# In The Matter Of: <br> GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS 95TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION 

## TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS <br> Vol. 1 <br> June 10, 2016



JPA REPORTING, LLC
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1776 PEACHTREE STREET, N.W.
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GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS
95TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION

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& \text { TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS } \\
& \text { Friday, June 10, } 2016 \\
& 9: 00 \text { a.m. } \\
& \text { Hilton Atlanta Airport } \\
& \text { 1031 Virginia Avenue } \\
& \text { Atlanta, Georgia }
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Linda C. Ruggeri, CCR-A-261

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PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Good morning.
AUDIENCE: Good morning.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Welcome to the Georgia
State Association 95th Biennial Convention.
Did you all enjoy the cookout on
yesterday?
AUDIENCE: Yes.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: They had a wonderful
spread out there, Linus Catering. They really did an
outstanding job.
We're going to start the convention. In
the meantime I'm going to turn it over to Branch 73
president Eric SIoan.
(Applause.)
BROTHER SLOAN: Good morning.
AUDIENCE: Good morning.
BROTHER SLOAN: Reverend Cameron, will you
come up, please.
Reverend Cameron will be leading us this
morning in the prayer and invocation.
REVEREND CAMERON: Good morning.
AUDIENCE: Good morning.
REVEREND CAMERON: My name is Reverend
James Cameron; and you know who you are, so you're
officially introduced.
[1] (Invocation by Reverend James Cameron.)
[2] BROTHER SLOAN: We will now hear the
National Anthem by Brother Roland Clark.
(National Anthem by Brother Roland Clark.)
(Applause.)
BROTHER SLOAN: We will now have former

As we embark upon another state

> [1]
[16] and more solid foundation and growing our membership.
[17] During this time we are all here together,
[18] let's openly discuss those legitimate issues many
[19] speak about but rarely address. Let's put forth that
[20] endurance and fortitude needed in making our family
[21] stronger. For the service of our members, I must
[22] implore each of you to commit to your respective
[23] branches of doing what is necessary and right for our
[24] family, that is, the union.
[25] Again, welcome to Atlanta and enjoy the

Page 6
[1] state convention. And as we embark upon another
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[18] the picnic yesterday. I've got a special guest. I
[19] want to introduce the person in conjunction with State
[20] President Griggs who made this happen yesterday. I
[21] want to introduce a city councilman from College Park,
[22] Ward III, Tracey Wyatt.
(Applause.)
BROTHER SLOAN: Not only did Mr. Wyatt --
[25] he's one of us. He's a letter carrier; and he always
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[5] the city, I found out I didn't know anything Sol
[6] encourage you to help him out, give him new ideas and
[7] suggestions; and, you know, at the end of the day, the
[8] will of the people have spoken. And if you are a true
[9] member and you care about this union, I'll ask that
[10] you support him and let's move this train forward.
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[19] l've got to get back and get my route. They've been [20] waiting on me, so I'm going to be brief.
[21] But, really, welcome and we did have a
[22] great time at the picnic. Thank all of you who came.
[23] And for those of you who didn't have an opportunity to
[24] come, I assure you you missed a grand time here in
[25] Atlanta.
[25] So thank you all, Mr. President, once

## Page 10

[1] again, Mr. Past President. It's certainly been an
[2] honor. He said he plays golf. He's been talking
[3] about golf. So l'm just going to let him know, I left
[4] his name at the golf course. Anytime he want to go
[5] play golf in College Park, he's welcome to go play
[6] golf in College Park.
[7] (Applause.)
[8] BROTHER SLOAN: Thank you,
[9] Councilman Wyatt. That's a hard speech to follow.
[10] Speaking of golf, Mr. Turner, would you
[11] come up and brief the membership about the golf
[12] tournament from yesterday.
[16] introduce the State Convention Committee. You know
[17] like Councilman Wyatt said, since taking over the
[18] office, Branch 73, we've been rolling, MDA, COP,
[19] retirement banquet, food drive. And we just finished
[20] and this is kind of like the climax with the state
[21] convention. So I want to thank a lot of you all
[22] sitting out there in the membership that have called
[23] me and provided me guidance and given me input with
[24] this. Again, the Branch couldn't pull this off
[25] without all the help that went in behind the scenes.

I'm going to call the following members' names, and I want them to stand and be recognized: Donna Dobbs, Stephanie Matthews, Gladys Rainey, John Goosby, Portia Lamar, Cornelia Horton, Coley Greene, Carl Davis, Miriam Hunter, Cynthia Williams, Angela Dunn, Constance Boulware, Karl Gray, Zipporah White, and Ron Howard. These are the NALC Branch 73 State Convention Committee, and I want you all to give them a hand.
(Applause.)
BROTHER SLOAN: Like I said, I hope
yesterday was a start. I hope everybody enjoyed the picnic, enjoyed the shuttle to and from, the road shuttle, and I hope you enjoyed the hospitality room last night.

At this point in time I want to say in
closing, again, like I said earlier, we have no strangers at our house. We are honored to host this event, and we are honored to have you here. And if you need any assistance with anything, directions or anything, reach out to any member delegate from Branch 73; and I'm sure that they'll be more than happy to help you.

I'm going to turn it back over to State President Griggs. Thank you.

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(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Let's get some
housekeeping in order. Cell phones, vibration,
silent, or you can turn them off. Violation will be
$\$ 5$ to MDA or either Letter Carriers Political Fund.
When you address the convention, please
come to the mike, branch number and your name.
All cell phones silent? Very good.
Brother Banks, that was yours, wasn't it?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I was turning it
off.
BROTHER BANKS: No, sir.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Whose was it? Somebody
is going to lose \$5. Nobody going to own up to it?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: They were turning
it off.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Oh, you were turning it
off, okay. That will do it. That's good.
Before we really get into it, I first want
to recognize our guests this morning. And we're going
to start with our national secretary-treasurer, Nicole
Rhine.
SISTER RHINE: Hi, everybody.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: And of course our
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: And of course our

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Page 15

| $[1]$ | national business agent, Mr. Kenny Gibbs. |
| :--- | :---: |
| $[2]$ | (Applause.) |
| $[3]$ | PRESIDENT GRIGGS: I see our former |
| $[4]$ |  |
| $[5]$ | business agent, Wayne White, he stepped back out. |
| [6] | (Applause.) |
| $[7]$ | down from Washington the former RRA executive |
| [8] | assistant to the president, Paul Barner. And, Greg, I |
| [9] | don't know what your position is now; but Greg is also |
| $[10]$ | in Washington, former president of 1119, Marietta. |
| $[11]$ | (Applause.) |
| $[12]$ | PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Chuck Windham, former |
| $[13]$ | RRA out of the business agent office. |
| $[14]$ | (Applause.) |
| $[15]$ | PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We're going to have an |
| $[16]$ | exciting convention, I'm sure. Brother Eric had some |
| $[17]$ | other speakers that because of conflicts couldn't be |
| $[18]$ | here, but we do have a video from Congressman Hank |
| $[19]$ | Johnson that -- I invited a lot of politicians. Of |
| $[20]$ | course, they all come up with an excuse, especially |
| $[21]$ | those on the Republican side, as to why they couldn't |
| $[22]$ | come and address letter carriers. But isn't it |
| $[23]$ | strange that even though they don't want to address |
| $[24]$ | the letter carriers they want your vote. |
| $[25]$ | I said that to say this, that regardless |

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If you would notice in your program, you
[25] rather, from Executive Board Member Tiawanna Jackson.
[1] The printer had a lot of issues this year for whatever
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[1] to -- I appreciate the opportunity.
[25] person speaking. Have y'all ever been aware where the

## Page 18

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person got up and introduced and just set the stage dynamically and your expectation was so high. You're the person who came up didn't measure up.

Well, that's what this brother did today,
so at the end of this message you all might be
clapping, but it's because of the introduction that he gave me.

I certainly want to recognize the national secretary-treasurer, the national business agent. I actually went on you all's website and saw his photo of this distinguished brother. So I want to recognize him and all of the national officers who are here and to all of you all, to all of the local leaders because I know these type conventions can't come together except local committees and local folks put it together. So thank you all.

Now, let me hasten to what I have to say today; and also let me just warn you all, I am a preacher.
(Applause.)
BROTHER CLARK: And I warn you because
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[19] aggressiveness. Urgency, which means very important
[20] and requiring a swift or speedy action. Now speaks to
[21] a current crisis, struggle, problem, challenge that's
[22] imminent to date.
[23] Dr. King was calling for urgent action to [24] deal with important current issues today. It required [25] deliberate speed driven by an unwavering intensity

Page 22
[1] that can't wait until tomorrow.
[2] Now, here's the heart of the message this
[3] morning. I believe the labor movement is in the
[4] fierce urgency of now, a state of crisis that is
[5] calling for immediate action yesterday. It's
[6] ferocious, it is super important, and we can't wait
[7] until tomorrow. We can't continue to do business as
[8] usual. Operating like we did twenty, ten, five, or
[9] one year ago is unacceptable. Not only is it
[10] unacceptable to stopping the bleeding but striving as
[11] a movement for working families. Having the same
[12] meetings, same functions, same strategies, same
[13] committees, same parties, same allies, same
[14] tournament, same mess that got us in this mess will
[15] not produce the desired results. The wind of a storm
[16] is blowing, and we think somebody turned on a fan.
[17] It's not a drill. This is the real thing.
[18] National Association of Letter Carriers,
[19] the handwriting is on the wall. If you do what you've
[20] always done, you get what you've always got. If
[21] you're satisfied with where you are, keep doing what [22] you've been doing. If you don't want change, if you
[23] don't want to move, stay where you are. If you don't
[24] want something different, if you don't look for
[25] something new, creative, then keep doing what you're
[1] doing.
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But I submit that we need to be looking at new creative ways of operating. We've got to look at how do we build leverage for this union, how do we build power for this union.

The U.S. Army, there was a supply unit in Panama City, Florida; and it had a slogan that said nothing happens until something moves. Letters could
never make it to its destination until letter carriers
move. Now is the time for each of us to look at new ways of gaining power. If you want change, officers, stewards, activists, members, you've got to get off of your apathetic posterior and do something.
(Applause.)
BROTHER CLARK: There is the fierce urgency of now.

What's causing this fierce urgency of now? Let me just articulate a little bit on a few things. One is the decline in union membership. There's a direct correlation between membership and growth in wages, growth in the economy. As union membership has declined, so has wages declined. The economy has declined, and so membership has declined.

I mean, the union density right now,
according to the 2015 Bureau of Labor statistics, is

Page 24
[1] 11.1 percent. At one point we were thriving at
[2] 35 percent. The private sector is organized at
[3] 6.7 percent. And if it wasn't for the public sector
[4] union who are at about 35 percent, we really would be [5] in trouble.
[6]
[7] at your association. How many members have you lost
[8] in the last ten, fifteen years? Unless we do
[9] something to gain membership, we find ourself on a
[22] taking place in the South that caught my attention.
[23] One such legislation was they introduced legislation
[24] to stop unions from having dues deduction. And I went [25] to Louisiana where it was introduced in Louisiana, and

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| [1] | the representative who introduced it got on the floor |
| [2] | and says this is just for unions. United Way, other |
| [4] | organizations can continue to have their dues taken |
| [5] | unions. Texas, it was introduced. Oklahoma, it was |
| [6] | introduced. In Louisiana it was defeated. It got out |
| [7] | of committee and was defeated on the floor. In Texas |
| [8] | they defeated it in committee. And in Oklahoma it |
| [9] | passed. |
| $[10]$ | $\quad$ Then there was legislation in several key |
| $[11]$ | states, like Mississippi and Alabama and right here in |
| $[12]$ | Georgia, where they wanted to prohibit protesting and |
| $[13]$ | picketing of any kind outside of businesses and |
| $[14]$ | corporations. I mean, that's what we do. Little by |
| $[15]$ | little every session they're doing stuff to try to |
| $[16]$ | take us out. |
| $[17]$ | $\quad$ The right-to-work, primarily the whole |
| $[18]$ | South are right-to-work states. The one state in my |
| $[19]$ | region -- and I have 13 states. The one state that's |
| $[20]$ | not right-to-work is Kentucky. And they've been |
| $[21]$ | introducing it every year, trying to get right-to-work |
| $[22]$ | in Kentucky. |
| $[23]$ | In '14 they lost out, so they did |
| $[24]$ | something very interesting. December, right around |
| $[25]$ | Christmastime, they started introducing right-to-work |

## Page 26

[1] ordinances in counties, not in the statehouse, but in [2] counties, never done before, looking for backdoor ways [3] to knock us off.
[4] So the strategy was for 22 counties to
[5] introduce this ordinance for right-to-work, and then
[6] they were going to put pressure on the state
[7] legislature to pass it statewide. And, of course, we
[8] filed a suit along with several other unions saying
[9] that it is not in the purview of counties to pass
[10] those ordinance. That's a state function. And we
[11] actually prevailed in that case. But I'm trying to
[12] show you, they're looking for ways to knock you off.
[13] There's a right-to-work constitutional amendment.
[14] Now, we already have the right-to-work legislation in
[15] the state.
[16] As if this is not bad enough, Virginia
[17] lawmakers have an amendment on right-to-work where
[18] they're putting it to the voters to put it as an
[19] amendment, meaning that it takes a certain amount,
[20] like three-fourths, in order to get rid of
[21] right-to-work. They're trying to fix it where it's
[22] hard to get rid of -- even if you flip the
[23] legislature, you still couldn't get rid of it.
[24] Alabama amendments, they're doing
[25] everything they can to get us. You got governors and
[1] politicians who are going on television and social
[2] media decrying organizing campaigns that unions have
[3] like Nikki Haley in South Carolina, everything they
[4] can do.
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[19] case. And I'm sure many of you may have heard about
[20] it. But it was a case in California that was
[21] challenging this whole notion of fair share. And we
[22] were nervous that we were going to lose that Supreme
[23] Court case five to four. I'm trying to figure out how
[24] to phrase this next statement. But the Lord moves in [25] mysterious ways.

Page 28
[1] (Applause.)
[2] BROTHER CLARK: All right. I'm just
[3] trying to figure out how to be politically correct.
[4] God does some stuff. Sometimes we don't
[5] understand it. And we were nervous about Friedrichs.
[6] But when Scalia passed -- God rest his soul -- we were
[7] right, four to four. It end up being four to four.
[8] And Scalia definitely was going to be that fifth vote.
[9] But on a four-to-four tie, it bounced back to the
[10] Court of Appeals.
And let me just tell you how the Lord
[11] And [12] works. They wanted to get this case to the Supreme
[13] Court so quick until they asked the Court of Appeals
[14] to rule in favor of unions so they could appeal it
[15] very quick to the Supreme Court because the Supreme
[16] Court had already telegraphed that they had a problem
[17] with this fair share. So they asked the Court of
[18] Appeals to rule in favor of unions, we'll appeal it,
[19] it will go to the Supreme Court, and we'll knock it
[20] off.
Well, when Scalia passed, four-to-four [22] tie, then it knocked back to what the Court of Appeals [23] ruling was. And guess what that was, in favor of [24] unions.
[25] (Applause.)

## Page 30

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[25] or said something or directed them to a place who

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[1] 5 feet. He said, Honey, what's for supper? She
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Muhammad Ali fan. When he used to box and I was much younger, nothing could go on that I would hear or see. I was in it. And when he started dancing, I could do the Ali shuffle better than Ali did. I preached so many sermons and included Ali in my sermon. I talked about the Thrilla in Manila.

