



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

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**National Association of Letter Carriers**  
**Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 NALC, AFL-CIO**  
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BOSTON, MA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

# BRANCH 34's CLAN

CELEBRATING 131 YEARS OF UNION PARTICIPATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS ★ 1890-2021

## President's Report

### Are We There Yet?

COVID-19 numbers are way down but it has not gone away completely and you still must remain diligent. There have been 1369 positive cases since October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 and 256 cases prior for a total of 1625 positive cases since COVID-19 raised its ugly head. There are weeks without a positive case and there have been some weeks where there are small flare ups. Roxbury had three cases in about a week span a few weeks ago. Management has also cancelled the last three COVID monthly Zoom meetings with the Unions and today I have found out they have been discontinued completely, but yet they maintain a mask mandate. It is my opinion that management considers COVID is over and the recent Brookline route inspection was proof of this.

Congratulations to the Branch 34 Scholarship award winners:

1. **Mary T. Collins**  
Member: William G. Collins, Brookline
2. **Joseph Prior**  
Member: Daniel Prior, Brookline
3. **Adrianna Fusco**  
Member: Paul Fusco, Revere
4. **Stephanie Guglielmo**  
Member: Giovanni Guglielmo, IMC
5. **Charlotte Airosus**  
Member: Brandon Airosus, N. Quincy
6. **Shannon Joyce**  
Member: Thomas Joyce, Watertown.

Route Inspections are coming to Roxbury Post Office 02118 zone only September 11<sup>th</sup> thru the 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Grove Hall will be going through a minor adjustment process that will have no loss in total deliveries soon. During the Management rift that recently occurred route Inspections became the responsibility of the Mass/RI Area. I expect a full route inspection schedule in the fall as Management does not have the ability to hire and maintain CCAs in any fashion, so their plan is to just make all the routes longer. From what we just witnessed in Brookline they will have no problem violating the contract to conduct these inspections and they are not taking in to consideration the return and future growth that will happen as COVID dissipates. There will be over a dozen grievances filed on these issues with the first one scheduled for arbitration on July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The Fort Point Carrier Annex has agreed to a Co-op and will not be going through a route inspection. Management is now looking into both the JFK and Chestnut Hill Stations to offer Co-op's. The major problems with Co-op's are It doesn't cost the Post Office any money and we all know costing them money is the only way to slow them down from

violating the contract. Local Management will not give any guarantees that they will stay out of a Co-op office for any time over one year. So, you give them a couple routes and they can come back knocking on your door in a year looking for more. The routes that you gave up a year ago are yesterday's newspaper.

With the new technology the Postal Service is using you are under route inspection every day. Carriers out in our district think now that Management has dropped MSP's that now you have no data on where and when you reach a certain point are seriously mistaken and no one should be letting their guard down in reference to protecting their routes. If you read NALC Director of City Delivery **Chris Jackson's** article that was published in the June 2021 *Postal Record*, the future of route adjustments could be done electronically and the current route exam process changed or eliminated. They are and have been in discussions to change the way route inspections are currently done and if an agreement is made your route

could be adjusted without anyone even entering your station.

If there is a Co-op offer for your office you will decide what will happen. I, along with members of the route inspection team will go to your station, discuss the offers and what the results could be with each choice made. You will then vote on which road you will travel.



**GERALD (Jerry) McCarthy**  
President

## Upcoming Branch Events

- Monthly Meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the McKeon Post.
- Retiree Luncheon on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at Florian Hall.
- MSLCA Convention, November 5-7, 2021.
- There will be a Fall Steward Training, TBA.

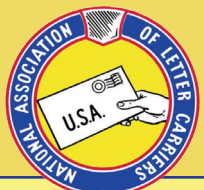
Enjoy the rest of your summer and please stay safe!



The Brothers and Sisters of Dorchester Center raised \$990.28 in their biannual MDA Satchel Drive in June. Standing from left to right is John Corrigan, Alex Pinto and retired member Ron Moscato. Knelling in front are Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Michael Murray and Alina Grochowski. Way to go guys!

Upcoming Meetings

Please check out the dates, times and locations for all upcoming Membership Meetings on the **BRANCH 34 WEBSITE** at [nalcbranch34.com](http://nalcbranch34.com)



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T/781-281-1133  
F/781-281-1127  
[nalcbranch34.com](http://nalcbranch34.com)

New 24/7 Branch 34  
Emergency Number  
**781-420-0950**

Link to Branch 34 Website







## BRANCH 34 STATION STEWARDS

Allston.....	<b>Autumn McCauley</b>
Arlington .....	<b>Sean Mullett</b> <b>Jonathan Colby</b>
Auburndale .....	<b>Thomas Keirstead</b>
Back Bay .....	<b>Lucy Warren</b> <b>John DiBlasi</b>
Belmont.....	<b>Salvatore Celeste</b> <b>David D'Agostino</b>
Braintree DMU.....	<b>Richard Fraser</b> <b>Robert O'Donnell</b>
Brighton.....	<b>Roshon Butts</b>
Brookline .....	<b>Joseph DeMambro</b> <b>Dean Gonatas</b>
Cambridge - Central Sq.....	<b>William Wilkins</b> <b>Robert Liberatore</b>
Cambridge - Porter Sq.....	<b>William Cresitelli</b> <b>John Dickenson</b>
Cohasset.....	<b>Judi Aronson</b>
Chestnut Hill .....	<b>Thomas Conville</b>
Dorchester Center ....	<b>John Costello</b>
East Weymouth.....	<b>Artie Matthews</b>
Fenway .....	<b>Martin Higgins</b>
Fields Corner.....	<b>James Hudson</b>
Fort Point.....	<b>Michael Gorham</b> Vacant
Hingham/Hull.....	<b>Michael Bertrand</b>
Hyde Park .....	<b>Joseph DeBerardinis</b>
IMC - Chelsea.....	<b>William Lang</b>
IMC - East Boston.....	<b>Emilio Leone</b>
IMC - Winthrop .....	<b>John Fanning</b>
IMC - Everett .....	<b>Tom Ciulla</b>
IMC - Charlestown.....	Vacant
IMC - Somerville .....	<b>John Fucile</b>
Jamaica Plain .....	<b>Robert Damatin</b> <b>Charles Zimmerman</b>
J.F.K. Station.....	<b>Robert Amirault</b> <b>Alexander Mosca</b>
Kenmore .....	<b>Dan Abellard</b>
Lexington .....	<b>John Lucey</b> <b>Anthony Falco</b>
Malden.....	<b>Laura Fahey</b> <b>Christine Thompson</b>
Mattapan .....	<b>Tom Finnegan</b>
Medfield.....	<b>Christopher Pacitti</b>
Medford .....	<b>Jon Holmberg</b> <b>Stephen White</b>
Milton .....	<b>Robert Leighton</b>
Needham.....	<b>Diane Butera</b> <b>Brian Senior</b>
Newton Centre .....	<b>David Ward</b>
Newton Highlands...	<b>Shawn Tierney</b>
Newtonville .....	<b>Thomas Duff</b> <b>(A) Heidi White</b>
North Quincy.....	<b>Cathy Cooper</b>
North Weymouth.....	<b>Mike Davis</b>
Quincy .....	<b>Amy Baker</b> <b>Brendan Finn</b>
Revere DMU.....	<b>David O'Connor</b>
Melrose.....	<b>Steve Merullo</b>
Roslindale.....	<b>Adam Difazio</b>
Roxbury .....	<b>John Galvin</b> <b>Keith Meredith</b> <b>Al Mallon</b>
Grove Hall.....	<b>Samie Smith</b>
Scituate.....	<b>Justin Vo</b>
South Boston .....	<b>Michael O'Connor</b>
So. Weymouth.....	<b>Angela Riva-Seelig</b>
Stoneham.....	<b>Joseph Mangano</b>
Waban .....	<b>Rich Farrell</b>
Waltham .....	<b>Edward Walsh</b> <b>Rick Nourse</b>
Watertown.....	<b>William Huber</b>
Wellesley Square...	<b>Jennifer Mitchell</b>
Wellesley Hills .....	<b>Kevin McMahon</b>
Weston .....	<b>David Demarco</b>
West Newton .....	Vacant
West Roxbury .....	<b>Michael Walter</b> <b>Sandino Blaise</b>
Weymouth Landing...	<b>Mario Venturelli</b>
Woburn .....	<b>Vigo Conte</b> <b>Richard Bucci</b>
Wollaston.....	<b>Thomas Rooney, Jr.</b>

## 'U' Are the Union!

So often we forget that we as a whole are a Union. Unity amongst all members, each and every member and not limited to a few. Working to protect and further the rights and interests of each member.

