

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



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NOVEMBER 2022



VOL. 42 NO. 11

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

I would like to start this article by thanking all our veterans for their service to this country. Veterans Day is a holiday honoring the men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. On Veterans Day we are especially thankful for all the sacrifices that veterans and their families make to keep America safe. Thank you for your service. This year the Veterans Day Holiday will be observed on Friday November 11, 2022.

Every year there is an open season to allow members to change coverage under the Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan. This year open season begins November 14 and ends on December 12. There is a Self Plus One option again this year. Again, this year the NALC Plan, the Self Plus One plan costs more than the Self and Family plan. Please look at the NALC Health Benefit Plan. I am asking that all carriers review the rates carefully. Select the option that works best for you and your family. The penalty overtime exclusion period for 2022 is from December 3, 2022, through December 30, 2022.

I would like to thank Director of Retirees Valeria Davis, for her hard work on the annual Retirees Dinner that was held Saturday October 1, 2022, at L.A. Catering. This was a new venue for us, and everything went well. I am pleased to report that I have received positive feedback from all the retirees that attended the dinner. I would also like to thank Region 11 National Business Agent, Mark Camilli and Director of Life Insurance, James Yates, who attended the dinner. Once again, it was an enjoyable time and great meal as we honored our newest Gold Card Members that have attained 50 years membership in NALC.

The national signed a memorandum in May for the Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process 2022 – 2023 (TIAREAP). This is a joint process with the NALC and management adjusting routes to be as close to eight hours as possible. The Union added Bexley Station 43209, Oakland Park station 43224 and West Worthington station 43235 to the list of zip codes that will be adjusted after conferencing with the Union Stewards.

I would like to congratulate Doug Lawver from Clintonville

station on his recent retirement. I wish him the best on his retirement. Please attend our November Branch meeting in person on November 9th or watch using 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

FEHBP OPEN SEASON

November 14 - December 12, 2022

Sign up early to avoid last minute glitches. There are NO extensions. Make sure you find the plan that fits your needs. Some plus 1 cost more than family. Check out NALC Plan it's owned and administered by us.



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach

I hope all NALC members exercised their right to vote in the recent NALC National election and our local elections. I'm not a fan of politics, but feel all citizens right to have their vote counted when it comes to our elected officials and policies. The NALC legislative arm is to work and support both sides of the aisle if they are willing to support our issues. The passage of Postal Reform by overwhelming support from both sides proves that issues that affect letter carriers are not strictly a red or blue issue.

I wish to recognize and thank all of our veterans for their service. I encountered two situations where managers gave carriers gruff about active duty. Rather than thanking them for continuing to protect us. Any letter carrier that is active military and wonders about their rights under US-SERA can go to <https://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra> to find out more. The union is proud to assist our letters carriers who served in the armed forces anyway we can. Several stations in Columbus have had cameras installed including Oakland Park, Westland and Main Office. The union has filed a request for information on these cameras. Management has pleaded ignorance about the cameras and have signed an extension until it receives information on the matter from higher up. The only information we have is that the cameras are to monitor function four (clerks). I question why we can spend money to buy cameras

to monitor a workroom floor that should be under the control and vision of a supervisor or manager? Wouldn't a better use of these resources be directed toward apprehension of criminals that have been robbing letter carriers? The union has extended the grievance until management provides the requested information on the matter.

Not all news is doom and gloom. Switching to PTFs in the city of Columbus has seemed to help to alleviate some staffing issues. We still have a ways to go and management must work on retaining these employees before we are out of the woods. Hopefully, this will be the last Christmas season that understaffing will be an issue in Columbus. Carriers, please hang in there, knowing how much the American public and the union appreciate your effort to go that extra mile during the holiday season.

Daylight savings time will conclude on Saturday, November 6, 2022. It is time the country follows the three states that have discontinued use of Daylight Savings Time calling it the Sunshine Act. As days get shorter carriers in some areas will find themselves delivering in the dark. National arbitrators have already ruled that darkness is not a safety hazard. The safety issue boils down to the area and the unseen hazards that darkness hides. Always attempt delivery, but if you encounter issues such as dogs, criminal activity, tripping hazards that you can no longer see; report the issue to management. If they send you back out again attempt the delivery. If you still cannot make the delivery safely, again report the matter to management.

