

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



CANAL WINCHESTER
HILLIARD
REYNOLDSBURG

CIRCLEVILLE
LONDON
WORTHINGTON

DELAWARE
MARYSVILLE
WESTERVILLE

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PLAIN CITY

GROVE CITY
MT. STERLING
WEST JEFFERSON

GROVEPORT
PICKERINGTON

FEBRUARY 2024



VOL. 44 NO. 2

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

I would like to give a brief review of what happened last year. The installation of Columbus has been severely understaffed for several years. The problems started with COVID 19 and the number of hours the new hires were worked and treatment of the carriers by management. The associate offices represented by Branch 78 have been adequately staffed with a few exceptions. After national made Columbus one of 19 original installations that would hire career PTFs as new hires the staffing has steadily improved. Columbus currently has approximately 50 unassigned regulars and 138 Part time flexible letter carriers. The number of carriers that we have now has helped significantly with the forced overtime issues we have had for years.

In 2023 there were over 1,700 grievances that were appealed to the Formal Step A of the grievance procedure for Branch 78. This does not include the grievances that were resolved at the first step or informal step A. I would like to thank all the Union Stewards for

their hard work representing the membership of this branch. There were over 700 grievances filed regarding Article 8 of the National Agreement, forced overtime, and working carrier over the contractual limits. There were over 100 grievances filed for violation of Article 15. These cases were when management signed a resolution to pay letter carriers and then did not comply with the resolution by either not paying the carrier or not paying them within the time limits allotted. There were over 130 disciplinary grievances filed that were either a Letter of Warning, 7 Day Suspension, 14 Day Suspension or Removal. I once again want to emphasize that any time you are issued any discipline it is a serious matter.

All Carriers should sign and date any discipline they are issued. Signing for discipline is not an admission that you are guilty of the charges outlined in the letter of charges. It shows that you received the discipline and the date that it was received.

If you are issued discipline, immediately ask to speak with your Union Steward. If your steward is not there contact the Union Hall. I

would like to remind all letter carriers of their rights as outlined in the National Agreement. Any employee who feels aggrieved must discuss the grievance with the employee's immediate supervisor within fourteen (14) days of the date on which the employee or the Union first learned or may reasonably have been expected to have learned of its cause. This constitutes the Informal Step A filing date. The date you sign for your discipline starts the 14-day clock.

I would like to thank Region 11 National Business Agent Mark Camilli for installing the officers of Branch 78 at the January membership meeting. Regional Administrative Assistant and Branch 78 member Michael Brim joined Mark. Mr. Camilli gave the membership the latest updates from headquarters. Branch 78 will be hosting a Retirement Seminar on Sunday April 14 at 10:00 am. The seminar will be conducted by Region 11 Regional Administrative Assistant Dave Kennedy. Any carrier that is planning to retire or would like information on retirement please call the branch office and RSVP.

Continued on page 7

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach

One of my long term goals for the this year is to educate the membership on the contract through my articles; asking stewards to give a contractual service talk each week. We all become more powerful union members when we obtain contractual knowledge. We are going to discuss some of the provisions found in Article 8 of the National Agreement, concerning overtime and assignments.

A review of all the LMOUs representing Branch 78 offices will show that except for Delaware and Marysville, all other offices represented by branch 78 have a clause in their local Memorandum of Understanding that requires management to update and post the Equability Report weekly.

When it comes to overtime equability, management has until the end of the quarter to make carriers on the overtime desired list equitable in hours and opportunities. This does not mean that the carriers on the overtime desired list will be equal in actual hours. Factors such as sick calls, and vacation time can affect a carrier's availability and numbers. Thus, these times when no opportunity took place must be factored into a carrier's overall numbers. The National Agreement requires that the first time a violation of the overtime equability takes place, the appropriate remedy is make-up overtime the next quarter. If the violation is repeated and egregious, or management fails to make-up the overtime, the appropriate

remedy is payment for the time in question. This language is found on pages 8-11 of the JCAM under Article 8.5.C.2.

National Arbitrator Bernstein ruled in H1N-5G-C 2988, August 14, 1986 (C-06364), that in determining equitable distribution of overtime, the number of hours as well as, the number of opportunities for overtime must be considered. One ODL carrier worked instead of another must be made up with equitable distribution of overtime during the quarter unless the bypassed carrier was not available, that carrier was on leave or working overtime on his/her own route on a regularly scheduled day. (see the explanation under Article 8.5.C.2.d)

Many carriers on the work assignment are under the wrong assumption that any overtime on their assignment is guaranteed to them. This isn't always the case.