We all play a role in Branch 34, we have Branch Officers, Stewards and most importantly, the Rank and File Union members. It is the Rank and File member who has to take the initiative to stand up for what is right in times of confrontation.

Over the years, we have all heard the bomb tosser talking shite on the floor "What is the Union going to do about it?" You know the individual, the one who wheels and deals with management, sits around having lunch with them, runs his or her route for self-serving reasons, points the finger at other sisters and brothers, cries when it doesn't work in their favor and comes back at the end of the day early, out of uniform or worse, with their children, but whatever you do don't look at them. As my Dad would say "The Hell with you as long as I'm ok."

If a problem arises, please don't ask, "What is the Union going to do? Ask

yourself "What am I going to do?" The Shop Steward and Branch Officers role is to file grievances, guide, advise, give directions and protect, but it's your role to take a stand on particular issues.

You are the front line. Sometimes that means sacrificing your own personal interests. No one enjoys confrontation, but sometimes its inevitable. We are all guilty from time to time of not being a practicing Union member. A lot depends of circumstances in our day to day life and dictates how effective we are as Union Sisters and Brothers. That's where the sacrificing comes into play.

The mere fact that someone pays dues only admits him or her into the Union. It takes a special individual to be a practicing Union member. One that would never intentionally hurt another Union member. One that would go to lengths to protect his or her job as well as the job of other Union members. One that would follow the advice and guidance of their Shop Steward or Branch Officer in situations regarding their job. One that would stand up for what's right and wrong in the workplace and beyond.

Remember the next time you hear the bomb tosser talking shite, "What is the Union going to do about it?" or "What is the Union doing for me lately?" Just remind them that "U" are the Union. If it happens that it was a **SCAB** that blurted out these comments, remind them why its important to be a **UNION** member. There's more to being a Union member than just paying dues. It's not all about the \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$.

Unions are strictly reactionary organizations established to protect workers against managements authoritarian policies. If you see someone being treated in a manner other than with dignity and respect, please don't just stand there and do nothing.

Please remember we are only as strong as our members and that means you (U).

Be Safe and Healthy.  
Happy Summer to all!



**BERNADETTE ROMANS**  
Vice President

## Forecasting a Future in the USPS

The coming years are looming large for the United States Postal Service. A perfect storm has formed on our horizon that we will have to meet head on, all while coming in from different directions. Barreling in on this front of disruption is the erosion of adequate staffing from poor wages and a retiring workforce. And in order to make it through all of this, we'll need the right people at the helm to navigate some of the most treacherous times this storied institution has ever faced. And hopefully we will be able to set a course of prolonged growth and welcome stability. Whipping things up further is the crashing of the current revenue stream. Finding products and services will help us weather this surge of uncertainty.

Recently, I came across a 72 year old piece of postal history. A Post Office contract circa 1949, labeled "Chicago" was supplied to me by our resident historian in Jamaica Plain, **Joe Naughton**. He is a bit of a history buff, so it only seems fitting that these pages from this by-gone era would find their way into Joe's possession. A customer whose father had passed away ran across the documents while going through his Dad's personal effects.

They are amazing documents, which specifically applied to Letter Carriers and Clerks, and spells out contractual information. But the most significant data in this documentation is in the raise these employees would receive. There was a 3 cent increase from \$1.29 to \$1.32 per hour during the contract, which all things being relative could be considered a good increase for those times. But, if you fast forward in time some 72 years to 2021, and keeping those figures in mind, for just our newest employees, there is only an approximately \$17.00/hr increase in pay almost three quarters of a century later? Now, with the "Great Strike" and the restructuring that took place in our organization in 1970, going from Post Office to Postal Service, the benefits were substantially improved by comparison. But what is disturbing is the spending money between 1949 and 2021 has increased so little! This is a huge swarth of time, where all of our jobs have become increasingly more complicated, time restricted, and physically demanding. A similar example appears in the NALC's publication, "Carriers In A Common Cause" which identifies Letter Carriers receiving a raise in 1945 that elevated annual wages to only \$2,500 a year, after no raise in the previous twenty years.

When our days are scorching, freezing, soaking, or lengthy, that \$17.00 really opens your eyes as to what this job was, is, and where it's headed! There is no wondering why people are leaving this job in droves, whether retiring or newer employees weighing the pay with waiting for benefits to kick in, and deciding it's too little, too late! And it's becoming a losing battle to attract new employees when you can slice meat in a deli for \$16/hr. or stock shelves at any variety of stores for what we make. This past contract that was signed off on could have improved that pattern by again, front loading benefits that were in place before the CCA position, which should have also been eliminated. But only around 60,000 Letter Carriers voted to approve it, so those employee-attracting carrots are again blown out to sea until 2023! Turbulent times are already afoot, with Carriers regularly receiving 3 hour overtime splits, non-OTDL Carriers being forced to work more frequently, and routes never making it to the street. This scenario is creating burned out, fed up employees who see nothing but dark clouds above, and plenty ahead. In my office alone 3 people will retire by the end of 2021 because of some of the former issues I mentioned. And one of our seasoned CCAs was swept away into a new career elsewhere before this CLAN got delivered to you!

This is the new normal for the Postal Service, where every day our job loses the cachet that it once carried for years. Where we were aligned with police officers, and firefighters, now our wages have dragged woefully behind for decades. Where once there were standards that had to be met in order to land a Letter Carrier job, but in these times of desperation, standards are being washed away. And the quality of service to our customers can only suffer when USPS leadership doesn't see the

damage they are subjecting this agency to.

Now, coupling these labor issues with the likes of businessman turned Postmaster General **Louis DeJoy**, the gathering storm is bearing down on the Postal Service like never before. His creativity amounts to raising prices, slashing service, and is incapable of understanding that no Letter Carrier wants to join his musical ensemble on the top deck of the Titanic!

Yes, First Class "Bread and Butter" volumes have been dropping for years, but this legend of logistics, this titan of transportation has no clue, or more likely has no intention of devising a strategy to capitalize on our network of post offices, and fleshing out all our strengths in the delivery sector, never mind trying to introducing new products and services. And that has been the sole problem for years: management likening the Postal Service to a business. We are not here to make a profit; we are here to serve our customers. And "they" are the businesses, not us. They exist to make a profit, or please shareholders, not us! And "they" are the American public, who expect great service at an affordable price. We have people running the Postal Service who haven't seen an Iceberg they wouldn't hit! Why do we lack revenue? Because the powers that be lack any kind of vision for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century USPS! Where is the fight to make this organization a viable leader in delivering what our customers want, and meeting and exceeding those expectations? It seems the enemy from within is fogging up the works, and it is the job of labor to navigate our way clear

(continued on page 9)



**BOBBY DAMATIN**  
Financial Secretary

## Greetings and Salutations!

My name is **Sean Mullett**. I am honored to have been appointed *Branch 34's CLAN* Editor. I look forward to keeping up the great work for this prestigious publication! I would like to thank President **Jerry McCarthy** for this opportunity. I would also like to thank **Louie and Wayne Poste**. I would not be here if not for their Training and Representation years ago. Good Luck **Ross Murray** in your future endeavors in Branch 524! To all the Brothers and Sisters, **THANK YOU!!** I'm eagerly anticipating keeping the excellence going for *Branch 34's CLAN*.

— Sean Mullett, Branch 34's CLAN Editor



**SEAN MULLETT**  
"Branch 34's CLAN" Editor



I Didn't Know That?