So when he passed, I really sit down and watched; and I had tears in my eyes because it challenged me to look at me. Here's a man at 74 years old, stood up for what he believed in at a time when it wasn't popular, stood up at a time when his own folks turned their back on him. But because he believed in it, Barbara Walters -- you all may have seen this -- was interviewing him and she said -- she said: Champ, what if you can't ever go back in the ring again? What if folks don't raise up when you walk in? He said: I'll just go get a job. Me and my wife, I'll drive a taxi, get a little apartment, and we'll be happy.

Tears running down because I'm asking myself the question: What have I done? Do I measure up? How many times have I walked by situations where
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[1] activism we've been doing. Take it up a notch.
[2]
We're in an extremely important political
[3] season. And during this political season, we require
[4] and ask affiliates to do volunteer, to volunteer to do
[5] phone banking, to volunteer to do door to door to
[6] reach your members. So I'm asking you, if you can
[7] find a little more time, volunteer with the program.
[8] And the four things I leave you with:
[9] educate, mobilize, coordinate, and persevere. Hang in
[10] there. It may get tough, but hang in there. When
[11] things go wrong, as they sometimes will, when the road
[12] you're trodding seems all uphill, when the funds are
[13] low and the debts are high and you want to smile but
[14] you have to cry, when care is pressing you down a bit,
[15] rest if you must, but don't you quit. Life is queer
[16] with its twists and turns, as every one of us
[17] sometimes learn. And many a failure is turned about
[18] when he might have won had he stuck it out. Don't
[19] give up though the pace seems slow. You may succeed
[20] with another blow. Success is failure turned inside
[21] out. The silver tint of the clouds of doubt. And you
[22] can never tell how close you are. It may be near when
[23] it seems so far. So stick to the fight when you're
[24] hardest hit. It's when times get tough that you must
[25] not quit. You must not quit. You must not quit.
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AUDIENCE: You must not quit. You must
not quit. You must not quit. You must not quit.
BROTHER CLARK: You must not quit. You
must not quit. You must not quit.
(Applause.)
BROTHER CLARK: Thank you all very much.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: I told you, didn't I?
I told you. You must not quit, y'all. After a
message like that, you know what we got to do, don't
you? He has to get the letter carriers salute, y'all.
He's got to.
AUDIENCE: Hip hip hooray. Hip hip
hooray. Hip hip hooray.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We're fired up, y'all.
I have an announcement here from Eric.
All Branch 73 members must see the treasurer without
fail at the break. No further registration after the
break for anyone regardless of the branch.
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Say again.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: All Branch 73 members
must see the treasurer without fail at the break. No
further registration after the break for anyone
regardless of the branch. I get that from the
treasurer and the secretary.
Is Bob Johnson in the house? Bob Johnson.
Any first-time attendees at the state convention? First-time attendees, stand up, please.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: How about CCAs? Any CCAs in the house?

While we're waiting on Bob Johnson to come with the minutes, I'm going to bring Brother Gibbs up to make some remarks. He's going to do some remarks later on this afternoon. But at this moment, though, I propose that we hear from Brother Gibbs.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Good morning. I want to take a moment of privilege to talk about a hero. A hero is someone you admire and look up to, and he's also a leader. He was talking last night at the hospitality room about a man who's supported many presidents in Atlanta and around the state. He supported several national business agents, including myself. And he's going to retire, and I want to recognize him. His name is Chuck Windham.

Chuck, come up.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: I want to say, Chuck, I
[1] advocates in the region, Brother Don Griggs. Greg
[2] Dixon, Marietta, we had a few cases together out there
[3] that Greg put together a string. One time I think it
[4] was six cases that was overturned because they had
[5] some management that were trying to for some reason
[6] rid themselves of what they thought were problem
[7] carriers. But this union stood up for them, and
[8] that's what it's all about.
[9] Brother Emmett Cossey just walked in the [10] door. I think I played a little part in his training.
[11] He's a former local business agent. He worked for us
[12] in Wayne Wright's office when it was here in Atlanta.
[13] Some of you may forget about an old
[14] program we had. It was called Employee Involvement.
[15] We accomplished some things with that, but the Post
[16] Office turned against it because they wanted control
[17] because they had to share a part of the responsibility
[18] with us and they couldn't stand it. For those that
[19] don't recall, I was the first Employee Involvement
[20] facilitator here in the Region 9, the Atlanta region,
[21] and also one of the first national trainers, that I
[22] traveled all over this country and helped install that
[23] program. And, you know, there's still a lot of
[24] leaders for this union that came out of that program
[25] that stepped forward.
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And what it's all about is leadership and what can you do because if you don't do it, no one is going to do it.

But for all of you, like I said, I love
you. You're my brothers and sisters. I walk with
you. I'll never forget you.
Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Before I call Nicole up, Bob with the minutes, Chuck mentioned that he trained me as an arbitration advocate. And I can remember very well my first case was in Decatur. Ned was supposed to come, but Chuck came. And you talk about really someone that is sitting there and technically advising, that's really steering you in
the right direction. Chuck was always on point. And I thank you, Chuck; and I certainly appreciate what you have done for me in my career as a union officer.

At this time, we want to call Nicole to the podium to make a few opening remarks. She's going to do her pitch this afternoon, but we want her to at least say hi to the convention.
(Applause.)
SISTER RHINE: Good morning, everybody.
(Applause.)
[24] hospitality room. That was fun. So, again, thanks
[25] for allowing me to be here with you. I look forward

| $\text { Page } 41$ | $\text { Page } 43$ |
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| [1] to talking to everybody this afternoon. | [1] officers. |
| [2] Thanks. | [2] And that is our report at this time. |
| [3] (Applause.) | [3] Remember, the report is preliminary and we will have |
| [4] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: At this time we will | [4] registration also in the morning. And also if you |
| [5] call the secretary to the podium for the minutes of | [5] have not registered or if you know someone here with |
| [6] the previous convention. | [6] your branch that has not registered, please have them |
| [7] BROTHER HOLLENBERGER: Mr. President, Zane | [7] come by the desk soon. |
| [8] Hollenberger, executive board member of the Georgia | [8] And that's our report at this time. Thank |
| [9] State Association. I move that we suspend the reading | [9] you. |
| [10] of the minutes of the last meeting. | [10] (Applause.) |
| [11] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Okay. We have a motion | [11] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Do we have a motion to |
| [12] that we suspend the reading of the last convention | [12] accept the preliminary report of the Credentials |
| [13] minutes. Do I have a second? | [13] Committee? |
| [14] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I second. | [14] SISTER BURNEY: Cynthia Burney, Branch 73. |
| [15] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You've got to go up | [15] I would like to make a motion to accept the |
| [16] to the microphone. | [16] preliminary report. |
| [17] BROTHER SAMS: Bynoskia Sams, president of | [17] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: I have a motion. Do I |
| [18] Branch 578, Savannah, Georgia. I second. | [18] have a second? |
| [19] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We have a motion and a | [19] BROTHER BEN TURNER: Ben Turner, Branch |
| [20] second that we suspend the reading of the minutes of | [20] 73. I second. |
| [21] the previous convention. Any discussion? | [21] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We have motion and a |
| [22] (No response.) | [22] second to accept the preliminary report of Credentials |
| [23] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: No discussion. Hearing | [23] Committee. Any discussion? |
| [24] none, all those in favor say aye. | [24] (No response.) |
| [25] AUDIENCE: Aye. | [25] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Hearing none, all those |
| Page 42 | Page 44 |
| [1] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Opposed? | [1] in favor say aye. |
| [2] (No response.) | [2] AUDIENCE: Aye. |
| [3] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: The ayes have it. The | [3] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: All those opposed? |
| [4] reading of the minutes will be suspended. | [4] (No response.) |
| [5] Credentials Committee, could we get a | [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: No response. The ayes |
| [6] preliminary report. Please come on up here. | [6] have it. |
| [7] BROTHER ROD THOMAS: Thank you, Brother | [7] Where's Bob Miller? He stepped out. |
| [8] President. Rod Thomas, Branch 588, member of | [8] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Okay. As i call |
| [9] Credentials Committee. | [9] the name of the state officers, would you please make |
| [10] At this point right now we have a total of | [10] your presence known. |
| [11] about 100 -- this is a preliminary report, of | [11] Don Griggs, president. |
| [12] course -- a total of about 191 registered delegates so | [12] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Here. |
| [13] far. All 11 state officers are here, and I believe we | [13] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Jacob Alston, |
| [14] have 2 national officers present. | [14] vice president. |
| [15] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak in the mike, | [15] BROTHER ALSTON: Here. |
| [16] please. | [16] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: D. Robert |
| [17] BROTHER ROD THOMAS: Excuse me? | [17] Johnson, Bob Johnson, that's me. |
| [18] (Laughter.) | [18] Carl Hayes. |
| [19] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Speak in the mike. | [19] BROTHER HAYES: Here. |
| [20] BROTHER ROD THOMAS: Can everybody hear | [20] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Treasurer. |
| [21] that? | [21] Chuck Windham, Director of Retirees. |
| [22] AUDIENCE: Yes. | [22] BROTHER WINDHAM: Here. |
| [23] BROTHER ROD THOMAS: Preliminary report, | [23] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Timothy McCray, |
| [24] there were about 191 registered delegates; 11 state | [24] Director of Education. |
| [25] officers, all are present; and I believe 2 national | [25] BROTHER McCRAY: Here. |


|  | Page 45 |
| :---: | :---: |
| $[1]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Bynoskia Sams, |
| $[2]$ | chairperson, executive board. |
| $[3]$ | BROTHER SAMS: Here. |
| $[4]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Zane |
| $[5]$ | Hollenberger, executive board member. |
| $[6]$ | BROTHER HOLLENBERGER: Here. |
| $[7]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Tiawanna Jackson, |
| $[8]$ | executive board member. |
| $[9]$ | SISTER TIAWANNA JACKSON: Here. |
| $[10]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Ronney Harper, |
| $[11]$ | executive board member. |
| $[12]$ | BROTHER HARPER: Here. |
| $[13]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: And Eric Sloan, |
| $[14]$ | executive board member. |
| $[15]$ | BROTHER SLOAN: Here. |
| $[16]$ | BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Okay. Brother |
| $[17]$ | Chairman, all officers are here and accounted for. |
| $[18]$ | PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Thank you, Bob. |
| $[19]$ | Tim, would you get Ms. Tiawanna Jackson's |
| $[20]$ | report so we can get those out, please. |
| $[21]$ | Would you ask Brother Wayne White if he |
| $[22]$ | would come in for a second, please. |
| $[23]$ | Brother White. |
| $[24]$ | (Brother White addressed the audience.) |
| $[25]$ | PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We are moving a little |

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[1] ahead of things because of all the speakers didn't
[2] show up. But what we want to do now is to focus on
[3] what Brother Clark had to say.
[4]
[5] understand is that it's not about you. It's about the
[6] organization. And anytime you are in a leadership
[7] position, you have to take you out of that. And I
[8] think what is happening here is that too often we're
[9] putting our personal feelings in it. The big picture
[10] is the organization. And if we are constantly having
[11] problems, as Brother Clark said, look at yourself.
[12] Are you the one or is it the other side? If you are
[13] not in agreement with what's going on in your branch,
[14] is it you or is it the branch? Is it the organization
[15] or is it about you? It's easy to point fingers. Just
[16] remember, you've got three coming right back at you.
[17] I have really been disturbed about some
[18] reports on what's going on in different branches.
[19] This organization has fought many challenges, beaten
[20] them down against the opposition. So why are we
[21] fighting amongst ourselves? Why do we have division
[22] in our own organization when our energy should be
[23] against the outside forces?
[24]
Our work environment has changed so much.
[25] We have more and more put on your plate; and then
[1] still rather than do the things that you need to do to
[2] protect your fellow brothers and sisters, we're
[3] infighting. Is this what this organization has come
[4] to? It's okay to have disagreements. You have them
[5] in your home. But when it reaches the --
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't.
(Laughter.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: But when it reaches the
level where it causes confusion to the point where you're really not functioning, then you need to step back. The organization has to function in spite of you. Can we all agree on that?
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: So I encourage you to make a recommitment to the membership, to the oath that you took as an officer, to the belief that you accepted at the shop school. Whatever position you hold or even if you don't hold a position, there's still a commitment to the membership. It's not about you now. There is a " U " in union. But it pertains to you. We're all together. The "U" in union is unionism.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Unity.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Unity, not division. I
[24]
[25] hope that what Brother Clark said has sinked in. We

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[1] are still in a battle, and the battle is not
[2] necessarily with management. If you're following the
[3] legislative and political happenings in this country,
[4] then you have to know that they are constantly
[5] proposing resolutions and bills that's antiunion.
[6] It's okay to follow the NBA championships. It's okay
[7] to follow whatever you like. But we are about
[8] unionism, and unionism entails more than just a fight
[9] against management. There are outside forces. So I
[10] encourage you to make sure that you get more
[11] politically and legislatively involved so that you can
[12] also fight those enemies as well.
[13]
[14]
[15] it filled,
[16] letter carrier that wants to be legislatively involved
[17] in order to keep their congressman on task when it
[18] comes to letter carrier issues. I had someone to step
[19] forward to take the 11th District. Chuck in his
[20] retirement is going to give up the 9th District, so I
[21] need someone that lives in the 9th Congressional
[22] District that will be willing to step out of the box.
[23] Fighting management is fine, but step out of the box
[24] and make sure that your congressman, if you live in
[25] that district, to make sure that that congressman
[1] knows our concerns, develop a relationship with that
[2]

I know this is not popular. It's not [21] something you want to cheer about. But it's [22] important. Yeah, I love to file grievances and I like [23] to fight management. But it's more to it than that. [24] So I encourage you and if you live in the [25] 2nd District, 7th District, the 9th District, or the

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[1] 14th District, see me because this organization needs
[2] your help. I don't need it, but the organization
[3] needs it because this organization is not represented
[4] in those particular districts. So I would hope that
[5] someone would step forward so that the unionism that
[6] we speak of will be shown throughout this state.
[7] Now, when it comes to the state issues --
[8] and there are some issues that really doesn't affect
[9] us, but there are some issues that we try to move
[10] forward in the state such as vote by mail. And John
[11] Goosby, our state legislative liaison, has been going
[12] to the Golden Dome and we have been in contact with
[13] some of the state representatives, push this vote by
[14] mail. And one of the things that they brought up was
[15] their concern in not really wanting to push it, that
[16] if we got vote by mail, what will happen to those poll
[17] workers? And their concern is we do not have a
[18] problem with voting by mail, but we'll put somebody
[19] out of a job. So we have to really push hard in
[20] trying to get them to understand that the votes by
[21] mail would be a big improvement, not just for letter
[22] carriers and the Postal Service but for all working [23] people.
[24] The reason I say that is, if you look at
[25] the voting statistics in this country or in this
[1] state, for example, less than 50 percent go to the
[2] polls and vote. In my county, I believe May the 23rd,
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[2]
[3] that assumption. And the reason I'm going to make
[4] that assumption, because you all say you're union.
[5] You're unionism; you're together. And that's part of
[6] it, but not just being a registered voter, an actual
[7] voter, one that would go to the polls even if you have
[8] to stand in that line, one that's going to exercise
[9] that privilege. I know everybody did.
[10]
[11]
[12]
[13]
[14]
[15]
[16]
[17]

I wouldn't dare ask anyone to raise their
hand if they're not. But if you're not a registered
voter, if you're not, I encourage you to register and exercise that right.