Section 8.5G of the National Agreement clarifies this on page 8-8 of the JCAM:

"This provision does not require management to use a full-time employee desiring to work overtime in preference to a PTF or a CCA working overtime."

Management has the contractual right to use a PTF to carry overtime on a route over the work assignment or ODL carrier. Pages 8-22 of the JCAM explains the work assignment pecking order in depth when a CCA or PTF is not being used:

- A Carrier Technician who has signed for Work Assignment overtime has both a right and an obligation to work any overtime that occurs on any of the five compo-

nent routes on a regularly scheduled day.

- When overtime is required on the regularly scheduled day of the route of a carrier who is on the ODL and whose Carrier Technician is on the Work Assignment List, the Carrier Technician is entitled to work the overtime.

- When overtime is required on the regularly scheduled day of the route of a carrier who is on the Work Assignment List and whose Carrier Technician is also on the Work Assignment List, the regular carrier on the route is entitled to work the overtime.

Hopefully, this clears up some of the confusion now that there is less overtime, as our staffing becomes better. One problem with being so well staffed is that many times management overschedules PTFs and CCAs. We have had a lot of complaints lately of PTFs showing up and they are told they are not needed. Or worse yet management tries calling them or text to tell them not to come in. Let me be very clear to our new PTFs and CCAs. **You are not on call.** If you are scheduled and report you have a right to be paid your guarantee. This language can be found on pages 8-24 of the JCAM under Article 8.8C:

A PTF requested or scheduled to work in a post office or facility with 200 or more work years of employment is guaranteed four hours of work (or pay in lieu of work).

A PTF requested or scheduled to work in a post office or facility with fewer than 200 work years of employment is guaranteed two

Continued on page 7

MILLER'S MUSINGS



Yana Miller-Farney

Considering the extremely cold temperatures this winter, I hope none of you have experienced hypothermia or frostbite on the job. If you have it is imperative that you file a Office of Workers Compensation (OWCP) claim. Please contact the union hall for assistance immediately. If you are hurt while performing your work duties you are covered by the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA). The cost of medical care should be covered by FECA not your insurance. If you have to take time off to seek medical attention or recover; this time should not come out of your sick or annual leave. It should be covered by Continuation of Pay (COP). This information frequently unknown to newer members, is one of the reasons we encourage you to attend monthly union meetings. Learn your rights and benefits. You will not get that injury claim unless you file. The National keeps stats on cold related injuries just like the summer heat related injuries. The information can be used when negotiating contracts, deciding uniform materials or items for allotments. Please report all injuries to the union.

This is a national election year, as if you could ignore the constant ads, emails and texts. I have included some deadline information about registering to vote. You must use the Board of Elections for the county of your home address. Don't forget, these dates are coming up fast.

What is all the yammering about "The Thrift" or TSP? Federal and postal employees are covered by Federal Employees Retirement System. The TSP is one third of our retirement, the other parts are postal retirement and Social Security, thus the three legged stool you may have heard mentioned. TSP is similar to private sector 401(k) plans, allowing federal employees to save pre-tax dollars every month in individual accounts. This allows you to save quickly and easily. Participants can decide on how money is invested. Currently career carriers or CCAs converted after Oct 1, 2020 have been automatically enrolled in the TSP. Five percent of base pay is deducted and deposited in your TSP account. USPS matches the first three percent dollar for dollar, the next two percent fifty cents on the dollar and a automatic one percent agency contributions. Career letter carriers hired between July 31, 2010 - Sept 30, 2020 were automatically enrolled at three percent. Those hired before July 31, 2010 and covered by FERS were automatically enrolled in a TSP account with one percent contributions from USPS and no automatic payroll deductions; deductions had to be set up by the employee. One of the biggest complaints from those employees is that they wish they had signed up for TSP, at least the matching five percent. It would have increased their retirement significantly. Some said they had no knowledge of investing as their reason for not signing up. Once TSP created Lifecycle funds with monies diversified by planned retirement years and investing according to the amount of risk re-

covery time, there was no excuse not to invest.

The stock market has good and bad streaks. There are always chances for losses and gains. There are no guarantees. The amount of time to recoup from your losses is the amount of risk your account can handle. The more you invest the better your chances to improve your savings. The individual portfolio managers work for us so our administrative costs are minimal compared to private investment companies; there is a chain of people getting paid from your money. They will get paid whether you make money or not. The first thing

Continued on page 9

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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President	Todd Hornyak
Vice President	Mark Beach
Recording Secretary	Trevor Payne
Asst. Secretary/Editor	Yana Miller-Farney
Financial Secretary	Ramon Lawson

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Branch.

Please notify your local union of address changes as soon as possible.

