



USPS 2018 Fiscal Year Financial Report Statement

The Postal Service's 2018 Fiscal Year financial report shows the Postal Service's underlying business strength while also indicating the need to address external matters beyond USPS control. Despite a solid 1.5 percent rise in revenue compared to last year, USPS reported an operating loss of \$1.951 billion.

This shows the need for policymakers to address two public policy issues – the stamp price rollback and the congressional mandate that USPS prefund future retiree health benefits decades into the future.

In April 2016, the price of a stamp was rolled back by two cents, reducing postal revenue by \$2 billion a year. That was the first rollback since 1919 and it makes little financial sense because USPS already has the industrial world's lowest rates. Without this decrease, the \$1.951 billion operating loss in FY2018 would be a small operating profit of \$49 million – without a dime of taxpayer money.

Fortunately, the Postal Regulatory Commission is in the midst of a

Fiscal Statement cont'd on page 9

BRANCH 9'S HOLIDAY PARTY

On November 18, 2018 Branch 9 hosted its third annual Holiday Party at the New Hope Cinema Grill in New Hope, MN. at Noon. Seventy-two people were in attendance. A buffet was provided with boneless chicken wings, meatballs, tator tots, chips and salsa and a variety of pizza.



Our special guest Santa made his appearance soon after the event began. All the kids in attendance went wild! Santa listened to all the kids as they told him their wish list while sitting on his lap. Santa asked all the little boys and girls if they have been

good this past year and then handed them a small stuffed animal.

The kids had coloring books with a Christmas theme to color and we watched Frosty the Snowman and Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer on the big screen

Everyone in attendance had a wonderful time getting ready for the Holiday season. The place looked amazing with all the holiday decorations. I would like to thank Stacy Ellingson, Robb Petersburg and



Jim Nelson for helping set up and break down the event. Their help is so important in making an event successful and a fun and special time for all.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Ken Jambois
Branch 9 Entertainment Chair

Holiday Party cont'd on page 6

Happy Holidays!

Wishing all of our brothers and sisters and their families a safe and joyous holiday season!

from the
Branch 9
Executive Board

Welcome New Members

Robyn Anderson
Derek Bentson
Noelle Bentz
Chloe Collins
Nicole Corbett
Benedict Dagudag
Crystal Furlough
Kory Goodwin
Ted Kontinakis
Dawn Montgomery
Prakash Pandey
Brian Peterson
Curtis Ryce
Ryan West

Branch 9 Election Results

Office of President

Mike Zagaros - 681
Cathy Jones - 126
Jeff Johnson - 108

Office of Exec. Vice President

Samantha Hartwig - 755
Caitlin Hill - 157

The following positions were elected unopposed:

Recording Secretary

JoAnn Gilbaugh

Treasurer

Lisa O'Neill

Financial Secretary

Jim Nelson

Editor

Jeremy Rothstein

Sergeant at Arms

Jeff Reed

Trustees

Stacey Ellingson
Ken Jambois
Robb Petersburg

Director of Retirees

Melia Derrick

NALC Health Benefits Rep.

Mike Smith

In Memoriam

Dwight Stordahl
Joel Foster

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Branch 9 Officers

President

Mike Zagaros

Exec. Vice President

Samantha Hartwig

Recording Secretary

JoAnn Gilbaugh

Treasurer

Lisa O'Neill

Financial Secretary

Jim Nelson

Editor

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Sergeant at Arms

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Trustees

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Stacey Ellingson
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NALC Health Benefits Rep.

Mike Smith
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The Branch Nine News is a monthly publication of NALC Branch 9, and is published in the interest of and for the members of NALC Branch 9.

The opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of the OFFICERS, or of NALC Branch 9.

Articles MUST be submitted to the editor by the 1st of the month, and must be signed. The Editorial Staff reserves the right to edit or refuse to print articles which are derogatory in nature.

