



VOLUME 62 No 6

Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC

August 2010

Branch 9 Delegates attend 67th National Convention



See you in Minneapolis in 2012



Election Notice



This is an official notification to the membership of Jerome J. Keating Branch 9 NALC Minneapolis, Minnesota. Nominations for delegates to the 2011 MSALC State Convention, will be held at the September General Membership Meeting on Thursday, September 23, 2010 at 7:00PM. The General Membership Meeting will be held at the Crystal VFW Post 494, 5222 56th Ave North, Crystal. Candidates must complete the appropriate Letters of Intent and return same to the Recording Secretary at the September General Membership Meeting in which they are nominated or within 10 days thereafter no later than 5:00PM. Should an election of delegates to the MSALC State Convention be necessary, it will be held at the October General Membership Meeting on October 28, 2010.

Last Punch Bunch

Thomas Burnett



Diane Erlandson makes it official. Congratulations!

Bloomington



Bloomington's Jim Knutson called it a career. Enjoy your retirement!

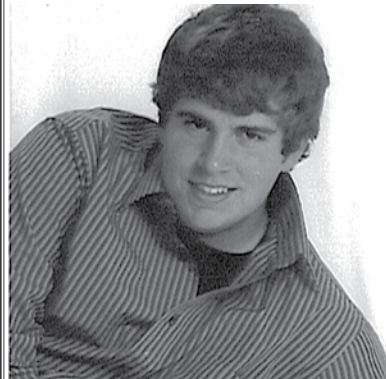
J. Wesley Woods Scholarship Winner



Daniel Sundberg, son of Mark Sundberg (Golden Valley).

"I plan to major in mechanical engineering while attending Anoka Ramsey Community College. After receiving my pre-engineering degree, I plan to transfer to the University of Minnesota Duluth where I will continue my education. This scholarship will help immensely with my college experience. Thank you."

Jerome J. Keating/ Austin B. Carlson Scholarship Winner



Mike Raynes, son of James Raynes (Nokomis) "Thank you very much for the scholarship you have given me. With this, I will use it to pursue an education at the University of Minnesota Morris where I will study music. Thank you for helping me with my education"

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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 3rd Friday 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.

THE COMMUNITY COMES TO THE AID OF THEIR LETTER CARRIER



Lowry Carrier Brian Bloomquist

On Tuesday, July 27th, Lowry Carrier Brian Bloomquist was attacked by 2 pitbull terriers while delivering his route. He received well over 50 dog bites and was briefly hospitalized. But for the actions of the three patrons (Lawrence Blackful, Bridgett Shepard and De' Angelo Boldt) on Brian's route, who intervened to distract the dogs, the results could have been even more tragic.

Brian along with a number of carriers from all around Branch 9, returned to that same neighborhood one week later on National Night Out to say thank you. The neighborhood had gathered to celebrate their community with plenty of great food to eat and a time of fellowship. They graciously allowed us to participate in their festivities.

Branch 9 President, Pam Donato presented Bridgett, De'Agelo and Lawrence with the first Branch 9 Community Hero Awards for their actions in coming to the aid of Brian. Minneapolis Postmaster, Cindy Larson, Congressman Keith Ellison, and City Council Member Diane Hofstede were also there to honor the resident's who intervened to save Brian from the attacking dogs. From his fellow carriers, Brian received an industrial sized can of dog repellent.



Giving Back to the Community

URBAN VENTURES



In July, carriers from Branch 9 participated in a unique baby shower at Urban Ventures. They purchased items for use in the nursery for the Parenting Program.

Urban Ventures is a non-profit organization in South Minneapolis committed breaking the cycle of poverty and strengthening families. The Parenting Program provides education and support for non-custodial parents to be involved in their children's lives. Lake Street Steward Cathy Burton headed the Branch's efforts. Thank you Cathy, and the carriers from Lake Street, Richfield, Coon Rapids and the Main Office for your participation.



Cathy Burton (Lake Street) with some of the couples from Urban Ventures



What's a shower without games. These guys raced to see who could change a dirty diaper the fastest.



Cathy Burton (Lake Street), Pam Donato (Branch 9 President), and Melia Derrick (Branch 9 Recording Secretary) enjoying the festivities.



Thank You Certificates were presented to the Stewards from Coon Rapids, Lake Street, and Richfield.

“Giving Green” by Branch 9

The NALC’s Food Drive (first weekend) in May is when local food shelves stock up on non-perishable food. So it is only reasonable to assume that this is all they dispense to needy families during the year. ERROR-ERROR! Second Harvest Heartland was at the Minneapolis Farmer’s Market (312 East Lyndale Ave. North) collecting fresh food donated by shopper’s during the day, and then collected more from produce purveyor’s, who donated a portion of their remaining stock at the end of the day.