If anyone has not registered as a
delegate, they need to check in with the registration
desk. Everybody in here is registered, I'm sure.
Sergeant-at-arms, everyone in here is registered.
Thank you.
I'm going to ask Paul Barner, which is the executive assistant, to come and speak on the veterans project that President Rolando has.

All the veterans we have, have you
received your veterans pin?
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Paul, will you come and
[1]

## [17] individual lives.

So part of what we've done -- and the
[19] group is ongoing. It's going to grow as the
[20] membership grows and expand, and we don't know exactly
[21] where it will grow. The members of the group will
[22] determine that.
[23]
[24] NALC website under the member section there's a
[25] veterans page, and on that page each one of the

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[1] department heads at NALC headquarters contributes. We
[2] have information dealing with contract, we have
[3] information dealing with community services, we have
[4] information dealing with retirement and how those
[5] different areas and the different regulations that are
[6] out there, benefits, whatever, impact military
[7] veterans specifically.
[8] We also in The Postal Record, which is the
[9] monthly magazine I'm sure all of y'all read from cover
[10] to cover when you receive it each month, we have a
[11] veterans corner in the magazine; and we ask each one
[12] of the department heads on a rotational basis to
[13] contribute to that. And the articles, again, they're
[14] very similar to what we try to do in the website,
[15] which is educate the members on contractual issues,
[16] whether it be the Herbert Hoover presidential order
[17] that mandates management allow veterans time off from
[18] work to go to VA appointments for service-related
[19] disabilities -- that is real useful, especially when
[20] you have CCAs that don't have sick leave and may not
[21] have the time in to have qualified for FMLA coverage
[22] and those sort of things, that if they are going to a
[23] VA appointment for a service-related disability, you
[24] can make management let them off without the fear of
[25] reprisal, discipline, that type of thing, you know,
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[2]
[22] The Credentials Committee is Denise
[23] Strong, Steve Lauderdale, and Rod Thomas. Most of you
[24] saw them. They were the three that were on the desk
[25] out here this morning, okay. So they all know each

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[1] other.
[2]
[3] Robert Hamilton. Are you in here right now? Okay.
[4] Raise your hand. Stay standing, if you don't mind.
[5] Isaiah White. Is Isaiah here? Okay. Stay standing.
[6] And William Rich from Macon, Georgia. Okay. These
[7] are the three members of your Mileage and Per Diem
[8] Committee. And you will be getting together to review
[9] the mileage and per diem things dealing with the
[10] convention, and I'll get with you guys later on that
[11] whenever you can do it. We do have a room set aside
[12] where you can do these kind of things.
[13] The Election Committee principally is
[14] going to be working hard tomorrow morning, I assume.
[15] But they'll be getting together this afternoon
[16] previous to the elections, which the nominations are
[17] at 3:30 this afternoon. So, you know, if you decide
[18] to take a nap or whatever, remember, you all need to
[19] be in here at 3:30, okay.
[20] But, anyway, that Election Committee is
[21] composed of Steve Wright -- that's the chairperson.
[22] Is Steve here? Okay. And stay standing if you don't
[23] mind. Tammy Hawkins from Warner Robins. Okay. And
[24] also Reko Santana from Savannah. That's your election
[25] committee right here, and l'll be getting with them.
[1] l've already talked to some of them with regards to [2] their duties.

Moore from Augusta, Georgia. Okay. These are the three people who are on your Bylaws Committee, okay. Appreciate that.
That deals with that section. And like I said, this is an ongoing type thing. You guys get with me, especially the chairmen, so that you can get your people to do the various functions of the committee.

Now, some of you have already approached me. You're coming to this banquet tonight. You know, the State is paying for all the delegates, okay. I'll give you that up front. But it ain't cheap. You know, it ain't like eating at McDonald's, I can tell you that. So I told Don, I said, the last time we ended up buying tickets, I think, that we had some blank chairs for. So this time if you're coming, you know, when you're committed to coming tonight, then the delegates and shouldn't be a problem or anything

We're probably going to have a few more

So, anyway, like I said, you know, see me

Now, the Audit Committee is composed of Ronnie Buie. He's from Macon, Georgia, chairperson.
Is Ronnie here? Okay. Here's Ronnie over here.
Eileen Ford from Roswell, please stand. And Timothy
Wright from Branch 73. Okay. These are the three
people that you'll be getting together with, and Carl
Hayes will be your check person on that. He will
supply you and set up a time whenever you're going to
be doing your job, and it probably is not going to be
long down the road. I don't know. As soon as you can
get it to, l'll tell him. But check with Carl, if you would.

Our parliamentarian is Rickey Henderson from Marietta. Rickey, are you here? Okay.

And also the sergeant-at-arms is Roderick Terrell from Columbus. There we go, straight in the back. He's the man with the band. Yeah, he's the fence behind this whole organization.

I've just been told I missed the Bylaws
Committee. The Bylaws Committee is Bob Covino. Are you in here, Bob? Here we go. He's the chairperson of the Bylaws Committee. And Andy Bryant, is Andy here? Okay. Andy Bryant from Decatur. And also Pam

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[1]
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[23] Please see Bob, I mean, because we have [24] had to give a committed number. The worst thing we
[25] could have done is undercommitted and people show up
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[16]
[20] Washington, D.C., they can take away our jobs with the [21] stroke of an ink pen. We've got the most important [22] election in many years coming up this year. It's [23] important that everyone get out to vote, that you have [24] your family members vote, and that you vote for letter [25] carrier friendly candidates. We have a lot of issues

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[1] and there's no food. So we encourage you to take
[2] advantage it. It's your union dues. Take advantage
[3] of it and sit down and enjoy a nice meal.
[4] As I said earlier, we had four or five
[5] other guests that were supposed to be here and did not
[6] show up. So what we're going to do is we've got an
[7] hour before lunch. Kenny Gibbs is going to come up at
[8] this time and start his presentation. And it looks
[9] like based on what we have going, we might get out
[10] early this afternoon in order for you to really have
[11] time to get yourself prepared for the banquet.
[12]
[13]
[14]
[15] things that are going on around the nation and around
[16] the region. The three most important things that we
[17] have going right now as a union is organizing, number
[18] one, organizing the members. The Postal Service is
[19] hiring more than it has in many years, and we've got
[20] to get those folks organized. If we don't get them
[21] organized, the size of our union ten years from now
[22] will be much smaller than it is now, which is going to
[23] reduce our bargaining power. So we need you to
[24] continue to do everything you can to get these new
[25] people, the CCAs, organized and make them feel a part
BROTHER GIBBS: Good morning again.
AUDIENCE: Good morning.
BROTHER GIBBS: I want to cover some
(Applause.)

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[1]
[1] course, you have to leave the 3849. In the past we
[2] would not go past the first floor. But now we're
[3] going to be able or required to go up to three
[4] stories.
[7] like. They change one thing or another. But some of
[8] the things that you probably already experienced this
[9] is Amber Alerts. It will tell you bad weather. Dog
[10] alarms now, if you're in an area where there's a bad
[11] dog, the scanner will alert you. The scanner will
[12] alert you when there's a tornado or hurricane in the
[13] area, which we already know about hurricanes from the
[14] weather, the news reports. But tornados are
[15] surprises. They come up unexpectedly, and the scanner
[16] will be able to notify you to take cover. It also
[17] will now be able to notify you when the heat index is
[18] at a dangerous level. The scanner pretty much is your
[19] supervisor now.
[20]
There is a test being done not with the
[21] Postal Service, but it certainly could affect the
[22] Postal Service, and that's Walmart. You know, we talk
[23] about Amazon and the delivery of groceries test that's
[24] being done. Well, Walmart is doing a test of their
[25] own. They're using Uber to deliver groceries now.

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[1]
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[1] questions and answers. So you can get almost anything
[2] you need to know about CCA in that document. That's
[3] M-01870. You can go on the NALC web page to retrieve
[4] that document.
[5] The next one, M-01871 is driving
[6] qualifications for city carrier craft must be met
[7] prior to excessing an employee from a different craft
[8] into the letter carrier craft. What that means,
[9] they're going to excess clerks or mail handlers
[10] entering the city carrier craft, they must meet the
[11] driving requirements first. In the past they were
[12] excessing clerks into our craft; and they couldn't
[13] pass the driver exam, which left them in a bad
[14] predicament because they could not do the job without
[15] meeting the driving qualifications. So at least this
[16] protects these employees from being excessed and they
[17] can't drive.
[18]
[19]
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[23] other places where they drive bicycles to a park and
[24] loop, and they use the bicycle even for dismounts.
[25] Now they will be provided a helmet if they choose to

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[1] This year we will not get a 2017 COLA.
[2] This was our seventh and final COLA. But because the
[3] cost of living did not rise substantially, we do not
[4] get a COLA. The retirees were to get 0.1 percent
[5] Civil Service and FERS COLA in 2016. That's the
[6] extent of the COLA, 0.1 percent. That's half a penny.
[7]
[8] recall, in 2006 and 2007 the laws changed about
[9] traveling to Canada and to the Caribbean and the
[10] Virgin Islands. Now you have to have a passport. So
[11] in 2006 and 2007 millions of people got passports, and
[12] those are going to expire this year. So if you're
[13] planning a trip, make sure you get your passports
[14] early. They expect a big surge in the amount of
[15] people that are going to get passports this year.
I want to tell you about some interpretive
[17] settlements. Interpretive settlements become a part
[18] of our contract. They're an agreement between the
[19] national president or designee and the Postmaster
[20] General or designee, and we designate them the M
[21] number. That " M " is how we catalog them in the MRS,
[22] which you can get online.
[23]
The first one is $\mathrm{M}-01870$. This was done
[24] in March '16, and it concerns CCAs and other
[25] contractual issues. It's an update of the CCA
[1] wear one.
[2] M-01873, this is an agreement to close an
[3] interpretive case about bidding rights during a
[4] caser-streeter program. Now, the caser-streeter
[5] program was a program where the Postal Service
[6] designed routes that were all delivery and then some
[7] that were all casers. You had casers eight hours a
[8] day. I don't know who would want to be in there all
[9] day being a caser for eight hours. But those routes
[10] went up for bid, and they violated the bidding [11] procedures. We decided to close that case. We don't [12] have the caser-streeter program anymore.
[13] M-01784, NALC has a 31-day moratorium on [14] grievances for our 70th Biennial Convention. So from
[15] August 7th through September 6th, we have an
[16] extension, a moratorium on grievances, which means you
[17] won't have any time limit problems. If you can move
[18] your grievances in that time, that's fine. You don't
[19] want to let them pile up if you don't have to. But if
[20] you can't get to your grievances for whatever reason
[21] at any level, there's an agreement that no timeliness
[22] issues will happen. Now, if you do get a grievance
[23] held, make sure you know after September 6th you've
[24] got to have that meeting, that informal or formal
[25] meeting, or get to Step B, whatever step you are at.
[1] M-01875, this is revised PS Form 8190, [2] which is the joint grievance form. This replaces the
[3] June 2013 version. If you do use the June 2013
[4] version, there won't be a procedural error called
[5] about it; but you need to use the new form. The only
[6] difference between the new form and the previous form
[7] is the instructions that tell the Informal A they must
[8] attach all the documents discussed at Informal A with
[9] the 8190 when you appeal it to Formal A. You must
[10] attach all documents that you use at informal with the
[11] Formal A appeal.
We have three memorandums that were
[12]
[13]
[14] extended until the 2016 national agreement is reached. That's M-01876, 01877, 01878. And I'll talk about each one of those.

01876 replaces the Memorandum 1854. That [17] memorandum is about opportunities to convert CCAs to [18] regular. We've converted over 30,000 CCAs to regular [19] in the nation in just two years. That's quite good.
[20] (Applause.)
[21] BROTHER GIBBS: And we have less than 600
[22] PTFs left in the nation. So that's quite a feat. And [23] most of the PTFs that are left are the ones who are [24] the smaller cities where they don't want to move. And [25] we're not forcing anybody to move. We do have a goal

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[1] to reach full-time maximization of PTFs to regular by
[2] the end of the contract. The contract has already
[3] expired but extended. But we're not going to reach
[4] that goal, and that's okay. Those PTFs who want to
[5] remain, we're going to figure out another way to
[6] convert them. And there's committees that are working
[7] on that. But this Memorandum 1854 has been replaced
[8] with 1876.
[9] There's one difference, though, in the
[10] memorandums. You have a memorandum that says one out
[11] of four or one out of six conversions have to be a
[12] transfer. In the past transfers was PTFs, city PTFs
[13] and regular PTFs counted in that memorandum for the
[14] ratio. A regular carrier is not PTF, but regular
[15] carrier is counted in the memorandum. Now, all
[16] transfers, including regular carriers, count in the
[17] ratio. So if a regular carrier transfer or any clerk,
[18] mail handler, that counts as part of the ratio. The
[19] only ones who don't count would be a city PTF from
[20] another city. That won't count in the one-in-four or
[21] one-in-six ratio.
[22]
M-01877 is the memorandum on Sunday
[23] delivery and city carrier assistant staffing. That
[24] memorandum has been extended as well. And one key
[25] part of that memorandum is that a CCA who is converted
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[16] [17]
[18]
[19] [20] training academies. And we do have some city carrier
[21] training academy members here who I have just
[22] designated to train the trainers. Bob Covino of Gulf [23] Atlantic. Is Bob here? Bob, stand up if you're here.
[24] Bob will be going to do the training to train the
[25] trainers for the Gulf Atlantic. And Cathy

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to regular won't have to serve a probationary period if they serve a cumulative of 360 days prior to being converted. So that's important.
What we found, that management uses CCAs who has served a probation and then they make regular, that they fire them because they don't like them, so they make that new probation. So this protects those CCAs from having to go through a second probation.

01878 signed overtime list, this
memorandum allows the branch president and postmaster to come up with a program where CCAs who are newly converted can sign the overtime-desired list without waiting until the end of the quarter when that two-week posting is done or transfers from another installation can also sign the overtime-desired list without waiting until that two-week period.

Today a new memorandum came out, M-01879. This is updating the standard training program for city carriers. This was about the city carrier
[1] Staples-Hampton from the Atlanta District, is she
[2] here? She will be the trainer for the trainers. What
[3] they will do, they'll train the other trainers on how
[4] to train the city carrier assistants.
[5]
[6]
[7] every district in the United States. The course must
[8] be completed, not be optional. In the past sometimes
[9] postal management would put CCAs through without
[10] training. Now they must complete this training; and
[11] if they don't complete the training, there's an
[12] alternate dispute resolution process. So you don't
[13] have to file a grievance. You will file a protest,
[14] and the protest will be sent to the NBA or the area
[15] manager of Labor Relations. If the NBA, which is me,
[16] or the area manager of Labor Relations can't agree,
[17] then it goes to the national manager of Policy and
[18] Programs and the national director of City Delivery
[19] for dispute resolution.
The district must provide the names of all
[20]
[21] their new employees to NBA, which gives us the
[22] opportunity to make sure we give them orientation to
[23] get them signed up. And the training program will be
[24] updated nationally and completely on an annual basis.
[25] Now, I talked about organizing and how

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[1]
This is our future. Even though we may be retired in a few years, we need them to continue the Postal Service so we can draw our retirement. So do anything and everything you can. That's our new resource and they are very much a part of this union.
I hear people call those CCAs different things, and
I'm not going to even say the names of what they're called. They're bothers and sisters. That's what they are, okay. We must remember that and do everything we can to make them feel welcome.