Fill out a PS form 1767 reporting the hazard encountered, i.e., dog that you could not see, sidewalk cracks that you tripped over, a hole in the yard, etc. Also fill out and have management sign a PS form 1571 for any curtailed mail. If you are in an area that is not well lit and decide to deliver the mail then take the time to make the delivery safely, even if that means walking out to the street for each delivery. Safety is always the carriers call, period, just make sure you take the proper steps documenting the safety hazards you encounter. It is our job as letter carriers to deliver the mail, but also ensure that it is done safely.

I wish all the membership a happy holiday season, that you and your families are blessed throughout. It has been an extremely difficult time to be a letter carrier, but staffing is improving, finally.

Mark Beach,
VP Branch 78

Welcome To Our Newest Member



Jeff Wycuff new member getting pin.

OPEN SEASON FOR FEDERAL HEALTH BENEFITS

Members should consider joining the NALC Health Benefit Plan during this upcoming Open Season. Comparing the NALC Health Benefit Plan to others in the FEHB will show what a great option it is. Open season for health benefits runs from Nov. 14, 2022, through Dec. 12, 2022, for all Federal employees to have the opportunity to review health benefit options and opt into or change their health insurance to meet their health care and financial needs. The NALC health care plan offers great value from the High Option Plan, which is a traditional plan with a lower deductible, down to the Consumer Driven and Value Option Plans, which are higher-deductible plans, the NALC HBP has you covered. Each year benefits are added or improve the plans with letter carriers in mind. If you are not already a member of the NALC plan, make the change to place health care insurance in hands of those you already trust—your union. By making the switch you will receive quality service from a union-owned, union-operated and not-for-profit health insurance plan.

New in 2023, retired members can now receive the same high option premium NALC HBP is of-

fering including enhanced level benefits for High Option Plan annuitants who have Medicare Parts A and B as their primary payor. Opting into the program is simple for retirees. Just go to AetnaRetireeHealth.com/NALC or call the Aetna Retiree Solutions service center at 866-241-0262. However, if you change your mind after election, you can opt out and switch back to your High Option coverage with original Medicare at any time by requesting and completing a disenrollment from Aetna. To learn more, please contact the Aetna Retiree Solutions service center at 866-241-0262 or visit NALCHBP.org/Annuitant.

Another added feature for 2023, Hello Heart is available at no additional cost for members and dependents age 18 or older. This program is for members with a blood pressure reading of 130 over 80 or above, or those taking blood pressure medications. This program offers lifestyle coaching over the phone or tablet for members who qualify. Hello Heart will put you more in tune with your health by monitoring your blood pressure and sending the data privately to your doctor using a free FDA-cleared monitor. For more information about Hello Heart,

text NALC to 75706 or visit join.helloheart.com/NALC to register. The NALC Health Benefit Plan has extended its phone hours to assist members during Open Season starting Nov. 7. Please contact the Customer Service Department with questions between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. EST. Here is a comparison of cost savings this year that a member would save by switching from the Blue Cross to our plan this open season.

Dean Peruzzi,
Health Benefits Rep

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

**Published and Paid for
by Br.78**

Published monthly

Volume 42 - Issue 11

November 2022

President	Todd Hornyak
Vice President	Mark Beach
Recording Secretary	Trevor Payne
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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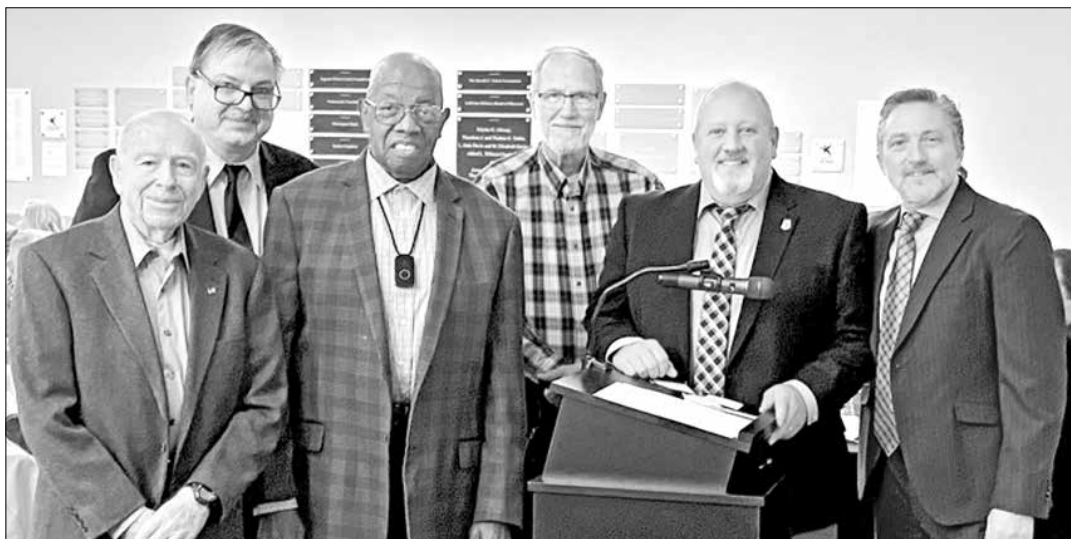
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Columbus Ohio