In every issue of Branch 34's CLAN I try to share some knowledge with my brothers and sisters on various topics that may interest them. Whether it's how to deliver parcels, file a CA-1 for a traumatic injury, Q & A on hold-downs or retirement information my goal is always to inform the membership of our rights. Well, in this issue instead of focusing on one or two bits of information I'm going to give you some answers to questions you may have had over the years. Hopefully, you find this info interesting and useful.

Any Letter Carrier who has delivered to an apartment building, a triple decker or any multi-family dwelling has wondered "shouldn't these customers have an apartment number on their mail?" The answer is a simple yes, they should. The Postal Operations Manual (POM) addresses this issue in chapter six and it reads in part:

631.54 Apartment Houses
631.541 General

Delivery of mail to individual boxes in a residential building containing apartments or units occupied by different addressees is contingent upon USPS concluding the following requirements are met:

- a. The building contains three or more units (above, below, or behind — not side by side) with:
(1) A common building entrance such as a door, a passageway, or stairs; and
(2) A common street address (some part of the address is shared) approved by local or municipal authorities.
- b. The installation and maintenance

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 Branch 34, 400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950, Woburn, MA 01801, in care of Michael Murray. (This is for Branch 34 members and their 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 choices, but the apartment is only available for two-week intervals. Have your bids in by Saturday November 13, 2021 and I will begin awarding bids that day. After that it's first come-first served.

- January 3 – January 16, 2022
- January 17 – January 30, 2022
- January 31 – February 13, 2022
- February 14 – February 27, 2022
- February 28 – March 13, 2022
- March 14 – March 27, 2022
- March 28 – April 10, 2022
- April 11 – April 24, 2022
- April 25 – May 8, 2022
- May 9 – May 22, 2022
- May 23 – June 5, 2022
- June 6 – 19, 2022
- June 20 – July 3, 2022
- July 4 – July 17, 2022
- July 18 – July 31, 2022
- August 1 – August 14, 2022
- August 15 – August 28, 2022
- August 29 – September 11, 2022

– Michael Murray,
Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer, Boston

of mail receptacles are approved by the Postal Service.

- c. Each apartment is provided one box, including that of any resident manager or janitor, unless the management has arranged for mail to be delivered at the office or desk for distribution by its employees.
- d. The grouping of the boxes for the building is at a single point readily accessible to the carrier. Note: The tenant's correct mailing address is the address of the entrance at which the mail receptacles are located, and should include the apartment number or designated mailbox number.
(Emphasis Added)

Who hasn't been assigned a route and when you go to get the arrow keys there's other keys attached to the keychain? Usually it's a route with a lot of apartment buildings and the keys are to gain access to the mail receptacles. This is improper. No carrier should accept any keys to access a customer's mailbox. It's the responsibility of the property owner to provide an electromechanical door lock system or a key keeper box for the carrier to gain access to the mailboxes. This is also addressed in the POM and it reads in part:

632.2 Keys to Customer's Private Mail Receptacle

632.21 General
Carriers are prohibited from accepting keys for locks on private mail receptacles, buildings, or offices, except where an electromechanical door lock system or a key keeper box located within convenient reach of the door is used. Both devices must incorporate an Arrow lock to access the key or device needed to gain entry to the building. If customers place locks on their receptacles, the receptacles must have slots large enough to accommodate their normal daily mail volume so that delivery may be made by the carrier without using a key. (Emphasis Added)

Everyone at one time or another has been contacted by management off the clock to resolve some operational issue like how do you pull down a certain route? Or to find out if you had a package for this house or that house? If that's something they regularly do to you then they're going to start owing you some money. In the F-21 Handbook you'll find this gem:

223 PDC-Teletime/Guarantee Teletime/Guarantee Tele Overtime

223.1 Definition
223.11 Bargaining unit employees who are called via telephone or paged by management to assist in resolving operational problems while in an off-duty status will be entitled to pay for the duration of the call(s) or 1 hour of pay, whichever is greater, that occurs during each 24-hour period starting at the end of the employee's scheduled tour. (Emphasis Added)

223.12 "Teletime" is paid to employees for the actual duration of the call(s) that occur during each 24-hour period starting at the end of the employee's scheduled tour.

223.13 "Guarantee Teletime" is paid to employees Grade 19 and above in an amount to equal 1 hour when combined with "Teletime" of less than 1 hour in a 24-hour period starting at the end of the employee's scheduled tour.

223.14 "Guarantee Tele Overtime" is paid to employees Grade 18 and below in an amount to equal 1 hour when combined with "Teletime" of less than 1 hour in a 24-hour period starting at the end of the employee's scheduled tour.

It's clearly a little old as they refer to be-

ing "paged". Well no one's been paged in decades but we're certainly getting texts from management. Obviously, in the context and spirit of this provision "paged" and "texted" would mean the same thing. As the intent of the parties is to pay employees for being contacted by management outside of work.

If you start filing grievances for this they'll either stop contacting you outside of work or you'll start making a little extra cash, either way it's a win. And before you get too excited this does not include being called for OT as described below in section 223.22 of the POM.

223.2 Eligibility

223.21 PDC bargaining unit employees are the only employees eligible to receive PDC Teletime/Guarantee Teletime/Guarantee Tele Overtime.

223.22 Employees who are called solely for the purpose of being "called-in" to work outside of their regular work schedule are not entitled to PDC Teletime for that telephone call. (Emphasis Added)

A little while back in one of our downtown office's management came up with the bright idea of withdrawing the delivery of accountable mail to the individual offices. This will come as no surprise to anyone paying attention, but management failed to investigate to see if this was something they had the right to do. Alas, they don't. The POM addresses this issue as well and in section 617 it reads:

617 Other Delivery Procedures
617.1 Delivery in Multiple-Floor Buildings

Accountable mailpieces and/or items that do not fit into the mailbox or parcel locker are attempted in person to the addressee or authorized agent, without regard to the floor on which his or her office or apartment is located. (Emphasis Added)

Exception: If there is no working elevator in buildings with more than three (3) floors, delivery of accountable mailpieces and/or items that do not fit into the mailbox or parcel locker (if available) will be delivered to one (1) authorized, designated location on the first floor, or PS Form 3849 will be completed and left in the customer's mailbox.

Cooperation of customers is requested, however, in making arrangements for mail to be delivered on the first floor.

Yes, brothers and sisters, that includes parcels that don't fit in the mail receptacle or parcel locker in both office buildings and apartment complexes.

If you've ever wondered if there are special instructions on delivering mail to Postal Officials, there is. The POM has so much info that it even has instructions on how to deliver mail to a supervisor or any member of Postal Management. It doesn't identify them as "Postal Management" but we can all read between the lines. That scenario is addressed as follows:

612.3 Mail Addressed to Incompetents

If a person is legally declared incompetent, that person's mail may be delivered under the order of his or her guardian or conservator. Where there is no legal representative, the mail is delivered as addressed.

Hopefully, this was enlightening and if you should ever have any questions or issues don't hesitate to call the Union Hall.



MICHAEL MURRAY
Secretary-Treasurer

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS
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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
BEST ORGANIZED - LARGE BRANCH
First Place, 2018
First Place (tie), 2014
GENERAL EXCELLENCE - LARGE BRANCH PUBLICATIONS - MORE THAN 1,500 MEMBERS
First Place, 2018
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
First Place, 2018
Third Place, 2018
Third Place, 1992
Judges' Commendation, 1988
BEST WEBSITE
First Place, 2018

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Any articles submitted for publication in BRANCH 34's CLAN must be typewritten, double-spaced and received at the Branch office no later than the close of business on the first of the month of publication: January, March, May, July, September, and November. The Editor reserves the right to amend articles and/or delay their publication due to the limited availability of space.
Permission is hereby granted for the REPRINTING of any article that originates in this paper provided an appropriate credit line also appears and a copy of the reprint in its new publication is sent to: Editor, NALC Branch 34, 400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950, Woburn, MA 01801-6396.
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Sean Mullett, Editor
Jerry McCarthy, Associate Editor
Bob Simpson, Associate Editor

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Dan O'Connor Trustee



A Little Bit of Luck!!! Fingers Crossed!!!

