

JEROME J. KEATING BRANCH



BRANCH NINE NEWS

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

1964

VOLUME 64 No 5

Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC

June 2012



NALC President Fred Rolando

will be the guest speaker at the General Membership Meeting on July 17th at the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation (312 Central Avenue, Minneapolis, MN 55414).

This is an opportunity for Branch 9 members to get the most current information on union issues and the NALC's goals. We urge all members to take this opportunity with our National President. Food and beverages provided.

Hold on there Pardner



Wanted:

Volunteer's for:

Convention Bag Stuffing

Convention T-Shirt Sales

Registration Table

Veteran Services

Information On Pages 14 & 15

Branch 9 is once again hosting the National Convention. The 40th Biennial Convention was held here, in Minneapolis, back in 1956 at the Minneapolis Auditorium. Letter carriers and their families volunteered some of their time to make that convention a success.

Today, Branch 9 is once again asking for carriers and their families to donate a few hours of their time before and during this convention. You do not have to be a delegate to volunteer, and it's a great way to see our NALC democracy at work.

The greatest need for volunteers will be on July 19th, for filling roughly 8,000 convention bags for the delegates. The more volunteers (young and old) we have, the faster we will complete the job.

Look on the last few pages of this issue for more detailed information.

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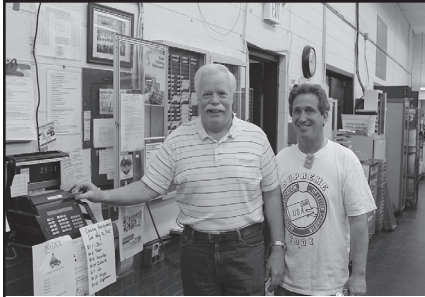
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68TH BIENNIAL

NALC CONVENTION

JULY 23-27, 2012 — MINNEAPOLIS



Keith Chapman (Richfield) retires as Steward, Joe Rian watches.



Richard "Groucho" Patterson retires out of Golden Valley on May 31st. Union Steward, John McGlocklin witnesses.

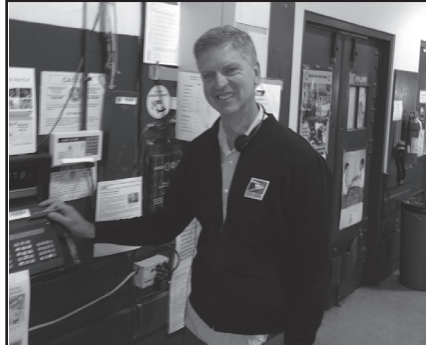


Wayne Borchardt (Burnsville) receives his retirement watch from Branch 9 Exec. Vice President, Darrell Maus on June 1st.

In Memoriam
Elwood Hanson



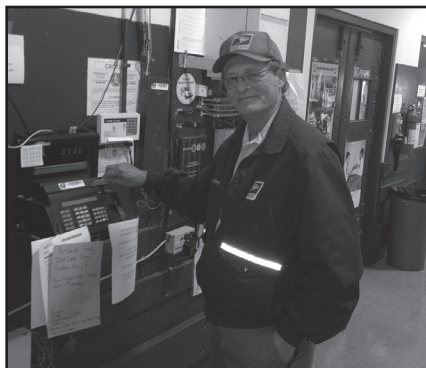
Burton Pansch and Dan Johnson retire from Osseo. Steward, Roger Maas looks on.



Dave Blank (Robbinsdale) retired May 11th.



Jim Setten (Robbinsdale) retired May 31st.



Joe Schlemmer (Robbinsdale) retired May 31st.

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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 2nd 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.

President's Report

The one change of season that the vast majority of letter carriers look forward to is summertime. Summer is a time when we normally think of vacations, warm sunny days and time to get ... busy because there is a lot going on.

President Rolando is coming to town

The meeting night for the July General Membership Meeting has been changed to Tuesday, July 17 at 7:00PM. It will be held on the 2nd floor of the United Labor Center, 312 Central Avenue SE. President Rolando will be present to address the membership about the latest events and to help kick off our Legislative/Election 2012 program. This is an opportunity to hear the latest on what is happening in Washington and to find out what you can do to make a difference. There has been a lot written and spoken about all the legislation introduced in Congress this term. From the House with H.RES.137 and H.R.2309 to the Senate, where S.1789 was passed over our objections. Now that S.1789 has passed many of us are left with questions. So what happens now? Here is an opportunity to hear our National President discuss these and other issues. You can also find out about our local strategies related to this year's elections and how you can participate. The meeting is open to all members and their spouses. Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please contact the Branch Office.