Plan Type	NALC	BLUE CROSS	SAVINGS for the
			YEAR with NALC High Option Plan
SELF	\$102.98	\$142.40	\$1,024.92
SELF + one	\$241.73	\$318.85	\$2,005.12
FAMILY	\$211.30	\$318.85	\$2,796.30

**CHOOSE THE NALC HEALTH PLAN
THIS OPEN SEASON AND SAVE!**

Our Newest
Gold Card
Honorees
and
Pin Recipients



Ray Salyers, Don Flewellen and John English receive 55 year pins



Dave Hanby (red checked shirt) honored with Gold Card letter from Fred Rolando and 50 year pin



Richard Nash Gold Card recipient, letter from Fred Rolando and 50 year pin



Ron Santavicca gets 45 year pin



Tom Wallace and Rick Driscoll receive 35 year pins



Randy Hafey (hat) 30 year pin

25 year pin on page 6

Our Newest
Gold Card
Honorees
and
Pin Recipients
Continued from page 5



Danny Williams newly retired from UA with 25 year pin

Retiree Dinner





Proposed By Law Change

In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned do hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 3, Section 2 currently reads,

SECTION 2
Seven members shall constitute a quorum and shall have power to transact business, excluding the officers.

Proposal to change Article 3, Section 2 to read,

SECTION 2
*Seven members shall constitute a quorum and shall have power to transact business, excluding the officers. **Members in attendance via teleconference shall count toward quorum, excluding the officers.***

Submitted by,

X: [Signature]
PRINT: J. Hirschfeld

X: [Signature]
PRINT: VERSEY CRABBE

X: [Signature]
PRINT: Allan D. Moore Sr

[Signature]
Dem Kinnin

Retiree Dinner

Continued from page 7



Proposed By Law Change

In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned do hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 7, Section 2A currently reads,

SECTION 2
(a) For services rendered for organizational expense, all non-full time officers and stewards shall be paid two hours of base pay at Q-1, Step O from table 1, per month (semi annually).

Proposal to change Article 7, Section 2A to read,

SECTION 2
(a) For services rendered for organizational expense, all non-full time officers and stewards shall be paid two hours of base pay at Q-1, Step O from table 1 equal to the top step of a table 1 Carrier Technician, per month (to be paid semi annually).

Submitted by,
X: [Signature]
PRINT: J. Hirschfeld

X: [Signature]
PRINT: V. CRABBE

X: [Signature]
PRINT: Allan D. Moore Sr

[Signature]
Dem Kinnin

Proposed By Law Change

In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned do hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 7, Section 3A[1] currently reads,

SECTION 3

(A) Effective January 2018

[1] The President of Branch 78 shall be a full time officer at a salary equal to that of a top step and grade Q2 letter carrier, plus twenty-five (25%) percent, payable biweekly. The President shall share in any and all monetary increases and benefits received by the top step and grade carrier. The employee will be responsible for his/her share of health benefits and life insurance.

Proposal to change Article 7, Section 3A[1] to read,

SECTION 3

(A) Effective January 2018

[1] The President of Branch 78 shall be a full time officer at a salary equal to that of a **table 1 top step and grade Q2 letter carrier Carrier Technician**, plus twenty-five (25%) percent, payable biweekly. The President shall share in any and all monetary increases and benefits received by the top step and grade carrier. The employee will be responsible for his/her share of health benefits and life insurance.

