



National Association  
of Letter Carriers

William H. Young, President

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# NALC Bulletin

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## State Chairs Assemble in Washington For Political and Legislative Training



At top left, Harold Ickes, top delegate strategist for the presidential campaign of Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY), gives national officers and state chairs insight into day-to-day operations of a presidential campaign. Top right shows NALC President William Young discussing topics with Rep. Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, just before Van Hollen addressed state chairs. Looking on, center, is Seth Hahn, Director of Field Operations in the NALC Political and Legislative Department. At bottom, state chairs take notes and listen intently during one of many workshops during their week-long training session in Washington.

(Photos by Mike Shea and Joe Conway).

## Presidential Candidates Face Pennsylvania Voters April 22 Letter Carriers Should Exercise Influence In Critical Balloting for Party Nominations Other States Also Have Yet to Pick Convention Delegates

Letter carriers and their family members in Pennsylvania should make every effort to go to the polls on Tuesday, April 22 and cast their votes in the primary elections for President of the United States and seats in the House of Representatives as the 2008 campaigns move into the final stages before the presidential conventions later this summer.



The Keystone State — which has 15,673 active and retired NALC members and 81 branches — is considered a major battleground in the Democratic Party contest between Sens. Hillary Clinton (D-NY) and Barack Obama (D-IL) with neither candidate yet winning sufficient delegates to capture the party nomination. On the Republican side, one candidate — Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) — has already surpassed the needed delegate total.

Additionally, there are a number of primary election contests for seats in the House of Representatives. Neither of Pennsylvania's senators — Democrat Bob Casey and Republican Arlen Specter — are up for reelection this year.

NALC President William H. Young urged every NALC member in Pennsylvania to make an extraordinary effort to participate in the April 22 balloting.

**"Rarely in the history of that commonwealth have active and retired letter carriers in Pennsylvania been in a position to have such a significant impact on the presidential election process — especially in a primary election,"** Young said. **"This is an opportunity that must be seized by NALC members so that the sentiments of letter carriers and their families are felt in this year's election."**

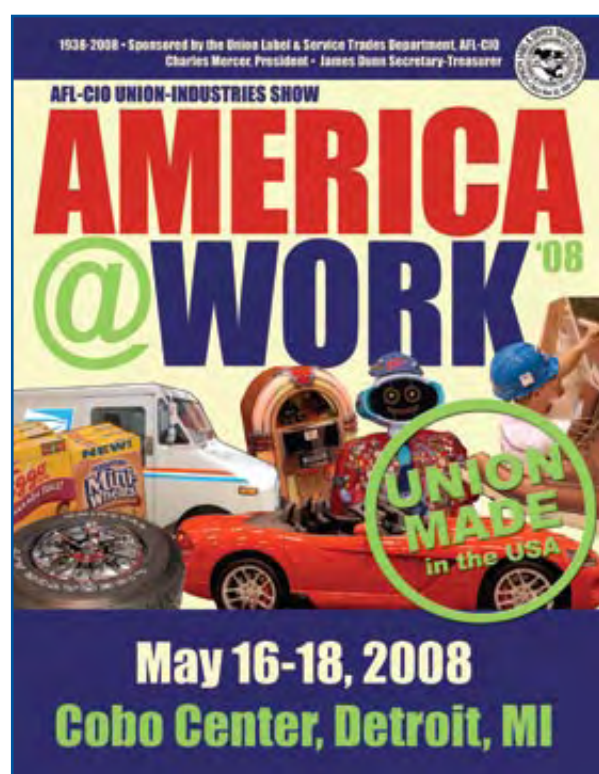
NALC "Carrier Corps" members have already been hard at work in Pennsylvania volunteering in the get-out-the-vote effort, calling and meeting with other NALC members to encourage them to go to the polls.

Soon after Pennsylvania, several other states have Democratic and/or Republican primaries and caucuses:

- May 3 – Guam
- May 6 – Indiana, North Carolina
- May 13 – West Virginia, Nebraska-R
- May 20 – Kentucky, Oregon
- May 27 – Idaho-R
- June 1 – Puerto Rico-D
- June 3 – Montana-D, South Dakota, New Mexico-R

The Democratic National Convention will be held August 25-28 in Denver, Colorado, and the Republican National Convention will be September 1-4 in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota.

For further information, go to the union's website: [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org) and the *Postal Record* magazine.



## Delegate Registration Already at 6,357 For 66th Biennial Convention in Boston

### Three Additional Hotels Included in NALC Convention Bloc; Rooms Going Fast as May 21 Housing Deadline Approaches



The 66th Biennial NALC National Convention in Boston — site of the union's first convention in 1890 a year after its organization — is on a pace to be one of the largest in NALC history, with registrations as of April 1 reaching 6,357 members according to Secretary-Treasurer Jane E. Broendel.

