



National Association
of Letter Carriers

William H. Young, President
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NALC Bulletin

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188 Co-sponsors Already!

H.Res. 282 Gains Strength Against USPS Outsourcing

Ohio Lawmakers Show Bipartisan Support As 'Buckeye State' Carriers Lobby on Hill

"I'm a co-sponsor of House Resolution 282."

This was the mantra heard time after time from Members of Congress June 6 as Ohio NALC legislative activists hosted their annual congressional breakfast as part of their trip to Washington to lobby House and Senate members on issues critical to letter carriers.

Topping their list of priorities was the legislative effort to halt the Postal Service's damaging policy on the road to privatization by contracting out city and rural letter carrier work in urban and suburban areas to private firms and individuals.

The NALC has strongly endorsed separate measures in both congressional chambers on that issue: H.Res. 282 sponsored by Rep. Albio Sires (D-NJ) which would express the sense of the



NALC President William H. Young praises support of Rep. Dennis Kucinich (D-OH) for H.Res. 282 as Kucinich's NALC Congressional District Liaison, Mary Campbell-Stack of Cleveland Branch 40, looks on. (Photos by Mike Shea)

House of Representatives that the Postal Service "should discontinue the practice of contracting out mail delivery services." and S. 1457 sponsored by Sen. Tom Harkin (D-IA) that would prohibit the Postal Service from contracting out the delivery of mail on any route with 1 or more families per mile.

As the NALC Bulletin went to press, H.Res. 282 had 188 co-sponsors in the House, and S. 1457 had 22 co-sponsors in the Senate.

Opposes Privatization

"I want to pledge to you my support, not only to 282 but to (opposing) this privatization policy of the Board of Governors," Kucinich said.

"In public service, privatization is wrong," Kucinich added.

NALC President William H. Young thanked Kucinich for his support of the resolution, adding: "I know where his heart is."

A trio of freshmen Ohio Democrats, all elected with NALC support, followed Kucinich and echoed his support for H.Res. 282.

Rep. Betty Sutton was blunt about her feeling toward letter carriers.

"I wouldn't be standing here without your support," she said. "You deliver much more than mail. You deliver votes."

Sutton noted that she also backs H.R. 281, the Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act.

Rep. Zack Space noted that contracting out of letter carrier work would undermine the nation's effort toward more national security. "There is no place for that in this society," he said.

Praises Food Drive

Space also praised the NALC for collecting over 70 million pounds of food in the May 12 food drive to help impoverished families.

"It says a lot about the character of your members," Space said of the food drive. "The letter carrier leadership in this area represents something good about America."

Rep. Charlie Wilson said the new 110th Congress is "making a voice for working America" but has a lot of heavy lifting to do as the Democratic majority tries to get America back on track.

Veteran Republican Rep. Steve Chabot announced his support of H.Res. 282, and also noted that he walked with a letter carrier on his Cincinnati route to help promote the food drive.

Following Chabot's remarks, President Young acknowledged that the NALC had supported Chabot's opponent in 2006 in the union's effort to get a Democratic majority in the House, but applauded Chabot's backing of H.Res. 282.



Four members of the Ohio congressional delegation express support for H.Res. 282 in appearances at congressional breakfast of the Ohio State Association of Letter Carriers in Washington. Pictured, l-r, are Republican Rep. Steve Chabot, and Democratic Reps. Zack Space, Betty Sutton and Charlie Wilson.

Food Drive Total 70.7 Million!

Slight Increase over Last Year's Amount; Buffalo/Western NY Branch 3 Top Again

Large Donation Hikes in Puerto Rico, Minnesota, Colorado



Left photo shows Michelle DiBattista of Minneapolis, Minnesota Branch 9 with some of the branch's haul doubled this year by using plastic bags donated by Cub Stores and the support of WCCO News Station 830; in center, South Central Indiana Branch 828 food drive coordinator Jerry Sutherlin picks up food from Summit Elementary School. Shown are Emily Laszlo, 5th grade; Shannon Williams, 6th grade; and Fifth Grade teacher Whitney Coake. In right photo, Greater East Bay California Branch 1111 member Rene Platero of Livermore fills his truck.