Brother, go ahead.
BROTHER PHILLIPS: Good morning, everyone.
Regal Phillips, Branch 73, retired, acting vice
president of this branch.
Since you were talking about CCAs, I work very closely with Eileen Ford, branch president of Roswell, I think it is. But we do as a team an awesome job in recruiting CCAs. At this time before I go any further, I'd like for Eileen to stand up. Please, Eileen, stand up. Give Eileen a hand.
(Applause.)
BROTHER PHILLIPS: We did 99.9 percent in
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come into your station, you can talk to them as well. It doesn't stop at the district office. You continue. If you see someone come in there without a uniform, you know they're out of place. Introduce yourself and tell them who you are. Make them feel welcome, invite them to the union meeting, and give them your information. Sometimes that's all they're looking for. They may have heard things about unions that they have been misinformed.

We have some branches in Georgia who are 100 percent organized. That's with career and active. I want to just recognize those branches.

Anyone here from Americus, Georgia?
Americus is 100 percent organized.
Waycross, Georgia. Waycross, Georgia, stand up. Stand up.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Eastman, Georgia. I know there's no one here from Eastman. They're 100 percent. Thomaston, Georgia, is 100 percent. Jesup, Georgia, is 100 percent. That's outstanding.

That should be everybody's goal, to be 100 percent. And like I said, anything that I can do to assist you in organizing efforts, I will.

Another thing I want to talk to you about

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| :---: | :---: |
| [1] briefly is the -- I talked about the Article 8 | [1] was the fourth one? |
| [2] grievances that we resolved, and you have filed some | [2] BROTHER GIBBS: You're testing me now, |
| [3] really good grievances and you've gained a lot through | [3] aren't you. |
| [4] these repetitive violations. But I want to make sure | [4] (Laughter.) |
| [5] that everybody understands that when you file a | [5] SISTER HOLMAN: You said there was four. |
| [6] grievance that's on a repetitive nature, you've got to | [6] BROTHER GIBBS: The highway contract |
| [7] put copies of your past settlements in those files. | [7] routes, highway contract routes and the performance |
| [8] We get them all the time with no copies of past | [8] measurement tool, using the scanners to replace the |
| [9] settlements. | [9] external first-class measurement. |
| [10] You cannot rely on the Step B teams to | [10] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Signing the ODL |
| [11] build your case for you and to remember that you had | [11] list |
| [12] multiple violations of that kind. Put as many past | [12] BROTHER GIBBS: Signing the ODL list, |
| [13] settlements as can you in the file, and we'll be | [13] scheduling arbitrations. |
| [14] successful ev | [14] What else do you want to know? |
| [15] If you've got Step | [15] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Probation time for |
| [16] they set precedent in that installation. So those | [16] CCAs. |
| [17] have more weight than anything else. But if you've | [17] BROTHER GIBBS: You've been listening, |
| [18] got Formal A, put those in as well. That shows a | [18] haven't you. |
| [19] pattern of violations, and that opens the door for you | [19] Anybody else? Any other questions? |
| [20] to get a progressive rating. | [20] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She wrote it down. |
| [21] Our B teams have fought a tough battle, | [21] She wrote it down. |
| [22] and I want to recognize the Step B team members. | [22] BROTHER GIBBS: Okay. I'll turn it back |
| [23] Jacob Alston. | [23] over to President Griggs. Thank you. |
| [24] (Applause.) | [24] (Applause.) |
| [25] BROTHER GIBBS: I think Rex Palmer is out | [25] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: What we're going to do, |
| Page 82 | Page 84 |
| [1] sick. But then we've got Tiawanna Jackson. Stand up, | [1] we're going to break for lunch now. Come back at |
| [2] Tiawanna. | [2] |
| [3] (Applause.) | [3] (Lunch recess from 11:23 a.m. to |
| [4] BROTHER GIBBS: They do a good job in | [4] 1:30 p.m.) |
| [5] fighting for your rights. | [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Good afternoon. The |
| [6] Steve Wright. Is Steve Wright here? | [6] meeting is back in session. Thank you very much. |
| [7] (Applause.) | [7] At this time we bring before the |
| [8] BROTHER GIBBS: Eric Sloan, business rep | [8] convention our national secretary-treasurer, |
| [9] before he became the branch president. You go from | [9] Ms. Nicole Rhine. |
| [10] one tough job to another. Stand up, Eric. | [10] (Applause.) |
| [11] (Applause.) | [11] SISTER RHINE: Thank you. Everybody |
| [12] BROTHER GIBBS: And Steve Lauderdale. Is | [12] awake? After lunch is a hard thing to do, so we'll |
| [13] Steve here? | [13] try to all stay awake together. I'd appreciate that. |
| [14] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No. | [14] First let me say I might introduce myself |
| [15] BROTHER GIBBS: All right. Those folks do | [15] and maybe tell you a little bit about where I came |
| [16] a good job and they have faced these battles for you | [16] from. I note this is the first time l've been to the |
| [17] and they continue to face them for you, so give them | [17] Georgia convention. It's always fun to go around |
| [18] your support. Give them as much support as you can. | [18] different parts of the country and hang out with |
| [19] And if you need anything, you can always count on me. | [19] letter carriers. That's one of the perks of the job |
| [20] Does anybody have any questions? Go | [20] is getting to travel and meet lots of people. So I |
| [21] ahead. | [21] appreciate being here. |
| [22] SISTER HOLMAN: Dawn Holman, Branch 73. I | [22] For those of you who don't know, my branch |
| [23] know that you're repeating on the testing, because I'm | [23] is back in Lincoln, Nebraska, where it's a little |
| [24] bringing this back to my unit, two carriers per | [24] colder there compared to the climate here. But I |
| [25] vehicle, bikes in Florida, blank letter testing. What | [25] started in the Post Office in 1992. I got hired as a |


|  | Page 85 |
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|  | casual. How many other casuals? Yeah. I was lucky. |
|  | I got two 90-day appointments. I was hired as a |
|  | Christmas casual and stayed for two 90 days. And then |
|  | right then was when they made the category of TE and |
|  | started hiring TEs, so I became a TE. How many here? |
|  | There you go. And then I was fortunate, got to take |
|  | the test and became a PTF about '94 is when I finally |
|  | made PTF. So I know I'm not alone. So that's a |
|  | strange path to follow, but there's always people in |
|  | the room that did the same thing. |
| [11 | And just some history on some of the |
|  | things l've done, just in case you wonder, I used to |
|  | be the president of my branch. I used to be secretary |
|  | of my branch. So a shout out to all the secretaries |
|  | out there that are with the branches. I was a |
|  | steward. I was a state president in Nebraska for a |
|  | while. And then I got asked to become an RAA and did |
|  | that in Region 5, which is Kansas, lowa, Nebraska, and |
|  | Missouri. So I did that before I came to headquarters |
|  | ] and became your assistant secretary-treasurer, and now |
|  | ] I'm your secretary-treasurer. |
| [22 | ] So that's a little history of the path |
|  | ] that I came through for those of you that don't know |
|  | me. So now you do. |
| [25 | I'm glad to be here. I'm going to take |

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[1] some time and give you some updates on -- I don't have [2] a PowerPoint or anything. We just give an update on
[3] some things that are going on nationally that we want
[4] to make sure that everybody knows about.
[5] So of course the first thing I'm going to
[6] talk about, and everybody knows this is going on, is
[7] collective bargaining. For those of you that have
[8] been following, the deadline for the agreement was
[9] May 20th; and we have, of course, extended that
[10] deadline and we're still in negotiations with the
[11] Postal Service over the collective bargaining
[12] agreement.
[13] It's been professional. It's been [14] productive, which is a good sign. But like we've been
[15] telling everybody around the country and this is the
[16] most-asked question I get when I go somewhere is: How
[17] is it going? How's it going, you know, with
[18] negotiations? We're still talking. But like I've
[19] been telling folks, you know, it's been going well;
[20] but that doesn't necessarily mean that we'll get a
[21] negotiated agreement. You know, you never know how
[22] it's going to turn out. But both sides are still --
[23] you know, both sides are still discussing it; and
[24] we're trying to definitely reach a tentative
[25] agreement.
[1] I'm going to tell you a little bit about [2] kind of how we do it just to kind of explain how it
[3] all happens. You know, we have the whole opening
[4] ceremony that we had. I think that was back in
[5] February that we actually had that; and the relations
[6] were already better at that point because, of course,
[7] the last time we were going to negotiate a contract
[8] we had the lovely Mr. Donahoe as the Postmaster. So
[9] you can imagine how exciting it was to deal with, the
[10] man I like to call Dug a Hole because that's what he
[11] did. He dug a hole for the Postal Service, and now
[12] we're trying to climb out of it, right. So, you know,
[13] the atmosphere was certainly better even from the [14] opening.
[15] And the way that we approach doing it is
[16] we actually have committees that meet back and forth
[17] with the Postal Service. And all the national
[18] officers have committees that they deal with, and
[19] those committees basically cover all the articles of
[20] our national agreement. So we'll go in and maybe have
[21] a meeting over this article or this article. But we
[22] are constantly meeting. You know, we meet back and [23] forth. And then, of course, we also have -- I don't
[24] want to forget. The officers do that. We have those
[25] committee meetings. We're meeting with the Postal

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[1] Service. We also have letter carrier staff that help
[2] us during negotiations, and I certainly wanted to
[3] recognize Greg and Paul because both of them come in
[4] and work on those committees and are in the meetings
[5] when we're negotiating a contract.
[6] We wanted to do something a little
[7] different this time than we had done in the past.
[8] We've always had the contract; and then there's, of
[9] course, the deadline. And usually we're locked away
[10] with the Postal Service the week before the contract
[11] expires. And we had proposed to the Postal Service,
[12] hey, instead of waiting until the last week, why don't
[13] we get locked away a week for four months prior to it
[14] expiring. We wanted to be locked away one week for
[15] every month for the four months prior. And the Postal
[16] Service wouldn't go for that, but they did agree to do
[17] it twice. So we've actually been locked up with them
[18] twice since we started the negotiation process. So
[19] that was something that was a little different this [20] time.
[21] You know, it's interesting, when you talk [22] about the negotiation process, which, of course, is [23] more intense now that the collective bargaining [24] agreement is expiring, but as many of you know, [25] year-round we're always working on things on the
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[24] subcontract out; and we are working to protect that
[25] issue. Subcontracting was actually the line in the

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[21] We may still have to go through a mediation
[22] arbitration process. And I always like to tell
[23] everybody when we're out, even though we're talking,
[24] we're already preparing for arbitration. We do that
[25] all the time because you should, right, because you

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[1] sand that was drawn last time we tried to get a
[2] national agreement negotiated. At that time the
[3] Postal Service said that we're not going to agree to
[4] an agreement that doesn't allow us to contract out
[5] your work; and we said, well, we're not going to agree
[6] to one unless it says that you can't. So that was
[7] kind of the line in the sand that was drawn the last
[8] time, and we had to go to arbitration. So we're
[9] definitely focused on making sure that we keep the no
[10] subcontracting part of the contract.
[11] We want to maintain COLAs for everybody.
[12] We want wage increases to reward letter carriers for
[13] the hard work that you do every day; and we definitely
[14] want to close the gap between the career and the
[15] noncareer and dealing with the CCAs when we talk about
[16] benefits, wages, and all that kind of stuff.
[17] So those are some of the main goals that [18] we have. And also we've been focusing on making sure [19] that we're having conversations about growing the
[20] business with the Postal Service because that's really
[21] important. And I know that that's something we've
[22] talked about. So that's something that we definitely
[23] had as a goal going in was to make sure that we're
[24] addressing that because, as you know, we have no board
[25] of governors right now. I will talk about that a
[17] long as we're talking, that's great and we'll see [18] where it goes.
little later. So we thought it was really important that, you know, we start that conversation and try to talk to the Postal Service about growing the business, that we thought that was a responsibility we needed to address.

And the other thing that has made one of our manuals, too, and that's the workplace climate.
We've spoken to the Postal Service about needing to
address it. And we've even talked to them about, you
know, whether or not we get a national agreement negotiated. That is an issue that we want to continue to address.

So those are kind of the top six things
that we went into the negotiations on our list. So, again, we're still talking. As everybody has asked,

Now, like I said before, just because you're talking, you never know how it's going to go.
[1] never know what's going to happen with talks. So
[2] we've been preparing if we have to go to that route
[3] all along and, as you know, we're very good at that.
[4] So we're prepared for no matter which direction we end
[5] up taking. So that's the short update on the
[6] collective bargaining agreement.
[7] Okay. The next thing that I just want to
[8] talk about briefly is the upcoming national
[9] convention, right. We've got a lot of things going on
[10] this year. We've got collective bargaining we're in
[11] the middle of. We're getting ready for a convention.
[12] You'll know the theme in my talk about all the things
[13] that we've got going on this year; and, of course, the
[14] national convention is one of them. I'm looking
[15] forward to it. This will be my first as
[16] secretary-treasurer. Luckily, we have lots of
[17] wonderful people at headquarters and the staff folks
[18] that help put that together because, obviously, it's a
[19] huge job.
[20] I'm looking forward to go to LA. The last
[21] time we had a convention in Los Angeles, 1941; so it's
[22] been a while since we've been to Los Angeles. Anaheim
[23] doesn't count, not the same city. We were in Anaheim,
[24] what, in 2010? I think so. But the last time we were
[25] in LA was 1941. So I know the host branch is really
[1] looking forward to it. I think you're going to love
[2] LA, of course.
[3]
[4] you about a couple of changes that you need to be
[5] aware about that we're doing at the convention, and I
[6] thought l'd just tell you a little bit about the LA
[7] area. If you haven't seen already -- I hope you
[8] have -- a change that we're going to do at this year's
[9] convention is we're going to have every delegate
[10] register themselves. That will be a change that will
[11] happen. Before we allowed like a branch member to go
[12] up and register everyone. This time you've got to go
[13] register yourself.
[14] We kind of talked about this the last
[15] couple of conventions, about trying to figure out ways
[16] to do things; and we're hoping this will give us an
[17] actual better count of how many delegates are there.
[18] You know, so that will be something that's different.
[19] We're actually implementing -- I'm going
[20] to knock on all kinds of wood. We're actually
[21] implementing a scanning this time so when you go up,
[22] there will be scanning of your delegate card. So that
[23] will be new, too. So just keep that in mind if you're
[24] a delegate. You've got to register yourself, so make
[25] sure that you go to the registration area and have all

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[1] all of our hotels. And there's the LA Live area.
[2] There's lots of restaurants. There's lots of bars.
[3] The weather is beautiful. So I'm looking forward to
[1] your stuff together. So that's something that's [2] different.
[3] And the other thing that we changed a [4] little bit was workshops. There's not actually going
[5] to be any workshops Monday morning. The convention
[6] will actually start at 10:00 and we will open the
[7] convention. The other thing is is on Friday we won't
[8] have workshops in the morning. We're going to start
[9] the convention early, and we'll be done at noon. We
[10] wanted to do that so branches could plan on travel and
[11] know when we were going to be done. So that's
[12] something that's a little different.
[13]
Now, we've added plenty of workshops in
[14] between. So don't think there's not going to be any
[15] workshops. But those are like two of the biggest
[16] changes we're going to have at this convention. I
[17] just wanted to let you know so you can plan ahead.
[18] But as far as LA, I think it's going to be
[19] great. The convention center is right next to the
[20] Staples Center. How many people have been downtown
[21] LA? They've done great. You know, they've
[22] revitalized that whole LA Live area, which is right
[23] across from the Staples Center. So the Staples Center
[24] sits here, the convention center is on the other side
[25] of it, and right on this way towards downtown LA is
[25] California, so it's not going to be a problem.