Operational Window

Last month the Postmaster went ahead and implemented her plan to establish operational windows in Minneapolis. Problem number one is that we don't have the staffing

to handle decreasing the overall hours carriers will be on the street. They went ahead and did it anyway. Management's solution to problem number one is to force non-OTDL carriers to work overtime and not just on their regular work days. Carriers are being forced to work on their non-scheduled day(s) as well. This creates problem number two when they don't fully utilize the carriers on the OTDL. The resolution for problem number two is to grieve each and every violation. The National Agreement does allow management to require carriers not on the OTDL to work overtime, but only in certain circumstances and not on a continual basis. That is not what is happening.

We believe that managements actions violate the contract. We have had several discussions with management about this matter to no avail. That is why we have asked the stewards to be vigilant in their monitoring of the overtime at each unit and to investigate every instance of non-OTDL carriers working overtime. If you are not on the OTDL and you are asked to volunteer or are forced to work overtime make sure you notify your steward. If you are not on the OTDL and work over 10 hours (or 8 hours on your N/S day) see your steward. If you are on the Assignment Only List and work overtime on a different route or your N/S day see your steward. The National Agreement does allow for carriers to be excused from working mandatory overtime (see Article 8.5.G and page 8-16 of the JCAM) it gives local management broad discretion to excuse carriers from working mandatory overtime for events like anniversaries, birthdays, illness and similar types of events. If you have an event coming up



Mike Zagaros

and you are concerned about being forced, talk to your steward. Additional training and resources are being provided to the stewards to challenge management's actions. We are seeking a Make Whole remedy for all parties in these grievances not only the people who should have worked, but those improperly required to work as well. As these cases go forward, we will keep you informed.

National Convention

There is an old saying, "many hands make light work." Never has this been more true than with convention preparations. Elsewhere in this issue, there is information about how you can volunteer to help with the National Convention. On Thursday, July 19th we will be preparing all the registration materials for the delegates. We call it "bag stuffing" and we need your help. Can you spare a few hours on Thursday, July 19th help fill over 8,000 delegate bags? Can you bring a friend, co-worker or spouse? Do you have teenagers who needs volunteer credits this summer? If you can say yes to any of these questions please give the office a call and leave a message for Barb Watzczak, Branch 9's Convention Volunteer Coordinator. We are also seeking

President's Report cont. on Page 13

Leonard A. Larson/Barry J. Weiner Scholarship \$1,000 Scholarships

Winner: David Johnson (Elk River)
Winner: Mark Sundberg (Golden Valley)

Walter E. Couillard/Eugene P. McNulty \$2,000 Scholarship

Winner: Michelle Rubi
 Father: Leo Rubi (Minnehaha)

1st Runner-Up: Kevin Mattson
 Father: Jeff Mattson (Brooklyn Park)

2nd Runner-Up: Jasmine Mellesmoen
 Father: Mark Mellesmoen (Lake Street)

J. Wesley Woods - \$1,000 Scholarship

Winner: Nicole Theyson
 Father: Jeff Theyson (Thomas Burnett)

1st Runner-Up: Megan Armstrong
 Father: Scott Armstrong (Elmwood)

2nd Runner-Up: Nicole Enger
 Father: Michael Wittmann (Brooklyn Center)

Jerome J. Keating/Austin B. Carlson \$2,000 Scholarship

Winner: Lucas Wiborg
 Father: Doug Wiborg (Fridley)

1st Runner-Up: Mary Falowo
 Father: Johnson Falowo (Lowry)

2nd Runner-Up: Carl Wenning
 Father: Larry Wenning (Chanhassen)

