

# BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

## BULLETIN

### Columbus and Central Ohio



CANAL WINCHESTER  
HILLIARD  
REYNOLDSBURG

CIRCLEVILLE  
LONDON  
WORTHINGTON

DELAWARE  
MARYSVILLE  
WESTERVILLE

DUBLIN  
MT. GILEAD  
PLAIN CITY

GROVE CITY  
MT. STERLING  
WEST JEFFERSON

GROVEPORT  
PICKERINGTON

**JANUARY 2024**



12

**VOL. 44 NO. 1**

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE



**Todd Hornyak**

I would like to thank the membership for their support in re-electing me as President of Buckeye Branch 78. I am honored and humbled by your show of confidence, and I will continue to do all that I can to represent and serve all Letter Carriers in our branch. The membership also elected an outstanding group of officers. I would like to congratulate those officers that were elected, and I look forward to collaborating with them. I also ask that those who ran for office and were not elected please remain active in the branch. There were several qualified candidates that were not elected. I want to thank executive board members Don Shepherd and Debbie Guthrie Brown for their service to the members of this branch. They both decided not to run this cycle to spend more time with their family. I know they will remain active in the branch. There are many challenges in the future for Letter Carriers. We need all branch members to step up and become activists involved in the

branch and work together to make our branch stronger and more united. We have enough troubles in dealing with management, we do not need problems between union members.

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. This Christmas season was once again very busy with parcel delivery for the Postal Service. This year we were fortunate to have the best staffing in Columbus that we have had for several years. Unfortunately, management at many stations have no clue on how to use the workforce that we have. The Columbus postmaster informed the managers that letter carriers could not come in early to deliver packages as we have done for the past 20 years. This resulted in carriers delivering mail and packages later than they needed to be. I want to thank all the letter carriers for their hard work delivering during these trying times this holiday season.

If you receive discipline for any other reason 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. Management has started the practice of mailing discipline to the carrier's address of record. If you receive discipline in the mail the same time limits apply. 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 receive or sign for your discipline starts the 14-day clock.

I want to thank all the carriers and stations that contributed to One New Toy this year. I also want to thank Safety and Health Officer Gary Porter for his hard work making One New Toy happen this year. Several stations made

**Continued on page 5**

# FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



**Mark Beach**

I would like to take a moment to thank Recording Secretary, Trevor Payne for working tirelessly to keep up with the branch database.

This effort showed when we had so few returned ballots during this union election. The branch was able to track down each member who had a returned ballot. Most of the returned ballots were from newer members who thought if they changed their addresses with the USPS in Light Blue, the local union would be notified. If you move, you must contact the union hall directly to update your address. I would like to thank Kathy Jakeway and the Election Committee for their efforts and job well done for running a smooth election. Kathy worked daily to track down any member who had a ballot returned and get out a new one to the corrected address.

I was disappointed by the poor return of ballots. Stewards were to inform stations when ballots were mailed, what to do if you didn't get a ballot and date they had to be in PO Box to be counted; there was no excuse not to exercise your duty to vote. I look forward to continuing working with Todd and the new Executive Board in the upcoming years. Congratulations to the new Trustees Kelsey Crosbie and Brenda Stidams. I have the utmost confidence that both will strive very hard to represent the membership. I would like to thank Don Shepherd and Debbie Brown for their time on the board. I often demanded a lot of Don as

Head Trustee, he always did his best to fulfill his duties. Don is one of the most passionate supporters of Branch 78 and his actions were always in the best interest of the branch. Don could have easily held on for another term and sat back and collected a paycheck. But Don's outstanding character would not allow him to do that, because he knew he wanted to spend more time with his grandkids and his knee would not let him give the job 100%. Don, for that I hold you in the highest regard and you will always have my utmost respect.

The last few years, dealing with COVID and the many changes it brought added some difficulty. Yet we are now transitioning back to a somewhat state of normalcy. In doing so, when it comes to the meetings, we will continue to have in person and attendance via ZOOM. Zoom is a very valuable tool for those who cannot make it to meetings in person. In recent months, the steward meetings have become more interactive and steward participation has been required.

