



JEROME J. KEATING BRANCH

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"Saturdays off! Hooray?"

**By: Rodney Anderson
(Director of Retirees)**

I haven't volunteered at the Branch 9 booth at the State Fair every year, but it's always a gratifying labor when I do. People come up and tell us how much they appreciate the Postal Service and love their mailman. We talk to them, often educating them on postal issues by telling them what's really going on, (what they won't find in the newspapers or on TV). Occasionally you get some crank or nut; but after decades of dealing with professional cranks and nuts (postal mismanagement), we're not bothered overly much. Unless it's a letter carrier.

Last August, I was at the booth early on a Sunday morning, when a man came up wanting to know, "When will Saturday mail delivery end?" I said, "Never, I hope," and started to explain why. But it turned out that he was a letter carrier from some small town in southern Minnesota, and almost desperately wanted his Saturdays off. I tried to explain the thousands of jobs that would be lost, the confidence and trust of the American public would be damaged, etc. But he would have none of it. He

said, "I've been carrying mail for 28 years, and I want and deserve my Saturdays off."

If Postmaster General Donahoe on L'Enfant Plaza gets his way, that letter carrier will get his wish. Unfortunately, he's liable to get a lot more. I'm only echoing what Mike and Darrell, Fred Rolando and Chris Wittenburg have all ready pointed out. One thing I learned in nearly 4 decades in the Big Blue Insane Asylum is that any time the geniuses on Mahogany Row come up with some new idea, it's time to run for the hills. Those people are not intelligent or honorable, but they can be sly, and usually evil. If they propose something that ever strikes you as a good idea, that's when you should be the most afraid.

Folks, what these people have in mind does not stop at Saturdays off. Others in our union can explain the organizational and technical details far better than I (see Mike and Darrell's articles); but Saturdays off are not the end of their schemes. They're only the beginning. What the PMG seeks is TOTAL CONTROL over postal scheduling and manpower needs.

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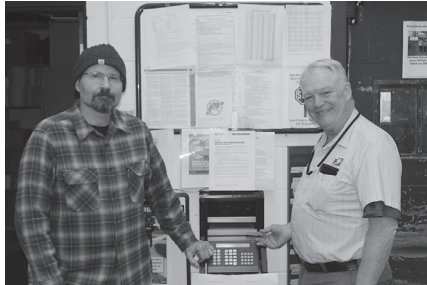
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You like the idea of 5-day delivery? How about 4? How about like UPS, 5 days of business delivery and 3 of residential?

Those of you who know me, knew that the title of this article was a joke. But losing 35,000 jobs is not. It's the end of many careers, and our world as we know it.





Steward, Roger Maas watches as Dan Butler (Osseo) makes his last punch.



Mike Krider (Richfield) with his dog Pebbles, retired last November



Jeff Theyson (Thomas Burnett) receives his retirement watch and congratulations from Mike and Darrell at the Branch 9 office.



From the Editor's Desk

Getting the word out

In the last issue of the Branch 9 News, I wrote an article about being pro-active in writing letters to newspapers about the plight of the Postal Service and the NALC's position for postal reform. Mike Zagaros left me an article from the New York Times Editorial Staff on how to write an article that will stand a better-than-average chance to be printed.

- Write quickly, concisely and engaging.
- Suggested letter length, about 150 words.
- Writer's are entitled to their own opinions, but not their own facts.
- Include informational sources so they may be verified by editorial staff.

Mr. Feyer (NY Times Letter to the Editor, Editor) finished his article with, "my core belief as Letters Editor is that healthy, informed debate is the lifeblood of a strong democracy."

Now, more than ever, in light of the recent noxious statements by our Postmaster General, we letter carriers need to get the truth out.

Write a letter to you local newspaper editor.

In Memoriam
Harry Stanko
Donald O'Connor
Donald Casey

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President's Report

There Is No Greater Risk - Than To Do Nothing

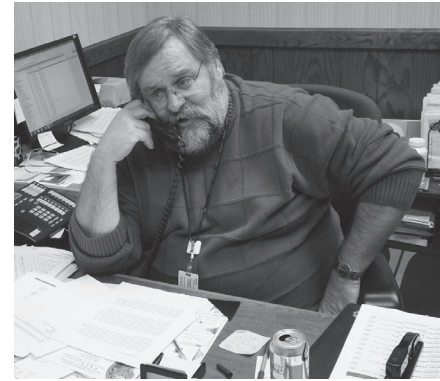
The ride on the rollercoaster that is the US Postal Service continues. As wild as the events of January were, February had even more twists and turns. Early in the month the Postmaster General dropped his bombshell, that he was ending door to door delivery of mail on Saturdays, beginning in August. This news was announced a few short days before the National Rap Session that President Rolando had called for after the arbitration had been received. President Rolando opened the Rap Session with the words ***"We are going to war on Saturday Delivery"*** and then he proceeded to outline and discuss the situation and NALC's response. If you look at the what the PMG has said and done before and after the press conference, you would see that it is not about Saturdays.

