

Marilyn's September Blog 2022

As we close out Labor Day, the last official summer holiday I hope you had time to enjoy some down time with family and friends.

NAPS History Past & Present

In 1908 when NAPS was formed there was no standard workday or workweek existed for postal workers in the early 1900s. The 8-hour workday was not a reality for the postal supervisor. The workday began at a specified time but ended only when all mail on hand had been processed. Saturday and Sunday were regular workdays, and there was no overtime or compensatory time. The sick leave benefit was years away, and upon completion of a "career" in the service there was no retirement annuity. By order of the postmaster general (in 1895), and through executive orders (then called "gag rules") in 1902, 1906 and 1909, postal employees faced immediate dismissal for lobbying any member of Congress on pay or other postal issues, even if they lobbied on their personal time. These were bleak years made bleaker because no cooperative relationship existed.

In 1993 NAPS purchased a new four-story building in Alexandria VA, for \$3.125 million, in compliance with a 1990 National Convention resolution. Because Virginia State law requires nonprofit organizations owning property to incorporate, the board established NAPS Property, Inc.

NAPS moved into its new Headquarters building in Alexandria VA, in June 1994. The board also approved a \$1 dollar a month dues increase

The NAPS Executive Board approved a resolution during its Springboard meeting calling for a two-step special dues assessment in June a 1\$ monthly dues increase, beginning June 1, 1996, and continuing through August 1996.

At the NAPS 55th Biennial National Convention in Portland OR, 1,421 delegates re-elected the organization's resident officers, amended the NAPS Constitution and Bylaws to permit postmasters to be active members and voted to continue a 1\$ a month dues increase.

In 1997 Beginning with Pay Period 1, NAPS dues were deducted every pay period, as mandated by the NAPS 55th Biennial National Convention, instead of monthly.

Current Day 2022- NAPS Vincent A Palladino National HQ building. A four-story pristine building owned by NAPS property Inc. is facing the challenge of most business properties. Office Space occupancy is down and vacancy up as people are still working from home and are reluctant to return to the office environment.

NAPS has not requested any dues increase in 26 years, we must remain financially strong to ensure the Postal Service treats us fairly when consulting on pay, benefits, and working conditions we need our leaders consulting from strength for our members, review the organizations history it has been years that our property has been paying for itself and increasing our investments. It may take several more years before the workplace economy returns to normal, is now the time to consider a dues increase, while there is financial stability?

I have often heard that if you don't know your history it will repeat itself! For NAPS and all employee organizations to keep fighting for our members we must fight from strength and stand together! There is an old saying "Prepare for War in a time Peace"! (**Ref NAPS Historical Sketch**).

Civics 101 – Voting Rights Information

Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act (VRA) makes it illegal to deny or restrict voting rights because of a citizen's race or color. It also outlaws discrimination against citizens who are members of a language minority group, which the VRA defines as including American Indian, Asian American, Alaskan Native, or Latino persons. Under Section 2, state and local governments cannot use voting practices or election rules that are intentionally discriminatory. Nor can they use practices or rules that result in citizens who belong to a particular race or language minority group having less of an opportunity than everyone else to vote and elect the public officials they want. Title II of that law requires state and local governments to make sure that people with disabilities have a full and equal chance to vote. Like Section 2 of the VRA, this law applies to all aspects of voting. This includes registering to vote, getting into polling places, and casting a ballot, both on Election Day and during early voting. You can find more information at ada.gov.

68th National NAPS Convention is history. The convention delegates had a productive, informative and good time in New Orleans. The Host committee did their best to show everyone New Orleans (NOLA) hospitality and the famous tastes and sounds of this historic city! I would like to thank the Western Region delegates for their support in returning our Western Region Team back to represent you again. Looking forward to serving you all, our members!

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