

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



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WEST JEFFERSON

GROVEPORT
PICKERINGTON

JULY 2023



VOL. 43 NO. 7

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

Memorandums of Understanding, policies, and work practice restrictions and requirements. Letter Carriers should know that returning to pre-COVID-19 protocols impacts the following situations.

Employees are no longer required to report positive findings of COVID-19 or potential exposure through close contacts. Sick employees will continue to be advised to remain at home. The COVID-19 HERO Tracker has been disabled, and COVID reports are archived and accessible at Headquarters.

Occupational health clearance is no longer required for any employee to return to work following recovery from COVID-19. Employees are required to follow all postal leave usage regulations and policies in effect prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Driver Safety Instructors are permitted to be in the vehicle during driver training. All social distancing requirements for drivers and

all other classroom training and meetings have been terminated. All the COVID-19 standard work instructions preventing contact with other employees within six feet are no longer in effect.

Branch 78 hosted Region 11 steward school for the second time June 7 to June 9 at the Union Hall. We had eight stewards that attended the training. Regional Administrative Assistant Dave Kennedy and Regional Administrative Assistant Mike Brim from Branch 78, Regional Grievance Assistant Anna Mudd and Regional Workers Compensation Assistant David Barbuzzi each provided training for the school. They do an excellent job engaging new stewards and give valuable training that our stewards can use to represent the membership. I am sure those that were in attendance will do a great job using this training in the future. I received nothing but positive feedback on the training.

The Branch is gearing up to host the 71st Biennial Ohio State Convention on August 4 and 5th in Columbus. Convention Committee Chairman Jacki Mitchell and her committee have been working hard to ensure that the Convention is a success. Anyone that is interested in attending the convention or helping with preparations please call me or Mark at the Union Hall.

I would like to congratulate Michael Dillon from German Village Station, Greg Tatman and Charles Kohl from Upper Arlington Station on their recent retirement. I wish them well on their retirement. Please attend our July branch meeting in person on July 12th, 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**

Make sure you are
registered to vote ASAP!
You need to vote **NO!**
On August 8, 2023
VOTE NO!



FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach to city carriers from James Lloyd, USPS Director of Contract Administration (NALC). The letter is very vague, and many carriers and stewards are questioning what the letter is referring to and why it has been sent. This letter is in response to the national level dispute (6X 19N-6X-C 22098723) the NALC filed regarding the proper method of calculating overtime, penalty overtime, Sunday premiums, cost of living adjustments (COLAs), and general wage increases for Part-time Flexible employees in Step AA.

This dispute was settled in April of 2022 (M-01980). The settlement requires USPS to notify employees of the pending retroactive pay adjustment. This letter has been sent to approximately 24,000 affected city carriers nationwide. Rest assured the National NALC will be monitoring this situation to ensure that our members get the proper compensation they deserve for the hours they worked.

The union has several upcoming events planned for its members: Clippers game (Friday, August 4th), Branch 78 Bob Solt Memorial MDA Golf Outing (Sunday, August 27th), Branch Picnic (Sunday, September 17th) and Retiree Dinner (Saturday, September 30, 2023). Not to mention Columbus is hosting the NALC Ohio State Association Convention for the first time in over 34 years August 4-5. We hope the members

take advantage of these great opportunities and if interested check out the branch website or contact the union hall for further details.

A big part of what the NALC does is lobby on behalf of its members in Congress. The NALC strictly lobbies only on issues that affect letter carriers and their jobs. Whether it be a Democratic or Republican member of Congress the NALC lobbies both sides of the aisle on behalf of its members. You can help this cause by donating to Letter Carrier Political Fund and writing or reaching out to your congressional representative and let them know you support bills that are endorsed by the NALC. Currently two issues the NALC is supporting are the Federal Retirement Fairness Act and the Social Security Fairness Act.

The Federal Retirement Fairness Act would allow letter carriers with non-career time (CCA, casuals and TEs) the opportunity to purchase retirement credit for the time they spent in these noncareer positions, providing greater retirement security.

"The Social Security Fairness Act of 2023 (H.R. 82) would eliminate the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Offset titles of the Social Security Act for benefits payable for months after December 2023. By repealing the GPO and the WEP, the bill would change the current law that reduces Social Security benefits for individuals who receive other benefits. NALC fully supports H.R. 82 and urges Congress to pass this legislation and credit Postal employees the full benefits that they have contributed to throughout their careers."