Send address changes to:

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Columbus OH 43223-2524

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www.nalc-branch78.org

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Buckeye Branch 78

★ ★ ★
 Congratulations
 ★ ★ ★



Kevin Maynard of South Columbus receives 30 years of service award.



Todd, Oakland Park carriers Fred Wilson and Rock Craft with their million mile awards and NALC jackets.



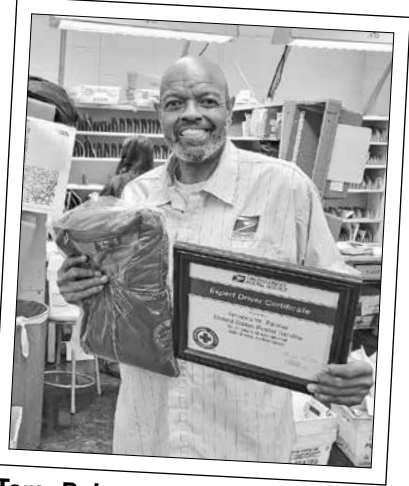
Anh Thach and Richard Cunningham, OP, receive 25 year awards from Todd Hornyak.



Brian Fuchs retired from Gahanna, with NALC jacket, NALC watch and certificate.



Todd Davis 25 years, Lee Craft Million Mile and NALC jacket, John Beverly 25 years, and Kim Morgan 30 years, all from West Worthington.



Tony Palmer, Bexley with NALC jacket and million mile award.

MARYSVILLE BREAKFAST



NALC branch 78 E Board bought breakfast for the Marysville office. They raised the most money for One New Toy per member. Sizeable donations were also made by West City, Westland, Eastland and Grove City.

FYI HANDLING PDI

My name is Allan D. Moore Sr. and I am Union Steward at West City Stations and Formal Step A representative for Branch 78. I would like to educate the membership on how you answer the questions in the Pre-Disciplinary Interview (PDI). Management's traps! (and how to avoid them) Watch out for management's traps! Management will read you a bunch of ELM (Employee and Labor Relations Manual) quotes at the beginning of the PDI, such as ELM 665.6 says blah blah blah..., and then ask you, "Do you understand them?" Unless you have received a copy of those documents, and been given time to thoroughly read them, YOU don't understand what they mean. When you answer "YES" to these questions, YOU are helping MANAGEMENT to convict you of the charges they are planning to mount against you!

Management will often ask leading, or accusatory questions like, "You were irregular in attendance on May 4th, and 6th. Why were you irregular in attendance on those days?" They've already decided that you're guilty of those charges by stating that you were irregular in attendance on those dates, during the very investigative interview, where they are supposed to be determining the facts to see if you committed the alleged infractions. My personal response to that would be "What does irregular in attendance even mean? How many days can I miss, and in what frame of time, for my attendance to go from being regular to irregular?" If management doesn't tell you where the threshold is, how can you ensure that you don't cross it? Tell management that YOU want each of those questions, and their an-

swers to each, included in the record of your PDI. Then begin your answer with "I was NOT irregular in attendance on those dates" before explaining the reason why you were absent on those dates. NALC Branch 78 has outstanding Formal A and Dispute Resolution Team members. These are the individuals that defend the charges against you if your steward cannot solve the problem. If your case advances all the way to pre-arbitration, or arbitration, the Business Agent's Office has outstanding representatives that will fight for each one of you, should the need arise. Don't tie our hands by not being proactive in your PDI. Help US Help YOU.

Allan Moore
West City Union Steward

BRANCH 78

Retirement Seminar

April 14, 2024 10:00 am

Branch 78 Union Hall
1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Oh 43223

Spouses Welcome

Please RSVP at 614-279-2778

CPD

Non Emergency

call 614-645-4545

If you feel threatened on your route; observe suspicious behavior, someone repeatedly circling the block or watching you. Call and ask for a cruiser to check person/persons out. Get license number, vehicle Identification and description of person(s) clothing, height, build, race, etc. Try to keep your distance or get in your vehicle, notify management of the situation and advise you're deviating to avoid any interaction.

YOUR SAFETY IS
PRIORITY ONE!