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it. I think everybody is going to have a good time.
Luckily, you know, we've got through hopefully the hotel problem. If anybody is waiting,
we've added two new motels in the last couple of
weeks; so that whole issue should be taken care of
even though -- how many people went to the COP? Did anybody in here go to the COP? Okay. And did you hear President Rolando had a hard time -- I had no idea he was doing this. You know your national president can be a practical joker at times, right. He's got like kind of a sense of humor. So we had the Philadelphia delegation up to D.C. for a lobby visit; and so there was this whole, you know, group of folks from Philadelphia and Pennsylvania in the building for a rap session with the national officers.

And, you know, President Rolando is going through some of this. He gets to the convention and he starts talking about the hotel. He's like, now,

25] California, so it's not going to be a problem.
[1] I had no idea he had been going around the [2] country telling people that. I'm sitting up at the
[3] front just like mortified that he's been telling
[4] people I'm going to find a park bench for you to sleep [5] on. No, we're going to work out the hotel issue. So [6] we have.
[9] out. You've got to do it to get the convention
[10] center. And three of the hotels we were planning on
[11] actually pulled themselves out of consideration
[12] because they're remodeling. So that kind of put us
[13] behind on doing it and then we were monitoring it and
[14] we knew we had to add. We just didn't know how many.
[15] So we're to the point now where hopefully everybody is
[16] taken care of. I think we just added the last hotel
[17] this week. So if you're one of the folks out there
[18] that has been waiting, you should hear something
[19] pretty soon.
Now, has anybody in here not even tried to [21] get the hotels or are you guys good? Okay. I was [22] going to tell you, there's instructions on the [23] website. If you haven't, just go ahead and fax it in [24] so we know if we need to do anything else. So [25] hopefully everybody is taken care of, right. I hear

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[24] United States, right. So we've been going around kind
[25] of talking about the process. And those of you that

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[1] haven't seen the website, l'll get to that pretty
[2] soon. But how we have approached this presidential
[3] election and why we did some of the things that we
[4] did, I wanted to explain that to you, of course.
[5]
[6] candidate for president, we have always maintained
[7] that you have to answer our survey for one thing
[8] before you're even considered. So we do a lot of
[9] things to try and gauge the membership and what we
[10] need to do. So I thought l'd walk through that.
[11]
[12] everybody was throwing their names in the ring to
[13] become the nominee for the president of the
[14] United States, there were actually at one point 22
[15] candidates for president of the United States, which
[16] is a lot, right. Yeah. We had 17 folks from the
[17] Republican Party that had announced they were going to
[18] run for it and we had 5 Democrats. So we had 22 folks
[19] that were vying for that position.
So what we do at the NALC is anybody who
[20]
[21] has said, yep, I'm putting my name in to run for
[22] president of the United States, we send them a
[23] questionnaire that we ask them to fill out. And that
[24] questionnaire deals with issues that are important to
[25] letter carriers, all of you, me, everybody, after
[1] you've retired. So we've come up with the
[2] questionnaire, and we send it out to all of the
[3] candidates. And we don't just send it out and say,
[4] you know, whatever happens happens. We actually have
[5] staff that follow up and call these campaigns and say
[6] did you get it, you know, that's the first thing, and
[7] try to verify that. And then if we haven't heard
[8] back, we call them back and say, okay, you know, I
[9] just want to remind you that we're asking you to fill
[10] this out and kind of tell them how important it is to
[11] us. And we do all that. It's not like we just mail
[12] it out and forget it. We actually follow up with all
[13] these candidates.
So out of those 22 candidates that were
running for office, only three of them sent our questionnaire back, Hillary Clinton, Bernie Sanders, and O'Malley, who was in the race earlier for the Democratic Party. And all of that information was actually printed in The Postal Record. I can't remember which one, but it's been a while back. We put that whole thing in there. You could see the questions, and you could see their response. So we did that. So now, you know, we knew we had three folks, right.

And then we also, after doing all that, we

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[1] actually sent out in The Postal Record little cards
[2] that all of our members could vote, right, for one of
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[16] said, wad a
[17] Bernie and Hillary. The actual survey was a little
[18] more for Hillary just so you know for a reference [19] point.
[20] [21] was out of respect for both of these candidates who
[22] are both very good friends of letter carriers, we
[23] decided that we would choose not to endorse somebody
[24] early on and that we would wait until, you know, the
[25] primary for the Democratic side was over because,
[16] Bernie and part of our membership was behind Hillary, [17] right; and there was no point in dividing our [18] membership over this.

So we decided to wait, and actually there [20] were other unions that followed suit and decided to [21] wait until a clear winner came up. Now, obviously,
[22] that has happened, right. Hillary Clinton is the
[23] presumptive nominee. And if you haven't seen it, the
[24] executive board actually wrote this week to endorse
[25] Hillary Clinton. It is on the website, and there's a

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[1] statement from us saying that.
[2]
[3]
[4] you know, we will be going around talking and asking
[5] everybody now that that decision has been made that we
[6] get together and we work really hard to make sure that
[7] she's the next president of the United States. I hope
[8] you all will join that.
[9]
[10] around places and I usually see some nodding heads and
[11] I get it; but I want to talk a little bit beyond that,
[12] too. You know, how you vote is a personal choice. I
[13] get that. That's your right. I understand that.
[14] People vote for different things. But when I stand up
[15] here as your national secretary-treasurer, my job is
[16] to tell you who is the best candidate for you as a
[17] letter carrier. And that's my responsibility. What
[18] you do with that information, that's for you to do.
[19] But I can tell you right now that what's best for you
[20] as a letter carrier, what's best for the company that
[21] you work for, what's best for you as a retiree is to
[22] get behind Hillary Clinton as president of the
[23] United States and not the other candidate.
[24] Actually, did anybody see this this
[25] morning? So I'm walking down here this morning; and,
[1] of course, it catches my eye, right, Trump's trail of
[2] unpaid bills. You know, because I get asked a lot of
[3] times -- I do. I get asked when I'm out what do you
[4] think about, you know, Donald Trump. And I said I
[5] have my opinion; but, you know, you can talk to me
[6] about it later. But people say, well, how did you
[7] feel about, you know, us as labor; and I always say,
[8] well, you should look at the record, right. And right
[9] in the newspaper -- this will help you decide -- Trump
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[25] So I was going to try to give you an update on kind of

## Page 104

[1] a little bit on the history and where we are today and
[2] what we're working on and some of the things that we
[3] are trying to do and maybe some a little explanation
[4] of where that came from. I know we've been talking
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[8] there's probably folks in the room that haven't heard
[9] it, right.
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[22] with the recession and everything that went on, lots
[23] of members of Congress were not our friends, have used
[24] that to try and be the catalyst to do other things
[25] that they would like to do. You heard Charles Clark,
[1] the Postal Service to pay that, right. And, in fact, [2] we missed a few payments on that, right.
[3] So for the longest time, you know, we were
[4] playing defense; and we play defense very well. We're
[5] very good at it. We've got friends in Congress --
[6] it's important to have friends -- and all the carriers
[7] that called your representatives and wrote letters and
[8] went to Washington and did all those things to make
[9] them understand that was not the right thing to do, we
[10] were very successful in doing that.
[11]
[12] point, you know, you play defense for a long time, but
[13] you need to come up with a solution to the problem,
[14] right. You need at some point to play offense. And
[15] that's what we've been working on a lot lately is
[16] turning it around and actually coming up with
[17] solutions to the problems, right. And we've actually
[18] tried a few different things over the times to correct
[19] it.
[20] We proposed some things that didn't
[21] necessarily fly; but we're to a point now to where,
[22] you know, we've come up with a solution and we've got
[23] some key people that are involved that has changed
[24] basically the landscape of what we were trying to do.
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You know, we played defense, played
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defense. We tried some offensive things. The problem
was, and you probably know this, at one point not even
all the unions in the Postal Service were in agreement
on what the heck we needed to do to fix the problem,
right. All of the four national unions were going in,
you know, and saying different things.
So it was really, really important that
all the unions got on the same page; and we did that.
It's been a little while since we did that, but we got
the coalition started. And we started with the other unions in the Postal Service; so the APWU, the rural carriers, the mail handlers, and ourselves signed this, you know, coalition and said that we would be one force going in and dealing with this issue.

And it really had an immediate effect. It really did. We had this coalition for a while; but even members of Congress have noticed when all four of the union presidents walk in the room that they can't, you know, pick and choose, and say, well, I can do this because, you know, they may not like it, but they do. So there was a whole, you know, I had an excuse to do what I was doing, right, because I was at least helping one of the unions in the Postal Service. They can't do that anymore. So that was very important.

If we wanted to play offense, we also
[1] needed to get the mailers on board, right. So we
[2] worked -- and "we," I say the NALC worked -- to get a
[3] coalition of mailers together that can work with us
[4] for a solution. And it was also important to get the
[5] Postal Service on board. And we were never able to do
[6] that over the course of time Donahoe was in there
[7] because everything he said he went and screamed and
[8] did the opposite. But now I can tell you that we have
[9] that with Postmaster Brennan. When it comes to this
[10] coalition on legislation, we're all together. We've
[11] got the unions, the mailers, and the Postal Service on
[12] the same page.
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Now, I say that is a good thing; but you
need to understand, it's an extremely fragile
coalition because any wild thing can happen and it can
blow up, right. So it's really important to keep
focused on what we're trying to accomplish and not get
too crazy and try to do a lot of different things
because you're going to lose part of that coalition.
So now we have the coalition of stakeholders; and, like I said, we built it, it's fragile, but at least it's together. And we need to keep it together if we're going to be able to do something.

So we have an idea of what we can propose

Page 111
[1] that will fix the problem. It's very narrow. It's
[2] only got a few things in it. You know, we're talking
[3] about the prefunding part and dealing with the rates
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[5] and, you know, some other things that maybe we could
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[17] world screaming and yelling -- yeah, I love it.
[18] Darrell Issa, boo, everybody knows who he is. You
[19] know, he would scream and shout; and he was, of
[20] course, one of the biggest proponents of, you know,
[21] kill everything, collective bargaining, you know, five
[22] day, four day, whatever the heck it is. And he's not
[23] there anymore, right. And so this kind of screaming
[24] and yelling really doesn't happen. But just because
[25] nobody is screaming and yelling from D.C. doesn't mean

Page 110
[1] the issue hasn't gone away. We have to come up with a
[2] solution to the problem, right; and I hope everybody
[3] understands that.
[4] So let me first go through a part of the
[5] solution that we had offered. I know there's been a
[6] lot of questions about it. There may not be any more
[7] because we've talked about it so much. But just in
[8] case, I want you to hopefully understand it.

One of the parts of the legislation deals
[10] with the Medicare integration. And just to give you a
[11] backdrop, remember we've got to pay the prefunding,
[12] right. And at one point, you know, we thought it was
[13] about $\$ 85$ billion. Basically it's about $\$ 100$ billion
[14] liability. And right now the Postal Service, even
[15] through all this, all these things that have happened,
[16] you know, with the recession and everything, has
[17] actually already put away $\$ 50$ billion. So there's
[18] $\$ 50$ billion sitting in that account already, right.
[19] So the idea is how do you get it to where
[20] that liability is gone, right? You've got to come up
[21] with a solution to make that happen. Otherwise,
[22] what's the headline always going to be? The Postal
[23] Service is broke, right, because when they talk about
[24] the money, they take that into consideration and say,
[25] well, the Postal Service isn't making money. Well,
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[23] already have -- when you're eligible to sign up for
[24] it, we already have 85 percent of our members that are
[25] in Medicare Part A and Part B. And Part B is the one

Page 112
[1] that you have to pay the extra for, right; and that's
[2] what we're talking about, the integration, okay.
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[7] allow us to negotiate for discounted prescription drug
[8] rates, because right now we don't have the ability to
[9] do that. You can't do that, okay. And if you do
[10] that, of course, that would benefit everybody, right,
[11] lower prescription rates. So that would be part of
[12] it. We'd be allowed to negotiate for that.
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[19] the case. Us as a group would be able to negotiate
[20] for that. Whether you want Part D or not is up to [21] you, right.
[22]
[23] largest. Eighty-five percent of our folks already are
[24] in it. We'd be able to negotiate for lower
[25] prescription drug rates. Of course, if we had more

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Then there's also going to be a hardship

Page 114
[1] exception because certainly maybe we have members that
[2] live overseas and there's no services that they could
[3] even use, so there's going to be a hardship exemption
[4] for somebody that's like it makes no sense for me to
[5] do this because I can't get any benefit from doing
[6] that.
[7] If we do all of that and integrate and get
[8] the lower prescription and have the lower premiums for
[9] everybody, our 50 -- remember, I said that we owe
[10] 100 billion. We already have 50 billion in the bank.
[11] If we do all that, our liability to pay off that
[12] amount goes to -- it will save us $\$ 50$ billion. I
[13] guess that's the way I should say it. We've got 50
[14] in. We owe 100. It's going to save $\$ 50$ billion. So
[15] if you can do the math, that makes our liability zero,
[16] right, fully funded for that, for the prefunding. So
[17] that's why this is -- you know, we came up with a
[18] solution. We can do all of this and all the sudden
[19] our debt is paid off and we can move on and go on to
[20] other things.
[21] So that's why we offered that. I hope
[22] that explains a little bit of it. If anybody has any
[23] more questions afterwards, please, you know, come and
[24] ask me. If I don't know the answer, I promise you I
[25] will find the answer. But that's why that integration
[1] is part of the bill, all right. So I wanted to talk
[2] to you a little bit about that.
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[7] money, as long as somebody can get up at a microphone
[8] or go to the press and say, you know, they lost money,
[9] right, because that's what they talk about, the issue
[10] doesn't go away. And when that issue is there, the
[11] people that aren't our friends are going to use it to
[12] do what, to try and take away your collective
[13] bargaining rights, to try and take away your pay, to
[14] try and take away your retirement, to cut services.
[15] That issue is still going to be there.
[16] That's why we need to come up with a [17] solution to the problem, and I hope everybody
[18] understands that. And if you've got members back in
[19] your branch that are asking about some of this stuff,
[20] please inform them. You know, they need to know
[21] what's going on and what we're trying to do and the
[22] need to address that issue in Washington, D.C.,
[23] because it's not just going to go quietly away, right.
[24] It's still there, okay.
[25]
All right. So some other things -- still

