



The Award-Winning Newspaper
of Joseph P. Considine
Branch 34 NALC, AFL-CIO

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National Association of Letter Carriers
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BOSTON, MA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

BRANCH 34's CLAN

CELEBRATING 126 YEARS OF UNION PARTICIPATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS ★ 1890-2016

Upcoming Meetings
Inside Branch 34's CLAN

Tuesdays at 7:00 PM

January 10, 2017

at the
Sons of Italy Hall
120 Quarry Street
Quincy 02169

February 14, 2017

at the
Boston Lodge of Elks
#10
248 Spring Street
West Roxbury 02132

March 14, 2017

at the
Malden Moose Hall
582 Broadway (Rt. 99)
Malden 02148

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nalcbranch34.com

President's Report

Happy Holidays!!!

At the outset, I hope you and your loved ones enjoy the happiest of holiday seasons as well as a prosperous and more importantly, healthy New Year! And on behalf of your Branch 34 Officers and grateful public, *Thank You* for once again stepping up with another outstanding performance during what the USPS holiday commercials used to publicize as 'our season'. Once again you all have delivered more e-commerce parcels to more homes than any other any other company in the country; Well Done!

That said, this is no time to rest on our laurels as the conclusion of this holiday season, and the turn of the calendar to a New Year, brings new challenges of which we as a Union must be even more vigilant, the most obvious being the election of the most unconventional President in United States history. How a Trump administration, with a House and Senate Republican majority, will influence the direction of this country as a whole, the Postal Service as an organization, is anyone's guess.

While most of the country's scrutiny will be focused on President-elect Trump's initial cabinet appointments and Supreme Court nominee(s), Letter Carriers and all postal employees should be watching his picks for the Postal Board of Governors and to a lesser extent, the Postal Rate Commission. In both bodies, we need individuals who strongly support the mission of the Postal Service to provide high-quality, universal and affordable services to the American people.

Yet Presidential candidate Trump said little about the USPS during his campaign while the 2016 GOP platform contained statements indicating hostility toward all federal workers and their unions. The republican platform further endorsed cuts to federal employee pay and benefits as well as future limitations on collective bargaining rights for federal workers, including the prospect of banning unions for federal workers altogether.

Our collective-bargaining rights, which have allowed City Letter Carriers to secure multiple pay increases in almost every year since 1970, are a function of the law created by Congress with the *Postal Reorganization Act*. The incoming Congress can take those rights away if they so desire.

Locally, there are similar issues of concern for Branch 34 and our Members.

Boston's Operations' Programs Support has informed us of their intent to conduct Route Inspections in several stations Boston and Woburn Installations starting in January through May, this despite the fact that the National parties have provided no indication of whether or not an alternative route inspection program will continue in one form or another with the next contract. Full blown route inspections are costly operations which result in little more than office disruption and

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a waste of time. Just ask any Somerville Letter Carrier.

Additionally, with the eventual ratification or arbitrated decision of a new National Agreement comes the possibility of local negotiations commencing within Boston Installation and any of six our Associate Offices.

These and other pending concerns must be balanced with the day-to-day events such as employee separations and off-duty placements, injury and compensation issues and the ongoing protection of our members rights and interests in the workplace.

I reference all of these issues because it is my belief that now, more than ever, it is imperative for every Member

to get way more involved in your Union. Apathy and lack of interest by our members can be as corrosive to this Union as road salt to New England cars and trucks.

While together we can accomplish goals that are beyond reach to us as individuals, the proverbial "other guy (or gal) can do it" mentality will most assuredly result in our collective failure.

Fortunately, there are numerous ways to get more involved with your Union and your career and the degree of time and commitment can be as much or as little as you chose.

At a minimum, every Member can and should be an automatic contributor to the *Letter Carrier Political Fund* (former COLCPE). The LCPF is the NALC's political action committee established for the purpose of electing qualified candidates who support Letter Carriers and who are committed

to maintaining a strong and innovative U.S. Postal Service. A couple of dollars a pay period through payroll deduction to help protect your livelihood is insurance money well spent.

Every Member should also be signed up as an *E-Activist*. By doing so, you will become more informed about legislation aimed at either benefiting or destroying your career. Enrolling is a simple as providing your name, phone number and email address. Join together with tens of thousands of other Letter Carriers to make your voice heard. These actions take little time or effort.

With a little more effort, you could attend a monthly Branch Meeting. I know full well

(continued on page 2)



MICHAEL YERKES
President

Have a Safe and Happy New Year

from the Officers and Executive Board of
BRANCH 34 NALC BOSTON



BRANCH #34 STATION STEWARDS

Allston.....	Jack Gomes
Arlington.....	Gerald McCarthy Sean Mullet
Auburndale.....	Vacant
Back Bay.....	Lucy Warren Mike McCormack
Belmont.....	Salvatore Celeste David D'Agostino
Braintree DMU.....	Richard Fraser Robert O'Donnell
Brighton.....	Roshon Butts
Brookline.....	Maria Constantino Joseph DeMambro
Cambridge - Central Sq.....	William Wilkins Christopher Nollett
Cambridge - Porter Sq.....	William Criscitelli Christopher Paolera
Cohasset.....	Jason Gauquier
Chestnut Hill.....	Thomas Conville
Dorchester.....	Carrandias Moore
East Weymouth.....	Artie Matthews
Fenway.....	Tony Cinelli
Fields Corner.....	James Hudson
Fort Point.....	Benny Faetra Thor Hellestedt
Hingham/Hull.....	Michael Bertrand
Hyde Park.....	Joe DeBeradinis
IMC - Chelsea.....	William Lang
IMC - East Boston.....	Emelio Leone
IMC - Winthrop.....	John Fanning
IMC - Everett.....	Wayne Poste
IMC - Charlestown.....	Steve Mahoney
IMC - Somerville.....	John Fucile
Jamaica Plain.....	Bernadette Romans Robert Damatin
J.F.K. Station.....	Robert Amirault Millie Brooks
Kenmore.....	Vacant
Lexington.....	Tony Scrivano John Lucey
Malden.....	Laura Fahey Chet Macaskil
Mattapan.....	Vacant
Medfield.....	Christopher Pacitti
Medford.....	John Holmberg Stephen White
Melrose.....	Jason Siciliano
Milton.....	Robert Leighton
Needham.....	Vacant
Newton Centre.....	David Ward
Newton Highlands.....	Rich Shelley
Newtonville.....	Vacant
North Quincy.....	Vacant
North Weymouth.....	Vacant
Quincy.....	Paul Roche John Ainsley
Revere DMU.....	James Costello
Roslindale.....	Adam Difazio
Roxbury.....	John Galvin Keith Meredith Samie Smith
Scituate.....	Phyllis Monahan
South Boston.....	Mike Kidd
So. Weymouth.....	Lawrence Ahlstedt
Stoneham.....	Lawrence Last
Waban.....	Rich Farrell
Waltham.....	Edward Walsh Ian Benson
Watertown.....	William Huber
Wellesley.....	Tom Ryan
Wellesley Hills.....	Jack Eppenstein
Weston.....	David Demarco
West Newton.....	Salvatore Ledda
West Roxbury.....	Michael Walter Stephen Tinglof
Weymouth Landing.....	Mario Venturelli
Woburn.....	Vigo Conte Fred Casey
Wollaston.....	Thomas Rooney Jr.

