

BRANCH 111 N.A.L.C.
"THE WASATCH BRANCH"

The
Pavement Pounder

**If there is any time to act
it is now!!**



**Join us for the national day of action March 24, 2013.
If we don't stand up for ourselves, our families, and our
customers who will.....?
More info to come soon**

The Nelson News

Jeff Nelson, President.

With all the new developments in the last month, the officers of Branch 111 felt it was important that we have a special edition of the Pave-ment Pounder sent out in response to current postal decisions.

Postmaster Donahoe came out just last week and brazenly announced that he would end 6 day delivery. If you get nothing else out of this article, remember this: **You need to take action to prevent this!** This is not Donahoe's post office, or the Board of Governors post office. This is our post office! The majority of the public has assumed that 5 day delivery is a done deal. This is not true. Each of us needs to educate ourselves of what is happening and what will happen if we allow the Service to do down the treacherous 5 day road. This can be done by following the latest news on www.nalc.org or by contacting one of the Branch 111 officers or your steward. Then, we need to do everything we can to educate the public of 2 truths.

The first is that 5 day delivery, if it is allowed, is what will kill the Post Office. If Donahoe is successful in obtaining 5 day, sometime after

it will go to 4 day, to 3, to 2, to 1, to done. Once this process starts, thousands of customers, both residential & business, will feel the effects of a shortened delivery week. Confidence in the Service will wane, competitors will seize new opportunities to swoop in and take business away, and the death spiral will be in full motion.

The second truth we need to share with the citizens of Utah (and elsewhere) is that Donahoe's 5 day death march **can** be stopped. Friends of letter carriers in Congress are working to help. Letter carriers across the country are utilizing media opportunities to get the real story out. But in order for us to stop this disastrous event, we need everyone on board. Commit yourself now to do your part. We need everyone to help with upcoming rallies, phone banks, posting information on web sites, and anything else to fight this war. Every letter carrier should petition their family, friends, neighbors, and anyone else they can to help as well. Look for opportunities to talk to others about the Post Office and what is going on. Others know that you currently work for (or have worked for) the Post Office and have asked you questions about the 5 day announcement. Take this opportunity to tell them everything you can about why this is wrong and needs to be prevented. Explain how 5 day delivery will be the downfall of the Postal Service and

will greatly impact the economy. Tell them of how Donahoe should be removed from his position for defying Congress and the mandate to maintain 6 day delivery. Do not wait around for others to fight this fight, as this will have a direct effect on each and every one of us.

Three immediate actions we need to participate in are: (1) attending the National day of action that we will have on March 24, (2) contacting your Congressman to ask them to co-sponsor H.R. 630, and (3) contacting your Senator to ask them to co-sponsor S.316. These bills, which were put together just hours after Donahoe's announcement, will address the problems with the Postal Service without slashing the service our customers have come to expect and deserve. Participate in these actions now, and we'll keep you informed of other events to come in the future. I look forward to standing shoulder to shoulder with each of you as we wage this war.

In solidarity,
Jeff Nelson



The VP Speaks

Vice President Phil Rodriguez

can the Service afford to pay benefits to their employees or fund the accounts that provide for retirement? **Pg. 3**

We all have a stake in a viable business and we all must act to save this company. Far too long the few have fought for the many and this time we all must fight. No longer can we have the mind set of someone else will fix this problem. Everyone must have a say in saving this institution and be prepared to act upon, when asked.

Most important is convincing Congress to pass comprehensive Postal Reform that allows us to grow rather than shrink. Unfortunately, our solution remains in the laps of a dysfunctional Congress that resides in Washington DC. All members must make take the step in contributing to our Political Action Fund (COLCPE). This fund is used to "educate" members of Congress and sadly, the learning begins with money. If you haven't signed up for automatic contribution call me at 801-633-4222 or Eric Grotepas at 801-598-4819. We Letter Carriers should all be signed up for e-activist to receive instant information on pending legislation. Sign up is easy, nalc.org. Belonging to our e activist network is a simple step in being informed. If you do not have an email account, you can receive text messages.

