

Have a Safe and Happy New Year

from the Officers and Executive Board of
BRANCH 34 NALC BOSTON

National Association of Letter Carriers

Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 AFL-CIO
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Branch 34's **CLAN**

National Association of Letter Carriers

121 Years of Proud Union Participation and Accomplishments ★ 1890 - 2011



President's Corner

Our Fight is an Uphill Battle, But Together We're Unstoppable!

Happy Holidays to our many Branch 34 Members and their families. May your holiday season be a joyous one and may you experience peace of mind during this special season and the upcoming year ahead.

What's really important in life; health, family, good friends and the ability to provide. Too often we lose sight of what we're blessed with for most of us have much to be thankful for. Unfortunately we allow that to be overshadowed by everyday strife.

We're fortunate to still be part of middle class *working* America, something that has been continually eroded by corporate greed and becoming the ever elusive "American Dream". We have an obligation to fight for what we have and for those less fortunate than ourselves. We need to join ranks with all labor organizations not only to promote *our* cause but to enlighten those that have been blinded by corporate rhetoric on what we as unionists stand for. We also have an obligation to lift up those in need, the less fortunate who are just looking to experience the "American Dream" as we have been able to somewhat enjoy.

Over the last few months *our* battle has escalated and taken full center stage. You're quite aware we have much at stake to lose along with the American public. Our United States President has endorsed five-day delivery and the "super committee" was looking to cut the national deficit. We need to protect Six-Day Delivery Service, Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. The House and Senate need to focus on the "99 percent rather than the one percent" and return good paying jobs and benefits to our American work force instead of foreign exploited workers.

The Senate's disappointing marked up version of S. 1789 (the 21st Century Postal Reform act of 2011) was recently voted on and passed to send in its current form to the Senate floor. This bill in its current state could destroy the postal service and fails miserably to address any of the real underlying problems that plague the financial viability of the USPS and the U.S. Economy.

Our fight is an uphill battle but together we're unstoppable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those Branch 34 members that responded to the organized petition drive for understanding its importance and responding accordingly. You did a great job! I would be remiss if I didn't thank the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and their many affiliates for their unwavering support and last but not far from least the Massachusetts postal patrons for their understanding, political outrage and loyalty to our cause.



Robert A. Lind
President

It's refreshing to know that even in these economic challenging times postal patrons still love their letter carriers and appreciate the service we as postal employees provide. The public has taken the time to get educated on issues such as alleged tax bailouts, the onerous future retiree health benefit prefunding, retiree pension overpayments and other distorted misleading information being perpetrated by postal opponents.

The biggest disappointment beside President Obama and the U.S. Senate to date is our *own* Postmaster General Pat Donahue and his self imploding fatal plans to sink the postal service. Layoffs, closing of post offices/plants and reduction in service to (5-day) five day delivery (soon to be 3-day) is one of his lamebrain answers.

Rep. Darrell Issa (R-CA) calls PMG Donahue (Don-a-Who) on the carpet after negotiating an APWU-USPS national contract and what should have been considered a big win for the USPS was turned into a sideshow. Instead of giving praise Issa unprecedentedly belittled the PMG in his congressionally orchestrated sideshow for negotiating a contract p-e-r-i-o-d. Issa and Donahue both alike are in my opinion a disgrace. Issa is not worth mentioning but Donahue folded like a bad poker hand and turned his back completely on his employees. Shame on this so-called leader! It's no wonder that the management program graduates the same prototype. The graduation ceremony concludes with the removal of the graduates' spine.

We've never depended on postal management before and we're not going to start now. That's precisely why we organized a union to begin with. Union's have pulled us up time and time again and given our jobs dignity over the past decades. When the going gets tough the tough get going and if we were to ever fail in *our* fight it would be a tremendous blow to American Organized Labor. If

they can dismantle one of the largest union employers in the country then every union will be considered future fair game.

The labor movement partially due to self preservation is becoming more of a united front with a common cause. We needed to get back to grass root organizing and protecting middle class America. What transpired this past year in Wisconsin and Ohio woke up the America's Labor Movement. It was a shot of adrenaline and we as labor unionists need to *keep* that momentum going forward. We've been under attack for quite a while and being picked off one at a time. I believe it's now *our time* and we need to put those responsible for the demise of the American working class and the deplorable economic American landscape where they belong; in the public eye.

The "occupy" movement currently taking place across this country has brought attention to Wall Street's devastation of our economy and the imbalance of power. The Occupy Boston movement has been supported by the Massachusetts AFL-CIO and its many affiliates. This grassroots movement can be run out of town but the 99% are no longer going to sit by quietly and like it or not this government better take notice. There's an old saying, "when hunger knocks on the door love goes out the window". I believe that's precisely the sentiment of the American people today and their eyes are being opened to the benefits associated with unionizing.

We have dues paying members in this union that have no idea what a union is all about or what sacrifices have been made over the years. Their idea of a union is what have you done for me personally today? The boss yelled

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Branch 34 Upcoming Membership Meetings

Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

January 10, 2012

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

February 14, 2012

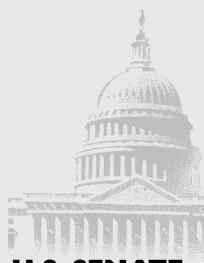
at the Malden Moose Hall
582 Broadway (Rte. 99), Malden

March 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



Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

U.S. SENATE

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Russell Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 218
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Is Your Plant Closing? Who Knows?

The December 5th announcement of proposed USPS service and network cutbacks has produced a flood of news stories, many of them listing processing facilities that are supposedly “scheduled” for closing – here’s one from the *Boston Herald*:

Seven Massachusetts mail processing facilities are on a list scheduled for closing next year under a budget-cutting plan by the U.S. Postal Service.

Those are in Boston, Brockton, Lowell, North Reading, Shrewsbury, Waltham and Wareham.

If you’re from Massachusetts, it has probably occurred to you that those are all the plants in Massachusetts, with the exception of Springfield. So is all Massachusetts mail going to be worked in Springfield? Probably not- although Springfield doesn’t appear on any of the closing lists, the USPS announced last month that it would be closing, with its mail diverted to Hartford and Shrewsbury. And yes, that’s the same Shrewsbury plant that’s on the list of plants to be closed.

It gets better- while the Boston, North Reading, Waltham and Shrewsbury plants appear on the list of plants to be closed, they also appear on the list of plants set to receive mail from other plants that are being closed.

