



Branch 34 Takes to the Sea!

Branch 34 officers, members and friends boarded the steamboat Samuel Clemens and enjoyed an evening in Boston Harbor. See more photos on page 6.

National Association of Letter Carriers
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Branch 34's CLAN

National Association of Letter Carriers

122 Years of Proud Union Participation and Accomplishments ★ 1890 - 2012

President's Corner

Minneapolis Convention Provides Needed Push for Uphill Battles Ahead!



Robert A. Lind
 President

We just completed the NALC 68th Biennial Convention in Minneapolis, MN. As always we had a number of pro-labor key note speakers to inspire those in attendance. I'm pleased to report that the Branch 34 Convention Delegates, throughout the week, were in attendance and involved in NALC business right up till adjournment late Friday afternoon. I say that because towards the end of the week you could visibly see that wasn't the case with many branches. Not only were they involved in the daily general sessions but many took advantage of the morning and afternoon seminars being offered by the NALC involving a variety of pertinent topics. Our delegates did a good job and I commend them for their involvement.

Once again, Branch 34 received the honor of being awarded **First Place In the "Overall Excellence"** category for a large branch publication ("*Branch 34's CLAN*"). I



would like to thank all the contributors, Editor **Mazie Collier** and especially designer **Stephen Hamilton** for his graphic arts, layout, printing and dedication to producing a quality newspaper for the members of Branch 34. Great job!

This past convention will always stay embedded in our minds not because of anything that took place within the convention hall but to the contrary what took place before it even began. That prior Saturday, Branch 34 Vice-President Brother **Bob Simpson** took ill upon his arrival in Minneapolis. Bob suffered a stroke

shortly after checking into his hotel while in the company of other branch members. We immediately had him transported to a nearby trauma center where he received stellar treatment. Fortunately for Bob despite this infliction someone was looking over him. Time is of the essence when it comes to treating strokes and Bob was within ten minutes from one of the best facilities in the country. His recovery has been miraculous and he continues to make strides every day.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the prayers and support that Bob received from the many delegates throughout this country and great union. I'd like to take this opportunity to personally thank the Minneapolis Branch 9 President **Mike Zagaros** for his extended assistance to the Simpson Family. The mere fact that so many were there to offer assistance was consoling.

Lastly I would like to mention how proud I was of the Branch 34 Delegates for rallying around our wounded brother. From the moment Bob took ill our delegates were at his bedside. Many times he didn't even know they were there but they were. Throughout the entire week there was a constant flow of visitors to support Bob in his darkest hours. I believe their support helped Bob over his biggest hurdle and on the road to recovery. Semper Fi!

Summer of 2012

The month's flown by and so has the "Summer of 2012". Hopefully everyone took the time to take that much deserved vacation. I know a number of us just spend that

time doing summer projects around the house (painting, repairing or planting) but that can be therapeutic also. Either way it was time to unwind. Let's look back at what's taken place these past few months. The postal service's new appointee to overseeing operation program support sent out a directive to add additional scans throughout the

northeast region. Evidently he's not convinced we're out there working or management needs to have their time occupied by checking additional scans within every office.

(continued on page 2)

Branch 34 Delegates Representing You at the NALC Convention in Minneapolis, MN



The delegation from Branch 34 pose for a group photo in front of the dais at the NALC 68th Biennial Convention in Minneapolis, MN. The empty chair in the front row signifies Branch 34 Vice President Bob Simpson's hospitalization and his being with us in spirit. Get well soon, Bob!

Branch 34 Upcoming Membership Meetings

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

September 11, 2012
 at the Boston Lodge of Elks #10
 Spring Street, West Roxbury

October 9, 2012
 at the Malden Moose Hall
 582 Broadway (Rte. 99), Malden

November 13, 2012
 at the Sons of Italy Hall
 120 Quarry Street, Quincy

Check Out These Dates & Locations

Tel. / 781-281-1133
 Fax / 781-281-1127
 www.nalcbranch34.com

INSIDE

Branch 34's CLAN

Convention Has Come & Gone - Now the Real Fight Begins

Page 3

Scholarship Winners Say Thanks

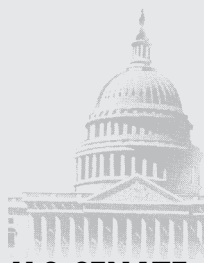
Page 7

Branch 34 Food Drive Photos

Pages 13 & 18

Catching Up With Marty Foley

Page 17



Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

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President's Corner...

(continued from page 1)

Again I know we find the “big brother” is watching you concept insulting while management continues to promote the fallacy “to ensure regular service” knowing that *service* is no longer a priority. Scans do not bring an additional dime to this company and their deployment to the contrary has the potential of costing additional unwarranted dollars. Unfortunately as one arbitrator articulated, “If kept within the confines of the national agreement management has the right to manage as well as mismanage”. It’s their company.

It’s frustrating to watch in many offices the managerial force grow. Between route adjustments, telecoms, scans and GPS management has created themselves an unnecessary full time workforce. We downsize while their overinflated ranks grow yet their productivity doesn’t.

For all extensive purposes they can put a scan on every single delivery and someday perhaps they will. Don’t let their decision making drive you crazy! We scan, they pay is the creed we need to adopt, nothing more.

Another problematic area is pivoting. Just because they have a pivot plan doesn’t mean it fits into our route configuration. If you don’t have the work to sustain an eight hour workday that’s one thing but if you do then treat it accordingly. Follow the directive if you’re told to pivot in the office and before leaving for the street submit to your immediate supervisor a PS Form 3996 for auxiliary assistance or overtime. If you’re given a *street* pivot and it also can’t be completed within the allotted time once again submit, as early as possible, a PS Form 3996 and await your instructions for that day. You know and I know they’ll play their games and question



Branch 34 President Bob Lind (right) accepts congratulations from a member of the “Postal Record” on behalf of “Branch 34’s CLAN’s” third straight General Excellence First Place Award at the 2012 Branch Publications Awards Breakfast.

your request but you have to stand on your own two feet if additional time is needed. While on the street always expect company. Management has the right to supervise and they will regularly. We’re out there with their scans anyways and once they figure out it can’t be done they’ll look elsewhere.

If you’re looking for auxiliary assistance make sure you’re not throwing your DPS, FSS, be in full uniform and never take unauthorized overtime because management will be focusing on those areas. Just go out and do the best you can and nobody can ask for more.

Gearing Up For the Fall Elections

We’re now in the full swing of our Presidential and Massachusetts Senatorial Race. You need to make your selection based on who is labor-friendly. I know there are a hundred sidebar issues (military funding, right to life, gun control...) but your decision must be restricted to which candidate is going to help your employment with the *postal service*. Which candidate is labor friendly? Look at their track-record and don’t be influenced by multimillion dollar commercials campaigns. The NALC and the AFL-CIO base their endorsements on questionnaires and proven voting records not political rhetoric. It was only a few terms back we as a country were solvent, things changed dramatically since that time.

No candidate is perfect but you have to choose between which of the candidates represents your interests as a *postal worker*. I think in this election we have the “haves” and the “have not’s”. It is my belief the “haves” will always represent the “haves” and their interest only. The only trickles down affect we’ll ever see are the “haves” relieving themselves. Vote accordingly your future employment depends on it. Postal Service or privatization, your decision?

We just attended the NALC national convention and had Ron Bloom report his analysis of the postal service to those delegates in attendance. Ron has impressive credentials, helping to save the steel and auto industries. He was employed by the NALC to research, analyze the postal service and develop a plan for the future. Ron articulated, if left unaltered, a bleak future for the postal service. He spoke in *abstracts* relating to *sacrifices* that would have to be made by *all* in order to survive but in certain respects he was crystal clear. If the postal service continues down the path they’ve been traveling (cutting and slashing) we’ll be out of business in ten years. We have a

choice sit by and do nothing or get involved to save our jobs. Those are our only options.

Webster’s Dictionary: *sac’rifice* v 1 offer (something) to a deity 2 give up something for another –n. a sacrificing

Our starting point is being an E-Activist, giving to COLCPE and donating time to get labor friendly candidates elected. We need to take back the House and Senate while keeping a friend in the White House. Enough with the games being played if you want to protect your livelihood and the livelihood of your workmates you must not only vote accordingly but get involved politically too. Sacrifice! COLCPE and getting politically active is a must starting point. We need labor friendly representation. Mitt, Paul and Scott may all have million dollar smiles (and they should) but I assure you they can’t relate to the grimace of a hard working middle-class struggling family. If you cherish the work you do and enjoy bringing home a weekly paycheck then you must vote for labor.

It doesn’t stop there though, once elected we must demand performance. Those elected legislators must protect our interests; a trillion dollar mail industry depends on it. Our message is simple, “We’re worth saving”. Unshackle us, Congress fix what you broke and let the postal service compete but it all begins with you! You have to sacrifice! You know what has to be done. If you don’t comply, scans, overtime, pivoting and street supervision will be the least of your worries. Mr. Bloom predicts that if left unaltered we will be going out of business. He stated, “The basic facts of the Postal Service are dire and dramatic, Congress created it and whether by action or inaction, indifference or malice, many people are prepared to see it fade away”. Are you? It’s your choice and your fight! Sit back and lose everything or get in the fight you belong in!

Retirement Seminar

On Sunday, July 15th, 2012, Branch 34 sponsored a “Retirement Seminar” conducted by retirement and financial planner Ron Hibbs. The event was well attended despite being a hot, sunny summer day. This seminar was not restricted to those employees eligible or contemplating retirement but to the contrary to all Branch 34 members. Every member should to be exposed to every aspect of their retirement and those options that someday they’ll be faced with. I believe those in attendance benefited from the information that was shared at this particular event. Could it have been a little more tailored for our craft employees? I believe the answer is yes and hopefully in the future we’ll be able to do just that.

Currently we’re in discussions within the branch to perhaps have our own retirement seminar geared more for letter carrier specifics versus government employees. This seminar could be broken down even further by having one devoted strictly for FERS employees and another for CSRS employees. Hopefully once finalized we can conduct these periodically on an ongoing basis.

USPS Retirements

We’ve seen over the past years too many irreplaceable carriers walk out the door and we wish every one of them a long and happy retirement. The list goes on and on and each retiree has made a considerable contribution to this union and to the postal service.

I’d like to, for I believe the first time, recognize several postal employees whom recently retired that were not carriers but always treated carriers with dignity and respect. First, Dennis Tarmey, a lawyer, USPS advocate, Postmaster and USPS spokesperson to the media. Dennis did his job but never with venom when advocating a case involving a letter carrier. As a postmaster his employees respected and enjoyed working for him and as a spokesperson he gave accolades to letter carriers whenever and wherever he could. His dry sense of humor will be missed.

Second, Pat Ring whom I considered to be one of us. Pat had a big smile, heart and handshake. He was our first managerial contact with the “Customer Connect” program and had a genuine concern when issues involving letter carriers arose. He had an uncanny ability to connect with letter carriers which I attribute to his humanistic approach to business. Besides that his somewhat unkempt appearance also attributed to the relaxed atmosphere he created when interacting with letter carriers combined with his sense of humor. Good health and thanks for your support.

Lastly, Mike Cole, Manager of Learning, Development and Diversity. Mike oversaw our “Good Start” program for a number of years. He quietly went about his business when dealing with letter carriers and always created a pleasant working atmosphere between himself, instructors and new hires. He too treated those around him with dignity and respect.

The one common denominator these three recognized retirees all shared was it was only a job and they didn’t let it change the person they were. They understood dignity and respect and carried compassion while performing their duties. I wish them well in retirement and life.

Convention Has Come & Gone and Now the Fight Begins

The NALC National Convention has come and gone and I would like to make a few observations. Branch 34 had 21 official delegates attend. I trust all enjoyed themselves in Minneapolis, MN. The overwhelming theme of this convention was the struggles we as letter carriers face presently and in the future. There were several guest speakers who will fight with us in our battles but NALC President **Frederic Rolando** introduced the secret weapon in our fight to preserve the Postal Service. "We have each other", he said.

In Rolando's keynote address he stated "the future of the Service is too monumental a task to leave to the hopeless management running the agency, or to this deadlocked Congress, or this disengaged White House. If we, the National Association of Letter Carriers, do not seize the moment, show the way and demonstrate that the Service can be saved – and how – the sad fact is that no one else will do it".

Several members of Congress spoke and voiced their support for letter carriers and for saving the Postal Service, including the chairperson of the Democratic National committee, **Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz** of Florida.

Rolando reminded the delegates that arbitration hearings towards our next national agreement will take place shortly. He assured delegates "that the union will vigorously defend letter carrier wages and benefits and seek to advance bargaining goals through interest arbitration".

What became evident to me or should I say became clearer is that we face a rocky road ahead. We have several battles on our hands. We have the daily battle on the workroom of nitwit managers and supervisors attempting to justify their own existence. They do so by harassing letter carriers daily instead of allowing us to deliver mail. We face the struggling economy and the decrease in mail volume brought on by the internet. We also face the unfair burden imposed by congress to prefund our future retiree health benefits at an unrealistic rate.

