

# Daily Newsletter

Aug. 6-7, 2022 • Number 1

## Welcome to New Orleans!

New Orleans Host Branch 73 President Tomica Duplessis and her committee members extend a warm welcome to the Big Easy. What a great venue for the NAPS 68th National Convention!

There's so much to see and experience in New Orleans; take advantage of all the city has to offer. And be prepared to conduct the business of the organization this coming week.

## Sunday and Monday Highlights

The Nondenominational Worship Service, led by Rev. Prescott Butler, president of Robert L. Towns, NJ, Branch 217, will be Sunday, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in Empire Ballroom D. Then, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the same room, will be the NAPS and Auxiliary delegates' orientation.

Whether you are a first-timer or seasoned NAPS convention delegate, there's always more to learn and prepare for the convention week ahead. Capping off Sunday is the Bid Whist tournament at 6 p.m. in Imperial 5.

Monday morning starts early with breakfast from 6:30 to 8:30 am. in Storyville Hall, 3rd floor. The Opening Ceremony starts at 9 a.m. Host Branch 73 President Tomica Duplessis will call the convention to order in the Celestin Ballroom on the 3rd floor.

Delegates will hear from Rep. Troy Carter, Democratic congressman representing Louisiana's 2nd Congressional District (see his welcome letter on page 11 of the *One Book*), New Orleans Postmaster Matthew Connelly, New Orleans P&DC Senior Plant Manager Courtney McKelvey and Baton Rouge Postmaster

James Tate III. At 1:30 p.m., the convention's first business session gets underway.

You certainly don't want to miss the Host Committee/NAPS Welcome Reception and Dinner from 6 to 10 p.m. The entire Empire Foyer and Ballroom will be devoted to entertaining NAPS delegates with station food, cash bars, live music and Mardi Gras showgirls, Indians and Zulu Tramps—and more!

## Don't Forget SPAC

The NAPS resident officers were honored to be present at the White House on April 6 when President Joe Biden signed H.R. 3076, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, into law. NAPS members can be proud of their advocacy over the years that helped push this bill over the finish line.

But NAPS' legislative efforts don't stop there. In late July, Executive Vice President Chuck Mulidore met with Sen. Susan Collins (R-ME), Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT) and House Oversight and Reform Committee Chair Carolyn Maloney, thanking them for their continued support of NAPS and the Postal Service.

He also met with Rep. Val Demings, the Florida Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate, and Valerie Foushee, a Democratic member of the North Carolina Senate who is running for election to the U.S. House to represent North Carolina's 4th Congressional District. SPAC funds open doors and provide opportunities to meet with candidates to garner support for NAPS' legislative agenda.

More legislation is needed. As NAPS Director of Legislative & Political Affairs Bob Levi highlighted in his June *Postal Supervisor* column, H.R. 1623, the Postal Supervisors and Managers Fairness Act,

would ensure EAS employees are treated with the dignity and respect to which they are entitled in the consultative process with the Postal Service.

One of the most important ways to ensure NAPS' influence and advocacy on Capitol Hill is through the Supervisors' Political Action Committee. Visit the SPAC booth in the Celestin Ballroom foyer to make a contribution.

Also available are two challenge coins. For a \$25 contribution, you will get a specially designed NAPS New Orleans Challenge Coin. California is offering a challenge coin to celebrate its 100th state convention. Both are available at the SPAC table.

## NAPS Chat

Despite being in New Orleans this week, Bob Levi has arranged to conduct his weekly *NAPS Chat* at the World War II Museum on Wednesday. The chat's topic is correspondence during World War II from the home front to the battlefield. Be sure and listen when the chat is available on the NAPS website.