Confused? Consider Burlington Vermont. It may be closed, and its mail sent to White River Junction, which may be closed and consolidated with Manchester NH, which may be closed and consolidated with Portland ME.

If all of those dominoes actually fell, a local letter mailed in Burlington could face a 500 mile round trip before it got delivered. That’s not likely, but you wouldn’t know that from looking at the USPS documents, or reading the news

coverage. Similar scenarios exist elsewhere in the country.

Several news stories do quote USPS officials saying that the plant closing list is not final, but that part of the story doesn’t seem to be getting through.

The bottom line for postal workers and customers is that they really don’t know any more about the local impact of the proposed changes than they did before yesterday’s announcement.



The IMC Lunch Bunch: A Class Act!!!

Legislative Report

The Super-Committee Fails!

November was quite a month. After a national petition drive that reached out to all Americans’ to express the need to preserve the Post Office and six-day delivery the NALC gathered over 800,000 signatures that were turned over to the super-committee on deficit reduction. That is quite the impressive performance, hopefully it will draw needed attention to our efforts to save the Post Office. Sad to say it won’t have an impact with the Super Committee. In case you haven’t heard the committee failed in its attempt to cut the federal debt.

As you know the super committee was tasked with coming up with proposals to reduce the national deficit. If that deadline was not met automatic cuts to specific services would go into effect in January of 2013.

If the deadline had been met Congress would have been required to vote, yes or no with no amendments accepted,

on the proposals by the end of the year or again those same mandated cuts would go into effect on January 1, 2013.

From the beginning of this process it was put out there that everything was on the table when considering what could be cut. Because everything is up for grabs we as a nation are becoming more politically active than we have been for decades, this includes the NALC.

FYI #1 – Big Brother is watching. In October, the Postal Service published new rules on employees use of social media. In the ELM there is language that requires employees to represent themselves in a way that does not reflect poorly on the USPS. Stewards have seen this language as it is cited in every piece of discipline issue by management What this means to you is the OIG will be looking at Facebook, twitter, blogs etc. to see if someone is making critical comments about the Postal Service or its management staff. While this is still America and

free speech is a right I can see somebody getting discipline after posting something after a bad day.

FYI #2 – Negotiations for the National Agreement have been extended to December 7, 2012. If no agreement is reached we will be headed to arbitration.

FYI #3 – In case you haven’t heard, Barney Frank has announced he will not seek re-election in 2012. Whatever you think of Barney there is no doubt he has long been a friend of letter carriers. We will be hard pressed to find as staunch an ally as Barney Frank.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All!



Michael Kidd
Legislative Liaison

NALCREST Apartment Bids - Two-Week Intervals – SIGN UP NOW!!

Listed below are the weeks available for NALCREST, in Lake Wales, Florida. The rental fee for the one bedroom apartment is \$195.00 per week, plus a \$55.00 cleaning fee for a total of \$445.00 for two weeks.

Anyone interested in renting the apartment, should submit their requests to the Branch 34 office, 400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950, Woburn, MA 01801, in care of Kevin Flaherty. (This is for Branch 34 members/families only).

The weeks start on Monday and runs through Sunday. A random lottery will determine the selection if more than one request is submitted for the same weeks.

You can submit multiple weeks.

The apartment is available for two-week intervals only.

January 2 – January 15, 2012
January 16 – January 29, 2012
January 30 – February 12, 2012
February 13 – February 26, 2012
February 27 – March 11, 2012
March 12 – March 25, 2012
March 26 – April 8, 2012
April 9 – April 22, 2012
April 23 – May 6, 2012
May 7 – May 20, 2012
May 21 – June 3, 2012
June 4 – June 17, 2012

June 18 – July 1, 2012
July 2 – July 15, 2012
July 16 – July 29, 2012
July 30 – August 12, 2012
August 13 – August 26, 2012
August 27 – September 9, 2012
September 10 – September 23, 2012
September 24 – October 7, 2012
October 8 – October 21, 2012
October 22 – November 4, 2012
November 5 – November 18, 2012
November 19 – December 2, 2012
December 3 – December 16, 2012
December 17 – December 30, 2012
December 31, 2012 – January 13, 2013

Troops! Thank You For Your Service and Your Sacrifice!
BRANCH 34 SUPPORTS YOU!

Establishing Causal Relationship for a Work Related Injury

One of the most common reasons a work-related injury is not accepted by the Office of Workmen's Compensation Programs is the failure to establish causal relation. This means that your physician must establish how your job as a letter carrier caused or aggravated your diagnosed condition. This is based on the medical evidence. An injury or disease may be related to employment in any one of four ways:

Direct Causation: This refers to a situation where the injury or factors of employment result in the condition claimed through a natural and unbroken sequence. An example would be a fractured arm sustained in a fall while carrying mail. The broken arm is a direct result of the fall.

Aggravation: If a pre-existing condi-

tion is worsened, either temporarily or permanently, by a work related injury, that condition is said to be aggravated. An example would be a slip aggravating a pre-existing back problem.

Acceleration: This occurs when an underlying condition becomes worse due to employment related injury and not because of the ordinary course of the disease. An example would be a diabetic whose condition worsens due to work related activity.

Precipitation: This term refers to a latent condition, which would not have manifested itself but for the employment. An example may be an asthmatic person whose asthma has been latent for several years then manifests itself due to an expo-

sure of dust at work.

The first two, direct causation and aggravation are the most common of the causal relations. They are also the easiest to explain. Your physician would merely explain in medical rationale how the job as a letter carrier caused or aggravated the condition you are reporting.

Before a claim is denied by OWCP (the Postal Service cannot deny a claim) you would usually receive what is called a developmental letter. I often call it a thirty day letter because OWCP explains exactly what is needed or missing from the reported claim and allows you thirty days to supply the information. A claim is not denied until this opportunity is given to the injured employee.



Kevin Flaherty
Secretary-Treasurer

Once again the best advice I can give an injured employee is to call the Branch 34 office for assistance when injured at work. Remember the officers of Branch 34 work for you and the Postal Service Injury Compensation Office does not.

At this time I would like to wish all the members of Branch 34 and their families a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a safe and prosperous New Year.

Our Fight is an Uphill Battle, But Together We're Unstoppable...

(continued from page 1)

at me, my start time was changed, I'm quitting how do I get out of the union?

