## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

## **BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE!**

Michael J. Hora, National Secretary-Treasurer





he NPMHU will be conducting its 2020 National Convention in Denver, Colorado, commencing on Monday, August 8, 2022. Please note that references to a 2020 Convention are not a typographical error. The 2020 quadrennial convention is still occurring but was delayed by two years by two pandemic-related postponements. Delegates representing each and every NPMHU Local Union will be in attendance at this twice-rescheduled quadrennial event. The delegates also will work together to set our Union's agenda for the coming years, and will discuss and debate the many issues of importance to all Mail Handlers. As set forth in our Union's National Constitution, while in Convention these elected delegates will serve as the single-highest governing body of the NPMHU.

As a result of the previous postponements, certain Convention-related tasks already have been completed, including National Officer elections and 2024 Convention site selection. In addition, we will not have convention business relating to a White House administration and Presidential endorsement. In Denver, we anticipate an abbreviated program compared to traditional NPMHU conventions. For these reasons, the Convention was trimmed to four days and will conclude on Thursday, August 11, 2022.

The theme for our 2020 National Convention is "NPMHU—Believe and Achieve!" This theme reflects on the importance of our craft, our faith in the value of the work we do, and the many triumphs of our organization and the challenges that lie ahead. Mail Handlers are united in our economic, political, and workplace struggles. Together, in unity, we can overcome adversities: we must Believe and Achieve.

As with prior NPMHU National Conventions, I am certain that the delegates to this 2020 Convention will gather with a very positive and energetic attitude, along with a genuine desire to attend to the necessary business of the NPMHU: to refine and improve its guiding laws and documents; to discuss and debate important issues facing the United States Postal Service; to press forward to protect and defend the American labor movement, and all working people.

To help set the stage for a productive and efficient Convention, various Convention committees, comprised of elected delegates, have been meeting and will continue to meet in Washington, DC during the weeks and months leading up to the Convention. The first committee to meet, the Credentials Committee, has done tremendous work reviewing the details and election certification for each of the delegates who is slated to participate when we gather in August. This committee will ultimately present a report for consideration and adoption by the delegates at the beginning of the Convention proceedings. Once formally seated, the delegates can, and certainly will, attend to the critical business of our Union and its members.

The Constitution Committee, the Resolutions Committee, and the Legislative and Political Committee will meet during June and July to discuss the merits of proposals submitted by the NPMHU membership for consideration. After full discussion and debate, these committees will each develop and adopt a series of recommendations, which will be presented for further consideration, possible amendment, and ultimately an up-or-down vote by the delegates. Once adopted by the Convention, any constitutional amendments will become part of the organic law of the NPMHU, and any adopted resolutions will effectively reflect and represent the will of more than 50,000 Mail Handlers across the United States.

One of the most important committees, the Rules Committee, also will meet prior to the Convention, and will discuss and propose for adoption by the delegates a set of rules to govern the proceedings and to provide for an orderly exchange of views during discussion and debate relative to issues of importance to all Mail Handlers. If recent Conventions are indicative of the tone that will be followed in Denver, I am certain that our delegates will, once again, engage in sometimes spirited—but always respectful—debate on the issues at hand.

I know that everyone involved in preparing for this Convention, along with all attendees in Denver, will work hard to ensure that the interests of all Mail Handlers are fairly and democratically represented.

Whether at our quadrennial convention, or in the halls of Congress, or on the workroom floor in postal facilities across the country, the groundwork for our Union's continuing success has been laid. The NPMHU has an efficient and effective network of representatives and activists who are prepared

to take action - whether on the political and legislative fronts, through the responsible enforcement of our collective bargaining agreement, through continued commitment to quality service and representation, or in any other necessary venue. Mail Handlers are prepared to stand strong, and will work like none other to preserve our craft, and to retain and build upon the success for which our Union is known.

In that spirit of strength and unity, the NPMHU is also fully engaged in National Contract negotiations which formally kicked off on June 10, 2022, in the Ben Franklin room at USPS Headquarters. The NPMHU and USPS made opening remarks committing to the process of good faith negotiations in mutual pursuit of a National Agreement. The NPMHU Bargaining Team includes President Paul Hogrogian, Secretary-Treasurer Michael Hora, CAD Manager Teresa Harmon, and National CAD Representatives Neil Ryan, Tom Ruther and Eugene Horton. We are supported by a qualified legal team that includes Bruce Lerner and Matt Clash-Drexler. The parties will intermingle official main table bargaining sessions and sub-committees

throughout the process scheduled through September 21, 2022. The NPMHU will widely disseminate Bargaining Updates throughout the summer. Lastly, the National President will brief all Local Presidents on the status of negotiations on September 23, 2022.

Thank you for all that you do to support the NPMHU. Our great Union will continue to grow and thrive on the power of our collective strength and solidarity. We will BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

In Unity,

Michael J. Hora

National Secretary-Treasurer

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## **COMMITTEE ON THE FUTURE HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING**

he NPMHU's Committee on the Future was originally constituted in 1996, and for more than 25 years has engaged in strategic planning over long-term issues that are likely to confront the Union over the coming months and years. The membership of the Committee is comprised of all members of the National Executive Board and various Local Union Presidents. The Committee

usually focuses on five key issues facing the NPMHU: privatization of the Postal Service; the NPMHU's legislative relations program; USPS automation and other technological changes; financial planning, especially at the Local level; and membership recruitment.

The Committee on the Future is comprised of all members of the National Executive Board and various Local Union Presidents, currently including Kevin Tabarus of Local 300, Danny St. Marie of Local 301, Tony Coleman of Local 302, James (J.C.) Morris of Local 317, Nick Mosezar of Local 318, Kelly Dickey of Local 322, Jeff Larsen of Local 323, and John (J.R.) Macon of Local 329. Also in attendance were Katie Maddocks, Political and Legislative Director; Teresa Harmon, CAD Manager; Nina Gallauresi, Executive Director MHBP: and Bruce Lerner, General Counsel.