Submitted by,

X:

PRINT:

X:

PRINT:

X:

PRINT:

Proposed By Law Change

In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned do hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 7, Section 3A[1b] currently reads,

[1b] The President shall be entitled to the same annual and sick leave as provided to a top step and grade letter carrier. When he/she leaves office, he/she shall be paid for all accrued hours of sick and annual leave credited to him/her. At the end of each 3 year term or if he/she leaves office early, the monies will be paid out or he/she can withdraw these monies yearly during pay period 26. If the President is re-elected for another 3 year term, it will be the responsibility of the President to invest/save these monies for any future long term absence. If the President is enrolled in the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS), the branch will match the employee's contribution up to five (5%) percent of the employee's base salary in a 401k plan of the employee's choice. The employee will be allowed to contribute up to the maximum allowance under the IRS guidelines.

Proposal to change Article 7, Section 3A[1b] to read,

[1b] The President shall be entitled to the same annual and sick leave as provided to a **table 1 top step and grade letter carrier Carrier Technician**. When he/she leaves office, he/she shall be paid for all accrued hours of sick and annual leave credited to him/her. At the end of each 3 year term or if he/she leaves office early, the monies will be paid out or he/she can withdraw these monies yearly during pay period 26. If the President is re-elected for another 3 year term, it will be the responsibility of the President to invest/save these monies for any future long term absence. If the President is enrolled in the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS), the branch will match the employee's contribution up to five (5%) percent of the employee's base salary in a 401k plan of the employee's choice. The employee will be allowed to contribute up to the maximum allowance under the IRS guidelines.

Submitted by,

X:

PRINT:

X:

PRINT:

PRINT:

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES

Hello Retirees

We just celebrated the 2022 Retirement Dinner at L A catering, where we had over 100 people attend. It was a new location, but everyone seems to have had a wonderful time. There was dancing for all to enjoy like the Electric Slide, Cha Cha slide and easy dancing music so you could hold your sweetheart.

Guest enjoyed L.A. famous Pot Roast, Chicken Piccata, Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Sautéed Green Beans, Mixed Green Salad and Rolls. And for dessert there was an assortment of Cookies and Brownies, the food was truly amazing. If you didn't come to the dinner this year, I can tell you that you missed a great evening.

Looking forward to next year's Retirement Dinner that will be held on September 30, mark your calendar for this event for 2023. Cause you don't want to miss this exciting evening.

We would like to Thank our special guest for the evening, Mr. Jim Yates, Director of Life Insurance. All retirees and active members and guest I want to say Thank You, for attending the event and hope you had a wonderful evening and will have fond memories of the 2022 Retirement Dinner.

We only have two more meetings left this year, our November 8th meeting, we will be welcoming Shauna Harrison, from the Veterans Administration. Our last meeting on December 6th, we will be preparing Christmas cards for our fellow retirees and veterans. So please mark your calendar for these upcoming dates. Meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month, 1:00 pm at the Union Hall.

Hope to see you at the meeting.

**Your Director of Retirees,
Valeria Davis**

OCTOBER 2022 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 6:33; Pledge led by Jeff Wycuff; Invocation by Val Davis. Minutes read by Yana Miller-Farney and accepted.

Trevor Payne read thank you from Teachers Association for use of Hall for their strike; read Bills

List and fifteen applications for membership. Welcome them. New member Jeff Wycuff inducted into NALC Br 78 with oath and pin.

Mark Beach thanked Todd for holding the Steward Meeting and covering Formal A, Jeremy and Kelsey doing a great job.

Law Comm, Chris Semo not present, Jeremy Hirschfelt read proposed By Law changes to Article 3 Section 2; Article 7 Section 2A; Article 7 Section 3A1; Article 7 Section 3A1b and Article 7 Section 7a. These will be read again in November and voted on at the December Meeting; they will run in the November and December Bulletins.

Val Davis, over a hundred at the Retiree Dinner. Very positive reviews on the Venue, food and staff. Booked for September 30, 2023. Hopefully, there will be more actives able to attend. November meeting, we'll have a representative from the VA; December writing Christmas cards; join us. Todd added final count was 120.

Dean Peruzzi OPEN SEASON 11/14 till 12/12/2022, gave new pricing, asked that everyone take a look at the NALC HBP offerings, compare prices and this plan is owned by us. Do Not Wait till the Last Day to make your selection. There could be system glitches, crashes and there are no extensions so don't wait to submit through LITE BLUE.