The first question that needs to be asked is, can the PMG make the decision by himself to end deliveries on Saturdays? The quick answer is no, but the PMG believes he can. When questioned at his press conference, Donohoe stated that he believed that he could, *"but if not, Congress has 7 weeks to remove the language about the Postal Service from the bill."* The language the PMG is referring to has been found in every Appropriations Bill since 1984. It requires the Postal Service to maintain the same level of service that existed in 1983. Further evidence that the real issue is the language in the Appropriations Bill is found in a joint letter that was sent to the leadership of the House and Senate by Rep. Issa and Sen. Coburn about the Postal Service *"plans to transition to modified Saturday delivery..."* This was sent the same day as the PMG announcement. In the letter they

state *"What has impeded the Postal Service from phasing out universal Saturday delivery of the letters is an appropriations rider carried in the law since 1984 that ties 6-day delivery to the acceptance of roughly \$100 million in reimbursement from the Federal government for services rendered by the Postal Service. According to Postal Service estimates, the rider constitutes a more than \$2.5 billion annual unfunded mandate. With the current FY 2013 government funding resolution set to expire at the end of March, we ask that the 6-day mail rider be omitted from any subsequent government funding legislation to implement this necessary reform without impediment."* There it is; **it's not about Saturdays. It's not even about mail delivery 5 days a week. It's about the PMG having the ability to determine who gets mail, how often and on what days. The PMG has already talked about when mail is delivered only 3 days a week.**

At the Rap Session, President Rolando spoke about the necessity for a strong response to the PMG's plan on more than one front including legislative, media, on the grassroots level as well as a National Day of Action. This is something that cannot be left to just the activists to take care of. Everyone needs to get involved. ***"There is no greater risk to our members and the Postal Service than to do nothing,"*** President Rolando said at the February 9, 2013, Las Vegas Rap Session. So what can we, as members do? Get involved and participate.

On the legislative front there are three bills that support us and 6-day



Mike Zagaros

delivery. The first bill H.Res 30 was introduced before the PMG announced his plan to eliminate mail delivery on Saturdays. It is a duplicate of the resolution that a majority of the House co-sponsored last year. It gives a sense of the House and states that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service. So far 131 members have co-sponsored this resolution this year including Representatives Ellison (CD 5), McCollum (CD 4), Nolan (CD 8) and Walz (CD 1), please take a moment to thank them and ask the remaining Minnesota Representatives to sign on. There are two other bills both are called the 'Postal Service Protection Act of 2013', S. 316 in the Senate and HR. 630 in the House of Representatives. These bills address many of our concerns including: the pre-funding requirement, the surpluses in both pension funds, restrictions on the closing of postal facilities and maintaining levels of service including delivery standards and 6-day delivery. So far in Minnesota only Representative Keith Ellison has signed on as a co-sponsor of HR.630 and Senator Al Franken as a co-sponsor of S.316. Please contact Senator Klobuchar and the other House members asking them to co-sponsor this legislation.

President's Report Continued on page 19

United States Postal Service
Carrier - Auxiliary Control

A. Delivery Unit			B. Telephone			C. Date		
D. Carrier's Name and Route No.			E. Lunch Place and Time					
F. Indicate entire or portion of the case shelves covering mail as street auxiliary assistance						G. Keys Required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
1	2	3	4	5	6	H. Carfare Required? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
						I. Accountable Mail? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

J. Reason For Use of Auxiliary

K. Estimated Work		L. Management Action. Check and initial all appropriate actions.						
Hours	Minutes	Auxiliary Assistance			Overtime		Hours	Minutes
		Approved			Approved			
		Disapproved			Disapproved			

M. Transportation (If drive-out, show parking location(s) on reverse)

Transportation Mode to and from route:	Postal owned:	Drive-out:	Contract:	Public:
N. Starts Delivery at:		* Collect mail from all collection boxes on your part of the route, unless instructed otherwise.		
Deliver		Collection boxes locations:		
		1		
		2		
		3		
		4		
		5		
		6		

O. Find Relays At:

1	4
2	5
3	6

P. Assistance Completed By (Carrier Name and regular route number if assigned):

Office Time		Street Time				Total Auxiliary Time
Begin Time	Time Used	Begin Travel To	Begin Delivery	Begin Travel From	Travel To	
					Delivery	
End Time		End Travel To	End Delivery	End Travel From	Travel From	
					Total Street	

Executive Vice President's Report

PS FORM 3996

With the staffing that exists currently at our stations and the amount of overtime being worked we, as carriers, are bypassing a very important part of our day, and that is informing management of our estimated workload. It seems that even when management has verbally instructed carriers to work overtime in the morning go-around those overtime hours are being documented as unauthorized overtime.

Then when grievances are filed managements excuse is, carriers are doing overtime on their own and managers were not aware or kept informed. The M-41 is clear and it states;

131.41

It is your responsibility to verbally inform management when you are of the opinion that you will be unable to case all mail distributed to the route, perform other required duties, and leave on schedule or when you will be unable to complete delivery of all mail.

131.42

In form management of this well in advance of the scheduled leaving time and not later than immediately following the final receipt of mail. Management will instruct you what to do.

131.43

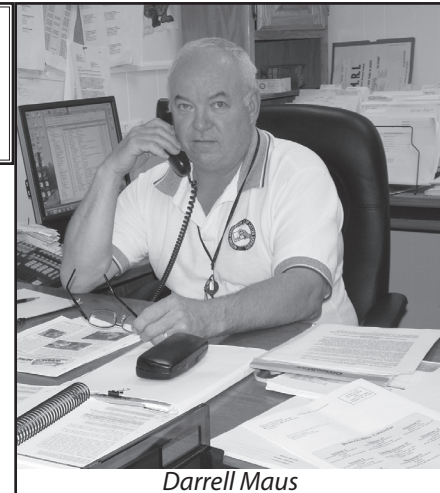
Complete applicable items on Form 3996, Carrier Auxiliary Control, if overtime or auxiliary assistance is authorized in the office or on the street.

It is your responsibility to request this form and use it to inform management that you're not able to complete your daily workload in 8 hours. They are well aware of what the form is and will often state "we don't need or use them here" or may be reluctant to furnish you with one. Management is required to give the form to you whether they think you need one or not. If they deny you, don't argue just request to see your steward.

