operation. This is a call to action: set the example for others by wearing your mask, communicating the current situation and socially distancing.

Thank you for all that you do.

## Enclosed in this issue of NAPS of Note ....

- ⇒ Minutes from the 2020 Spring Executive Board Meeting
- ⇒ Coronavirus Recognizing and Managing Stress



