

Reno Branch 249 Regular meeting April 4, 2012 Black Bear Restaurant 6:30p.m.

Pat Doruth, President Reno Branch 249 hosted the three NAPS resident officers who were in town meeting with the Peppermill Hotel to review National Convention Planning. Louis Atkins, National President, Jay Killackey, National Executive VP and Brian Wagner, National Secretary/Treasurer also attending were Marilyn Walton, Western Region VP and Ben Clapp, Northwest Area VP

Also attending: Lou Kush former Washington State President., Susan Wycoff Vice President Sacramento District Branch 77, along with members of Branch 249.

USPS special guests were Renee Brown Reno Postmaster and Hiram Johnson, Reno Senior Plant manager.

The meeting was called to order by President Doruth who welcomed the NAPS and Postal guests

Prior to suspending regular business there was a treasurer report provided and an update on the Web site development which will be going live soon.

Reno Branch 249 is still seeking volunteers to assist with activities prior to and during the National Convention in August.

Susan Wycoff, Vice President of Sacramento District 77 stated she would be volunteering along with additional members of Branch 77. Susan also donated a Costco Card to the Reno Branch to use for fundraising. Susan plans to attend future meetings along with Marilyn Walton (also a member of Branch 77). Pat announced that Las Vegas Branch would also be helping out with Convention planning.

- Postmaster Brown thanked the Branch for the opportunity to attend the meeting she stated she wanted to attend to hear updated news from National NAPS. Postmaster Brown stated that she is a member of NAPS, NAPUS and the League of Postmasters. Ms Brown stated the Reno VOE roll up scores indicated they were #3 in the District. There is a focus on more communication with all employees and the Public regarding concerns over possible changes. Reno has 90,000 deliveries and few customer complaints. Ms Brown also added that we must recognize each other's daily efforts and work together to be successful. Ms Brown stated that the USPS is still talking with Congress and we will have to go forward with what decisions are made at USPS HQ. She was pleased that so many showed up to the meeting and she hopes more members will attend branch meetings in the future. She closed her remarks with all EAS need to do the right thing and not get into trouble by cutting corners and letting the pressure get to them! Postmaster Brown will be bringing greetings and welcome to Reno at the National NAPS convention in August.
- Lou Kush former Washington State NAPS President gave a greetings and remarks
- Ben Clapp, Northwest Area VP was given time for remarks and greetings
- Marilyn Walton, Western Region VP was given time for remarks and greetings
- Brian Wagner, National NAPS Secretary/Treasurer remarks: We are focused on paying attention to detail in planning for the upcoming National Convention he stated this will be his first national convention as Secretary/Treasurer. NAPS is conducting its third nationwide membership drive. We are encouraging all levels of EAS including Postmasters to join our organization because many postmasters belong to multiple organizations. We are asking all of our members to encourage non-members to join NAPS. There have been several staffing changes at NAPS HQ. NAPS HQ has three new employees and shift of assignments due to one resignation and one retirement and we have brought on college intern. NAPS has been working on a new DCO Web Base program that was scheduled to roll out sooner but there are some issues that are being worked out and will roll out later this month.
- Jay Killackey NAPS National Executive VP remarks: Teamwork at NAPS HQ is important because of a major focus on Legislation. We are working with legislators on the Hill to push legislation that will provide the needed relief so the Postal Service will not have to make the extreme changes i.e. reducing delivery days, changing service standards and closing facilities. NAPS is working on Capitol Hill to tell the truth about how proposed changes will not grow the business but result in major impacts to the postal service. We had an outstanding Legislative Training Seminar (LTS) in Washington last month. We need you all to get involve and contact your legislators to continue to push legislation supported by NAPS.
- Louis Atkins, NAPS National President, extended greetings and thanks to the branch for the invitation to attend this meeting. The resident officers are in town to meet with the Peppermill Hotel and get an update on all of the hotel venues and schedules including meeting and sleeping rooms. Louis shared that NAPS just concluded the National NAPS Spring board meeting and

the national board all agreed that NAPS should take our Pay issues to Fact Finding. So at this time we have gone forward in an attempt to get the best deal we can get for our members. As Jay has stated we are working very hard with Legislation and Jay and Bruce Moyer are doing an outstanding job working on Capitol Hill. Louis also shared that he attended the Postal Forum this past week in Florida. He stated this was the first time he has had the opportunity. It appears customers are concerned about the Postal Service. Louis is confident that even though there are so many proposed changes that are a concern, he feels that the changes may not be as bad as anticipated. Whatever changes occur, Louis stated that NAPS will be working very hard for the members to ensure that everyone that wants a job will get one!

The meeting ended at 8:05 p.m.

National Convention Planning meeting

Peppermill Convention planning meeting Thursday 0900 hrs at the Peppermill Resort Spa & Casino, I attended the meeting along with the NAPS Resident officers, Ray Martin, and the Auxiliary National President Rosa Norton and Megan the hotel representative in charge of Meeting and Sleeping rooms.

- Plans are being confirmed for a Sunday night event Ray is working with the hotel on that event
- Other plans are being made for other activities during convention week
- The resident officers will be traveling to Lake Tahoe tomorrow (Friday) to look at the venue for the Free Day at the beach.
- At a previous visit there were no coffee pots in the rooms. There are now coffee pots in the sleeping rooms.
- There is free Wi Fi
- Individuals that will need a refrigerator must request in advance there are a limited number and must be requested when registering.
- There are two room type choices the Tuscany Towers \$159.00 (does not include resort fee and tax), The Peppermill Tower rooms (North and West). They are \$109.00 per night (does not include resort fee and tax). Rooms with two beds cannot accommodate a roll away bed. There is a limit of no more than four people per room. It is very important that attendees book rooms as soon as possible to ensure you receive your preferred room choice.
- Parking is free (there is self parking and valet)
- All of the meetings will be on the same floor and opening ceremony will be held in the Tuscany Ballroom
- There are numerous restaurants on the property including Fine Dining, Casual Dining, Quick bites and Room Service. This is a casino hotel. There is a spa and pool located on the Tuscany side.
- We were given a tour to review sleeping room types including suites; they were all very nice and decorated in an upscale style. Tuscany rooms will be on the side of the hotel where the convention meetings will be scheduled. We also looked at the ballroom and other meeting space.
- There is a shuttle to the airport not sure of the fee. But it is a short cab ride.
- I also met with and finalized the Western Region Luncheon contract with Carla Hayes, Food and Beverage Manager of the Peppermill. The Western Region officers Ben Clapp, Hayes Cherry, John Aceves and I will be hosting the Western Region Luncheon, Thursday August 23, 2012 at 1200noon. The regional luncheons are held at every National convention. We hope that everyone will purchase a ticket and encourage all Western Region delegates to attend this event. All candidates for national office are invited to attend to speak. This event gives everyone an opportunity to meet and greet the candidates. The cost for the Western Region luncheon will be \$14.00 per person. We will be sending out a flyer with additional information.

Susan Wycoff and I will continue to work with the Reno branch and will continue to communicate any updated information on National Convention planning as it is shared.

Marilyn Walton, NAPS

Western Region. VP