These forms are to be filled out by the carrier and answered with management's approval or disapproval and a copy given back to the carrier. This all happens after the last receipt of mail and before the carrier moves to the street. Is a carrier allowed to change or put in another 3996 if something occurs out of the ordinary on this day? Yes, up until the last receipt of mail. So if your receive a late dispatch of letters or flats to case or a late pallet of post to work after the go-around and the supervisor has already given you a 3996, another 3996 is to be filled out and answered by your supervisor.

These actions have to become a normal part of our daily routine. Grievances are being decided based on whether 3996's are filled out properly or more importantly not filled out properly by our carriers.

Once we have started our daily routine with 3996's it is equally important to fill them out entirely.



Darrell Maus

1. A, B, C, D) are very easy but are often overlooked. This is what identifies and ties this paper work to you and your assignment.
2. F) informs management and the auxiliary carrier where the deliveries are on your case.
3. G, H, I) inform the auxiliary carrier what is needed to complete these deliveries. While this may be common knowledge for carriers that have been at the station for awhile remember it may and probably will be a new auxiliary carrier delivering these blocks.
4. J) is the reason the auxiliary assistance is requested by the carrier. It is not based on mail volume alone as management thinks. There may be a reason such as the street time will be longer, (coverages, post) or the weather, or how you're feeling physically. This is your reason and it should not involve a negotiating process of "lets make a

Darrell's Report continued on page 19



**Jerome J. Keating Local Branch 9
National Association of Letter Carriers
P.A.L. 9 (Political Action League)**

Lenny Larson, President

Rodney Anderson, Secretary

Ron Lawrence, Treasurer

Board Members

**Mike Zagaros Darrell Maus Bob Baird Rick Onslow
Barry Weiner Olin Moore Lisa O'Neill**

The Following is a list of Paid Members of PAL 9 for January, 2013.

Very Concerned Members

Charles M Glover	Jane E Doe	Leonard Larson	Jeffrey D Sherman
Thomas B Flavin	Larry S Dahlberg	E.A. O'Neill	Ronald C Moore
Ronald W Kelly	Sara S Harris	Howard G Lamson	Glenn E Delano
James A Cassell	James M Harris	Jeffrey J Mc Hugh	Gerald K Schraber
Linda Stipe	James Fodstad	Charles L Lilligren Jr	Arthur A Heikkila Sr
Eugene P McNulty	Ron Lawrence	Frederick M Johnston	Steven D Petersen
B. Chemmangattumana	Kenneth A Jambois	Harold H Delaria	Adrian R Hames
Virginia A Hasser	Sonia M Stark	Charles E Rivers	Jeffrey Stanko
Robert Baird	Michelle Benson	Carl F Palm	Richard A Onslow
Herman A Metzler	James Fallon	Russell N Cordahl	Jeremy E Baumgartner
Marlys Fox	Earl D Anderson	Joseph P Bedor	Patrick A Rottach
Richard A (Dick) Anderson	Karen J Schneider	Anthony Thompson	James P Couillard
Duane Foyt	Timothy J Highland	Jon D Thompson	Larry F Chlebeck
Barry J Weiner	Jack A Soderlind	Jerry A Sandmann	David J Wallentiny
Jason A Karnopp	John F Marszalek	Ted M Parker	William A Nelson
David O Burandt	Vincent J Foehlich	Constance W Beissel	Timothy J Kivela
Marvin R Aaron	Julie M Roberts	Thomas J Radtke	Linda L Olson
Jonathan E Peterson	Joel F Carter	John M Wickham	Julie K Waldemar
Robert E Zimdars	Dale Forde	Kieran Hughes	Raymond J Sperrick
William M Mechels			

Regular Members

Wayne D Warne	Thomas R Tadlock	Marvin L Sorem	Gerald R Hansen
Hugh Byrne	Karl A Parkos	Geno Taddei Sr	Dallas V Holm
Donald B LeMay	William H Halos	Joseph J Kinney	Mark E Olufson
Michael J Alexander	Burton Pansch	Aloysius W Ruzicka	RaNae Kleist
S. Bruce Mackcow	Sharon L Spooner	Curtis F Britz	Debbie A Frank
Robert V Andersen	Daniel J Loppnow	Wallace Eckdahl	William C Tuffs
Margaret A Savaloja	Robert R Harris	John L Hilden	Rick Rimer
Barb Watzak	Joseph F Pasiowitz	Marvin Mattila	Gerald P Starr
Alf V Mork	Dennis M Johnston	Allan J Gulden	Richard L Wells
Walter C Czerepak	Melia Derrick	Emy Peasha	Charlie Peasha
Gary A Kroeten	Harold H Zieba	Thomas F Dvorak	William J Kambeitz
Paul R Tanick	Kenneth G Platt	Kathleen K Demoret	Mary E Hargreaves