Many in the Columbus instal-

lation have been receiving adjustments on their paychecks dating back to 2022. The union has been monitoring all branch class actions it has filed in the Columbus installation and has been auditing many settlements recently. It was discovered that management had not been properly paying these settlements as agreed upon. Branch 78 will continue to audit these cases and filing noncompliance grievance to ensure that the agreed to terms are adhered to by our management counterparts. We appreciate the membership's patience and support in this matter and will ensure that all Branch class action settlements are fully adhered to no matter how long it takes.

Mark Beach
V.P. Branch 78



Greg Tatman, Upper Arlington, celebrates his retirement after 35 plus years.

MILLER'S MUSINGS



Yana Miller-Farney

SPECIAL ELECTION AUGUST 8, 2023 SINGLE ISSUE VOTE **NO!**

Are you confused? Didn't a Republican led bill discussed the end of 2022 and decided January 2023 by the 134th General Assembly enact a law to STOP August elections in Ohio. They said these elections were overly expensive, low turnout for endeavors not worth the trouble. HB 458 was signed by Gov. DeWine, January 6, 2023. Exceptions being for US House nomination or fiscal emergency.

Suddenly early May 2023 Ohio State legislative representatives scheduled an August election for this year. The one statewide ballot measure up for vote 8/8 would raise the threshold of support required for state constitutional amendments to 60%. Currently only a simple majority is needed.

Suits were filed with the Ohio Supreme Court, because this special election would appear to violate statute signed into law this January by Gov. DeWine. Supporters includ-

ed Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, who said holding August Special Elections aren't worth the tens of millions in costs. "These unnecessary off cycle elections aren't good for taxpayers, election officials or the civic health of our state. It's time for them to go," LaRose testified during hearings late last year.

But early last month, Ohio Republicans passed a joint resolution that scheduled an August 8 special election to raise the threshold for future ballot measures and impose higher signature gathering thresholds to put measurers before voters.

VOTE NO! 8/8

Raising the threshold for passing any future constitutional amendments would mark a shift in Ohio where a simple majority requirement has been in place since 1912. Four former Governors and five former Attorneys General opposed this change, they were from both parties.

I implore you to consider this information and vote NO! August 8, 2023. Between the gerrymandered maps that were found illegal by the

Supreme Court but still used. Creating laws and disregarding them in the same year. Having clandestine night meetings to decide policy and a plethora of other questionable tactics. Tells me these people are liars and cheats who twist the laws to serve their immediate needs because they cannot win the fair way. This is hella scary to me. I don't know about you but things are out of control in our country's political scene. We look at Florida and a few other states with questionable lawmakers and point fingers, better check out our own state.

Submitted by
Yana Miller-Farney

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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July 2023

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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

**1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus OH 43223-2524
614-279-2778**

www.nalc-branch78.org

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**Ohio State Association
of Letter Carrier (NALC)
@ Columbus Clippers**

When: Friday August 4, 2023, at 7:05 PM

Where: Huntington Park
330 Huntington Park Lane, Columbus, OH, 43215

Cost: \$10.00 per ticket

Contact: Jackie Mitchell at Jackibr78@gmail.com Or call
Union Hall 614-279-2778

Tickets Sold on a First Come first Served Basis

DIRECTOR OF RETIREES



Hello Retirees

Can you believe summer is here already. June 21 was officially the first day of summer.

Our June meeting, we met at Cracker Barrel on Marlane Dr., Grove City. There were about 20 retirees in attendance. Getting the opportunity to share a good meal and laughs with old friends and meeting some new retirees was great.

On July 11th we will be welcoming the Arthritis Foundation of

Central Ohio, to learn about America's #1 cause of disability. They are championing the fight to conquer arthritis with life-changing resources. We invite you and your family and friends to come join us to learn how to fight this debilitating disease.

We are going to have lunch at Carrie's Cafe on August 8th. It's part of Life Care Alliance where they serve the community hot meals on Monday-Friday from 11:00 to 1:00. There will be more details coming so mark you calendars. This will be an off-site lunch

at 670 Harmon Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43223.

For the 1st time in over 30 years, Columbus will be hosting the Ohio State Convention. It will be held August 4th - 5th at the new Hilton downtown. Please contact the union hall for more information.

I hope you are enjoying your retirement and staying safe and healthy. Hope to see you at the July meeting.