What also became clear to me is that we can prevail. **Ron Bloom**, special advisor to President Rolando, made what many considered a gloom and doom speech. Bloom is a Harvard Business School graduate, union organizer, who helped restructure the auto industry, and helped turn around the steel industry. He explained the real problems facing the Postal Service. Bloom also explained that letter carriers will determine if the USPS survives. The Postal Service needs to restructure and the NALC must be a part of it. Bloom concluded his speech by saying "when history is written, the question will come whether the second decade of the 21st century was the beginning of the end of the Postal Service, or will it be the moment when the NALC stood up, grabbed the wheel and said. We will write our own history – we will stand up and save the United States Postal Service".

The point I am trying to make is that the time is now. The time for all of us to

contribute to COLCPE in order to elect members of Congress who will stand with us and fix the prefunding mandate. The time is now to become and E-Activists and stay informed. The time is now to become more active in the NALC and Branch 34. We have to act together and we have to save the Postal Service because no one else seems to want to.

One such act of working together took place among Branch 34 delegates in Minneapolis. Unfortunately, as often happens it took a tragedy to initiate things. As many of you know by now, Vice President **Bob Simpson** suffered a stroke in Minneapolis. Bob had just arrived in Minneapolis and met several of us for lunch. Within moments it was obvious to us what was happening. We got medical attention for Bob within moments and to the hospital very quickly. What happened over the next several days was remarkable. The Branch 34 delegates took turn spending time with Bob in the hospital so he was not alone. His wife, Carol arrived and we continued to visit and attempted to help her. Delegates to the convention collected money and sent well wishes to Bob and all of us. What truly amazed me was how Branch 34 stood together for one of our brothers. Everyone made a point of visiting Bob and no one was asked to. We just did it because it was the right thing to do.

Fortunately, through everyone's thoughts and prayers, Bob is in Boston at Spaulding Rehab and hoping to go home soon. Hope-

fully it will not be long before Bob is back to work offering us all his wisdom and knowledge of the contract.

What took place in Minneapolis must take place more often. Obviously I do not mean injury or illness. I mean all of us working together for a common cause. All of us doing our part because it is the right thing to do. All of us contributing without being asked. If we all work together we will save the Postal Service and save our jobs. We do not have a choice because if we don't all do our part, nobody else will.



Kevin Flaherty
Secretary-Treasurer

Interest Arbitration is Next Step in Contract Process

The NALC has entered the next step of the contractual process which is Interest Arbitration. In Interest Arbitration, a three-person arbitration panel is selected, that includes an NALC representative and a USPS representative. Both of these panel members, in turn, pick a chairman for this panel.

The NALC chose **Bruce Simon**, a lawyer who has worked with the NALC for a number of years. The Postal Service chose **R. Theodore Clark**, a partner in a management law firm as its representative.

Both of these panel members jointly picked through a selection process, **Sham Das**, as Chairman of the three-person arbitration panel. The panel will set the term of the next collective bargaining agreement between the NALC and the USPS.

Chairman Das is a member of the American Arbitration Association's Labor Board and has been a full-time labor arbitrator since 1977. Das has served on national arbitration panels involving postal workers since 1996. He has also chaired arbitration proceedings involving Steelworkers and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

The arbitration panel has scheduled several hearing dates between August 2012 and January 2013.

Once arbitration begins, the hearings

could last several months, due to testimony and presented evidence from both parties. After the proceedings are complete, the arbitration panel will meet to broker a final and binding award, that sets the terms of the next contract.

The Chairman of this panel picked by opposing parties will be the decision maker. This is the first contract since 1999 that has had to be resolved by arbitration.

Bereavement Leave

City letter carriers may use a total of up to three workdays of annual leave, sick leave or leave without pay, to make arrangements necessitated by the death of a family member or attend a funeral of a family member. Authorization of leave beyond three workdays is subject to the conditions and requirements of Article 10 of the National Agreement, Subsection 510 of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual and the applicable local memorandum of understanding provisions.

Definition of a Family Member: "Family Member" is defined as a:

- (a) Son or daughter – a biological or adopted child, stepchild, daughter-in-law or son-in-law;
- (b) Spouse;
- (c) Parent; or
- (d) Sibling – brother, sister, brother-in-

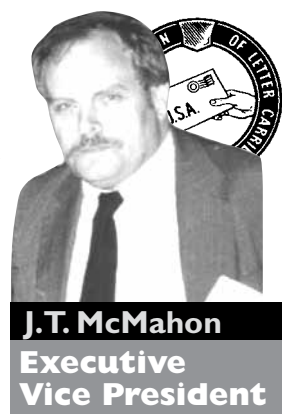
law or sister-in-law; or
(e) Grandparent.

Use of Sick Leave. For employees opting to use available sick leave, the leave will be charged to sick leave for dependent care, if applicable.

Documentation. Documentation evidencing the death of the employee's family member is required only when the supervisor deems documentation desirable for the protection of the interest of the Postal Service.

Note: As clarification, in-laws covered by the Memorandum of Understanding, Re: Bereavement Leave, include the spouse of a child (whether biological, adopted, or stepchild). The memorandum also applies to the parents and siblings of the employee's spouse (whether biological or adoptive).

Source: Memorandum of Understanding Between the United States Postal Service and the National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO, Re: Bereavement Leave, September 11, 2007, updated February 20, 2009.



J.T. McMahon
Executive Vice President

The "Joker" is Wild!

I would be remiss if I didn't recognize Fort Point's **Johnny Pizzi** whom as you can see in this issue of the "CLAN" decided to retire and move on in life. Johnny's well known outside the postal service for his standup comedy and magic act he performs regularly. As workmate **Joe Carrillo** will shout, "**LADIES & GENTLEMEN NOW APPEARING FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY, JUST BACK FROM LAS VEGAS, JOOOHNNY-YYYYPIZZI!!!!**" John has traveled the circuit over the decades playing clubs throughout the Boston Area, New England and across the country including Las Vegas. I've had the pleasure of enjoying a good laugh while taking in his routine over past years.

What most people don't know, unless they're close to Johnny, is all the good he's done for numerous people and charities throughout his career.

Whenever, if ever, there was someone in need John was there to offer his services. The man with the biggest smile had a heart

three times bigger. If I listed all the charity work and fund raisers John has been involved with I'd probably fill up this entire publication.

So now John, aka "**the Joker**", is quietly going into retirement, **NOT IN YOUR LIFE!** John is merely going full time in his other profession. He has collaborated with the "China Blossom" in North Andover which he oversees and runs their comedy club. When he's not performing there listen for a busload of tourists laughing while driving through the streets of Boston. Chances are their bus driver is our own **Johnny Pizzi!** Once he has them on his bus, he's got a captive audience and they in turn are in for a treat! Thanks John for the good work and memories, good luck in all future endeavors. Good health and keep on smiling.

– **Bob Lind**, Branch 34 President



Johnny Pizzi

Branch 34's CLAN

Founded May 1971

AWARDS

International Labor Communications Association
GENERAL EXCELLENCE – LOCAL UNION PUBLICATIONS – CIRCULATIONS of 2,500 to 9,999
First Place, 2003

National Association of Letter Carriers
GENERAL EXCELLENCE – LARGE BRANCH PUBLICATIONS – MORE THAN 1,500 MEMBERS
First Place, 2012
First Place, 2010
First Place, 2008
First Place, 2002
First Place, 1996
First Place, 1994
Second Place, 2006
Second Place, 1992
Third Place, 2004
Honorable Mention, 1982
Judges' Commendation, 1988

BEST STORY
First Place, 1996
Third Place, 1990
2 Honorable Mentions, 1992
Honorable Mention, 1990

BEST CARTOON OR PHOTO
First Place, 2006

PROMOTING UNIONISM
Third Place, 1992
Judges' Commendation, 1988

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Robert A. Lind, Associate Editor
John T. McMahon, Associate Editor

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Management Instructions

With the vacations winding down and the summer months waning, the usual uptick in discipline is surely upon us. My perception at Dispute Resolution is that the charge of failure to follow instruction is quickly surpassing perennial frontrunner failure to be regular in attendance.

At the outset, let me preface this article by stating that under most circumstances, there is rarely a legitimate excuse for an employee to fail to follow an employer's clear and unambiguous instruction. For City Letter Carriers and other postal employees, such is spelled out in multiple handbooks not the least of which is the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM); Section 665.15:

665.15 Obedience to Orders

Employees must obey the instructions of their supervisors. If an employee has reason to question the propriety of a supervisor's order, the individual must nevertheless carry out the order and may immediately file a protest in writing to the official in charge of the installation or may appeal through official channels.

I say rarely because in most circumstances, the employer is entitled to have all instructions followed, **unless following the instruction would place the employee in imminent danger or cause irreparable harm.**

I've emphasized *clear and unambiguous instruction* because that's what every Letter Carrier is entitled to and that in most instances, such is rarely the case.

As every Carrier is aware, the USPS has rules and regulations for every conceivable aspect of our job and it is nearly impossible to know all of them. If a supervisor gives an instruction, it is to be followed as given regardless of whether it is deemed foolish or unnecessary. If a Carrier disagrees or is unsure of the specifics of an instruction, then it is incumbent upon the Carrier to seek more detailed information.

This "obey now, grieve later" rule is a firmly-grounded concept in private and public sector labor law. The rule promotes the grievance process as the best means for an employee to challenge an order or directive he or she believes is improper. Failing that, we open ourselves to discipline up to and including discharge.

One reason that Management attempts

to utilize the failure to follow instruction charge as often as it does is because it can entail a broad range of daily postal functions and if properly provided to an employee, it is difficult to defend.

Fortunately, Article 16 (Discipline Procedure) of our National Agreement requires that the basic principal shall be that all discipline must be corrective, rather than punitive in nature and that no employee may be disciplined or discharged without just cause. Labor arbitrators often apply the criteria of just cause to six basic provisions; the first of which applies in nearly every instance related to failure to follow instruction.

Is there a rule? If so, was the employee aware of the rule? Was the employee forewarned of the disciplinary consequences for failure to follow the rule? It is not enough to say, "Well, everybody knows that rule," or, "We posted that rule ten years ago." ... (JCAM; Pg. 16-1)

For our Stewards – in the event that a Carrier becomes the subject to discipline, the first and most important questions to be asked of Management are "what was the specific instruction to the Grievant and when was it given." Remember: Management bears the burden of proof when imposing discipline.

In closing, we as Letter Carriers would be much better served if we could alter our mindset and embrace the concept of supervisors providing instruction. The last thing these supervisors and managers want is multiple Carriers, on a daily basis, seeking guidance and clarification.

Congratulations Retirees

On behalf of President Lind, the Board of Officers and all the Brothers and Sisters of Branch 34, we extend our wishes for a long, happy, healthy and well deserved retirement to the following recently retired members:

Richard K. Brown..... Weymouth Landing
 John J. DiPerri.....Fort Point
 Michael D. FermioRoxbury
 William H. Ford.....Milton
 Edward P. Hubbard..... Jamaica Plain
 John A. Hutchings Somerville
 Steven E. Ivers Charlestown
 Richard D. Izzicupo..... Malden
 Mary L. Noble Arlington
 John W. Perkins Waltham
 John J. Pizzi.....Fort Point
 Raoul I. Rivas.....Medford
 Robert J. Schena Waltham
 Robert F. SheridanDorchester
 Joseph T. Struzziero.....Milton

– Michael Yerkes
 Branch 34 Financial Secretary



Michael Yerkes
 Financial Secretary



The USPS honors Officer John B. "Jack" Maguire by renaming the Woburn Post Office after him on April 29th. Officer Maguire was killed in the line of duty while responding to an armed robbery at a local Kohl's Department Store.

Kings, Queens & Indians

Several recent news stories caught my attention, some more serious than others. Let me start by saying our Presidential and Congressional election cycles are waaaaay tooooo loooooong. I can understand the need to raise money and building name recognition but c'mon, enough already. In reality the electorate really doesn't start paying attention until after Labor Day when vacations are over and the kids are back in school. Up until then it is just silly season.

Several cases in point, did you hear that the breaking news that **Scott Brown** talks to kings and queens on a frequent basis and, according to Brown, powerful Democrats frequently call him seeking his vote on legislation. **NOT.** Both of these statements have since been retracted by Brown's office.

On the Democratic side, **Elizabeth Warren** has done no better. She didn't learn that what you do when you are younger can come back to bite you in the ass later in life. While she may prove to be a very good United States Senator, she will be known forever to some as Senator Hiawatha.

Are there any candidates who have integrity out there? **Mitt Romney** flip-flops almost daily and runs from his Massachusetts health care legislation like it's the plague (*pun intended*). The *Boston Globe* then comes out with a story that disproves Romney's claim of when he left Bain Capital. Did Romney think nobody would check something like that? Does he think he can get that by voters? And why won't he share his tax return information. It gives the appearance he is hiding something. Those instances give us a glimpse into the candidate's character and from where I sit it ain't pretty.