Regular Members

David R Jackson	Michael T Gravenish	David T Wrzos	Clark H Kick
Harold R Anderson	Jonathan G Trudell	Andro Hiben	Kenneth C Nelson
Justin Florey	Richard C Graves	Dennis W Jaeger	Mary Jo Koch
George A Wisuri	Susan Hoban	Thomas Hoban	Raymond O Tranby
Terrence O'Neill	Jon E Frick	Kenneth O Honkanen	Earl O Mealman
LeRoy L Sheller	Edward Issenhuth	Paul P Felegy	Thomas R Thorsen
Robert Hollis	Robert J Logelin	Jack J Bartlett	Donald M Carlson
Donald D Barker	Michael Kahleck	Katherine C Bolton	George B Gray
Larry Blesi	Johnea S Rystedt	Wallace M Sjoquist	Harley Ring Jr
Charles L Friend	Stephen J Wallerius	Karma Khampa	Ron K Anderson
Douglas B Lemke	Kent P Cleland	Arthur H Kujawa	Joseph A Shimota
Charles L Lengen	Amy K Jaszczak	Glenn W Ingersoll	Gary Svidron
Dwane L Thompson	Allen M Smith	Kenneth W Johnson	Gary J Mathews
John M Keeley	Lowell H Berget	James F Hill	Wendy K Noren
Joe L Williams	Jeffrey W Smeets	Thomas B Hoch	Mary L Hoch
Michael A Hess	Steven R Grivicich	Timothy J Bedor	Dwayne Nienaber
Thomas E Buchner	Elmer J Hill	Rodney E Anderson	James R Sharp
J.W. "Bill" Stambaugh	Thomas J Ryan	Gerald L Arnold	William Carey
David L Peterson	Theodore F Hoven	John R Sporrong	John F Weis
George G Muzetras	Lavern E Dornbusch	Gary Hughes	James R Kane
Paul D Traynor	Renee C Hickerson	Lawrence M Schuster	Robert A Czanstkowski
Joseph A Petrik	Delmont R Stokke	Barbara A Bebeau	Robert J Dondelinger
Lindahl B Gleason	Adrian C Anderson	Colleen E Sagedahl	Edwin G Pohlmann
Gary S Mierek	Kimberly K Kline	Luverne Schwarz	Jeremy J Rothstein
Vernon J Zierman	Dan L Olson	Jon P Horsford	Margaret R Burgard
Peter F Benzoni	Theresa M Ronning	John G Burmis	Carl H Walsten
Sandra A Raley	Victor Schwich	Shawn K O'Brien	James Hiben
Norman J Cavalier	Robert H Stanchfield	Doris S Gbala	Jeff M Heimer
Alexis F Wheeler	Gordon L Hannah	Bruce A Howe	Karen M Torell
Norma J Peterson	James W Allen	Philip O Johnson	Donald Holthus
Dennis P Ryan	Pauline P Pepper	Mary C Folke	Corbett J Pregent
Merlin L Rau	Scott A Randolph	Lori Ann Randolph	Leonard L Hrncir
Douglas T Waldhoff	Michael Smith	Richard W Hobot	Steven R Oehlerich
Douglas D Dopp	David W Scheil		

Ron Lawrence
Treasurer PAL 9

This past Saturday was a very sad day for me. I received a phone call from a close friend of mine in St. Paul. He called to say that he had spoken to his mailman as he delivered the mail. He said to him that he was really sorry to hear that the Postmaster General was going to do away with Saturday mail delivery. The Letter Carrier in response said to my friend : " It is no big deal, now I'll have Saturday & Sunday off." It really made me sad to hear this about a Letter Carrier. As I look at the Branch 9 News I see the quote: " An injury to one is an injury to all ". What has happened to our union members ? Don't they realize that with Saturday delivery gone many of our fellow Carriers will be losing their jobs. And after Saturday delivery is gone what is to follow ? As someone who has spent many years working as a Letter Carrier and union member it really saddens me. What ever happened to looking out for one another?

Ron Lawrence
Treasurer PAL 9

Ethical Decision Making

By: Ken Jambois

How many decisions do we make in a day? 10? 100? How fast should I drive to get to work? How much money should I spend on groceries? So many questions and just as many answers. Every day we have to make decisions on a number of topics. As an adult we have to maneuver through life and make split second decisions. How do we decide what to do in all these situations?

My assignment for the Leadership Academy, Week 1, was to make a presentation at a Branch 9 Stewards Board Meeting. I made a presentation on Ethical Decision Making at our February meeting.

What are ethics? Moral principles that govern a person's behavior. Or a system for determining right



or wrong based on beliefs (individual/social) that affects our decision making. Ethics refers to standards of behavior that tell us how human beings ought to act in many situations in which we find ourselves as – friend's, parents, children, citizens, business people, teachers, stewards, professionals, and so on.

I talked about what ethics are not and what different sources of

ethical standards we should use. Ethics are not – feelings, religion, following the law, not following culturally accepted norms and are not science.

Here are a few of the different sources of ethical standards we should use. The Utilitarian approach - produce the most good and do the least harm. The Rights approach - respects the rights of all who have a stake in the situation. The Justice approach - treats people equally or proportionately. The Common Good approach - serves the community as a whole, not just a certain group. And the Virtue approach - leads me to be the best person I can be.

I then divided the stewards into three groups and gave each group an ethical situation. They discussed their situation and then we talked about each situation and what the outcome was. This was a very good discussion. I summarized what ethical behavior means - recognizing in any situation what is right, what is wrong - then doing the right thing. I then gave some hand outs and a feedback sheet for everyone to fill out. This feedback will help me do a better presentation next time.

The goal of the ethical decision making presentation was to get the union stewards to think smarter in our work place and also in any other situations.