Ok, so a quick message on an issue that will effect a lot of Letter Carriers!!!! And if you want to retire early then I suggest you **CALL YOUR CONGRESS PERSON and SENATOR!!!! IMMEDIATELY**, and ask them to support HR 4268. What is HR 4268 you ask. Well, let me say, great question!!!!

HR4268 is a bill in front of Congress that will, if passed by both the House and the Senate, allow all employees to buy back creditable service time from when they were considered “a temporary employee.” What that means is if you were ever a Casual, TE, or CCA or other random name for a temporary employee after December 31, 1988, then you will be able to buy that time back to go towards your years of service for your pension!!!

**THIS IS HUGE!** Especially for the former TE’s who lost time. In some cases seven years of service!! Not to mention that huge pay cut they took when TE’s were phased out and CCAs were phased in!! S\*%! this is huge for **ALL** employees, not just letter carriers.

Listen, if this is passed I can tell you from experience it is not the easiest process to complete. It will take some time to get all the information and paperwork together that will be needed for submission..

First you will need to go into your EPOF file. Once there you will need to go to the very last page. Start at the end and then work your way forward. If your EPOF file has 42 pages, start at page 42.

You will then scroll through each Form 50 that you have on file. Write down on a separate piece of paper what your job was and the code (CCA 84-4). Then

write down what office is on your Form 50 (Malden).

Continue by writing down the exact days of your appointment from beginning to end date (you may have to look at more than one Form 50, one for the start date, one for the end date).

Repeat this step for every single appointment you have as a “temporary employee” Then you will need to get a PS 3108 (FERS) and 2803 (CSRS) and fill it out in its entirety. You take your completed form and mail it to HRSCC. (Human Resource Shared Service Center) Sounds easy right!!!! Wrong!!! So f@#\$ing wrong!!!

HRSCC then takes your form and shows that it has been received in your EPOF file. Don’t call looking for it or asking what you do now that they have it, because HRSCC then sends it to OPM. (Where it could take up to a year to process). It takes a year to process because OPM takes your form to “the archives” that’s correct “the archives.” They double check your dates of employment as a “temporary employee.”

Then they calculate how much you made and how much you would have paid into either FERS or CSRS had you been allowed to contribute back when you were a Casual, TE or CCA. *(This will include*

*interest.)*  
Ok, so eventually you will get a bill from OPM. It will say what you owe. For example, let’s say \$1,000. *(You will have the option to pay in full or put yourself on a payment plan but it will continue to accrue interest.)*

Awesome! You have finally paid your \$1,000. I will use two years of creditable service time bought back in this example. Instead of having 22 years, you now very quickly have 24 years of creditable service time, and let me tell you that \$1,000 will be well worth it when you go to retire.

But let’s not forget you’re not quite done yet. Once you have paid in full, you will receive a letter from OPM that says as such. You need to then take a **COPY, REPEAT A COPY** and send it to HRSCC. *(Thanks Billy Wilkins from Central Square for that tid-bit.)* If you do not send the copy stating you’ve paid in full then HRSCC will not do anything, because OPM does not tell them you are paid in full, that is on you! Once HRSCC receives the paid in full letter it will process your civilian leave buy back and it will show up on your Form 50!!!!!!

On a side note if you had any casual, TE one CCA time prior to December 31, 1988, you can currently buy that back using the exact same information above!!!! And as a gauge for how much it will cost you 1-½ years of creditable service time costs approximately \$600.



LAURA WOOD FAHEY  
Area Steward



DAVE O'CONNOR  
Area Steward

The Summer Wind

With the summer months rolling in bringing along with them the heat and humidly make sure to stay hydrated. Along with drinking water anything with electrolytes can help you maintain hydration. On top of that we need to make sure we are always alert. The schools are out and the streets are getting some kind of normalcy back to them. Children along with adults are getting back to outdoor activities. This means playing in the streets, riding bicycles, and chasing balls just to name a few. We need to make sure **WE ARE ALERT AT ALL TIMES.**

Especially now with COVID coming to an end, “in the Post Office’s eyes.” Long hours and countless days, we must remain focused on safety. Not only our own but also to others around us. Be aware of your surroundings. Please don’t back up, you never know who is behind you.

June was USPS Dog Awareness month. Every month is actually dog awareness month as letter carriers. More dogs than ever are on the streets now. They are on customer’s properties or by the mailboxes. They might be running freely at parks. A question for the readers. What kind of dogs bite? **ALL DOGS BITE!!** If you see a dog, don’t run. As dogs sense fear, they will use their canine instincts and they may attack. Make sure to have your satchel and dog spray on you at all times. Dogs on customer’s property are only protecting their homes. We deliver to these homes everyday and dogs may

feel threatened. Never put your hand or fingers in mail slots. Make sure to flip the slot and slide the mail in. If this cannot be done in a safe manner, alert Management of the hazard and curtail the delivery.

We should be filling out dog warning cards as to alert carriers covering routes during vacations. We should do this also to remind ourselves of dogs on our routes. In addition, the warning cards will make aware carriers doing splits that there are dogs at particular deliveries. Some safety tips for you the reader would be:

- Do check for dog warning cards.
- Carry dog spray at all times.
- Keep an eye out for dogs at all times.
- Keep an ear out; barking, jingling, owners calling for dog(s).
- Don’t run.
- Don’t scream.
- Avoid eye contact.
- Don’t approach.
- Report any attacks to your supervisor.

On my final note I would like to personally congratulate **Jimmy Porter** and **Danny Norton**. Happy retirement to the both of you. It was a pleasure working and getting to know the both of you. **YOUR LIFE SENTENCE IS OVER! ENJOY YOUR NEW LIFE!!!**

Don't Be A SCAB!

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

**Back Bay**  
THOMAS N. CONCANNON  
ROBERT A. ROMIKITIS

**Braintree**  
MOLLY LONG

**Brookline**  
CHRISTINE M. BAILEY  
LINDA M. HAZELL

**Cambridge - Porter Square**  
BLANCA I. TEEBAGY

**Chelsea Carrier Annex (IMC)**  
JOSEPH REGNA..... CCA

**Fenway**  
BEVERLY A. SCANLON

**Hingham-Hull**  
MARK J. DION

**Malden**  
EILEEN M. FINN

**Medford**  
GERALD M. LYTES

**Milton**  
CHARLES S. ROSEN

**Needham**  
TAMI L. JOHNSON

**Newton Highlands**  
ROBIN I. DEVITTO

**Scituate**  
KAREN M. LYNCH

**Stoneham**  
TINA M. DOHERTY

**Waltham**  
DAVID BAHM

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!**

The Woburn Corner

It has been a tough year for all of us. COVID-19 has really taken a toll on everyone. MDA is no exception. Yet, the Woburn Letter Carriers have continued to fight on! They have held 50/50 raffles that have raised \$690.00. Winter hats and shirts added another \$60.00. Not to mention the hundreds raised from the can drives. We are now in the process of preparing for the MDA Golf Tournament. It is to be held on Sunday, September 12. This would not at all be possible without a great team of volunteers. Thank You to **Rich Bucci, Fred Casey, Andrew Langone, Kerry Crampton, and Joe Andreajan.** To all that care about MDA, **THANK YOU!**



VIGO CONTE  
Trustee



Woburn MDA Letter Carriers Squad.

Congratulations Retirees!

