



# The N.A.P.S. Newsletter Branch # 60, Spokane Washington



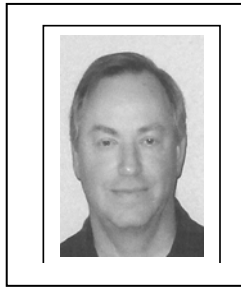
*“An Award Winning NAPS Newsletter”*

Volume 8 Issue 6

June 2008

## The President’s Report

*by Gene Taylor, President*



Hello everyone. The last time I wrote, which was last month, it was still snowing outside. Now the weather has calmed down a bit. The mail volume at the plant has sure slowed down since the rate increase. So, with less volume, that means less work hours. Our biggest problem I see

at the plant is our casual hours. I know it’s hard to keep these casuals under 40 hours each week, but if you do your planning right then your casuals should not be getting over 40 hours. It is the supervisor and managers job to ensure that this does not happen. If you, the supervisor are doing your part in cutting the hours, then all of your peers need to do the same. It will come down to where we will have no casuals to work with. So you and your managers need to look very carefully at the planning of your operations so we can have a viable force to get the job done.

It is almost time for everyone to start taking that annual leave that everyone deserves. I know that once the prime season hits, your operation will be greatly affected, especially if you do not have any casuals to fill in for your loss of employees in that operation. So plan accordingly, do not keep the OT unless you really need it and you can support your actions in doing so. It is going to get a lot tougher out there; the future does not look any brighter. The budget is not getting any better, as a matter of fact, we are getting less.

Now let’s talk a little about Employee Availability, I know everyone has heard about this. We are being told that all EAS employees that supervise employees that use sick leave (scheduled and unscheduled) are being held responsible for their employee’s failure to be regular in attendance if they are not in an FMLA status. Not only if their employees call in sick but if any EAS is not being regular in attendance and is using “Unprotected” not FMLA leave than action should be taken against those EAS using unprotected leave employee. FMLA coordinators and ERMS managers will be keeping an eye on all sick calls that are being generated daily.

The ELM states “Employees are to be regular in attendance.” Take ownership in ensuring employees are held accountable to be available as scheduled. FMLA is available for 12 weeks per year that should be enough for the average person. Regardless of what everyone thinks, you the supervisor and manager still have to follow the instructions of how the Post Office wants you to control sick leave and or injuries, etc. The bottom line is you are responsible for your employees. The supervisor/manager is the person issuing discipline, not upper management. You are the one who makes the decision on what discipline needs to be taken, if any at all. But you need to take the action that is necessary otherwise they will take action against you, for failure to follow instructions. You need to “CYA”, and I hope you understand this. They are getting very serious about this issue.

I want to talk a little about our upcoming event at the Spokane Arena. We have decided this year to hold a tailgate party and a night out with the Spokane Shock team. The price is right, just \$15.00 per person, we are going to be down in the “Fox Hole”. I heard that was a pretty good place to be for these games. I hope to see a lot of people sign up for this event. We are having this instead of our annual picnic this year. We just wanted to try something different and I hope it works out. So please come out and join us. I know its going to be a lot of fun.

Also, I hope to see a lot more people at our next meeting in June, which is being held on Jun 16<sup>th</sup>, so come out and join us.

*Gene*

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# Quips from the Editor

by Clint Perry



Is it summer yet? Could be, but it may still snow! Ya never know! I had to miss the last meeting as I was at my vacation retreat at the Pend O'Reille Shores Resort for a nice week. Other than some rain, 'twas pretty nice.

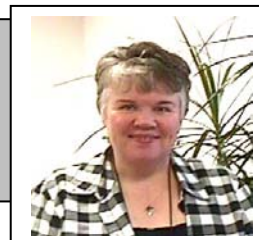
Upcoming in July will be our new alternative to our annual picnic. This year we're trying a "tail-gate" party with attendance at a "Spokane Shock" Arena2 Football game. As this issue goes to press, that team is 9-0! The final season game is the date we plan for the Branch event. The Auxiliary is planning a mailing with info on when, how much (\$15.00 each) and times. Don't miss it. Arena2 Football is **FUN!**

This issue features an application for the Branch Scholarship with a deadline of **June 30**. Not much time but for those who may be interested, fill it in and submit it. This year we plan on awarding **TWO** scholarships, each for \$300.

I have also announced the upcoming Branch election (*see page 4*). This year, we'll do nominations in September and vote in October. Successful candidates will be announced at that October meeting and inasmuch as we don't publish a newsletter nor have a Branch meeting in December, installation of elected officers will again take place at the January Installation/Holiday Party. Feel the need to serve, then attend meetings and **GET INVOLVED**.