Between 8:00 and 11:30AM, Sunday, August 1st, Branch 9 volunteer’s and their families handed out shopping lists of suggested fresh food needed by Second Harvest Heartland. Shoppers then brought their donated food to the food shelf tent near the information booth. The second shift began at noon and worked past 3:00PM picking up food and carting it to a waiting semi-truck to be transported back to Second Harvest Heartland. By the end of the day more than 10,000 pounds of food had been collected.



Second Harvest Heartland Says Thank You

A wonderful appreciation picnic was held at Kordiak Regional Park (Columbia Heights) for all the participants in the NALC's 2010 Food Drive. The picnic was sponsored by Second Harvest Heartland Food Bank and was fully catered by Unique Dining. Second Harvest Heartland's Director Rob Zeske thanked and commended Branch 9 letter carriers for their hard work and commitment to end hunger in our communities. Rob also recognized Dawn Marie Nelmark (Second Harvest Heartland Coordinator), Ginnee Berg from WCCO Radio and Howard Marcus from the Minnesota Transport Services Association for their generous contributions to the NALC Food Drive this year.

Branch President Pam Donato gave a bit of our Branch 9 drive history, sharing with us that in our first NALC Food Drive, our entire Branch collection was 23,000 pounds of food. That has exploded over the years to this year's Branch total of 764,000 pounds! She said this amazing success is only possible through the coalitions that have been built over the years with hard working like minded individuals, groups and organizations, and the amazing effort of all letter carriers! A special thanks was also given to other craft workers from the Rural Letter carriers, the APWU and Mail Handlers, along with many supervisors and managers. Besides the great food, there were games for the kids (both young and old), like beanbag toss, hula hoop contest, sack race and cribbage.



President, Pam Donato presented a mailbox bank to Dawn Marie Nelmark (2nd Harvest Heartland Coordinator)



Howard Markus (MTSA)



Ginnee Berg, WCCO Radio



BRANCH 9 BINGO/KARAOKE NIGHT

Sunday, October 10, 2010 5:00PM

Open to Branch 9 Members Friends and Family

Crystal VFW

5222 56th Ave

(also known as Bass Lake Rd)

Crystal, MN 55429

**Bingo cards and
packages will be sold.**

Tickets

\$5 in advance

(see your steward)

\$8 at the door

**admission includes
sloppy joes and snacks**

All proceeds benefit MDA

BRANCH 9 TURTLE LAKE CASINO RUN

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2010

10 AM TO 5 PM

TICKETS ARE \$10



Ticket includes:

Round Trip transportation to casino

\$5.00 in quarters

Free Lunch Buffet

Two Pickup points

Southdale Mall

35W & Lexington

Bus will depart Southdale parking lot (corner near York Avenue and 69th in Edina at 10:00 am. Second pickup point Walmart of I 35W Lexington Avenue N. Blaine.

Maximum of 55 people on the bus. Must be 21 or older and have picture ID.

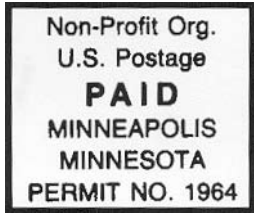
To reserve a seat mail \$10 per person to Branch 9 NALC at

2408 Central Avenue NE

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Branch Nine News
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Change Service Requested



Branch Nine Calendar

*Thursday, September 9

Stewards Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW Post 494
5222 56th Ave North, Crystal

September 12

Veterans Picnic
12 PM to DUSK
Veterans Rest Camp
11300 180th St N,
Marine on St. Croix, MN

September 14

Southside Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

*Thursday, September 23

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW Post 494
5222 56th Ave North, Crystal

September 28

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

October 5

Northside Retiree's Breakfast
9:30AM Elsie's
729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis

October 10

Bingo/Karaoke Night
6:00PM
Crystal VFW Post 494
5222 56th Ave North, Crystal

October 12

Southside Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

* Thursday, October 14

Stewards Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW Post 494
5222 56th Ave North, Crystal

October 17

Minnetonka Orchards
11:00AM
6530 Cty Rd 26
Minnetrista, MN

October 24

Branch 9 Casino Run
Turtle Lake Casino
Turtle Lake, WI

October 26

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

*Thursday, October 28

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW Post 494
5222 56th Ave North, Crystal

November 2

Northside Retiree's Breakfast
9:30AM Elsie's
729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis

November 9

Southside Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield