

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



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JUNE 2022



VOL. 42 NO. 6

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

NALC at the Headquarters level and the Postal Service have agreed to establish an alternate route evaluation and adjustment process for the remainder of 2022 and all of 2023. The Memorandum of Understanding Re: Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process 2022 – 2023 (TIAREAP) establishes a process that utilizes information made available using Digital Street Review (DSR) technology as the primary means to evaluate and adjust city delivery routes. As in previous alternate route evaluation and adjustment processes, TIAREAP will involve multiple teams established throughout the country, comprised of one NALC representative and one USPS representative, who will jointly evaluate and adjust routes in select zones. Once the joint teams have been selected, training and zone selection will take place shortly afterward, with evaluations beginning in September.

I have appointed East City Union Steward and Formal A Representative Charles Sanders and

Branch 78 Law Committee member and Westland carrier Chris Semo to the Route Evaluation and Adjustment Team for Columbus. I have asked the Union Stewards at each station if they believe their zip code should be added to the list of zones to be inspected.

The City Delivery and Workplace Improvement Task Force in the 2019-2023 National Agreement tasked the national parties with jointly exploring the use of technology, data, advanced analytics and machine learning to improve operations, route evaluation, adjustment and optimization. Agreement to implement the Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment process comes after more than 14 months of joint exploration and testing of the utilization of DSR technology to evaluate and adjust routes.

The Branch has recently received favorable decisions on several regional arbitrations. I would like to briefly review some of the decisions. Arbitrator Reehl ruled that former Columbus Postmaster Brad Grubb improperly halted the Intervention Agreement for the Joint Clock Ring Audit Process. Grubb unilaterally stopped

the Union from reviewing the clock rings for Columbus carriers that was agreed to by the National Business Agent, District manager and Area Labor Relation. Arbitrator Reehl reinstated the process and ruled that any carrier that was not paid the money owed to them would be reimbursed at 1 ½ times the amount owed for each discrepancy.

The Branch took two cases to Regional Arbitration regarding management continually requiring Columbus letter carriers to work beyond 12 hours per day or 60 hours per week. The branch has filed over one hundred grievances on this issue. Vice President Mark Beach has prepared Branch Class Action grievance each pay period for the Installation of Columbus for over a year now. The Columbus Dispute Resolution Team (DRT) has issued dozens of cease-and-desist decisions instructing management to stop violating the 12- and 60-hour limits.

The first decision the branch received was from Arbitrator Sims. Sims stated once again management should abide by the DRT decisions and not require carriers to work beyond the 12-

Continued on page 5

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach

At the April membership meeting, we discussed the cancellation of the NALC Food Drive for the Columbus Installation due to lack of staffing. This decision came after a lengthy discussion with the Branch Executive Board, stewards, membership, Business Agent and NALC Headquarters. With only one member of the Executive Board opposing the decision, the stewards and membership discussing the matter and supporting the recommendation, we announced the decision to cancel. I apologize to any carrier in Columbus that this decision did not reach before the day of the Food Drive. We asked the Branch 78 Associate Offices to carry the load and they did so by collecting over 13,000 pounds of food. This along with a donation from the membership of \$3,000 dollars that was matched by NALC National equated to 82,000 pounds of food being donated. A source in management (under the condition of anonymity) reported that 41 routes in the Columbus Installation did not get carried on the day of the Food Drive.

Speaking of staffing related issues, the NALC and the USPS have been exchanging offers to improve the hiring package to try and help staffing in specific areas like Columbus. From what we understand the USPS is holding up the process due to not wanting to convert CCAs in some areas prior to hiring new employees as Part-Time flexible. This is a non-starter for the NALC as they have vowed to not sell any of its

members out. Hopefully, the USPS can soon come around and sign a memo so we can start attracting enough new employees to properly staff the installation.

It was announced that POOM of area E, Bradley Grubb, will be assigned a position in Florida District 3. This is interesting since the current Florida District Manager is former Ohio 2 District Manager, Jean Lovejoy. During Mr. Grubb's time in overseeing Area 2 offices represented by Branch 78, there was a trend of changing carrier clock rings to the improper mods code thus covering up street time. The union filed several grievances in multiple offices under Grubb for falsification and received favorable rulings from the DRT team admonishing and chastising management's improper actions. None of this manipulation lead back directly to Mr. Grubb, but he was clearly aware of this falsification and did nothing to reprimand his Postmasters. In fact, the Union noted that in many of these cases, Postmasters received promotions after such actions. When he was acting Postmaster of Columbus, Mr. Grubb ended two major audit processes unilaterally and without authority. The union filed grievances on both matters and won not only at the DRT level, but in front of two independent arbitrators after Mr. Grubb failed to recognize the authority of the DRT team to make that ruling. It will be interesting to see if this manipulation occurs with less frequency now that he is off to the sunshine state.

Concerning the clock ring audit process, offices have turned over a half years worth of timecards to the union in late May. Initial reviews of

these timecards show a plethora of employees not being paid or paid incorrectly. This really shoots down management's argument that the process was no longer needed. We lost many new employees because when they received their paycheck they were shorted hours and just quit. If you are a new employee or using a 1260 because they are making you work in multiple offices, please monitor your hours and let your union steward know if you aren't being paid correctly.

At the June membership meeting the branch celebrated Memorial Day and the memory of fellow letter carrier brothers and sisters who have left us over the last year. Gone but not forgotten, we need to always celebrate and remember those who paved the way before us and helped progress our rights to the level they are at today.

Mark Beach
Vice President

GET INVOLVED!

**HELP MAKE YOUR
UNION STRONG!**

BECOME A



MILLER'S MUSINGS



Yana Miller-Farney

Try as I might to focus on pleasant messages it seems impossible considering the horrible state of mankind. It's difficult to watch the news, easier to listen on radio. There are so many things that a joint effort in local, state and federal governments could work to improve for their constituents but they seem to play with individuals lives more than improving our infrastructure. Many more people could work at living wage jobs if they would start to fix our streets, freeways and bridges. My car has safety features to inform when you cross over painted lines. I fear this will wear out sooner than later because of trying to avoid potholes that could seriously disable your vehicle. This may cause weeks or months of delay to repair due to lack of parts. It's like training for a vehicle obstacle course race with no course map. I'm ready to disable that damn feature. I won't list the many more negatives, as we're all too aware of the pain and suffering. There is no excuse for anyone to go hungry in this land that pays farmers not to produce food. Let me stop but ask all to pray for those going through a myriad of recent disasters.

Our postal service, hailed as one of the greatest, most efficient and cheapest in the world, is slowly sinking. As said in the past what is agreed to in L'Enfant Plaza seldom trickles down to the local level. We have swinging door postmasters here in Columbus, which is a good thing when you look at some of

the policies recently attempted. We have too many routes that do not get carried daily to send carriers to Cincinnati, that was Grubb's plan. I was not sad to see him depart, who knows what the new PM will do. After all the grievances filed and won over work hour limits, it continues to be an issue. The same goes for clock ring errors. Managers just don't take the decisions of the Arbitrators serious. It is no wonder some of their award documents sound like WHAT PART OF THIS DO YOU NOT UNDERSTAND? Because they hear the same grievances over and over and find in the Branch's favor. This helps monetarily but you can't get the time with your family back. How many family events do you have to miss before you chuck it to quit or retire.

What is being done by Postal Inspector teams to stop the thefts of arrow keys? It has reached the point that you must take your outgoing mail inside a retail unit to ensure it isn't stolen. We've had two bill payments stolen from City Gate outside collection boxes. We are not alone from talking with others we find many more have experienced the same. Online bill pay has been decreasing First Class mail for many years. These thefts have forced more people to choose that route because they have no time or interest in finding a retail office, park, go inside to mail a letter. If you're lucky and have a carrier that will take your outgoing mail that's an option. When it's raining for days I don't want my letters in their wet bags. Might it be time to seek another way to to replace arrow keys? At least try to find other options.

Trying to keep the employees we have, what is upper management willing to do to retain staff? You know which station managers have the highest retention rates, find out what they are doing different to retrain the ones that can't keep new hires. Instead of multiple telecoms get in those stations and work on the weak managers to improve their management skills or lack there of.

Retirement, oh so joyous to have reached that stage of life, at least it should have been. The insanity continues. Early April, April Fools Day to be exact, Eagan in-

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Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Branch.

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L-R Timothy Starr, Renee Riffle, Luis Ozuna, Olivia Nichols, Stephanie Mowery, Wesley Hubbard, Ashanti Gaffney, Health Benefits representative Dean Peruzzi.

L-R: William Ward, James Andreasen, Audra Smith, James Sumnerall, Thaddeus Patrick, Lajuan Larry, Kyle Bates, HBP Rep Dean Peruzzi and Tre Charles-Martin

OHIO STATE ASSOCIATION LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



Trevor Payne, Brenda Stidams, Gary Porter, Todd Hornyak, Ramon Lawson, Rob Robinson, Doug Gulley and Myron Miller.



President Fred Rolando briefs the delegation at Ohio State Legislative Conference in DC.



Ramon Lawson, Brenda Stidams, Gary Porter and Myron Miller met at 3rd District Rep Joyce Beatty's office to leave message of thanks for continued support of Postal legislation.



Trevor Payne, 15th District Congressman Mike Carey and Todd Hornyak discuss Postal issues during OSA Legislative Conference.

PRESIDENT Continued from page 1

and 60-hour limits. Sims instructed management to post the language found in the Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM) on pages 8-18 to 8-21 regarding work hour limits at each station in Columbus. The second decision the branch received was from Arbitrator Widgeon. Arbitrator Widgeon ruled that management had violated the national agreement

by failing to abide by DRT Step B decisions. The arbitrator noted that management had failed to abide by cease-and-desist orders in the past. She ruled that each affected carrier would receive an additional remedy of a lump sum payment for management failing to comply with the DRT Step B decisions. This decision affects hundreds of carriers in the Installation of Columbus.

Please attend our June Branch meeting in person June 8th, 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

MILLERS MUSING Continued from page 3

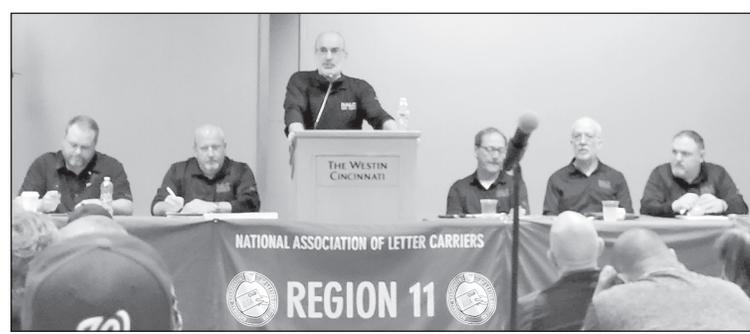
formed they were withholding postal debt from my terminal leave pay. Sent a check a week later finalizing my terminal leave pay minus the debt. Finally jumped that hurdle. Last week received a notice

of unpaid postal debt they plan to send to collections. Glad I didn't celebrate after that check. In the process of sending them a copy of the explanation letter and copy of the check stub with same explana-

tion. Will it ever end. Hope you had a safe Memorial Day.

Yana Miller-Farney

RAP SESSION



National Executive VP Brian Renfroe, NBA Mark Camilli, NALC National President Fred Rolando, RAA John Collins, RAA Dave Kennedy and RGA Mike Brim.



NBA Mark Camilli, Branch 78 Union Steward Kelsey Crosbie addresses the Region 11 Rap Session regarding On the Job Training and Retention of City Carrier Assistants (CCAs).