65 Years

Name	Member Since
James C. Herring	8/1/1959
Howard L. Watters	8/1/1959

60 Years

Name	Member Since
Richard A. Trushel	4/12/1964
Wilbur A. Smith	8/1/1964

55 Years

Name	Member Since
James Baker	1/1/1969
Daniel F. Coldwell	1/1/1969
Charles T. Green	1/1/1969
Preston R. Harrison	1/1/1969
Maxine M. Hildebrand	1/1/1969
Gerald L. Howell	1/1/1969
Charles H. Lee	1/1/1969
John W. Pontious	1/1/1969
John E. Tinney	1/1/1969
James E. Zickafoos	1/1/1969
Paul R. Briggs	3/1/1969
Frederick W. Vance	3/1/1969
Floyd L Baker	5/1/1969
Aaron A. Kitzmiller	5/1/1969
Prince Maldon Jr.	9/1/1969
Richard L. Pierce	9/1/1969
William E. Dorn	10/1/1969
Rodney S. Parker	10/1/1969
John M. O'Neil	11/1/1969
Douglas A. Gulley	11/26/1969
James R. Bidwell	12/1/1969
Enrico Caruso Jr.	12/1/1969
Ronald G. Patterson	12/1/1969

50 Years

Name	Member Since
Leroy A. Cain	3/4/1974
Robert D. Calender	3/4/1974
Edmund W. Erdelt	3/4/1974
Robert T. Price	3/4/1974
Richard G. Lecrone Jr.	3/31/1974
Joseph R. Dietz	10/1/1974
William H. Rood	10/1/1974
Gene Aldenderfer	10/21/1974
John M. Burson	10/21/1974
Richard L. Hornbeck	10/21/1974

45 Years

Name	Member Since
Charles W. Seipel	1/10/1979
Dennis W. Mitchell	2/1/1979
Mark L. Thompson	2/19/1979
Michael L. Ford	3/1/1979
George C. Armor	3/14/1979
James W. Seyfried	3/14/1979
Gary L. Vastine	3/14/1979
Richard L. Keller	4/12/1979
Norman L. Tinkham	4/17/1979
Donald J. Murnane	5/9/1979
Thomas A. Thiel Jr.	5/9/1979
Gary L. Boller	6/14/1979
Ralph E. Headington	7/24/1979
Mark A. Nelson	8/9/1979
Anthony G. Loubon	8/21/1979
Gerald W. Hoosier	9/17/1979
Douglas L. Kessler	9/17/1979
Regina A. Taylor	10/23/1979
James T Rurik	12/22/1984

40 Years

Name	Member Since
Donald L. Raines Jr	1/17/1984
James C. Safstrom	1/17/1984
James E. Pearce	2/8/1984
Gregory W. Williams	3/1/1984
James R. Lewis	3/7/1984
David G. Leggitt	6/13/1984
Karl S. Beem	6/26/1984
John W. Roberts Jr	6/26/1984
Christine A. Shipe	8/8/1984
Larry J. Russell	9/12/1984
Annette E. Seyfried	9/12/1984
Donald W. Shepherd	9/12/1984
Douglas A. Welch	9/12/1984
Melvin R. Magill	11/1/1984
Edward G. Boehm	11/7/1984
Mark A. McClellan	11/11/1984

35 Years

Name	Member Since
Anthony R. Snyder	1/9/1989
Nancy J. Madden	1/27/1989
Randy C. Roll	1/27/1989
Beth A. Olmsted	2/6/1989
David H. Workman	2/6/1989
Loretta L. Buckingham	2/14/1989
Sue E. Shannon	2/28/1989
Ricky E. Nott	3/8/1989
Bradley A. Roberts	3/24/1989
Fitzgerald Portier	3/29/1989
Roger J. Markin	4/26/1989
Eddie Billups	5/3/1989
Robert T. Callihan	5/31/1989
John E. Stevenson	8/9/1989
Donald B. Fuchs	9/13/1989
Richard S. Tea	11/6/1989

30 Years

Name	Member Since
Michael L. Zeller	1/12/1994
Kevin M. Maynard	1/20/1994
James S. Bogner	2/11/1994
Pankaj C. Patel	3/8/1994
Tonya L. Schirtzinger	4/14/1994
Archie J. Smith	4/14/1994
Stephen Bryant	5/5/1994
Darryl E. Glick	5/5/1994
Ralph E. Nowling Jr.	5/11/1994
Scott R. Stewart	5/11/1994
Rick A. Wells	5/11/1994
Carl J. Johnson	6/1/1994
Paul D. McCamey	6/1/1994
Robert L. Davis	7/14/1994
Charles R. Snyder	8/11/1994
James R. Williams	9/13/1994
Angel D. Jackson	9/20/1994
Kevin T. Violet	9/28/1994
Robert K. Gossett	10/1/1994
Raymond W. Mitchell II	10/1/1994
Henry L. Shafer	10/1/1994
Shane R. Shimansky	10/1/1994
Mark A. Tigner	10/1/1994
Carol J. Decker	10/3/1994
Mark A. Effingham	10/3/1994
David B. Jackson	10/3/1994
Terry R. Moore	10/3/1994
Edward E. Ralston	10/3/1994
Michael A. Kanuth	10/31/1994

30 Years		25 Years		25 Years	
Name	Member Since	Name	Member Since	Name	Member Since
Mark D. Correll	11/1/1994	Austin J. Crockett	1/11/1999	Phillip L. Haughn	8/25/1999
Laurence C. Gilbert	11/1/1994	David L. Eblin	1/11/1999	William A. Scott	8/25/1999
Joseph R. Hughey	11/1/1994	Timothy W. Gethers	1/11/1999	Christopher G. Semo	8/25/1999
Lawrence M. Leclaire	11/1/1994	Cenita M. Gibbs	1/11/1999	Shad RR. Siddell	8/25/1999
Brent A. Schiff	11/1/1994	Timothy L. Nelson	2/1/1999	Cody G. Siluk	8/25/1999
Steven K. Singh	11/1/1994	James C. Ogden	2/1/1999	Timothy P. Yenichek	8/25/1999
Gary S. Wang	11/1/1994	Aubrey L. Hill	3/1/1999	Antoine D. Green	8/30/1999
Donna G. Cockerham	11/4/1994	Michael E. Hughes Jr.	3/1/1999	Trent G. Simmons	8/30/1999
John D. Vazquez	11/8/1994	Richard C. Reed	3/10/1999	William O. Rankin	10/4/1999
Raymond R. Arnold	11/21/1994	Gary N. White	4/5/1999	Danny J. Kellough Jr.	10/13/1999
David M. England	11/21/1994	Felicia A. Gilliam	4/14/1999	Adam J. Slack	10/13/1999
Paul D. Estep	11/21/1994	Robert L. Gravely	4/14/1999	Bradley D. Turner	10/13/1999
Thomas B. Hawkins	11/30/1994	Diane L. Walker	4/14/1999	David S. Angles	11/1/1999
Robert G. Friedman	12/1/1994	David K. Hairston	5/12/1999	Mark A. Burcham	11/1/1999
John W. Hall	12/1/1994	Karin D. Haser	5/12/1999	Christian M Penn	11/9/1999
Scott B. Hoxworth	12/1/1994	Brian D. Nickell	5/12/1999	Todderick L Davis	12/1/1999
Scott R. Lloyd	12/1/1994	Sanjinella Johnson		Duke L Jensen	12/8/1999
John T. Noble	12/1/1994	-Woods	6/23/1999	Donnell A Kirksey	12/8/1999
William J. Penny	12/1/1994	Arturo L. Topacio Jr.	6/28/1999	Eric T McElhatten	12/8/1999
Jacquelyn M. Mitchell	12/10/1994	Cheryl A. Barrett	7/9/1999	Robert A Brown Jr	12/21/1999
Donald J. Toth	12/14/1994	Daniel A. Cochran	8/13/1999	Angelina R.	
Edward B. Miller	12/28/1994	George H. Crider	8/25/1999	Sutherland	12/21/1999
Todd G. Hornyak	12/31/1994	Christine H. Defide	8/25/1999		

PRESIDENT Continued from page 1

I would like to personally apologize to Sergeant at Arms and Convention Committee Chairperson Jacquelyn Mitchell. She wrote a thank you article to the members of the convention committee and those who advertised in our convention booklet. Through no fault of Jackie, the article was not

placed in the Branch 78 bulletin until January. Again, my deepest apologies to Jackie

I would like to congratulate Donald "Brian" Fuchs from Gahanna Station on his recent retirement. I wish him the best on his retirement. Please attend our February branch meeting in per-

son on February 14th, we will also be utilizing ZOOM. Information regarding the meeting can be found on our Branch 78 website www.nalc-branch78.org. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

*Fraternally,
Todd Hornyak*

VICE PRESIDENT Continued from page 2

hours of work (or pay in lieu of work).

The same language covering CCAs can be found on the next page of the JGAM page 8-25 in accordance with Article 8.8D of the National Agreement. The worst thing a carrier can do is assume that everything management tells

them is true. Become informed, have an issue, contact your union immediately. Don't let management bully you into thinking they are always right.

Mark Beach, V.P.

**SPEND AN EVENING
WITH FRIENDS**



**ATTEND YOUR
UNION MEETINGS!**

HOW WINTER WEATHER AFFECTS A CARRIER'S TIMES

By Jeremy Hirschfelt

Carrying mail in the winter brings unique challenges that must be considered when determining daily workload. Management often ignores these challenges despite less daylight, heavier mail volume, cold, and icy conditions.