Any official NALC organization may reproduce our articles provided appropriate credit is given.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

During the month of December Branch 9 has seen an increase in the workload primarily in the lack of sufficient staffing and in the amount of post that is being dropped at the stations. We are also at the end of the 2016 – 2018 term of office. It has been a tradition (and the NALC Constitution requires it) that the Branch President's column in December is an end of the term report to the membership. The following is my end of term report to the membership of Branch 9

Membership: At the end of the 2012-2015 term we were at 1350 active members. We had a steady increase through 2016 and 2017 to a total of 1418 before the bottom gave out and we had a steady decrease in the numbers of active carriers. Currently we have 1359 active members in Branch 9 almost where we started from. We have also seen a decrease in the number of carriers who have chosen to not belong to the NALC. We have 37 non-members which is down from 59 at the beginning of the term. I want to thank the organizers who meet the new CCAs at the academy and sign them up: Ronaele Bolden, Jenna Crider, Johnna Lush, Jeff Reed, Mike Smith and James Spencer. I would also like to congratulate the following offices who are at 100% union membership: Andover, Anoka, Belle Plaine, Blaine, Brooklyn Center, Champlin, Columbia Heights, Coon Rapids, Edina, Elk River, Fridley, Loring, Lost Lake, Minnehaha, Mound, Nokomis, Normandale, Shakopee and Zone 4/54.

CCA Conversions: There was a time when management was pretty consistent in converting

CCAs on average every 15 months. Now there doesn't seem to be a pattern. Also, we are not seeing as many large groups this past year. As soon as we get information on conversions, we contact the stewards from the affected offices. Currently we have 143 CCAs with 4 set to be converted on December 22nd. The relative standing dates of the CCAs that are next to be converted is from June of 2017.

Grievances: During the previous term, we had to deal with Article 8 grievances when management attempted to establish a "WOO" (WOO stands for window of operations, when management established a cutoff time for deliveries but caused Article 8 to be violated in the process.) it was in this environment that we had a high water mark in excess of 1700. After the resolution of all of these grievances, the total number of grievances dropped. We began the current term with a total of 606 grievances in 2016. However, with the staffing shortages and long workhours, Stewards have initiated over 1,363 grievances with the majority being Article 8 bypass claims, where management improperly works non-OTDL carriers before maxing out the OTDL. I would like to thank all the Stewards, and alternates for your tireless efforts on behalf of the membership by enforcing letter carrier's rights under the terms of the National Agreement. It is truly appreciated. I would also like to thank the Formal Step A representatives: Samantha Hartwig, JoAnn Gilbaugh, Joe Rian and Jim Nelson, for their efforts working through these trying times and changing management counterparts.



Mike Zagaros

Branch Finances: While we remain in the black as compared to where we started the term. That does not tell the whole story. After averaging over 1400 members for all of 2017, we based our budget for 2018 income and expenses at 1400 members. Throughout the year we have been below the 1400 members; as such we have attempted to live within our means and while we have exceeded in some expense categories, we are within the total amount set at the budget meeting in December 2017. At the most recent budget meeting we have set the budget based on 1350 members. This is subject to the passage by the membership at the December General Membership Meeting.

Training: Throughout this term there have been a variety of training opportunities. Monthly on the second Tuesday of the Month at the Officers' and Stewards' Board Meeting. On a side note, you do not have to be an officer or steward to attend this meeting. Basic Steward's training for new stewards, CCA meetings two to three times a year. Our next CCA and Newly Converted Carrier meeting will tentatively be on Thursday January 17th at the

Pres. Report cont'd on page 10

Letter Carrier Pay Schedule

City Carrier Wage Schedule: Effective Nov. 24, 2018

The following salary and rate schedule is for all NALC-represented employees.

Career city letter carrier increases

Date	Type of Increase	Amount
July 2016	COLA	\$21
Nov. 26, 2016	General wage increase	1.2%
Jan. 2017	COLA	\$333
July 2017	COLA	\$270
Nov. 25, 2017	General wage increase	1.3%
Jan. 2018	COLA	\$520
July 2018	COLA	\$645
Nov. 24, 2018	Upgrade/Pay Schedule Consolidation*	2.1%
Jan. 2019	COLA	TBD
July 2019	COLA	TBD

City carrier assistant increases

Date	Type of Increase	Amount
Nov. 26, 2016	General wage increase	2.2%
Nov. 25, 2017	General wage increase	2.3%
Nov. 24, 2018	Upgrade/Pay Schedule Consolidation**	3.1%

** All Grade 1 and Grade 2 CCAs will receive an average increase of 3.1%.

* All career Grade 1 and Grade 2 letter carriers will receive an average increase of 2.1%.

NOTE: This pay schedule reflects consolidation of Grade 1 into Grade 2. The remaining grade is called City Carrier.

NOTE: Carrier Technicians will receive additional compensation equivalent to 2.1% of the employee's applicable hourly rate for all paid hours.

NOTE: The full COLAs will be added to the salaries of all steps in Table 1 and Step O of Table 2, with proportionate application of the COLA to Steps A-N of Table 2.

Table 1: City Carrier Schedule

RSC Q (NALC)

This schedule applies to all carriers with a career appointment date prior to Jan. 12, 2013.

Basic Annual Salaries															<i>MOST PREV. STEP</i>
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	
52,220	56,455	56,553	59,584	60,024	60,466	60,901	61,337	61,781	62,208	62,652	63,094	63,528	63,976	64,413	444
Part-Time Flexible Employees - Hourly Basic Rates															
26.11	28.23	28.28	29.79	30.01	30.23	30.45	30.67	30.89	31.10	31.33	31.55	31.76	31.99	32.21	
Full-Time/Part-Time Regular Employees - Hourly Basic Rates															
25.11	27.14	27.19	28.65	28.86	29.07	29.28	29.49	29.70	29.91	30.12	30.33	30.54	30.76	30.97	
Step Increase Waiting Periods (In Weeks)															
Steps (From-To)	A-B	B-C	C-D	D-E	E-F	F-G	G-H	H-I	I-J	J-K	K-L	L-M	M-N	N-O	YRS.
	96	96	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	34	34	26	26	24	12.4

Table 2: City Carrier Schedule

RSC Q7 (NALC)

This schedule applies to all carriers with a career appointment date on or after Jan. 12, 2013.

Basic Annual Salaries															<i>MOST PREV. STEP</i>
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	
39,615	41,384	43,157	44,928	46,700	48,470	50,243	52,014	53,786	55,557	57,329	59,099	60,871	62,641	64,413	1,772
Part-Time Flexible Employees - Hourly Basic Rates															
19.81	20.69	21.58	22.46	23.35	24.24	25.12	26.01	26.89	27.78	28.66	29.55	30.44	31.32	32.21	
Full-Time/Part-Time Regular Employees - Hourly Basic Rates															
19.05	19.90	20.75	21.60	22.45	23.30	24.16	25.01	25.86	26.71	27.56	28.41	29.26	30.12	30.97	
Percent Step O															
61.50%	64.25%	67.00%	69.75%	72.50%	75.25%	78.00%	80.75%	83.50%	86.25%	89.00%	91.75%	94.50%	97.25%	100.00%	
Step Increase Waiting Periods (In Weeks)															
Steps (From-To)	A-B	B-C	C-D	D-E	E-F	F-G	G-H	H-I	I-J	J-K	K-L	L-M	M-N	N-O	YRS.
	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46	12.4

Table 3: City Carrier Assistant Schedule

Hourly Rates

RSC Q4 (NALC)

This schedule applies to CCA Hires with no previous TE service.

This schedule applies to CCA Hires with previous TE service after Sept. 29, 2007, who were on the rolls as of Jan. 10, 2013.

Steps (From-To)	CC 17.29	BB 17.79	AA 18.29
	CC-BB 12	BB-AA 40	

Steps (From-To)	CC 18.72	BB 19.22	AA 19.72
	CC-BB 12	BB-AA 40	

In accordance with the MOU Re: Pay Schedule Consolidation, all career and non-career (CCA) grade 1 city letter carriers will be upgraded to their equivalent step in grade 2 effective Nov. 24. Carrier technicians will receive an additional 2.1 percent compensation of their applicable hourly wage for all paid hours effective Nov. 24. Time served toward a letter carrier's next step is maintained and each will receive their next step increase as previously scheduled.

In accordance with Article 9, Section 7, CCA letter carriers will receive a 1.0 percent general wage increase in addition to the upgrade mentioned above, also effective Nov. 24. This 1.0 percent general wage increase for CCAs is in lieu of the Cost of Living Adjustments (COLAs) that career letter carriers receive in accordance with Article 9, Section 3.