**The Following is a List of PAL 9 Paid Members
 for May 2012.**

Very Concerned Members

David O. Burandt
 Ronald Barker
 Howard G. Lamson

Regular Members

Richard Rimer
 Lenny Larson
 Deborah A. Grunnes

**Ron Lawrence
 Treasurer PAL 9**

***Cross River
 Challenge Cup***
**remains in Minneapolis as
 Branch 9 hockey team
 wins 11-10 over Branch 28.**

By: Barry Weiner

For the second year in a row, our Branch 9 hockey team stunned the Branch 28 Saint Paul crew by scoring the winning goal with just a few seconds left in the game. Branch 9 opened the scoring early and held the lead for most of the game, at one point scoring two short-handed goals during a single penalty kill, but a very skilled and determined Branch 28 team kept it close and stepped up in the third period with three unanswered goals, taking the lead with just a minute seventeen seconds left in the game. Facing the prospects of having to return the *Cross River Challenge Cup* to the other side of the river, the 9'ers showed their heart and grit, by scoring the tying goal with just forty five seconds remaining, and the go ahead winner with just over twenty seconds to go. The game was played at a fast and furious pace with both teams fielding a number of players that had played high school hockey and beyond. When it was over, the teams lined up for the traditional post game handshakes and a number of players from both sides went over to a nearby sports bar together for pizza and some good natured ribbing, and they are all looking forward to the next game.



Executive Vice President's Report

STAFFING

Sick Leave is up, productivity is down, accidents are up, forced overtime is increasing, morale is down, tempers are flaring, less than our best customer service, and late mail delivery. Who do you blame? While there may be other contributing factors to each of the issues listed, there is one glaring fact, STAFFING IS THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR. Short staffing has resulted in what we'll call "management panic tactics". It is now a normal situation for there to be open assignments at most stations everyday before any unanticipated absences, so panic looms on a daily basis. What action has management taken to solve these issues? Establish a Window Of Operations (WOO) where they require carriers to be off the street by a prescribed time and violate overtime provisions of the contract to achieve their goal. Even though carriers were working long hours before now they want the same amount of work done at an earlier time and have not hired any more carriers to accomplish this goal. The only place in management's eyes to have more carriers available for the workload now is to schedule the non-overtime carriers to work overtime against their desire. They have stated the mail must get delivered by a certain time and the simultaneous scheduling of overtime and non-overtime carries at the same time is the only way this can be achieved. Nothing has changed in the contract concerning overtime over the years and the grievances will be filed and time taken to adjudicate the dispute which will involve more steward

hours and more scheduling problems. Any time a non-overtime carrier is required to work overtime they should always inform their steward and an investigation should follow to see if management has indeed violated the contract.

SICK LEAVE

This short staffing has led to many other problems also, especially when a carrier becomes ill and cannot work. Management now thinks that with the short staffing that sick leave should be an automatic discipline or automatically require medical documentation. There are circumstances where managements request for medical documentation is proper. One is if the carrier has been previously counseled because of their irregular attendance and allowed time to improve. If there is no improvement then a carrier can be placed on "Restricted Sick Leave" (this must be done in writing to the carrier). Without a carrier's prior placement on Restricted Sick Leave, management must demonstrate, with factual circumstances, that their documentation request is necessary. The fact that the carriers absence is unscheduled and that it would impact the productivity or efficiency of the work station is not sufficient reason for a proper documentation request!

All carriers are impacted when unscheduled absences occur. Let's not forget, when a carrier calls in sick, it's the rest of the carriers who must then case and carry the mail. Management may and in some cases has used this on carriers as part of a guilt or honor bashing technique when



Darrell Maus

someone does call in. But if stations were properly staffed, these absences would not normally result in carriers out delivering mail late, forced overtime, or desperate measures by station management to bully carriers not to call in sick. This union has never condoned or supported any improper use of sick leave, and like wise, we will not sit idly by while carriers are subjected to these panic tactics. If you have been required to obtain medical documentation when attempting to use your sick leave, talk to your steward immediately. The NALC fought to win the benefit of paid sick leave, you earn your sick leave each pay period and you deserve to use your sick leave without strings attached.

CURRENT ISSUES

The NALC and the USPS are facing many struggles, both contractually and politically. Mail volume has dropped, not just in first class mail, but most recently it has dropped in other classes too. The economy has tanked but hopefully is starting to recover, resulting in individuals and businesses tightening their belts. Our contract is heading for arbitration and of course the short staffing with no end to it in sight. While this Branch will continue to work

Exec. VP's Report cont. on page 7

NALC President Fred Rolando addresses the carrier's at the Region 7 Training

By: Joe Rian (Richfield)

We work for a company whose expenses exceed their income. The Postmaster wants to downsize to match revenues, cut services, reduce service standards, cut offices and cut the number of people. The NALC is assessing what we had, what we've lost, and what we won't get back.... and how to retool for the future. Congress is worried only about getting re-elected.