I've seen candidates within this branch run for union office that wouldn't represent a fellow worker if his life depended on it or contribute to any NALC initiative (COLCPE, MDA etc...) unless shamed into it. In most cases you can't even shame them but that never stopped them from running.

I recently was approached by a friend who went to work for a certain non-union company that seemed to treat their workers fairly in the beginning. The owners then brought in an outside team to run the company for them. They disregard seniority, favor certain employees (friends, family), and continually threatened those that dare speak up with removal. They not only threaten to remove the individual but his or her entire family that's employed there. You think we have overtime or leave problems? After listening to his problems ours looked pretty tame.

He finally understands the need of organizing and unionizing. That's why our forefathers got religion. It wasn't about what's the union going to do for me? It was about us, working conditions, workday hours, a regulated workweek, child labor, equal rights and equal pay, a uniform pay raise, health insurance, a retirement etc... Sometime in order to receive you have to give and I'm not talking just about dues. I'm talking about energies, time, promoting our cause. One per cent of America or their political lackeys would take it all away from us in one swift motion if they ever get the chance. It's our duty to make certain that doesn't happen. Each and every one of us has a responsibility to protect this job and lift up those less fortunate. We need jobs, our children need jobs, America needs jobs, jobs that pay a decent wage with health benefits and a retirement pension. We may never get rich on this job but it's surely a means to provide.

As for the selfish individuals that say, "I'd like to work five-days a week" it's not all about you. Would you be singing the same tune if you were working four or three days a week because that's what your PMG is promoting? If you like five days perhaps you'll love three or better yet why not just stay home period. Congressman Darryl Issa would like to help you out. He'd like to layoff most employees and by reverse seniority to boot. So what if you're not eligible for retirement? Get the picture? This is about self preservation, our livelihood and the preservation of the service we provide.

We've got to stop taking things for granted because in the swoop of a pen it can all be gone. Everyone needs to do their fair share and every Branch 34 letter carrier needs to contribute to the Committee

on Letter Carriers Political Education (COLCPE). The NALC has made it as painless as possible for an easy signup. You need to do your part in assuring our future. A mere five dollar contribution every two weeks isn't going to kill anyone but not giving could be your demise. You can see firsthand what happens when the wrong people get elected. H.R. 2309 and S 1789 are perfect examples of how harmful legislation can be. This legislation if passed could cost you your job, dismantle future delivery and place the postal service in a death spiral. We need to organize to fend off these attacks. Unfortunately in politics money talks and the rest walk. Help protect your job today. This branch has one of the lowest percentages in the country of those that contribute to COLCPE. That's a fact and it's an embarrassment to this branch. In Branch 34 for the past twenty plus years a certain few have been carrying the load but the time has come for everyone to get involved. Donate today to save your job and retirement tomorrow. Hopefully you get the message and respond accordingly.

I Smell a Skunk

I take everything this company says and does with a heavy dosage of skepticism. Is it just me or does it seem like every decision the postal service makes is a bad decision? Without rehashing their lengthy decades of poor decision making and I assure you it's a lengthy one including their appointments of non-producing/non-qualified career candidates to overpaid positions let us just focus on today's recent proposals: Closing plants and relaxing service standards.

If ever I smelled a skunk, it's today's postal service and the name in itself is an oxymoron. The sheer audacity and gall to complain about losing revenues and in the same breath talk about closing hundreds of plants and relaxing our delivery standards. How will a ludicrous action such as that help the longevity and survival of the postal service? The answer is simple: it won't! It will drive away customers and accomplish what certain political lackeys running this company are trying to achieve: self destruction. They ought to be ashamed of themselves, those tie fixing, bobble head, overpaid incompetents.

They are either the most inept managerial force on the face of this planet or they're a skunk. This newest approach of the USPS stinks and it smells like contract posturing on their behalf. The sad part is it'll turn the public and mailers against them while they play their games. What's next? Why don't they just close every plant and give no service standard period. Our new motto can be: You'll get it when and if it gets there".

How about this solution? Get rid of

these overpaid imposters posing as high level decision makers not only in Washington, DC but in every district and installation across this country. If we get rid of the deadwood this company might be able to float to the top. We can then start making sound decisions not based on outside and underhanded objectives. Now wouldn't that be refreshing, instead of smelling like a skunk.

A Season to be Thankful

'Tis the season! I've been blessed over the past decade to lead the best NALC Branch in the country. I've also been blessed with the board of officers you've given me and they serve you well. Branch 34 has been good *not only to me* but also to my family and for that I thank you. During my tenure I've been fortunate to not only represent letter carriers but to interact with you on an individual basis. Do we have some bad apples? I like to refer to certain individuals as different, not bad, and just like society itself we have a mix but the good far outweigh any other faction.

We've certainly had our share of adversity over this past decade; route inspections (regularly), router adjustments, the anthrax threat following 9-11, MSP's, BPI Team, Post Office Consolidations, reserve position(s) abolishment, minor route adjustment attempts, VIM room attacks, part-time regulars, OIG, EPM, COR, NRP, GPS, ERMS, IRAP, MIARAP, JARAP, pivoting, FSS, excessing, harmful legislation... and I'm sure I'm forgetting a few. Throughout all this adversity we've managed to endure. We've seen supervisors, managers, postmasters and district managers come and go but the carrier force marches on providing one constant; exceptional service to our postal patrons.

We've seen this business evolve right before our very eyes and certainly not for the better. Will there be more change on the way? Unfortunately you can count on it, but as with every program introduced by the postal service we'll continue to scrutinize whatever procedural changes we're faced with. Don't be too surprised if some new changes are reverting back to old postal procedures, because that my friend is the postal way and if it's not broken why fix it?

I once again thank you for giving me the opportunity to continue representing the best branch in the entire country.

On behalf of the Branch 34 Board of Officers and the Lind family may you have a Merry Christmas or whatever holy day you observe and a joyous New Year with limited change. To the active letter carriers: may your many postal patrons *vote for you* often during this time of giving (don't forget your u-man) and to every Branch 34 Member: God Bless and Good Health!

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, 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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Merry Christmas!!!

At the risk of sounding insensitive and politically incorrect, *Merry Christmas* to each and every Branch 34 member and their loved ones. Likewise to the Brothers and Sisters who celebrate Hanukkah or Kwanzaa.