Finally, March 24 the NALC will have a day of action for the protection of the United States Post Office. This event will be held in Downtown Salt Lake City, most likely in front of the Main Post Office, times will be forthcoming. Please plan to attend bringing your friends and family. The more we have the stronger the message. Time to act is now to save our jobs and to save the Postal Service.

Phillip Rodriguez



Support our Auxiliary
4\$ dinners at every union
meeting

March meeting : Pizza, Salad,
breadstick, drink.

April meeting: Breakfast
Burrito and drink

The Constitution and the Post Office

In June 1788, the ninth state ratified the Constitution, which gave Congress the power "To establish Post Offices and post Roads" in Article I, Section 8. A year later, the Act of September 22, 1789 (1 Stat. 70), continued the Post Office and made the Postmaster General subject to the direction of the President. Four days later, President Washington appointed Samuel Osgood as the first Postmaster General under the Constitution. A population of almost four million was served by 75 Post Offices and about 2,400 miles of post roads.

Did You Know that the Postal Service....

- Handles more than 43% of the world's mail. Its nearest competitor is Japan with only 6%.
- Depends exclusively on postage and fees rather than tax payer revenue for its operations.
- Serves customers with nearly 40,000 post offices and retail units throughout the country.
- Operates a \$5.5 billion transportation network that includes more than 200,000 vehicles and contract space on approximately 15,000 commercial flights daily.
- Serves more than 8 million small business customers.
- Operates the nation's largest alternate fuel delivery fleet with more than 7,000 vehicles powered by natural gas, electricity, and ethanol in 1996.
- The postal service is listed by Fortune Magazine as 29th on a list of the world's largest companies. Working with an annual budget of nearly 1% of the United States economy.
- Recycles more than one million tons of materials annually.
- Handles more than 41 million change-of-address cards each year as a free service to the 17% of the nation's population that moves each year.
- Serves as the largest credit/debit card acceptor in the nation with nearly 50,000 terminals at 33,000 postal locations throughout the country.
- Experiences an increase of one million dollars in costs when the price of gasoline increases by one cent nationwide.
- Delivers more in one day than FedEx does in a year, and more in three

days than UPS does in a year

- The Postal Service is the most efficient and reliable post in the world. We deliver 40+ percent of the world's mail with 10 percent of the world's postal employees. Though the number of addresses in the nation has grown by nearly 17 million in the past decade, the number of employees who handle the increased delivery load has decreased by more than 200,000.

Here we go again! The Postmaster General has announced the first phase of downsizing the US Postal Service by announcing that our service will be downgraded to five days. I know what most are thinking; Saturdays off. I, as well as most, would love to have Saturdays off and reap all that comes with having that cherished day, free of work. Life couldn't be better; I make a good wage with all the perks that go with a postal job.

Carriers enjoy a job that most Americans do not have. Letter Carriers are paid at a high rate and at the end of a long career; the fruits of our labor is cashed in the form of a retirement check, issued to us by the United States Postal Service. Our retirement is paid for by a business that has the financial resources to fund such a perk, both current and retired. After all, in order for us employees to receive our high wages and benefits, we need a business that has the resources to pay. If the business is not making money, or in this case, shrinking, how can we expect the continuation of those benefits? The reality of the Postmasters decision is not cutting Saturday but the elimination of thousands of jobs and the outsourcing of work to the lowest bidder. These jobs will be lost forever and our terms of employment will change drastically. Reduction in service is a reduction in pay and benefits and the eventual loss of a career.