Become Involved!

Branch 34 conducted a Retirement Planning Seminar in conjunction with National Business Agent **John Casciano** on Sunday, November 13, 2016. Over 250 Branch 34 members and spouses attended the seminar at Florian Hall in Dorchester.

Glen Chandler of Branch 18 was the facilitator with the guidance of NALC Retirement Department. Both Civil Service Retirement and Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) were explained. Some of the topics covered were minimum retirement age, Military Service Credit, FERS Special Annuity Supplement, Social Security, Thrifts Savings Plan, survivor benefits, and more.

Retirement planning is a topic too complicated to cover in one article. Those contemplating retirement should start planning well in advance of your projected retirement date. NALC provides booklets on both Civil Service and FERS retirements. Branch 34 will hopefully be conducting another retirement training next year.

As I already stated, this event was well-attended. It was great to see so many carriers showing an interest in a Branch 34 activity. Retirement is something that we all will face at some time and therefore the interest is obvious. The members at the retirement seminar obviously are approaching, if not at retirement age. These carriers, including myself are on the proverbial "back nine." Many of these carriers do attend branch functions including Branch Monthly Meetings, and other activities.

One thing I learned at the seminar is that about one third of letter carriers are eligible to retire. Now is the time for new members to step up to the plate. Attendance at monthly meetings is sparse to say the least. Part of that may be our fault and we are working to make the meeting more accessible and more interesting. The other part is apathy with our members. I am not sure what it will take for some of our members to become more involved in OUR UNION. Participation of Branch

34 members in the Letter Carrier Political Fund is minimal.

NALC continues to be one of the strongest unions in this country. The Postal Strike of 1970 is a great example of carriers risking something for a reward. Carriers today, in fact all postal employees continue to reap the benefits of the Strike. Any union is only as strong as its members, and the NALC is no exception. We cannot let lack of participation in this great union weaken it.

Branch 34 currently has eight carrier stations without a shop steward. A few of these stations are rather large. In days past this was unheard of. There is no reason why a carrier doesn't step up to the plate to become an NALC Steward. Branch 34 conducts extensive training, and will assist any steward with questions. City Carrier Assistants can become shop stewards. A couple of benefits of being a steward are seniority in transfer or reassignment. Stewards also receive a stipend, depending on union members in the station, from Branch 34 for their services.

The bottom line is we must be prepared for the eventuality of carriers retiring. We need to have activists ready to replace and join our current members. The future of our union is at stake. I challenge all members to actively participate in our great union! Come to a union meeting. Become an E-Activist! Contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund! Help maintain the strength in our great union!

A Word to the Wise

We will soon need a scoreboard here at the Branch 34 office. There are currently approximately 12 carriers placed in Emergency Off Duty status. The reasons for these EOD notices vary, but in

most cases can be prevented.

Vehicle roll ways seem to be the huge problem. We have absolutely no reason to leave a vehicle running and not properly secure it. Every carrier was trained on parking procedures, and we must take the time to properly do so. Managers and supervisors constantly preach safety, that is until it costs them a couple minutes extra. It is time to stop being intimidated and take the time to properly secure our vehicles, no matter how much time it takes.

Unfortunately we still have carriers that are not handling the mail correctly. Some carriers have been placed in EOD status for improper handling of mail. Under no circumstances should mail be discarded or handled incorrectly. This one is a no brainer!

Conduct is another easy one. Letter carriers are expected to act professionally when they are on duty, and even when not on duty, in some instances. Social media is being monitored by the OIG. Several carriers are EOD for arguing with customers. Please refer any complaints to Postal Officials. Under no circumstances should we argue with customers.

These are a few simple things we can do to protect ourselves. I am sure there is nothing worse than sitting home without a paycheck, finally wondering if and when you may retain your job. Finally never go into an interview that could result in discipline **without a shop steward.**

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, a happy holiday season and a safe, healthy, and Happy New Year!



KEVIN FLAHERTY
Executive Vice President

**STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
APPLICATIONS FOR THE
2017-2018 JOSEPH P. CONSIDINE BRANCH 34
SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE PRINTED IN THE
NEXT ISSUE OF BRANCH 34'S CLAN.**

President's Report...

(continued from page 1)

that many of you are working until five or 6:00 or later and the last thing you want to do is head to a Union meeting but it is only once a month and issues discussed should be of concern to all Members. That said, the Branch is also committed to doing whatever we can do to draw more active participation to our meetings including the possibility of altering the venue location and/or day of week, and providing refreshments after a long work day.

We also need good Union Members to become more involved at the station level, to either support and assist your current Steward(s), or step up into the Steward's role when a vacancy or complacency exists. Currently, our local has several offices in desperate need of someone in those stations to step up and assume a leadership role.

Our Stewards do an extraordinary job in most instances, but they are not miracle workers nor should they be expected to be. A Stewards primary role is to enforce our National Agreement. The 'contract' is management's agreement of how they will operate this

business and without our Stewards and other involved Members, many of these supervisors and manager feel that they can do whatever they want; like ignoring hold-downs or the OTDL to issuing unwarranted discipline and intimidating those who allow it.

Finally, I note that approximately 25% of our current total membership has less than ten-years of service and assumedly, a vested interest in ensuring that this career is not only long-term, but also a job that you do not dread going to on a daily basis. These Members more

than any other need to get invested.

Whether you are a recently hired CCA or newly converted career FTR, whether you have been trudging through the streets for years and retirement is right around the corner, or whether you are caught somewhere in the middle; you cannot afford to waste your opportunity to be involved.

As we all know, New Year's resolutions are a tradition in which a person makes a promise to do an act of self-improvement. This year, make a resolution to get more involved with Your Union!



**A moment of silence
was held prior to the
beginning of the
Branch 34
Retirement Seminar
at Florian Hall.**

Fighting to Keep What We Have

On Sunday, November 13, 2016, the Branch held a retirement seminar at the Florian Hall in Dorchester. It was well attended by many carriers looking to see what they've earned over their long careers and to see if retirement is something they could now start to plan. Unfortunately, a lot of younger carriers didn't take advantage of this opportunity. It's never too early to start planning for the future but more importantly it's never too early to start fighting for your future.

