

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



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REYNOLDSBURG

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PICKERINGTON

AUGUST 2022



VOL. 42 NO. 8

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

Branch 78 will send eighteen delegates to the 72nd Biennial NALC National Convention in Chicago this month. The delegates from our branch were elected to conduct the business of the Union at the convention. The general sessions of the convention will be held daily and cover general resolutions, legislative resolutions, National Agreement resolutions and proposed amendments to the NALC Constitution. There will be workshops every day that the delegation will attend before and after the general sessions. The delegates from our branch do an excellent job of attending workshops and are very attentive at the general sessions. The delegates will be reporting information they learned from the convention at the September steward and branch meetings. I am looking forward to this convention because the 2020 Biennial convention was cancelled due to COVID 19. Anyone interested in becoming a delegate should sign up to be a delegate when we hold

our next branch election in 2023.

Last month I spoke about the new memorandum: City Delivery Staffing Adjustment – Hiring Part-time Flexible City Letter Carriers (M-01986). The memo required conversion of all CCAs to PTF career status. All CCAs that were on the rolls in the Columbus Installation were to be converted to part-time flexible career status on July 16th. After the conversions took place, the Postal Service will be hiring new city letter carriers as PTFs until 72 PTFs have been hired and maintained. There were 2 CCAs converted to full time regular on June 4, 2022. There were 4 CCAs converted to full time regular on July 2, 2022. There were 9 CCAs converted to full time regular on July 16, 2022. There were 16 PTFs converted to full time regular on July 30, 2022. The hiring for the Columbus Installation has been slow. The last several orientation classes have only had one or two letter carriers for the Columbus Installation. The only way to solve the staffing problems we are facing is to hire employees and retain them.

Hot temperatures and high humidity are here once again in

central Ohio. Over the last few years, the NALC has dealt with hundreds of heat related injuries. There have been several cases in Columbus. Regrettably, over this period, three letter carriers have died due to their heat injuries. The Union wants to ensure the Postal Service is giving heat training to all carriers especially new hires. If you, or a member you know, is dealing with heat related illness or injury please contact the branch office. Especially if this illness or injury could have been avoided. The branch office has Initial Heat Injury Reports forms that will be forwarded to our national Director of Safety and Health Manny Peralta. During extreme weather please take the necessary precautions to keep yourself safe.

I would like to congratulate several members on their recent retirements. Jeffrey "Danny" Williams from Upper Arlington Station, Douglas Poole from Linden Station, Michael D'Anniballe from West Worthington Station, Phil McCluskey from Dublin Post Office, James Mason from Central Point Station, and Beth Olmsted from Centralized Collections, and

Continued on page 5

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach

The NALC and the USPS have agreed to an extension on the time limits for the processing of all grievances at the local, regional, and national levels due to the NALC's 72nd National Convention to be held in Chicago the week of Aug. 8. The 31-day moratorium will begin Saturday, July 30 and conclude on Monday, Aug. 29. Since only a handful of stewards are going to the convention, we are encouraging the continued processing and filing of grievance as close to normal as possible. We will use the extension to ensure time limits are met if needed.

Several more employees have been hung out to dry in terms of OWCP. They have trusted some managers to file their OWCP paperwork and found out later it has never left their desk. Remember if you have an on-the-job injury and choose not to seek immediate medical attention then a letter of declaration should be filed and signed stating that at the time, you are reporting an on-the-job accident but declining medical treatment. The letter should be round dated and if possible, signed by a witness that it was turned in. You then have up to three years to file a claim. YOU SHOULD GET A COPY OF ANY PAPERWORK. If you decide you need to seek medical treatment a CA-1 should be filed. The carrier fills out page 1, management is required to fill out page 2 and sign page 4. Management is to provide the carrier both pages 2 and 4 of the completed CA-1. Page 4 must be

signed by management to be considered complete. It is best for the carrier to submit this form online through E-COMP to ensure it is done. A simple 10-minute call to the union hall can help walk you through filling out the form online.

A lot of discussions have been cited by management. These discussions are not to take place on the workroom floor but in private in accordance with 16.2 of the National Agreement. Carriers are wise to keep a small notebook and after clocking out write a few remarks on the day's events. I learned this from veteran carrier John Wyckoff, who now works in collections. John was an excellent steward, and these daily notes often help to set management straight on the events of any given day.

Columbus Postmaster, Patrick Gilbert, has been making the rounds in Columbus to thank the employees. He has asked the carriers to be honest with him and has gotten an earful. Except for one or two overzealous carriers most have been professional and given insightful and helpful feedback. I will give Mr. Gilbert a lot of credit as he is only one of three Postmasters (during my tenure) to own the issues we are currently faced with and engaging the employees to be

a part of the solution. He is asking that the carriers help recruit the 80 plus PTFs that the Postal service is attempting to hire.

A problem seems to have recently surfaced in the Associate Offices during Sunday Amazon parcel delivery. Many City Carrier Assistants are being required to carry and deliver rural packages. Article 7 of the National Agreement states that crossing crafts is for either exceptionally light work loads in one craft or an emergency that is not of a reoccurring nature.

As we head to convention, I'm expecting this to be a very spirited event. Staffing will more than likely be the number one topic at the convention. The COVID Pandemic has certainly made staffing difficult for all American companies. Hopefully, the USPS can figure out how to leverage its size and opportunities for career positions to finally alleviate the staffing issues. Looking forward to being able to report back to the membership after the convention. Lastly, we lost an active member, Javan Rowe, of the Beechwold station. Our hearts and prayers go out to his family and the members of the Beechwold station.

Mark Beach
Vice President BR 78

I'M A UNION WORKER.

That means I'm part of an organization that fights not only for my benefits but for everyone's.

Union presence in an area puts pressure on the employers to give better pay and benefit to their workers, in order to stay competitive. Unions are one of the only forces capable of effectively resisting the continual downward push on employee compensation.

Consumer spending is what creates jobs and prosperity. Increased employee compensation leads to more consumer spending; it pumps more fuel into the engine that drives the whole economy.

That is what unions are fighting for. That is what I am supporting by working in a union. In other words...

You're Welcome.

MILLER'S MUSINGS



Yana Miller-Farney

No idea how the hiring is going since we are back to an all career work force. The greatest problem is retention. It will depend largely on the membership. Tired of working day in day out? Help them learn the basics. Mark or flag parcels, give solid directions, offer suggestions on what helped you most. It is common knowledge that many people leave because of management, not the job. If you're in one of THOSE stations, your assistance is in greater demand. You will know the traits of said individuals and how best to help your new coworkers circumvent the negativity..

To our new members, welcome aboard. Each person will discover their way of handling mail comfortably. We are fortunate to have GPS, to get us to routes, the old maps weren't always helpful, if you were given one. If you come to a house with a box that's full, don't squeeze more in it. Write down the address, report to management, so mail can be brought back and a letter left, where to pick up and date it will be returned to sender. If there is a vacant card, don't leave mail unless from USPS to new addressee. Be courteous and respectful of your patron's property and parcels. We are all aware of porch pirates. Don't leave parcels or SPRS in the middle of the porch. If it fits in the box, place it there. If there is a less conspicuous spot, place behind furniture, plants, etc, use it. When I order things I watch and look around for

them, not happy when they're left in the center of the porch, asking to be taken. Particularly if they would have fit in our mailbox.

It is important to maintain the trust of the American public, their votes make or break us. The theft of arrow keys has created vulnerability that your mail can be stolen from collection boxes even at Post Offices and plants. Who wants to park and walk inside to feel assured it will reach its destination, in a timely fashion. Many who have fought the push to pay online are suddenly embracing it. Companies now penalize customers for paper statements, it doesn't seem fair to charge \$4.00 when postage is \$0.60, paper products don't come close to that. We are not to the point that everyone has computer and internet access even in urban locales, definitely not rural communities. When people are scraping pennies to pay housing, food, medical and transportation expenses, internet is still a luxury.