Here are ways in which a carrier's times can be affected by winter weather:

Ice/Snow

- Slippery surfaces require caution and reduction in speed when walking and driving
- Carriers must push through snow to create paths. Previous paths ice over which now require more caution or new paths.
- The snow can hide unsafe obstacles. Paths, steps, and porches can be icy
- Labels get wet from the snow, making them unreadable/unscannable

Cold Temperatures

- Batteries die faster and the scanner stops working properly
- It takes longer to warm up vehicles, which increases time in morning/comfort stops
- Carriers lose body heat when stopping to deliver at a box. This causes additional time to stop and warm body/fingers

Bulky clothing/Added layers

- Added layers make it difficult to bend knees and arms
- Gloves decrease dexterity and make it difficult to finger mail and use scanner
- Boots and overshoes can be awkward and heavy
- The temperature can change throughout the day. This requires changing clothes or removing/adding layers
- Multiple layers add time to comfort stops when using bathroom
- Hats, hoods, and headlamps cause limited peripheral vision

In Office

- Increased mail and parcel volume in winter
- Dressing for the weather adds more time before leaving in the AM

Do not forget to turn in a PS Form 3996 when you will need overtime to complete your assignment!

Last date to register to VOTE

is Feb 20, 2024

9:00 P.M. at County Board of Elections

Absentee Ballot Applications Deadline March 12, 2024

Absentee Ballot must be postmarked by March 18, 2024

Absentee Voting by Mail begins February 21, 2024

Early In-Person Voting 8 A.M. - 5 P.M. February 21, 2024

**OHIO PRIMARY
ELECTION**

March 19, 2024

Polls Open

6:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.

SILVERSCRIPT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PLAN

The SilverScript PDP sponsored by NALC Health Benefit Plan combines Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage with additional coverage provided by the NALC Health Benefit Plan to close the gaps between the standard Part D plan and our current coverage. If you do not opt out your prescription cost will either, be lower or the same cost as you are paying now. It will never be higher.

If you are an annuitant or an annuitant's family member who is enrolled in Medicare Part A or Medicare Parts A and B, you will be automatically enrolled in

SilverScript. You are eligible to receive up to a \$600 Medicare Part B premium reimbursement per enrollee from the NALC Health Benefit Plan. To receive the \$600 reimbursement, you will have to register at healthequity.com/wageworks.

The only reason to opt out is if you use drug discount cards or coupons to get your prescriptions. If the discounts you get on your prescriptions save you over \$600 then you would want to opt out.

Each person, whether they choose to opt out or in is your personal choice. Just do not make

the choice based on it just being a change. I know everybody hates change but make your choice based on information not change. Also, you can opt in or out at any time. So, if you have already opted out and would like to get back into Silver Scripts there is a form you will have to fill out and mail back to the plan. You can call the NALC Health Benefits plan at 1-888-636-6252 or the Union Hall at 614-279-2778 to get the forms.

Dean Peruzzi,
Health Benefits Rep

TRUSTEE MESSAGE

I would like to thank the membership for voting me in as trustee. I began my career as a CCA at the Oakland Park station. In orientation they asked us what our goals were in our new career. I stated that my goal was to become a manager. After 2 months of brutal treatment from management as a CCA, I decided I'd rather dedicate myself to the Union. I began educating myself on carrier rights, became chief steward at Oakland Park serving for 2 years, then bid to the Westland station and became an alternate steward, then eventually, a steward. I was asked to step up as an organizer, giving the Union presentations to new hires alongside my amazing counterpart Jackie Habash, and to step up as a Formal A representative.

Since then, I have been certified as an outside steward, attended the rap session in Cincinnati; where I was a featured speaker; attended the rap session in Syracuse, and

the state convention in Columbus. I have been requested to testify as a witness at the National Interest Arbitration hearing for our new National Agreement regarding hiring and retention, and have received National training. I have plans to apply for the Leadership Academy and attend this year's rap session and National Convention. I am eager to expand my knowledge and look forward to continuing to serve the membership. In the time I have been actively serving Branch 78, I have worked tirelessly for the membership. Thank you again, wholeheartedly, to all that voted for me. I have a long career ahead of me and look forward to serving the membership to the best of my ability for many years to come.

Kelsie Crosbie

MILLER'S MUSINGS

Continued from page 3

they will say when they find out you have a Thrift account is you need to move it to my firm and we'll manage for you. Remember there are no guarantees but they will dress it up and smooth talk you into believing they have your best interest at heart. They don't!

CCAs who have not converted have the NALC Mutual Benefit Association(MBA) offers a CCA Retirement Savings Plan, where traditional IRA funds can be rolled into the Thrift once you become a career letter carrier. The best thing is there is no special enrollment period to open an account. There are IRS limitations on annual investment amounts, amount may change year to year so look up TSP.gov for more in depth information, not just my interpretation. Biggest take away... Don't walk away from free money!

Yana Miller-Farney

JANUARY 2024 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 7:33; Pledge by Adam Peters; Invocation by Val Davis. Ramon Lawson waived reading of minutes seconded by Chuck Sanders. ~ **Passed**

Trevor Payne Communications: Earth Angels Foundation, Charity Newsies and VA; twenty-six applications for membership. Welcome to Branch, Nick Webb took Oath of Membership.

Trevor Payne: Bills List

Mark Beach Education: set goals, give stewards four items to present at Plan Fives

Chris Semo Law Comm: Art 7 Sec 2 and Art 5 Sec 11 b; ~ **both PASSED**

Valeria Davis Retirees: No January Meeting, next February 6, 1 PM Valentine Celebration; wear something white, pink or red; bring Valentines to exchange.

Dean Peruzzi HBP: No word on Mt Carmel returning to NALC; BCBS dropping Mt Carmel, announced after Open Season; NALC still in talks with Trinity Health.

Gary Porter Safety & Health: Remind all to be observant, Incident of firearm discharged at East City carrier; management did not respond. Mark Beach signed carrier up through eComp for OWCP. Again requested PM to send scanner msg.

Ramon Lawson: Treasurer's Report; recent Leadership Academy Grad.

Suspended regular order for Installation of Officers by Reg 11 NBA Mark Camilli read Oath, Officers repeated and accepted, passed gavel to Todd Hornyak

NBA Camilli accompanied by RAA Mike Brim and Recent Leadership Academy grad, Ed Walsh Update on selecting Arbitrator, continue negotiating; Crimes Against Carriers rally for Columbus. Legislation: HR 82 (S597), HR 618 (S131); HR 5995 primary bills.

Seeking two National level Arbitrators, comparing availability but negotiations continue.

Crimes Against Carriers, funding provided to hire more federal prosecutors Instruct carriers to invoke Weingarten Rights if questioned by management on accidents or anything that may lead to discipline, request steward present and notify Todd ASAP.

Regular order of business resumed; has National confirmed increase in per diem? Not yet

NEW BUSINESS

Ramon Lawson made a motion seconded by Trevor Payne to spend up to \$3000 to send four delegates to Legislative Conference in D.C. 4/24-25/2024. ~ **PASSED**

Mark Beach made a motion seconded by Jacki Mitchell to spend up to \$11000 to send twelve officers and newer stewards to Region 11 Rap Session in Akron 03/16-18/2024. ~ **PASSED**

PM giving out Safe Driving Awards to 30 year Million Mile Carriers and \$50 gift cards. Todd has been accompanying to present NALC jackets from Branch 78; recently to South Columbus, West Worthington, Beechwold, Oakland Park and Bexley.

TIAREAP rushing to make 5.5 hour changes to Bexley; no edit books, line of travel or labels have been done.

USPS opted in 43223 to take out routes, Branch only wants Special Inspections on overburdened routes

Dean Peruzzi made a motion seconded by John Martin to spend up to \$1100 to send Mark Beach to COP, 3/2-4/2024 in Jacksonville, FL. ~ **PASSED**

National Food Drive May 11, 2024, Kelsey Crosbie volunteered to assist Mark Beach, also Cody Piersol. Attempting

to start earlier with PSAs. Talk up importance in stations

NALC virtual training on LM2 Ramon; Dean National virtual Mutual Benefits training.

In person Retirement Seminar 04/14/2024 at the Hall by RAA Dave Kennedy and Mike Brim, RSVP please, may try to record, no guarantee.

Of 45 delegates 27 qualified to attend National Convention in Boston 2024; announced 2026 in Los Angeles, 2028 in Minneapolis and 2030 in Honolulu. Please complete 3971 if planning to attend, harder to get you released later in unpaid status.

Encourage all, especially new carriers to sign up for Thrift Savings Program (TSP) one third of retirement package; add to account with raises or COLAs.

Trevor Payne made a motion seconded by Gary Porter to send \$350 donation to Earth Angels Foundation Cruise In. ~ **PASSED**

Mark Beach made a motion seconded by Brenda Stidams to send a \$250 donation to Ohio AFL-CIO Sportsman Conservation Dinner. ~ **PASSED**

GOOD of the ASSOCIATION

Mike Brim congratulated Columbus on doing a great job on grievances per DRT, other areas complaining. Kelsey, Allan and Jeremy do great work on Formal As but cases built at Informal, some stewards really need improvement there. Suggestion that stewards inquire every week if any discipline has been mailed recently. Mike Brim stated could be considered fishing; better to ask when submitting grievance to ask if any other discipline has been issued.