One of the stewards assigned duties is to relay information to the membership after meetings. You should expect a report from your union steward after both the steward and branch meetings. During the next year, I will be giving the stewards four contractual facts at each meeting to share with the membership at plan fives. This will be one contractual fact or item to be shared a week. One of my goals for the upcoming year is to educate the membership on the contract through our union stewards.

The National Parties seem to be taking their time naming an

arbitrator? We here at the branch are asking the same questions as the general membership, what is going on? I have always preached to the membership to have faith in our National to get things done and represent us with the members best interest at heart. National all along has said they expect a significant pay raise for letter carriers, protection of cost-of-living adjustments and the end to a two-tier pay system. Considering the economic state of the Postal Service and its continued mismanagement; I'm curious to see what an arbitrator will rule. Judgment reserved till the outcome of the negotiations or the arbitration, whenever it might take place and I hope the membership does the same.

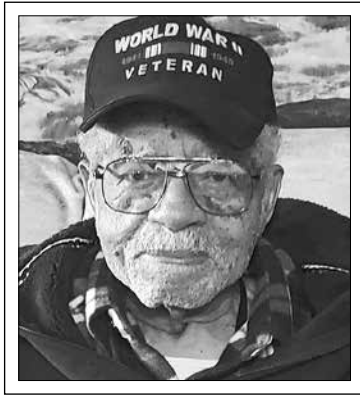
**Submitted by  
Mark Beach, Vice President**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
★ ★ **Congratulations** ★ ★  
★ ★ **on receiving** ★ ★  
★ ★ **25 Year** ★ ★  
★ ★ **Service Award** ★ ★  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★



**Tim Nelson presented his 25 years of service award. Congrats!**

# RETIRED CARRIER WILLIAM C. ROGERS TURNS 100!



A retired Letter Carrier, World War II veteran and lifetime member of Buckeye Br 78 NALC recently turned 100 years old.

William C Rogers was born November 1923 into a large family. His father passed while he was still young, his mother worked hard to care for the kids. Much of their food was home grown. William

drafted into the US Army during WW II and spent 3 years in Europe fighting for America. Amazingly he returned without a scratch but has many memories and stories of his time there.

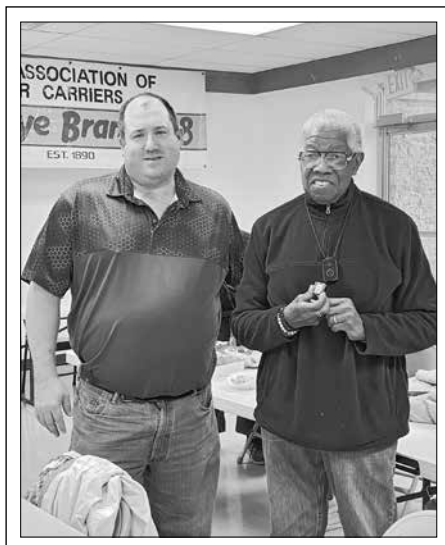
After the war, like many in his generation, he set about seeking employment and raising his own family. April 1951 he joined the US Postal Service Letter Carrier, making \$3500 a year. Back then he was given bus fare to travel to his route, getting his mail from relay boxes along his route. Clintonville was his station until his retirement in 1983. He has lots of memories and stories from being a mailman too! Stories about dogs, management, weather, and people he knew on his route. Watching children grow as

he “walked and talked” interacting with customers his favorite part of being a carrier. He recently met one of those route children, now a nurse. Some of his best friends shared similar experiences having been letter carriers themselves.

Once he retired, William traveled back to France revisiting some of the WW II battle sites. Later he traveled throughout the United States by train coast to coast. He still enjoys sharing his memories, adventures and time with his children and grandchildren. We are hoping for many more years!

Submitted by  
his son-in-law  
former carrier David Brown

★   ★   ★   ★   ★  
★   \*   **Congratulations**   \*   ★  
★   **on receiving**   ★  
★   **55 Year**   ★  
★   **Membership Pin**   ★  
★   ★   ★   ★   ★



Mr Donald Flewellen awarded his 55 year membership pin from Mark Beach, VP.

**Letter Carriers  
West Side  
Retiree’s Breakfast**

Open to all retired Letter Carriers  
(any office)

**Tee-Jaye’s Country Place**  
4048 West Broad Street  
Columbus Ohio 43228

**4th Monday of the Month**  
Order 7:30 to 8 A.M.  
Questions Contact  
Evan (614)876-2762

**Attention Members  
Change of Address**

Please notify Branch 78 any  
time you move. It cost your  
dues money to send to bad  
addresses.

**Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin**

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January 2024

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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# Buckeye Branch 78

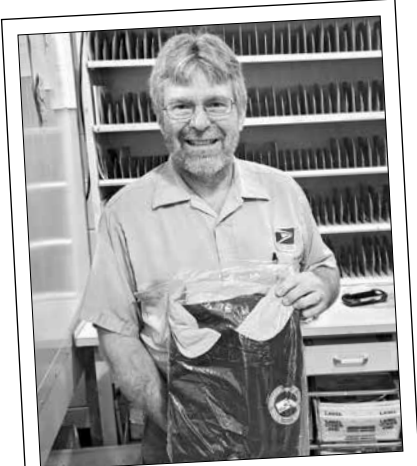
★ ★ ★  
Million Mile Awards  
★ ★ ★



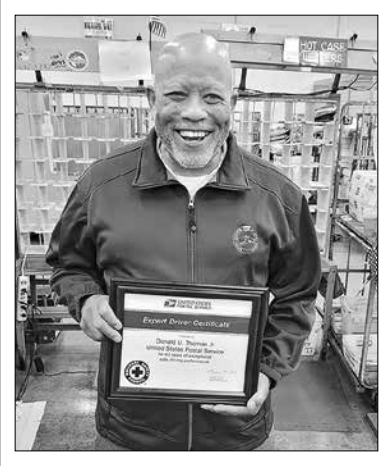
**Collection Unit Million Mile awards; Mark Robinson, Doug Doherty, Ray Pugh, Tonya Schirtzinger and Don Shepherd.**



**David Angles, Diane Haley, Mike Shimmel receive Million Mile awards and jackets at Main Office.**



**Kris Cannon receives Million Mile award and NALC jacket at Eastland Station.**



**Don Thomas, Collection Unit gets his Million Mile award.**



**Todd presents Rick Merendo, Upper Arlington, his Million Mile award and NALC jacket.**



**Ron Finnerty and Tina Patton, Whitehall, show Million Mile and NALC jackets.**



**Ken Cermak holding NALC jacket and Million Mile Award.**



**Charlie Miller, University Station with Million Mile award and NALC jacket.**

## Election Results Dec 2023

### President

Todd Hornyak    274	Eli Turner    94
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### Trustee (top five)

Brenda Stidams    241	Kelsey Crosbie    209	Charles Sanders    201
Jeremy Hirschfelt    169	Myron Miller    165	Stevie Bryant    122
Cody Piersol    102	Jeff Stiverson    100	Eric Kennedy    87
Dilien Miller    62	Roderick Robinson    60	

Delegates Count at the Hall

## DIRECTOR OF RETIREES



**Valeria Davis**

### **Hello Retirees,**

I trust this article will find you in good health, as we say goodbye to 2023. Looking back over last year we've had lots of

activities restart since COVID. The Branch hosted Ohio State Convention in August, Robert Solt Golf Outing and Branch 78 Picnic were both held in September. We hadn't been able to host these events in over 2 years. Everyone was excited to have them back again. We closed out the year on December 6th by addressing Christmas cards for our veterans in hopes of bringing a little joy and happiness to their holiday.

As we welcome in 2024. Our first meeting of the new year will be Tuesday, February 6th, which we are calling "Valentines Day a Time for Love". I'm asking all

retirees to wear something Red, white, or pink. Reach way back to our younger years and bring a few Valentines card to share with each other. There will be music, games, food, and lots of fun for everyone. You won't want to miss this special day so, mark your calendars to join your fellow retirees for this February Valentines Day meeting.

Just a reminder the Retiree's meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 P.M. lower level, there is a ramp. We would like to extend an invitation for you to come join your fellow retirees as we experience a new adventure each month. All retired Br 78 Retirees are welcome. Hope to see you at the Valentines Day Party on February 6th.

### **Love, Peace and Joy!**

**Director of Retirees,  
Valeria Davis**

## PRESIDENT

**Continued from page 1**

donations and collected toys that went to families in need. Branch 78 One New Toy donated to Franklin County Children Services and the Veterans Administration this year. I also want to give special thanks to Charlie Solt, son of former Vice President Bob Solt who collected over \$1,200 worth of toys from work and donated them to One New Toy. We raised over \$6,000 for families in need.