On behalf of President McCarthy, 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:

Mark Adreane .....	Melrose
John Anastis .....	Arlington
Deborah Annese.....	Medford
Roger Bresnahan .....	Mattapan
Edward “Eddie” Chinetti .....	Roxbury
Douglas “Doug” Edgerly .....	Fort Point
Kevin Feeney .....	Fort Point
Michael “Mike” Flaherty .....	Roslindale
Robert “Bob” Harty ...	IMC Charlestown
Gregory “Greg” Hill.....	Braintree
Paul Levasseur .....	Malden
Stephen “Steve” McCarthy .....	Waltham
Catherine “Kathy” Murray....	Roslindale
Daniel “Danny” Norton .....	Melrose
James “Jimmy” Porter .....	Melrose
James Saindon .....	JFK
Robert “Rob” Sateriale.....	Fort Point
Patrick “Pat” Sheehan, Jr....	IMC Everett
James “Jimmy” Tennihan ..	IMC Everett
Trevor Tom.....	Brookline
Peter Wienko.....	Braintree
James Woodlock .....	Newton Center

In Memoriam

Gregory Lee Ashe \*  
Retired Member – Back Bay

Heyward Myers, Jr. \*  
Retired Member – Roxbury

Marc Tuxbury  
ACTIVE Member – Fort Point

\* Denotes Gold Card Member

Rest in Peace



It's All About US!!!

As a Legislative Political Organizer (LPO) I interact with our membership from the Executive Council members to CCAs just over their 90 days. Regardless of where they land in the pecking order of the NALC, I consider all letter carriers family. As I talk with my brothers and sisters, I realize we are a very diverse workforce. Some are deeply entrenched in politics, while others couldn't care less. Regardless of how you feel about politics, my message to letter carriers is – it's not about party affiliation or whether you lean left or right, it's about US.

When I was a chief steward, I met with management on grievances, and I had a method to find common ground. First, I would listen to better understand their point of view. Once I was able to identify their reasoning, I often noticed they had a blind spot for some and a bias toward others which is human nature. Second, I would redirect and ask them to remove the individual's name and just look at the facts hoping this would take the emotion out of their decision. This

technique was usually successful. As I transitioned to Legislative Affairs, I carried this method with me. When talking to letter carriers about the importance of legislation and contributing to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF), I often run into the same issue of strong emotion regarding party affiliation. I always listen to the letter carrier, then proceed to ask them to look at the facts without names.

The NALC does not endorse a candidate based on a particular political party. We support those from both sides of the aisle who support our issues. On one side, a majority is supportive of letter carriers being able to collectively bargain for wages, benefits, and working conditions. On the other side, the majority does not give us overwhelming support, but without the ones that do, we will not have enough bipartisan support to push our agenda. This particular party had 147 members vote to overturn the election results, however, approximately 22 of those members cosponsor HR 695

(the bill to repeal prefunding mandate). This repeal bill (HR 695) has 270 cosponsors with 216 Democrats and 54 Republicans.

Some letter carriers are upset with the NALC for endorsing a presidential candidate who supports us. While others are angry that we support members of congress who voted to overturn the election. If you have disdain for either party, working for USPS may be a difficult career path because when it comes to good legislation or Postal Reform, we must have a good relationship with both sides of the aisle. The 535 members of congress have a lot of control over letter carriers' wages, benefits, and our future. Whether you like politics or not, unfortunately it comes with the territory for us. But in the grand scheme of things, it's not about politics – it's about US.



MARC T. ASHMON  
National Assistant to the President for Legislative and Political Organizing

Bypassing Blocked Mailboxes/Carrier-Leave If No Response

Bypassing a blocked "box on post" mailbox because of a vehicle, snow or even a trash barrel is a false narrative. Mail must be delivered whenever it's safe to do so. Management would rather see the carrier "bypass" the mailbox and bring the mail back endorsed "blocked box" so it wouldn't take he/she the extra time needed to dismount to deliver the mail. Delivery is only stopped if it's continued over a period of time. This practice will affect your 1840B times and possibly hurt you after a route inspection.

The Postal Operations Manual (POM), Section 632.14 states:

"Where the approach to the mail receptacle located at the curb is temporarily blocked by a parked vehicle during normal delivery hours for the area or snow or ice hampers the approach to the mailbox, the carrier normally dismounts to make delivery. If the carrier continually experiences a problem in serving curblines boxes and where the customer is able to control on-street parking in front of his or her mailbox but does not take prompt corrective action after being properly notified, the postmaster may, with the approval of the district manager, withdraw delivery service."

"Carrier-Leave If No Response" means "Carrier-Leave If No Response." This does not mean "Ring & Run." When a carrier has a SPR that does not fit in the customer's mailbox or an oversized parcel with this endorsement, it must be attempted at the customer's door by knocking or ringing the bell. If no response, the carrier may leave the parcel at the location. Section 322.311a of the M-41 states: "Parcels must not be left in an unprotected location such as a porch unless the mailer participates in the carrier release program by endorsing the package "Carrier-Leave If No Response" or the addressee has given written directions for an alternate delivery location. Examples of protected locations are a locked vestibule, locked hallway or with the doorman of an apartment building, inside a storm door of a residence, etc.

Form 3849, Delivery Notice/Reminder/Receipt, with the "It Is lo-

cated: \_\_\_\_\_" block completed must be left in the mail receptacle notifying the addressee of the mail left in the authorized alternate location. Parcels must not be left where adverse weather can affect them.

Leaving any parcel without this endorsement by not attempting it is a violation of Section 321.4 of the M-41 which specifically states: "If a parcel does not fit completely within the mail receptacle or parcel locker (when available), determine if someone is available at the address by ringing the doorbell or knocking on the door. If no one is available to receive the parcel, follow the procedures in 322.311 and 322.312."

M-41 Section 322.312: When the Carrier Is Not Authorized to Leave Ordinary Parcels

a. When someone is usually available to receive parcels.

When an ordinary or unnumbered insured parcel is not delivered on the first attempt and the carrier knows that someone at the address is usually available to receive parcels, do not leave Form 3849, Delivery Notice/Reminder/Receipt. Write the date and the carrier's initials and route number near the address and return the parcel to the office. Place the parcel in the gurney at the carrier's case. Attempt a second delivery on the next delivery day. If the parcel is not delivered after the second attempt, complete and leave Form 3849. Legibly endorse the form

with the following information:

- (1) Article number (if applicable)
- (2) Date
- (3) Sender's name
- (4) Type of mail
- (5) Article requiring signature at time of delivery (if applicable)
- (6) Addressee's name and address
- (7) Amount due (if applicable)
- (8) Date and time customer can pick up article at post office.

b. When someone is not usually available to receive parcels.

If no one is available to receive the parcel and the carrier knows that someone at the address is not usually available to receive parcels, complete and leave Form 3849 (see exhibit 322.312b) after the first attempt. When the carrier does not know if someone is usually available to receive parcels, Form 3849 should be left after the first attempt. Endorse the parcel near the address, showing the reason for non-delivery, e.g., "No Response," date delivery was attempted, and the carrier's initials and route number. Upon returning to the office, deposit the parcel in the designated place for undelivered parcels. By not following any of these instructions in the M-41 will shorten your 1840b times significantly and could possibly hurt you after any route inspection.



DAN KELLY  
Sergeant-at-Arms

MDA Corner

Welcome to all of the new brothers and sisters who have joined the Postal Service and Branch 34 recently. As you may be aware the NALC's official charity is the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) and they've been our official charity since 1952. Branch 34 has always been a big part of the NALC's fund-raising efforts and we're routinely in the top 10 as far as Branch fund raising is concerned.

The need to raise funds has never been greater due to COVID-19. Many kids have had problems getting their therapy and most of MDA's employees have been laid off. Whether it's Shamrocks, Satchel Drives, Golf Tournaments, Bowling and office collections on Labor Day, Branch 34 will be there to help do our part for the MDA!

As always, thank you brothers and sisters for all that you do for this worthy cause.