Valeria Davis,
Director of Retirees

2023 RETIREE LUNCH AT CRACKER BARREL IN GROVE CITY



VOTE NO! On August 8, 2023

THE ROBERT SOLT MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

AUGUST 27, 2023

PICKAWAY GOLF COURSE

1399 Stoutsville Pike

Circleville, OH 43113

SHOTGUN START - 8:00 AM

GET YOUR FOURSOME SIGNED UP EARLY



- | | | | |
|----|-------|------------|------------|
| 1. | _____ | ACT. _____ | RET. _____ |
| 2. | _____ | ACT. _____ | RET. _____ |
| 3. | _____ | ACT. _____ | RET. _____ |
| 4. | _____ | ACT. _____ | RET. _____ |

Phone Contact Number _____ Amt. Enclosed _____

Bob Solt Memorial

**\$60.00 per
person for
ACTIVE CARRIERS**

**\$50.00 per
person for
RETIRED LETTER CARRIERS**

**Send Payments to:
Charles Sanders
NALC**

1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio
43223-2524

**Make checks out to:
Branch 78 NALC**

JUNE 2023 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 6:33; Pledge led by Leala Harris; Invocation by Valeria Davis. Yana is out of town on vacation, reading of the minutes, she is muted we will come back. Trevor Payne read the Bills List and applications for membership.

Yana Miller-Farney read the May minutes, they were accepted.

Mark Beach - Region 11 Steward School was well received, eight of our new stewards attended good feedback about content. We will try to get the others in ASAP.

Law Comm, Chris Semo not here. Todd read notice from the National on our proposed By Law changes; Art 3 Sec 2, Art 7 Sec 2, Art 7 Sec 3, Art 7 Sec 1b, Art 7 Sec 7a were accepted. Art 2 Sec 4 was found in conflict with the National Constitution Article 8. This was to donate \$500 to the family of an deceased Active member. We will have the option to make a motion or do as we have in the past and pass the hat.

Val Davis - Retirees June 6 we had our lunch at the Golden Corral, correction Cracker Barrel, about twenty attended, food was good and we had a really good time. July meeting will be July 11 due to the Fourth holiday. The Arthritis Foundation will address us, this disease can attack many parts of the body so invite friends and family to join us.

Dean Peruzzi addressed another perk of NALC HBP, Hello Heart. It is a free app to keep track of your blood pressure, provides you with a blood pressure monitor that will feed info to your phone. It can give reminders to take medications, help you understand and manage heart health. Best part is it is FREE!

Ramon Lawson read the Treasurers Report

New Business

Mark Beach made a motion for the Branch to spend up to \$20,000 to cover expenses of the upcoming State Convention August 4-5, 2023, seconded by Trevor Payne. This would cover the cost of the Convention Booklet, polo and tee shirts, delegate bags, commemorative gifts and Clipper tickets. Some will be reimbursed by delegates buying shirts, ticket purchases and ads in the booklet. This is the first time in thirty-four years Columbus has held the State Convention. **MOTION PASSED**

Dean Peruzzi made a motion to spend up to \$1000 for door prizes for the Branch Picnic SEPTEMBER 17, 2023, Val will be doing the shopping so we'll get a lot for that money; Jacki Mitchell seconded. **MOTION PASSED**

Myron Miller made a motion to spend up to \$460.00 to Mrs. Boggs for 2 hours of face painting and balloon twisting; seconded by Don Shepherd. **MOTION PASSED**

Don Shepherd made a motion to spend \$400.00 too hire Kona Ice for two hours for the picnic, seconded by Dean Peruzzi. **MOTION PASSED**

We had our first citywide Food Drive since 2019, it was a poor showing, possibly due to the lack of advertising and no media coverage from USPS Information Specialist. Discussion on the Steward School put on by Region 11 RAAs Mike Brim and Dave Kennedy, RCS Dave Barbuzzi also taught. Very positive feedback. We do our best but can't beat three days of intensive classes. Discussed status of Route Adjustments. Management fighting every thing so holding up finalizing results.