The convention opens on Monday, July 21 at the Boston Convention and Exhibit Center, with a welcoming reception the night before, Sunday July 20, at the convention center. Registration will begin on Saturday, July 19.

The record for officially credentialed delegates at a NALC Convention is 9,199, set two years ago at the Las Vegas convention.

The large number of delegates who have registered to date has already caused an increase in the number of hotels that are included in the official convention bloc. The new hotels, in addition to the 15 previously included, are: **Hyatt Regency Boston – Downtown**, One Avenue De Lafayette; **Hyatt Harborside**, 101 Harborside Drive; and **The Liberty Hotel**, 215 Charles Street, all in Boston.

Broendel said most of the rooms at the newly added hotels have already been taken up by individuals who were on a waiting list for specific accommodations.

**"I urge any branches that have not yet registered and solidified their housing arrangements to do so immediately,"** Broendel said. **"We want to take care of everyone's needs — including desired housing — for what promises to be a tremendous convention. But you must act now."**

As with the other hotels, requests for housing must be made through the National Secretary-Treasurer's office and rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. All requests must be accompanied by a completed Delegate Registration and Hotel Reservation Form, Room Reservation Form, Delegate Eligibility List and a \$185 deposit for each room requested.

Full information on registration and housing is available at the Convention page of the NALC website: [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org).

Branch secretaries are reminded that the white registration/reservation sheet copy **MUST** be returned to NALC headquarters even if the branch is not making housing reservations. Failure to send in the white form could mean the branch delegation would not be credentialed and would be unable to participate at the convention.

The housing deadline is May 21. Branches or individual delegates cancelling or changing rooms after having been assigned a hotel by the Housing Committee Chair must notify the Chair in writing by mail.

## Deputy PMG Donahoe Adds Support For 16th NALC National Food Drive Letter Approves Wearing of Food Drive T-shirts for Drive

Deputy Postmaster General and COO Patrick R. Donahoe has added his support for this year's food drive to that of PMG John E. Potter in a March 28 letter to all Area Vice Presidents/Operations and District Managers.

Donahoe said that on May 10, for the 16th straight year, postal employees "will again demonstrate their generosity by supporting the National Association of Letter Carriers' (NALC) National Food Drive." He noted that USPS employees and customers have already contributed over three-quarters of a billion pounds of food to the drive since 1993.

**"Please give the food drive your full support, including approval for any appropriate local promotions, such as carriers replacing uniform shirts with the Food Drive T-shirt during the campaign,"** Donahoe said in the letter to the postal management leaders.



Magnetic signage promoting food drive being placed on postal vehicles by Mon-Yough Branch 332 in western Pennsylvania with cooperation of local postmaster.

Donahoe's letter of support comes as NALC branches across the country move to finalize plans for the drive. To date, 1,383 branches have registered to participate, along with some independent post offices with rural-only routes. Branches have already placed orders for more than 113 million Campbell Soup-USPS postcards to deliver to postal customers during the week before the drive.

In western Pennsylvania near McKeesport, NALC Mon-Yough Branch 332 has taken good steps to increase public awareness of the drive. The branch has gained approval of local and area management to place magnetic signs on the rear hatch of vans and similar placards on the dashboards of LLVs.

**"Although we are in a depressed area, our food drive results have always been impressive,"** said Branch 332 Financial Secretary Vic Weiss. **"It is our hope that these signs will increase our collection and inspire other branches."**

Many other branches have already begun the outreach to residents of their communities.

In Jacksonville, Florida, the *Florida Times-Union* ran an article letting people know that they will be receiving both a postcard and bag in the mail to remind them of the May 10 drive.

"Second Harvest Food Bank will receive the donations and letter carriers hope to beat the 311,000 pounds of food collected here during last year's drive," the newspaper said.

In Terre Haute, Indiana, carriers have set an ambitious goal of 65,000 pounds this year, well above last year's record-setting 56,000 pounds for the Catholic Charities food bank.

Catholic Charities executive director John Eting told the *Terre Haute Tribune-Star* that the need is great this year with recent plant closings and job layoffs in the community causing many people to struggle to make ends meet as food, fuel and utility costs continue to rise.

He said food distributed by the food bank "really does have an impact on people's lives."

## 'Workers Memorial Day' Observance – April 28



There is still time for NALC branches to get involved and support their brothers and sisters in the labor movement in observance of Workers Memorial Day on April 28. That's the annual date set aside to commemorate the enactment of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) over three decades ago.

NALC Director of Safety and Health Brian Hellman urges NALC branches to join in local observances by the AFL-CIO and other affiliated unions, not only for safe jobs, but also to create good jobs and guarantee health care for all Americans.

Special AFL-CIO kits to help NALC branches in participating in Workers Memorial Day are available by contacting Hellman at NALC Headquarters – (202) 393-4695.