Ken

The Following is a list of Paid Members of PAL 9 for February

Very Concerned Members

Lawrence J Gildner
Ronald Barker
Terry Hunter

Darrell G Maus
Troy D Fredenburg

Kelly M Lundgren
Leonard H Rardin

Regular Members

Mary K Fick
Theresa A Oelrich
Mark L Larson
Paul H Hultgren
Robert J Miller
Mary E Skerbinc
David R Millette
Teri L Koch

Jericho F Tabor
Michael Welch
Nancy T Hall
J. M. Spratt
Johnannes S Magdal
Dale R Carney
Thomas M Costello

Michael J Mrosla
Pamela Welch
Roger E Ritter
Donna J Wiecks
Ronald P Sumstad
Gary A Weihl
Duane B Pederson

Ron Lawrence
Treasurer PAL 9

Above and Beyond Awards



Randy Ferber Lowry

On a cold wintry day Lowry Station Carrier Randy Ferber was on his route delivering mail when he saw one of his customers laying on the ground by her front steps. It was Phoebe, a 97 year old woman who lived independently in her own home. She had been out sweeping the snow from her steps when she fell, breaking her leg. She was not able to drag herself back into her home to call for help and had been laying on the cold ground for quite some time. Randy quickly called 911 and helped make Phoebe as comfortable as possible without moving her, as she had fallen on the steps and may have injured her neck or back. He stayed with her until she was loaded into the ambulance. Then he returned to his route and finished his day. Phoebe's family was extremely grateful for Randy's rescue. They were told that if she had been outside for another hour, she would have certainly died from hypothermia. They wrote letters of appreciation to Randy, and were impressed that he even visited Phoebe in the hospital to check on her well-being.



Henry Pham Normandale

On a hot (it had already reached 85 degrees) Saturday morning in early July. Letter carrier Henry Pham was delivering his route, when he noticed an unfamiliar name on a letter, addressed to a house that he was familiar with. Henry went to the door, noticed the main front door open and the screen door closed. Henry announced himself and heard a person's voice. Henry answered and tried to find out where the man was. Henry discovered (by looking through a window) an elderly man lying on the garage floor. He quickly went across the street and asked a neighbor to call the police. Once the police arrived it was determined that the elderly man had been there all night. He had a medical issue which caused his condition, that left him lying on the garage floor. The police thanked Henry for his heroic and life saving actions. Henry then went on with his day delivering the mail.



Janet Eckman Robbinsdale

Something just didn't seem right. While delivering her route, Janet noticed that a dog was running loose by a garage. What didn't seem right is that she recognized the dog and it was never allowed to run loose. The owner of the dog was an elderly woman who lived alone. She knew that this woman was prone to seizures. Janet also knew that the dog was always her side. She grabbed the dog and returned it to the house where she noticed that the she noticed that the front door was open. Janet attempted to call out for the patron but received no response. She noticed a purse laying on the ground. Concerned, she contacted 911 emergency and the police responded. The good news of the story is that the patron was found safe with another family member and the family was reassured that Janet Eckman, her letter carrier was watching out for her patrons.

Thank you Randy, Henry and Janet for going Above and Beyond.



A little message to alert you of one thing that helps speed the process when needing Specialty Drugs.

Prior authorization is required for all specialty medications, including biotech, biological, biopharmaceutical and oral chemotherapy drugs. Contact Caremark Specialty Pharmacy Services at 1-800-237-2767.

Health Benefits Report for NALC Benefit Members

From Julie Waldemar (Br9 Health Benefits Rep).

If you don't know if it's a specialty drug call the Prescription Drugs (CVS Caremark) 1-877-933-6252 on the back of your ID card and find out. Your doctor needs to contact the Specialty Pharmacy Services at 1-800-237-2767 or call the number on the back of your card and ask for the Specialty Pharmacy Services to order the drugs.

NOTE: These drugs are also CAREMARK mail order so you need your doctor to take that into consideration when they order

them for you. They send them to your residence if they can be administered at home. PS: They will send them over night UPS but it's not a by noon delivery so if you need it at a certain time alert your local UPS delivery unit. (If the package is in the system you can call CARE-MARK and get the tracking number and then call UPS and leave an alert with the operator).

Julie

Retiree Notes

One the benefits of the new contract is that the Postal Service is going to be hiring a bunch of new mail carriers, the newly-coined CCAs (City Carrier Assistants). Thus there is an immediate need for gently used, current uniforms, something so they can identify themselves as letter carriers. I am appealing to my retired sisters and brothers to see if you have already donated your old uniforms to the Branch? The need is great, our younger brothers and sisters need your generosity.

Do any of you know of any subjects for The Branch Nine News, that would be useful in ways to better serve our Retirees? I am just back from a retirement breakfast as I write this, and among other topics, we were exchanging senior dining information --- the fact that IHOP has a terrific roast beef sand-



Rodney Anderson
(BR 9 Director of Retirees)

wich from 2-5 PM on Tuesdays for seniors. That's the kind of stuff we all need to know!

Many of my ideas bear little fruit, and some too much. I proposed to some friends, for example, that I should start a data-base of Idiot Supervisors we have known.

However, my hero Kenny Ring dissuaded me from that. If I wrote down every halfwit who worked in Minneapolis postal management, Ken observed, I'd wind up with a compendium the size of the Library of Congress.

Rodney



Submitted Branch Nine By-Law Proposals

Article II, Section 3.

Add the following language;
c) The convention fund will be capped at sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000). Once this amount is achieved, contributions will be discontinued and be distributed in equal amounts to organizing, training and education and legislation.

Submitted by Lenny Larson

Article III, Section 3.

Currently Reads:

The President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The President shall be Chief Steward of the Branch. The President shall be a full-time officer of Branch 9. Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid 30% more than a top grade letter carrier, per annum, payable biweekly. The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan) and FEGLI Life Insurance Plans. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of the Health Benefit Premium (not to exceed the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Premiums, Social Security (if the President is enrolled in CSRS) and a Disability policy through the Mutual Benefit Association (or a private disability insurance policy not to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the President. The President shall be

Change To Read:

The President shall perform all

duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The President shall be Chief Steward of the Branch. The President shall be a full-time officer of Branch 9. Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid 30% more than a top grade letter carrier, per annum, payable biweekly. The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan) and FEGLI Life Insurance Plans **for self only**. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of Social Security if the President is enrolled in CSRS. The President shall be.....