With that opening, President Fred Rolando touched on eight issues during his two hour talk.

1. Major Issues

All types of political groups are represented in the NALC membership, but the NALC as an organization speaks on only two things ...letter carriers and their jobs. We have to be a player on a large scale because our issues are large scale. We have COLCPE and E-Activist to help us do this. We must always work on two fronts...if we need something, we also need to show Congress how to pay for it. We have people who do this.

S.1789 passed because Congress wanted to be able to say "I passed a bill that kept this part of the Post Office open." Outside of that, most Senators didn't know exactly what they were voting for. Now the NALC will patiently go line by line, Senator by Senator, starting with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, to educate and correct the mistakes in S.1789 and to be ready for the Joint Conference Committee. The 30,000 calls letter carriers made after the

town hall telecons made a difference. But the political fight is not over, it is only the beginning. Stay engaged.

Representative Issa's bill, with only 2 sponsors, is bad news, Representative Lynch's bill with 200 plus co-sponsors is good news. Representative Issa's bill was introduced because he is committee chair, Rep. Lynch's has not been introduced. The White House wanted five day delivery until a meeting with President Obama's political people and NALC President Rolando made them realize there were some votes involved here. Our message: you change your stance on five-day delivery, we can help. We have had follow up meetings. So at least we are talking now.

2. Media

There is a lot of incorrect information in the press. We have to work to correct this for our customers and for the American people. We are profitable, (\$200 million last quarter and growing), if we set aside our retirement prefunding requirements. We, the letter carriers have to spread the word, the USPS won't.

The USPS has one business plan; just cut, cut, cut, cut. The NALC hired Ron Bloom and the Lazard Financial Group to see if there is enough of a USPS business to save. They began meeting with major players, GOOGLE, FEDEX, EBAY, etc. These folks want to work with the USPS but always asked, "How come they, the USPS, have never come to talk with us like the NALC has?" Turns out the USPS doesn't have a dedicated staff to work with large corporate clients. The NALC has

found that we must drag the USPS along with us when we meet with corporations who are potential partners. Postmaster General Donohoe won't.

We learned that partnerships are possible. We pass 151 million homes a day; we go the last mile. UPS and FedEx can't do it cheaper than us. They like what we can do for them. We can utilize modern technology and maybe one day, we can begin pick up and delivery the same day on a local basis. The problem is that our corporate customers doubt that USPS management could implement these changes and they don't think Postmaster General Donohoe has what it takes to make it happen. There is a White Page on the NALC website that describes our plans.

3. Interest Arbitration

Our contract. Negotiations began 90 days before the expiration of our contract, The NALC/USPS extended them to the end of January with no deal. Then, mandatory mediation for 60 days, no deal here either. President Rolando's feeling is that the USPS wants to go to arbitration. We are in the process now of jointly selecting a neutral arbitrator for the 3 person arbitration panel. Talks will continue, though. Remember, in arbitration, the arbitrator makes the decision we all have to follow. Often a negotiated agreement is better.

4. The Collective Bargaining Process

We think we have the basis for an agreement without the Postmaster General and Congress. We want to maintain the current wage level and COLAs, USPS wants flexibility. We propose to make TE's carriers, career employees with full benefits; USPS wants efficiency. NALC wants less stress on the workroom floor and no more contracting out

routes and new deliveries. We built a base for a possible agreement, but on the contracting out issue, the Postmaster General won't budge. We were near an agreement on a supplemental workforce of retirees. We were near an agreement on health care too, but Postmaster General Donohoe wants to contract out our work. He said the USPS Board of Governors would fire him if he agreed to that. President Fred Rolando met with the Board of Governors, and they say that is not an issue for them. President Rolando met with our friends in Congress and they said only one person is pushing subcontracting; Representative Issa from California. It's his "baby". Without this one issue, we could have an agreement in place.

5. Issue Grievance Arbitration

Something that works very well for us. We grieve, disagree and then, if need be, present to a neutral party to decide. It works. The NALC is going to begin training specialized Step A and Arbitration Advocates who just work on certain issues. Take only solid cases to arbitration. We win them and move forward. This worked very well for NRP cases (242 wins - 36 losses). We are developing a new program, using "Best Practices for Training" for use at the station steward level, formal Step A level, Step B and for Arbitration Advocates.