33

As Branch 34's CLAN goes to print, 33 represents the number of times the Republican-led House of Representatives have tried to repeal "Obamacare".

Like the previous 32 times this attempt will fail, because the Democrats control the U.S. Senate. Don't the Republicans have anything better to do with their time?

Scranton Outrage

Now, let's talk about Scranton, Pennsylvania. Oh, you haven't heard about this?

This story has bad omen written all over it.

The story that I have is that the city of Scranton is in some serious financial mess, The Mayor and City Council have been unable to agree on a plan to balance the budget. The Mayor wanted to raise the property tax by something like an absurd 78%. The City Council said no. Then the Mayor said he was going to reduce all city workers', police, fire, custodians', secretaries', etc. pay to minimum wage. The Mayor was taken to court and was told he could not cut employees wages.

But he defied the court and did it anyway. He didn't tell anybody, just did it. So when employees opened their pay envelopes they were missing the majority of their pay, but still had to feed their families and pay their bills.

Let me repeat what I just said – he defied the court and did it anyway. I would hope he gets his ass handed to him in a sling and all the employees are compensated, but this is what can happen after the **Scott Walker** win in Wisconsin. A little nobody suddenly grows a pair of balls and tries to make himself a hero to anti-unionists. The union members have done nothing wrong. They negotiated in good faith and all they expect is for the city to uphold its part of the deal.

A Special Note

On August 27th, I will be celebrating my 30th wedding anniversary with my lovely wife, **Susan**. Susan has been a terrific life companion, mother, and now grandmother. This may be hard for you to believe, but I can be difficult to get along with at times. Susan has put up with all of my faults, as well as the demands of my role as a Union activist. I wanted to publicly recognize our amazing life together. Thanks, honey!



Michael Kidd
 Area Steward

In Memoriam

George C. Cullen *
 Retired Member – G.M.F.

Charles R. Dusevitch *
 Retired Member – J.F.K.

Leo Kavjian
 Retired Member – G.M.F.

Frederick A. Langone
 Retired Member – South Boston

Frederic A. Ziman
 Retired Member – Chestnut Hill

* denotes 50-Year Life Member

Rest in Peace

ATTENTION

RETIRED LETTER CARRIERS:

Anyone who meets the 50 year requirement to receive a GOLD CARD, please contact the Union Office at 781-281-1133 to provide and receive more information.

Retirement Corner

Retirement Forum Worthwhile & Informative

About a month ago, Branch 34 took a very positive step forward in trying to provide a retirement forum for Letter Carriers. Florian Hall in Dorchester was the setting, and **Ron Hibbs**, a financial advisor for FEDERAL EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SERVICES out of Glen, NH was the speaker. The forum attracted about 125 Carriers and their spouses. The presentation was informative and gave an overview of the basics surrounding: CSRS, FERS, TSP, FEGLI and Survivor benefits. The seminar was free as well as a follow up "individual consultation" with Ron Hibbs. I commend Branch 34 and Ron Hibbs for their efforts to give our membership a forum to address their retirement concerns. BUT.....

For this carrier, I was a bit disappointed. The seminar touched on the obvious: CSRS and how your annuity is computed; FERS and how that is computed; TSP overview; SS and its impact on your annuity; Special Retirement supplement for FERS employees; Survivor benefits; FEGLI and discussion on insurance related issues. Although these are topics that are vital to the discussion, most were looking for more. More in the form of questions and answer discussions that open the forum to everyone with their personal concerns as they relate to their personal retirement. The questions raised from those in attendance were very difficult to hear, and the question wasn't repeated for the audiences benefit. The questions from the members in attendance were the most important segment of the day.

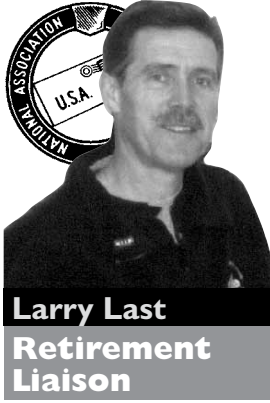
The subjects and the questions presented during the seminar are readily available to all Letter Carriers through two booklets provided by the NALC. The first, is "Questions and Answers on CSRS". A 44 page booklet covering 189 questions pertinent to Letter Carriers Civil Service questions. The second, "Questions and Answers

on FERS" is a 70 page booklet covering 248 questions pertinent to Letter Carriers Federal Employees Retirement System questions. These booklets can be obtained through the Branch and are a must for any employee approaching consideration for retirement.

The seminar at Florian Hall was a great starting point, but I realized that **WE NEED MORE**. Bob Lind has been very receptive to the needs of our retiring members. And, with that thought in mind we are working on conducting a retirement seminar that will generate more thought provoking strategies and answers to **OUR RETIREMENT**. I would like to have Ron Hibbs back again, but this time we need a Carrier to accompany him with the seminar.

I ask every Carrier to write down their questions and begin your research to find answers. Start with the two booklets I mentioned earlier (CSRS and FERS question and answers) and then try websites like FEDERALTIMES.COM. When a site and date has been secured for our next **RETIREMENT SEMINAR** the Branch will send out a Flash, or a notice will be supplied in this column.

With 15 new MSP labels on each route being implemented throughout the district, and PIVOTING on a daily basis pressing on your patience.....**PLEASE DON'T OVERREACT AND RETIRE TOO SOON**. The upcoming Presidential election and pressing Postal issues in the Legislature, there may be some decisions that could affect your retirement. Until then, get your questions ready.



Larry Last
Retirement
Liaison



Roxbury's Vanessa Williams is recognized for her involvement as a NALC Solicitor in the "Boston Plan."

Branch 34 Honors Four Members



Branch 34 honors John Sawyer and Chris Rand of Woburn in recognition of their saving lives with their quick response.



Branch 34 salutes Million Mile Club Member Paula Colella.

The Man Behind the Scenes

Steve Hamilton, Designer of the "CLAN"

Ever wonder how "Branch 34's CLAN" keeps winning "First Place for General Excellence" in the Branch Publications Awards every other year?

Great writing, of course... great features and photographs, naturally. But our "ace in the hole" may be our graphic designer, **Steve Hamilton** from Union Printworks.

Steve has been designing the "CLAN" and many other labor newspapers for over twenty years. One of the things that has made Steve different from other designers is that he is one of only a few who is a member of a union himself. He belongs to the Teamsters/Graphic Communications Local 600M.

"I always try to keep up with the times, and even try some new ideas to make each publication current and interesting to read. The idea is to entice the reader into reading the articles and looking at the features, so that they can get the most information. Especially now, this is vital when standing up to management and realizing that we're all in this together," Steve said.

Steve has designed the "CLAN" since 1993 and among the other publications he has designed is "The New Hampshire Letter Carrier," which has won "Second Place in General Excellence" during the last two award cycles. He must be doing something right.

Steve has worked alongside many



Steve Hamilton of Union Printworks is the man behind the scenes for the designing and printing of "Branch 34's CLAN."

Branch 34 officers and editors over the years including **Fred Celeste, Maureen Marinelli, Mazie Collier** and **Bob Lind** and finds their input always inspiring and creative.

He concluded by saying, "I want to thank the officers and membership of Branch 34 for their help and friendship for the past twenty years, and I hope that it will continue well into the future."

Thanks Steve, for all of your hard work and creativity... and we better win again next time!

— Bob Lind
Branch 34 President

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Sean P. Lafferty
William P. Carroll (Of Counsel)

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Branch 34 Officers, Members and Friends Take to the Sea!



Branch 34 Receives Thanks from Scholarship Winners

Samantha Chan

I recently graduated fourth in my class at Randolph High School. Throughout my high school career, I have had the privilege of taking advantage of many opportunities presented to me.

In my freshman year, I placed first in my school's science fair and third in both the regional level and state level of the Massachusetts State Science and Engineering Fair. In addition to the academic portion of school, I participated in many extracurricular clubs, such as Asian Club, Key Club, Student Council, Class Council, and the National Honor Society, which I was vice president of in my junior year and president of in my senior year. For two years I played volleyball and was named co-captain and "Best Offensive Player" in my senior year. From sophomore to senior year, I played tennis in the spring on a doubles team with one of my best friends.

In the fall of 2012, I plan on attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where I have been accepted into the Honors College. I will be majoring in Biology with thoughts of pursuing the pre-med track. I am very grateful for the National Association of Letter Carriers' support in my academic endeavors, and I wish to thank all those who have invested in my future.

Lesley Desriviere

Stepping into the halls of Malden High School I knew I had to make my mark because I was told that not only do colleges look for academic success, but also involvement in the community. Inside the school walls I was involved in two major clubs, Key Club and Environmental Club, volunteering for events that support various causes and promoting the "Go Green" campaign. Junior and senior year I was also a member of the Student Council being elected secretary. Inducted into National Honor Society my senior year, my partner and I hosted the 5th Annual Hit-A-Thon that helped raised over \$800 for children with mental and physical disabilities playing baseball. Apart from clubs and activities I was a member of my Varsity Indoor and Outdoor Track Team and ran the 50m, 100m, 200m, and 4x100 events.

Outside the school walls, I am an active member in my local church's choir singing tenor. Throughout the summers I spent my time working at Youth and Family Enrichment Services (YOFES) that uses youth mentors to tutor and serve as role models for the children in the Boston community. Also last summer, I participated in an internship program at Tufts Medical School where students took gross anatomy and physical diagnosis classes, and also conducted a presentation pertaining to a research project worked on over the summer.

In the fall I will be attending Boston University and majoring in Biology. I plan to continue my education into medical school, to pursue my dream career of being a pediatrician.

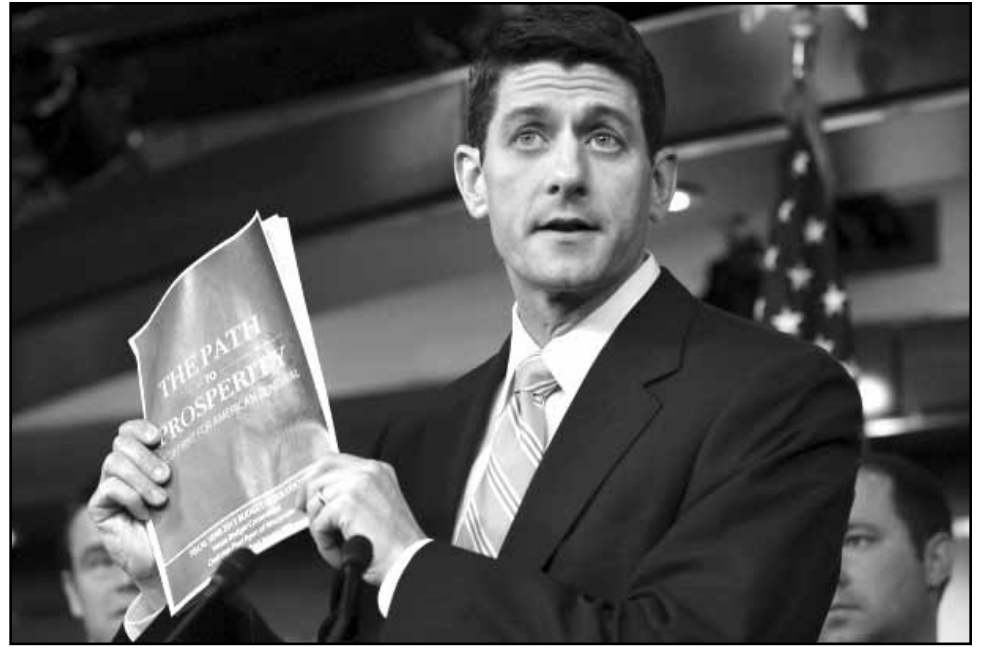
Lastly, I would like to say thank you to Branch 34 for choosing me as one of the recipients of this year's scholarship award.

Jonathan Liu

Throughout the years, I have grown from a shy underclassman to an outgoing and responsible adult. I dedicated time especially to community service, something I've grown fond of doing, working with Wolfpack Volunteers as a member and helping out in Chinatown during the festivals.

From the start of my Sixie year (7th grade), my growth could be seen from progressing from just a member of Asian Students in Action (A.S.I.A.) to becoming one of the co-presidents, also successfully coordinating a couple of the only student-run shows in the entire school, Holiday Sing-Off and Asian Night. My dedication to volunteering and my hard work towards school work showed off when I was accepted into the National Honor Society. Not only did I do much volunteer work, but I was also part of the Bass Drum Line in the Football Band, part of the percussion ensemble of the Concert Band, and I performed with our school's Bboy (Breakdancing) club. Without fail, for the past six years, I have gotten Approbation, receiving only A's and B's.

At Boston University, I plan on continuing my work with the community as well as enriching myself more in the arts, whether it is in music, dance or visual. Although I have decided to go in undecided, wanting to test myself in the open unknown waters, I first want to try getting a dual degree in Psychology and Public Relations with a minor in Japanese. I want to further grow and become someone who my parents and the people who helped nurture me are proud of.



