



## Fun time is over— Now let's get to work!

**W**ith summer at an end and the selection of presidential candidates now history, it is time for us to get to work. I am in no way implying that we have not been working, but in regard to the elections to date, we have just been having fun.

**The working men and women of our organization have, for the most part, been blessed with a win-win situation when it came to the candidate who would help the workers of this country during the Democratic primaries. Whether your choice was Sen. Clinton or Sen. Obama, you could enjoy the trip, because regardless of the outcome, we knew that the winner would still be “advantage workers.” But now that Sen. Obama is the Democratic nominee for president, we must go to work for his election.**

We cannot afford to continue on a leisurely journey to and through the election because we know our candidate is best for workers. We must replace our beliefs with our labor for his election. We cannot rest on the fact that he received millions of votes in the primaries as assurance of a victory in November. If we rest on his accomplishments to date, we could easily *lose* all of the potential that this candidate has offered in new directions for our nation and in his stated goals for the working men and women of America and his support of letter carrier issues.

We cannot rest on our efforts to date because we are certain that the people who helped elect the current president will not rest. They will be in full dress and formation as they march together in their campaign to smear Sen. Obama with as many half-truths, mis-quotes, stories and outright lies as they can find venues to place them in. And with all of the “spin” doctors doing their dirty work on TV and radio, they will lie and cheat to win this election. Of course, over the last eight years, we have seen them at their finest, so we should be ready to work.

**We must work to assure that our families, our friends, our acquaintances and we *ourselves* do not take for granted the election outcome this fall. The current administration, which led this country into the mess that we are in, would**

like nothing better than to have a clone replacement take us the last mile.

That last mile equates to the complete elimination of the working or middle class of America. They would have you believe that things are not bad, that we are just a bunch of spoiled whiners. What they fail to tell you is that if this is so, then they took winners and made them whiners by their “feed the wealthy” goals. They took a country with a balanced budget and gave that balance to China and the oil cartel. They took our young soldiers and have wasted their youth and sometimes their lives in a war that at the very best, was a misdirected effort toward an enemy that has yet to be identified. They lied to the American people and the elected officials of our government and act like they are above reproach.

Well, I, for one, plan on reproaching them this fall. One reproach that I plan on using will be in the form of kicking as many of their lame butts from office as my vote will reach. Additionally, I plan on trying to enlighten as many people as I can of their need to do the same.

**Work is said to be good “if you can get it.” The workers of this union need to “get it.” We need to work for Sen. Obama’s election as president. We need to work to help bring housing and health care back to all Americans. We need to uplift this country and its citizens by uplifting the workers who have built it. We need to restore the pride in America both here and abroad.**

Letter carriers have never been afraid of work. We have never shrunk from any task. We have always been in the forefront as workers and as citizens of this country. Our summer of fun and relaxation is past. Now we go to work. Early reporting time is at your option. ☒

**NALC Retirement Department**  
**Toll-free number: 1-800-424-5186**  
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