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

Visit our exhibitors' booths in the Celestin Ballroom Foyer/Storyville Hall:

- Atlanta Postal Credit Union
- BlueCross BlueShield
- Dillard Financial Solutions, Inc.
- FESA (Federal Employee Service Association)
- GEHA (Government Employees Health Association, Inc.)
- Employee Benefits Specialists
- NIBC (National Insurance Benefit Coordinators Inc.)
- Signature Federal Credit Union

## In Memoriam

Following are NAPS members who have died since the 2021 National Convention as reported to NAPS Headquarters. If you have additional names, give them to Karen Young, NAPS editor, to publish in the *Daily Newsletter*. Do not announce any memorial notices from the floor:

### **New England Area**

*New Haven, CT, Branch 3*

Jeffrey D. Sorak

*Portland, ME, Branch 96*

Bruce Bartlett  
Geoffrey Deane  
Lawrence Duncan  
Harold M. Sprague

*Boston Branch 43*

James J. Hennessey

*Southeastern Massachusetts Branch 120*

David Degrenier  
Patricia Luz  
Linda Wagner

*Northeastern Massachusetts District Branch 498*

Michael Iascone  
Robert J. Taglieri

*New Hampshire State Branch 932*

Gregory Eyles

*Providence, RI, Branch 105*

John A. Defusco

### **New York Area**

*Sal Pace Branch 27*

Anne P. Clayton

*Postal Police Supervisors Branch 51*

Mike Conners

*Thomas Roma Brooklyn Branch 68*

Manuel A. Domenech  
Andrew M. Mazzella

*New York City Branch 100*

Peter Naranjo

*Flushing Branch 164*

Robert "Bobby" Bilz  
Vishnu Persaud

*Long Island Branch 202*

Bradley Green  
Steven B. Lewis  
Vita C. Stabile

### **Mideast Area**

*New Jersey State Branch 933*

Lorraine Kearney

*Vincent J. Lambusta, NJ, Branch 53*

Michael J. Demski

*MSC Red Bank, NJ, District Branch 568*

Clyde Alexander

*Pittsburgh Branch 20*

James Adams  
Paul Myers

*Harrisburg, PA, Branch 50*

Donald Keane Sr.

*Southeastern Pennsylvania Branch 355*

Veronica J. Perez

### **Capitol-Atlantic Area**

*A. Millie Callaway Branch 135,*

*District of Columbia*

Damon Foster  
Nicholas M. Lamantia  
Carrie J. O'Marra

*Baltimore, MD, Branch 42*

William A. Hemphill  
Julie Martin

*Greensboro, NC, Branch 157*

Hasson D. Dawkins  
Rose A. Legrand

*Charlotte, NC, Branch 183*

Steven Santarcangelo

*Richmond, VA, Branch 98*

Raymond Lee Jones

*Adolph P. Chiappa, VA, Memorial Branch 132*

Belinda A. Pitts

### **Pioneer Area**

*Louisville, KY, Branch 1*

Ricky L. Gibson

*Cleveland, OH, Branch 46*

Shirlaine Flake  
Charlane Flank

Harvey McDougale Jr.  
Andrea M. Thomas

### **Illini Area**

*Heart of Illinois Branch 255*

Rebecca Crossman  
Sherry Maxwell  
Eric Smith  
Maureen Wilcox  
Frank Winters

*Illinois North Shore Branch 270*

Edgar R. Candelario

*West Suburban, IL, Branch 289*

William Young

*South Suburban, IL, Facility Branch 493*

Arthur L. Moore

### **North Central Area**

*Minnesota State Branch 926*

Mike LePree

*Minneapolis Branch 16*

Lewis Olson  
Patricia "Patty" White

*St. Paul Branch 104*

Lucy Baker

*Milwaukee Branch 72*

Carla D. Linson

*Green Bay District Branch 442*

Donald Vandesande

### **MINK Area**

*Topeka, KS, Branch 52*

Tasha K. Conway

*Wichita, KS, District Branch 205*

Bonny G. Thompson

*Kansas City, MO, Branch 36*

Carrie A. Skinner

*Gateway, MO, Branch 131*

Melvin Everett Bell

*Omaha, NE, Branch 10*

Lois Thurman-Kent

### **Southeast Area**

*Miami Branch 146*

Vanessa Brown

Kenny Franz  
Edward "Eddie" Perez

*St. Petersburg, FL, Branch 156*  
Brian Britt

*Fort Lauderdale, FL, Branch 296*  
Kevin Anderson

*Gainesville, FL, Branch 405*  
Sam Jones Jr.