While the new year is clearly setting up to be the most challenging of our lives, we can take solace in knowing that we are better off than many less fortunate. Remember to do what you can when you pass the person

ringing the bell or a Toys-for-Tots location. The NALC has a long tradition of generosity and many people out of work are hurting.

Finally, pray for our military personnel at home and abroad. There can't be anything harder than being away from family during the holidays.

On a lighter note, I came across this poem recently with no known author. I thought about plagiarizing it but no one would believe I'm that clever.



Michael Yerkes
Financial Secretary

A Politically Correct Christmas Poem
Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck...
How to live in a world that's politically correct?
His workers no longer would answer to "Elves",
"Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves.
And labor conditions at the North Pole,
were alleged by the union, to stifle the soul.

Four reindeer had vanished without much propriety,
released to the wilds, by the Humane Society.
And equal employment had made it quite clear,
that Santa had better not use just reindeer.
So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid,
were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his beautiful sleigh,
because the ruts were deemed dangerous by the EPA,
And millions of people were calling the Cops,
when they heard sled noises upon their roof tops.
Second-hand smoke from his pipe, had his workers quite frightened,
and his fur trimmed red suit was called "unenlightened".

To show you the strangeness of today's ebbs and flows,
Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose.
He went to Geraldo, in front of the Nation,
demanding millions in over-due workers compensation.

So...half of the reindeer were gone, and his wife
who suddenly said she'd had enough of this life,
joined a self help group, packed and left in a whiz,
demanding from now on that her title was Ms.

And as for gifts...why, he'd never had the notion
that making a choice could cause such commotion.
Nothing of leather, nothing of fur...
Which meant nothing for him or nothing for her.
Nothing to aim, Nothing to shoot,
Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise.
Nothing for just girls and nothing for just boys.
Nothing that claimed to be gender specific,
Nothing that's warlike or non-pacifistic.

No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.
Nothing that seemed to embellish upon the truth.
And fairy tales...while not yet forbidden,
were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden,
for they raised the hackles of those psychological,
who claimed the only good gift was one ecological.

No baseball, no football...someone might get hurt,
besides - playing sports exposed kids to dirt.
Dolls were said to be sexist and should be passe.
and Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.

So Santa just stood there, disheveled and perplexed,
he just couldn't figure out what to do next?
He tried to be merry he tried to be gay,
but you must have to admit he was having a very bad day.
His sack was quite empty, it was flat on the ground,
nothing fully acceptable was anywhere to be found.

Something special was needed, a gift that he might,
give to us all, without angering the left or the right.
A gift that would satisfy - with no indecision,
each group of people in every religion.
Every race, every hue,
everyone, everywhere...even you!
So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth...

**"MAY YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES,
ENJOY PEACE ON EARTH!"**

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:

Charles J. Appleby Wellesley Hills
Jeffery F. Block Waltham
Russell T. Garland Malden
William W. Gold Cambridge
John J. Keaveney West Roxbury
Geraldine F. McDonald .. Newton Centre
John J. McMahan East Weymouth
Ralph J. Papsadore Needham
Kevin B. Stapleton Braintree
Michael J. Ventresca Quincy
Robert P. Wasak Revere
- Michael Yerkes
Branch 34 Financial Secretary

In Memoriam

Joseph J. Crifo, Jr.
Active Member - Quincy
Lee R. Benoit
Retired Member - Braintree
Martin J. Bland
Retired Member - Waban
William T. Deason
Retired Member - North Quincy
Robert L. Feeney
Retired Member - Milton
William P. Hickey, Jr.
Retired Member - Braintree
James F. Manning
Retired Member - East Weymouth
Steven F. Ricciarelli
Retired Member - Fields Corner
* denotes 50-Year Life Member
Rest in Peace

The 2011 Lumps of Coal Awards

- in no particular order -

Judas Obama - The President, a Democrat, comes out in support of five-day delivery This is the same President who wants to jump start the economy with his jobs bill. How would eliminating over 20,000 jobs help the economy, Barack?

Labor Relations - I had a leave issue in Cambridge that I was trying to resolve before it became a grievance so I called up the Labor Representative. After I explained why I was calling I got a response. "I have more important things to do than call Cambridge to see how they are implementing their leave policy." Really, more important things to do? You need to look at your job description a little more closely. The parties are required to attempt to resolve issues before they become grievances. Apparently this particular Labor Rep doesn't mind the time and expense that will be generated by a grievance.

Why do we need a "Letter from the Editor" column in the *Postal Record*? We don't need a non-officer telling us his opinion on media coverage or whatever. Aren't these topics supposed to be addressed by our elected National Officers? If you are going to have a non-officer write a column why don't you make it from someone like a **Jennifer Warburton**, the head of our Legislative Department and chief lobbyist? I think the membership would rather hear from her about what is going on in Congress than the drivel we are getting from **Philip Dine**.

Merry Christmas, Best Wishes and a Happy New Year!



Michael Kidd
Area Steward

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.

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

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

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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

Do Your Part!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Brothers and Sisters.

I hope this holiday season finds you, your families, and friends all in good health. I'm sure you all have taken the opportunity, as I have, to reflect on the year past. Doing so has offered many unanswered questions about our future as letter carriers as well as the future of the Postal Service. We, as the working class in America, are under attack. We all should be well aware of the numerous battles that stand before all letter carriers today, such as six-day/five-day delivery, layoffs, changes in health benefits, delivery standards, and house to house delivery. However, none of these battles will be fought and won on the workroom floor, as we've grown a custom too, but instead the battlefield has moved to the halls of Congress. The problem we are having as a union, in defending our positions in these battles, is getting the membership involved both at the local and national levels. No longer is it enough to say "I do my part, I pay my dues". The fight has intensified and now we need an "all hands on deck" mentality. Our responsibilities to this union need to grow right along with the size of the battles we are fighting. Everyone must get involved; your Jobs will depend on it!

You should ask yourself, what can I do as a letter carrier to join the fight? The an-

swer is quite simple; finally do what has been asked repeatedly of you. Here are a few painless steps every letter carrier can undertake to join the fight and protect their livelihood. First, join E-Activist on the NALC website, it's quick and easy. Becoming an E-Activist allows the National President and his staff to contact all carriers across the country via email to keep you up to date with the most important carrier issues and it enables you to be notified of any calls to action carriers are needed for, such as, rallies or contacting your politicians to remind them to keep letter carriers interests in mind. Next, get involved! Go to the branch meetings, rap sessions, conventions. Take the opportunity to know what the issues are that letter carriers face both locally and nationally. Invest some time in the union, get to know who your leaders are, learn how and why they make the decisions that affect your working conditions. Lastly and most importantly, contribute to COLCPE,

What is COLCPE and what does it do? COLCPE is the Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education. This is a fund set up for NALC political endeavors, such as, supporting candidates seeking election to/ or remaining in political office that have the best interests of letter carriers in mind. All contributions are on a voluntary basis and can be directly deducted from your paycheck or withdrawn from your bank account. As I made reference to in the opening paragraph our future is going to be decided by our politicians, whether you agree with that process or not, it's the truth. Over the past seven years, the NALC has been instrumental in numerous political races throughout the country. It is clear by the political climate in Washington, D.C., we will need as many friends as we can possibly get in congress over the next election cycle. COLCPE is bipartisan; the only requisite to receiving a contribution is your willingness to aid the letter carrier cause. Lobbying is common place on the political scene, as we all are aware, our competitors seem to have endless budgets to see that their interests are looked after. The NALC, however, is trying to use a limited budget raised solely through COLCPE and

the strength of its membership's voting power to counter this attack. All members should be aware that the NALC does not and cannot use any of our member's dues to lobby for political support. At the current participation rates nationally this is growing increasingly more difficult to keep up with our competitors namely FedEx and UPS!

Over the past month, I have been trying to sign up members to join COLCPE and I have only enjoyed limited success. I am only asking the "Gimme Five" approach of five dollars per pay period as an automatic pay deduction- This requested has been met with a whole slew of excuses; like; "I can't afford it" or "I don't pay politicians, I elect them." I tried repeatedly to explain inactivity could result in drastic changes to your job or even loss of it. We need to look at it like job insurance. You pay for car insurance and house insurance, but not job insurance this makes no sense. Without a job you can't afford any insurance. I have recently been made aware of the fact that Boston Branch 34 is only at 2.44 percent participation in COLCPE, among the worse in the nation. This is a point of embarrassment to me. There are

only approximately six branches with 450 or more members with a worse participation percentage than us. Only 90 or so members are signed up as regular contributor out of approximately 3,900 members. We as a branch should share in my embarrassment. We are allowing the other members of this national union to pay our way. We need to have pride in our union and faith in our leadership. We need to meet this responsibility head on. For too long the words of one of my Branch 34 Newtonville letter carrier colleagues have rung true - "too few are doing too much, and too many aren't doing enough." We all need to come together to fight for our livelihood. I challenge each and every member who does not participate in COLCPE to do so immediately. To facilitate this I will be set up at the next couple of union meetings to help sign up members who choose to do the right thing.



Brian Manning
Area Steward

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

From my family to your family, we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As always Safety First!



Michael Gorham
Health Benefit Officer



Mike Hickey (lower right) enjoying some time with his family.

Where Are They Now?

Mike Hickey

Mike Hickey started his postal career over 25 year ago at the Newtonville Post Office. After a short time there, and at the IMC Post Office, he spent over 20 years delivering mail in Charlestown, his hometown.

Most of his career he worked out of the JFK Station but retired out the IMC where the Charlestown Unit was moved several years ago.

Mike retired on June 30th, 2006 and has been retired for over five years now. He enjoys spending time with his grandchildren and is with them most weekdays and weekends, too! He is also enjoying spending time with his wife Donna, as she recently retired over a year ago. They celebrated 26 years of marriage this past May. Congratulations to you and many happy, healthy years of retirement.

— Mary Collier
"Branch 34's CLAN" Editor

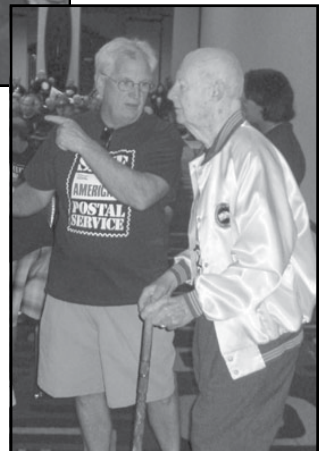
Branch 34 Attends NALC Washington, DC RAP Session



Branch 34 officers wait for NALC RAP Session to begin.



Branch 34 Area Steward and Arlington Shop Steward Gerry McCarthy and Branch 34 President Bob Lind listen at NALC RAP Session.



NALC President Emeritus Jim Rademaker (93) gave a riveting address.

The Officers of Branch 34 Wishes its Members –



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Let First Priority help you

{Pri·or·i·tize}

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

To do list!

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

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In addition to our Boston, Lowell and Waltham branches our newest branch at 100 Swift Street in East Boston offers a convenient location, drive-thru with ATM, expanded hours, and like all our branches, people ready to help you accomplish your financial to-do-list!

- **Save money**
We make saving easier with great rates and easy-to-use products!
- **Change your scenery**
First Priority offers online pre-approvals for mortgages, home equity loans, and lines of credit. We have a product to fit your home financing needs.
- **Spend more time doing what YOU want**
There are lots of convenient ways to bank with First Priority – phone, online, ATM, or in branch.



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Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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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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Serving Letter Carriers for Over 30 Years

Branch 34 Salutes the Troops on Veterans Day at GMF!



Chestnut Hill's Peg Walsh sings "God Bless America."



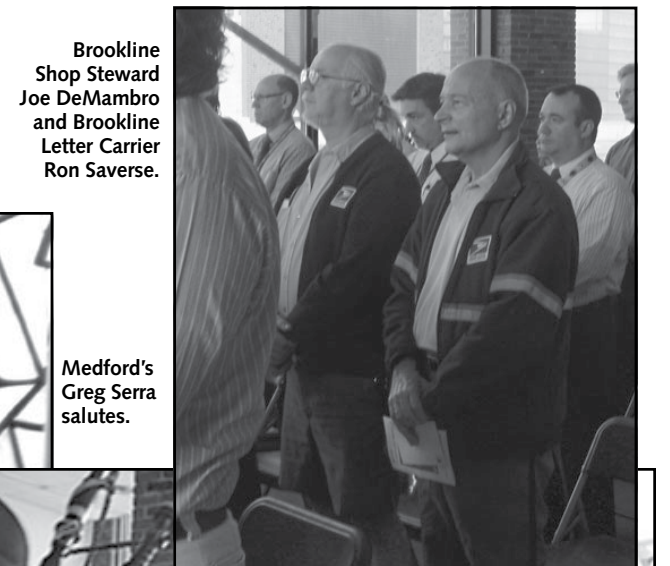
(L to R) Malden's Dan Norton, Fort Point's Kevin Conroy and GMF's Russ Carney. (In background) Medford's Greg Serra and APWU President Paul Kilduff.