Fraternally,  
George Adams  
Branch 34 MDA Chairman

Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

U.S. SENATE

**The Honorable Elizabeth Warren**  
Hart Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 309  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4543 Fax: 202-224-2417  
www.warren.senate.gov

**The Honorable Edward J. Markey**  
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 255  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-2742 Fax: 202-224-8525  
www.markey.senate.gov

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

First Congressional District

**The Honorable Richard E. Neal**  
Cannon House Office Bldg., Rm. 372  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-5601 Fax: 202-225-8112  
neal.house.gov

Second Congressional District

**The Honorable James P. McGovern**  
Cannon House Office Bldg., Rm. 370  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-6101 Fax: 202-225-5759  
mcgovern.house.gov

Third Congressional District

**The Honorable Lori Trahan**  
Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-3411 Fax: 202-226-0771  
trahan.house.gov

Fourth Congressional District

**The Honorable Jake Auchincloss**  
Longworth House Office Bldg., Rm. 1524  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-5931 Fax: 202-225-0182  
auchincloss.house.gov  
Represented Communities: Brookline, Newton, Needham, Wellesley, Dover, Medfield, Millis, Medway, Milford, Hopkinton, Hopedale, Bellingham, Franklin, Norfolk, Wrentham, Plainville, Foxboro, Sharon, Attleboro, North Attleborough, Mansfield, Norton, Easton, Seekonk, Rehoboth, Taunton, Raynham, Dighton, Berkley, Lakeville, Freetown, Somerset, Swansea

Fifth Congressional District

**The Honorable Katherine Clark**  
Rayburn House Office Bldg., Rm. 2448  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-2836 Fax: 202-226-0092  
katherineclark.house.gov  
Represented Communities: Arlington, Belmont, Framingham, Lexington, Lincoln, Malden, Medford, Natick, Revere, Stoneham, Waltham, Watertown, Wayland, Weston, Winchester, Winthrop, Woburn

Sixth Congressional District

**The Honorable Seth Moulton**  
Longworth House Office Bldg., Rm. 1127  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-8020 Fax: 202-225-5915  
moulton.house.gov

Seventh Congressional District

**The Honorable Ayanna Pressley**  
Longworth House Office Bldg., Rm. 1108  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-5111 Fax: 202-225-9322  
pressley.house.gov  
Represented Communities: Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, Everett, Milton, Randolph, Somerville

Eighth Congressional District

**The Honorable Stephen F. Lynch**  
Rayburn House Office Bldg., Rm. 2109  
Washington, D.C. 20515  
202-225-8273 Fax: 202-225-3984  
lynch.house.gov  
Represented Communities: Abington, Avon, Boston, Braintree, Bridgewater, Brockton, Canton, Cohasset, Dedham, East Bridgewater, Hingham, Holbrook, Hull, Milton, Norwood, Quincy, Raynham, Scituate, Stoughton, Walpole, Weymouth, West Bridgewater, Westwood, Whitman

Ninth Congressional District

**The Honorable William Keating**  
Rayburn House Office Bldg., Rm. 2351  
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



## Branch 34 Salutes Its New Retirees

Roslindale's Michael "Mike" Flaherty & Catherine "Kathy" Murray



Branch 34 Jerry McCarthy recognizing both Mike Flaherty and Kathy Murray's retirement.



Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy congratulating Mike on his retirement.



Kathy and Mike's last swipes. Look at their smiles!!



Mike and Jerry.



Jerry congratulating Kathy on her retirement.



IMC Everett's Patrick "Pat" Sheehan

IMC Everett Retiree Patrick "Pat" Sheehan, Jr. along with Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.

# IMPORTANT!!

## ALL LETTER CARRIERS

Knee and Hip **ARTHRITIS** is the Silent **OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE** That No One Tells You About.

If you...

1. Have had a hip/knee replacement; or
2. Have been diagnosed with leg arthritis; or
3. Have chronically sore knees; or
4. Have had knee surgery for **ANY** reason; then

**YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO:  
SUBSTANTIAL COMP BENEFITS**

For more information call:

**Shapiro  
& Associates**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

**844 DOL Atty**  
844.365.2889

*Serving Federal Employees for Over 40 Years!*



## Roxbury's Ed Chinetti



Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy and Roxbury Shop Stewards Al Mallon, Keith Meredith and John Galvin along with Retiree Eddie Chinetti.



Roxbury Shop Steward Keith Meredith gives retiree Ed Chinetti send off wishes.

## Waltham's Stephen "Steve" McCarthy



Waltham Shop Stewards Rick Nourse and Ed Walsh wishing Stephen "Steve" McCarthy a happy retirement.



Waltham Letter Carrier Brian Twombly serenading Steve on his last day.



Malden Shop Steward Christine Thompson, Area Steward/Shop Steward Laura Fahey, retiree Paul Levasseur along with Branch 34 Vice President Bernadette Romans.



Malden Letter Carriers give Retiree Paul Levasseur a great send off.

## Malden's Paul Levasseur



## Braintree's Peter Wienko

Braintree Retiree Peter Wienko celebrates his last day as a letter carrier.

Fort Point Retiree Robert "Rob" Sateriale along with Shop Steward Michael Gorham and Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.

## Fort Point's Robert "Rob" Sateriale



## Fort Point's Kevin Feeney



Fort Point Letter Carriers Richie Noll, Kelly Sullivan, Mark Terranova, Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy, Fort Point Retiree Kevin Feeney, Shop Steward Michael Gorham and Liz Purvis.

## Melrose's James "Jimmy" Porter and Daniel "Danny" Norton



Branch 34 Area Steward/Melrose Shop Steward Dave O'Connor along with retiree Jimmy Porter, Ed Kosta and Peter Stingle.

Melrose retirees James "Jimmy" Porter and Daniel "Danny" Norton are presented with their watches by Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy as their co-workers help celebrate the special occasion.



# Branch 34 Salutes More Retirees

Brookline's Trevor Tom



Brookline retirees welcomes Trevor to the Club – Chuck Hanegan, Billy Moroney, Kenny Rezendes, Greg Dolan, Richie Yau, Trevor Tom and John Reilly.



Brookline Shop Stewards Joe DeMambro (Health Benefits Officer) and Dean Gonatas wishing Brookline's Trevor Tom a happy retirement.



Brookline retiree Trevor Tom making his last swipe.

Central Square Cambridge's Judy Duncanson



Central Square retiree Judy Duncanson makes her last swipe.



Central Square Cambridge retiree Judy Duncanson along withco-workers Leo Lodi and Kevin Wong.

IMC Charlestown Robert "Bobby" Harty



Branch 34 Financial Secretary Bobby Damatin presenting IMC Charlestown retiree Robert "Bobby" Harty with his retirement watch.



Mazie Collier wishing Bobby the best and reminding him how he will be greatly missed.

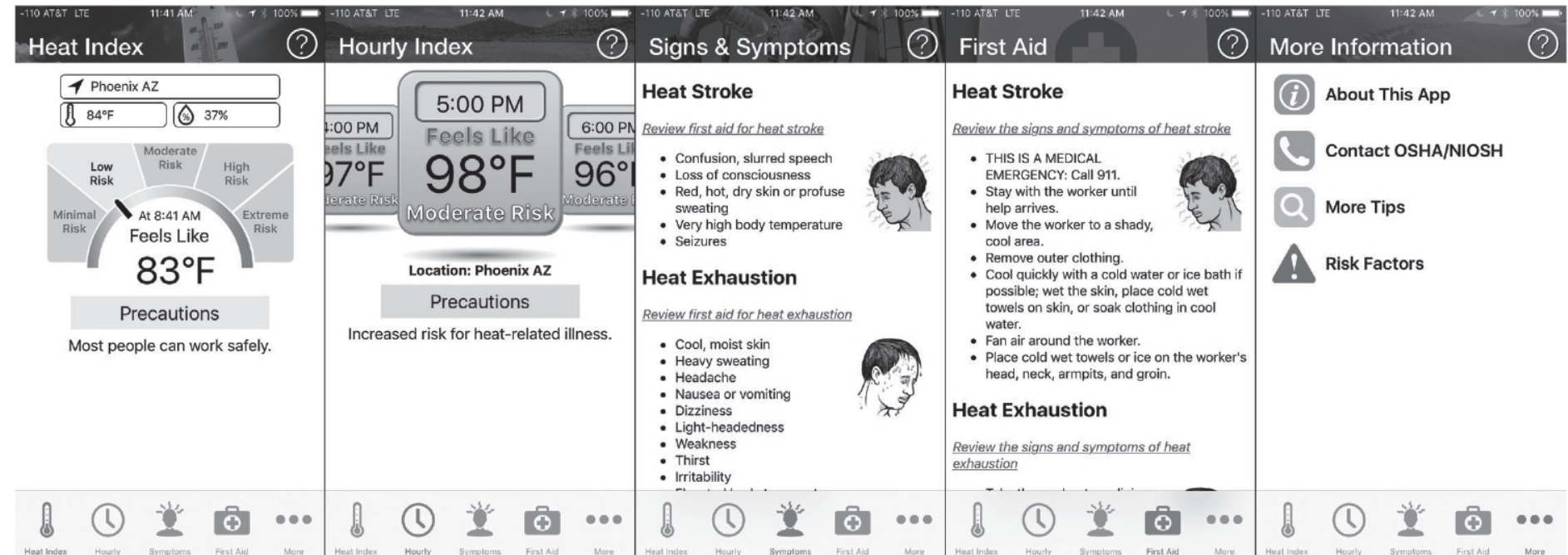


Charlestown Carriers help celebrate Bobby Harty's retirement.