As the Post Office slowly shuts down, the effect will be felt by all employees, both current and retired. The cause and effect of the Postmaster slashing service will force our customers to find other avenues to deliver their products thus reducing the revenue to our Company. As our service diminishes so will the revenue that allows our business to pay our salary, fund our healthcare and provide for our retirement. If you're an employee with ten years left or on the brink of retirement, you need a viable business for the funding of your wage, in service or in retirement! The Postal Service cannot be a business such as Enron, Woolworths, Pan Am, Hostess or Polaroid that went bust. Do you think the employees of Enron or Polaroid are still receiving their retirement annuity? Do you think the future of the Postal Service has its employees receiving wages comparable to the wages we receive now? As the revenue reduces



Legislative Report

What is going on in the Postal Service? No more PTF's, no more TE's. Postmaster wants to stop Saturday delivery, closing of processing facilities, down grading first class mail, and cutting over 200,000 jobs in the last five years. I could go on with more but let's focus on what it all means. It's a business model that the Postmaster has enacted. Shrink, close and downsize. Not a very sound business plan, for a business trying to grow. Oops, my bad. We are a service for the American people ran by the government and overseen by Congress. When was the Pentagon, FBI, TSA, or FDA ever expected to post a profit? Yet the Postal Service must post a profit. The Post Office's business plan is not set up to make a profit and it has never been set up to post a profit. Guess what the USPS has posted operational profits. First quarter of 2013 posted a 200 million dollar operational profit, over the last four years a 700 million dollar operational profit. Not too bad for a business (Oops! Service) during the worst recession since the great depression. Mailers depend on the reliability and low cost of the Postal service, they don't want to hear about closures and reductions. Cutbacks have a far greater impact on volumes and revenues than the weak economy or the progression of electronic technology.

So what is with all the reports of the USPS losing millions and billions of dollars? The reason is the over aggressive mandate to pre-fund for our future retirees health care benefits. 80% of all the reported lost is due to this prefund-

ing mandate. At this time we have paid into this fund over 15 billion dollars. That is enough for 40 years at our current staffing level to pay for everyone. Rep. Defazio has introduced HR-630 this bill would do away with the prefunding mandate. This is the same bill as HR- 1351 from last year, the bill that Rep. Issa would not let out of subcommittee to have a vote on the house floor.

The Postmaster has just announced that he wants to eliminate Saturday delivery to try and save money. First and most important Congress must authorize a reduction in delivery days. The six day delivery wording has been in appropriations bills for the last 30 years. The Postmaster projects that cutting a day of service will save two billion dollars a year, and he has said the amount of savings is not taking in consideration the cost to delivering packages and medications on Saturday. The PRC (Postal Regulatory Commission) did a yearlong study on the impact of cutting Saturday deliver. This study does not include the cost of delivering packages and medications. They found a savings of only about 1.5 billion a year and no savings will be seen until 2 to 3 years after implication. It will also cost a loss of 600 million a year in added revenue. We will lose 17% of our service for less than 2% of a financial savings.

What will be the impact of losing Saturday delivery? PRC reported that there will be a 2 to 3 day delay in mail service, will lose 600 million a year in revenue, will lose 60 to 80 thousand Postal jobs, The day we don't service a mail box opens them up to private companies, could lose FDA approval to deliver certain types of medications, will lose the trust of American people. Senator Sanders has introduced S- 316 this bill will preserve 6 day deliver and focus on new methods for the Postal Service to gain revenue.

On March 24 will be a day of action. We need everyone to attend this rally we will share the true cost of cutting a day we will educate on why there is the prefunding mandate, we will show that

America does care about their Postal Service. More information will be passed out as soon as we know where and what time so plan on showing up and supporting your jobs and supporting the NALC spread the truth about what the Postmaster is trying to do to the Postal Service. In the meantime we need you, family, friends, and neighbor's to call there Senators and there Congressman and ask them to support the bills that will keep the Postal Service, then write them and ask them to support S-136 in the Senate and H Res 30 This will protect six day delivery and HR-630 this bill relives the Post Offices mandate to prefund the 5.5 billion a year for it future retirees health care.