Exec Vice President's Report

I want to wish

everyone in Branch 9 and their families a Happy Holiday season. As we close out 2018 and look ahead to the challenges facing us next year and into the future, there appears to be no end to the extreme staffing shortages we face. The staffing crisis here in Minneapolis is the justification that management is using to violate the contract city wide. Management is willfully and knowingly breaking CCA hold downs, and forcing these carriers to deliver mail in other stations. Article 41 addresses the issue of CCAs and hold downs:

Removal From Hold-Down:

There are exceptions to the rule against involuntarily removing employees from their hold-downs. Part-time flexible employees and city carrier assistants may be "bumped" from their hold-downs to provide sufficient work for full-time employees.

CCAs have been improperly "bumped" from hold downs and moved to a different station to work city wide; not because of lack of work for a full-time employee, but because there are not enough full-time employees to get the mail delivered. This is the exact opposite of what the Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM) states. Anytime a CCA is moved off a hold down stewards must investigate, and initiate a grievance when Article 41 is not being followed in regard to hold downs. Management knows they are intentionally violating the contract, and we need to challenge them every time a CCA is improperly removed from a hold down.

We are still having issues with management not forwarding on paper work to the USPS Injury Compensation Department

when carriers get injured on the job. If you do get injured on the job, and want to file a claim for compensation the first thing you need to do is report the accident immediately to your station management. Do not wait to inform management of the injury and how it happened.

Once management is made aware of the injury, and that you want to file a claim with the Office of Workers' Compensation (OWCP) there is a window of 10 days in which all paper work and medical documentation is required to be sent on to OWCP. Make copies of everything for your records, and if your information is not sent we can file a grievance on management's delay. Management should not just set your paper work on their desk and forget about it. Do not wait months assuming that management did their job, follow up with your bosses daily asking if your paperwork has been sent on. Far too many carriers call the Branch office months after their accidents about the medical bills they keep getting because management said to bring them the bills and they will "take care of it". The problem is that the bills NEVER get taken care of and there are specific time lines that must be met in order for an OWCP claim to get accepted. Do not hesitate to inform your steward and/or the Branch Office of your need for help with the procedures for initiating an OWCP Claim.

Moving forward to 2019 we will still need to face the political challenges head on that affect our employer such as fixing the pre-funding mandate, and the threat of privatization. We can help do this by volunteering when there are phone banks, and door knocks. The officers of Branch 9 will be working hard on our political agenda, but we can't do it alone. I



Samantha Hartwig

know from the many stations that I have visited, and several more that I will be visiting there are carriers who want to get involved.

Half of the career letter carriers in this Branch have 10 years or less time on the job. The future of our jobs is, and can be determined by our elected representatives in Congress. We need to be active, and talk to all of our representatives about the legislation that will affect the USPS.

The Union is all of us, not merely the Branch executive board, and the stewards. Anyone who wants to help volunteer through raising money for MDA, the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive, Politically, planning member activities, or any other venture that can be thought up please let the Branch Office know. I have been excited to see several new faces at our General Membership Meetings, and I would love to see even more new faces. We have a lot of hard work ahead of us in the next year to come, and I am excited to see our Branch grow into the future. Now is the time for all of us in Branch 9 to get involved.

*In Solidarity,
Samantha Hartwig*

BRANCH 9's HOLIDAY PARTY





IT'S BEEN ENTERTAINING

I have been planning events for Branch 9 for ten years. I have enjoyed the time serving all the Branch 9 members. I have planned Ice fishing on Lake Mille Lacs, Linda Eno at Twin Pines Resort loved it when we all showed up. Not many fish were caught some years, but everyone always had a great time. Picnics and the Aquator Park picnics were a blast. We went there three years and had a softball tournament for two of them. The Clay Trap shooting event we had this past fall was a very fun event to organize. The gun enthusiast got to show off their skills. Along with all the other events. My responsibilities included picking up treats for the Branch 9 membership meeting.



As the Branch 9 Entertainment chairperson I was also appointed to the USPS Minneapolis Social and Recreation Committee by our Branch President. The Soc/Rec committee planned events for all Postal employees in Minneapolis, MN. Over the years on this committee I helped organize Timberwolves games, Twins games, Canterbury Downs parties and the Children's Holiday show at the Old Log Theater. The last few years we have had the Children's Holiday show at the SideKick Theater in Bloomington.

I would like to thank Jim Nelson who has been my co-chair the whole time I've been the chairperson and to all the people who volunteered over the years to help make all the events a success. I would also like to thank Pam Donato for seeing potential in me to be the Entertainment Chair ten years ago. I have sincerely enjoyed organizing events for the members of Branch 9.

President Mike Zagaros has appointed Christa Abraham to be the new Entertainment Chairperson starting in January 2019. So welcome Christa and if anyone has any ideas for some new fun events, let Christa know.

Ken Jambois
Branch 9 Entertainment Chair

NALC Disaster Relief Foundation



As announced at the 2018 NALC Convention in Detroit, the union has established the NALC Disaster Relief Foundation to alleviate the suffering of members affected by natural disasters, including earthquakes, tornadoes, hurricanes and wildfires.

The foundation was created to fill a need identified by many branches in the face of the disasters last year, including the wildfires that ravaged northern and southern California, as well as the hurricanes that swept through South Texas, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Florida Keys.

“Branches wanted to know where they could send desperately needed supplies and money, but there wasn’t a central location,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “That’s why we created this foundation, to reflect the will of the members and make it easy for them to help others in need quickly and efficiently.”

The foundation has been set up to function in two ways: by providing hands-on relief and by receiving

donations as a means to offer financial grants.

NALC is in the process of creating response teams throughout the country. People on the teams will receive disaster relief training from charitable organizations and government agencies, including the American Red Cross, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Foundation volunteers recently were activated to go to North Carolina to help letter carriers recover from the destruction wrought by Hurricane Florence. They offered physical assistance—helping to remove water-logged furniture and tear out soaked drywall—as well as emotional assistance for individuals who had been overwhelmed by the aftermath.

Additionally, basic supplies, including uniforms and food, will be available for those who need them in the future. The foundation also will provide

financial support through grants. Any NALC member who has faced hardship as a result of a natural disaster will be able to apply for assistance. The foundation’s board of directors will consider the hardship applications and will issue grants on an objective basis to eligible individuals as funds are available. Job performance or history of donations to the foundation will not be considered as part of the selection process. The application for these grants is being developed.

The foundation is applying for 501(c)(3) status to allow people who donate to the fund to write off the donations from their taxes. Anyone who would like to make a donation now may send a check or money order to the address below. The union is working on accepting donations through credit cards and electronic funds transfer (EFT) online.

It is anticipated that financial support for the foundation will be provided by NALC, branch fundraising events, donations from members and donations from corporate sponsors.

Any member wishing to be a potential Disaster Relief Foundation volunteer should send a note about his or her interest to the address below.

Contact Information:

NALC Disaster Relief Foundation
100 Indiana Ave. NW,
Washington, DC 20001-2144

DisasterReliefFoundation@nalc.org
(202)-423-2443

**UNIFORMS
UNLIMITED**

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2220 Lyndale Avenue South
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The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters



St. Paul
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St. Paul, MN 55103
651- 224 - 7567

Fiscal Statement cont'd from page 1

legally mandated review of the postage rate-setting system. At present, USPS is constricted in its ability to adjust rates by no more than the Consumer Price Index, but the CPI is an economy-wide measurement of consumer goods and services that doesn't fit a transportation and delivery provider. The PRC has the ability to correct this mismatch and relieve the resulting financial pressure.

Meanwhile, Congress should address the pre-funding burden it imposed in 2006, which requires USPS – alone among all public and private entities in the country – to prefund future retiree healthcare benefits at an annual cost of about \$5.8 billion. It's important to note that this goes on the books as red ink whether or not it's actually paid in a given year.

Fixing the external financial burdens posed by the price rollback and pre-funding will put postal finances on a stable footing and allow USPS – which is based in the Constitution, funds itself through earned revenue, and enjoys broad public and political support – to continue providing Americans and their businesses with the industrial world's most-affordable delivery network.