Republican Vice Presidential nominee Paul Ryan

Paul Ryan – The Antichrist

As you all know by now, Mitt Romney has selected Congressman Paul Ryan of Wisconsin to be his running mate.

At first blush the selection of Ryan fails to help with the several gaping holes in the Romney resumé. Romney has Michigan roots (even though most people know him as Massachusetts governor) and Ryan is from Wisconsin so the selection wasn't based on geographical considerations. Wisconsin isn't a swing state; Ryan isn't a woman; Ryan isn't of a different ethnicity, nor is he an expert in international affairs or defense issues. So what is it that Ryan brings to the ticket?

Ryan is the Chairman of the House Budget Committee. From all accounts he has become a master at the budget process. So good in fact that Ryan wrote the House Republicans' plan for devastating cuts in federal safety net programs (think Medicare) a/k/a "The Ryan Budget".

He is an ideologue who believes he is on a singular quest to save the country

from the evils of excessive debt – a broken Tax Code and unsustainable entitlements (again, think Medicare). His views are shared by many in the Republican Party and his selection gives Romney cred among Republicans who have long suspected Romney isn't a true believer.

"The Ryan Budget" and what that means to the Republican Party is the reason Ryan was selected to be on the Romney ticket.

If elected, the Romney-Ryan ticket will try to wipe out the middle class in America which will result in a new society of haves and have-nots.



Michael Kidd
Legislative Liaison

EAP Corner

Managing Work-Life Transitions

Many of us can remember Mr. Rogers' routine as he returned home from work. While listening to him sing "Won't You Be My Neighbor," we watched him change his shoes, replace his jacket for a cardigan, and gradually shift from his "work life" to "home life." Making an appropriate transition from work to home and vice versa can help you enjoy all aspects of your life more fully. Too often, we begin our day at work thinking about tasks waiting for us at home, or bring work issues home with us at night. This tip sheet offers some simple suggestions for better managing the daily transitions between work and home.

From Home to Work:

Plan ahead. Many people find it helpful to plan the next day's activities the evening before. If you have children, you may consider setting out clothes, packing lunches, etc. the night before to help avoid the last minute crises that can often erupt when we are rushed. If you have materials that you need to bring with you to work the next day, make sure that you lay those out in advance, too.

Establish goodbye rituals. Whether it is saying goodbye to your pets or your family members, it can help to establish a consistent pattern for your farewells. If you have children, you may want to consider associating goodbyes with a positive activity, such as reading a story, playing a game or simply giving them a kiss goodbye. With other family members, you may want to take this opportunity to discuss your evening plans and when you hope to return home later in the day.

Have back-up plans. Even the most organized person will be hit with surprises from time to time. It is important that you and your

family members establish back-up plans for these unexpected occurrences.

From Work to Home:

Leave work issues "at the office." If you have had a bad day at work, the last thing you want to do is bring those issues and feelings home with you. Your family members will sense your mood. Instead, try to mentally remove yourself from work before returning home. Take the last few minutes of your work day to jot down notes of what you hope to achieve the next day, important meetings that you might have and issues that are unresolved from your current day's activities. Make sure to keep this list realistic. Setting unrealistic expectations for the day ahead will only increase your anxiety as you return home.

Establish returning home rituals. Just as important as it is to establish rituals for leaving home in the morning, it is equally important to establish consistent patterns for returning home after your work day. Many people find the simple act of changing their clothes to be one of the easiest ways to shift from their "work self" to their "home self." Others enjoy exercising as a way to navigate the transition. Experiment and find out what is most successful for you.

Additional Resources

Additional information, self-help tools and other resources are available online at www.EAP4YOU.com. Or call us for more information, help and support. Counselors are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide confidential assistance at no cost to you at 1-800-EAP-4YOU or 1-800-327-4968.

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I moved here in 2006 and want to get back to MA for family reasons.

Did I mention NO SNOW?

Contact Steve Taglieri:

email: stephentag@hotmail.com

phone or text: 781-929-5786

A View from the Field **Forcing Off the List!**

As we continue to battle the unrelenting heat during these dog days of summer, the forced overtime Article 8 grievances are rolling in to the union hall at a torrid pace. It's obvious; Management is severely short staffing all offices, thus forcing non-overtime desired list carriers off their assignments in order to get the mail delivered. It is also apparent that management has a blatant disregard for both the contract and the personal lives of letter carriers. So, what can we do to deter management from continuing to mandate carriers to perform overtime against their will? The answer is as clear as it ever was, file a complete and proper grievance.

So, how can we develop a grievance that gives us the greatest chance of success? As in every grievance, the key is requesting relevant information and writing complete narratives of all fact circumstances of the issue. The local steward needs to investigate the issue immediately and refer to the JCAM for guidance. Article 8 offers a fairly clear description of management's obligations in regards to mandating overtime. Please be aware that the mandating of overtime may be proper in some circumstances; if all policy and procedures are followed. The operational needs of the service are, in fact, extremely important but, we as a union; need to take every measure to ensure the rights of each and every member are protected. Overtime should be performed by choice consistent to the contract not by force or ineptitude of management to properly staff the work room floor.

What do I, as a Formal step A representative, look for in dealing with these cases; first, a complete written thought; what happened, to whom, how, and why; these are very basic elements of almost any grievance. Next is the supporting documentation, which should always include employee everything TACS rings - for all employees involved with the incident, the Over Time Desired List (OTDL) and a brief explanation of how the list is used in your

office; (for example: only one list, or 10 hours & 12 hour, comp days and work assignment etc). It is very helpful, if the local steward lists: who was mandated and on what assignment, who was bypassed or not utilized to the maximum hours under the contract. It is also beneficial but not mandatory to list vacancies, PTFs and TE's; to help establish alternates to mandating. Some other relevant information for this grievance issue may be: PS form 3996 (aux slips), PS form 3997 (daily schedules), PS form 3971 (leave slip), and choice vacation schedules. In cases where management is arguing window of operation (woo) or final dispatch, we may need additional TACS reports showing management ignoring the same (woo) repeatedly, 1700 or 1800 hour reports (not the formal name of report). It is incumbent on the union to establish the validity of managements (woo) argument, is it concrete or artificial. My opinion to this argument is as follows, if management is invoking a window of operation on a part time basis than there is no (woo). In all honesty, this issue can be quite complex; as a whole we win our fair share but without putting the time and effort into these grievances at the station level we don't stand a chance. I feel that this is a good head start in giving our members the best chance to see success (\$\$) and hopefully and end to this misuse of our contract through forced OT.

In conclusion, I would be remiss if I didn't mention our brother **Bob Simpson**. He remains in my family's thoughts and prayers for a full and speedy recovery. His guidance and knowledge are sorely missed by me on a daily basis. I also hope that everyone had a great summer and vacation season. I look forward seeing everyone the next union meeting.



Brian Manning
Area Steward



Scenes from the NALC



Branch 34 President Bob Lind accepts congratulations from NBA John Casciano (left) and NALC President Fredric Rolando (right) for the First Place win in the Branch Publication Awards for "Branch 34's CLAN." This marks the third straight time the "CLAN" has taken home the top prize.



NALC President Fredric Rolando (right) has an emotional chat with MDA Goodwill Ambassador Bryson Foster.

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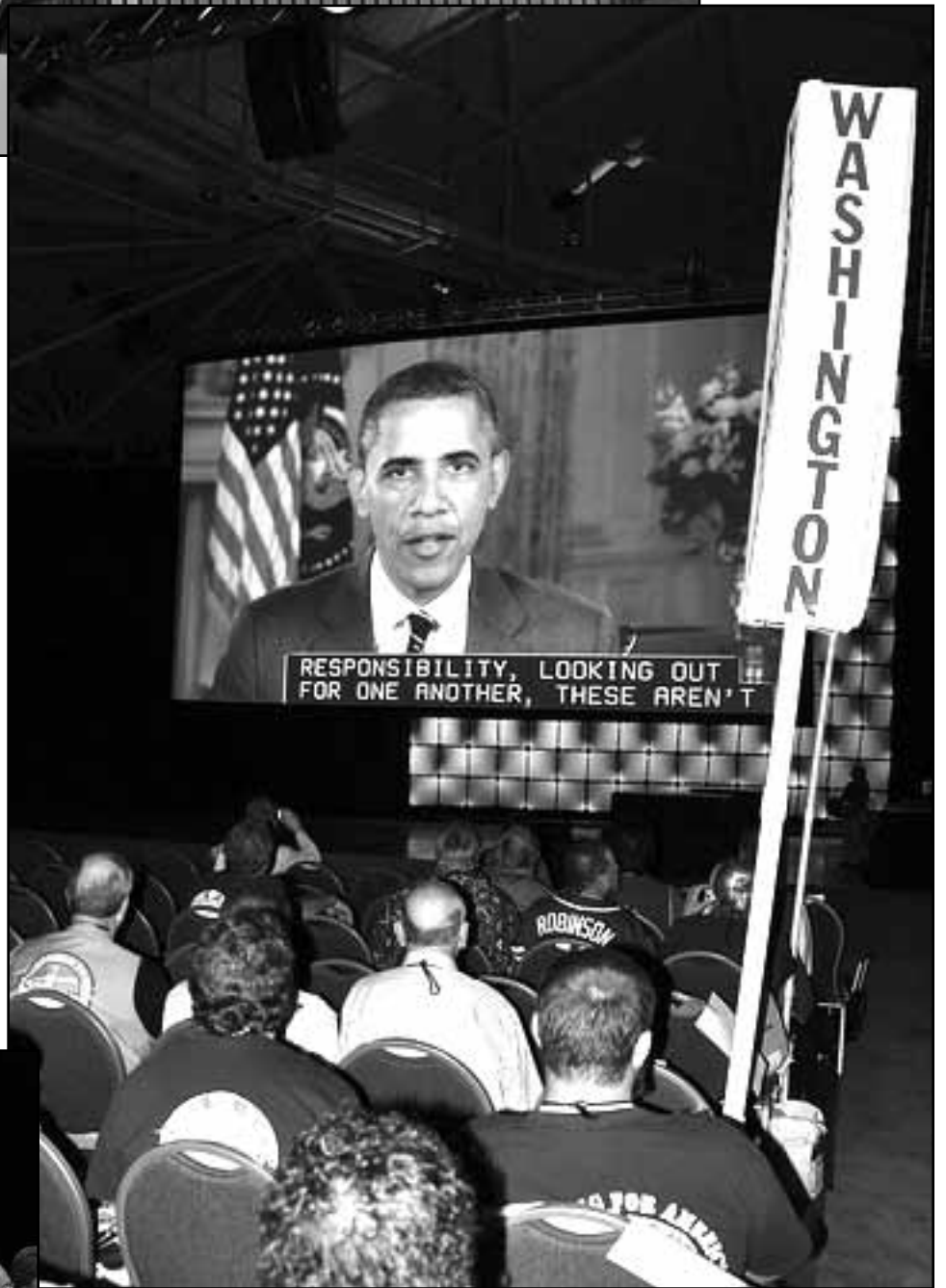
68th Biennial Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota



Branch 34 President Bob Lind gives an update on the condition of Branch 34 Vice President Bob Simpson from the convention podium.



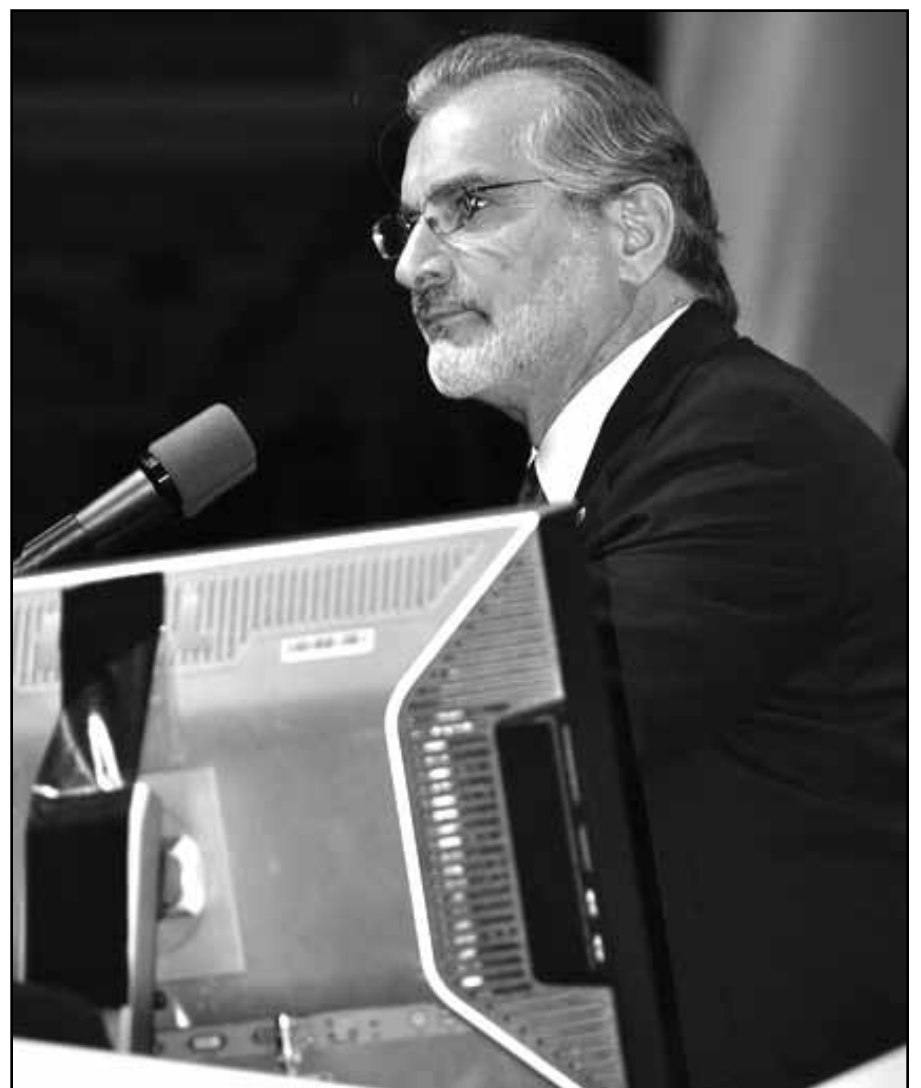
National Postal Mailhandlers President John Hegarty address the delegates to the National Convention in Minneapolis.