Master of Ceremonies Bill Hoey at the Veterans Day Service at GMF Boston.



Back Bay Annex's Dave Murray and Chris Douglas.



Brookline Shop Steward Joe DeMambro and Brookline Letter Carrier Ron Saverse.

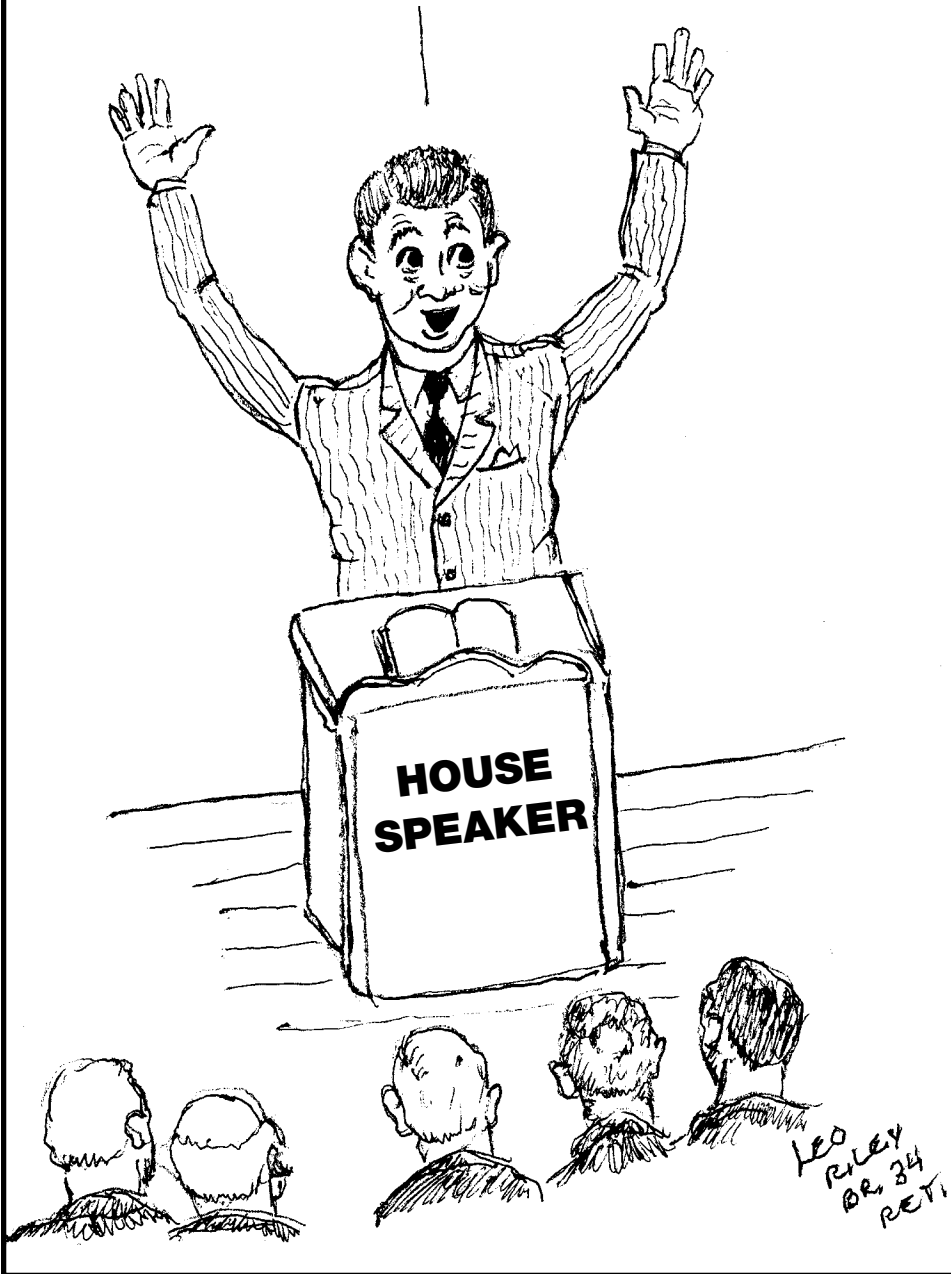


Medford's Greg Serra salutes.



Medford's Greg Serra counts cadence.

My Senate Brothers –
 If we close the Post Office,
 How are we going to get our
BIG BUSINESS Payoffs?
 Think about it!



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 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 1982
 AND WHO DO NOT HAVE THEIR DUES
 DEDUCTED FROM THEIR MONTHLY
 ANNUITY CHECK MUST PAY THEIR
 DUES DIRECTLY TO THE BRANCH!**

RETIREES 2012 DUES ❖ \$18.00

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Social Security Number _____
 Amount Enclosed _____

Please return this form with your dues to:
 Michael Yerkes, Financial Secretary, Branch 34 NALC,
 400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950, Woburn, MA 01801-6396

Note that an already-retired member currently paying dues directly to the Branch may switch voluntarily to annuity dues by completing and submitting a Form 1189 to NALC.

GET YOUR BRANCH 34 T-SHIRT NOW!

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 (SIX \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED EACH YEAR)**

\$10.00 PER T-SHIRT



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**SIZES:
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**ORDER YOUR SHIRT AT THE BRANCH 34 UNION OFFICE
 781-281-1133 OR PICK ONE UP AT THE
 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING!**

2011 Vehicles Built by Union Members in the United States & Canada

DRIVE UNION!

All these vehicles are made in the United States or Canada by members of the United Auto Workers and Canadian Auto Workers (CAW).

Because of the integration of U.S. and Canadian vehicle production, all these vehicles include significant UAW-made content and support the jobs of UAW members.

However, those marked with an asterisk (*) are produced in the United States and another country; The light-duty (LD) crew cab versions of the vehicles marked with a double asterisk (**) are manufactured only in Mexico; other models are made in the United States. When purchasing one of these models, check the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN). A VIN beginning with "1," "4" or "5" identifies a U.S.-made vehicle; "2" identifies a Canadian-made vehicle.