## What Should You Do in Preparation for the Heat of Summer?\*

Letter carriers should first educate themselves on heat safety. One way to do this is to download and install the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)'s Heat Safety Tool Smartphone App. Once the app is installed, it can detect your location and provide

you with the current temperature, humidity and heat index (combination of temperature and humidity). It also will provide the expected heat index for the balance of the workday. For more information on heat-related safety, see the Contract Talk column in the May 2021 *Postal Record*, available on [nalc.org](https://www.nalc.org).



<https://www.nalc.org/news/bulletin/pdf2021/Bulletin-21-05.pdf>





Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy and Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Mike Murray wish JFK's James Saindon best wishes on a well-deserved retirement.

## JFK's James Saindon



JFK's James Saindon visits the Branch office in Woburn and receives congratulations for his retirement from Branch 34 Executive Vice President Bob Simpson and Branch 34 Secretary-Treasurer Mike Murray.

## Arlington's John Anastis



Arlington Shop Steward Sean Mullett, retiree George McCarthy, John Anastis, Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy, retiree Fred "Hollywood" London, and retired letter carrier Steve "Skybar" Lusardi.



John Anastis with the retired Arlington crew.

## Braintree's Gregory "Greg" Hill



Braintree Retiree Greg Hill and Braintree Shop Steward Rick Fraser.



Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy delighting Greg with his retirement jacket and watch.

## Forecasting a Future in the USPS...

(continued from page 1)

of these tumultuous times.

So, how do we do this? Well, we just so happen to have hundreds of thousands of employees, with backgrounds in delivery, customer service, and want nothing more than to be gainfully employed at the United States Postal Service. And we need to really understand what our customer's needs are!

For example, everyone wants to make sure they receive something they order online. And this portion of the service is rolling along like a hurricane. Companies want their products to end up in their customer's hands. The recipient wants it to be handled so it doesn't get poached by a porch pirate. If it can't be delivered to the customer, having parcel lockers conveniently nearby that letter carriers can place them in. We could become the masters of the delivery endgame: making sure packages can be conveniently retrieved, and that they are safe from theft. This could be one way to drive revenue our way. If we can buy fleets of electric vehicles, hundreds of thousands of GPS scanners, which by the way are monetary deficits to the Postal Service, we can focus on giving all our customers something they would want. And that's just one idea from one employee! Who's next?

If this organization is going to be around for years to come, we need to think outside the box and inside the box at the same time. First and foremost, weed out those in the organization that bring a climate of uncertainty, and a lack of vision, (DeJoy), and replace them with customer-oriented, employee-centered leadership for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The NALC, the USPS, the Board of Governors, along with every employee, must fight to preserve this institution. Our politicians need to work in unison in transitioning the Postal Service into an agency that meets the needs of Corporate America, and the American public to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Century and beyond!

## 2021 UAW Union-Built Vehicle Guide



### UAW CARS

Cadillac CT4  
Cadillac CT5  
Chevrolet Bolt (electric)  
Chevrolet Camaro  
Chevrolet Corvette  
Chevrolet Malibu  
Chevrolet Sonic  
Ford Mustang  
Lincoln Continental

### UAW TRUCKS

Chevrolet Colorado  
Chevrolet Medium-Duty Silverado  
Navistar (regular and crew cab)  
Chevrolet Silverado Light Duty (crew\*\* and double cab only)  
Chevrolet Silverado Heavy Duty  
Ford F Series  
Ford F-650/750  
Ford Ranger  
Ford Super Duty Chassis Cab  
GMC Canyon  
GMC Sierra Light Duty (crew\*\* and double cab only)  
GMC Sierra Heavy Duty  
Jeep Gladiator  
Ram 1500 (classic model — DS)\*  
Ram 1500 (new model — DT)\*

### UAW SUVs/CUVS

Buick Enclave  
Cadillac Escalade  
Cadillac Escalade ESV  
Cadillac Escalade Hybrid  
Cadillac XT4  
Cadillac XT5  
Cadillac XT6  
Chevrolet Suburban  
Chevrolet Tahoe  
Chevrolet Tahoe (police)  
Chevrolet Tahoe (special service)  
Chevrolet Traverse  
Dodge Durango  
Ford Escape  
Ford Expedition  
Ford Explorer  
GMC Acadia  
GMC Yukon  
GMC Yukon Hybrid  
GMC Yukon XL  
Jeep Cherokee  
Jeep Grand Cherokee  
Jeep Wrangler  
Lincoln Aviator  
Lincoln Corsair  
Lincoln Navigator

### UAW VANS

Chevrolet Express  
Chevrolet Express (cut-away)  
Ford E-Series (cut-away)  
Ford Transit  
GMC Savana  
GMC Savana (cut-away)

### UNIFOR CARS

Chrysler 300  
Dodge Challenger  
Dodge Charger

### UNIFOR SUVs/CUVS

Chevrolet Equinox\*  
Ford Edge  
Lincoln Nautilus

### UNIFOR VANS

Chrysler Pacifica  
Dodge Grand Caravan



# Thank You from Branch 34 Scholarship Recipients



## Charlotte Alrosus

Thank you so much for awarding me with the Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 Scholarship. My father has been a letter carrier for 20+ years and I admire him and all letter carriers for their dedication and hard work year-round.

I recently graduated from North Quincy High School with over 100 hours of community service, class treasurer, and captain of the Swim and Dive team. In addition, I am vice president of the Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester's Keystone Club, which focuses on supporting the Greater Boston community through service projects. Helping my community and being involved in activism is a huge passion of mine that I hope to continue in the future.

In the fall, I will be attending American University in Washington, DC, and majoring in biology. My dream is to eventually get my Master's in forensic science and work in the FBI labs as a scientist. As a future woman in STEM, I am excited to evince my adoration of the science field.

I am extremely grateful for this scholarship and to be the recipient of an Association I have so much appreciation for. I look forward to being in contact in the future.

## Mary Collins

My name is Mary Collins and I am a proud 2021 graduate of Lynn Classical High School. While at Classical, I worked hard to maintain a very high academic standard while at the same time participating in three varsity sports. I finished my high school career graduating seventh in my class. In addition, I was one of the captains that helped lead the girls soccer team to win our first ever conference championship. Though my senior year wasn't what I envisioned, good things still happened.

At this time, I would like to thank you for selecting me as one of this year's recipients of the Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 Scholarships. I plan on attending UMass Amherst in the fall where I will study Marketing. My goal is to eventually work for a company that produces products that are environmentally friendly. I discovered this new-found passion for the environment through taking AP Environmental this past year.

I'm looking forward to attending UMass this fall making new friends, facing new challenges and taking that next step to my career. Again, I would like to thank you for providing me with this scholarship.

