



# The N.A.P.S. Newsletter

## Branch # 60, Spokane Washington



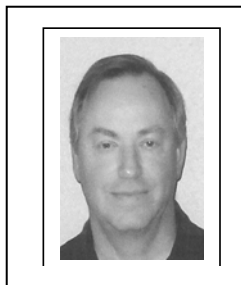
*"An Award Winning NAPS Newsletter"*

Volume 8 Issue 4

April 2008

## The President's Report

*by Gene Taylor, President*



I thought spring time was here and all I can see is snow coming down outside my window. I know for the last few weeks it seemed all we could see was priority mail. Easter week was a nightmare for the plant. I'm sure as soon as Mother's Day gets closer we will think it is Christmas and Easter combined in just a short week. The priority section will be the busiest section at the plant. So customer service get ready for a lot of more priority packages again. My Vice President for the Plant, Dorian Chastain, is out for awhile due to surgery. He will be back at the plant as soon as he is well. So everyone please wish him a fast recovery and he can get back to work.

Now let me say something about my other Vice President, Customer Service, Kevin Coler. Kevin is stepping down as our Vice President due to personal reasons. I wish him the very best for his future and we will miss him. I have appointed Mary Rohner, Manager of BMEU, to take Kevin's place and I know she will do a great job for NAPS and this Branch.

Let's talk about decision making now. All during the day we make decisions. Sometimes we decide not to decide. The decision not to act is not necessarily the wrong one. It depends on the circumstances. On the one hand we don't want to be rash and act on our impulses without considering the consequences of our actions, and on the other hand we don't want to be indecisive and indefinitely refuse to act, for if we do so, we'll remain in a rut, with no hope for the better in sight. It's a matter of balance. And we arrive at that balance by analyzing our decisions and our motives for those decisions.

It is prudent to think before we act. Yet, if we refuse to act because we are afraid of making a mistake, we do the very thing we are afraid of because failure to act is a mistake. Failure to act is failure to seize an opportunity.

Failure to act is failure to grow and improve our lives. Our task becomes easier when we accept the fact that the decision making process is risky business and we are imperfect. Mistakes are inevitable, but nothing to fear, for they will provide either valuable lessons or delightful surprises.

So what I am trying to say here, is that you make your own decisions but make sure it is the right decision. I am heading off to Washington DC at the end of March and we will be talking to Congress and the Senate about what we (NAPS) needs help with in making the right decision on the future of the Postal Service and the rights of our members. I will make a report when I get back.

So I hope to see a lot more people at our next meeting. So please come out and join us.

*Gene*

## **NEXT BRANCH MEETING**

**April 15, 2008**

**At Linnie's Thai Restaurant,  
1301 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue  
Spokane**

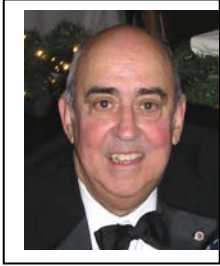
**New members get a free dinner!**

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# Quips from the Editor

by Clint Perry



Well it looks like the snow is ending in the Inland Northwest and not a moment too soon as far as I'm concerned. I am sooo **READY** for spring.

I see that more and more of the "old guard" are retiring and that will be leaving more and more of the newer "younger" supervisors in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Postal Service. That's the way life is...constant changes. I welcome the "new" retirees...yer gonna **LOVE** retired life. But don't forget your old ties and friends. Stay in touch with those that you've known for all these years.

Not too much happening here. The Pasco Branch of NAPS will soon be joining the Spokane Branch in a merger wherein they will have good solid representation available to them...something they probably haven't had for a while. I welcome all of them to Branch 60.

A few of the officers will soon travel to Boise for the 5-State Convention and training. I wish them well. Soon after, the Spokane delegation travels to Louisville for the National Convention and 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration. Lessee, what else is up? Oh, I'm headed to Nevada to help support their economy (again)! See you at the Branch meeting on April 15 (tax day)!

**Clint**

# Treasurer's Report

by Kathy Hamilton



DATE: **Mar-08 Budget**

<u>INCOME CATEG.</u>	<u>THIS PERIOD</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Dues (Nat'l checks)	1,763.00	\$ 5,158.00	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 16,342.00
Other Income	12.15	\$102.05	\$ 80.00	\$ (22.05)
raffle			\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Progression door prize		\$300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -
retiree members			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
100 Yr Party		\$ 2,370.00	\$ 2,370.00	\$ -
take \$2000 from savings for Conv.			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
carry over from 07 Nat'l Conv			\$ 4,510.00	\$ 4,510.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,775.15</b>	<b>\$ 7,930.05</b>	<b>\$ 31,060.00</b>	<b>\$ 23,129.95</b>