The seminar included a section concerning the legislative attacks on our retirement. This won't come as any surprise to most of you, but there are those in the Halls of Congress who want to take away your retirement. Back in 2012 Representative **Dennis Ross** (R-Florida) introduced HR 3813 – Securing Annuities for Federal Employees act of 2012. That's a nice name, isn't it? By "securing" your annuity he meant taking away your FERS supplemental annuity and increasing the percentage you pay into your retirement. The supplemental annuity is a temporary annuity for retirees until they turn 62 and can collect their Social Security.

So let's say you retire at 57 with 35 years of credible service you would be eligible to receive this supplemental

annuity until you reached 62 and could collect your Social Security. I don't have to tell you Brothers and Sisters delivering mail isn't getting any easier and delivering into your 60's is becoming less and less likely as our job becomes more difficult. Fortunately HR 3813 was never passed and died in Congress.

The next year Senator **Richard Burr** (R-NC) introduced S. 644 – Public-Private Employee Retirement Parity Act. Not to be outdone by the House of Representatives this bill aimed to eliminate the FERS annuity altogether. Which meant instead of there being three components to your retirement:

- FERS Annuity
- Social Security
- TSP

There would be two:

- Social Security
- TSP

Fortunately, this bill also died in Congress. These are just two examples of the type of bills that have been introduced in Congress. The fact that they haven't been passed into law isn't by accident. It's because the NALC lobbies members of Congress to vote our way. Get involved brothers and sisters because the Halls of Congress are full of Dennis Ross' and Richard Burr's and their ideology isn't going away and their attacks

on us aren't going to stop. Donate to the Letter Carrier Political Fund and become an E-Activist.



MICHAEL MURRAY
Secretary-Treasurer

It took us 150 years to get the Civil Service Retirement Act (CSRS) signed into law in 1920. No one gave us any benefit or pay raise, we had to fight for them and we have to fight to keep them.

The Federal Government should be a model employee and not engage the private sector in a race to the bottom. The fact that private companies have turned their backs on the American worker does not mean our Government should turn their back on us. Rep. Dennis Ross and Senator Richard Burr should be working on legislation to improve the lives and retirement of private sector workers, not trying to ruin ours.

Dorchester Center's Fall MDA Satchel Drive

On Sunday October 16, 2016 the carriers of Dorchester Center had another successful MDA satchel drive. We were able to raise \$996.33 in about three hours and had a lot of fun doing it. I'd like to publicly thank **Michael Pierce, Paul Jordan, Alina Grochowski, John Corrigan and Alex Pinto** for donating their time to this worthy cause. A special thank you is owed to **Alex Pinto** who's constantly trying to recruit more people to come out and raise money for the MDA. The success of this satchel drive is a direct result of Alex's efforts to mobilize his co-workers to donate their time for this worthy cause. As I've written many times in this *CLAN* a satchel drive is an easy way for us to raise money for the MDA. It's also great publicity for the Postal Service and the NALC. Remember brothers and sisters we'll need the public on our side when our enemies in Congress come after us.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my brothers and sisters in Branch 34!



Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Mike Murray and his Dorchester Center co-workers Michael Pierce, Paul Jordan, Alina Grochowski, John Corrigan and Alex Pinto raised \$996.33 in about three hours in Adams Village for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Great job guys!



There were a large number of participants at the Branch 34 Retirement Seminar at Florian Hall. Look for another seminar coming up in the near future.



BOSTON, MA
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS
BRANCH 34's CLAN
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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, 2016

First Place, 2014

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 EDITORIAL OR COLUMN

Honorable Mention, 2016

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 Damatin, Editor
Michael Yerkes, Associate Editor
Kevin Flaherty, Associate Editor

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It's a Matter of Safety

No matter whom you are, no matter what office you work in, and no matter how long you have performed the duties of a letter carrier, we all want to avoid accidents, and injury. For those that have had the misfortune of being involved in a motor vehicle accident, or have sustained an injury while in the performance of their duties, all can attest to the life altering position they find themselves in when these instances occur. And while all the issues that I speak to in this article are quite obvious, it becomes an entirely different circumstance when you have to live through these events. A shift in the Postal Service's culture of making safety as important as the mail we deliver, and the paychecks we earn must take place in order for safety to truly take root.

The demands on the letter carriers these days, for all intents and purposes, are of a time sensitive nature. You are required to perform countless duties efficiently, and effectively, and to the best of your ability. But as we know, the demands of this job can put some in situations where they are faced with making up time. Haphazardly rushing the work while scanning, and delivering packages, climbing stairs, driving a vehicle, walking, and for some running routes, and skipping your lunch and breaks, create a heightened environment for accidents and injury to happen.

When management messages safety, they use many different platforms to promote safety. They include office safety meetings, service talks, office and street observations, utilizing peer observations, videos, posters, and data. Their daily telecom's lead off talking about safety issues from around the district. Vehicle accidents are met with root cause meetings to analyze, and learn from them. And if you've had

Congratulations Retirees

On behalf of President Yerkes, the Board of Officers and 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:

Thomas J. Allwood Jr. Quincy
 Paul E. Bagnera Kenmore
 George M. Brickley Melrose
 Robert Cardello Malden
 Donald R. Chambers Braintree
 Li Hsia Chin Wellesley
 Michael E. Dwyer Braintree
 Anna M. Hustus Waltham
 John J. Keohane Weymouth
 Lawrence N. Last Stoneham
 Jie H. Lin Newtonville
 John F. Pavidis Watertown
 Douglas J. Robart Belmont
 Barry Simon Revere
 Ellen T. Wolpe Newtonville
 Robert A. Zawaski IMC-Chelsea

the opportunity to attend a quarterly Executive Health and Safety Meeting for your area, there is the opportunity to share ideas, voice concerns, and address issues that may have stalled at your local level. Relatively new to 12 offices are the CAP, (Collaborative Accident Prevention), Teams, which utilize different processes, and procedures to further diminish accidents, and the OSHA II rate in those offices. Another new addition to the safety program family is the CARE, (Counseling At Risk Employees), a management program which focuses on accident repeaters, and guiding newer employees to work safely.

It is my belief that management wants a safe work environment, but somewhere along the way they shot that message in the foot. For a multitude of reasons we have problems retaining new hires, but clearly one of them is the pressures of getting mail delivered in a stressful, time sensitive environment. And for the rest of the letter carriers, in the offices, or in the streets, the opera-

tion takes precedence over safety more times than not. As our union has tried to relate this concept for years, at all levels, it seems mostly to fall on deaf ears. But at some point you have to practice what you preach if you are truly committed to safe working conditions.

We are all aware that accidents and injuries come at a great cost to the employer, but from our perspective the losses are even greater: injury, pain, suffering, loss of wages, and the uncertainty that comes with all of it. A hard look has to take place, and a balance struck between paying wages, and paying workmen's comp. between setting new employees up for success, or failure. Preaching safety, or practicing it. Management cannot have it both ways.