Page 116
[1] with me? The lights haven't turned off. That's good,
[2] right. It's about time for this side, right. They
[3] need a little break over here. Lasagna. That was a
[4] great joke, wasn't it? Now every time somebody says
[5] pardon me, I'm going to say lasagna. That was great.
[6] Okay. Some other things that I just want
[7] to put on your radar, some things that are going on,
[8] of course, is some other crazy stuff that is going on
[9] in Washington, D.C. while all this is going on, oh my
[10] gosh, the board of governors, the PRC, the OIG. We've
[11] got a lot of things going on.
[12]
[13] I mentioned Isca earlier and now he's not therew
[14] screaming anymore, you need to know a little bit about
[15] the folks that are the charge of the committees now.
[16] So on the Senate committee, we have Senator Johnson.
[17] If I'm not mistaken -- this is terrible. I think he's
[18] from Minnesota or Wisconsin, somewhere up there. But
[19] even though he's not screaming and yelling from the
[20] rooftops, he has been -- he's publicly said and it was
[21] after we printed -- I don't know how long ago. He
[22] actually was asked at one point what the Post Office
[23] should do to fix their problems, and his answer was
[24] they should just file for bankruptcy and kill all the
[25] collective bargaining agreements. So Senator Johnson
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[1] like that, members of the Senate have a privilege that
[2] they can hold those nominees; and we actually have
[3] friends in the Senate that have held all those
[4] nominees because, you know, some of them just
[5] shouldn't be on the board of governors overseeing the
[6] Postal Service. So they've got a hold on them, and
[7] that's where it is. And keep that in mind because I'm
[8] going to circle back around to that board of governors
[9] in a little bit.
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[19] vacancies on the board of governors. We've got a [20] vacancy on the PRC.
[21] [22] board of governors is the group that actually governs [23] the Postal Service, right. They're supposed to work
[24] with the Postmaster General and the chief executive
[25] officer, and they govern what goes on in the Postal

Page 118
[1] mailers there. I'm trying to remember who else was
[2] there. But there was a panel. So certainly that's
[3] just to give you a flavor of who is in charge of our
[4] committees now.
[5] So that's what's going on at least in the
[6] Senate. Now, some other things that are going on -- I
[7] think everybody knows this -- our board of governor,
[8] because we only have one and that person's term is
[9] done December 7th, so, you know -- but even though
[10] we're down to one, actually there have been some
[11] nominees that have been put forward. A lot of times
[12] those nominees go like the double, you know,
[13] Republican, Democrat. A lot of times that's how
[14] nominees for certain things are done.

So there have been nominees put forward.
[15]
[16] For those of you that have been keeping up with it,
[17] there were some nominees that we certainly didn't
[18] like, obviously Miller -- I can't even think of his
[19] first name -- was nominated again. For those of you
[20] that have been around for a while like me, my fellow
[21] CCA/TE folks and the folks in the room, he's been on
[22] our board before and that's the guy that, you know,
[23] his goal in life is to privatize the Postal Service.
[24] So he was one of the nominees that got put forward.
[25]
But anytime there's a nominee put forward
That's my alarm. wake you up.

SISTER RHINE: So what do you think that [20] the board of governors, the PRC, and the OIG, the [21] inspector general that oversees the Postal Service
[22] have in common? Who do you think nominates the people [23] for those positions?

AUDIENCE: The president.
SISTER RHINE: The president of the

Page 122
[1] United States. So don't you think it's very important
[2] who's in the White House?
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[5] year, they're going to have to do something. They're
[6] going to have to do a board of governors, right. So
[7] that's why we wanted to kind of walk you through all
[8] that. It's extremely important because the White
[9] House has a direct connection with the folks that
[10] oversee the Postal Service, the company we all work
[11] for. So those are extremely important positions and
[12] it's extremely important who's in the White House,
[13] right. That has a direct effect on each and every one
[14] of us, all right.
[15] Okay. So let me tell you a little bit
[16] about -- I always get ahead of my notes, so l've got
[17] to go back. So, again, we've got all this going on;
[18] and there's another thing that I -- that we've been
[19] going around and explaining to folks just so you
[20] understand another thing that happened with the 2006
[21] law other than, well, the payments obviously. But
[22] there was another kind of little caveat with it.
[23]
So when we did the 2006 law when we got
[24] the prefunding requirement, there were some other
[25] things that were going on in discussions that were
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[23] the bill was passed for the first ten years they would
[24] try the Senate's version of a new way of setting
[25] rates, and then the House would get their chance,

Page 124
[1] right.
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[7] business agent this morning when he said there wasn't
[8] going to be any COLA, right, if you notice over the
[9] last ten years, that really hasn't been the case,
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But basically that's kind of where we are

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[2] happened and we need to raise rates.

When the economy crashed, the Postal [16] Service did just that, right. They went and filed for [17] an exigency rate and got it. And then there was this [18] big argument of how long does that last, does it [19] expire. There were hearings. There was all -- you
[20] know, people weighed in on both sides; and eventually
[21] the ruling was is that it's not forever, it expires.
[22] That's how postage just went back down, right, because
[23] that exigency rate went away. But, you know, perfect
[24] timing, right, let's lower the price of stamps right
[25] when we're in negotiations. So that's always great

Page 126
[1] timing, right.
[2] But that's how that happened, in case you [3] were wondering what happened there. And, of course,
[4] the Postal Service could go back and ask for another
[5] rate increase. But that's where we came to be, right.
[6] So the other thing that I wanted to talk
[7] about that you needed to know, because there's lot of
[8] misconception about this, too, because keep in mind
[9] that the 2006 law said you owe this much money and
[10] you've got to pay it over ten years' time and we've
[11] had some folks say, well, at the end of ten years,
[12] right, we're done, right. Ten years are over. It's
[13] all over with. No, it's not.
[14] There was actually language put into the
[15] bill that said two things will happen at the end of
[16] ten years. You still have two payments left at the
[17] end of ten years. One would be the normal cost for an
[18] additional year of coverage. That was already in the
[19] law, right. It was like you were going to prefund all
[20] this; and then when we get to the end of ten years,
[21] you've still got one more payment and it's going to be
[22] normal cost for another year. We will figure that out
[23] when we get there, right.
[24] But the other part of it was that you also
[25] had to make a payment and you had to -- they had to
[1] amortize the unfunded liability. So you've got to pay
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[24] We've got all these solutions, but we still need what? [25] We still need the people to vote for the bills, right.
[1] We've still got to have the right people in place in
[2] Congress that will support those issues, and we've got
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[5]
[6] the things that we're doing.
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[10] because, you know, I always like to say this when I'm
[11] going, the folks that you have that are sponsors of
[12] our bills, that's great. But I noticed all of them
[13] had a "D" behind their name, right. And sometimes,
[14] I've got to tell you, I don't understand that because
[15] the Postal Service isn't a partisan issue, right. We
[16] deliver mail to every corner of this country no matter
[17] where you are. No matter whether you're a Democrat or
[18] a Republican or an independent or whatever it is, you
[19] know, the Postal Service is one of those great things
[20] that touches everybody American no matter -- you know,
[21] no matter, you know, when or what you do for a living,
[22] anything. Everybody is equal, right. And so I
[23] never -- l've got to tell you, it's frustrating to me;
[24] and I never understand how it becomes a partisan issue
[25] because it shouldn't be, like I said. And I hope --

Page 130
[1] you know, we need to talk to those folks because the
[2] Postal Service is required -- you know, delivery of
[3] mail is required by what?
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United
[7] States. And, you know, when I think of the folks that
[8] say I'm not going to support that, I'm like,
[9] seriously. The Postal Service is in the Constitution
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## AUDIENCE: Law.

SISTER RHINE: The Constitution of the of the United States.

We employ more veterans than any other company other than the government, right. How many veterans are in the room? See, I mean, it's amazing. That is absolutely amazing. Number one, thank you for what you did for this country. I'm not a veteran, but I am so proud that I get to represent veterans. That is a true honor. We hire so many veterans, and we touch rural America. So I just don't understand how it has become a partisan issue.

So for all those folks that you have "R"s
[21] behind, I hope, you know -- and I know you have. I'm [22] not digging to say you haven't talked to one. But, [23] you know, to me I just would want to keep beating, you [24] know, them over the head and say, look, the people in [25] your district care about the Postal Service.
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[21] [22] we
[25] members of Congress. Certainly when we get something

Page 132
It's always so fun when I hear from members of Congress. I was just in New Hampshire last weekend, and they had one of the senators from the state come to the banquet. You know, she was up on postal issues and she says, you know, she was for all this. She says, l've got to tell you, there was an announcement that they were going to close this Post Office in this little bitty town. She said, number one, I didn't even know they had a Post Office there. But, number two, I knew right away because every person in that town was calling my office telling me to fix the problem.

So if you think people don't care about the Postal Service, that's what, you know, amazes me about members of Congress about not getting behind that. You know, that's something people that live in your district are very passionate about is their Post Office; and they don't want it taken away.

So, like I said, I'm befuddled by the
folks that want to do that. But, like I said, it doesn't mean we're going to stop. It doesn't mean we're going to stop asking them to support it because it's the right thing to do.

So do everything you can to talk to your
[1] going, we're going to need their support to get it
[2] passed, right.
[3] All right. I just wanted to wrap it up
[4] with just kind of tell you some other things that are
[5] going on. I know Paul got up this morning and talked
[6] about the veterans group already. I think that's
[7] something that is really cool that we're doing to
[8] recognize the veterans that work for the Post Office
[9] and their members of our union. So if you haven't
[10] signed up for that, please do. I think it's going to
[11] be a great thing. You get this great lapel pin that
[12] he's wearing that you can be proud of. And I know
[13] we're working on doing a lot of things for the
[14] veterans group. I think that was a great thing that
[15] we're doing.
[16] Something else that we're working on.
[17] We're actually working on a new app that we're -- I
[18] don't know when it will be done, but we're developing
[19] it right now, which is something that is kind of cool,
[20] like, here we are. Most people obviously, you know,
[21] use their phones, right. So we're working on an
[22] actual NALC app, so I'm sure there will be more
[23] information on that.
[24] We've been doing some different trainings
[25] that have been going on. I thought I would mention

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[23] we did. We actually had this huge conference. I
[24] think it was about 200 folks, wasn't it, Paul,
[25] somewhere around there --

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[15] went really well. We actually had it, I think it was,
[16] in January back in St. Louis. There were about 200
[17] folks there, too, from all over the country. And I
[18] didn't get to go. I know President Rolando went and
[19] your Director of City Delivery, Brian Renfroe, did
[20] that with some of the staff. I guess it was a really
[21] great conference. I know we've talked about, you
[22] know, maybe thinking about doing something else in the [23] future.
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But it was really interesting to have, you
[25] know, an entire room of brand-new employees that
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> NALC has been a sponsor of MDA for over [23] 50 years. And, of course, we know September is [24] usually when they have the MDA telethons. But we've [25] noticed that a lot of the branches have really dropped
out and not participated as much as they normally do.
They still haven't come up with a cure, but they still
are doing research. And in order to continue the
research, they need phones. We've even had members of this association to be up there. So we can't push that on the back burner.

Tim is our state MDA rep, so I would ask Tim if he would come up. Don't go out the door, Tim. His phone was ringing.
SISTER RHINE: It was out in the hall.
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We want to keep this on the forefront because it's real important. Years ago they thought it was important when it was in its infancy as far as research, and research now is even more important.

So, Tim, if you would come and share and give your experience, especially when we sponsor people to the camps. They really appreciate it. But Tim knows more about it, so he's going to talk about it.

BROTHER McCRAY: Good afternoon. AUDIENCE: Good afternoon.
BROTHER McCRAY: I'm going to wake everybody up. Anybody got any good jokes? SISTER RHINE: Lasagna.

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when I came in, he was the coordinator for Branch 73 and some of the other people that were working with him that really taught me a lot about what to do. We used to do the roadblocks at that time, and we made plenty of money on the roadblocks. At that time Branch 73 used to do about what, 50,000. 50,000 was easy for Branch 73 to do because of the roadblocks. UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: First branch over 100,000.

BROTHER McCRAY: Huh?
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: First branch over 100,000.

BROTHER McCRAY: Okay. First branch over
100,000. So we've done quite a few things at

Don mentioned earlier that a lot of the

We still do the Bowl-A-Thon. There are
he says: "Oh, ladies and gentlemen, I think we've got
a winner here. Who put in the hundred dollars?"
All the way in the back of the church was a guy sitting down and he raised his hand and he said,
"Pastor, I gave that hundred dollars." He says:
"Come on up here, young man. You get to pick the
hymn for the day." He says, "I pick him and him and him."

Savannah, Georgia.
(Laughter.)
SISTER RHINE: Nobody can top that now.
Don't even try to tell a joke after that.
BROTHER McCRAY: We pulled the coal out of fire this time.

I have a few things to say about MDA. I just want to thank you all, first of all, for all the
things that you do for MDA. This is my 35th year working with the branch and the state for MDA. I've been doing it for 35 years. I started my first year when I was in the Post Office when I came in in 1981. And l've been working ever since, so this is my 35th year of doing it and I enjoy doing it.
(Applause.)
BROTHER McCRAY: I would like to thank
some of the pioneers along the way. Raymond Griggs,
[1]
[2]
[3]
[4]
[5]
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[7]
[8]
[9]
quite a few different fundraisers that you can do, but I believe in the Bowl-A-Thon. I pick up my bowling ball one time a year, at Bowl-A-Thon. And this year my highest game was 229. So anybody who can bowl, I challenge you, you know. Bowl one time a year and come out and bowl 229, okay. But it's fun.

And this year -- last year Branch 73 raised a little over $\$ 11,000$ for the fundraiser. And this year, in Branch 73 we're at $\$ 16,738$ so far.
(Applause.)
BROTHER McCRAY: So in actuality a lot of times it kind of scares me because when they call us and tell me to go ahead and coordinate the Bowl-A-Thon, I don't know how many teams are going to show up. This time we had eight teams, something like eight teams, to show up; and we actually had less people but raised more money. So sometime it works out that way.

I would urge you all as branch leaders to go ahead and try to put together a Bowl-A-Thon. If you have any questions, you can get with me; and I can help you set it up. Find a bowling center. And a lot of times a lot of the bowing centers will give you a discount in the bowling part of it and then in return give you back a donation to MDA. So that's the

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bowling centers that we're working with, that's what they do. So we want you all to just have fun and make money for the kids.

Now, one of the things that we look forward to doing every year is trying to raise enough money. Now, personally, I'm retired; and I still do the fundraiser. I used to do about four or five thousand dollars a year when I was an active letter carrier; and I still do right now over \$1500 a year, right around that amount. But I look forward to trying to make enough money every year to send at least one child to summer camp.

In order to send one child to summer camp, it takes about $\$ 850$. I would like for everybody in here if you can, come next year, commit yourself to trying to raise about $\$ 850$ to sponsor one child to summer camp.

Now, let's talk a little bit about summer camp. How many people in here have been to summer camp, MDA summer camp? How many? Anybody like to just share a little bit of what goes on at summer camp?

Raymond, come up and tell them a little bit what goes on in summer camp.

