

# NAPS OF NOTE

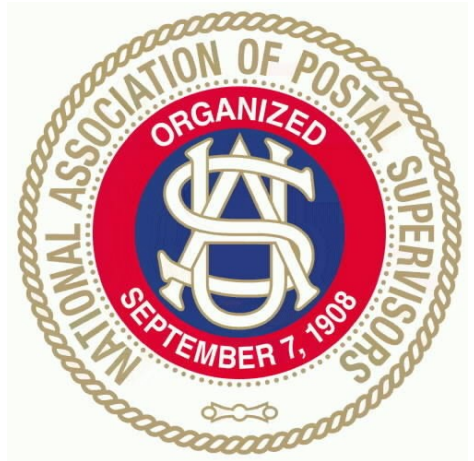
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTAL SUPERVISORS

BRANCH 16

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**March 2023**

## Branch 16 President's Report

### A Message from Branch 16 President Curt O'Donnell

#### ATTN Members:

We have a lot to talk about in the Newsletter. Members will be traveling to Washington on your behalf in just a few weeks to discuss bills to benefit both USPS and EAS employees. We are also in the planning stages for the next State Convention to be held in Duluth on May 11th and 12th. It should be an exciting few months. If you want more information about these events please come to the next meeting on March 16th. If you are interested in the State Convention please come to the meeting or contact your Branch officers for more information.

Brian Wagner, the previous past president, will be providing training at the State Convention and we would love to have a full training room.

**Curt O'Donnell**  
NAPS Branch 16 President



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### *All Members*



### **Welcome!**

**Next Meeting is  
Thursday  
Mar 16, 2023**

# Next Meeting Reminder!

**Thursday  
Mar 16, 2023**

6:00 PM Social Hour / 7:00 PM Meeting

**Crystal VFW**  
5222 Bass Lake Rd  
Crystal, MN 55429

**See you at the meeting!**



## Future Meetings NAPS Branch 16:

6:00 PM Social Hour  
7:00 PM Meeting

**Crystal VFW**  
5222 Bass Lake Rd  
Crystal, MN 55429

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

**March 16, 2023**

**May 18, 2023**



## State President's Report

**Gina Hellermann**

**NAPS Minnesota State Branch 926 President**

Hello NAPS members, I hope everyone is staying safe and warm this crazy winter! As all of you I am sure are aware our District Manager Tony Williams is Retiring!!! Tony is also a long-time NAPS member! Congratulations, Tony, and we hope you have a LONG and HEALTHY retirement!!

We have a full agenda coming up this month for NAPS. Our yearly training and *Storming the Hill* is coming up later this month in Washington. There are a couple of bills we will be looking at such as H.R. 595 which seeks to provide thousands of postal managers the right to appeal adverse actions to the Merit Systems Protections Board (MSPB). H.R. 594 focuses on providing EAS postal employees with procedural fairness during periodic pay talks. These are two bills we will be discussing with our Congressional representative on the Hill.

Also coming up in May is the MN State Convention May 11 & 12. The Convention is being held in Duluth this year and we are looking forward to the activities Mpls Branch 16 will have as our Host Branch this year.

Stay safe and help each other.

**Gina Hellermann**

President, MN State Branch 926

# New Concepts in Supervisor Training

March 6, 2023

By Jimmy Warden

NAPS National Secretary/Treasurer

I've always said that, in order for a supervisor, Customer Service, to be able to effectively comprehend and absorb information during training, they need to be away from their work station. Supervisors cannot take or attend training on their computers in the middle of the work floor and expect not to have any interruptions from carriers, clerks, mail handlers, customers or their manager.

Well, the Postal Service has done the right thing! If you are not aware, the Postal Service is holding training symposiums for supervisors, Customer Service, in Atlanta, GA; National Harbor, MD; and Nashville, TN.

As I am writing this column, NAPS President Ivan D. Butts and I are attending the symposium in Atlanta. The training has been a breath of fresh air. Supervisors are hearing the mission of the Postal Service from senior management who are the policy- and decision-makers. The engagement is incredible.

Senior postal leaders have been present throughout the event, making themselves available to meet and speak with supervisors. The event started off with each department having a booth where supervisors could obtain information and ask questions. Supervisors had an opportunity to engage with Headquarters executives from Retail and Delivery and many other functions, including Human Issue Resources and Labor Relations.

