

Marilyn's March 2020 Blog

In honor of Women's history month, I want to pay tribute to several great women in NAPS. Margaret A Grant was the first woman elected to NAPS National Secretary/ Treasurer and National Executive Vice President. Ann Connish, (New York), Lorraine Harry, (Illinois), Dorothea Bradley (California), Sue Warren (Illinois), Liz Flamon, (Chicago) are Just a few of the great ladies of NAPS that inspired and encouraged women to participate and support the NAPS organization at the state and national level. There are many more so be sure to salute the woman that continue to work on behalf of the NAPS organization!

COVID-19 Alert – In response to the national concern regarding the COVID-19 virus the Postal Service is on alert to ensure that all Postal Employees are safe in the workplace. An employee at the Washington State NDC tested positive for the virus after returning to work after visiting overseas. In an abundance of caution. USPS HQ has issued six documents that communicate the symptoms of the virus and listed things employees can do to best protect themselves. All Postal facilities are required to post instructions regarding washing hands. Employees must be given a Stand-Up Talk regarding what is known about this Virus. USPS will provide dust masks and latex gloves to employees on request. Employees having Flu symptoms are advised to stay home and call their doctor for advice. Any employee sent home based on Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines (return from recent travel to identified countries) exhibiting flu symptoms will be placed on ADMID leave (14 days quarantine). During a recent USPS telecom, it was communicated that the agency is working closely with the CDC and is monitoring employees on a case by case bases. The question was asked whether the virus can be transmitted on the mail. The response was no! An additional concern was to request warm/hot water Is available in all facilities as everyone “must” wash their hands! The agency will make sure water temperatures are in compliance. The Unions and Management Associations were asked to monitor any and all employee concerns and make sure that all employees received mandated information and all postings are in place

Legislative Training Seminar (LTS) - Each year in March NAPS delegates gather in Washington DC for our annual Legislative Training Seminar. There is a full day of lobby training, so that NAPS delegates can be the most informed and engaged postal workers/retirees when presenting the NAPS Legislative Briefing and talking points to our Congressional representatives. Bob Levi NAPS Political Director and Ivan Butts, National Executive NAPS VP plan a detail agenda with talking points and a power point presentation for you to download on your tablet to present to our legislators. Delegates begin making their appointments in advance of arriving in DC. Once the training ends, delegates ascend on Capitol Hill for a full day of visits with their legislators! The goal is to educate on why we need to keep a strong viable Public Postal Service. We also request our representatives sign on as co-sponsors to Postal/ Federal legislation that will be outlined in the NAPS agenda briefing. All of the documents needed for the training and presentation to your legislators is on the naps.org web site under legislation.

Attendees to the NAPS Legislative Training Seminar can participate in the annual wreath laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery. NAPS host a non-denomination worship service,. Secretary/Treasurer training, First timers training, a Town Hall Meeting. There will be an energetic SPAC fundraiser including our “Drive for Five” campaign, auctions, raffles, and SPAC challenges! Hope to see everyone in DC!

Dedication Ceremony – The National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS) will dedicate the NAPS Headquarter building in honor of the late Vincent A. Palladino, National President 1992-2004. The ceremony will take place at NAPS Headquarters Wednesday, March 11, 2020, 9:30a.m. Reception 2nd Floor @ 10:15a.m. Location 1727 King Street Alexandria, VA 22314.

Retirement Planning - All Postal Employees once you start thinking about selecting that important retirement date get some sound professional advice. There are still a few Civil Service retirees in the system, however now most Employees are covered under FERS! To ensure your retirement benefits are calculated properly and you receive the maximum benefit seek professional help guidance and advice. The two retirement systems are different and have different requirements based on years of service age etc., Take time to make an informative decision before you initiate that final separation from the postal service!

The California State Convention is being hosted by San Francisco Branch 88 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in South San Francisco April 22-25,2020 Registration fee is \$200.00 before March 21, 2020. Thursday evening, April 23rd is the Presidents Reception. The California State opening, and business session is scheduled for 0900 Friday morning. There is a business session all day on Saturday, including an Auxiliary Luncheon and a closing Banquet/Dinner Dance Saturday night. Plan to spend time in the city by the Bay!

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