National President Fred Rolando, NBA Mark Camilli, National Executive VP Brian Renfroe, RAA John Collins and RGA Mike Brim.

MAY 2022 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 6:33; Pledge and Invocation. Minutes read and accepted.

Trevor Payne read Thank You note from Regina Mix for husband, Kim, retired carrier; Val took her a remembrance plaque. Read Bills List and twenty applications for membership. Please welcome them and assist in any way to keep them. Our retention is under 40%.

Todd, Mark and John Collins on the call.

Beach Education: Nothing to report

Val Retirees: Reported on recent meetings; in May a Nutritionist visited to discuss good healthy food choices. June Luncheon on June 7, 2022, will meet at Cracker Barrel in Grove City at 1 PM, 4210 Marlane Dr 43123. Please call the hall if you plan to attend to give them a count for seating. Dean Peruzzi HBP: Did Conversion class last week. Ordered brochures.

Porter Health & Safety: still carrying

Ramon read Treasurer's Report

Todd wished Jason Fry well and thanked for years of service to the Branch.

Continuous issues with proper filing of OWCP. Asked to allow signing of OTD List at Labor Mgmt Meeting May 12.

Report from Committee of Presidents, Atlantic City, April 25 - 27, 2022. Vice President, Lew Dress retired the end of April, he wore many hats. President Rolando appointed Reg 1 RAA James Henry to VP position. M-01980 National Dispute resolved, PTF Step AA with more than two years will be converted. Juneteenth Holiday, regulars will be paid this year, career only; NALC plans to negotiate. Sixth COLA second month is at \$1061.00. The five COLAs equal \$4,000 or 6% increase. Increase to Step P in November \$444.00; Regulars, PTF and CCA. Staffing: USPS gave a package to NALC still nothing signed. COVID memos were not extended past May 6. The 520 hour carryover from 2022 carries over to 2023. Since 2013, 123,000 conversions to full time regular, 12,000 to PTFs. The Next Generation Delivery Vehicle 165,000 in next ten years. 80% gas combustion, 20% electric. Mobile Delivery Device updates: language translation feature, clock in from scanner to TACS

National Convention Chicago August 8-12, 2022. NALC HQ sent guidelines with convention packet; delegates are required to be vaccinated, must show proof at registration, mask, letter read. Next Generation Delivery Vehicle will be displayed at convention. Fifteen contract resolutions have been submitted. Cubs Game on Tuesday, Wednesday Dinner cruise on Lake Michigan w/ fireworks \$120 pier ticket.

Washington DC Legislative Conference April 27-28, 2022. Todd, Gary Porter, Brenda Stidams, Doug Gulley, Trevor Payne, Myron Miller, Roderick Robinson and Ramon Lawson were in attendance. Met with Troy Balderson, 12th District(3076). Met with Mike Carey, 15th District (3076 replaced Steve Stivers); could not meet with Joyce Beatty, 3rd District (3076). Asking them to co-sponsor HR 82 Social Security Fairness Act covering GPO, WEP; HR 4268 Federal Retirement Fairness Act to allow non-career Casuals, TEs and CCAs option to buy back time. Thanked all that co-sponsored 3076. Districts have been redrawn - we need new LCCL, if interested call the branch, must live in that district.

Region 11 RAP Session and Training in Cincinnati April 27-29, 2022 at Cincinnati Westin Hotel. Todd, Jeremy Hirschfeld, Kelsie Crosbie, Dale Hillis, Kisha Moman, Ramon Lawson represented Columbus DRT. Fred Rolando, NALC President and Brian Renfroe, NALC Executive VP, also attended. Mark Camilli asked Westland Steward Kelly Crosbie to address the delegates regarding OJI and CCA retention.

M-01982 Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process was signed May 10, 2022. Digital Street Review: July 22, September 22 and May 23. Anyone interested on being on the route adjustment team, contact the Hall, you must be computer savvy. Any zip codes that need adjusted, contact the Hall. Two other MOUs M-01983 Mutual understanding on process and M-01984 Local route adjustment process, signed.

