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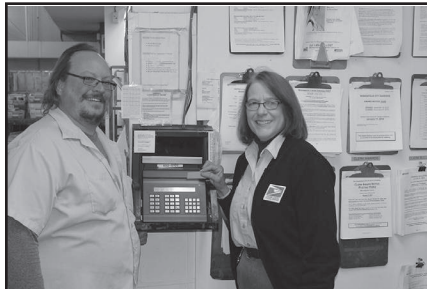
## The Senate should reject the Postal Reform Act of 2014 (S. 1486)

### Carper-Coburn bill embraces a flawed 'shrink to survive' strategy

On Feb. 6, 2014, the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs passed the Postal Reform Act of 2014 (S. 1486), which now awaits action by the full Senate. We urge the Senate to oppose the bill drafted by Sen. Tom Carper (D-DE) and Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) because it is loaded with devastating and unnecessary service cuts. These cuts would stop the recent USPS recovery in its tracks and threaten the future of the Postal Service—not to mention the \$1.1 trillion mailing industry. Rather than focus on measures that would strengthen the USPS, the bill embraces the agency's flawed "*shrink to survive*" strategy and includes panicky proposals formulated during the Great Recession that never made long-term sense. The legislation threatens nearly 100,000 postal jobs and 7.5 million private-sector jobs in the mailing industry. If enacted, S. 1486 would:

- **Cut Saturday mail delivery after mail volume reaches a 140 billion pieces-per-year "trigger" point.** This volume "trigger" is completely arbitrary; if reached, it would eliminate Saturday mail delivery without a Postal Regulatory Commission review even if USPS were profitable. This trigger is not necessary and would harm the Postal Service's ability to maintain existing business, attract new customers and fully take advantage of the e-commerce boom. **(Estimated job cuts: 25,000 full-time city carrier jobs, 45,000 part-time rural carrier jobs and 10,000 other jobs, according to the USPS.)**
- **End door delivery for all businesses immediately, moving millions of businesses to cluster boxes, and encourage residential delivery conversions from door to curb or cluster box.** Such a move would adversely affect up to 35 million American households and sever the valuable connection between carriers and the companies and home-based businesses they serve, and weaken the USPS' ability to generate new revenues through programs such as Customer Connect. **(NALC estimate of job cuts: 20,000 city and rural carriers.)**
- **Allow additional cuts to service standards and mail processing facilities by October 2015.** This would create further delays in delivery and less incentive for businesses to use the mail. Business customers who see this cut coming would likely factor it into decisions about investing in mail or using the Postal Service.
- **Implement a second unfair mandate on the USPS to pre-fund billions of future employee expenses decades in advance, this time for workers' compensation benefits.** No other company or agency faces this onerous requirement. Forcing the USPS to do it would starve it of resources needed to invest and innovate.
- **Implement a second unfair mandate on the USPS to pre-fund billions of future employee expenses decades in advance, this time for workers' compensation benefits.** No other company or agency faces this onerous requirement. Forcing the USPS to do it would starve it of resources needed to invest and innovate.
- **Allow the USPS to replace FERS pensions with 401(k)-type accounts for new employees via binding arbitration.** This would create a morale-killing two-tier workforce and unfairly deny new employees equal treatment under the law.

**We urge the Senate to reject the Postal Service's deeply flawed and outdated "*shrink to survive*" strategy and vote "No" on S. 1486 if it is considered. It's time for sensible reform that helps the Postal Service to innovate and expand services to the public and millions of businesses that rely on it.**



*Bloomington Steward, Mike LaBrie with Mary Carter are all smiles as she makes her last punch.*



*Zone 4/54 Steward, Tom Taykalo shakes hands with Frederick Schech as he takes his last punch.*



*Rich Berens finishes his letter carrier career and shakes hands with Fridley Steward, Michelle Alexander.*

### **MUTUAL TRANSFER**

A Regular City Carrier in St. Paul (Roseville Station) is looking to do a mutual transfer to either the Anoka or Minneapolis area.  
**Seniority Date:** 08/05/2006  
**Phone#:** 612.719.7122

### **From the Editor:**

I saw this clipping on the end of a carriers case at the Elway Station in St. Paul. It is as appropriate today as it was back then.



### **Hide and seek**

"Twenty years ago, I heard a story from a carrier that still sends chills up my spine. The carrier told me that he had driven his jeep up to a house and dismounted to make a door delivery. He noticed several small children playing hide and seek while he walked to the door.

After delivering the parcel, he noticed one child missing. Circling the vehicle—he found the child, lying on top of his back tire, stomach down, hiding from his playmates.

That child is an adult today because the carrier paid attention."