Convention Committee has invited Troy Balderson, Allison Russo neither available; no response from Mayor Ginther, Rep. Joyce Beatty, COLC Mark Fluharty or other invited dignitaries. We have bought Clipper tickets for August 4 evening game, come with wristbands for discounted food and drinks purchased before the game. Must order before 7/1/23. We can get more tickets if needed. Baskets to raffle also needed, will accept gift cards for them, make sure they can be used in all parts of Ohio. We will have a few guest passes if you are interested in seeing what goes on at conventions. You must be a member in good standing, contact me (Jacki Mitchell) if you have free time and interested. The Robert Solt Memorial Golf Outing for MDA is in need of foursomes, cart, hole

sponsors and volunteers. August 27 at Pickaway G.C. in Circleville. Charles Sanders, Jeremy Hirschfelt and Mike Zeller, have been working hard to make this happen. All proceeds go to MDA, which has been the NALC National charity since 1952, one of the first corporate sponsors. Cart sponsor \$50.00, Hole Sponsor \$100.00, many stations sponsor multiple holes in honor of deceased carriers or appreciation for grievance payouts.

Found out Thursday who the new Postmaster will be, Melissa (can't pronounce last name) from Headquarters, an Operations person. I have not spoken with her yet. She was on the Headquarters team that was here to fix the problems in January. The only thing they did was consolidate cases at Main Office, to one piece of equipment.

USPS has discontinued all COVID protocols 05/19/23. When calling in do not report COVID just use personal leave. As of 5/1/23 you can bid 6 times during the life of the contract, if bidding closer to home it doesn't count. A National Arbitration 6/2/23 for grievants who lost 80 hours of pay due to LiteBlue scam. NALC is fighting USPS for security breach, not having multi-factor authentication.

Last week hazardous air quality due to Canadian fires, 400 times the normal particulates, report negatives affects to supervisor, document your symptoms, issues and medical treatment.

Discussed the contract, some issues have been agreed upon but there are still points to be resolved. We are hoping for a ratified contract. If that occurs we will have an opportunity to open local negotiations, stewards have been asked about our LMOU.

Mark has asked stewards and any employees to write statements if you're expecting a grievance settlement. Conversions 6/3/23 have been to Unassigned regulars because there are very few vacant routes left in the City.

We are looking for ways to increase member participation in meetings and activities. Open to suggestions. Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM at the Hall lower level, 1029 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, OH 43223; also on ZOOM instructions are on the branch website. We need to document who is in attendance in person and on ZOOM because delegates must attend 9 of twelve meetings to be considered as paid delegates for conventions. Plus stewards are paid for meeting attendance.

Discussion on Certified mail handling in office and on routes. It is still considered Accountable mail and must be treated as such even if found in DPS, customers paid extra for this to be handled and documented properly. It is a letter carrier responsibility per the M-41 handbook. It does take more time! Use the 3849 if unable to get signature on your device or unable to deliver.

Also there is no set vehicle loading time, or unloading time. The NALC has never agreed to any standard time for this, it takes what it takes. This 22 minute standard is pure BS!

Improvement of the Service

Grievances for carriers crossing crafts are getting \$50, then clerks grieve it and eventually they fill vacant clerk posts. Leala Harris won the gas card; Rocco Evangelista would have won \$120 had he been present.

Meeting adjourned 7:46; 16 in person and 23 on ZOOM.

Submitted by

Yana Miller-Farney

Correction from June
Br 78 Memorial Service
05-02-23 Harry "Pete" Watkins

BRANCH 78
ANNUAL
PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023
Franklin County Fairgrounds
Edwards Building
5035 Northwest Parkway
Hilliard, OH 43026
Noon – 4



Food & Beverages
DJ/Music
Cornhole Tournament 1 pm
Kids Face Painting 1 pm-3pm
Door Prizes



Buckeye Branch 78

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



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STATIONS	STEWARDS	BUSINESS-HOME
BW Beechwald	Scott Lloyd, Nick Jervey/Alt. Karlton Wilson	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	Cody Piersol/Alt. Kent Reeves	614-889-6571
Eastland	Jeff Stiverson	614-237-1912
East City	Charles Sanders, 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	Todd Hornyak	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/Alt. William Talley, Trenca Jackson	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	Todd Hornyak	614-451-2302
West City	Allan Moore Sr., Heather Christy/Alts. Shawn Carter, Richard Hannon	614-469-4465
WV Westerville	Olivia Nicholas, Keith Bednarczuk	614-882-3037
Westland	Samuel "Cory" Bailey, Kelsey 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

LOOK

FOR THE

UNION

LABEL



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

**ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ANY MONTH WILL
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
RETIREES MEETING-1:00 P.M.

First Tuesday of each month

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:

614-279-BR78 • 614-279-2778
www.nalc-branch78.org