National Food Drive scheduled for May 14, Columbus offices not participating considering the excess of undelivered routes daily, too big an ask. Spoke with Columbus PM, Eric Gilbert regarding Food Drive, no management cooperation. Asking interested customers to take food to post offices. Branch asking carriers to pick up any food patrons

set out. Sent Food Drive cards and bags to eighteen AOs Friday. Cards state second Saturday in May, no date. Mark Beach made a motion seconded by Dean Peruzzi, to allow \$3 per carrier working May 14th in AOs participating in the Food Drive, for food/drinks. Steward or their designee must submit receipts for reimbursement by June 15, 2022, only one check per station. ~ **MOTION PASSED**

Mark Beach made a motion seconded by Don Shepherd, for Branch 78 to donate \$3000 to Mid-Ohio Food Bank, will be matched by NALC National for the Food Drive. ~ **MOTION PASSED**

Arbitration Decisions. April 29, 2022, BR-1755-10-21 Arbitrator Sims, re: 12 and 60 hour limit violations. Discussed at Steward Meeting with John Collins from NBA office. Requires management to post Article 8-18 through Article 8-21 of JCAM on bulletin board. Employee that work 12/60 limit should be sent home and paid contractual guarantees.

May 5, 2022, BR-1613-9-21 Arbitrator Rehl, re: Non-Compliance with Columbus, \$25 per day. /Clock Ring audit process, Jeremy Hirschfeld, Advocate; Dean Peruzzi provided audit, 1.5 times amount owed.

May 9, 2022, BR-1622-9-21 Arbitrator Talmadge, re: Non-compliance with signed informal resolutions. Jeremy Advocate for 330 carriers,\$50 per carrier.

NEW BUSINESS

Dean Peruzzi made a motion seconded by Don Shepherd, for Branch to purchase 50 Clipper tickets, up to \$500, for July 4, 2022 game. ~ **Motion Passed**

Waiting to hear back from Clippers.

Ramon Lawson made a motion seconded by Dean Peruzzi, to spend up to \$1200 to update QuickBooks annually. Ours expires May 31, 2022. ~ **Motion Passed**

GOOD of the ASSOCIATION

Had Kimberly L. Morgan been present, the Member Drawing would have paid out \$150.

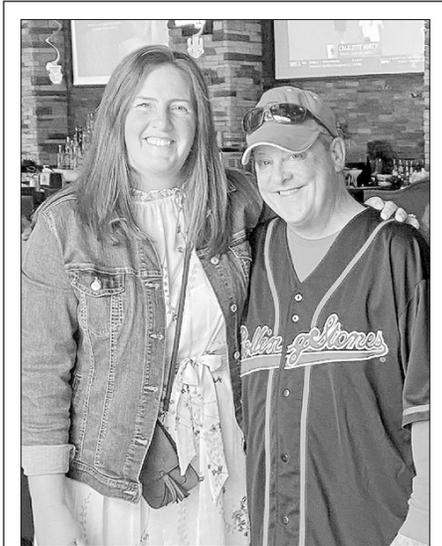
Meeting adjourned.

Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney



Attention Members! Had a Change of Address!

Please notify Branch 78 any time you move. It cost your dues money to send to bad addresses.



Debbie Guthrie Brown and newly retired Dublin carrier Phil McCluskey.

RETIREES PICNIC

TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 6,
2022 AT 1 PM

AMERICAN LEGION
SOUTHWAY POST 144

3253 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43207

UNIFORM PANTS NEEDED.

Size 26-36

If you have any you could donate that are in good condition please send them to the union hall.



Buckeye Branch 78

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



Address Service Requested

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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	Myron Miller Jr.	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
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WV Westerville	Mark Beach	614-882-2243
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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
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LABEL

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COULD BE YOUR OWN!**

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The views expressed in articles printed in this publication do not directly reflect those of Branch 78 or the Editor.
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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
RETIRES MEETING-1:00 P.M.
First Tuesday of each month

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