## Treasurer's Report

by Kathy Hamilton



DATE: **May**

**Budget**

INCOME CATEG.	THIS PERIOD	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Dues (Nat'l checks)	1,752.00	\$ 10,410.00	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 11,090.00
Other Income	13.04	\$141.93	\$ 80.00	\$ (61.93)
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	\$ -
scholarship donations		\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -
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>\$ 13,321.93</b>	<b>\$ 31,160.00</b>	<b>\$ 17,838.07</b>
EXPENSE CATEG.	THIS PERIOD	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
WA State Assessment		\$ 936.00	\$ 900.00	\$ (36.00)
Legislative Seminar (1)		\$ 1,500.00	\$ 3,010.00	\$ 1,510.00
NW Area (Boise) (4)	1,398.54	\$ 2,038.54	\$ 2,000.00	\$ (38.54)
National Convention		\$ 3,519.10	\$ 17,120.00	\$ 13,600.90
Secretarial (newsletter)	140.46	\$ 388.45	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 911.55
Exec. Brd (meeting mileage)		\$ 213.04	\$ 800.00	\$ 586.96
Postage		\$ 549.32	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 450.68
Good for the Order(checks)			\$ 100.00	\$ 100.00
100 Yr Celebration		\$ 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			\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>1,539.00</b>	<b>12,334.90</b>	<b>31,160.00</b>	<b>17,889.10</b>

**ASSETS (as of 5/20/08)**

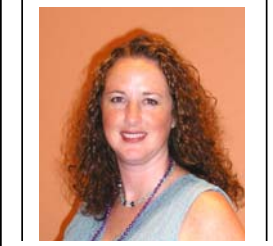
Checking	\$2,762.09
Savings	\$171.15
Smart Market	\$12,846.81
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$15,780.05</b>

submitted 05/20/08 Kathy Hamilton, Branch 60 Treasurer

## Branch Meeting Minutes, May 20, 2008 *by Kristina Dewey*

Meeting was called to order by President Gene Taylor at 6:30 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Officers: President Gene Taylor; VP(CustSvc) Mary Rohner; VP(P&DC) Dorian Chastain; Secretary Kristina Dewey; Treasurer Kathy Hamilton; Sgt@Arms John Hansen. Editor Clint Perry was excused. Other members present were: Colleen Baker, Kevin Coler, and Bill Swank.



**Officer Reports: Presidents Report:** Gene reported that the P&DC has 11 full time supervisors to cover 3 tours. 204-Bs are being used heavily. The 204-Bs are being used mostly on tour 1.

**Vice President Customer Service:** Mary commented that she really enjoyed the training in Boise at the 5-State convention. **Vice President P&DC:** Dorian announced that Dave Schuiteman is the new tour 1 MDO. **Secretary:** Kristina reported that supervisors are still being required to work 6 days a week without relief. Use of 204-Bs in Customer Service is being discouraged. **Treasurer:** Kathy reported that all Expedited Services positions have been abolished. She also mentioned that the training in Boise was wonderful. She has requested a \$300 donation from the credit union to help defer costs of the upcoming Branch sponsored “*Spokane Shock*” night out game. Kathy presented the budget and it passed.

**Committee Reports: Entertainment committee:** A tailgate spot needs to be reserved for the “*Spokane Shock*” game in July. Plans for the holiday party are underway. **Elections:** Nominations will be held at the September meeting. The election will be held in October. **Scholarship:** Applications will be published in the June issue of the newsletter.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** A budget was discussed for the Auxiliary. It was suggested that \$1000.00 be set aside for their budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

## Vice-President (Customer Service) *by Mary Rohner*

It's tough to come up with an article this month as it's been so quiet. What I mean by that is, you are all happy and content or just too busy with work and life to take the time to talk to anyone. I know that I seem to never get ahead of my work anymore, it just keeps overflowing off the plate that is already too full. I seriously doubt that we are going to see it get easier in the near future, so if you are having issues please take the time to let someone know and let's make it work together. It's hard to get involved but then again, it can be harder if you don't take the time to take care of yourself and your future.

We have had some great picnics over the years out at the Clear Lake Resort, but it's hard to come up

with something that everyone will like but hopefully we have come up with a nice change. This past NAPS meeting, as you will read in the meeting minutes, we talked about putting together our summer event a bit different this year by planning to attend a “*Spokane Shock*” game. I saw my first arena football game in Boise. The “*Boise Burn*” played great, it was fast and fun. You don't dare turn your head away or you'll miss something or everything. I'm looking forward to seeing the “*Boise Burn*” play again, but of course this time I'll be rooting for the “*Spokane Shock*”. Hope to see you all there.

*Mary*

## NEXT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

is on

June 17, 2008

at

Linnie's Thai Restaurant. 1301 West third Avenue, Spokane

# A Word from the Spokane Auxiliary

by Mary Taylor

The auxiliary needs to get together. If anyone has any suggestions on a time or place that is more convenient please give me a call at (509)979-7717. If you do not reach me leave a message and I will return your call as soon as possible or e-mail me at [nwnapsauxiliary@comcast.net](mailto:nwnapsauxiliary@comcast.net).