Eric Kennedy teased about Michigan screensaver. Any info on getting QR code for donations; not yet.

IMPROVEMENT of the SERVICE Tammy Hinkle Moore won gas card.

Jeff Stiverson of Eastland, won \$190 in Member Drawing; starts over at \$50 in February.

Meeting adjourned at 20:05

Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney

ATTENTION

Interested in legislation, want to attend Legislative meetings in D.C.? Inform Todd or Mark at the Hall. You are required to attend the OSA LCCL training February 18, 2024 at the Branch.

Don't wait!

**Washington, D.C. trip
April 24 - 25, 2024**



Retiree Valentine Meeting. February 6, 2024, 1 P.M.

Region 11 Rap Session Akron, OH March 16 - 18, 2024

Retirement Seminar In-person RSVP 10 A.M. April 14, 2024

FOOD DRIVE May 11, 2024

GET INVOLVED! ATTEND YOU UNION MEETINGS!

Buckeye Branch 78

1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524
National Association of
Letter Carriers
AFL-CIO



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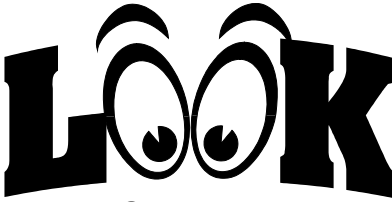
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STATIONS STEWARDS BUSINESS-HOME

BW Beechwood	Scott Lloyd, Nick Jervey/Alt. Karlton Wilson	614-447-0146
BEX Bexley	Roderick Robinson	614-237-2830
Canal Winchester	Mark Beach	614-837-7953
CIR Circleville	Bryce Diits	740-474-3113
DEL Delaware	Mark Beach	740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Cody Piersol/Alts. Zak Meyer, Jerome Torralba	614-889-6571
Eastland	Jeff Stiverson	614-237-1912
East City	Charles Sanders, Dilien Miller/Alts. Brian Ball, Victoria Wessa, Leala Harris	614-469-4466
F German Village	Dean Peruzzi/Alts. Jackie Habash, Karlin Wolfe	614-449-9565
G South Columbus	Rob Arnold/ Alt. Dean Peruzzi	614-444-0217
GAH Gahanna/ Collections Unit	Brenda Stidams Eli Turner	614-472-0696
GP Groveport	Mark Beach	614-836-5452
GC Grove City	Mike Zeller/Alt. Tricia Douglas	614-875-6327
HILL Hilliard	Mark Beach	614-876-7021
LIV Livingston	John Leba	614-237-9570
LON London	Mark Beach	740-852-1881
MV Marysville	Dave Eblin/Alt. Adam Tullis	937-642-1961
MT Gilead	Mark Beach	419-946-5846
NL Northland	Sammy Tonyemba/Alt. Larez Harper	614-890-1180
NW Northwest	Roslind Smith/Alts. Thorton Lindquist, Myron Miller	614-451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Dale Hillis/Alt. William Talley, Trenca Jackson	614-476-1680
PIC Pickerington	Mark Beach	614-837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Mark Beach	614-873-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Mark Beach	614-866-6049
UA Upper Arlington	Kyle Booth/Alt. Jacquelyn Mitchell	614-451-2302
West City	Allan Moore Sr., Heather Christy/Alts. Shawn Carter, Richard Hannon Tamara Hinkle-Moore	614-469-4465
WV Westerville	Olivia Nichols/Alt. Keith Bednarczuk	614-882-2243
Westland	Samuel "Cory" Bailey, Kelsey Crosbie/Alt. Eric Scarberry	614-351-0138
WJ West Jefferson	Mark Beach	614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	Jeremy Hirschfelt, Cornelius Scott	614-793-9789
WH Whitehall	Todd Hornyak/Alt. Robert Gravely	614-237-1722



FOR THE
**UNION
LABEL**



**THE JOB YOU SAVE
COULD BE YOUR OWN!**

ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ANY MONTH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS BULLETIN

The views expressed in articles printed in this publication do not directly reflect those of Branch 78 or the Editor.

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1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524

STEWARDS MEETING-6:30 P.M.
First Wednesday of each month

OFFICERS MEETING-6:00 P.M.
The Monday preceding Steward Meeting

BRANCH MEETING-6:30 P.M.
Second Wednesday of each month

RETIRES MEETING-1:00 P.M.
First Tuesday of each month

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:
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