President Barack Obama speaks to the conventioners via satellite about the upcoming election and a variety of Postal issues.



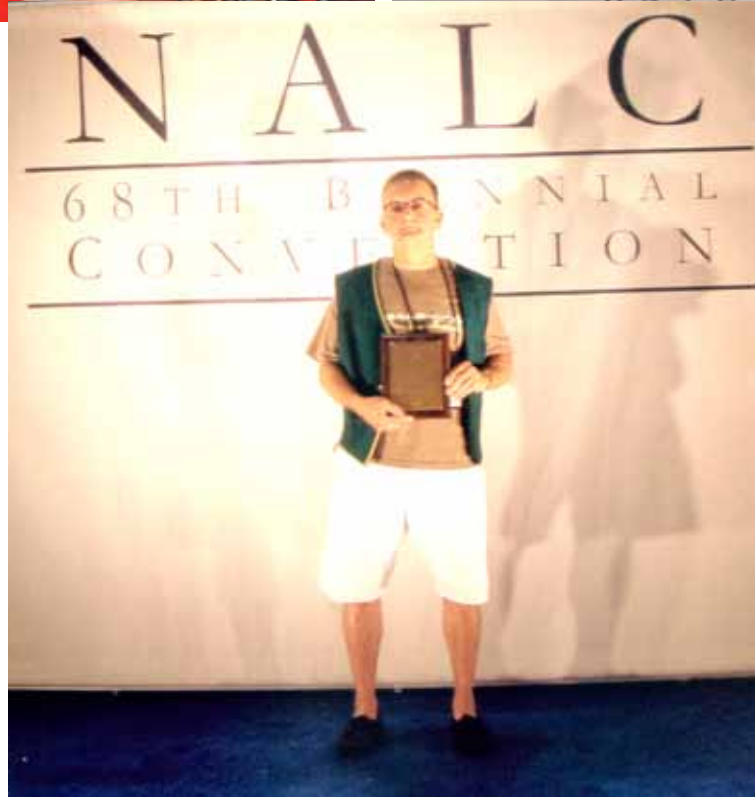
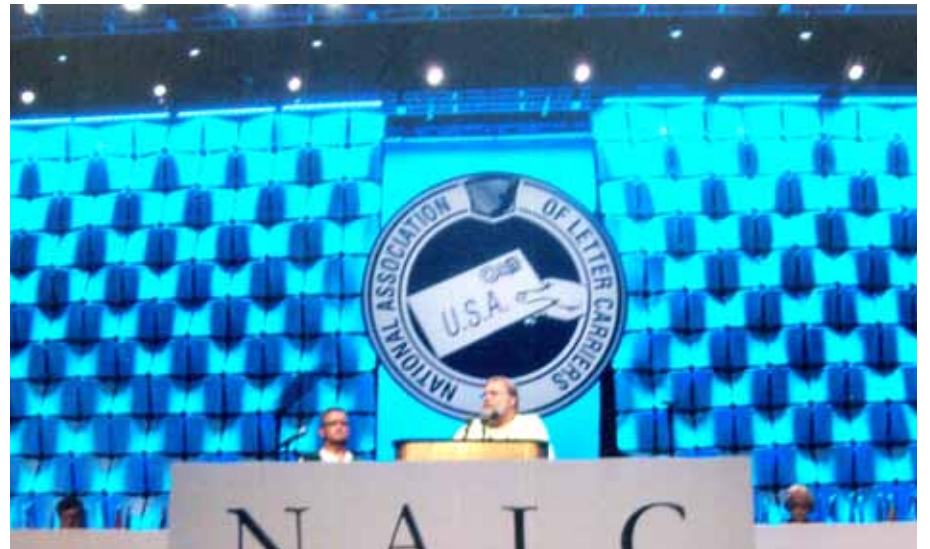
...and the bands played on.



NALC President Fredric Rolando listens to a motion made from the floor.



Branch 34 at the NALC 68th Biennial Convention in



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{Pri·or·i·tize}

verb: list or rate projects or goals in order of importance

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- ✓ Change your scenery
- ✓ Spend more time doing what YOU want

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Lowell Branch 155 Father Morrisette Blvd. | Lowell, MA 01853
Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Waltham Branch Northwest Processing Facility | 200 Smith Street, Waltham, MA 02454
Hours: Thursday 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.



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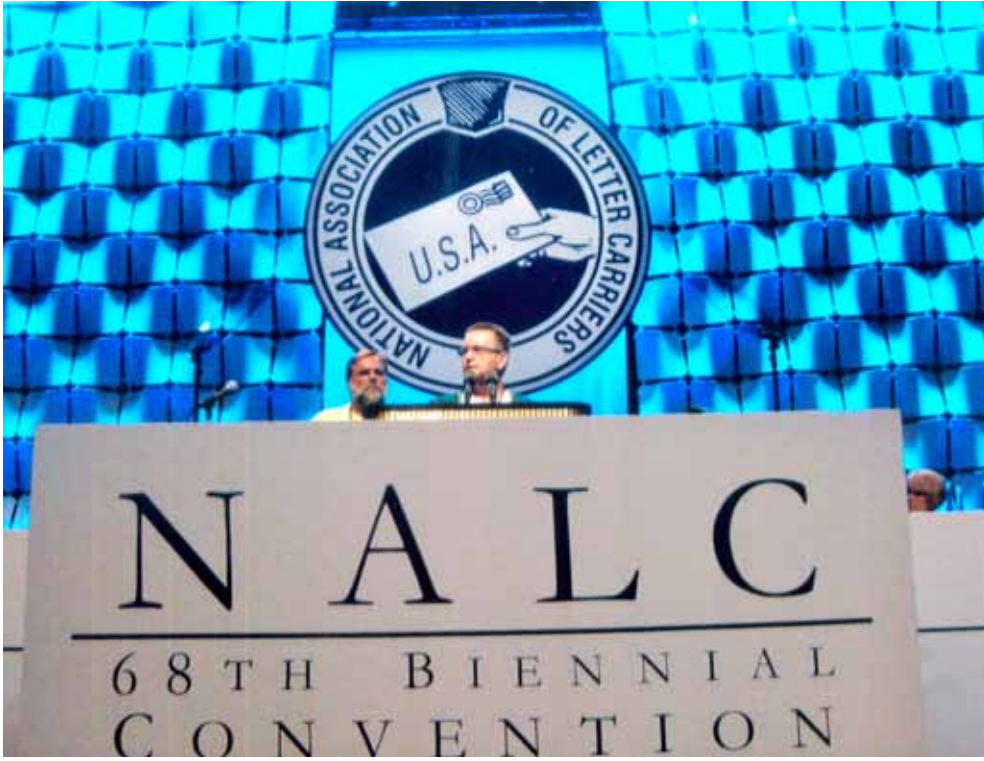
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Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

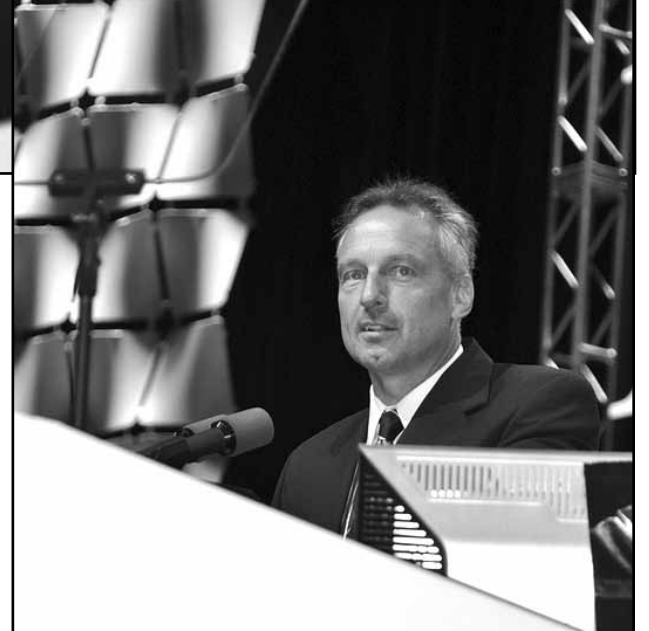
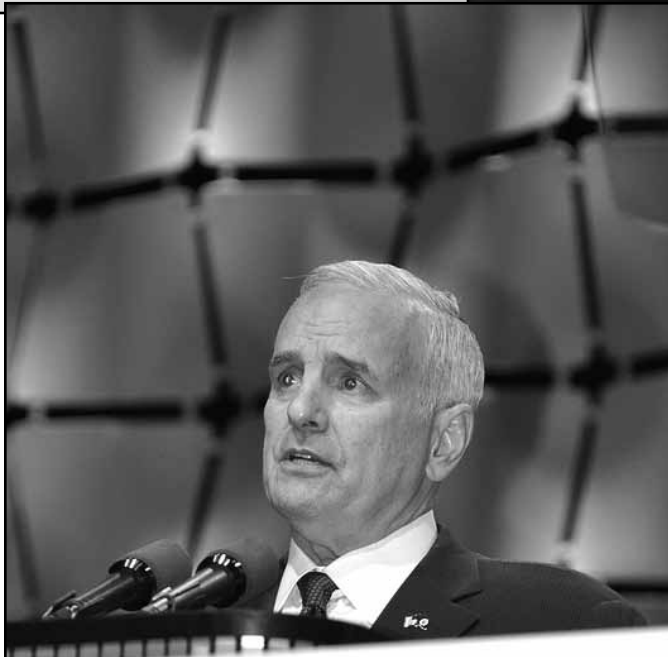
Minneapolis, Minnesota





More from the NALC 68th Biennial Convention

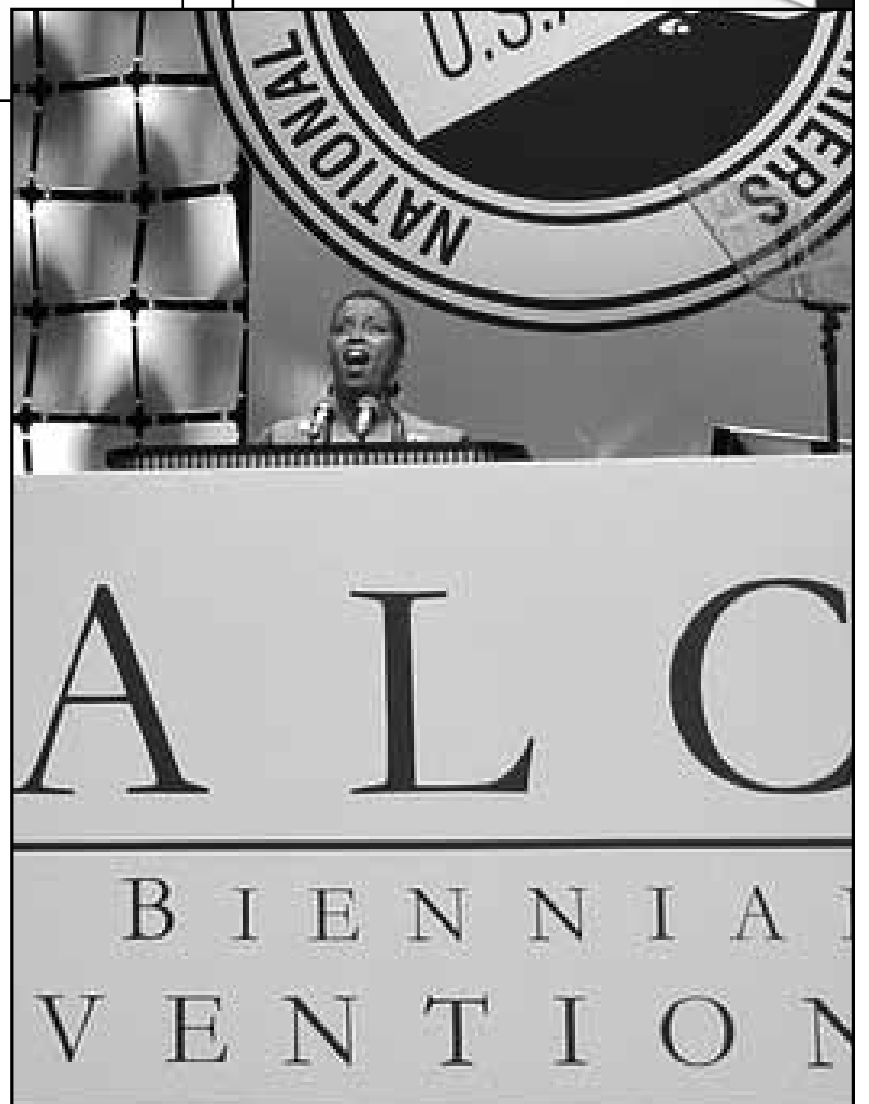
National AFL-CIO President Frank Trumko promises to keep up the fight against "Five-Day Delivery," and other draconian postal reforms put forth by our enemies in Congress.