But with all that said, we as letter carriers cannot accept, or expect for safety to just happen. We are afforded the opportunity to join safety teams, and become active participants in the process. We can lead by example in what we do in our own offices, and in the way we

safely perform our duties. By guiding our CCA's to work responsibly and stressing the importance of safety on the job, and even at home, should be a priority. It is our responsibility to question management's policies when they talk out of both sides of their collective mouth.

The more we do as letter carriers to promote safety with our peers, the more important it will become. Talk is cheap, but it can be quite costly for all employees when we have an accident, or injury. Let's make every effort to show management that a real commitment to safety matters to all of us.

If you need any assistance joining, establishing, or maintaining your Safety Team, please let me know.

Bobby Damatin is also Branch 34's Safety Representative for the Boston District.



BOBBY DAMATIN
 "Branch 34's CLAN" Editor

Christmas Eve Conversions

By Michael Yerkes,
 Branch 34 President

Thirty-six (36) strong-willed and determined CCA Members will be rewarded for their perseverance with a special holiday gift this year, conversion to career Full-Time Regular (FTR) status on Saturday, December 24th, Christmas Eve. These Brothers and Sisters will join seventeen (17) other Branch Members who were recently converted to FTR since our last issue.

Among the status changes that these Christmas Eve converts will benefit from are a couple of immediate paid holidays (make sure you check you pay stub), the ability to sign yes or no to the Overtime Desired Lists (OTDL), and the newfound ability to sleep in on Sundays, if they so chose. As Full-time Regulars, these Members will also now have the opportunity to obtain health insurance at much more favorable rates, earn paid Sick Leave and have their yearly Annual Leave balance credited to them at the start of the leave year.

For those CCA's left behind, all is not lost. A review of Branch membership records for our CCA's continues to reveal an 18-month average time-frame for conversions to career status within the Boston Installation. The lengths of CCA terms in our smaller associate offices is somewhat longer with the senior CCA's current relative standing dates between 2 to 2 1/2 years in Cambridge, Hingham, Medfield and Scituate.

Although the NALC continues with its efforts to eliminate transitional workforce and achieve an all career City Letter Carrier staff, I wouldn't hold our collective breaths at this time. In the meantime, current CCA's need to carry on, be regular in attendance and continue

to work in a safe manner. Your time will come.

CCA conversions to Full-time Regulars are based upon any resulting residual vacancies following retirements or transfers and installation wide bidding processes. Historically, many of our retirement eligible Members chose to hang up the satchel around the first of the year so keep plugging.

Finally, if I may continue the theme of my President's Report found elsewhere in this issue, I would ask each of you to do yourselves and this Union a huge favor. Get involved! Come to a monthly meeting, sign up to be an eActivist and contribute a dollar or two to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF). You are the future of the NALC as well as the Postal Service.

That said, Congratulations to you all, you deserve it.

September 17, 2016

Brian Adler
 Andrew T. Day
 Justin Dykes
 Jennifer Gilmete
 Henry Vu
 Nasreddine Yeznasni

October 1, 2016

Stephen M. Hall

October 29, 2016

Jennifer Acker
 Ana Batista
 Lovell O. Blackette
 Kevin Coleman
 Louis L. Guerrier
 David J. Hernandez
 Elieser Herrera

Michael W. McLaughlin
 Stephen Passley
 Dameyon S. Walker I

December 24, 2016

Memet Aktas
 Timur Amirkhanov
 Jenee M. Chambers
 Adrian Cordova
 Brendan Coughlin
 Rakim Craig
 Nanah K. Crosby
 Kenneth V. Davis Sr.
 Christopher G. Fisher
 Joseph Francis
 Dean Gayle
 Laura C. Goncalves
 Carlos A. Grafals Jr.
 Elizabeth A. Gwynn
 Victoria M Hodge
 Ismail A. Jackson Sr.
 Fred A. Lever
 Marcus F. Lozanne
 Gelet Luc
 Jeffrey S. Mate
 Eric Mejia
 Albert Miskinis
 Jennifer Mitchell
 Rickey A. Mitchell
 Patricia E. Navarro
 Cynthia Nunez
 Courtney Perry
 Chanea Powell
 Kimberly M. Reid
 Ashton Rue
 Lertreice M. Slade
 Latoya R. Stovell
 Joseph W. Thebearge
 Martin Waithe
 Rodsha Washington

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.

In Memoriam

Karen M. Dugan
 Retired Member - Fort Point

Francis J. McInerney
 Retired Member - Cambridge

Ronald St. Bernard
 Retired Member - Newton Centre

Paul G. Hurley
 Retired Member - J.W. McCormack

Paul G. Markle
 Retired Member - West Roxbury

Rest in Peace

Wanted: Branch 34 "Carriers of Distinction"

The job of letter carrier can seem all consuming in our day to day lives. And we all know we are in the business of serving our customers. But there are those amongst us that go the extra mile by dedicating themselves to improving the world of the people around them.

They selflessly donate their time and efforts to make a difference in their own special way. Whether it's volunteering for an organization in their community, or making a positive influence in the lives of others, we would like

to share these stories of inspiration with the membership.

If you know of a Brother or Sister in Branch 34 that fits this description, please let us know. And this being the Season of Good Will, I can think of no better way to recognize those who inspire us all!

And I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Very, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year!

— Bobby Damatin

MBA/Retirement Corner

In this article I would like to begin by reflecting just a bit, if I may, on my 40 years of service to the United States Postal Service as a proud member of NALC Branch 34. After wrestling with a decision I have pondered for more than a few years, I finally did it!

Last month I entered into the role of "retiree!" Although, I have bid a fond farewell to the Postal Service, I will graciously continue dedicating more of my time to Branch 34 and its many Letter Carriers.

In my retirement I will continue assisting Carriers and their families in my role as MBA clerk with many of the difficult financial decisions they share. Including my personal retirement consults.

And now to that reflection I mentioned after 40 years of service. I know that everyone won't share my thoughts, but I will truly miss coming to work each day. Of course, I was extremely fortunate. I lived only three blocks from my office, and worked with such a great group of Carriers, Clerks and Management that coming to work each day was a pleasure. I can't say that was always the case, but I think most Stewards would share my thoughts on that subject.

What I realized over the course of my career is that the people you work with make the atmosphere in an office/work space either painful, or rewarding. It's true that some routes are difficult, New England weather can wreak havoc, and Parcel Post is through the roof. But if you have a good group of fellow em-

ployees, and a management team that respect one another, I think you're very lucky, and can overcome the expectations of the difficult job you have.