Submitted by Elizabeth O'Neill

Article III, Section 4.

Currently Reads:

The Executive Vice-President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches..... Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid 25% more than a top grade letter carrier, per annum, payable biweekly. The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Plans. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of the Health Benefit Premium (not to exceed the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Premiums, Social Security

(if the Executive Vice President is enrolled in CSRS) and a Disability policy through the Mutual Benefit Association (or a private disability insurance policy not to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the Executive Vice President. The Executive Vice President shall

Change to Read:

The Executive Vice-President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches..... Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid 25% more than a top grade letter carrier, per annum, payable biweekly. The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Plans **for self only**. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of Social Security if the Executive Vice President is enrolled in CSRS. The Executive Vice President shall.....

Submitted by Elizabeth O'Neill

Article V, Section 2.

Currently Reads:

Eligibility for payment of any delegate for the 2012 National Convention in Minneapolis will include attendance at 9 of 12 General Membership Meetings preceding said convention.

Change to Delete said paragraph.

Submitted by Elizabeth O'Neill

**Branch 9's Annual
Red and Gold Retiree Banquet
Sunday, May 5, 2013
Minneapolis Ramada Plaza
1330 Industrial Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN**

For more than 50 years Branch 9 has honored its retirees with the Red & Gold Banquet. Please join us for a day of good times and good fellowship, as we say thank you to those who have come before us. Active members are also welcome to join in the festivities.

**Retirees the \$12/per person registration fee is refundable upon arrival.
Cost for active carriers is \$18 and cost for stewards is \$9.*

Name: _____

Name of your Guest: _____

Retired

I would like a ride to the Banquet

Active

I am willing to give someone a ride
(Please call Rodney Anderson
at 651.270.7807)

*Return by April 29 to:
Branch 9, NALC
2408 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis 55418*

Amount Enclosed _____

MARTIN DUFFY ADULT LEARNER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

AWARD: \$500 TUITION SCHOLARSHIP FOR USE AT ANY ACCREDITED UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL. TWO SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AWARDED EACH YEAR.

Winners to be selected by Lot

No academic performance standards or records required for eligibility.

Awards must be used within one year of receipt of notification letter.

Submit only one application per person. Duplicate entries will be disqualified.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicant must be a member in good standing of a Minnesota AFL-CIO local union; or An AFL-CIO member on lay-off status who has a valid withdrawal card, has recall rights and was in good standing for six months prior to lay-off; or A retired or disabled AFL-CIO member who was in good standing in his or her Local Union at the time of retirement or disablement.

REQUIRED APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

1. Obtain an application form from your Local Union.
2. Complete application form.
3. Obtain Local Union signature and certification. (If you mail the application to your Local Union, they will approve and then forward it to Labor Education Service at the University of Minnesota.)
4. Mail completed application form to Labor Education Service, University of Minnesota, 321 - 19th Avenue S. #3-300, Minneapolis, MN 55455. Phone: 612/624-5020.
5. The application must be postmarked no later than April 30 of the current year.

MARTIN DUFFY ADULT LEARNER SCHOLARSHIP The Martin Duffy Adult Learner Scholarship is a \$500 tuition scholarship awarded to Union members of Minnesota AFL-CIO (not high school graduating dependents). All scholarship funds are applicable only to accredited educational institutions. Awards will be made payable jointly to the winners and the educational institutions as indicated. Only winners will be notified. Winners must use the scholarship within one year of receipt of notification letter. The application must be postmarked no later than April 30 of the current year. Sponsored and funded by the Minnesota AFL-CIO. Please call Labor Education Service at 612/624-5020 or your Local Union for additional information.

MARTIN DUFFY ADULT LEARNER SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Home Address:

Home Phone No.: _____

Work Phone No.: _____

Place of Employment

I am currently:

_____ an AFL-CIO member in good standing

_____ an AFL-CIO member on lay-off status who has a valid withdrawal card, has recall rights and was in good standing for six months prior to lay-off

_____ a retired or disabled AFL-CIO member who was in good standing in my Local Union at the time of retirement or disablement

Please indicate how and where you would plan to use this scholarship. List intended postsecondary institution and your educational goals.

To be Completed by Officer (or Steward) From Your Local:

I certify that _____ is currently employed by _____
Applicant

and is a member in good standing of _____
Union
Local No _____ .

Date _____

Signature _____
Local Union Secretary-Treasurer or President

2013 Minnesota AFL-CIO Scholarships

UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FORM
(Entry Deadline: April 30, 2013)

The Minnesota AFL-CIO sponsors scholarships for high school seniors graduating in 2013. There are three requirements for the Minnesota AFL-CIO scholarships. To be eligible, you must:

- be a **union member** or a **dependent** of a union member whose local union is affiliated with the Minnesota AFL-CIO;
- have a **straight “B” average** or better (*2.0 in a 3.0 grade point system/3.0 in a 4.0 grade point system*);
- attend a post-secondary institution located *within the state of Minnesota*.

Winners will be selected by lot by the Minnesota AFL-CIO Education Committee.

Please submit ONE application only. Duplicate entries will be disqualified.

Select One Option Only:

Applying for college or university

DAVID K. ROE SCHOLARSHIP

(two \$1,000 scholarships awarded)
David Roe served as president of the Minnesota AFL-CIO from 1966 – 1985 and is President Emeritus.