<u>EXPENSE CATEG.</u>	<u>THIS PERIOD</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
WA State Assessment			\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
Legislative Seminar (1)		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,010.00	\$ 1,510.00
NW Region (Boise) (3)			\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
National Convention	1,703.00	\$ 3,519.10	\$ 17,120.00	\$ 13,600.90
Secretarial (newsletter)	74.20	\$ 173.79	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,126.21
Exec. Brd (meeting mileage)			\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
Postage	459.20	\$ 549.32	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 450.68
Good for the Order(checks)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
100 Yr Celebration	66.18	\$ 2,941.45	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 258.55
door prize (Progression)		\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00	\$ -
P.O. Box Annual Rent			\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00
Web site			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
laptop		885	\$ 890.00	\$ 5.00
Scholarship fund			\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>2,302.58</b>	<b>9,868.66</b>	<b>31,060.00</b>	<b>21,191.34</b>

**ASSETS (as of 2/19/08))**

Checking	\$2,648.09
Savings	\$170.98
Smart Market	\$12,820.31

**TOTAL ASSETS \$15,639.38**

submitted 03/18/08 Kathy Hamilton, Branch 60 Treasurer

# Branch Meeting Minutes, March 18, 2008

Kristina Dewey, Secretary

Meeting called to order at 6:32 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Officers: President: Gene Taylor; VP(CustSvc): Kevin Coler; Secretary: Kristina Dewey; Treasurer: Kathy Hamilton; Sgt@Arms: John Hansen; editor: Clint Perry. Other members present: Bill Swank, Mary Rohner, and Sandy Cook. New member Debbie Neville was welcomed. EXCUSED: VP (P&DC): Dorian Chastain, Dave Schuiteman and Charlene Bozarth.

**Officer Reports:** **President:** Gene went to Pasco on 2/28 to meet with the Pasco Branch members. They currently have 18 members as 4 more signed up for NAPS while Gene was there. The members had been dissatisfied with having had no leadership for the past several years. They all seemed amiable to joining Spokane Branch 60. Pasco currently has \$3800 in their account. Ben Clapp will have to complete the process of the merge. Supervisors have recently been asked to sign "job instructions" from their station managers and postmasters. Gene urged that we do not sign anything like this. **Vice President (Customer Service):** Kevin reported that 14 new positions for customer service supervisors are opened throughout the Spokane District. This is based on the new Supervisor Work Hour Credits. **Secretary:** Kristina is working on keeping the mailing list updated at all times. If we have new members or current member have changed their address she needs to know so that they can be assured to get the newsletter. **Treasurer:** Kathy had to pay an additional \$400 to the bed and breakfast that delegates will be staying at during the national convention in Louisville, KY. This is in addition to the \$800 deposit that has already been made. Kathy also will add the \$250 received from the Progressions Credit Union (annual charge for their ad in this newsletter) to the Scholarship Fund. The budget was voted on and passed. **Editor:** Clint will be submitting past newsletters for the newsletter competition at National Convention in Louisville in September. We are hoping to once again have an award winning newsletter! Deadline for the April issue is April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Committee Reports:** **Audit and Budget:** Clint reported that he and Bill Swank audited the financial records of the Branch and as always, were found in good order. **Constitution and By-Laws:** Clint has not received any proposed resolutions or Constitution changes. **Entertainment:** The committee (Kristina, Bill and Kevin) had no report. Auxiliary President Mary Taylor will try to contact the management of CenterStage to determine if we can again hold the Annual Holiday function at that location. **Scholarship:** The hat was passed during the meeting for further donations to the scholarship fund and an addition \$100 was collected! We will support **TWO** \$300 scholarships this year. An amendment was also passed that whatever monies are collected beyond the \$300 funds will be split between the two scholarship awards. We urge all members to donate \$10 or \$20 dollars to support our next generation.

**Old Business:** Clint queried delegates to the national convention to determine that all had made their airline reservations. All delegates will need to submit an individual registration form to Kathy to be forwarded to National. All delegates have completed their delegate credentials. The group will need at least three rental vehicles for use during the week in Louisville. Those reservations are complete.

**New Business:** None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm. Next meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.



## Branch Seeking Scholarship Fund Monies


Branch 60 members are being asked to make voluntary donations to the Branch Scholarship fund. At the last two Branch meetings, discussions favored a donation attempt to raise monies to support this fund. Although the Branch budgets \$300 annually for this fund, that amount merely covers a few books or other administration fees and is not considered to be adequate.

This year, the members voted to award two scholarships. At the March meeting, attending members donated \$100.00 and when added to the previously earmarked monies, now allows for two \$300 scholarships to be awarded. Members voted to equally split whatever monies are collected. Please use the clip-off slip below to send your donations in.

**YES!** Here's my donation to the Branch #60 Scholarship Fund.

Amount donated

name of contributor (you may remain anonymous if you prefer)

Please mail  your donation to: **NAPS Branch # 60 Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 4781, Spokane WA 99220-4781**

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## Branch 60 Officers

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### The NAPS NEWSLETTER

The "NAPS Newsletter" is the official publication of NAPS Branch #60, Spokane Washington. It is published monthly (except in July and December) and is intended to inform, educate and entertain members of Branch #60. All members in good standing receive this publication as part of their membership dues.

Any member may submit an article for publication, but submissions should be limited to 300 words or less. The decision to edit/publish submitted articles remains with the Editor, Branch #60.

**Please notify the Branch Secretary of any changes in address.**