Monthly Meeting Presidents Report: April 14th 2020

1. Coronavirus-

As of 8am on 4/14/2020 we have 77 confirmed cases in the Greater Boston District. When we have a confirmed case, this individual is interviewed by the Nurse and asked a series of questions of where they have been, with who and how long. This is the information that they are using to quarantine postal employees who have been in contact with a confirmed individual. The other 3 ways that an employee is quarantined are: Local Board of health, Dept of Public health or to test positive for covid19. If you are quarantined or sent home by management due to the coronavirus, this is Administrative leave. The CDC guidelines to be quarantined for non-medical personnel are to have been in close contact with an individual who has tested positive (less than 6 feet for longer than 10 minutes (this is without any PPE). If you self-quarantine this is on your leave Balance of either sick leave or annual. Please post all carrier flashes in your office and check the Branch Website for updates.

- 2. We have had to either cancel or postpone numerous branch activities due to the coronavirus: The Branch Bowlathon has been postponed, the April monthly meeting is cancelled, the Food Drive has been postponed with reschedule to be determined, Retiree Luncheon has been postponed till early fall (tbd) and the Branch 34 Golf Tournament has also been cancelled till 2021. The April COP was also cancelled. The National Convention has not been cancelled at this time, but with an extension of social distancing and self-quarantining I do not see Hawaii opening up the doors to let 8000+ Letter Carriers from all across the country march themselves in. The final date to submit deposit for convention hotel fees has been extended till May 1st 2020, if cancelled these Checks will be returned to all delegates. The May monthly meeting will also be cancelled unless social distancing and self-quarantine protocols are lifted and we will know this the first week of May. When social distancing is lifted it will be gradual, the day after this protocol is lifted you will not be free and clear to go to a baseball game with 35,000 people in the stands. The number of people allowed at gatherings will still be limited and allowed to rise gradually as time without new cases of covid19 occurring. All Branch#34 scholarship applications should be in at this time. The Branch is still coming out to the stations to do retirements, please let us know if you have someone retiring.
- 3. There is a moratorium on all minor discipline and attendance issues. Management has also relaxed the leave policy due to Covid19. The Branch will continue to do weekly carrier flashes to update all stations of any important issues concerning the pandemic.
- 4. Conversions, Bids and Postings should all continue without interruption at this time. There have been rumors of postponing these bids, these are only rumors.
- 5. Route inspections- only Brookline is still scheduled May 9th thru the 22nd 2020. I have sent e-mail to ops support to update or cancel this inspection.

In closing:

Please notify the branch of any Accidents, EOD's, Injuries, Retirements or (God Forbid) any Active or Retired letter Carrier's passing. You are our information pipeline in the stations. When a Carrier retires, even if they do not want any fanfare, we will make sure he is recognized in the Postal Record, the Clan and get his or her custom designer jacket!

Please stay safe!

Jerry McCarthy

President Br#34