And with that, I also want to share some passionate information and insight about retirement. Postal employees, who are arguably the nation's largest full time employee base in America, are the target of many whom offer various forms of retirement discussion. You may have attended one of the many sessions provided by various independent agents offering some form of retirement information. The emphasis is on "independent." Understand, no one, except for the NALC, offers free Civil Service (CSRS) and Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) information as a gesture of good will without a possible ulterior motive. The motive is usually in the form of encouraging a Letter Carrier to invest some of his/her Thrift Savings Plan, (TSP), money into some of the various forms of Annuities or Insurance policies that exist in today's market. This is not necessarily a bad thing, and by all means I don't discourage those considerations. As a matter of fact, I recently made a decision to consider an Annuity with a respected consultant. But, what I would like to bring to light is that most, if not all of these independent retirement seminars have targeted the enormous USPS employee workforce who will all be approaching retirement in the near future. And understand that CSRS, and FERS information is readily available to anyone inside, or outside of the

Postal Service. Therefore, anyone can make a Postal retirement presentation. I want you to be sensitive, and aware of the many retirement segments that are available, and that will be coming your way. In future articles I will review some of the agents providing some of these independent seminars and share my review. Most recently the NALC sponsored a retirement session that was very well attended. It was specifically geared to basic retirement preparation for Letter Carriers in the CSRS and FERS retirement systems. There was nothing being sold, just informative facts that all Letter Carriers will need as they move toward retirement. I am extremely encouraged by the NALC's efforts to get more involved by providing informative, fact based seminars with regards to Civil Service, (CSRS), and Federal Employee Retirement System, (FERS), guidelines. As we move forward, I believe Carriers will be in need of some much needed discussions that takes us beyond the retirement paperwork. I am presently in the process of researching some in depth financial options for Carriers, so stay tuned.

I want to wish each and every Letter Carrier and their families a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Semper Fi!



LAWRENCE LAST
Clerk, NBA/NSBA

Christmas Comes But Once a Year

"Christmas Comes But Once a Year" is a song that we all know, and inevitably we've heard because of that one carrier who starts playing Christmas music the day after Thanksgiving. Even with the daily musical reminders, and the off key singing around the office, Christmas still somehow always sneaks up on Management, like someone changed the date, and forgot to tell them. And while Christmas comes every year, on the same day, we all know that someone won't be prepared again!!!

Every year management is shocked when imagine this, there are packages!!!! I mean, imagine packages everywhere!!!! They are on trucks, in

post cons, in the middle of the floor, on pallets, on the loading dock, and in some cases in the middle of the parking lot!!!! Then Globe Santa's arrive, and again it is somehow shocking. They're so big, where will we store them, how come no one will pick them up? I mean the stress must be overwhelming since Management works eight and skates. As Letter Carriers, we deliver all of OUR customers packages, and take care of OUR families, and plan OUR Christmas dinners, and do OUR Christmas shopping (strolling the aisles like a Zombie, usually after work), all the while working insane hours, and then getting up and doing it all over again!!!! Until every last package is delivered!!!! And just

remember, as always, we will get through the holidays, and it will be worth it. Whether you delivered a package from Grandma to a loved one, or gave your time and money to a worthy charity, like The Home for Little Wanderers, or Toys for Tots, or maybe you were able to buy your family a little something extra. So THANK YOU for all your hard work, professionalism, and kindness this time of year. MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!



LAURA WOOD-FAHEY
Area Steward

It's That Time of Season

We recently celebrated Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, and now the Christmas Season. This is a great time to reflect and be thankful for what we have: Health, Family and Employment. A great time to remind ourselves to enjoy special moments together and open our hearts to those less fortunate.

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy

Kwanzaa or whatever special day you observe.

Wishing a very Happy Holiday and a Healthy New Year to you and your family. May you and your family experience peace and joy during this special time of the year.

May the New Year bring good health and prosperity throughout 2017.



BERNADETTE ROMANS
Area Steward

Don't Be A SCAB!

Urge them to pay their fair share and join Branch 34!

Auburndale
ROBIN I. DEVITTO

Back Bay
RALPH E. DONOVAN
CHRISTOPHER A. DOUGLAS
ROBERT A. ROMIKITIS
DAVID P. WIDROW

Braintree
MARIE BOIS HIGGINS..... CCA

Brookline
CHRISTINE M. BAILEY
SAMUEL E. BEEKER CCA
SHOOPY DUTERVILLE CCA

Cambridge - Porter Square
BLANCA I. TEEBAGY

Chelsea Carrier Annex (IMC)
SANDRA GIORDANO

Dorchester Center
JAMES B. KERR

Fenway
BEVERLY A. SCANLON

Fields Corner
MOLLY LONG..... CCA

Fort Point
WAYNE J. CHIN

Hingham-Hull
MARK J. DION

Kenmore
KHEIM DIEUJUSTE

Malden
EILEEN M. FINN
MATTHEW TRAN..... CCA

Medfield
ELIZABETH I. RAY

Medford
MARY K. JACOBS..... CCA
GERALD M. LYTES

Milton
CHARLES S. ROSEN

Needham
TAMI L. JOHNSON

Roxbury
DANIEL NAW..... CCA
KEVIN TANG CCA

Scituate
KAREN M. LYNCH

South Boston
JUAN P. DE JESUS..... CCA

Stoneham
TINA M. DOHERTY

Waltham
DAVID BAHM
KELLY M. GREEN-GALLO
JOSEPH REGNA..... CCA

West Roxbury
MATTHEW J. DONOVAN

Weymouth Landing
SAMUEL J. MEJIA CCA

Woburn
CRAIG T. REXFORD

We apologize in advance if your name appears on this scab list in error. This information is forwarded to us from our National Headquarters and we do our best to ensure its accuracy. If you are still not in the Union, it's time to step up and pay your fair share. No excuses. Contact your Station Steward to join NOW!



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Serving Letter Carriers for Over 30 Years!

Branch 34 Salutes Its Recent Retirees

Stoneham's Lawrence Last



Stoneham's Larry Last receives his retirement gifts from Branch 34 President Mike Yerkes.



Stoneham's Larry Last enjoys his retirement party with his co-workers.



Stoneham's Larry Last and his last punch!



Wellesley's Li Hsia Chin



Wellesley Shop Steward Tom Ryan and Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Michael Murray congratulate Li Hsia Chin on her well-deserved retirement.



Branch 34 Executive Vice President Kevin Flaherty congratulates Melrose's George Brickley on his recent and well-deserved retirement.



Branch 34 Executive Vice President Kevin Flaherty presents Melrose's George Brickley his retirement gifts from the Branch.