I would like to congratulate Mike Shimmel and Diane Haley from Main Office, Constance Rohrer from Beechwood Station and Jeff Gray from Worthington Station on their recent retirement. I wish them well in the next chapter of their lives. I am very hopeful 2024 is a wonderful year for all of us.

**Fraternally,  
Todd Hornyak**

**UNION organizing** isn't about signing cards – it's about **empowering people** and **changing lives. . . .**

# A MESSAGE FROM JACQUELYN MITCHELL

This article is long overdue, but the gratitude is continuous. The NALC State Association has a biennial convention every two years. For the past thirty-one years, it has been held in many cities, just not in Columbus. Last year that changed. Branch 78 was chosen to host the 71<sup>st</sup> Biennial convention. I, along with Ramon Lawson, requested to be the chairperson for the convention. I was selected to take care of the convention and to ensure that we had a successful convention, and we did. But this obviously was not accomplished without the help of several people. So be prepared for a long list of thank-you's.

The convention committee consisted of the following people: Members Brenda Stidams, Jeremy Hirschfelt, Ramon Lawson, Charles Sanders, Myron Miller, Dale Hillis and Gary Porter. Branch 78 President Todd Hornyak was included as well. Not one member of the committee had ever been involved with hosting a convention, however, that did not deter us, only made the determination to have a successful convention the goal of all involved. We also relied on the help of NALC Ohio State President Jeff Kranz, as well as NALC Cleveland Branch 40 Erick Poston and Cincinnati Branch 43 Ted Thompson for guidance. We met regularly and came up with ideas to entertain the delegates while attending the convention. Thank you to Parlay Sporting Bar & Kitchen and the R Bar, for accommodating our group for the get-togethers, as well as Huntington Park for providing a game night for the delegates and their families. The

state convention is at the most three days. With training classes before and after sessions, there is not enough free time for the delegates, but we managed to make it work.

We had the privilege of hearing Retired Member Mark Morrison open the ceremony with The National Anthem on his trumpet. On day two, Allan Moore gave an outstanding performance of The National Anthem. Both members did an outstanding job.

During the convention, the committee members still had several responsibilities, like selling tickets for the baseball game. Along with selling convention t-shirts made by American Roots Wear (a union owned company in Maine), selling tickets for the 50/50 as well as raffling off baskets for MDA. Again, this could not have happened without the help of the committee as well as several other people. My thanks also go out to the following people: Members Valeria Davis, Don Shepherd and Mark Beach Stevie Bryant, Dean Peruzzi. Retired member, Archie Smith. And especially Hilliary Hoxworth (daughter of Active Member Scott Hoxworth), and my husband, Keith Mitchell.

I would also like to thank Lanz printing, who was extremely instrumental in the success of creating the convention booklet.

From the proceeds of the 50/50 and the ticket sales from the baskets donated, Branch 78 was able to donate over \$3,400.00 to MDA. Again, this was made possible by the following members who donated themed baskets to be raffled off. The list consists of the following: Todd Hornyak, Mark

Beach, Jeremy Hirschfelt, Dean Peruzzi, Ramon Lawson, Charles Sanders, Don Shepherd, Dale Hillis, Brenda Stidams, Myron Miller and Gary Porter. These members donated their own items, even a signed OSU helmet to be raffled off. Again, these members chose to contribute to a worthy cause, purely out of selflessness. Exactly what this union represents.

As I stated in the beginning, my gratitude is continuous for those that helped with this convention. If I have overlooked anyone, my apologies, however, please accept my gratitude. As the host branch, we wanted the delegates from all over Ohio to see what an amazing branch we have, and we were able to do so. So again, I thank you.

**Jacquelyn Mitchell**  
**Chairperson for the 71<sup>st</sup> Ohio State Biennial Convention**

## **KNOW YOUR RIGHTS TO UNION REPRESENTATION!**

**Weingartner Rights:** "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my union representative, officer, or steward be present at this meeting. Without union representation present, I choose not to answer any questions."