6. Article 12

Is an obligation to find work for us all in the event of downsizing. Across the country this issue is big, here not so much. Postmaster General Donohoe has ordered the withholding to make room for clerks after plant closures. Also, for jobs lost through FSS. In doing so, the Postmaster General has ignored the

JCAM. We are attempting to correct this across the country.

7. Route Adjustments

JRAP worked; saved money, manageable routes, seemed all were happy. After months of negotiations to renew the joint route adjustment process that always seemed to break-down at the last minute, President Rolando asked the blunt question, "do you really want to work with us or not?" The answer was "not." Postal management apparently has a goal of how many routes they think should be cut nationwide and would only agree to a joint process if the NALC agreed to cut this same number of routes in the joint process. We couldn't agree to that. Clearly, after this, the Postmaster General doesn't want to work with the NALC on anything.

8. The Union Itself

We are losing members and must be in a position to adapt to this reality. We need to try to get over differences within our ranks that divide and weaken us. Focus on the needs of the present but plan for the future. Who will take our place when we are gone? The average age of letter carriers is now in the low 50's. Find a way to replace ourselves as advocates. There are seven to eight million people who are connected to the USPS and mail delivery. Now is the time to stay engaged, focused, and educated about our jobs and our economic futures. **This is not the time to ignore what's going on around us.**

**Join Branch 9 for the
MN State Fair
August 23 - September 3**

Exec. VP's Report cont. from Page 5

with management to ensure that the USPS thrives in the 21st Century, with the best and most efficient service to our public, and to work through the issues listed above. Any strategy must have as its foundation the treating of carriers with dignity and respect and contractual compliance. It's up to each of us to know our rights to make that a reality.

TE Carrier Testing Opportunity

Due to the termination of City Carrier Hiring Registers, there are no "special" battery exam opportunities for our current TE carriers. However, if they are interested in taking the 473 exam, they can do this by going to:

www.usps.com/employment

Look for a position opening for PSE (because this position requires the 473)

TE carriers can go in as if they are applying for a PSE position, just to get to the point of being scheduled for the 473 exam. They must go ahead and take the exam and that will give them a "473" score that is good in the system for 6 years.

Once they receive their test score, they can remove themselves from consideration for that PSE position.

Then, if we are able to hire "Career" PTF carriers in the future, they will have a test score and can choose to take it again, if they prefer.

City Readiness Initiative

CRI (City Readiness Initiative) is a federally funded program established in 2004 to provide emergency medication to densely populated areas in the event of a large-scale bio terrorist attack, such as Anthrax. Other major cities have been testing on a limited basis with the use of postal employees, but Minneapolis was the first full-scale test in the nation with coordinated local law enforcement, the Minnesota Department of Health, Emergency Management agencies, and the Postal Service.

The goal of this test was to determine if emergency medicines could be distributed to the general population by postal employees within the first 48 hours of a national emergency. According to the Minnesota Department of Health, approximately 37,000 antibiotic bottles were delivered to residential addresses on Sunday morning June 6th starting at 5:30 AM. Letter carriers joined with local law enforcement to distribute mock medicine bottles and information into mailboxes in the 55101, 55102, 55411, and 55422 zones.



Branch 9 Food Drive 2012

By Samantha Hartwig (Food Drive Coordinator)

Letter Carriers have always been on the forefront of civic issues. This year the NALC celebrated its 20th year of the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Because of the generous support from our sponsors, (Second Harvest Heartland, WCCO Radio, Cub Foods, MTSA Trucking, and KARE 11 News), letter carriers of Branch 9 collected over 412,000 pounds of food.

Though the economy is slowly recovering, food collected for food shelves is distributed to families in need almost as soon as it's collected. Thank you for collecting the food donated by our customer's and also for donating your time to unload mail trucks at collection points. A lofty goal is that someday families will not need food shelves, but until then, the NALC and its sponsors will partner together to Stamp Out Hunger.