Melrose's George Brickley

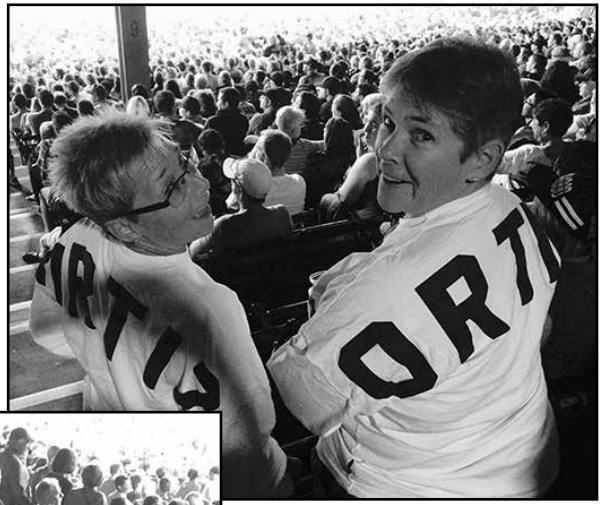


Braintree's Michael Dwyer



Branch 34 President Michael Yerkes presents Braintree's Michael Dwyer his retirement jacket courtesy of the Branch.

NALC BRANCH 34 BOSTON NITE AT FENWAY PARK!



FENWAY PARK										AMERICAN LEAGUE														
P	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	E	P	IN	R	P	IN	R	P	NATI				
41	BAL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	13	TEX	1	0	39	CLE	1	0	41	COL	N
42	BOSTON	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	10	0	0	38	HOU	0	0	38	CMS	1	0	36	ARI	N
														87	LAD	3	6	54	MIN	4	1	50	NYM	2
														35	NYJ	1	1	44	DET	1	1	38	WSH	1
														23	TB	0	0	36	OAK	1	1	38	MSH	1
														4	TOR	6	0	36	OAK	1	1	36	PIT	1



BOSTON RED SOX vs. BALTIMORE ORIOLES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016

Oh, What A Night!
Branch 34 Nite at Fenway Park
Fun for All!

Letter Carriers were treated to a great baseball game, as the Boston Red Sox defeated the Baltimore Orioles on September 12th. Clad in Red Sox garb, Branch 34 members from Woburn to Weymouth, family, and friends were on hand to cheer the home team on to victory. The Right Field Grandstand seats back from Pesky Pole made for great viewing, and presented a chance for people to hang with co-workers, and to meet brothers, and sisters from other stations around the district. Our retirees also came out in strong numbers to catch up with friends, and enjoy the game. It was nice to see people away from the confines of work, enjoying some laughs, a cold beverage, and a Fenway Frank! For all the hard work letter carriers put in everyday, I think all in attendance would agree it was a great night out!



MDA[®] Corner

For the new members who do not know much about the Muscular Dystrophy Association –I will try to inform you.

There are over 30 different types of Muscular Dystrophy. Pompe's Disease is one type. Fifteen years ago, our Branch was directly involved in finding a cure for this disease.

Mr. and Mrs. Crowley were told that their children Patrick and Megan would not be alive to see their sixth birthday. So, to find out the outcome of their plight, watch "Extraordinary Measures" with Harrison Ford.

Fifteen years later, there is a new drug to help children with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. We are waiting for

FDA approval.

Our job is far from done. We don't need benchwarmers – we need you to get involved!

Have your office do a raffle (we have the prizes), or a supermarket collection called a "Satchel Drive." Attend monthly meetings and help with the raffle. Sell Shamrocks in your office in March and try to enlist local schools to sell Shamrocks. Help with the Bowling Tournament in March and the Golf Tournament in September.

Working together, we can find a cure for these dreaded diseases!

– George Adams

Branch 34 MDA Coordinator

7th Annual Henry Shaughnessy Memorial Golf Tournament
Raises Over \$10,800 for MDA

On September 11, 2016, the Woburn Letter Carriers held the 7th annual Henry Shaughnessy Memorial Golf Tournament, to benefit Muscular Dystrophy. The tournament was held at the Woburn Country Club. Thanks to the hard work of the Branch 34 NALC Golf Committee and the generosity of the many that made donations we were able to donate over \$10,800.00 to the M.D.A. A huge thank you to the following supporters:

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Thank You to all,

Fred Casey

Branch 34 Golf Chairman

The Branch 34 2017 Calendar
is available for download online at
www.nalcbranch34.com



Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

U.S. SENATE

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
Hart Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 317
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4543 Fax: 202-224-2417
www.warren.senate.gov

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
Russell Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 218
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-2742 Fax: 202-224-8525
www.markey.senate.gov

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202-225-5601 Fax: 202-225-8112
neal.house.gov

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mcgovern.house.gov

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The Honorable Niki Tsongas
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tsongas.house.gov

Fourth Congressional District

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202-225-5931 Fax: 202-225-0182
kennedy.house.gov

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202-225-2836 Fax: 202-226-0092
katherineclark.house.gov

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Sixth Congressional District

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202-225-8020 Fax: 202-225-5915
moulton.house.gov

Seventh Congressional District

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202-225-5111 Fax: 202-225-9322
capuano.house.gov

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202-225-8273 Fax: 202-225-3984
lynch.house.gov

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Ninth Congressional District

The Honorable William Keating
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Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3111 Fax: 202-225-5658
keating.house.gov

Represented Communities: Norwell, Rockland, Hanover, Hanson, Pembroke, Duxbury, Halifax, Plympton, Kingston, Middleborough, Carver, Plymouth, Fall River, Westport, Dartmouth, New Bedford, Acushnet, Fairhaven, Rochester, Mattapoisett, Marion, Wareham, Bourne, Sandwich, Falmouth, Sandwich, Mashpee, Barnstable, Hyannis, Yarmouth, Dennis, Brewster, Harwich, Orleans, Chatham, Eastham, Wellfleet, Truro, Provincetown, Aquinnah, Goswold, Chilmark, West Tisbury, Tisbury, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, Nantucket

Flavors of the Month: Postal Service Goes It Alone on Safety & Performance



JOHN J. CASCIANO
National Business Agent

Coming soon to a workroom floor near you. If they haven't arrived already just in time for the holidays. The High Swamis of Safety and Princes of Performance have unleashed the latest and greatest programs to help save letter carriers from... well from the High Swamis actually.

As always, the Vice President of Acronyms at Postal Headquarters has been burning the midnight oil on these gems.

The "PET" Program

Performance Engagement Tool. Of course it's your performance they're looking to engage. Not theirs. This program is another postal stepchild in a long and dismal attempt by pant suited & pin striped supervisor's too, quite frankly, get you to go quicker while carrying more mail with electronic gadgets strapped to your person.

Many years ago in a post office far away, letter carriers would measure their mail in inches and footage and if needed, submit a PS Form 3996 for assistance. At some point, after informing management that they had 12 feet of mail and needed assistance, a 300 lb. supervisor would put down the donut, come over and stand on your flats, and tell you you only had six feet of mail and you were all set.

My how times have changed. But have they? Not really. Sure, the methods used to project daily office and street times have changed. But the manuals, memorandums and regulations protecting letter carriers from undue scrutiny have not.

For a more detailed summary of protecting yourself from unwarranted attention and needless observation, please see Contract Talk, page 37, in the November 2016 *Postal Record*.