Not all vehicles made in the United States or Canada are built by union-represented workers. Vehicles not listed here, even if produced in the United States or Canada, are not union-made.

UAW CARS

Buick Lacrosse	Dodge Caliber
Buick Lucerne	Dodge Viper
Cadillac CTS	Ford Focus
Cadillac DTS	Ford Mustang
Cadillac STS	Ford Taurus
Chevrolet Corvette	Lincoln MKS
Chevrolet Cruze	Mazda 6
Chevrolet Malibu	Mitsubishi Eclipse
Chevrolet Volt	Mitsubishi Eclipse
Chrysler Sebring	Spyder
Dodge Avenger	Mitsubishi Galant

UAW SUVs/CUVs

Buick Enclave	GMC Acadia
Cadillac Escalade	GMC Yukon/Hybrid
ESV	Jeep Compass
Cadillac Escalade/	Jeep Grand Cherokee
Hybrid	Jeep Liberty
Chevrolet Suburban	Jeep Patriot
Chevrolet Tahoe/	Jeep Wrangler
Hybrid	Lincoln Navigator
Chevrolet Traverse	Mazda Tribute/
Dodge Durango	Hybrid
Dodge Nitro	Mercury Mariner/
Ford Escape/Hybrid	Hybrid
Ford Expedition	Mercury
Ford Explorer	Mountaineer
Ford Explorer	Mitsubishi Endeavor
Sport Trac	

UAW TRUCKS

Chevrolet Colorado	Ford Ranger
Chevrolet Silverado**	GMC Canyon
Dodge Dakota	GMC Sierra**
Dodge Ram Pickup*	Mazda B-series
Ford F Series	

UAW VANS

Chevrolet Express	GMC Savana
Ford Econoline	

CAW CARS

Chevrolet Camaro	Ford Crown Victoria
Chevrolet Impala	Lincoln Town Car
Chrysler 300	Mercury
Dodge Challenger	Grand Marquis
Dodge Charger	

CAW SUVs/CUVs

Chevrolet Equinox	GMC Terrain
Ford Edge	Lincoln MKT
Ford Flex	Lincoln MKX

CAW VANS

Chrysler	Dodge
Town & Country	Grand Caravan
	Volkswagen Routan



Branch 34 Says Farewell to its Retirees!

Arlington's Dave Knight



Branch 34 Executive Vice President J.T. McMahon reminiscences with his longtime friend and workmate Arlington's Dave Knight.



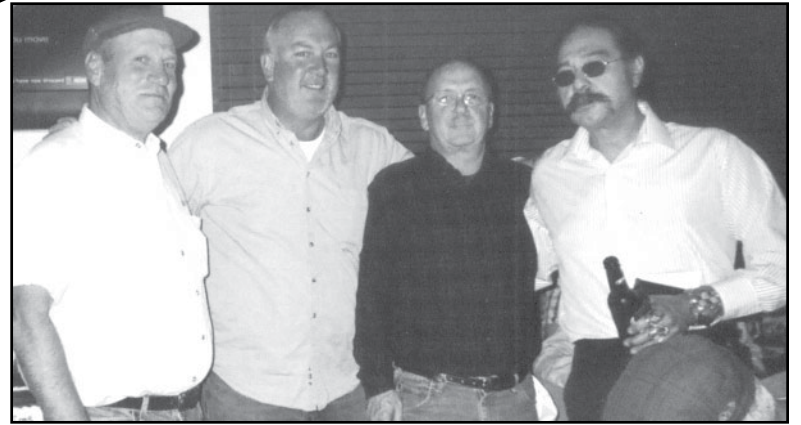
Viny Fratalia offers Dave Knight best wishes from his Arlington co-workers on his well-deserved retirement.



Arlington's Dave Knight accepts his retirement gifts from Branch 34 President Bob Lind.



Needham's Ralph Papsadore



Needham Stewards Paul "Butch" McDonough and Mark Cowell along with Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Flaherty (second from left) congratulate Ralph Papsadore (right) on his retirement.

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Change of Address
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Zip _____
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400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950
Woburn, MA 01801-6396

Protect Your Future!
GIVE TO COLCPE!

EAP as a Union Partner

When dealing with craft employees, do you sometimes feel like you are out there all by yourself out on a limb with nowhere to turn for assisting them? Do you know a craft employee who has been informed of unacceptable job performance, attendance issues, or unacceptable conduct? Do you worry that the employee might be struggling with drugs or alcohol use, marital or other issues?

If you are like most Union Representatives or Stewards, you probably know individuals well enough that you are good at identifying when there is a life situation or problem, yet you may be uncertain about how to encourage them to seek help before it is too late. Did you know you have a confidential partner in the Employee

Assistance Program (EAP) to work with you to do the right thing instead of doing nothing at all? That's right! Before you ever talk to an individual, the EAP is there for you.

Think of the EAP as a partner that you, the Union Representative or Steward, can consult with to provide early intervention to a craft employee. Your EAP professional will even help you develop a specific strategy for each individual employee situation. Of course, you would never act as a counselor, but with the EAP's help, you can get advice on how to address specific situations. The EAP can also help you "debrief" if there is a worrisome situation.

Here's how easy it is:

Step 1: Take a few minutes to think

about specific behaviors that may be causing the work-related problem. Be as specific as possible—think of incidents, dates, and trends that are examples of your concern. Don't try to "diagnose" or identify personal problems. Just focus on the person's observable behavior and job issues.

Step 2: Consider the craft employee's history. How long has he/she worked for the USPS? How long has the identified problem existed? Have there been other problems in the past? What have you tried

so far to support the situation? Think about what possible outcomes you would like to see.

Step 3: Call the EAP: 1-800-EAP-4-YOU (1-800-327-4968) and ask for your local EAP Consultant Bob Belisle or just work with the consultant that answers your call. It's truly that easy! Wouldn't it make your life easier having a partner—an EAP professional—who can help you make the right choices that will make an individual successful at work?

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* After first seven days with no leave to your credit.
President: Thomas Sheehan • Recording Secretary: Arthur Dinsmoor

RETIREES! Contribute to **COLCPE** directly from your **ANNUITY**
4 easy ways to start your allotment!

Retired NALC members have the option of making voluntary COLCPE contributions directly from their monthly CSRS or FERS annuities, a convenient way to make regular donations to the political action fund similar to the payroll system available to active carriers. The amount you decide to contribute will come out of your annuity each month.
Choose a method below. Before you begin, you'll need your **CSA retirement claim number**.