THE JEROME J. KEATING

BRANCH 9



RED AND GOLD RETIREE BANQUET

**Volunteer's
made it happen**

Sunday, May 6th 2012





*Michael Zagaros
President, Branch 9*



*Keynote Speaker, Nicole Rhine,
Assistant Secretary-Treasurer,
NALC*



*Past President, Bill Mechels
received a special award for his
contribution to Branch 9.*



2012 - 50 Year "Gold Card" Members (L to R)
*Gerald Arnold, Lowell Berget, Bruce Fritsinger,
Roger Harwarth, Kenneth Honkanen,
John McPartlan, William Mechels*



2012 - 60 Year Members (L to R) *Jack Carlson,
Vincent Champs, Vernon Mahrer, Richard Martin,
Herman Metzler*

- Volunteers**
*Bob Baird
 Ann Baird
 Connie Beissel
 Joel Carter
 Melia Derrick
 Cathy Fealy
 Carol Garnto
 Mary Kay Glover*



*2012 Retiree of the Year, Rodney
Anderson and Past President Pam
Donato*

- Volunteers**
*Deb Grunnes
 Jim Magnuson
 Joe Rian
 Rick Rimer
 Jeremy Rothstein
 Cheryl Stately
 Angie Syverson
 Julie Waldemar*



NALC

Military Care Package Program



Source: March 2012 Postal Record

We are seeking convention delegates and family members to help package up donations to be shipped to active troops. Requested items: beef jerky, shampoo, deodorant, prepaid phone cards, baby wipes, lipbalm, lotion, playing cards, AA batteries, energy bars and gum.

Collected items will be packaged in Flat Rate boxes and shipped to deployed military units identified by our military partners.

If you know someone deployed, this is your chance to actively boost their morale by volunteering some of your time. This worthwhile endeavor helps garner support for letter carrier issues among our military families. Branch 9 Emeritus, Lenny Larson will be in contact with the members of the Branch 9 Veterans Committee soon to help coordinate this activity with our National Office.

Remembering Ron Nelson

Mike Zagaros and Darrell Maus along with carriers and staff from the Chanhassen Annex attended a tree planting memorial for Ron Nelson on Friday, May 25th, 2012. Mike Zagaros is pictured along with Ron's widow, Kathy.

Ron Nelson was Branch 9's 2011 Retiree of the Year. Unfortunately, Ron passed away suddenly prior to his award ceremony, so his family accepted the award in his place. Ron was very active in Branch 9, and his local community. An eight foot white flowering crab tree was planted in front of the Annex's front entrance in his honor.



President's Report cont. from Page 3

volunteers to work during the convention at the Branch sales booth. Branch 9 will be selling special commemorative t-shirts to raise funds for MDA. Please contact Barb if you can be of assistance. The National Convention is a wonderful experience. It has been 56 years since it was last in Minneapolis. If you can, come down to the Convention Center and experience it yourself. Guest Credentials are available.

National Agreement Update

The neutral arbitrator has been selected. Arbitrator Shyam Das has been selected to complete the three member panel that will be hearing the case on our next National Agreement. The panel needs to set up the hearing schedule that will allow both sides an opportunity to present their case. It has been 13 years since the NALC and USPS last went to arbitration to resolve our National Agreement. Look for the hearings to begin sometime after the National Convention and could last several months before a decision is rendered. In the meantime the national parties will still be free to resolve the matter.

Thank you

Volunteer Appreciation Week may have been in April, but May was the month for Branch 9 volunteers. First, thank you to all the carriers who got up early on a rainy Sunday morning to participate in the first full-scale test of the "Postal Plan" or CRI (the Cities Readiness Initiative). **You proved that in the event of a biological attack, letter carriers will be there. You did us proud.** Thank you to the volunteers at this year's Retiree Banquet. We couldn't have done it without you. It is important to take time out to honor