During the second- and third-day sessions, role plays during presentations were put on by postal leadership to help supervisors understand the message. The many supervisors I spoke with said this training symposium made them feel appreciated and realize they are a valuable part of the Postal Service Leadership Team.

I want to thank Postmaster General Louis DeJoy; Dr. Joshua Colin, chief Retail and Delivery officer; Angela Curtis, vice president, Delivery Operations; and the entire CRDO team for developing this training and allowing NAPS to be part of it. This is the first time the Postal Service has brought supervisors together from across the country to not only attend training, but also network with each other and meet senior leadership.

The overall message of the training was simple: Do the right thing and we will succeed! You never can recover from unethical or immoral actions, but you can recover from poor performance if you do the right thing. Do not cross the ethical or moral line.

When I used to facilitate presentations, I used the analogy of playing golf. I played golf with a friend who, when he hit the ball near the hole, would say it was a "gimme" and pick up his ball. He wouldn't take the additional stroke. Well, when he started making the putts, his score never reflected his improvement. If he only did the "right thing" from the beginning, he would have seen his success.

The message from the recent training symposium was we can't get better unless we change. The "Delivering for America" plan is our roadmap to success and will help guide us through the change. We are seeing many changes taking place in the Postal Service.

I and many others have said we need to change the way we do business if we expect to improve and survive as a company. The journey to success will test one's character and dedication, but it's not impossible. It is the will to do the right thing. My mother always reminded me, "Where there's a will, there's a way." Remember, we don't want to look good; rather, we want to be good. There is a big difference—your integrity matters!

Special thanks to Heather Anderson for all her behind-the-scenes work making these events such a success and thanks to the CRDO team.

Don't forget: Increasing membership demonstrates leadership.

Stay safe.

## NAPS Board 2023

### OFFICERS

#### President

Curt O'Donnell  
[cpj012@gmail.com](mailto:cpj012@gmail.com)

#### Vice President

Gloria Johnson

#### State President

Gina Hellermann  
[bgmn10@hotmail.com](mailto:bgmn10@hotmail.com)

#### Sergeant at Arms

Mark Hellermann  
[bgmn10@hotmail.com](mailto:bgmn10@hotmail.com)

#### Secretary

Vacant

#### Treasurer

Bruce Kuiper  
[brucekuiper@yahoo.com](mailto:brucekuiper@yahoo.com)

#### Legislative Rep

Vacant

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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](mailto:kgnaps16@aol.com)



# Board Meeting Notes from 1/17/2023

The Branch is sending four people to Washington, DC on March 25, 2023 to discuss Legislative Bills with our representatives for consideration. Curt, Bruce, Mark and Gloria will represent our branch well.

Reimbursement of expenses for \$2200 each is the cost airfare \$460, hotel \$1264, per diem \$355.50, parking, mileage, and Mpass of \$110.50; moved and passed. Per diem for Auxiliary member was approved for \$355.50; moved and passed. Payment of dues for Auxiliary member of \$40.00; moved and passed. Approval for \$100.00 Target gift card for AUX raffle at LTS.

We had a long discussion about EAS employees delivering mail and making sure to enter in RADAR.

SWC changes - waiting for information about the changes for the delivery units

Negotiations ongoing at HQ level about the 2016 - 2019 pay talks Lawsuit.

Discussion about hiring issues, there is a large GAP to Cap

Discussed having a Branch website and getting some cost ideas.

Attendance drawing - Large drawing for \$350.00 would have been won by Opeyemi Akande. The \$50.00 drawing was won by Gloria Johnson.

Respectfully submitted,

**Curt O'Donnell**  
NAPS Branch 16 President

## Benefits of NAPS Membership

**What are the benefits of NAPS membership?**

**Consider attending our meeting on March 16th to learn more!**

If you need a reason for joining NAPS, here are three: representation, information, and opportunity. Over 26,000 NAPS members have representation where it counts—at Postal Service Headquarters and on Capitol Hill. Whether the issue is pay, benefits or working conditions, you have a qualified group of professional advocates working on your behalf, especially in times of real need. For approved cases, NAPS' Disciplinary Defense Fund provides a trained advocate for members facing removal, reduction in grade and postal financial indebtedness (Debt Collection Act).

You may join NAPS by completing a Form 1187, authorizing dues withholding, and returning it to your local branch officer or to NAPS headquarters in Alexandria, VA. Be a part of a dynamic organization that works for you. Complete your Form 1187 today.

*Source: NAPS.org*