-Fredric Rolando,
President of the NALC

NALC.org
News & information
November 14, 2018

RETIREMENTS



Chuck Nelson (Brooklyn Center) receives his retirement watch from President Mike Zagaros. Enjoy Retirement!



Marc Dumas (Blaine) takes his last punch with Steward James Spencer. Have a Fun Retirement!



Steward Chris Pennock with newly retired Diamond Lake carriers Steve Ursick, Paul Layer and Paul Mykkeltvedt. Have a Great Retirement!



Joe Stifter (Lowry) with balloons and Stewards Cindy Fossum and Karen Thompson. Happy Retirement!



Chris Wittenburg's last Branch 9 GMM as the Region 7 NBA.

Thank you for your years of service and enjoy your retirement!



Br. 9 Retired Letter Carrier
Kerry Herdine
Home: 952.854.2655
Cell: 612.805.8407

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Pres. Report cont'd from page 3

Crystal VFW at 7:00 p.m. There were opportunities to attend the week-long training that is put on by the National Business Agent's Office. In the even numbered years MSALC (State Association) puts on a training seminar in the fall. Finally, each year there has been a retirement seminar open to members and their spouses. Coming up next will be training for those who are interested in becoming a Formal Step A Representative beginning on January 10th at the Branch Office at 5:00. We are also looking at OWCP Representative Training in February. If you are interested in either Formal Step A or OWCP contact the Branch Office as seating will be limited.

Politics and Legislation: The midterm elections finally have come to a close and Minnesota ranked highest in voter participation in the Nation at over 64%. On the Senate and House side we have returned many of our friends. Now is the time to contact your representative about Postal Legislation. Now is the time to make yourself known to your Representatives and explain why the current Postal Legislation is important to you and your families. As there are few days left in this current Congress, all Postal Legislation not acted upon will probably start over from square one with the 116th Congress that will be seated on January 3rd.

There are still plenty of issues related to the Postal Service as a result of the President's Taskforce that was supposed re-evaluated the financial and business of the Postal Service. The original report was to be released last August but it was released the day before the National Day of Mourning for President Bush. The report is entitled United States

Postal Service: A Sustainable Path Forward contains much of the Administration's earlier proposals minus the privatization part. There is a link on National's website www.NALC.ORG where you can read the entire report for yourself. In an attempt to revisit the gains that were achieved from the **Postal Strike**, the report recommends that the ability for the NALC and the other unions be prohibited from bargaining over wages and benefits among other things.

Branch Elections: Thank you to all the members who took time to vote in the most recent Branch Elections. The results are printed elsewhere in this edition. I would like to thank the candidates who ran for office as well as the Election Judges and Tellers: Joe Rian from Richfield – Chair; Johnea Rystedt from Columbia Heights and Chris Pennock from Diamond Lake; Tellers Karen Pederson from Loring; Jerone Kellum from Blaine and Ronaele Bolden from Brooklyn Center. As of this writing most delivery units are in the process of electing their Stewards for the 2019 – 2021 term. These will be your representatives please get involved and vote where there is a contest.

As the new term begins there are changes to the Branch 9 Executive Board. I would like to thank the outgoing officers Executive Vice President Darrell Maus (who retired earlier this year) Director of Retirees Rodney Anderson and Branch Trustee Joe Rian. I want to thank them for their service and dedication to Branch 9. Our new Executive Board beginning in January will be: Mike Zagaros, President, Samantha Hartwig Executive Vice President; JoAnn Gilbaugh, Recording Secretary, Jim Nelson Financial Secretary, Lisa O'Neill Treasurer, Editor of the Branch Nine News Jeremy

Rothstein, Health Benefits Representative Mike Smith, Director of Retirees Melia Derrick, Sergeant-at-Arms Jeff Reed, Trustees Ken Jambois, Stacey Ellingson, and Robb Petersburg. These officers along with the newly elected stewards will be installed at the January General Membership Meeting on January 22nd.