Lean Six Sigma Society

No, that's not a new blend from Starbucks. It's another in a long line of "proactive," "best practices" safety initiatives developed by Postal Headquarters. No doubt by a few of the dozens of Vice Presidents roaming the hallways of L'Enfant Plaza.

In fact, this program is so 'lean the NALC was left at the altar in its development and implementation. Part of the program allows for a selection of a Safety Captain. I am receiving a feedback from the field that in some instances the Safety Captain is a unilateral selection, others that the union is involved in the selection and in some locations there is no Safety Captain. Unilaterally Safety Captain selections should be challenged in the grievance procedure.

CARE Program

Finally, the USPS Department of Acronyms brings us Counseling At Risk Employees. One could reasonably argue that whoever came up with this idea may be in need of Care and counseling themselves.

USPS says that any information collected from letter carriers picked for the CARE process, will not be used for discipline. I would advise any letter carriers selected who feels uncomfortable answering any CARE questions, in particular if they feel their answers would lead to discipline, to request the assistance of a shop steward.

So before your local supervisor gets their tinsel in a tangle, remember the goal of every letter carrier is to get safely to the end of their appointed rounds, and go home with the same number of hands and toes you punched in with.

Season's Greetings!

"I left Santa gluten-free cookies and organic soy milk. He put a solar panel in my stocking."

- Earthman Adam

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 Michael Murray. (*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.

December 26, 2016 – January 8, 2017

January 9 – January 22, 2017

January 23 – February 5, 2017

February 6 – February 19, 2017

February 20 – March 5, 2017

March 6 – March 19, 2017

March 20 – April 2, 2017

April 3 – April 16, 2017

April 17 – April 30, 2017

May 1 – May 14, 2017

May 15 – May 28, 2017

May 29 – June 11, 2017

June 12 – June 25, 2017

June 26 – July 9, 2017

July 10 – July 23, 2017

July 24 – August 6, 2017

August 7 – August 20, 2017

August 21 – September 3, 2017

September 4 – September 17, 2017

September 18 – September 24, 2017

September 25 – October 8, 2017

October 9, 2017 – October 22, 2017

October 23 – November 5, 2017

November 6 – November 19, 2017

November 20 – December 3, 2017

December 4 – December 17, 2017

December 18 – December 31, 2017

- Michael Murray,

Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer



Letter Carriers from Malden we're excited to take part in the Malden Annual Christmas Parade, and Tree Lighting. Carrier Shawn Brickman drove the festively decorated USPS van, while carriers Laura Chopelas, and Pam Hirtle were dressed as elves, and gave out candy, waves, and smiles. Carrier Ralph Fiore dressed as the Eagle, and drew cheers from the crowd all along the parade route on their way to help Santa light the Christmas Tree in Malden Square on Saturday, November 26, 2017.

- Laura Wood Fahey



SIGN ME UP!

How to Contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC)

Using Postal EASE – ONLINE Enrollment

Through PostalEASE, active letter carriers can contribute directly from their USPS paychecks to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) by designating the Political Fund as one of the three payroll "allotments."

Online Enrollment

1. Login to USPS's Postal Ease website at <https://ewss.usps.gov>. You may also get to the Postal Ease website through the USPS LiteBlue website. See the instructions below.
2. Click "I agree"
3. Enter your Employee ID number and Password and click "Submit". If you have not yet set up a password click the link provided on the page or go to: <https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/welcome.xhtml>. If you forgot your password click the link provided on the page or go to: <https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/einVerification.xhtml>
4. Under Payroll click "Allotments / Payroll Net To Bank"
5. Click "Continue"
6. Click "Allotments"
7. Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: 06400017
8. Enter your 17-digit Account Number: 0034952535
See instructions in step D at right
9. Enter Account type as "checking"
10. Enter amount of your Allotment: \$ _____
The maximum yearly amount is \$5,000
11. Click VALIDATE
12. Click SUBMIT
13. Print or write down your confirmation number for your records

BEFORE YOU START, YOU'LL NEED:

- A. Your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub)
- B. Your USPS password
- C. Your Postal Record Number (Located on the back cover of your Postal Record magazine, above your name. Or call 202.393.4695 to get your Postal Record Number). See the example below.



- D. To create your personal account number, insert the seven digits of your Postal Record Number to the spaces below: _____ 0034952535

To get to Postal Ease through Lite Blue:

- Got to www.liteblue.usps.gov
- Enter you employee ID and Password and click "Log On"
- Click "My HR"
- Click "Employee Apps"
- Click "PostalEASE"
- Begin at step 1 above

Using Postal EASE – Enroll by PHONE

Through PostalEASE, active letter carriers can contribute directly from their USPS paychecks to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) by designating the Political Fund as one of the three payroll "allotments."

ENROLLMENT BY PHONE

Call PostalEASE toll-free at 1.877.4PS.EASE (1.877.477.3273)

1. When prompted, select "1" for PostalEASE
2. Enter your 8-digit Employee ID Number and your USPS 4-digit PIN
3. Select "2" for payroll options
4. Select "1" for allotments
Disregard instruction to complete Allotment Worksheet and select "2" to continue.
5. Select "3" to ADD a new allotment
6. Enter the following Financial Institution Routing Number: 06400017
7. Select "1" to continue processing allotment
8. Select "1" to "enter the allotment now"
9. Enter your 17-digit Account Number (See step D at left)
10. Enter "1" for Checking
11. Enter amount of allotment: \$ _____ / pay period
Maximum yearly amount is \$5,000
12. If amount is correct, select "1"

NOTE: If you already have three allotments, you must cancel one to contribute to the Political Fund through PostalEASE. To do so, follow the instructions above but instead of selecting "3" to add a new allotment, select "2" to cancel an allotment.

After completing your entry, stay on the phone for the following information:

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.

BEFORE YOU START, YOU'LL NEED:

- A. Your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub)
- B. Your USPS PIN
- C. Your Postal Record Number (Located on the back cover of your Postal Record magazine, above your name. Or call 202.393.4695 to get your Postal Record Number).

Your Postal Record Number is on the cover of NALC's monthly magazine:



- D. To create your personal account number, insert the seven digits of your Postal Record Number to the spaces below: _____ 0034952535

Using ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

Through a monthly **Electronic Fund Transfer**, NALC members can contribute directly from their bank account to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC). On the 1st of every month, the Political Fund will automatically (and without a fee) deduct from your bank account the amount you choose to contribute.

Electronic Fund Transfer Authorization

Fill out and return this form with a voided check to the address below

I, _____ (your name) hereby authorize my bank to deduct from my checking account the monthly the sum of:

\$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Other: \$ _____ (Maximum amount per year is \$5,000) and forward that amount to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC). I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the Letter Carrier Political Fund in writing.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Full Name (please print): _____

Social Security Number: _____ OR Postal Record number: _____

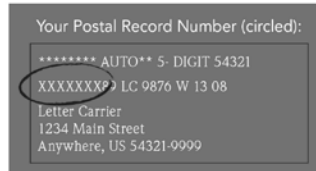
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK HERE.