President's Report cont. on Page 16

Branch 9 Needs You

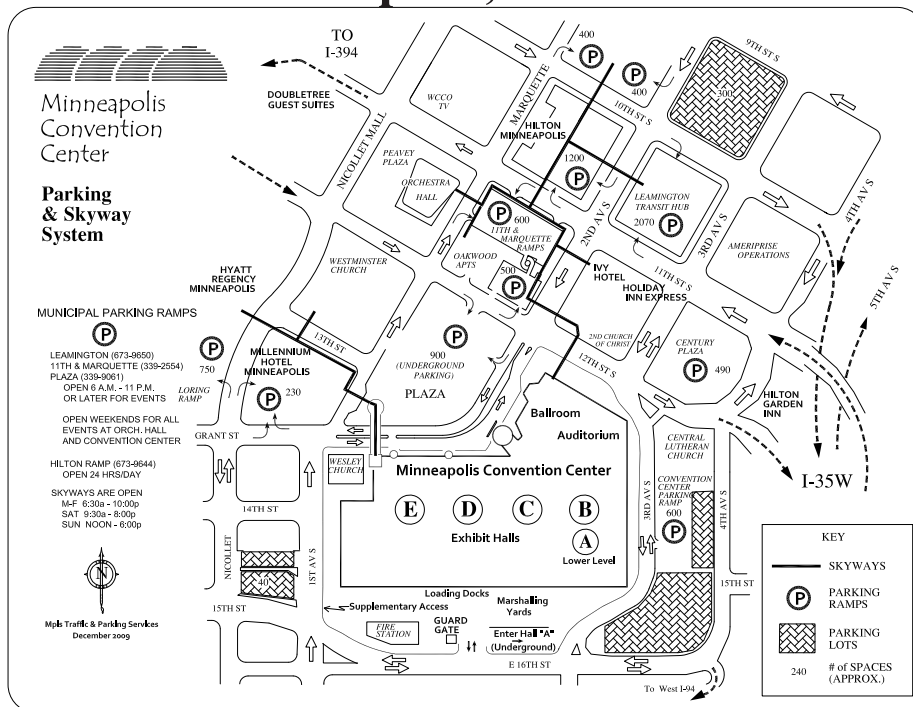
Join us to stuff convention bags

Thursday, July 19, 2012

Minneapolis Convention Center

1301 2nd Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN 55403



3 Shifts Available:

*10:00AM - 2:00PM

*2:00 - 6:00PM

*6:00 - 10:00PM

Call the Branch to volunteer at 612.781.9858.

Branch 9 will reimburse parking fees, please try to carpool since there is not a lot of convenient parking in the area.

Food will be provided.

**Branch 9 needs you to help sell
t-shirts during the week
(July 21 - July 27) of the
National Convention**

2 Shifts Available:

9:00AM - 12:30PM & 12:30 - 4:00PM

4 people are needed for each shift:

(Only a few slots left for the afternoon shift,
but the morning is wide open.)

Call the Branch to volunteer at 612.781.9858.

**Net T-Shirt sales
go to MDA
@\$20/each**



Branch 9 wishes to thank our 2012 MDA
Bowl -A-Thon Lane Sponsors.
Thank You for your support



ernest i. FINK agency
Commercial and Personal Insurance
Providing Quality Service Since 1947

*NALC Region 7 Dinner at
**Psycho Suzi's
Motor Lodge***

1900 Marshall St. NE Minneapolis

Monday, July 23

Open Bar: 7:00PM-10:00PM

Dinner at 8:00PM

*First come, first served, tickets are
\$68/person (includes tax & gratuity)*

Mail your registration form and check to:

Business Agents Office

*312 Central Ave. SE, Room #490
Minneapolis, MN 55414*

Branch Nine News
2408 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418-3712

Change Service Requested

**PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 91964**

President's Report cont. from Page 13

those who paved the way for our active members especially our newest 50 and 60 year members. This year we also honored our 2012 Retiree of the Year, Rodney Anderson and Past

President Bill Mechels with a special tribute by the Presidents of Branch 9. Finally, I want thank everyone who participated in this year's NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive. Once again, letter carriers stepped

up and provided the vehicle to help families in need. A special thank you to our Food Drive Coordinators Samantha Hartwig and Bob Baird and everything you did to make this year's drive a success.

Branch Nine Calendar

July 10

Stewards Meeting
7:00PM
Golden Valley VFW Post 7051
7775 Medicine Lake Rd
Golden Valley

July 10

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

Meeting Change

Tuesday, July 17

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Mpls Regional Labor Federation
312 Central Avenue
Minneapolis
NALC President Fred Rolando
Keynote Speaker

July 19

Filling Delegate Bags
10:00AM - 10: pm
Minneapolis Convention Center
1301 2nd Ave. S.
Information on Page 14

July 23 - 27

**68th Biennial
National Convention**
Minneapolis Convention Center

July 24

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

August 7

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

August 14

Stewards Meeting
7:00PM
Golden Valley VFW Post 7051
7775 Medicine Lake Rd
Golden Valley

August 14

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

August 28

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

Tuesday, August 28

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Golden Valley VFW Post 7051
7775 Medicine Lake Rd
Golden Valley