## Stephanie Guglielmo

It is an honor to be able to apply for the Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 Scholarship and an even greater honor to have been selected as a recipient. The first day of English class my freshman year, my teacher asked me, "Who are you? I responded "Stephanie?..." in a confused manner. He then asked me this question again, and I just kept walking and thought he was crazy. Throughout high school, I have thought about this over and over again, trying to figure out what my teacher was really asking. After reflecting on myself for a very long time, I have an answer to his question. I am a strong independent woman who stands true to her morals and never gives up. High school has helped me find who I am and I will continue to find who I truly am throughout life. I have found that I am driven and motivated. When it comes to something I am passionate about, I will put my best foot forward and do everything in my power to accomplish it. Even when things get rough and it looks like I am going to fail, I keep pushing until I reach my goal, because the only thing that's guaranteed if you don't try in life is failure. I also found that I am extremely independent. I learned that people aren't always there for you the way you think they are, so I adapted to not depending on others. Of course I'll need help from others along the way, but I won't ever fully rely on someone but myself to get something done.

Lastly, I stand by my morals. Life throws many curve balls at you, and tests you in many ways, but it's up to you to decide what you do with that. "Practice what you preach" is something I live by, if not then I'd just be a hypocrite. I will always stand by my morals and what I believe in no matter how hard it is to give in. For example, peer pressure is something I have experienced a various amount of times, but every single time, I did not give in because I stood by my morals and what felt right to me.

I have participated in a countless amount of extracurricular activities throughout high school and I have finally narrowed in what I am truly passionate about. These activities are ones I will continue to do in the future and will be new hobbies of mine. Being active is at the top of my list. In high school I played basketball, ran track, and swam for the swim team. Although I am in no condition to be competing and having intense practices, I still want to be on my feet and moving. I started going to the gym, everyday focusing on a different muscle group. Going to the gym has become part of my daily routine and I will continue to go as long as my body is healthy and can endure exercise. Foreign language has also been a major interest of mine. Growing up speaking two languages may have played a role in this. I took three years on Italian in high school, and I want to continue to perfect my Italian, along with picking up another language. I am looking into taking foreign language classes at UMass Lowell and seeing what they have to offer.

Finally, I would like to join an ensemble in college. I play the tenor and alto saxophone, and would like to continue playing in a group at my college.

I plan on attending the University of Massachusetts Lowell and majoring in mathematics.

I plan on adding a finance minor to my program once I am at school. My goal is to obtain my bachelors degree and continue my education and obtain my Master's degree, whether it be at UMass Lowell or another university. I have made a goal to keep a 3.8 GPA or higher throughout my four years of college. Everyone always asks me what I want to do with my degree, and if I'm being honest, I have no idea. I know that I am in love with math and will excel in the subject. Now it is a matter of finding the path that is right for me. I have come down to two careers: an actuary or an accountant for the U.S. military. Time will tell and the future will guide me to make the right decision.

Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of this scholarship, I am so grateful and honored for this prestigious award.

## Shannon Joyce

I would like to thank Branch 34 of the National Association of Letter Carriers for awarding me with this generous scholarship.

Over the past four years, I played volleyball and tennis at Burlington High School and was captain of the varsity volleyball team my senior year. I also completed about 50 hours of volunteer work at local community events through adopt-a-class and participated in many clubs, including Rotary-Interact, UNICEF, and Yearbook.

In the fall, I will be attending UMass Boston and currently have an undecided major in science/math. I hope to have a career in computer science in the future and aim to inspire other women to pursue an education and/or career in the STEM field.

Once again, I would like to thank all of the members of Branch 34 for providing me with the scholarship.

**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.**

## The Postal Inspectors and You!

If questioned by a U.S. Postal Inspector about your conduct, even if you believe you are not guilty of any wrong-doing, it is suggested you do the following:

1. Remain calm;
2. Correctly identify yourself, if requested to do so;
3. Do not physically resist an arrest or a search of your personal property;
4. Read aloud to the Postal Inspector(s) the statement below;
5. Remain silent until you have consulted with your NALC representative or attorney, if appropriate.

This is not complete advice. Always consult with a lawyer.

I request the presence of my NALC representative. If I am a suspect in a criminal matter, please so advise me. If so, I wish to contact my attorney.

His/Her name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

If I am under arrest, I request you to advise me and to inform me of the reason or reasons. I will not resist an arrest.

I do not consent to a search of my person or property. However, I will not physically resist or obstruct such a search. If you have a search warrant, I request to see it at this time.

I will cooperate with you fully, but I do not waive any of my rights, including my right to remain silent. I will not sign a waiver-of-rights form, nor admit or deny allegation, nor make any written or oral statement unless my attorney and/or NALC representative are personally present and so advise me.

★ **To Our Troops!** ★

**Thank You For Your Service  
and Your Sacrifice!**



**NALC BRANCH 34  
SUPPORTS YOU!**





# 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: 0 6 4 0 0 0 0 1 7
8. Enter your 17-digit Account Number ----- 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5  
*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

To get to Postal Ease through Lite Blue:

- Got to [www.liteblue.usps.gov](http://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

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:  
----- 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5

### 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: 0 6 4 0 0 0 0 1 7
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:  
----- 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5

### 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](http://www.servicesonline.opm.gov)
2. Enter your CSA number, beginning with the letter A and ending with a zero. SAMPLE: A222222220
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!



# Election Notice for Branch 34 Delegates to the 2022 NALC Biennial National Convention in Chicago, Illinois

The election of delegates to the NALC Biennial National Convention will be held at the November Branch 34 meeting.

Nominations will be taken from the floor and there will be no nomination papers necessary to run in this election. Any potential nominees who cannot be in attendance must submit a letter of acceptance at the time of nominations. The names of all the nominees will be read off by the close of the meeting.

If necessary, the election will take place at the December meeting. All delegates

must be elected by a plurality vote. The vote shall be counted and tabulated at that time.

Delegates to the NALC National Convention will not receive financial assistance unless they attend 16 to 24 meetings in the prior two years. Alternates will not be entitled to financial assistance unless they become delegates. The Sergeant-At-Arms will validate proof of attendance with the regular monthly meeting signature book.

— Michael Murray,  
Secretary-Treasurer, Branch 34 Boston

## Dorchester Center’s New Steward Hosts Weekly Radio Show

It’s been five years since we last checked in with Dorchester Center’s **John Costello** and his weekly Irish music show. A few things have changed over the past five years. John was just elected shop steward of the best group of carriers in the country. And a few months ago he moved his show, **The Rebel Rooster Irish Music Show**, online to **Cave Radio Broadcasting** every Sunday morning 10 a.m.-12 noon.

As the name of the show indicates nothing’s changed about the kind of music you’re going to hear every Sunday from John. He still plays plenty of Irish Rebel music to celebrate all of the Irish men and women who have fought and died for Irish freedom. His daughters Eileen and Annie (aka, Cakes and Pie) are still the producers of the show. And most say the real talent

behind the **Rebel Rooster’s Irish Music Show**. I know what you’re thinking, how can I find John’s new show?

You can access Cave Radio Broadcasting by downloading the App. Just go to your smart store and download the “Cave Radio App” and go to studio 1. You can also tell Alexa or Siri to play “Cave Radio Broadcasting”. Or just go to their website at [crbradio.com](http://crbradio.com) and press studio 1.

The best part about the new show on Cave Radio Broadcasting is you can relisten to it anytime you want by going to [crbradio.com](http://crbradio.com) and listening to the podcast. And you don’t have to just listen to his last show but every show he’s done has been downloaded and ready to be listened to. I relisten to different shows all the time at home or work and if you like Irish music, and who doesn’t, you should too. Don’t



just take my word for it, many carriers are fans of John’s new show like South Boston’s **Jill McDonough**, Braintree’s steward **Rick Fraser**, MDA Chairman **George Adams** and Branch 34 MBA Rep **Richie Galvin** to name just a few.

John continues to be involved in the community and helping out with various charitable organizations. I know we all wish John success as the new shop steward in Dot Center, as well as, continued success on the radio every Sunday 10 a.m.-12 noon on Cave Radio Broadcasting. Good luck Brother!

— Michael Murray,  
Secretary-Treasurer, Branch 34 Boston



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