Please send this completed form and your voided check to:

The Letter Carrier Political Fund
100 Indiana Ave NW,
Washington, DC 20001-2144



Using Your Retirement ANNUITY

Using your **Annuity**, retired NALC members can contribute directly from their CSRS or FERS annuities to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) on a monthly basis. This is a convenient way to make regular donations to the political action fund similar to the payroll system available to active carriers.

Enroll by Phone

Call the NALC Retirement Office at 202.662.2877 anytime or toll-free at 1.800.424.5186 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon or 2 to 4 p.m. (ET). (Note: you will need your CSA retirement Claim number.)

Enroll Online

1. Go to www.servicesonline.opm.gov
2. Enter your CSA number, beginning with the letter A and ending with a zero. SAMPLE: A22222220
3. Enter your PIN (Personal Identification Number). If you don't know it, click Using Services Online for help with one.
4. Once you've entered your CSA number and PIN, click Log In.
5. On the next page, click ALLOTMENTS TO ORGANIZATIONS.
6. Click START
7. Select the Letter Carrier Political Fund (Formerly COLCPE)
8. Enter the amount of your monthly contribution. (Maximum yearly amount is \$5,000)
9. Click SAVE
10. On the next page click YES (if correct), then print the next page for your records.

Enroll by Mail

Complete this form and send to:
NALC Retirement Department, Attention: Letter Carrier Political Fund, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144

I, _____ (your name) wish to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund. I authorize the Office of Personnel Management to withhold the amount below from my monthly annuity payments:
 \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Other: \$ _____ (Maximum amount per year is \$5,000) and forward that amount to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC). I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the Letter Carrier Political Fund in writing.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Full Name (please print): _____ Branch: _____

CSA or Social Security Number: _____ Phone: _____

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. The Letter Carrier Political Fund 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. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor.

Save Your Job! Use Your Voice!

Contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund!



CALENDAR YEAR 2017

ROTATING NON-SCHEDULED DAYS

Michael Yerkes, *President*
 Kevin Flaherty, *Executive Vice President*
 Bob Simpson, *Vice President*
 Michael Murray, *Secretary-Treasurer*
 Michael Gorham, *Financial Secretary*
 Robert Damatin, *Editor, Branch 34's CLAN*
 Joseph DeMambro, *Health Benefit Officer*
 Benny Faletra, *Sergeant-at-Arms*

Lawrence Last, *Clerk, NSBA-MBA*
 Bernadette Romans, *Area Steward*
 Tom Rooney, *Area Steward*
 Tony Scrivano, *Area Steward*
 Laura Wood-Fahey, *Area Steward*
 Paul Roche, *Trustee*
 Wanda Hamm, *Trustee*
 Vigo Conte, *Trustee*

400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950 | Woburn, MA 01801 | T/781-281-1133 | F/781-281-1127 | www.nalcbranch34.com

1 Legal National Holidays | Branch Meetings at 7 PM/Location TBA | Paydays | 10% Boston/Cambridge Leave Information

JANUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10%	C	D	E	F	A	A
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10%	B	C	D	E	F	F
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10%	A	B				
29	30	31				

1: NEW YEAR'S DAY
 16: M.L. KING JR. DAY

FEBRUARY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			10% C	D	E	E
			1	2	3	4
10%	F	A	B	C	D	D
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12%	D	E	F	A	B	B
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10%	C	D				
26	27	28				

14: VALENTINE'S DAY
 20: PRESIDENT'S DAY

MARCH 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			10% E	F	A	A
			1	2	3	4
10%	B	C	D	E	F	F
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10%	A	B	C	D	E	E
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10%	F	A	B	C	D	D
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10%	E	F	A	B	C	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1: ASH WEDNESDAY
 17: ST. PATRICK'S DAY/EVACUATION DAY

CANVAS CARRIERS FOR PRIME TIME VACATIONS

APRIL 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						10% C
						1
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10%	C	D	E	F	A	A
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12%	B	C	D	E	F	F
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10%	A	B	C	D	E	E
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10%						
30						

10: PASSOVER BEGINS
 14: GOOD FRIDAY
 16: EASTER SUNDAY
 17: PATRIOT'S DAY

MAY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	10% F	A	B	C	D	D
	1	2	3	4	5	6
10%	E	F	A	B	C	14% C
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14%	D	E	F	A	B	B
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
14%	C	D	E	F	A	A
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
16%	B	C	D			
28	29	30	31			

14: MOTHER'S DAY
 29: MEMORIAL DAY
 13: NALC FOOD DRIVE
 19-21: MSLCA CONVENTION

JUNE 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				16% E	F	F
				1	2	3
16%	A	B	C	D	E	E
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
16%	F	A	B	C	D	D
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16%	E	F	A	B	C	C
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
16%	D	E	F	A	B	
25	26	27	28	29	30	

14: FLAG DAY
 18: FATHER'S DAY

JULY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						10% B
						1
16%	C	D	E	F	A	A
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
16%	B	C	D	E	F	F
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16%	A	B	C	D	E	E
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
16%	F	A	B	C	D	D
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
16%	E					
30	31					

4: INDEPENDENCE DAY

AUGUST 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		16% F	A	B	C	C
		1	2	3	4	5
16%	D	E	F	A	B	B
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16%	C	D	E	F	A	A
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16%	B	C	D	E	F	F
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
16%	A	B	C	D		
27	28	29	30	31		

NO BRANCH MEETINGS IN JULY & AUGUST

SEPTEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					16% E	E
					1	2
16%	F	A	B	C	D	D
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
16%	E	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

4: LABOR DAY
 20: ROSH HASHANAH BEGINS
 29: YOM KIPPUR BEGINS

9: LAST DAY FOR FALL 2017 NON-CHOICE VACATION

OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
14%	B	C	D	E	F	F
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
14%	A	B	C	D	E	E
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10%	F	A	B	C	D	D
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
10%	D	E				
29	30	31				

9: COLUMBUS DAY
 31: HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			10% F	A	B	B
			1	2	3	4
10%	C	D	E	F	A	A
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10%	B	C	D	E	F	F
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
10%+1	A	B	C	D	E	E
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
10%	F	A	B	C		
26	27	28	29	30		

7: ELECTION DAY
 11: VETERANS' DAY
 23: THANKSGIVING DAY

DECEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					10% D	D
					1	2
10%	E	F	A	B	C	C
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10%	D	E	F	A	B	B
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
10%	C	D	E	F	A	A
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
0%	B	C	D	E	F	F
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
10%						
31						

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

4: LAST DAY FOR 2018 NON-CHOICE VACATION