I accept that most young people want jobs not careers, they're more mobile than any previous generations. Especially, those living with their parents. Others with families are more apt to seek long term employment with benefits. What ever your status, letter carriers have a long history of taking pride in their job, caring about their customers. Many individuals have been rescued by carriers. One common thread when asked, "I did nothing extraordinary only what anyone else in the same situation do!" Many don't report their actions to management. When help arrives, they continue their routes. Later a family member, neighbor,

or emergency personnel will notify the postal service of the carriers life saving efforts and want to acknowledge and thank them. Every year the NALC selects heroes from every district and recognizes their feats in the Postal Record. We are an integral part of every community. Remember the flip side, there are cameras every where recording you, don't let them catch you doing wrong.

The steward at your station, trainers and officers of NALC Branch 78, want you to succeed. We care about You! If you have questions or concerns, please ask.

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Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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Vice President	Mark Beach
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Asst. Secretary/Editor	Yana Miller-Farney
Financial Secretary	Ramon Lawson

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Branch.

Please notify your local union of address changes as soon as possible.

Send address changes to:

Br. 78 Bulletin

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www.nalc-branch78.org

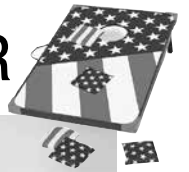
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CORNHOLE FUNDRAISER



PRESIDENT

Continued from page 1

Please attend our combined August steward and branch meeting in person August 3rd, we will also be utilizing ZOOM. Information regarding the meeting can be found on our Branch 78 website www.nalc-branch78.org. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Fraternally
Todd Hornyak

MILLER'S MUSINGS

Continued from page 3

There are no stupid questions. Can't guarantee you'll like the response. Bottom line is we are limited to the contract and fight tooth and nail to get management to abide by it. We don't write the rules but try to enforce them. Do what's asked of you then we can grieve it. The USPS is the employer but the NALC is only as strong as our membership. We invite you to be an active member by participating in this union by attending monthly Branch meetings,

usually the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM, in person at the Hall, 1029 Harrisburg Pike, 43223 or logging in to ZOOM. Any Union is only as strong as its participating membership. **YOU ARE THE UNION!**

Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney

Congratulations

★ On Your Retirement! ★



Nick Cochran (center) surrounded by family, retired from Westerville, 34 years service.

Welcome to the
Retirees Club!



Danny Williams, former Steward at UA, his wife, accepting his Retirement watch from Todd.



Beth Olmstead, from Oakland Park and Collections Unit, accepts Retirement cards from Todd and Val Davis.

JULY 2022 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 6:30; Pledge led by Beth Olmstead; Invocation by Val Davis. Deviation from regular order of business to honor recent retirees Danny Williams, long time Steward at Upper Arlington and Beth Olmstead from Gahanna and the Collections Unit. Thanks for years of service and membership.

NBA Mark Camilli congratulated our two new retirees. Thirty-one day Moratorium July 30 - August 29, 2022, announced today for grievances, due to National Convention. Current inflation numbers are predicting one of the highest COLAs ever, maybe 9%, figures not compiled till end of July. President Rolando's telecom June 30, 2022, sixth COLA predicted to be \$2517 or \$1.21 per hour. Retiree COLA will be finalized in October, CSRS projected at 9%, FERS at 8%. PMG Dejoy is pushing for new facilities; DLU Optimization. All CCAs to be converted to PTF, 72 is minimum. Thanks, sorry to leave soon I have another engagement. Resumed regular order of business with reading of the Minutes by Yana; accepted as read.

Trevor Payne, no communications; read Bills List, have been reviewed; read thirteen applications for membership. We only have twenty-four CCAs to convert, Mark Beach, there will be a combined Steward and Branch Meeting, August 3 at 6:30 PM; three Conversion classes are scheduled by Dean Peruzzi; each delegate is expected to attend at least one Seminar per day at Convention, report back to membership.

Val Davis thanked Dean Peruzzi for explaining the 2025 Medicare changes to Retirees this month. Starting April 1, 2024, they can join Medicare without penalty for late sign up for 2025.

Todd reminded everyone to contact the Hall immediately if you are injured, for assistance completing and submitting your CA-1 through eComp.

Ramon Lawson read the Treasurer's Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Regarding the National Convention, all delegates must have a Delegate card, Photo ID and proof of vaccination card or a photo; vaccination cards are required for family attending any function; forty classes offered Monday thru Thursday; 35-40 Resolutions to address; ten Amendments; Cubs game Tuesday night, tickets are \$48; Delegates Meeting following tonight's meeting.

Do NOT stop filing grievances because there is a Moratorium, keep filing!

New postage rate increase took effect July 10; Forever stamps \$0.58 to \$0.60; one ounce metered from \$0.53 to \$0.57, additional ounces from \$0.20 to \$0.24; Priority Mail includes \$100. insurance.

Informed July 6, 2022 of Conversions backdated: 2 to 06/24/22, 4 to 07/02/22. Should have converted 9 on 07/02/2022, 19 on 07/30/2022; 9 Residual routes. Conversion classes scheduled for 07/19/22, 07/26/2022 and 08/02/2022. Labor Management meeting 07/14/2022.

Need date of FEHBP eligibility.

Visited East City, West City, Upper Arlington, Northwest, Beechwood, Bexley, Eastland, Gahanna, German Village, Livingston in the last three weeks. Everyone is tired, four to five routes cut daily. Mail curtailed daily at West City, Oakland Park, Westland, Upper Arlington, Gahanna, East City, there are probably others.

Charles Sanders attended Route Adjustment training at the Bolger Center 06/27- 07/01/2022. The scanners will ping every second, it is imperative to keep your scanner on your person at all times. There will be Consultations the Live week; all edit books must be updated. The selected weeks are 07/02/23 and 10/23/23. Routes will be added carefully since many have not had a consistent regular or been carried daily. Delaware has requested six Special Inspections. Resolution with management to inspect prior to June 1. Data integrity is going to be a major issue for Columbus due to staffing shortages.

Mark Beach made a motion, seconded by Jacki Mitchell, to spend \$675 to the National for Cubs tickets. Members must reimburse the Branch. ~ **Motion PASSED**

Mark Beach made a motion, seconded by Don Shepherd, to spend up to \$7500 to have Efficient Electric update the electrical workings of the Union Hall, a list of work was read. ~ **Motion PASSED**

Clippers game went well, all tickets were sold.

There are forty or fifty Article 8.5.F cases pending Arbitration, we are asking for Administrative Leave. Five cases are scheduled for Regional Arbitration on 8.5.F, Jeremy Hirschfeld presenting before Arbitrator Talmadge.

Ohio State Association has announced Eric Yost has stepped down; John Dyce has appointed new Canton Branch President, Josh Rowe, to fill the post.

The Overtime Desired List (ODL) signups were approved.

Mark Camilli, Region 11 NBA, is having a Cornhole fundraiser at the Union Hall, July 17, 2022 at 11 AM. Come out and have some fun. In event of rain it will be held inside. Donations are strictly voluntary.

Can Amazon be put on the back burner and we deliver mail instead? Not likely to be approved by USPS.

REMEMBER the August Branch Meeting is combined with the Steward Meeting August 3, 2022 at 6:30. In person or on ZOOM

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Had Kevin W. Miller been present, he would have won \$170.00 in the Member Drawing.

Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney

Retiree Dinner

October 1, 2022
at
L.A.
Catering

670 Harmon Avenue
Columbus, OH 43223

Doors open at 6:00
Dinner at 7:00

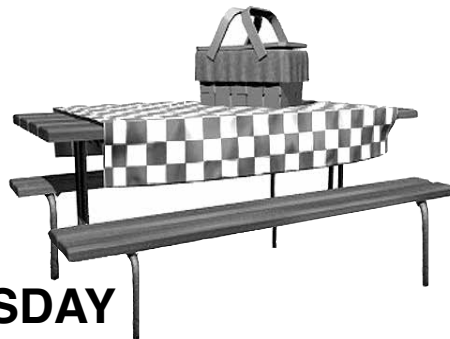
Donations:
Retiree \$7.00 Spouse \$7.00

Active Carrier
\$10.00 Spouse \$10.00

Attention!

RETIREES

PICNIC



TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 AT 1 PM

AMERICAN LEGION
SOUTHWAY POST 144

3253 SOUTH HIGH STREET COLUMBUS, OHIO 43207

Buckeye Branch 78

1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524
National Association of
Letter Carriers
AFL-CIO



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BW Beechwald	Doug Lawver/Scott Lloyd/Alt. Karlton Wilson/Nick Jervey	614-447-0146
BEX Bexley	Roderick Robinson	614-237-2830
Canal Winchester	Mark Beach	614-837-7953
CIR Circleville	Bryce Dilts	740-474-3113
DEL Delaware	Mark Beach	740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Debbie Guthrie-Brown/Alt. Kent Reeves	614-889-6571
Eastland	Jeff Stiverson	614-237-1912
East City	Charles Sanders/Alt. Dilien Miller	614-469-4466
F German Village	Dean Peruzzi/Alt. Jackie Habash	614-449-9565
G South Columbus	Rob Arnold/ Alt. Dean Peruzi	614-444-0217
GAH Gahanna	Kirk Hilty/Brenda Stidams/Alt. Dante Mix	614-472-0696
GP Groveport	Mark Beach	614-836-5452
GC Grove City	Mike Zeller/Alt. Tricia Douglas	614-875-6327
HILL Hilliard	Mark Beach	614-876-7021
LIV Livingston	Ramon Lawson/Alt. Kisha Moman	614-237-9570
LON London	Mark Beach	740-852-1881
MV Marysville	Dave Eblin/Alt. Adam Tullis	937-642-1961
MT Gilead	Joe Kegley	419-946-5846
NL Northland	Sammy Tonyemba/Alt. Larez Harper	614-890-1180
NW Northwest	Kate Lingrel	614-451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Dale Hillis/Ericka Anderson/Tawandra Ford	614-476-1680
PIC Pickerington	Mark Beach	614-837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Mark Beach	614-837-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Mark Beach	614-866-6049
UA Upper Arlington	Jacquelyn Mitchell/Alt. Eric Kennedy	614-451-2302
West City	Allan Moore Sr./Heather Christy/Alts. Shawn Carter/ Richard Hannon	614-469-4465
WV Westerville	Mark Beach	614-882-2243
Westland	Samuel "Cory" Bailey/Eric Scarberry/Alt. Kelsie Crosbie	614-351-0138
WJ West Jefferson	Mark Beach	614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	Jeremy Hirschfelt/Cornelius Scott/Alts. Jason Fry/Jeff Freeman	614-793-9789
WH Whitehall	Gary Porter	614-237-1722

LOOK

FOR THE

UNION

LABEL



**THE JOB YOU SAVE
COULD BE YOUR OWN!**

**ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE
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BE PUBLISHED IN
THE FOLLOWING MONTHS BULLETIN**

The views expressed in articles printed in this publication do not directly reflect those of Branch 78 or the Editor.

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1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524

STEWARDS MEETING-6:30 P.M.

First Wednesday of each month
OFFICERS MEETING-6:00 P.M.

The Monday preceding Steward Meeting

BRANCH MEETING-6:30 P.M.

Second Wednesday of each month
RETIREEES MEETING-1:00 P.M.

First Tuesday of each month

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:

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www.nalc-branch78.org