June will be our last meeting until August. Anyone interested in running for an office needs to attend meetings. I have in the past had letters that needed to be written and other jobs we have needed to do. We need to get busy, NAPS members, and those who joined the Spokane District Auxiliary realize that writing letters to congress, and senators is no small thing. If we can get them on the side of our needs we have a better chance to maintain postal benefits, which are rapidly decreasing.

We need to be there for our Branch, we need to help them with whatever we are able to assist them with.

There has to be a way for auxiliary members to communicate. E-mail would be nice, suggestions welcome.

If one person puts one rock on the ground it is one rock, if each person puts a rock on the ground it is a pile of rocks. The more people the bigger the pile. The result, less work for one person, more accomplished. This might apply to NAPS members also. Have a say in your organization, maybe you can not attend every meeting but attend the ones you can.

I must ask that each auxiliary member write at least two letters to your Congressperson or the Senator of your district by the end of the year. Contact me for details. My phone number and e-mail address information is in the first paragraph.

Those who were lucky enough to obtain tickets for the Shock game, enjoy!

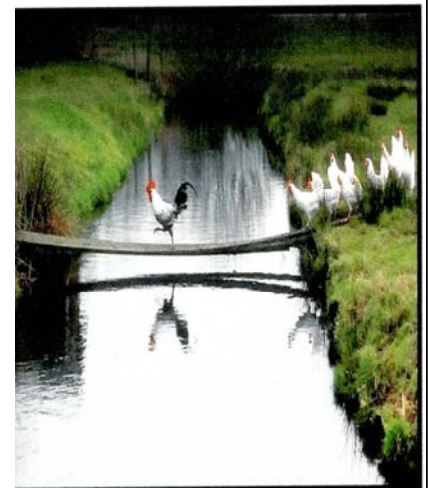
*Mary Taylor*

## ELECTION NOTICE

In accordance with the Branch 60 Constitution and By-Laws, notice is hereby given that Branch election nominations will be accepted at the September General Membership meeting. Members nominated must accept or decline such nominations at that meeting. The Branch elections will be held at the October General Membership meeting. Elected officers (new or re-elected ) will be announced at that October meeting and installation will take place at the January Installation Dinner, January 17, 2009.

## Neat-O Pix's

Every once in a while I find something unusual and try to share them. Here's a few I thought were a little different..maybe even a little weird. Whaddaya think?  
*Editor*



# Scholarship Application

## Branch 60 Scholarship

It's again time for the Branch 60 Scholarship Application period. Interested eligible individuals should complete this form and submit it to the address and announced date shown at bottom.

### Personal Data:

Please provide the following personal information as well as your NAPS member relative and your relationship to that member. You must be the child (or stepchild) or grandchild of a living NAPS member to apply for this scholarship.

Your Name (please PRINT legibly)

Student ID or SSAN

Your Address

City

State Zip+4

Name of NAPS relative

Your relationship to this member

### Institution:

Please provide the name, full mailing address and telephone number of the accredited 2 or 4 year college or University that you are attending or have been accepted to attend.

( )

Name of College or University

Registrar's Office Phone Number

P.O. Box or Street Address of College or University

City

State

Zip-4

### Personal Statement Essay:

Applicants must submit a personal statement reflecting their desire for this scholarship. The essay should be typewritten, double-spaced on no more than one sheet of plain paper. Attach it to this application as Attachment 1.

### Personal Achievements:

Applicants must list, and explain as necessary, up to five of their top personal achievements, related to school, work experience and/or external activities. Attach this sheet to this application as Attachment 2.

### Letters of Recommendation:

Applicants must submit no more than two letters of recommendation, preferably from a teacher or professor or employer. Attach them to this application as Attachment 3 and 4.

Please return this completed application with attachments, NLT June 30, 2008 to: **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**NAPS BRANCH 60**  
**P.O. BOX 4781, SPOKANE WA 99202-4781**

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**\$12.95 Family<sup>3</sup>/month**



535-0191, 1(800)828-8691  
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\*Certain restrictions and qualification criteria apply. Please visit [www.progressionscu.org](http://www.progressionscu.org) for details or contact our main office.

## Branch 60 Officers

<b>President:</b>	Gene Taylor	363-6210 (W) 536-9010 (H)
		eMail address: <a href="mailto:wgeneo@comcast.net">wgeneo@comcast.net</a>
<b>V.P. (C/S)</b>	Mary Rohner	626-6725(W) 448-1482(H)
<b>V.P. (P&amp;DC)</b>	Dorian Chastain	363-6210 (W) 464-4950 (H)
<b>Secretary</b>	Kristina Dewey	1-(208)-773-6443(W) 990-1946(H)
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kathy Hamilton	626-6915 (W) 1-(208)-667-2625 (H)
<b>Sgt-at-Arms</b>	John Hansen	252-2327 (W) 999-5871 (H)
<b>Legislative Rep</b>	VACANT	
<b>Editor</b>	Clint Perry	456-8984(H)
		eMail address: <a href="mailto:cperrypperry@comcast.net">cperrypperry@comcast.net</a>

### 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.**