*(This is my right under the 1975 U.S. Supreme Court Weingartner decision)*

# ONT DONATION FROM CHARLIE SOLT AND STAFF

Many of you are familiar with the Solt family name, especially if you have participated in the Bob Solt Memorial Golf Outing. Bob was the Eastland Steward when I started there in 1990 and became the Branch 78 Vice President after Carl Booth retired. He had also served on the Executive Board in other positions. Bottom line he left us way too soon. His family has continued to support Branch activities especially One New Toy. Charlie Solt contacted me that he and his staff had selected One New Toy this year to donate their tips. He is the Head Chef at a country club, when the management heard,

they matched the staff donation. Thanks to the Staff, Worthington Hills Country Club and Charlie Solt for their generous \$1200 donation. The toys will go to Franklin County

Children Services along with Station toys collected and the Branch 78 gift cards for older children. Thanks for partnering with us.



ONT Donation from Charlie Solt and Staff

## RETIREES HAVING LUNCH AND MAKING CHRISTMAS CARDS



Retirees enjoyed the last meeting of 2023 with a meal and writing Christmas cards for Veterans. Several of our regulars had prior appointments: John O'Neil and Archie Smith, Evan Behrendt and Eugene Smith have been under the weather; Doug Gulley had a medical procedure; Bob Jackson and wife were housebound; Please keep all our members with health issues in your thoughts and prayers. Let us know if you are aware of members in need of a prayer or get well wish. Next Retiree meeting February 6, 2024 at 1 PM.

## Why should I join NALC's PAC, the Letter Carrier Political Fund?

- The Letter Carrier Political Fund identifies and contributes to candidates who support issues important to letter carriers.
- Joining the LCPF provides letter carriers with the opportunity to build electoral and legislative power required to ensure decisions that impact their lives are made with their best interests in mind.
- Only NALC members can contribute to the LCPF.
- Union dues are not used, and cannot be used, for political contributions.
- LCPF contributions are voluntary and can stop at any time. There is no open season.
- We encourage LCPF members to make suggestions for political contributions and to attend local fundraisers.
- LCPF members are encouraged to attend local events for members locally who support letter carrier legislative priorities



Reprint from NALC.org

# FROM REGION 11 NBA MARK CAMILLI



**Mark Camilli**

First and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a very happy and safe holiday season. We all know how stressful this time of year can be, especially in our line of work, but please take pride in what you do each day. The service you provide to the American public ensures that the holiday season will be special for millions of our customers! It's hard to believe we are about to close the chapter of 2023 and start anew in 2024. As I look back on 2023, I'm amazed once again with all that we have been through and what we have been able to accomplish together as a Region. Let's review some of the challenges and accomplishments of 2023.

**Challenges** - 2023 started with some of the winter weather we typically see in Upstate NY and Ohio. We had lake effect snowstorms, Nor'easters along with some record warmth (I guess you take the good with the bad!). In early February, there was a horrific train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio. Several rail cars caught on fire that contained hazardous chemicals. Mail delivery was suspended in the area and Letter Carriers had to report to a different location. The fear of the unknown weighed heavy on all. I was very appreciative of National Director of Safety and Health, Manny Peralta as he assisted in helping our members and he also gave me the opportunity to attend a National AFL-CIO safety meeting where I was able to voice my concerns

on what happened to our members in the area. This info helped them create a comprehensive plan to lobby congress and seek assistance with OSHA to not only address residents' concerns but also how to assist those that must work in disaster effected areas. Also in February, we had our first S&DC go live in Utica, NY. The location was not close to being ready for the additional carriers to move in due to construction work, but the USPS in its infinite wisdom decided to force the event. Thankfully, they provided an outdoor port-a-potty trailer system to be able to accommodate the increase in employees! Several months in, construction (for the most part) has been completed and the three existing branches have come together to address LMOU issues. The effectiveness of these S&DC sites remains to be seen. Once spring broke and early summer arrived, many of us in Region 11 experienced something we haven't had experience with – air quality issues caused by wildfires in Canada. We learned quickly what air quality indexes (AQI's) were, how to apply them for our safety and the importance of N95 masks. As summer took hold, heat illness prevention was magnified with the tragic loss of Dallas, Texas Letter Carrier Eugene Gates who died of heat-related illness. Reports were received throughout the Region and across the country that Heat Illness Prevention Training records were falsified. Carrier training records indicated that they received the training, when in fact they did not. To this day, we continue the fight on this subject through the grievance/arbitration

procedure. Many USPS employees were affected by the Liteblue "hack" where employees used a fraudulent link from the web to access their Liteblue accounts. The hackers were then able to access the sign-in information of these users and diverted payroll to other bank accounts. The NALC initiated a national level grievance on this issue, and we hope to have a resolve soon. Another discerning issue that rose to prominence in Region 11 and throughout the country is crime against letter carriers. This is not an easy issue to fix, but the NALC has held rallies across the country (including Cincinnati, Ohio) to bring this issue to the forefront. It's going to take a multi-pronged approach of getting the involvement of local law enforcement, legislators, the courts, the community, and investment into USPS equipment. We are now starting to see a positive trend of more arrests and sentencing for those that commit these heinous crimes. The NALC Legislative Department is working closely with representatives to draft comprehensive legislation to deal with the crime issue. Stay tuned as NALC will put out a "call of action" to garner support and hopefully quick passage of this much needed legislation.

**Accomplishments** – Training has been a priority of mine throughout 2023. We started the year off with our Regional Rap session in Syracuse, NY. We offered training in many topics. A highlight of that event was a mock arbitration hearing. Also, throughout the year, we held three "Shop Steward School" classes that now



put us over 200 trained shop stewards across the Region! We also held several retirement seminars, training for route adjustment/TI-AREAP process, new arbitration advocate training, and with the help of RWCA Dave Barbuzzi, we held a very comprehensive OWCP for branch representative training. We will continue all these initiatives and more into 2024. In the grievance arena, we have met on and resolved well over 700 cases

at the pre-arbitration level, heard over 80 cases in arbitration and are maintaining a win rate of just under 70%. This is in addition to the many branch meetings, installation of officers, retiree, and MDA events that I and/or the RAAs were able to attend.

As you can see, 2023 was quite challenging but we were able to meet those challenges – together. Many thanks go out to all our branch presidents, officers, stew-

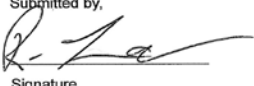
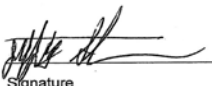
ards and the entire membership. United we stand, divided we fall! On behalf of RAA's Dave Kennedy and Mike Brim, RGA Anna Mudd, RWCA Dave Barbuzzi, LPO Marc Ashmon and Field Secretary Darla Gerace, we wish you and yours a very festive and safe holiday season and all the best in 2024!

**Mark Camilli**  
NBA Director


Read 11/8/23

Proposed By Law Change  
Article VII – Dues Expenses and Salaries Section  
Section 2  
For services rendered for organizational expense, all non-full time officers and stewards shall be paid two hours of base pay at Q-1, Step O from table 1 equal to the top step of a table 1 Carrier Technician, per month (to be paid semi annually).

Proposed change:  
Article VII – Dues Expenses and Salaries Section  
Section 2  
For services rendered for organizational expense, all non-full-time Branch 78 officers and stewards shall be paid two hours of base pay at Q-1, Step O from table 1 equal to the a top step of a table 1 and grade Carrier Technician, per month (to be paid semi annually).

Submitted by,  
  
Signature  
  
Signature

Ramon Lawson  
Printed Name  
Jeff Strelson  
Printed Name

  
Signature  
Alan D. Moore Sr.  
Printed Name

On October 30, 2023

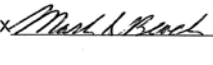
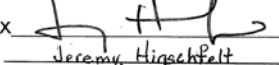
read 11/8/23


In accordance with Article 13, Section 1, the undersigned hereby propose the following amendment to the By-Laws of Buckeye Branch 78 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Article 5, Section 11.b currently states,  
(b) For a State convention, each delegate attending shall be paid the current Federal Standard Mileage Rate, to and from the convention city, plus lodging, plus \$75.00 (seventy-five dollars) per day to be used for meals and incidentals, for the duration of the convention.

Proposal to change Article 5, section 11.b to read:  
(b) For a state convention, (other than hosted by NALC Branch 78), each delegate attending shall be reimbursed parking and paid the current Federal Standard Mileage Rate, to and from the convention city, plus lodging, plus \$75.00 (seventy-five dollars) per day to be used for meals and incidentals for the duration of the convention.

Proposal to add Article 5, Section 11.b.1 to read:  
1. For a State convention hosted by NALC Branch 78, each delegate attending shall be reimbursed parking and shall be paid \$75.00 (seventy-five dollars) per day to be used for meals and incidentals for the duration of the convention.

Submitted by,  
x   
Print: Mark S. Baugh 10/31/23  
x   
Print: Jeremy Hirschfeld 11/2/23

x   
Print: KELSEY CROSSBIE 10/31/23

For NALC/Letter Carrier Political Fund Solicitations with Suggested Contribution Amount REQUIRED LANGUAGE: 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 guideline amounts listed above are merely suggestions, and you may contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest and the union will not favor or disadvantage you by reason of the amount of your contribution or your decision not to contribute. 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.

**Todd Hornyak, President Branch 78, NALC**  
Phone (614) 279-2778 • Fax (614) 279-9447

# DECEMBER 2023 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Hornyak at 6:38; Invocation by Val Davis

Minutes read by Yana Miller-Farney, one correction Federal Retirement Fairness Act is HR 5995, then accepted.

Trevor Payne no Communications, read the Bills list; thirty-two applications for membership; please welcome them at your stations. A lot went to Westland and West City so they must be experiencing some issues.

Education Mark Beach - We had annual Steward Appreciation Dinner, got to talk one on one which we haven't had that over ZOOM. We get a lot of the same calls from members, plan to set up a chart to give stewards four items to cover in weekly Plan Fives to help educate members, then check to see if the information is being covered. Example "How many hours do I get while on vacation, probably got 25 calls. Talking to Business Agent about scheduling another Steward Training class, we have several new here tonight that need to go. They need to learn because management definitely doesn't know what they're talking about.

Law Comm Chris Semo will read two ByLaw changes for the second time, one was printed twice in the bulletin, only the ones on pages 7 and 8 will be read, printed in the next bulletin and voted on in January. Article 7 section 2 and Article V section 11.1.b.1.

Retirees Val Davis - Merry Christmas! We wrote Christmas cards to distribute to Vets and spread a little holiday cheer. There will not be a January meeting on January 2 but next meeting will be February 6, asking everyone to wear something red, pink or white since there will be a Valentines celebration to exchange cards, have music, dance and food. Hope all the Retirees will come and start the year out in an upbeat fashion. Thanks for your patience and support throughout the year.

Health Benefits Dean Peruzzi - Hope you got your selections done by midnight Monday when it closed. Those of you with Mt Carmel, NALC is still in talks to get them back into our plan. You should have gotten a letter regarding it in the mail. If your doctor has signed up with CIGNA even if they're with Mt Carmel, if they're listed under CIGNA they can still see you as In Network patient. Checked this morning still no Trinity Health System resolution.

Ramon Lawson read Treasurer's Report.

## Unfinished Business

Ramon asked if anything been heard back from the National on Bylaw change to \$75 per diem? Not yet.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mark Beach made a motion to spend up to \$500 to cover cost of Steward Dinner and Retiree Lunch seconded by Jacki Mitchell. **Motion PASSED**

Election Committee is upstairs counting ballots will be down with results as soon as finished. They will continue to count delegate ballots, if not completed by meeting's end, Trevor will post on website tomorrow. Mark explained the procedure for returned ballots, less than twenty returned. Many were newer members who had changed through LiteBlue thinking it would be shared with NALC. 1534 ballots mailed out and 382 returned, Shameful!

Todd Hornyak and Jeremy Hirschfelt attended the Rap Session in New Orleans, LA. Both presented info on Saturday workshops, Branch Administration, Safety & Health, Contract Administration, City Delivery, Health Benefits, Mutual Benefits, Retirement and Staff Updates.

Update on Collective Bargaining, TIAREAP, Crime Against Carriers, Uniform Program. Todd went on with New Initiatives E-learning, Emergency Response Team, Mentoring Women to increase diversity of National, creating a Committee on diversity and inclusion.