Remembrances: As with every year, our ranks are diminished as some of our members have passed on. This year, (16) of our brothers and sisters have passed. During the holiday season, please take a moment to remember them in your hearts and remember their families as well: Adrian C. Anderson, Robert M. Dahl, Henry Eggers, Joel Foster, Rolland Gardner, William Gimble, Robert B. Hoeben, Theodore Hoven, James W. Johnson, Kenneth C. Nelson, Mary Neveaux, LeRoy Pohl, Wallace Sjoquist, Dwight Stordahl, Bruce Temte, Robert Tomberlin, Robert Zastera.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of Branch 9 for giving me the honor of serving as your Branch President for the next three years. As we enter the new term, I will continue to ask for your help, advice and guidance as we continue to deal with the changing environment that is our Postal Service. On behalf of the officers and stewards of Branch 9, I want to wish you all a joyous and safe holiday season and a Happy New Year!

*Happy
New
Year*



**Jerome J. Keating Local Branch 9
National Association of Letter Carriers**

P. A. L. 9 (Political Action League)
11581 Ilex Street N.W., Coon Rapids, Mn 55448-2316

**Lenny Larson, President
Rodney Anderson , Secretary
Ron Lawrence, Treasurer**

Board Members

**Mike Zagaros Bob Baird Barry Weiner Joel Carter Lisa O'Neill
Connie Beissel Jeremy Rothstein Ashley Keul Samantha Hartwig**

P.A.L. 9 ANNUAL LETTER

January 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters :

Mercifully, the 2018 mid-term elections have concluded. While we managed to gain many new labor friendly seats in national, state and local elections, many political dangers still face us all as working class citizens and retirees. Health care, social security, our retirement plans, and job security are all at stake. We as Federal employees are in particular danger because we currently have a U.S. President that wants to turn the U.S.P.S. over to private business!

So here we go again soliciting you to fund political causes. P.A.L. 9 will be extremely important in our fight to maintain all that we have won over many years. Not only do we support candidates in federal races, we also donate to local races. We also help other N.A.L.C. locals that do not have the funding to do so. We use the funds for lobbying, legislative training and to support labor's political agenda.

If we are to continue these efforts to any kind of successful conclusion, we need the support of ALL our members. In past years our Branch 9 retirees have donated in far greater numbers than our active carriers. Puzzling considering that actives have far more to lose!

The next election will be pivotal for us and the working class. If the current administration wins a second term, look out! Do we really want another term of office for those that don't give a damn about anything but making their already rich friends even wealthier at our expense?
Get involved and donate. Our livelihood depends on it.

Lenny Larson
President PAL 9

Ron Lawrence
Treasurer PAL 9

Name: _____

Address: _____

___ \$ 25.00 Annual Dues

___ Very Concerned Membership (\$50.00 or More)

___ Active Carrier (Station _____)

Clip & Mail to: Ron Lawrence
11581 Ilex Street NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448-2316

___ Retired Carrier

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Contribute to the PAC
The Letter Carrier Political Fund is the anchor for NALC's legislative and political activities.



nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity

Branch 9 Calendar

<p><u>December 25</u> Christmas Day HOLIDAY</p> <p><u>January 1</u> New Years Day HOLIDAY</p> <p><u>January 8</u> Steward Meeting 7:00PM Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN</p> <p><u>January 17</u> "TENTATIVE" CCA & Newly Converted Regulars Meeting 7:00PM Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN</p> <p><u>January 21</u> Martin Luther King Jr. Day HOLIDAY</p>	<p><u>January 22</u> General Membership Meeting 7:00PM Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN</p> <p><u>February 12</u> Steward Meeting 7:00PM Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN</p> <p><u>February 18</u> President's Day HOLIDAY</p> <p><u>February 26</u> General Membership Meeting 7:00PM Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN</p>
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Northside Retiree Breakfast
1st Tuesday of the Month
9:30AM @ Elsie's
729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis

N Suburban Retiree Breakfast
1st Friday of the Month
8:30AM @ Denny's Restaurant
9020 Quaday Avenue NE, Otsego

Southside Retiree Breakfast
2nd Tuesday of the Month
9:00AM @ Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Dr, Richfield

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast
4th Tuesday of the Month
9:00AM @ Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Dr, Richfield

POCUM
4th Monday of the Month
6:00PM - Labor Centre -2nd Floor
312 Central Ave, Minneapolis