There were many compelling stories which came from the speakers at the NALC Convention.



Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-Florida) made a compelling case for the promotion of better relations between Letter Carriers and the U.S. Congress at the NALC Convention.



The various singers were inspiring in their singing of Our National Anthem which began every day of the convention.

Thanks to Michael Shea of the *Postal Record* for the use of some of his photos.

Branch 34 Holds Retirement Seminar

Retirement and Financial Planner Ron Hibbs conducts Seminar or Retirement.



**Sunday,
July 15, 2012
at
Florian Hall
Dorchester**



IMC Helps Out With the 2012 Food Drive



IMC's "Best" pile it up.



Chris Ruf helps out.



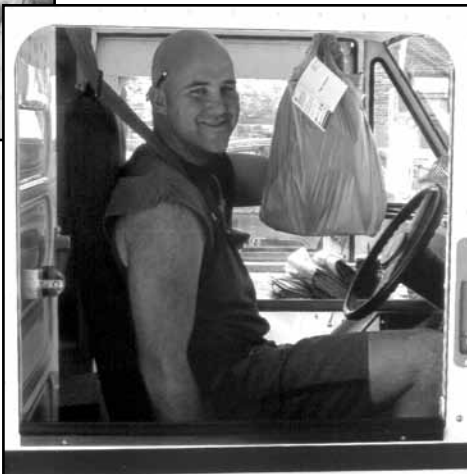
IMC's Everett picked up. (Ben too!)



IMC's East Boston always pitches in!



Tim and Eric make their mark!



IMC's Dave Sacco lends a hand.

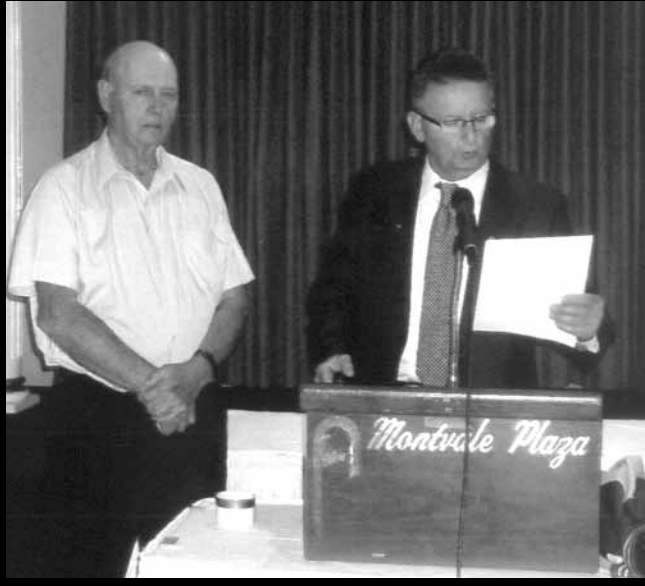


Charlestown carriers Teddy, Erin and Bob make a difference.



IMC's Johnny, Eric, Karen and Jim - happy to help out!

Branch 34 Holds Annual Retirees Luncheon!



Branch 34 President Bob Lind reads off list of 50-Year Life Members.

Branch 34 Officers salute their retirees at the recent luncheon in their honor.



Branch 34 Says Farewell to its Newest Retirees!

Fort Point's John Pizzi



Fort Point Shop Steward Benny "Fizz Ed's" Fatetra, John Pizzi, Branch 34 President Bob Lind and Fort Point Shop Steward Lindoro "Lenny" Tescione celebrate at John's retirement party.



Fort Point's Joe Carrillo announces "barker style" John Pizzi's arrival.

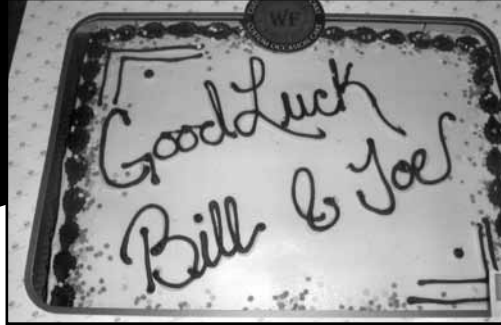


IMC Charlestown's Steve Ivers

Milton's Bill Ford & Joe Struzziero



Milton Shop Steward Kevin Mulligan, Branch 34 President Bob Lind, Bill Ford, Joe Struzziero and Milton Shop Steward Tim Schramm.



Joe's family was on hand for his retirement party.



IMC Charlestown's Steve Ivers on his last day at the station.



Co-workers say goodbye to Steve.

"Gone fishin'..."

"Hutchy" accepts his retirement gifts from Branch 34 President Bob Lind.



Bill tells all of his new career in professional wrestling!



Malden's Rich Izzicupo



Malden Shop Steward Laura Fahey, Rich "Izzy" Izzicupo, Malden Shop Steward John Lucey and Branch 34 President Bob Lind.



Malden's Rich "Izzy" Izzicupo receives his retirement watch & jacket from Branch 34 President Bob Lind.

Somerville's John Hutchings



Branch 34 President Bob Lind, Somerville Shop Steward Rich Hubbard, John "Hutchy" Hutchings and Somerville Shop Steward Rich Couillard



Waltham's John Perkins & Bob Schena



Waltham's John Perkins and Bob Schena prepare for their retirement ceremony.



Waltham's John Perkins and Bob Schena receive gifts from Branch 34 President Bob Lind.



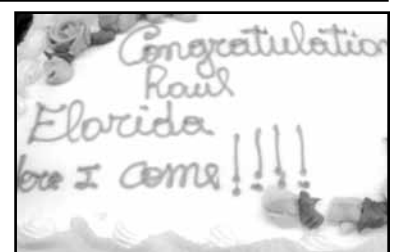
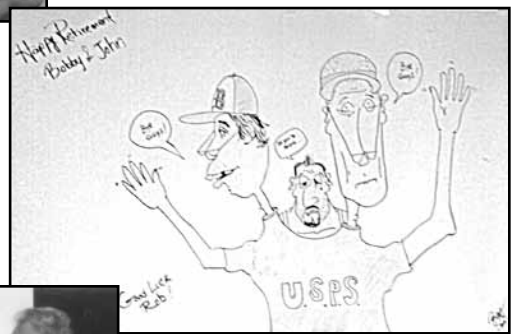
Ken Mayo embraces Rich "Izzy" Izzicupo as their co-workers applaud.

Medford's Raoul Rivas



Medford's Shop Steward Mike Ash, Branch 34 President Bob Lind, Raoul Rivas, all around good guy Rich Noll and Medford Shop Steward Steve White.

Raoul Rivas receives congratulations from Branch 34 President Bob Lind on his well-deserved retirement.



Roxbury's Mike Fermino



Roxbury Shop Steward John "Mickey" McCormack gives Mike Fermino a gift from his workmates.

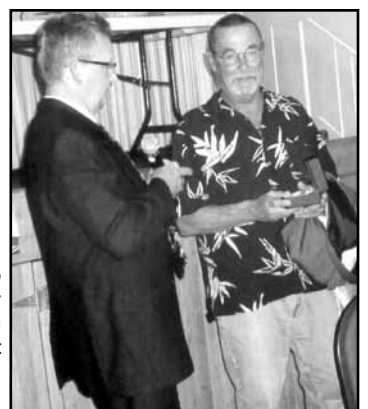


Mike's ready to dance out the door.

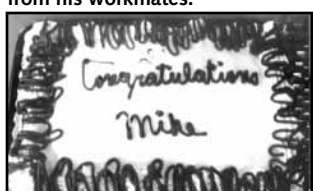
Quincy's Bernie Brady



Former Quincy Shop Steward Bernie Brady receives congrats from Branch 34 President Bob Lind on his retirement.



Former Quincy Shop Steward Bernie Brady gets his jacket and watch from Branch 34 President Bob Lind.



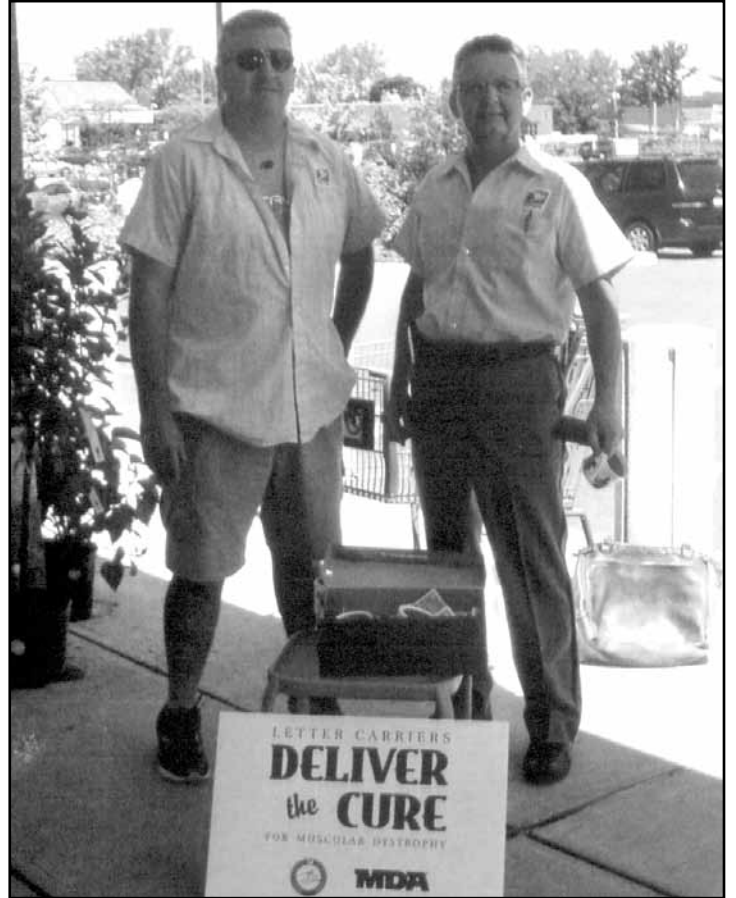
Workmates line up to say goodbye to Mike.





Medford Shop Steward Steve White and Branch 34 President Bob Lind help raise money for MDA.

Medford Shop Steward Steve White (right) and John Walker at the MDA Collection held recently.

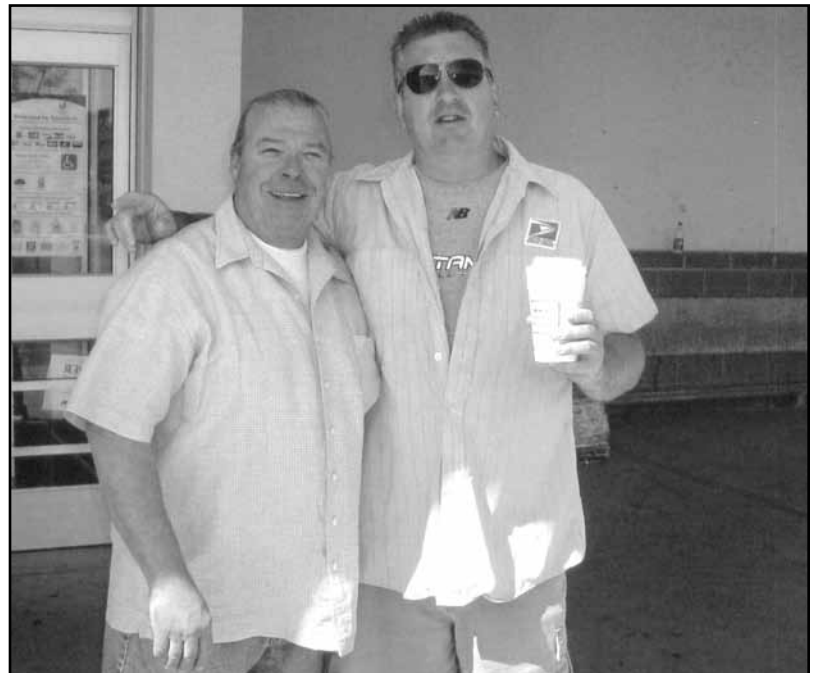


Deliver the Cure

Branch 34 Steps Up Effort for MDA



Medford's John Walker donates to MDA.



