

Marilyn's August Blog 2022

We have just suffered through one of the hottest July's nationwide and also in Europe! This extreme weather is being related to Climate change. What is Climate Change? Scientists refer to long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. These shifts may be natural, such as through variations in the solar cycle. But since the 1800s, human activities have been the main driver of climate change, primarily due to burning fossil fuels like coal, oil and gas. Burning fossil fuels generates greenhouse gas emissions that act like a blanket wrapped around the Earth, trapping the sun's heat and raising temperatures. Examples of greenhouse gas emissions that are causing climate change include carbon dioxide and methane. These come from using gasoline for driving a car or coal for heating a building, for example. Clearing land and forests can also release carbon dioxide. Landfills for garbage are a major source of methane emissions. Energy, industry, transport, buildings, agriculture and land use are among the main emitters. Reference United Nations Climate Report.

Civics 101 Senate Voting Dilemma?

The current United States Senate is made up of 100 members (two Senators per state) are evenly divided Democrats and Republicans (with two Independents that caucus with the Democrats)

Current rules require a 60-member vote to pass major legislation, Build Back Better, Voting Rights, Climate Change, Gun Regulations! In order to pass legislation on a majority vote it takes all 50 votes of the majority party plus the Vice President to break the tie and change the rules so a majority votes can occur. The current Senate has two Senators in the majority party that refuse to vote to change the rules. As a result, recent legislation passed in the House has been stalled in the Senate!

Newly Promoted Postmasters. - NAPS welcomes all newly promoted Supervisors and especially Postmasters, and we celebrate their special installation ceremonies and attend as many as we can.

In February of this year, NAPS prevailed in a lawsuit, In the ruling it was found that NAPS represents all EAS including Postmasters. Recently NAPS was notified by some newly promoted postmasters thought they had to leave NAPS if they wanted representation, **not true!**

We welcome all postmasters and encourage them to continued membership in NAPS and they are entitled to all the benefits of NAPS members including representation by our NAPS Disciplinary Fund (DDF) provider at no charge!

NAPS California Workplace Climate Surveys are being completed **California 2 and 3 Districts** have completed their climate survey reviews and meetings with district leadership! Several branches are still collecting and reviewing their returned surveys, compiling the data and scheduling meetings with their district management. The goal is to complete the surveys and review process by mid- August. All branches must meet with their local leadership before the information is shared with USPS Area Management and NAPS HQ!

Ethics – All EAS are mandated to follow ethical conduct/procedures when conducting Postal Business. Postal Service is committed to maintaining its reputation as the most trusted government entity through principled decision-making and strong ethical values. All postal employees are required to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws, and ethical principles above private gain. Section 662.1 of the Postal Service's Employee Labor and Relations Manual states as follows: To ensure that every citizen can have complete confidence in the integrity of the federal government, each federal employee, including each postal employee, must respect and adhere to the principles of ethical conduct set forth in 5 C.F.R. § 2635 [the Standards of Ethical Conduct for Employees of the Executive Branch]. If an EAS is notified to attend a Ethics investigation it is our advice **to request a representative and to tell the truth.** There is an Adverse Action charge “: **Lack of Candor**”, (Always be truthful) which if an employee is found to have lied by the agency, can be grounds for Removal from the Postal Service! *Reference USPS Ethic commitment to ethics page.*

SPAC – Supervisor Political Action Committee – Whether you are able to attend the National NAPS Convention we hope you will take time to contribute to SPAC. This is an important Mid-Term Election year. We need funds to support those legislators that support the Postal Service! We need friends in Congress! Log on to naps.org/Legislation page for more information.

August 6-12, 2022- Many NAPS delegates from around the country will be attending the 68th National NAPS Convention in New Orleans (NOLA). The beautiful Hyatt Regency Hotel New Orleans is the venue. There are daily activities and events planned, the daily schedule is posted online at naps.org. Safe travels to all attending, looking forward to Networking with NAPS friends and family. Safe travels to all, see you in NOLA!

marilynwalton@comcast.net