Chad Morte

Websites To find your representatives:

<http://www.contactingthecongress.org/>
<http://www.govtrack.us/congress/members>
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Congressmen:

Rob Bishop-(202) 225-0453 or
 (801) 625-0107
 Chris Stewart-(202) 225-9730 or
 (801) 364-5550
 Jason Chaffetz-(202) 225-7751 or
 (801) 851-2500
 Jim Matheson-(202) 225-3011 or
 (801) 486-1236

Senators:

Orrin Hatch-(202) 224-5251 or
 (801) 524-4380

Mike Lee-(202) 224-5444 or
 (801) 524-5933



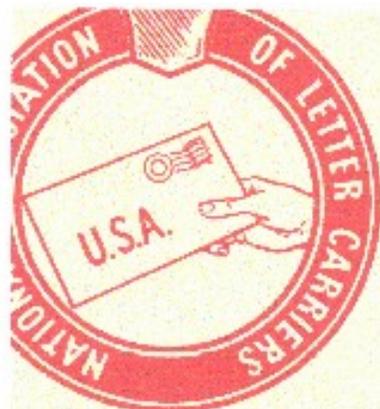
COLCPE:

Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education

“People pay their bills on line, it’s simple, it’s easy, it’s free, and you cannot beat free.”-Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe February 6, 2013

I remember about three years ago when Mr. Donahoe was in Salt Lake City and came to speak to us in the Downtown Station. His exact words were, “The Post Office is in a death spiral and we can only hope to cushion the landing.” Oh Patrick you leave me speechless. I dare any of you to find anything more motivating then a leader rising up to say I GIVE UP! I think it’s clear that it is up to us to get the Post Office in the right direction and secure our jobs and retirement for the future. COLCPE is an easy and effective way we all can be involved in changing the future of the Post Office. Think of it as job insurance or retirement insurance. We’re asking a minimum of \$5 per pay period through automatic deductions. If you are already giving then help me reach out to fellow carriers who aren’t. Please contact me to assist you in setting up your COLCPE contributions. You may call, email or text me. I just need your name, postalease pin number and dollar amount you wish to contribute. Thank you and here’s to the future of the USPS.

Eric Grotepas
801-598-4819
branch111colcpe@gmail.com



Active letter carriers:
Contribute
to **COLCPE**
using PostalEASE

online.....

Carriers can also go online to use PostalEASE. With PostalEASE, carriers can contribute directly from their paychecks every pay period. Through PostalEASE you can designate COLCPE as one of your three payroll "allotments."

- 1 Be sure you know your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub) and your 4-digit USPS Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you cannot remember your PIN, call PostalEASE at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273), select "1", enter your Employee ID Number, and select "2" to have your PIN mailed to you.
- 2 Create your own *Account Number* by inserting in the spaces at right the first seven digits of the ID number that appears above your name on the back cover of your *Postal Record*.

YOUR 17-DIGIT ACCOUNT NUMBER:

0034852635

(First 7 digits of ID number on Postal Record stub)

*****A1TC** 8-DIGIT 54321
(XXXXXX) 8 LC 9976 W13 08
JOHN CARLIER
1234 MAIN STREET
ANYWHERE, US 54321-5555

- 3 **Now you are ready to go online to liteblue.usps.gov**

- Enter Employee ID and PIN and click "log on"
- Click on "Postal Ease"
- Click on "I agree"
- Enter Employee ID and PIN again and log in
- Click on "Allotments/Payroll NTB"
- Click on "Continue"
- Click on "Allotments"
- Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: **064000017**
- Enter your 17-digit Account Number from above
- Enter Account type as "checking"
- Enter amount of your contribution
- Click on "validate"
- Click on "submit"
- Click "print page" to see and print your confirmation number for your records

Contribute on the web at
liteblue.usps.gov

By making a COLCPE allotment through PostalEASE, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your monthly contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it a part of union dues. You may refuse to contribute without any reprisal. COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until canceled through the PostalEASE system. Only NALC members, NALC executive and administrative staff, and their immediate household family members may contribute to COLCPE. Contributions to COLCPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

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