Branch 34 200+ Club for MDA

Cousin's Restaurant, Woburn Center	\$ 1,178.00
First Priority Credit Union	\$ 432.00
Northern Bank & Trust, Woburn.....	\$ 387.00
St. Charles School, Woburn.....	\$ 385.00
Shamrock School, Woburn.....	\$ 350.00
The Snug, Hingham.....	\$ 350.00
Woburn Bowladrome, Woburn.....	\$ 239.00
McCall Middle School, Winchester.....	\$ 230.00

JOIN THE NEWLY-FORMED NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB!

NATIONAL LETTER CARRIERS MOTORCYCLE CLUB
Bikers: Ride for MDA

Letter carriers are forming a motorcycle club to raise funds for MDA and assist carriers who are motorcycle enthusiasts to get together from time to time. For a donation of \$35.00, you will receive our Official Membership Card, Lapel Pin, Cap, Large Patch and Small Patch bearing our club seal. All proceeds will be given directly to the Muscular Dystrophy Association!

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

APPLICATION

YES, I want to support MDA with a \$35.00 Donation

NAME _____

BRANCH NO. _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ EMAIL _____

TYPE OF MOTORCYCLE _____ YEAR _____ MODEL _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **NALC**

Please fill out send this application to:

**James Williams, National Letter Carriers Motorcycle Club,
c/o NALC, 100 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20001**



Great Job for MDA by George Adams!

Woburn's George Adams is recognized by Branch 34 for his yeoman work for the MDA. Tremendous job, George!



MOVING?
Give Branch 34 Your New Address!

MOVED?
Change of Address

If you have moved, please notify the Branch directly, Personnel does not notify us of change of addresses.

Name _____
Address _____
City/State _____
Zip _____

Send change of address to:
Branch 34 NALC
400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950
Woburn, MA 01801-6396

Champion Boxer and Champion Letter Carrier

Catching Up with Marty Foley

Marty Foley was born in South Boston, moved to Dorchester on Columbia Road, when he fought in his first boxing match at the tender age of age six at the South Boston Junior Golden Gloves. Father Martin was a former boxer who trained Marty. He moved to Rockland at age 12 and was an experienced fighter by that time, winning numerous state and regional titles. Attended Archbishop Williams High School in Braintree and played hockey while still boxing.

Marty boxed at many different gyms thru the years, sparring with **Dickie Eklund** (Micky Ward's brother from the movie, "The Fighter") and many of the local pros while still just a teen at gyms such as the now defunct New Garden Gym which was across the street from the Boston Garden, and Connolly's gym in South Boston as

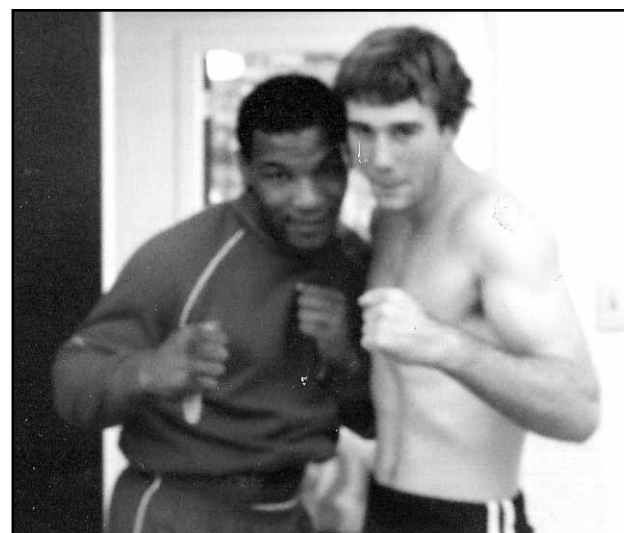
well as the "Muni" in Southie where many good fighters trained, such as the **Attardo Brothers** and **John "Red" Shea**.

Marty's father, **Martin Sr.**, developed his son's skills and brought him up fairly strict. Although Marty's father worked three jobs to support his family, he always found time to be there for Marty and his younger brother and three sisters. Marty trained at the Petronelli Gym in Brockton, in his late teens, sparring with middleweight champion of the world, **Marvelous Marvin Hagler** and his half-brother **Robbie Simms**, among many other top pros that trained there at one point or another. Marty went to the national AAU championships at age 18 in Indianapolis, and at age 19 won the AAU's again, going to Lake Placid Olympic Training Center, where he qualified to go to the national championships

in Colorado Springs. While in Colorado, Marty roomed with **Mike Tyson**. Marty was the team captain for Region #1 (New England States and part of New York) and among his teammates on the team were "**Iron**" **Mike Tyson** and **Micky Ward**.

During that same time frame Marty also became good friends with **Evander Holyfield**. Marty progressed through the tournament, eventually losing to the future Light-Middleweight, Middleweight and Light-Heavyweight "**Champion of the World**" **Reggie Johnson** of Texas. Marty returned to Boston ranked #7 in the U.S. as a light-middleweight (156 lbs.).

Marty made a decision to stop boxing to attend Bridgewater State College. He later made a comeback at the age of 23 going



Branch 34's Marty Foley (at a younger age) hams it up with a former roommate "Iron" Mike Tyson.

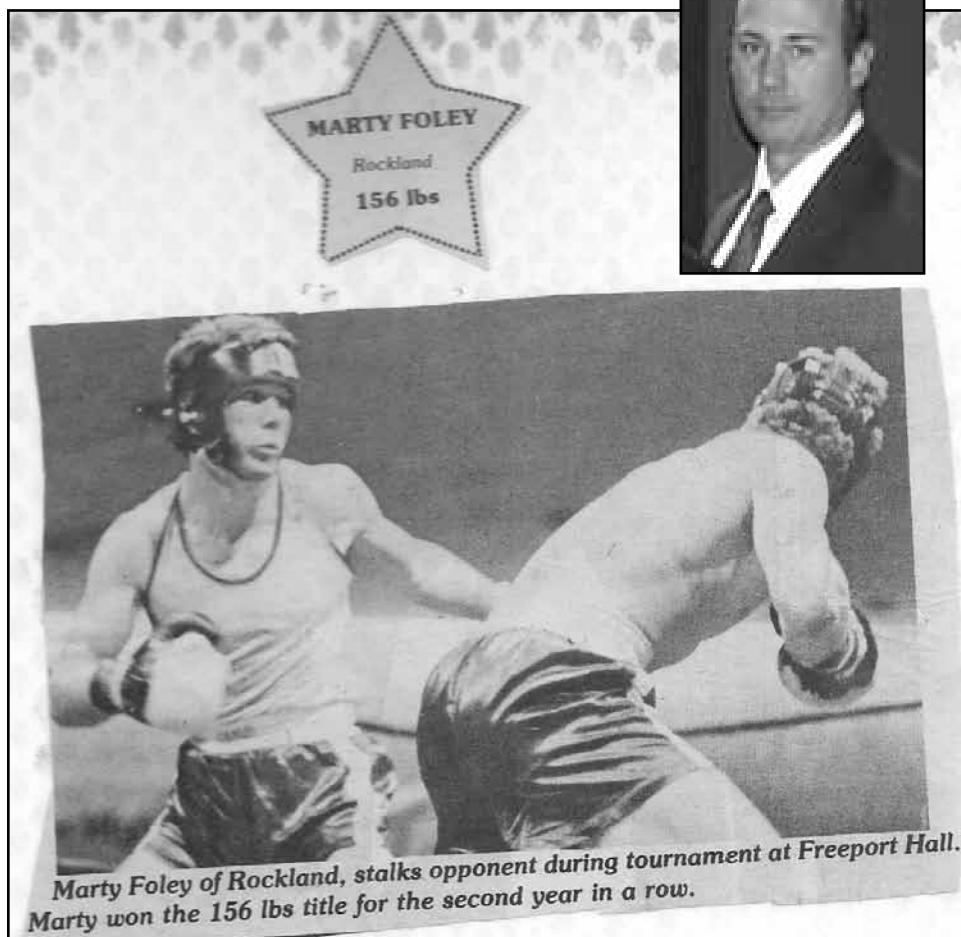
game together. Marty left the Norwell Post Office to work as a custodian at the P&DC. He then became a carrier in Brockton, before transferring to West Palm Beach, FL.

Martin Sr. had Parkinson's Disease which grew progressively worse through the years. Marty transferred to Cambridge Station in Central Square to be closer to his family.



Marty Foley with some of his friends and competitors, some of whom became Boxing Champions in their own right.

Marty Foley, now as a Branch 34 Trustee.



Marty Foley of Rockland, stalks opponent during tournament at Freeport Hall. Marty won the 156 lbs title for the second year in a row.

NEAAU CHAMPION

1982 Champions

106 lbs	John Shea, South Boston
112 lbs	Joey Roach, South Boston
119 lbs	Dave Gauvin, Fall River
125 lbs	John Arias, Providence, RI
132 lbs	Vinny Pazienza, Cranston, RI
139 lbs	Robert Guiducci, Brockton
147 lbs	Marty Foley, Rockland
156 lbs	Terry Crawley, Hyannis
165 lbs	Hector Jaiman, Cambridge
178 lbs	Ernie Bennett, Dorchester
200 lbs	Jackie DeBenedetto, Cambridge

∴ TAB ratings ∴

BOXER OF THE MONTH: Heavyweight
Avery Rawls of Los Angeles for his impressive win over Russian Ramazan Sibiev.

OVER 201 LBS.

Tyrell Biggs, Philadelphia
Craig Payne, Livonia, Mich.
Warren Thompson, Baltimore
Michael Williams, Broussard, La.
Kimmuel Odom, Gary, Ind.
Mike Tyson, Catskill, N.Y.
Nathaniel Fitch, Army/Hawaii
Winston Bent, Cambria Heights, N.Y.
Curtis Jackson, Los Angeles
Melvin Sausburry, Dallas

201 LBS.

Henry Milligan, Wilmington, Del.
Ollian Alexander, Wichita, Kans.
Henry Tillman, Los Angeles
Avery Rawls, Los Angeles
Al Evans, Chicago
Orland Norris, Lubbock, Tex.
Michael Bent, Cambria Heights, N.Y.
Hassan Shabazz, Army
Elmer Martin, Navy
Arthur Williams, Pensacola, Fla.

178 LBS.

Ricky Womack, Detroit
Evander Holyfield, Atlanta
Bennie Heard, Augusta, Ga.
Terry Robinson, Phoenix
Iherman Griffin, Minneapolis
Orbit Pough, Miami
David Graves, Dallas

7-Daniel Thomas, Evansville, Ind.

8-Marty Foley, Rockland, Mass.
9-David Rabon, Broussard, La.
10-Willie Monroe, Rochester, N.Y.

147 LBS.

1-Mark Bretland, Brooklyn, N.Y.
2-Louis Howard, St. Louis
3-Ron Essett, Indianapolis
4-Mylon Watkins, Tacoma
5-James Mitchell, Army
6-Mark Harrison, Pontiac, Mich.
7-Alton Rice, Washington, D.C.
8-Rollin Williams, Phoenix
9-Steve Gutierrez, Merced, Calif.
10-Timothy Littles, Flint, Mich.

139 LBS.

1-Zachary Padilla, Azusa, Calif.
2-Roderick Moore, Detroit
3-Jerry Page, Columbus, Ohio
4-Tim Rabon, Broussard, La.
5-Vincent Relford, Fort Worth
6-Henry Hughes, Bedford Heights, Ohio
7-Vincent Burgese, Philadelphia
8-Vincent Webb, University City, Mo.
9-Kenneth Gould, Rockford, Ill.
10-Jeffrey Geter, Navy

132 LBS.

1-Pernell Whitaker, Norfolk, Va.
2-Clifford Gray, Houston, Texas, etc.

119 LBS.

1-Floyd Favors, Capitol Heights, Md.
2-Jesse Benavides, Corpus Christi, Tex.
3-Todd Hickman, Akron, Ohio
4-Ronnie Rentz, Albuquerque
5-Robert Shannon, Lynnwood, Wash.
6-Michael Collins, La Porte, Tex.
7-Mario Lesperance, Vallejo, Calif.
8-Eugene Speed, Washington, D.C.
9-Darryl Loving, Rochester, N.Y.
10-Jodie Bailey, Louisville

112 LBS.

1-Steve McCrory, Detroit
2-Jesse Flores, San Antonio
3-Eddie Cook, St. Louis
4-Terry McNeil, Wilmington, N.C.
5-Paul Banke, Azusa, Calif.
6-Manuel Gago, New York City
7-Ty Merrill, Tualatin, Ore.
8-Dewayne Levine, Kokomo, Ind.
9-Leo Larvie, Rapid City, S.D.
10-Joey Negron, Bridgeport, Conn.