HUBERT H. HUMPHREY MEMORIAL AWARD

(two \$1,000 scholarships awarded)
Hubert Humphrey served as U.S. Senator from Minnesota, and Vice President of the United States.

Applying for vocational/technical

DONALD PILLA MEMORIAL AWARD

(one \$1,000 scholarship awarded)
Donald Pilla was a young union trade unionist killed on the picket line.

PART 1 – TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT: (Please print or type)

Applicant _____
Last First Middle

Home Address _____
Street City State Zip

High School _____ Year of graduation _____

Parent’s Name _____ Phone (____) _____
(or Guardian)

Home Address _____
Street City State Zip

AFL-CIO Local Union Affiliated with the Minnesota AFL-CIO _____
Local No. Name of International Union

~ OVER ~

PART II – TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT: (Please print or type)

Date of birth _____ Age last birthday _____

What is your post secondary education objective? _____

Which College, University or Vocational Technical or Trade School located within the State of Minnesota are you planning to attend? _____

PART III – TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL UNION OFFICER : (Please print or type)

I certify that _____
 (applicant or parent or legal guardian of applicant)
 is a member in good standing of _____ Local No. _____
 Name of International Union

and has held membership in this local union for a period of one year prior to the date of this scholarship application, and that *our local union is an affiliate of the Minnesota AFL-CIO* (a requirement for the applicant’s eligibility).

Local Union Officer _____
 Name Title
 Address _____
 Street City State Zip
 Signature of officer _____
 Date _____ Phone () _____

PART IV – TO BE COMPLETED BY HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL, COUNSELOR OR ADVISOR:

This applicant has at least a straight “B” average in senior high school.

Signature _____ Date _____
 Principal or Counselor or Advisor

SPECIAL NOTE TO COUNSELOR: After Parts I, II, III and IV are completed, please attach to this an official transcript of the applicant’s high school record – including that of first trimester/quarter of senior year – and mail postmarked *no later than April 30, 2013*, to:

**Minnesota AFL-CIO
 Education Committee
 175 Aurora Avenue
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55103**

(651) 227-7647 or 1-800-652-9004

J. Wesley Woods - \$1,000 Scholarship Application Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

High School _____

Member parent's name _____

Work unit _____

School to attend (if known) _____

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

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

High School _____

Member parent's name _____

Work unit _____

School to attend (if known) _____

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

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

High School _____

Member parent's name _____

Work unit _____

School to attend (if known) _____

High School Seniors: Submit scholarship applications to Branch 9 by May 28, 2013

Every spring, Branch 9 awards three scholarships to graduating seniors: the J. Wesley Woods Scholarship (\$1,000); the Jerome J. Keating/Austin B. Carlson Scholarship (\$2,000); and the Walter E. Couillard/Eugene P. McNulty Scholarship (\$2,000). These awards have made it easier for many students to begin their post-secondary education while honoring the sacrifices and contributions of important Branch 9 Leaders.

The following rules apply to all three scholarships:

A. Any senior graduating from high school and is a dependent of a Branch 9 member is eligible for these scholarships.

B. The scholarships may be used for any accredited trade school, vocational/technical institute, community college, or university.

C. Three names will be drawn for each scholarship. The first name picked will be the winner, then first and second runner-up respectively. The winners of any drawing will not be eligible for the other drawings.

D. The application for the drawings will run in the March and April issues of the Branch Nine News. The drawing will be held at the May General Membership Meeting. The applications shall contain the following information:

1. The applicant's name, address, and home phone number.
2. The name of the applicant's parent or guardian who is a member of Branch 9.
3. The intended school of choice, if known.

E. Payment to the winners will be made after they have enrolled and can show proof of payment towards their tuition.

Members with dependents who graduate from high school this spring and who plan to attend an accredited education institution next fall, should complete the applications and return them to the Branch Office by May 28 or bring them to that night's meeting. All three forms should be submitted as there are three separate drawings for each scholarship.

Adult Learners Scholarship

Leonard A. Larson/ Barry J. Weiner Scholarship

Adult Learners:

Submit scholarship application to Branch 9 by May 28, 2013

**Leonard A. Larson/
Barry J. Weiner
Adult Learner Scholarship
Application Form**

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Active or Retired _____

Work unit _____

Two (2) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded.

The following rules apply to the two scholarships:

A. Any member active or retired in good standing of Branch 9 is eligible for one of the two scholarships.

B. The scholarships may be used for any accredited trade school, vocational/technical institute, community college, or university. The Adult Learner Scholarships may also be used for any community, county or state adult educational program.

C. One name will be drawn for each scholarship. The first name picked will be the winner. The winners of any drawing will not be eligible for the other drawings.

D. The application for the drawings will run in the March and April issues of the Branch Nine News. The drawing will be held at the May General Membership Meeting. The applications shall contain the following information:

1. The applicant's name, address, and home phone number.
2. Whether active or retired.

E. Payment to the winners will be made after they have enrolled and can show proof of payment towards their tuition.

F. Benefits under the Adult Learner Scholarships expire one year from date of drawing.

Members who plan to attend an accredited education institution should complete the application and return it to the Branch Office by May 28, or bring it to that night's meeting.