If you have never been to MDA summer

$$
[1]
$$

[2]

You can't imagine what it means to them.
[22] They wake up every morning, and they have to depend on
[23] a caregiver to get them dressed, some of them even
[24] have to wear diapers, put their shoes, take them to
[25] school, feed them, take them to the doctor, have

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[1] medical treatment. They depend on somebody to do

BROTHER McCRAY: Now, the camp this year [22] will be down again in Rutledge, Georgia; and the camp [23] will run from July 10th through the 16th. If you are [24] interested in attending the visitors day, write this [25] number down. I want you to call Veronica because
[1]
[2]
[3]
she'll tell you exactly what day we can come out. I will be there again on visitors day this year. I'm looking forward to it. The number is 770-621-9800. Ask for Veronica, and she can give you all the information that you need.

But we're asking everybody to please, if you can, just one time, if you could just experience summer camp, I guarantee it will change your whole way of thinking about MDA because when I got a chance to see that, then it really changed me.

Now, some other things that went on in my life that kind of made me think about the fact that it could be me, I decided -- in 1985 I had a knee operation. I popped a quadriceps muscle in my right knee on the basketball court. Back then, 2011, everybody remember when we had the ice storm. Well, I was off from work on sick leave and actually went out to put the garbage can out on the ice day for some reason -- I don't know why -- slipped on the driveway, and reinjured the same quadriceps again. So I had to go back through surgery again in 2011.

After they completed the surgery, the quadriceps popped loose again. So l've had three surgeries on my right knee. A lot of times you see me with the braces on my right knee. It's the fact that

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my right knee is not in good shape. I can't
straighten my leg out. There are a lot of things.
But think about the fact if something like that can happen to you or if you were one of these kids and, God forbid, something happened and then you end up with a wheelchair. Think about that. And when you start looking at life in a different way, then you can start thinking differently about things that we do.

So the challenge now for all of the branches and all the people, individuals who are not doing anything, like Raymond said, sponsor a child. Even if your branch is not doing anything, think about sponsoring one or two kids to summer camp, \$850. $\$ 850$, okay, per child. At least sponsor one. But if you can do more than one, do three or four, make that your goal every year and step up to the plate, okay.

Branch 73 will be in the game as long as I'm around, okay, and I'll make sure of that. But I have good support. I have a lot of good people that are working with me with MDA, and we're going to continue to do what we're dong.

So anybody have any questions?
BROTHER LOYD JOHNSON: Loyd Johnson,
Branch 73, treasurer, retired. I'd just like to share
something else with you that we do in Branch 73. Some of you may not be able to field bowling teams or have a Bowl-A-Thon or whatever. But if you take certain forms to the practitioners, businesses, things of that nature in your area, they'll be more than happy to give you donations. And they do it fruitfully, gladly. And it's good for them because it's another tax write-off. So there again is another idea to raise money and funding for MDA, and you'll easily be able to sponsor at least one, if not two or three kids.

Thank you.
(Applause.)
BROTHER McCRAY: Now, the other thing Don mentioned is the fact that the research is still ongoing. So one of the things we have to look at is the fact that the research has not stopped. Just think about the fact that if one of your family members or one of your friends -- like again, it hit Branch 73 years ago. A person that used to work side by side with me raising money ended up getting Lou Gehrig's disease and then he passed away. It didn't take a long time after that.

So everybody remember Earl Speedy Davis?
[25] We used to work closely together making money for MDA.

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[1] And every roadblock he would come out to my station
[2] and roadblock with me. We would go out to Cumberland
[3] where he was and we would roadblock with him and we
[4] made plenty of money, but then all of the sudden I
[5] heard that he was down. But this man supported MDA
[6] until his last breath. He was there. He gave money
[7] even when he was in his wheelchair.
[8]
[9] all understand is this: Think about it if it was you
[10] or somebody in your family. It's important, okay.
[11] And we want to continue supporting letter carriers,
[12] supporting, showing them that we do care about people
[13]
[14]
[15]
[16]
[17]
[18]
[19] somebody from a branch have sponsored somebody in
[20] summer camp. We're going to do that?
[25] going to look forward to it. I'm going to talk about

## you.

All right. Thank you very much.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: At this time we'll have the vice president, Jacob Alston, come and give our
Royal E. Smith Scholarship report.
BROTHER ALSTON: Good evening.
AUDIENCE: Good evening.
BROTHER ALSTON: I'm going to do something
a little different this time. I'm going to read a letter that I sent to the presidents and members of their branches concerning the scholarship fund so you'll understand what we're trying to do in the state to help keep this scholarship find viable so we can help educate our children.

Dear Branch Presidents/Officers, the Royal E. Smith Scholarship Fund is in need of your help. The scholarship fund is 100 percent funded by branch contributions. Last year, there were about seven branches -- it varies from year to year -- that sent donations to the scholarship fund. This year I'm asking that each branch please send what you can to help the scholarship fund. This fund cannot survive without your branch support.

We have a chance to leave a legacy behind.

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I appreciate it. Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: We still have about
25 minutes before we can have nominations, so we have
two things in mind. Chuck, if you will come up and
give us a political fund report. And Gladys came up
with this shirt that she wants the state to consider
for national convention. And the blue on there, she
wants the blue removed and leave it -- you want red?
Any color? White?
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Peach. If you leave it all peach, you won't be able to see the peach.

SISTER RAINEY: Gladys, retired. I didn't want no T-shirt up here. You all want a T-shirt. I was thinking of a peach golf shirt.
(Audience crosstalking.)
SISTER RAINEY: I was thinking maybe we
could get a peach with what's on that shirt, not the
writing at the bottom, but to blot out that blue

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Georgia just be in black. But if you all got some suggestions, let's hear it.
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Any suggestions? I'm asking are there any suggestions? If you've got a suggestion, please come to the mike.

SISTER RAINEY: Georgia is the Peach
State. That's why I said peach.
SISTER JAMES: My suggestion would be make the State of Georgia the color of the peach. Rose James, Branch 73. Make the blue the peach color.
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: One at the time, please.

SISTER RAINEY: Would the State of Georgia in the peach show up good on a peach shirt?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I thought it was going to be white.
(Audience crosstalking.)
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Leave peach shirt white and make the State of Georgia peach color. Anybody?
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: It's obvious that
[25] someone has something to say because I hear a lot of
[1]
conversation. All we want you to do if you have a comment about it or have something to say, please come to the mike so everyone can hear you.

SISTER COLEY GREENE: Coley Greene, retired, Branch 73.

I think if we could we have a shirt that's the color of peach that Eric had on this morning, it's a good color and then keep the emblem the way it is.
(Audience crosstalking.)
UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Peach, the shirt the color that Eric had on this morning. Well, a peach color or, you know, between pink and peach, apricot; and then keep the emblem the way it is because even though the Crips have a blue color as long as their entire shirt is not blue and just the state outline, it will be okay.

BROTHER BEN TURNER: All right. Thank you. I don't know what's wrong. The shirts we got already looks good. I mean, why should we change? (Applause.)
BROTHER BEN TURNER: Oh, Benny Turner, Branch 73, active. But the shirts we always have, I think they look appropriate already.
(Audience crosstalking.)
BROTHER SLOAN: Eric Sloan, Branch 73.
[1] Let me explain. During the COP Committee there were
[2] some things with the delegation from California. And
[3] the reason that the COP committee, Ms. Rainey and some
[4] of the other members, came up with the idea about
[5] changing the color of the shirts, because we are going
[6] to Los Angeles. We are going to Los Angeles, and
[7] there's been a lot of conversation and contact during
[8] the COP that -- we attended that one about a month
[9] ago. There was a lot of conversation about what color
[10] we'd wear due to the fact we told them that we'd wear
[11] our red shirts and our red vests. They were told be
[12] careful with two colors you wear when you're in the
[13] area. That's red and blue, red and blue.
[14]
[15]
[16] at are the shirts that we had when we were at the COP
[17] committee. That's where the idea came about changing,
[18] talking to Mr. Brown, who was the hosting branch,
[19] Branch 24. They said be careful of the colors you
[20] wear because we're going to be in the heart of
[21] Los Angeles. So, therefore, we came up with the idea
[22] to bring to the convention here about changing the
[23] color for the T-shirt.
[24] Thank you.
[25] (Audience crosstalking.)
bold enough to wear your red shirt, only wear it at
the convention center. Outside of the convention
center, it is your life that's at stake.

SISTER HUMPHREY: Veronica Humphrey,

## [20] Branch 1119.

 [21] I see what you're saying about the State[22] of Georgia, but the National is bigger than the State [23] of Georgia. So what we going tell everybody that [24] comes to National, you all need to wear a peach shirt [25] or everybody change their clothes?

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[1] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: It's up to the [2] individuals.
[3]
[4] payin
[4] paying attention to this being an issue? They've set
[5] this up and they want us out there. Do they see it as
[6] being an issue because it's not just Atlanta's issue?
[7] Our union as a whole needs to be protected.
[8] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Agree. First l've [9] heard of it.
[10] Ms. Rhine, are you aware of anything to [11] that effect?
[12] [13] though.
[14] (Audience crosstalking.)
[15] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: In answer to this
[16] question, all the persons nationwide at the COP got
[17] the same information. So I'm sure they're sharing the
[18] same information that we have. So it's not that it's
[19] just us. Everybody got the same information. Am I [20] right?
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: All right. Thank you. [23] Now, I don't know whether you all want to deal with [24] it, take a vote on it, or decide however. But this is [25] the first l've heard of it. Sister Rhine on the
] national committee, she wasn't aware of it.
[2]
SISTER RHINE: I can talk to Larry. I
took a note. I'll call Larry.
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: She said that she took a note of it. She took a note and she will call Larry
Brown. He's from LA and a national trustee. And we
will try to get some additional information.
But as Gladys stated, if you're going to
wear it, the suggestion would be to wear it inside the
convention center until we get some further
information. I mean, once she talks to Larry, I'm sure Larry will be able to give us some information. He's there in LA.

Okay. Chuck.
(Audience crosstalking.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Brothers and sisters, we are still in session. We are still in session, please.

BROTHER WINDHAM: We really must be desperate for time fillers when you bring me up this early, because I know --

PRESIDENT GRIGGS: No, we're not going to do the drawing.

BROTHER WINDHAM: We're not going to do

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[1] the drawing.
[2] Just to share some information with you, I
[3] know we had some questions about the 50/50; and, of
[4] course, most of the branches have stopped the 50/50
[5] and it's because of most states require you, if you
[6] have a raffle, even a church raffle, that you're
[7] required to have a license through the sheriff of that
[8] particular county where you're holding that raffle.
Well, Nicole, put your hand over your
[10] ears, please. I don't want you to carry any
[11] incriminating information back to Washington, D.C.
[12] because as a state organization we have found a way --
[13] we don't do a raffle. What we do is solicit funds
[14] from you and if you want to donate -- and I think the
[15] law requires if it's \$10 or more, then you're required
[16] to keep a record. And, of course, that record, I send
[17] it to the national as an individual during the time
[18] that I have been Director of Retired Members. Well,
[19] you make the donation, I send you your name in, and
[20] then the state association gives you a prize for
[21] participating.
[22]
We don't call that a raffle. We call it a [23] drawing. You've got your hands off your ears. But, [24] anyway, she was writing. She didn't hear that. But [25] we've continued to do that.
[1] millions of dollars. And it goes into both parties.
[2] But normally the majority of it goes from individuals
[3] who want to support the agenda to do away with your
[4] workers' rights, et cetera, and what have you.
[5]
But we will continue at least through
[6] tomorrow to solicit funds from you so we can send them
[7] in to the National and hope that you continue to
[8] participate.
[9] But we would encourage everyone,
[10] especially our branch officers, to go back and
[11] encourage the -- it used to be called the Give Me Five
[12] Program. I think probably it ought to be give me ten
[13] or more or all you can, because, you know, it's a fund
[14] that is well supported because it not only supports
[15] you and your job but your family and also the
[16] retirees, those of us who have been there before.
[17] And what else? I don't know any good
[18] jokes. Well, I do know a good joke. Well, I'm not so
[19] sure. Did anyone hear about, I guess it was, Lucille
[20] and Leroy, the children gave them a cruise for their
[21] 50th wedding anniversary. And, of course, they're
[22] coming out of the mountains of North Georgia; and they
[23] have never been on a cruise before. In fact, they
[24] have never left Hall County.
[25]
But, anyway, they get on the boat.

They're getting ready to take the cruise out of South
Florida down there. And how many of you in here have
been on a cruise? So a lot of you know what l'm talking about. You know, there's a lot of activity going on.

And, of course, you get on the boat.
You're getting ready to go to your berth, I guess. Is that what they call it? And if you'll notice that -of course, it probably is not true on a Carnival Cruise Line. But, you know, when you flush the commode, it's by vacuum, whoosh, right. Well, Lucille, being a very fastidious individual, she's around there with the wipes and all and making sure that the boat is real clean. But while she's sitting in the bathroom there, she decides that she'll go ahead and take care of a little business while she's there.

Well, as she's sitting on the commode, she reaches back and hits the flush button. Pop. Well, she's on it. She hollers for Leroy. "Leroy, you've got to help me out." Leroy comes in there. Leroy can't get her out. He can't break the seal. Well, Lucille says: "You've got to do something. I've got to get up from here." And he said, "Well, l'll go get an engineer." She said: "Oh, no, no. I'm in a compromised position." She said, "You can't bring him

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in here." He said, "Oh, here, take my hat." And he threw her a hat and threw it down over her lap.

Well, he brings the engineer in and he says, "Oh, Mr. Engineer, we've got a problem." He said, "Can you save my wife?" He looks at the situation. He said, "You know, we can save her," he said, "but I don't know about that little guy in the commode."
(Laughter.)
BROTHER WINDHAM: But, anyway, you know,
one thing I didn't tell you folks this morning, you know, it's been one heck of a ride for me and you are my family and I love you. And I'm not going to leave you completely. I'll come back and visit from time to time. But I do appreciate your support and everything that you have given the organization.

Thank you.
(Applause.)
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Thank you, Chuck.
Kenny is going to come back, and he has some recognition of folks on the committees.

BROTHER GIBBS: Hello again. I want to announce the leadership candidates for this year. Robert Hamilton from Branch 313. Robert. (Applause.)
$[1]$

$[2]$$\quad$ BROTHER GIBBS: Eric Sloan from Branch 73.0 (Applause.) | $[3]$ | BROTHER GIBBS: They'll be going to the |
| ---: | :--- |
| $[4]$ | leadership academy in July. |
| $[5]$ | I also want to recognize the retirees. |
| $[6]$ | Will the retirees please stand. |
| $[7]$ | (Applause.) |
| $[8]$ | BROTHER GIBBS: All the retirees are very |
| $[9]$ | important to us, if you're wondering why unions would |
| $[10]$ | keep them involved, and they help us in every |
| $[11]$ | category. They lead in the donations to the political |
| $[12]$ | fund. They're out canvassing. We have more retirees |
| $[13]$ | helping than we have active carriers. They set an |
| $[14]$ | example for us that we should all be proud to be in |
| $[15]$ | the company of those retirees. |
| $[16]$ | Thank you. |
| $[17]$ | (Applause.) |
| $[18]$ | BROTHER GIBBS: Now, I have some |
| $[19]$ | committees that we have, both Gulf Atlantic and South |
| $[20]$ | Georgia and Atlanta districts, that I want to |
| $[21]$ | recognize. |
| $[22]$ | If you're on a district safety committee, |
| $[23]$ | please stand up. Atlanta District first, Atlanta |
| $[24]$ | District. Jeff, you're not from Atlanta. |
| $[25]$ | (Laughter.) |

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[1] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We're all from [2] Atlanta.
[3] BROTHER GIBBS: These are the folks that
[4] go around and l'll tell you what they do. They visit
[5] Post Offices. They make sure that the Post Office
[6] building is safe. They check the parking lots. They
[7] check the vehicles. And then they go out and ride and
[8] talk to carriers and letter carriers who not only do
[9] unsafe acts but those who do good acts and they
[10] recognize those carriers.
[11] So I want to thank you all. They don't
[12] take any names of carriers when they find them doing
[13] wrong, but they do tell them how to do it the correct
[14] way. And that's very important.
[15] Thank you, guys. You may sit down.
[16] (Applause.)
[17] BROTHER GIBBS: Now, you all, we had a
[18] fatality a month ago in Covington, I believe it was, a
[19] rural carrier. They brought a picture, the safety
[20] team, not this district's safety team, but a safety
[21] team and the district manager brought a vehicle to be
[22] displayed at that office. And a young lady looked at
[23] that wrecked vehicle and said, "Thank you for bringing
[24] that vehicle for us to observe." That's same carrier
[25] was the one who got killed two days later.