106 LBS.

1-Paul Gonzales, Los Angeles
2-Jose Rosario, Jersey City, N.J.
3-Israel Acosta, Milwaukee
4-Tim Curley, Stanwood, Wash.
5-Arthur Johnson, St. Louis
6-Timmy Martinez, Denver
7-Micko Bates, etc.

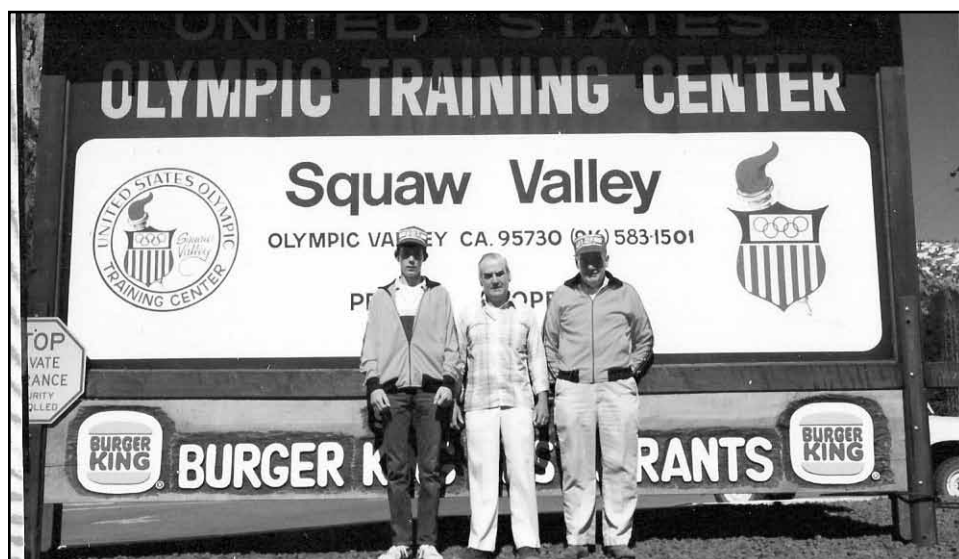
back to Petronelli's Gym to turn professional. Marty, now weighing 250 lbs., took a year to get back in shape. Along the way there were numerous injuries which hampered and slowed his progress, but Marty still managed to win his first two fights with **Goody Petronelli** in his corner. In his third pro fight, Marty riddled with injuries, lost at Resorts International in Atlantic City which was televised on ESPN.

Marty at the time was working as a clerk at the Norwell Post Office, He knew that he could no longer fight at the top of his game as he did as an amateur. The four years that Marty took off from boxing and the injuries that plagued him as a pro made his decision to continue with the post office final. Marty's dad was always proud of his son, and Marty and his dad formed a close bond throughout their years in the boxing

He became concerned about employee rights while working in Cambridge and soon became shop steward. His dedication did not go unnoticed and was soon solicited to run for Branch 34 Trustee. Since that time, he has seen the dedication of the elected officers of Branch 34 firsthand and he himself has become a cornerstone of Branch 34. Marty has been with the postal service for 25 years on July 4th and has never backed down from any challenge.

Recently, Marty's father succumbed to Parkinson's Disease and passed away at home in his bed where his family took care of him for a number of years. Marty being the good son refused to institutionalize his father to the very end.

Marty was a champion in the ring, on the workroom floor and for his family.



Marty Foley and his father stand outside the Olympic Training Center.

Woburn/Winchester Letter Carriers Help Collect Tons of Food!



This year marked the 20th anniversary of the nation's largest one-day food drive to feed those in need – the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive conducted by the National Association of Letter Carriers with carriers in Woburn and Winchester chipping in to help the Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry, located in Woburn. Here, (l-r) Food Pantry Director Karen Colatrella receives a check that Letter Carrier Vigo Conte picked up along the route for the food pantry with volunteers: Jen Lynch, Bud Wightman, Cheryl McLatehy, Roberta Freitas, and Jonathan Weidner inside the Food Pantry on Merrimac Street. (KAP Andrews photo)

Volunteer Woburn Memorial High School Student Peter McSweeney (l) helps Letter Carrier Scott Bradley (r), who picked up food from the Woburn's South-End area route. (KAP Andrews photo)



Postal Carriers from Woburn and Winchester joined with letter carriers from across the country collecting food items on May 12. The Woburn and Winchester Letter Carriers collected large amount of goods for the Council of Social Concern's Food Pantry, located in Woburn. It was a big job as volunteers sorted and stocked the donations as they were brought in by the letter carriers. Here are some of the Woburn Public School volunteers including (l-r) Jon DeLaria, Peter McSweeney, Andrew Lindquist, Hunter and Dakota Andreason, Alexis King, and Megan Krol during the Post Office's "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive. The Food Pantry filled more than 20 large boxes during the food drive. (KAP Andrews photo)

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Letter to the Editor

Letter Carriers are Applauded for Effort

On Saturday, May 12th, the National Association of Letter Carriers' "Stamp Out Hunger" Food Drive was conducted to stock food pantries across the country and to raise awareness that hunger exists in all communities. All the food collected in Woburn and Winchester was delivered to the Council of Social Concern Food Pantry.

We commend the awesome Woburn and Winchester Letter Carriers who picked up and delivered literally tons of food to our warehouse! Although this food drive requires a great deal of extra work for them, they participate cheerfully and enthusiastically, knowing they are making a difference in the community they serve every day.

Of course, they wouldn't have anything to deliver if not for the residents along their routes. Thank you to each and every one who made a donation. Whether it was a can, a bagful or a check, the result was a mountain of food for our neighbors in need.

While our Food Pantry relies on this drive to help keep our shelves stocked during the summer months, receiving approximately 24,000 pounds of food in one day is pretty overwhelming! It is only because of a small army of volunteers that were able to manage this staggering amount of incoming food. Many thanks

to the 28 volunteers who worked so hard unloading trucks, unpacking bags and restocking shelves!

Special thanks to **George Adams** and **Debbie Salmon** of the Woburn Post Office for their dedication to making each food drive a success; the Washington Street Dunkin' Donuts for providing refreshments for the letter carriers; Barker Lumber for transporting the portion of food that was left at the Post Office; the *Daily Times Chronicle* for publicizing the event; and all of our "angels" who helped spread the word.

If you were unable to leave food out, but would still like to help, non-perishable food donations can be brought to the Food Pantry Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please make your check payable to Council of Social Concern Food Pantry.

With profound gratitude,
Karen Colatrella,
Food Pantry Director
Council of Social Concern
2 Merrimac Street
Woburn, MA 02108
Phone: 781-935-6485, ext. 208
Fax: 781-935-1923
Email: karen@socialconcern.org

Tell Your Congressman What You Think!

BECOME AN e-ACTIVIST TODAY!

Would you like to receive information from the Social & Recreation Office on upcoming events?

Please print legibly. *Required Fields

Name*: _____

Pay Location*: _____

Post Office Location*: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address*: _____

Please complete the information above and mail to:
SOCIAL & RECREATION OFFICE
P.O. Box 51582, Boston, MA 02205-1562



Active letter carriers:
Contribute
to **COLCPE**
using PostalEASE

by phone.....or online

Contribute on the web at
liteblue.usps.gov

Carriers can also go online to use PostalEASE. With PostalEASE, carriers can contribute directly from their paychecks every pay period. Through PostalEASE you can designate COLCPE as one of your three payroll "allotments."

Letter carriers can contribute directly to COLCPE (NALC's Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education) from their paychecks every pay period using the Postal Service's PostalEASE. Through PostalEASE you can designate COLCPE as one of your three* payroll "allotments."

- 1 Be sure you know your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub) and 4-digit USPS Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you cannot remember your PIN, call PostalEASE at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273), select "1", enter your 8-digit employee ID number, and select "2" to have your PIN mailed to you.
- 2 Create your own Account Number by inserting in the spaces at right the first seven digits of the ID number that appears above your name on the back cover of your Postal Record.

YOUR 17-DIGIT ACCOUNT NUMBER:

0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5
(First 7 digits of ID number on Postal Record label)

*****AUTO** 8-DIGIT 54321
XXXXX 08 9 LC 9876 W13 08
JOHN CARRIER
1234 MAIN STREET
ANYWHERE, US 54321-9999

3 Now you are ready to call PostalEASE toll-free at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273)

- When prompted, select "1" for PostalEASE and then enter your 8-digit Employee ID Number and your USPS PIN
- Select "2" for payroll options
- Select "1" for allotments
- Disregard instruction to complete Allotment Worksheet and select "2" to continue
- Select "3" to add a new allotment
- Enter the following Financial Institution Routing Number:
0 6 4 0 0 0 1 7
- Select "1" to continue processing allotment
- Select "1" to "enter the allotment now"
- Enter your 17-digit Account Number from above
- Enter "1" for Checking
- Enter amount of allotment: \$ _____ .00 per pay period.
If amount is correct, select "1"

* If you already have three allotments, you must cancel one to contribute to COLCPE through PostalEASE. To do so, follow the instructions at left but instead of selecting "3" to add a new allotment, select "2" to cancel an allotment.

After completing your entry, do not end the call until you hear the following:

Confirmation Number: _____
Your allotment will become effective on: _____
Your allotment will be reflected in paycheck dated: _____
Keep this information for your records and future reference.

By making a COLCPE allotment through PostalEASE, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your monthly contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it a part of union dues. You may refuse to contribute without any reprisal. COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled through the PostalEASE system. Only NALC members, NALC executive and administrative staff, and their immediate household family members may contribute to COLCPE. Contributions to COLCPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

- 1 Be sure you know your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub) and your 4-digit USPS Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you cannot remember your PIN, call PostalEASE at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273), select "1", enter your Employee ID Number, and select "2" to have your PIN mailed to you.
- 2 Create your own Account Number by inserting in the spaces at right the first seven digits of the ID number that appears above your name on the back cover of your Postal Record.

3 Now you are ready to go online to liteblue.usps.gov

- Enter Employee ID and PIN and click "log on"
- Click on "Postal Ease"
- Click on "I agree"
- Enter Employee ID and PIN again and log in
- Click on "Allotments/Payroll NTB"
- Click on "Continue"
- Click on "Allotments"
- Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: **0 6 4 0 0 0 1 7**
- Enter your 17-digit Account Number from above
- Enter Account type as "checking"
- Enter amount of your contribution
- Click on "validate"
- Click on "submit"
- Click "print page" to see and print your confirmation number for your records



Contribute to **COLCPE** monthly from your bank account via Electronic Fund Transfer

Every month on the 1st of the month, COLCPE will automatically (and without a fee) deduct from your bank account the amount you choose to contribute.

Please fill out and mail this coupon with a voided check to:

NALC-COLCPE
100 Indiana Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001-2144

I hereby authorize my bank to deduct from my checking account monthly the sum of:
 \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Other: \$ _____

I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the NALC COLCPE Committee in writing.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name (please print): _____
Social Security Number: _____ OR Postal Record number: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

By making a COLCPE Electronic Fund Transfer authorization, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your monthly contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it a part of union dues. The guideline amounts listed above are merely suggestions, and you may contribute more, less or nothing at all without adverse, disadvantage or reprisal. COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Only NALC members, NALC executive and administrative staff, and their immediate household family members may contribute to COLCPE. Contributions to COLCPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Attach a voided check here

Protect Your Future!

GIVE TO COLCPE!

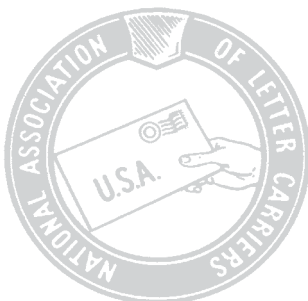
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sales@simonsuniforms.com
Walk in, Phone or Fax. Request a catalog.

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Phone: Call the NALC Retirement Office at 202-662-2877 anytime, or toll-free at 800-424-5186 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon and from 2 to 4 p.m. (ET).

Coupon: Detach and complete the coupon below and mail it to NALC Headquarters.

Mail: Send a letter to Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017. Be sure to include your CSA number, the amount you want to contribute monthly, and the organization name: National Association of Letter Carriers—COLCPE.

Internet:

- Go to www.serviceline.opm.gov
- Enter your CSA number, beginning with the letter A and ending with a zero. SAMPLE: A22222220
- Enter your PIN (Personal Identification Number). If you don't know it, click *Using Services Online* for help in getting one.
- Once you've entered your CSA number and PIN, click *Log In*.
- On the next page, click *Allotments to Organizations*.
- Click *START*.
- Select *Natl Assn of Letter Carriers - COLCPE*.
- Enter the amount of your monthly contribution
- Click *SAVE*.
- On the next page click *YES* (if correct), then print the next page for your records.

For Retired Members

I wish to contribute to COLCPE, the political action fund of the National Association of Letter Carriers. I understand the Office of Personnel Management will withhold the amount below from my monthly annuity payments.

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