**UNIFORMS
UNLIMITED**

The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters

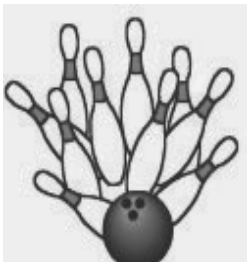


Minneapolis
2220 Lyndale Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612-377-0011

St. Paul
935 N. Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55103
651- 224 - 7567

Ron St. Clair Memorial MDA Bowl-a-thon

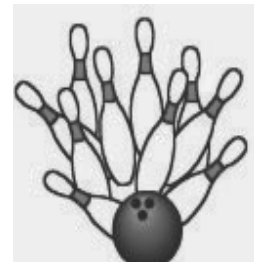
Saturday, April 27, 2013



LOCATION

Park Tavern

3401 Louisiana Avenue South
St. Louis Park, MN 55426



TIME

7:00 - 9:15PM

-
- ◆ 20 lanes of bowling (all teams bowl at same time)
 - ◆ Teams of 4 - 6 - MAIL your **teams with names** to:
Branch 9
2408 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
 - ◆ 2 games, shoe rental, pizza and cash bar
 - ◆ \$50 per bowler minimum collected for MDA - checks made out to Branch 9.
 - ◆ Silent and live auctions
 - ◆ Games for the kids
 - ◆ Contest for best gift basket - winning station will receive a free breakfast
 - ◆ Deadline for registration is **Tuesday, April 16th**

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Darrell's report continued from page 5

- deal". If you notice in the instructions for Item J it states to omit during the Christmas period. You do not need a reason during that time frame because everyone knows the workload is greater.
5. K) Is the amount of time that **YOU** estimate as accurately as possible because that is the time you need to complete your assignment. Again this is not a bargaining time. This is the information that has to get to your supervisor so an answer and instructions for your day can be decided. After giving the 3996 to your supervisor and if they do not get back to you try to seek them out. If you still do not receive a response from them see your steward.
 6. L) This is managements answer whether it be overtime approved or assistance approved. If either is disapproved by your supervisor there must be instructions of what to do such as curtailing. They cannot just disapprove it and walk away. If you are instructed to curtail, make sure to fill out a 1571. I will be addressing this procedure in my next article.
 7. M, N, O) should be filled out if auxiliary assistance is given. This information helps to inform the auxiliary carrier where to start, what collection boxes to pick up, (although

this may be a duty you should not give away) or if a relay route where the relays are located.

8. P) This is the information that is to be filled out by the carrier doing the auxiliary assistance. This is very important so that the proper time can be credited to your route. This will make a difference in the route adjustment process. Also it protects the carrier that is performing the street duties as to the length of time it takes to deliver. A lot of times especially on routes that are vacant an hour of delivery may take longer (especially if management breaks up the route) and this is the documentation that will protect the carrier providing the assistance.

It is a very important part of our day to fulfill these obligations and to also insure management fulfills theirs. Article 41.3.g states;

G. The employer will advise a carrier who has properly submitted a Carrier Auxiliary Control Form 3996 of the disposition of the request promptly after review of the circumstances at the time. Upon request, a duplicate copy of the completed Form 3996 and Form 1571, Report of Undelivered Mail, etc., will be provided the carrier.

Make this a part of your normal daily routine.

Darrell

Presidents Report continued from page 3

National Day of Action – On Sunday, March 24th letter carriers along with people from around Minnesota will gather in Minneapolis and Duluth to rally against ending 6-day delivery as part of a nation-wide action. The theme of this action will be Minnesotans for 6-day delivery. The purpose of the rally as stated by President Rolando “*We want to make this fight about the cost of losing Saturday mail delivery and how it would affect people in each and every state,*” Letter carriers are encouraged to gather friends, family, co-workers and community coalition partners at the Minneapolis Post Office to help get the word out. It is important that we have people from all parts of the community there on Sunday. The rally will take place at the Minneapolis Main Post Office 100 South First Street in Minneapolis. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. The idea is to draw media attention not only about the rally, but the reason for it as well.

The battle over Saturday delivery is not a simple one, but it is one that has to be fought. In the days following PMG Donohoe’s plan was announced, there were a lot of calls to the office about Saturdays. Some were looking forward to having weekends off, others were wondering what would happen to the T-6s other asked about CCAs. Unfortunately we still have more questions than we do answers. But this much is certain, hopefully you can see it’s not just about Saturdays. It’s much more than that. This time everyone needs to get involved. **There are plenty of ways to get involved. 1. Contract your member of Congress and either thank them for their support or ask**

President's Report continued on page 20

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



Change Service Requested

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 91964

President's Report continued from page 19

for their support by cosponsoring either bill HR.630 or S.316 that is currently before Congress. 2. Contribute to COLCPE and PAL9. 3. Go to www.nalc.org and sign up to be an e-Activist in order to receive the latest most up to date information from the NALC. 4. Visit Branch 9's webpage www.branch9nalc.com and Facebook page "Branch 9 Online". But most importantly show up on Sunday, March 24th at 1:00 P.M. at the Main Post Office in Minneapolis and bring friends, family members and people in your neighborhood. Why, because "There is no greater risk to our members and the Postal Service than to do nothing."

Branch Nine Calendar

****Sunday, March 24****

**NALC Day of Action to
Save Saturday Delivery
Save you Career
Time and place will be
updated by Branch 9**

March 26

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

Tuesday, March 26

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

April 2

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

April 9

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

April 9

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

April 23

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

Tuesday, April 23

**Proposed By-Laws voted on
General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Golden Valley VFW Post 7051
7775 Medicine Lake Rd
Golden Valley**

April 27

**MDA Bowling
Park Tavern
7:00PM - 9:15PM
3401 Louisiana Ave S
St Louis Park, MN**

April 29 - May 3

**Regional Training Seminar
Radisson Hotel
2540 Cleveland Ave. N
Roseville, MN 55113**