Letter carriers delivered again on May 12 in stocking food banks, pantries and shelters across America to help feed needy families during the summer months. More than 70.7 million pounds of donations were collected from postal customers and taken to local food distribution outlets.

Final results showed 70,745,176 pounds of food collected in the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive conducted by nearly 1,500 branches in more than 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam and the District of Columbia.

Buffalo/Western New York Branch 3, which collected 2,094,193 pounds of donations, was the top NALC branch in the drive for the fifth consecutive year. In second place was West Coast Florida Branch 1477 at 1,666,387, followed by Clearwater (FL) Branch 2008 at 1,108,100 pounds.

The nationwide total was slightly above last year's 70.5 million pound collection.

The largest increases on a statewide basis came in Puerto Rico, Minnesota and Colorado. Particularly helpful was a massive public relations effort—including radio advertisement—in support of the drive by Campbell Soup Company. Once again, the addition of plastic bags along with the Campbell Soup-U.S. Postal Service postcard, brought great results, sometimes doubling or tripling the donations.

A full report on the drive with photos and totals reported by each branch will appear in the July Postal Record.

NALC President William H. Young thanked the thousands of letter carriers, rural carriers, and other postal employees and volunteers who collected, processed, and delivered the donations to local food banks and pantries.

"The hard work and long hours put in by so many of our members and other volunteers is deeply appreciated by your union leadership and I am sure by the millions of families that need a helping hand during difficult times," Young said. "Congratulations to you all!"

"Even in these difficult times, when many family budgets are pressured by high gasoline prices, the American people showed their generosity toward those who are less fortunate and face hunger every day," Young added. "We are proud to deliver donations from our postal customers to restock community food banks and pantries."

Young expressed appreciation to the Postal Service and Campbell Soup, who together supplied nearly 120 million postcards to promote the drive, as well as other major supporters: Valpak, the direct mail marketing firm; United Way of America and its local United Ways; the AFL-CIO, America's Second Harvest food bank network, and Bill Keane, who annually provides a special "Family Circus" cartoon for the drive.

Campbell Soup also earmarked 1 million pounds of products for hunger charities in the name of the NALC drive, and will donate 1,000 cans of soup to a food bank designated by each of 10 branches—the top two in five membership categories—in the annual NALC/Campbell Soup competition (see box insert). The branches will also receive a plaque from NALC.

NALC/Campbell Soup 2007 Award Winners

Category I (1-99 members)	
Br. 1103 Ocala, FL	156,120
Br. 5480 Venice, FL	120,312
Category II (100-499)	
Br. 826 Ponce, PR	396,578
Br. 116 Fort Wayne, IN	382,831
Category III (500-999)	
Br. 2008 Clearwater, FL	1,108,100
Br. 869 San Juan, PR	981,321
Category IV (1000-2499)	
Br. 3 Buffalo/Western NY	2,094,193
Br. 1477 West Coast Florida	1,666,387
Category V (2500 +)	
Br. 1100 Garden Grove, CA	1,037,152
Br. 6000 Long Island NY Mgd.	858,000

NALC Wants You for 10 Hours!

President Young announced at the Ohio congressional breakfast June 6 that he plans to ask every member of the NALC throughout the nation to donate 10 hours of their time to support the union's goal of electing candidates in the 2008 congressional elections who will back letter carriers positions on critical legislative issues.

"You can make a difference," Young told the gathering. "You have the skills that are needed."

He said all state chairs will be brought into Washington in September for special training, and then they will conduct further training back in their respective states.

Young said the new Congressional District Liaisons – the linchpins of the union's political and legislative effort – can not do it alone. "They need your help," he said.

Young said not only will those signing up receive a free T-shirt, but also can say "I did my part to help my union to build a worker-friendly Congress."

Details will follow in the *Postal Record*.