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

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.

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.

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.
Mail completed coupon to: NALC Retirement Department, Attention: COLCPE, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144.
Name (please print): _____ Branch: _____
CSA or Social Security number: _____ Phone: _____
Signature: _____ Date: _____
I wish to contribute monthly:
 \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Other: \$ _____

By making a contribution to the Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that it is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers nor a part of union dues. You may refuse to contribute without 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 canceled through the Office of Personnel Management. Contributions to COLCPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

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

by phone.....or online

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."

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

YOUR 17-DIGIT ACCOUNT NUMBER:
..... 0034952535
(First 7 digits of ID number on Postal Record label)
*****AUTO** 5-DIGIT 54321
XXXXX09 LC 9876 W13 08
JOHN CARRIER
1234 MAIN STREET
ANYWHERE, US 54321-9999

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:
06400017

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.

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."

- 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.
- 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.
- 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: **06400017**
 - 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 Funds 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: \$ _____

and forward that amount to NALC's Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education (COLCPE). 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 Funds 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 advantage, 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.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

Branch 34

400 West Cummings Pk., Suite 3950
Woburn, MA 01801

T / 781-281-1133 F / 781-281-1127
www.nalcbranch34.com

CALENDAR YEAR 2012 ROTATING NON-SCHEDULED DAYS

Robert A. Lind, President
John T. McMahon, Executive Vice President
Robert Simpson, Vice President
Kevin Flaherty, Secretary-Treasurer
Michael Yerkes, Financial Secretary
Mary "Mazie" Collier, Editor, Branch 34's CLAN
Michael Gorham, Health Benefit Officer
Michael Murray, Sergeant-at-Arms

Steve Mahoney, Clerk, NSBA
Paul Roche, Chairman, Trustee
Daniel O'Connor, Trustee
Marty Foley, Trustee
Jerry McCarthy, Area Steward
Brian Manning, Area Steward
Michael Kidd, Area Steward
Bernadette Romans, Area Steward

1 - LEGAL NATIONAL HOLIDAYS

BRANCH MEETINGS **W** WEST ROXBURY
at 7:00 P.M. **Q** QUINCY **M** MALDEN

10% - PAYDAYS **10%** - Boston/Cambridge
Leave Information

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	10% D	E	F	A	B	B
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10%	C	W D	E	F	A	A
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10%	B	C	D	E	F	F
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10%	A	B	C	D	E	E
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10%	F	A				
29	30	31				

JANUARY 1: NEW YEAR'S DAY
JANUARY 16: MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
			10% B	C	D	D
			1	2	3	4
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10%	D	M E	F	A	B	B
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12%	C	D	E	F	A	A
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10%	B	C	D			
26	27	28	29			

FEBRUARY 14: VALENTINE'S DAY
FEBRUARY 20: PRESIDENT'S DAY
FEBRUARY 22: ASH WEDNESDAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
				10% E	F	F
				1	2	3
10%	A	B	C	D	E	E
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10%	F	Q A	B	C	D	D
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MARCH 17: ST. PATRICK'S DAY

CANVAS CARRIERS FOR
PRIME TIME VACATIONS

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	10% C	D	E	F	A	A
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10%	B	W C	D	E	F	F
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
12%	A	B	C	D	E	E
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10%	F	A	B	C	D	D
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10%	E					
29	30					

APRIL 6: GOOD FRIDAY
APRIL 7: PASSOVER BEGINS
APRIL 8: EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 16: PATRIOTS' DAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
		10% F	A	B	C	C
		1	2	3	4	5
10%	D	M E	F	A	B	14% B
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
14%	C	D	E	F	A	A
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
14%	B	C	D	E	F	F
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
16%	A	B	C	D		
27	28	29	30	31		

MAY 13: MOTHER'S DAY
MAY 28: MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 12: NALC FOOD DRIVE

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
					16% E	E
					1	2
16%	F	A	B	C	D	D
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16%	E	Q F	A	B	C	C
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
16%	D	E	F	A	B	B
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
16%	C	D	E	F	A	A
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE 14: FLAG DAY
JUNE 17: FATHER'S DAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	16% B	C	D	E	F	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16%	A	B	C	D	E	E
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
16%	F	A	B	C	D	D
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
16%	E	F	A	B	C	C
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
16%	D	E				
29	30	31				

JULY 4: INDEPENDENCE DAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
			16% F	A	B	B
			1	2	3	4
16%	C	D	E	F	A	A
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
16%	B	C	D	E	F	F
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16%	A	B	C	D	E	E
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
16%	F	A	B	C	D	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
						16% D
						1
16%	E	F	A	B	C	C
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16%	D	W E	F	A	B	B
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16%	C	D	E	F	A	A
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
16%	B	C	D	E	F	F
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14%						
30						

SEPTEMBER 2: MDA LABOR DAY TELETHON
SEPTEMBER 3: LABOR DAY
SEPTEMBER 17: ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS
SEPTEMBER 26: YOM KIPPUR BEGINS

NO BRANCH MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST

SEPTEMBER 15: LAST DAY FOR FALL 2012 NON-CHOICE VACATION

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
	14% A	B	C	D	E	E
1	2	3	4	5	6	
14%	F	M A	B	C	D	D
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14%	E	F	A	B	C	C
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
10%	C	D	E			
28	29	30	31			

OCTOBER 8: COLUMBUS DAY
OCTOBER 31: HALLOWEEN

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
				10% F	A	A
				1	2	3
10%	B	C	D	E	F	F
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10%	A	Q B	C	D	E	E
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10%+1	F	A	B	C	D	D
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10%	E	F	A	B	C	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

NOVEMBER 6: ELECTION DAY
NOVEMBER 11: VETERANS' DAY
NOVEMBER 22: THANKSGIVING DAY

SUN.	MON.	TUE.	WED.	THU.	FRI.	SAT.
						10% C
						1
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10%	0% C	W D	E	F	A	A
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
0%	B	C	D	E	F	5% F
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
0%	A	B	5% C	D	E	E
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5%	F					
30	31					

DECEMBER 9: HANUKKAH BEGINS
DECEMBER 24: CHRISTMAS EVE
DECEMBER 25: CHRISTMAS DAY
DECEMBER 26: KWANZAA BEGINS
DECEMBER 31: NEW YEAR'S EVE