

Marilyn's August 2019 Blog

Western Region Training Seminar (WRTS)

The NAPS Western Region Team hosted a two-day Training Seminar in Henderson NV at the Sunset Station Hotel & Casino, Chuck Mulidore, National Secretary/Treasurer was our special NAPS guest, Patricia Jackson-Kelley National President of the Auxiliary also attended. **Day 1** was focused on Postal training, USPS new Technology, the Human Resource HQ Program titled HERO Hiring to Retire tracking the employee through online technology in all phases of an employees' training, development, promotions and all other aspects of personal data! We had a great presentation from the Inspection Service. Tracie Hill -Sandifer, Las Vegas District Manager provided attendees with an outstanding motivational presentation on ***"Are You Up to the Challenge"? The climb to success is hard the challenges are many but in the end we all yelled back we are up to the challenge!*** The USPS Western Area Finance Department sent a team of experts to present the Do's and Don'ts when handing USPS Financial Accountably, the feedback from attendees stated it was the best financial training they have had. We had an FMLA presentation and Managing Multiple Generations within the Postal Service. **Day 2** was focused on NAPS Representation Training. Our Keynote presenter was Jack Barry NAPS DDF Provider, he was schedule for 3 hours but his information and follow up questions extended his training to 4 & 1/2 hours! We had ELM 650, Mediation review, Douglas Factors, Debt Collection and Membership. Chuck Mulidore provided updated information on the recently filed Lawsuit which generated a lot of questions and comments! Chuck also presented two picture awards honoring Margarete A. Grant, accepted by Glen Gray Vice President of the Margarete Grant Branch (Oakland CA). Chuck also presented a picture plaque to Dorotha Bradley, former NAPS Western Region VP who was present to accept. The picture plaques were found recently in National NAPS Archives of former national officers these Plaques are being given to family members or directly to those able to accept the honor. Due to time constraints we provided handouts on Bullying in the Workplace and Involuntary Reassignments and my updated NAPS Tool Kit!

Our team crammed as much information into 2-days as possible, the feedback on our surveys were very positive! We had a lot of help from The Las Vegas DM Tracie Hill-Sandifer and her management team. Also, the fantastic job by NAPS Branch 463 who hosted two days of hospitality parties! Also, we have to recognize our hard-working volunteers on the Registration Committee, Sargent at Arms, SPAC and Auxiliary Team. Over \$3,600.00 was raise for SPAC! ***A Special thanks to Myrna Pashinski, Rocky Mountain Area VP whose area hosted this successful event, Myrna's behind the scene efforts help to make sure the event ran smoothly! We want to thank the Western Region Delegates for their attendance; and all for your support, we hope you enjoyed your time in Las Vegas.***

Pacific Area Leadership Meeting Chuck Lum, Marilyn Jones, California State President, Bridget Evans, California State Secretary and I were invited to the USPS Pacific Leadership meeting held at USPS Santa Clarita Processing Plant. Larry Munoz, USPS Pacific Area Vice President Operations and his staff hosted this two-day meeting. He kicked the meeting off with an awards luncheon. There were numerous Mid-level managers representing Pacific Area Districts recognized for their outstanding achievements over the previous Postal Quarters. Today the Pacific Area is competing with the Eastern Area for the number one position in the nation! During the meeting Area Management shared the strategies developed at their three-area meeting recently held in Chicago. Each year prior to peak season, the Pacific, Western and Greatlakes Areas meet to identify concerns that will impact processing, transporting and delivery of mail between these crucial areas! Safety is the number one issue and reduce Motor Vehicle Accidents are a priority! We were reminded that there are seven weeks before the start of FY 2020 so everyone needs to focus on improving priority mail, trips on time, reduction of OT, Employee Availability! The Pacific Area goal is reduced identified goals by 50% during peak season. There was a review of the recent PULSE Survey and it was stated that there was an increase in responses in the Pacific Area, however, there needs to be a significant increase in participation to add value to the survey and measure whether the Employee Engagement process is working. One of the highlights of this training was an awesome motivation speech by Coach Robert Mendez, of Prospect High School Gilroy California. Coach Mendez was born with no arms and legs and gets around on a special motorized wheelchair. He stated that throughout his childhood and into adult life his motto was **"WHO SAYS I CAN'T"** As a result of hard work and determination and love of people and football he was hired as an official coach at Gilroy High School. He uses his cell phone to write the plays for the team as well as sign autographs! Coach Mendez's presentation started out with a brief movie about his life, at home and his work out on the football field coaching his team. The entire presentation was so inspirational that he was given several standing ovations and we all were cheering **WHO SAYS I CAN'T!** Coach Mendez recently received an ESPY Special sports award and was feature on several sport channels. The Pacific Area Leadership meeting ended with the AVP quarter challenge to meet or exceed the current Pacific Area success. At the end of the meeting the Management Association members were given time to address the managers. Mr. Munoz thanked us for our continued partnership with USPS!

marilynwalton@comcast.net