Ramon Lawson read the Treasurer's Report

NEW BUSINESS

Mark Beach made a motion, seconded by Dean Peruzzi, to spend up to \$3200 to send Kelsey Crosbie to Formal A and Beyond Training January 7-13, 2023. **MOTION PASSED**

Mike Brim on call for Mark Camilli, who was at another Branch meeting. A new MOU added 162 locations hiring career carriers. There are about 216 offices hiring career carriers now, Columbus and Cincinnati still only two authorized in Ohio. If we are able to hire and retain it will help with bargaining the new contract to return to all career staffing.

Push on for Federal Retirement Fairness Act passage, contact your representatives to get onboard. Mark Beach stated four were sent to Troy Balderson's office to explain the bill and ask him to co-sponsor it. Discussed topics covered by Mark Camilli and Jim Yates at the Dinner. Updates on the NALC National election and please return your ballots. There was a virtual Retirement Seminar

10/05/22 after the Steward meeting; another one to be held Sunday 10/16/22 from 11-1 PM.

This year there is training for holiday seasonal employees working 12/3-30/22.

Discussion on current Route Adjustments; UA live week under review since moving to Main Office, lack of dock loading options and building location, may have routes added but management cites time wasting practices, as usual. OP 43231 in live week; Special Inspections at WW, adding to AUX route; SC, OP 43224 and 43235 WW may be added. Jeremy said if you are over eight hours three days or more a week, request a special inspection. It is much easier to have documentation if you wear your scanner all the time.

Chuck discussed management push back on findings.

Article 8.5.F are being paid by Step B team due to arbitrator awards. Branch is grieving OWCP nonpayment of COP at OP and SC. Branch has setup eCOMP at Hall. Brim reminded carriers and stewards to keep pressing 8.5.F cases. The National is requesting statements from carriers on how forced OT has impacted their family/home life or lack thereof. Attendance removals are happening if you don't show up. There's been a big spike as predicted.

Management is mailing discipline to address of record rather than handing it out, to eat up your limited time to file a grievance of discipline, only 14 days. If you move, change your address on LITE BLUE. No excuse if sent to wrong address. There were two more arrow key robberies at Livingston, again no RIMS report sent out on scanners. The PM has cancelled the last two labor/management meetings. It's been reported that management is filming carriers at OP and Westland from(overhead). Jeremy Hirschfelt has completed DRT training and now a backup.

Color coded calendars will be distributed in November, you need to present a new roster for your station. Trevor asked everyone to go through the website and advise him of any changes ASAP. Calendars are only for ACTIVE Union members.

GOOD of the ASSOCIATION

Michael Zeller won \$200 in the member drawing, he's a steward at GC. Next month it starts at \$50.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM

Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney



Proposed By Law Change

In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned do hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 7, Section 7a currently reads.

SECTION 7

(a) LWOP and hourly union work shall be equal to base pay at Table 1 Q-2 step O.

Proposal to change Article 7, Section 7a to read:

SECTION 7

(a) **Pay for LWOP and hourly union work shall be equal to base pay at Table 1 Q-2 step O rate of a table 1 top step Carrier Technician.**

Submitted by,

X: 

PRINT: J. Hirschfelt

X: 

PRINT: V. Cuth

X: 

PRINT: Allan D. Moore


J. Farney

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**COME TO THE
RETIREES MEETING
FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH**



**We need
YOU!**



**GET INVOLVED!
HELP MAKE YOUR
UNION STRONG!
BECOME A
UNION STEWARD!**

Buckeye Branch 78

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



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BW Beechwood	Doug Lawver/Scott Lloyd/Alts. 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/Alts. Brian Ball, Victoria Wessa	614-469-4466
F German Village	Dean Peruzzi/Alt. Jackie Habash	614-449-9565
G South Columbus	Rob Arnold/ Alt. Dean Peruzzi	614-444-0217
GAH Gahanna	Brenda Stidams/Eli Turner	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	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	Katherine Lingrel	614-451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Dale Hillis/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/Kelsie Crosbie/Alt. Eric Scarberry	614-351-0138
WJ West Jefferson	Mark Beach	614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	Jeremy Hirschfelt/Cornelius Scott/Alt. Jeff Freeman	614-793-9789
WH Whitehall	Todd Hornyak	614-237-1722

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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.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO :
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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