Deviated at 7:16 for the Election Committee Chair Cathy Jakeway, introduced the rest of her team: Tina Patton, John Wycoff, Orrin Bowman, David Demidovich, Thomas Robinson and Jay Scurry. President - Todd Hornyak 274, Eli Turner 94. Trustees - Brenda Stidams 241, Kelsey Crosbie 209, Charles Sanders 201, Jeremy Hirschfelt 169. Myron

Miller 165, Steve Bryant 122, Cody Piersol 102, Jeff Stiverson 100, Eric Kennedy 87, Dilien Miller 62, Roderick Robinson 60.

Resume regular order of business at 7:25. We have not received further information on the mergers. There was a virtual Health Benefit Seminar by HB staff on November 14, wished there had been more turnout from Branch 78.

Labor Management meeting 11/14 with OIC Pfluke changes: Rob Ensminger new MCSO; Sanita McLean Hudson EAST CITY; Jarrell Howell WEST CITY; Richard Thompson GERMAN VILLAGE; Mike Jones BEXLEY; Vincent Hairston LIVINGSTON; Tevenn Jones NORTHLAND; Commander Bemgako EASTLAND.

Region 11 Presidents met 12/4/23 Arbitrations in Ohio 2, currently 68% success rate. Branch is 94.22% organized thanks to Jackie Habash and Kelsey Crosbie signing up most new members at orientation and academy. We're only 6.8% in branch participation in LCPF, Marc Ashton wants to do a LCPF meeting, Jacki Mitchell is the LCPF Coordinator. Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive scheduled for May 10, 2024, we need a NEW CHAIR who will get started early in the year contacting radio and television stations with (PSAs Public Service Announcements). Contact Todd to volunteer!

Last meeting passed the hat for Westerville PTF Manuel Ramos Cruz, who lost everything in a house fire. With Branch match he was presented a check for \$1930.00, he was very emotional and thankful for our help, particularly Dublin, Westland, Westerville, United Way and Red Cross also assisted the family.

Region 11 Rap Session in Akron 3/16-18/24. Washington DC Legislative trip 4/24-25/24, contact Todd if you're interested.

Convention Call was in November, Trevor signed us up for online registration. List of hotels in December Postal Record. We selected the HQ Hotel Westin Boston Waterfront, Omni Boston Hotel at the Seaport Aloft Boston Seaport District and Element Boston Seaport District as our preferred list. Ramon Lawson completed Leadership Class 27 and Arbitration Advocacy Training. Congrats!

Yana Miller-Farney made a motion to donate \$700 to United Way Community Services. After input from Ramon Lawson, she amended the motion to \$1500 for United Way of Central Ohio Community Services, seconded by Gary Porter/Tim Nelson. **Motion PASSED**

Yana informed that Myron Miller was in the hospital, someone said he was released today because he was on ZOOM, he had not been discharged.

Problem raised that younger people don't use cash so don't contribute. We need an electronic option like Cash app or Zelle. We need to investigate how we can add a QR code to maximize our possibilities and have QR code posted in bulletin and the website.

Gary Porter had a call from Meijer that they had put a donation in the mail to us. If it doesn't make it in time we use it for next year. Probably have between \$5-6 thousand collected so far. Gary needs someone with electronic/computer skills to take over because he has no knowledge in this area.

### **Good of the Association**

Mark Beach told the stewards that the highest per capita ONT donation, he would cook breakfast for them, it was Marysville with 5 city carriers.

Yana told group about Charlie Solt and his Staff at Worthington Hills Country Club donating their tips to buy toys for ONT, their managers matched their money. He delivered \$1200 plus, in toys this evening. His Father, Bob Solt, was a former Vice President, his family has continued to stay active in Branch fundraising since his passing.

John Martin won the gas card; Jevon Evans, Westland, would have won \$180 had he been present.

Adjourned at 7:50

**Submitted by Yana Miller-Farney**

# Buckeye Branch 78

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



Address Service Requested

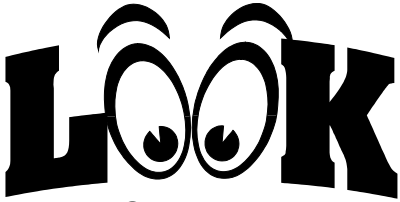
Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Columbus, Ohio  
Permit #1291

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TRUSTEE	CHARLES SANDERS	ces216@icloud.com

## 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  
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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

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

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:  
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