So safety is very important, and we want to make sure that you give these committees, these members, the respect that they deserve. They're not trying to harm you. They're trying to help you.

Gulf Atlantic, stand up, please, and be recognized, district safety. Jeff, now you can stand up. Again, we thank you guys for the job you do in Savannah and Columbus.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Another group of people we
had that did an outstanding job is the city rep
because they added routes, they didn't take away
routes, they added routes, and they did a really good
job. If you're in the Atlanta District, please stand,
city reps. Don't be scared.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Thank you. If you're in
the Gulf Atlantic District, if you're the city rep,
please stand.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: You know, that's a tough
job, too. Those guys are people with angels within
them, I'll tell you, messing up some routes.
The next group I want to recognize is the
district EAP advisory committees. Those are a very

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important group of people. They promote the EAP process; and they have a voice, your voice, in everything that's done with the EAP. If you're the Gulf Atlantic District EAP, stand. Carol. Okay. I know Veronica is one.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Gulf Atlantic District
EAP. I know Tammy, you are, yes.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Thank you. And, finally, our arbitration advocate is the last line of defense. When you have a discipline case or a contract agreement, these are the people who go into towns and meet people they've never met before and deal with managers they have never dealt with before and put on a case before an arbitrator to save somebody's job. That's a very tough job to do.

Steve Wright, is Steve Wright in here? Steve.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: And Cob Covino. Bob.
(Applause.)
BROTHER GIBBS: Bob won his very first case a few weeks ago, so he's still happy about that. (Applause.)

## (Applause.)

BROTHER GIBBS: And that's not easy. It
[24] takes a lot of coordination, a lot of hard work, a lot
[25] of planning, a lot of time to host these events. So joke. I can't tell jokes.
[8] I heard Chuck mention about maybe they
[9] ought to go from giving five to giving ten. We can't
[10] get them to give five. And if you really think about
[11] it, I know that was a big laugh, but it's serious.
[12] A lot of you might not be aware of what
[13] they do with the funds other than give to political
[14] candidates. Those funds are used to release letter
[15] carriers to go out and work on campaigns, to actually
[16] release them so they can continue to get paid. So
[17] those funds are your funds that you contribute plays a
[18] big part, not just going to the candidates. All the
[19] money doesn't go to the candidates. It helps release
[20] people out in the field so they can go in the
[21] neighborhoods and get people out to vote, make phone
[22] calls. So don't think all the money that you
[23] contribute is just going to the candidates. It's not.
[24] But if I recall back in February, I said
[25] that your retirees on a percentage basis give more
[1] than the active carriers. And I'm just waiting to get
[2] the next report, and I hope that has changed or
[3] flipped that the active carriers are giving more than
[4] the retired carriers. You all make more money. You
[5] should contribute more.
[6]
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[17]
If you think that this political thing is
going away, I assure you, it's not. Now, Nicole went over that thoroughly; so I won't. But I just want you
to really think about when you get your paycheck that because of the legislature, all that can change. And, retirees, don't think that we have it made. At the stroke of a pen, a lot of that can change. So I'm just encouraging you to please ma'ams, please sirs consider the political letter carrier fund. Forget the DRR, just contribute; and our national officers, they know best how to use it.

I have one minute, and then we will open the floor for nominations. And I would be remiss if I did not wait until 3:30 because that's what our bylaws call for, and we will not be subject to a challenge because we did not open nominations at 3:30.

So if you will give me probably 30 more seconds. Brother Griggs?

BROTHER RAYMOND GRIGGS: Raymond Griggs, Branch 73.

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[1]

| $\text { Page } 173$ | $\text { Page } 175$ |
| :---: | :---: |
| [1] nominations? | [1] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Carl Hayes' name has |
| [2] (No response.) | [2] been placed in nomination for state treasurer. Are |
| [3] BROTHER ALSTON: All right. Are there any | [3] there any other nominations? |
| [4] nominations? | [4] (No response.) |
| [5] (No response.) | [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Any other nominations? |
| [6] BROTHER ALSTON: Hearing none, Don Griggs | [6] (No response.) |
| [7] has been elected president. | [7] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at |
| [8] (Applause.) | [8] the mike, nominations are closed. |
| [9] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: I really want to tak | [9] Carl Hayes, treasurer. |
| [10] this opportunity to thank you all that still have | [10] (Applause.) |
| [11] enough confidence in me to lead this organization. I | [11] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now |
| [12] will make a more appropriate speech, but right now | [12] open for the Director of Education. |
| [13] we're continuing with nominations. | [13] REVEREND CAMERON: Jim Cameron, Branch 73. |
| [14] Nominations are now open for the position | [14] I nominate Tim McCray. |
| [15] of vice president. | [15] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Tim McCray has been |
| [16] BROTHER BRYANT: Andy Bryant, Branch 2225. | [16] placed in nomination for Director of Education. Are |
| [17] I would like to nominate Jacob | [17] there any other nominations? |
| [18] vice president of the state association | [18] BROTHER BEN JACKSON: Ben Jackson, |
| [19] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Jacob Alston's name has | [19] Branch 73. I nominate Eric Sloan. |
| [20] been placed in nomination. Are there any other | [20] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: I didn't catch that. |
| [21] nominations? | [21] BROTHER BEN JACKSON: I would like to |
| [22] (No response.) | [22] nominate Eric Sloan. |
| [23] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other | [23] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Eric Sloan's name has |
| [24] nominations? | [24] been named placed in nomination for Director of |
| [25] (No response.) | [25] Education. Are there any other nominations? |
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| [1] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other | [1] BROTHER SLOAN: Eric Sloan, Branch 73. |
| [2] nominations? | [2] appreciate the nomination, but I respectfully decline |
| [3] (No response.) | [3] due to the fact that since I will be taking over as |
| [4] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Hearing none, | [4] branch president for Branch 73, that's a full-time |
| [5] nominations are closed. | [5] job. |
| [6] (Applause.) | [6] (Applause.) |
| [7] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Jacob Alston, | [7] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Eric Sloan has declined |
| [8] vice president. | [8] nomination. Are there any other nominations? |
| [9] Nominations now are open for the position | [9] (No response.) |
| [10] of recording secretary. | [10] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at |
| [11] BROTHER ASHERS: Carlos Sanchez, | [11] the mike, nominations are now closed. |
| [12] Branch 4862. I nominate Bob Johnson. | [12] The Director of Education, Tim McCray. |
| [13] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Bob Johnson's name has | [13] (Applause.) |
| [14] been placed in nomination for the position of | [14] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now |
| [15] recording secretary. Are there any other nominations? | [15] open for the Director of Retirees. Director of |
| [16] (No response.) | [16] Retirees. Director of Retirees. |
| [17] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Any other nominations? | [17] SISTER BOULWARE: Constance Boulware, |
| [18] (No response.) | [18] Branch 73. I nominate Gladys Rainey. |
| [19] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at | [19] SISTER RAINEY: I decline. |
| [20] the mike, nominations are closed. | [20] (Laughter.) |
| [21] (Applause.) | [21] BROTHER STRICKLAND: Branch 73, Kenny |
| [22] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now | [22] Strickland. I nominate Regal Phillips. |
| [23] open for the position of treasurer. | [23] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Regal Phillips' name |
| [24] BROTHER GEORGE JACKSON: George Jackson, | [24] has been placed in nomination as Director of Retirees. |
| [25] Branch 578. I nominate Carl Hayes for treasurer. | [25] Any other nominations? |


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| :---: | :---: |
| [1] (No response.) | [1] SISTER WORTHY-LINDLEY: Velma |
| [2] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other | [2] Worthy-Lindley, Branch 73. I nominate Rosemary James. |
| [3] nominations? | [3] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Rosemary James has been |
| [4] (No response.) | [4] placed in nomination for the executive board. |
| [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at | [5] Any other nominations? |
| [6] the mike, Regal Phillips. | [6] BROTHER RICH: William Rich, Branch 270. |
| [7] (Applause.) | [7] I nominate Ronnie Buie. |
| [8] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now | [8] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Ronnie Buie has been |
| [9] open for executive board chairperson. | [9] placed in nomination for the executive board. |
| [10] SISTER STEVENS: Johnnie Stevens. I've | [10] Any other nominations? |
| [11] got another jo | [11] (No response.) |
| [12] I nominate Bynoskia Sams -- Johnnie | [12] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other |
| [13] Stevens, Branch 578 -- as chairperson of the executive | [13] nominations? |
| [14] board. | [14] (No response.) |
| [15] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Bynoskia Sams' name has | [15] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other |
| [16] been placed in nomination as the chairperson of | [16] nominations? |
| [17] executive board. Are there any other nominations? | [17] BROTHER ROD THOMAS: Rod Thomas, |
| [18] (No response.) | [18] Branch 588. I nominate Ronney Harper. |
| [19] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other | [19] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Ronney Harper has been |
| [20] nominations? | [20] placed in nomination for the executive board. |
| [21] (No response.) | [21] Now, any other nominations? |
| [22] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at | [22] BROTHER YOUNG: Willie Young, Branch 1119. |
| [23] the mike, Bynoskia Sams. | [23] I nominate Veronica Humphreys. |
| [24] (Applause.) | [24] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Somebody already |
| [25] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now | [25] did. |
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| [1] open for four members of the executive board. | [1] (Audience crosstalking.) |
| [2] BROTHER HOLLENBERGER: Zane Hollenberger, | [2] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other |
| [3] Branch 73, executive board member. I nominate Pierre | [3] nominations? |
| [4] Sheppard from Branch 73. | [4] (No response.) |
| [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Pierre Sheppard's name | [5] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Are there any other |
| [6] has been placed in nomination for the executive board. | [6] nominations? |
| [7] BROTHER SHEPPARD: Pierre Sheppard, | [7] (No response.) |
| [8] Branch 73. I nominate Veronica Hoffman. | [8] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Nominations are now |
| [9] AUDIENCE: Veronica who? | [9] closed for members of the executive board. |
| [10] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Humphreys. | [10] UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Can you call out |
| [11] BROTHER SAMS: Bynoskia Sams, president of | [11] the names again, please. |
| [12] Branch 578, Savannah, Georgia. I nominate Carol | [12] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Bob, do you have them, |
| [13] Bailey, Columbus, Georgia. | [13] please. |
| [14] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Carol Bailey has been | [14] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Bob Johnson, |
| [15] placed in nomination. | [15] secretary of the state association. The executive |
| [16] BROTHER BARNER: Paul Barner, Branch 4862. | [16] board nominees are Pierre Sheppard. |
| [17] I nominate Eileen Ford. | [17] BROTHER ALSTON: When he calls your name, |
| [18] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Eileen Ford's name has | [18] will you please come up front, please. |
| [19] been placed in nomination for the executive board. | [19] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: The next person, |
| [20] Any other nominations? | [20] Veronica Humphreys, Carol Bailey, Eileen Ford -- |
| [21] BROTHER COVINO: Bob Covino, Branch 578. | [21] Eileen Ford, she's on the audit committee -- Tiawanna |
| [22] I nominate Tiawanna Jackson. | [22] Jackson, Rosemary James, Ronnie Buie -- he's on the |
| [23] PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Tiawanna Jackson has | [23] audit committee also -- and Ronney Harper. |
| [24] been placed in nomination for the executive board. | [24] (Audience crosstalking.) |
| [25] Any other nominations? | [25] BROTHER ROBERT JOHNSON: Is Steve Wright |

[1] will cast the second odd votes plus his three votes
[2] for a total of five votes.
[3] SISTER HAWKINS: Article VII, nominations
[4] and elections. Section 1: Nominations for all
[5] elective officers shall be made and received the first
[6] day of the convention at 3:30 p.m. and nominations
[7] shall be closed as soon as this order of business is
[8] completed. No person shall be permitted to accept
[9] nominations for more than one office at any one
[10] convention. No second shall be necessary to a
[11] nomination, and no nomination speeches will be
[12] permitted. When there is but one candidate for any
[13] office, the president shall declare such person has
[14] been elected.
[15] Section 2: Ballots shall be prepared
[16] showing office to which each has been nominated. The
[17] names of the nominees for all offices shall be printed
[18] in order nominated to each office that has two or more
[19] nominees.
[20] Section 3: When there is more than one [21] candidate for the same office, it shall require a [22] plurality of all votes cast for such office to elect.
[23] Section 4: Election of officers will take
[24] place on the second day of the convention. The polls
[25] will open from 8:00 a.m. until 9:30 a.m.
[1]
[2]
[3]
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[6] Isakson.

BROTHER RAYMOND GRIGGS: I for one am sick and tired of paying their salary to do absolutely nothing for this country; and it's time that we showed them that we're fed up with them and kick them out, send them back home, let them be unemployed.

I want to thank you, Brother Griggs, for
giving me this opportunity to talk about Johnny
(Applause.)
BROTHER LOYD JOHNSON: Brother President,
PRESIDENT GRIGGS: You may.
BROTHER LOYD JOHNSON: Illl be very, very
:
[21] very, very true, so we got to get out and vote. But
[22] there's something else that's going on right now that
[23] I'm becoming a part of and it's in the developmental
[24] stages and that is we need a government for the
[25] people, by the people, okay. And it's the ninth hour

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for us sending these people to Washington, D.C.
They're working two months out of the year. They even
got it now to where they light moon jobs with
retirement.
I'm for term limits. I'm working with
some people right now. We're going to put some things
in the Georgia House, hopefully within the next year
where we put term limits on these people. By doing
so, it would bring about a better, fairer, equal, and
a government that's of the people, for the people, and by the people.
(Applause.)
BROTHER SLOAN: Eric Sloan, Branch 73.
Members of Branch 73, after we adjourn, I need to see everybody here. Thank you.

PRESIDENT GRIGGS: Seeing no one else at the mike, we will stand in recess until 9:00 a.m. in the morning.
(Proceedings adjourned at 3:52 p.m.)

STATE OF GEORGIA:
COUNTY OF FULTON:

I hereby certify that the foregoing proceedings were taken down, as stated in the caption, and reduced to typewriting under my direction, and that the foregoing pages 1 through 187 represent a true, complete, and correct transcript of said proceedings. This, the 29th day of July, 2016.

LINDA C. RUGGERI, CCR-A-261

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