*Sun Coast, FL, Branch 425*  
Gilda A. Durant

*Atlanta Branch 82*  
Walter Holt

**Central Gulf Area**  
*New Orleans Branch 73*  
Ricardo Anderson  
Ronald Edgeron

*Louis M. Atkins, Baton Rouge, Branch 209*  
Kirkland Eames

**Cotton Belt Area**  
*Arkansas State Branch 904*  
John W. Nicholson

*Don Ledbetter, TN, Branch 41*  
Demetria Dortch  
James Wilson Jr.

**Texas Area**  
*Austin Branch 9*  
Dawn R. Layssard

*Dallas Branch 86*  
Shirley James-Johnson

*San Antonio Branch 103*  
Marie Carter

*El Paso Branch 136*  
Mark Mitchell

**Northwest Area**  
*Anchorage, AK, Branch 435*  
Kevin Q. Clemons

*Idaho State Branch 915*  
Joe Harrington

*Portland, OR, District Branch 66*  
Louis Gomez  
Michael Norbom

*Seattle, WA, Branch 61*  
Anne Kush  
Timothy Moore  
Richard "Rich" Wilson

**Rocky Mountain Area**  
*Arizona Jerome V. Blanton Branch 246*  
Joe J. Zarate

*Las Vegas District Branch 463*  
Steven R. Qualls

*Sundance, UT, Branch 139*  
Michael S. Gunnarson  
Valerie Story

**Pacific Area**  
*Los Angeles Branch 39*  
John Driver

*San Francisco Branch 88*  
Isidore Szczepaniak  
Ada Tate  
Margaret Taylor  
Larry Ybarra

*Margarete A. Grant, CA, Branch 127*  
Betty Asberry  
Yolanda G. Byrd

*San Diego Bridget Evans Branch 159*  
Ronald M. Alo Jr.

*So. California Bay District Branch 266*  
Mabel Stephens

## What, Exactly, Is Bid Whist?

Sunday evening at 6 p.m., the Host Branch Committee is hosting a Bid Whist Tournament in Imperial 5. Some NAPS members may not be familiar with the game. Bid whist is based on the classic card game whist, but with a bidding element.

In classic whist, a standard 52-card pack is used; cards in each suit rank from highest (ace) to lowest (2). There are four players who play in two partnerships.

All the cards are dealt face down. The final card, which belongs to the dealer, is turned face up to indicate which suit is

trumps. The player to the dealer's left leads to the first trick with any card in the hand. The other players, in clockwise order, each play a card to the trick and must follow suit by playing a card of the suit led, if held.

A player with no card of the suit may play any card, either discarding or trumping. The trick is won by the highest card of the suit, unless a trump is played, in which case the highest trump wins. The winner of the trick leads the next trick.

Play continues until all 13 tricks are played, at which point the score is recorded. Part of the skill is a player's ability to remember what cards have been played and figure out what cards remain. Once each trick is played, its cards are turned face down and kept in a stack of four near the player who won the trick.

Before the next trick starts, a player may ask to review the cards from the last trick only. Once the lead card is played, no previously played cards can be reviewed.

After all the tricks have been played, the side that won more tricks scores one point for each trick won in excess of six. A game is over when one team reaches a score of five.

In bid whist, there are four exceptions. First, instead of the trump card being determined by random, the trump suit, or even if there will be a trump suit, for a given hand is determined by the outcome of the bidding process.

Second, whether a trick is won by the higher-ranking card of the winning suit or by the lower-ranking card of that suit also is determined by the outcome of the bidding process. Third, whether the ace is the highest- or lowest-ranking card of the suit can change from hand to hand, depending on whether higher- or lower-ranking cards win in that hand. And fourth, scoring is different.

Bid whist takes skill and strategy. Players cannot tell their partners out loud what they want them to play, but there are non-verbal cues partners give each other.

NAPS' tournament format is a single-elimination, team contest. The first round will be a best two-out-of-three format; all subsequent rounds will be one-game/winner advances. Each team paid a \$20 fee; half the proceeds will go to SPAC.