Joseph Tardio  
 Letter Carrier  
 Portland, OR



*Some of our retirees at Elsie's Diner for the Northside Retirees Breakfast. Join them on the first Tuesday of every month.*

### **In Memoriam**

**Thomas Flavin  
 LuVerne Schwarz**

Branch Nine, NALC  
 2408 Central Ave. NE  
 Minneapolis, MN 55418  
 Voice: (612) 781-9858  
 Fax: (612) 781-9849  
 E-Mail Addresses:  
 Website: [branch9nalc.com](http://branch9nalc.com)  
 Editor:  
[branch9news@branch9nalc.com](mailto:branch9news@branch9nalc.com)

### **Branch Nine Officers**

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 Mike Zagaros**

**Exec. Vice President  
 Darrell Maus**

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 Jeremy Rothstein**

**Treasurer  
 Lisa O'Neill**

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**Trustee  
 Cathy Jones**

**Director of Retirees  
 Rodney Anderson**

**NALC Health Benefits Rep.  
 Julie Waldemar  
 (612) 963-6252**

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.

## Region 7 Report

On February 7th the USPS released its quarterly financial report for the first quarter of fiscal year 2014. The report covers October through December 2013. USPS reports an operating profit of \$765 million, which continues a year long trend in financial stability. The dramatic turnaround is credited to an improving economy and a significant jump in parcel delivery. The hard work, dedication and service provided by letter carriers during the holiday season played a huge role in our success. While some of our competitors were criticized in the news because of late holiday delivery, the USPS didn't suffer network failure and received high marks for service. Look no further than the millions of packages Amazon sent via USPS and the high service satisfaction their customers reported. Now congress needs to constructively get off their behinds and pass postal reform legislation to preserve and strengthen the postal network by fixing the ridiculous prefunding mandate and allow us to evolve with the changing landscape. The postal service always has been, and always will be, vital to the US economy and the American people.

**Deferred COLA Increase Due**  
In accordance with the National Agreement, the first of two 2013 deferred COLA salary adjustments will be effective March 8th and included in your paycheck March 28, 2014. The first COLA was based on the increase in the CPI between July 2012 and January 2013. It amounts to 7

cents per hour, \$5.60 per pay period, \$146 annually. The COLA adjustment will be added to the Step O pay rates in Table 2 of the pay schedule. The pay rates of Steps A through N will be increased proportionately. For example, Step A is set at 61.5% of Step O, so the COLA for Grade 1 Step A is \$90 annually.

### USPS Plant Closings On Hold

On February 14, the USPS notified the national unions that all excessing related to future plant closings is on hold indefinitely. Therefore, the postal service is releasing the residual vacancies withheld for impacted employees. Over the coming months the Western and Great Lakes Areas, in conjunction with the regional office, will be reviewing the status of each event and residual vacancy being withheld. If you have carrier jobs being withheld for clerk events, please contact my office in April. This will allow the parties time to jointly sort out the information. A copy of the USPS notification is included in this mailing.

### Regional Training Materials Sent

You should have received the registration materials for regional training. The packets were mailed out the first week in February. Our training will take place at the Radisson Hotel in Roseville, MN, April 28 - May 2, 2014. If you didn't receive the mailing or need additional copies, please call the office and we will be happy to send them to you. Keep in mind,



*Chris Wittenburg*  
*National Business Agent*

we only offer this extensive training once a year and space is available on a first come - first served basis. If you have new stewards, the two days of basic steward training are invaluable. Experienced officers and stewards can choose in-depth leadership training or specialized contract enforcement training. The national presentation will be given by one of our national officers and legislation, workshops, timely topics and a rap session will round out the week. Networking with other branch leaders and getting your questions addressed add to the benefits of attending the training.

### National Convention Planning Underway

Here are a few dates and events you should keep in mind, if you will be attending the convention: The Region 7 Delegate Gathering will be held the evening of Monday, July 21st. It will take place at the Irish Pub, located at 1123 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, which is within walking distance

*NBA article continued on page 13*

## Branch 9 NALC City Carrier Assistant and New Career Employees Meeting

**THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014**

**7:00PM**

**Golden Valley VFW  
7775 Medicine Lake Road  
Golden Valley, MN 55427**

This meeting will provide City Carrier Assistants (CCA's) and new career employees a great opportunity, in an informal meeting setting, to learn more about your rights at work and your future with the Postal Service.

- Hold-Downs vs. Bidding
- Conversion to Career
- Using your "Annual Leave"
- What is happening to the Postal Service?
- Moving from Station to Station

Because this meeting is informal, you will decide what topics will be addressed through a "Question and Answer" format. The meeting will be led by Mike Zagaros, Darrell Maus, and the Executive Board.

## Branch 9's Annual Ice Fishing Trip on Lake Mille Lacs

About 70 letter carriers, along with their families and friends ventured out for 24 hours of fishing and socializing. The early snow prevented good ice formation so the fish houses were only out about 3/4 of a mile.

\$50 was the prize for the largest walleye or perch caught. With the shallow water the fishing was virtually non-existent. Fish were seen on underwater cameras coming up to the bait but not biting.

The fishing contest ended at 9AM on Monday morning. House #61's, Brad Spencer (fishing with Victor Boehmer) caught the largest perch at a mere 6". Still, it was a great get-away from the rat race, and the buffet served up at the Twin Pines Resort was outstanding.

Thanks to Ken Jambois (BC) for being the Entertainment Co-Chair and coordinating this event.



**Brian Ofstad (Normandale) with his daughter in House #50.**



**Ron Barker and the infamous Barker Boys hiding out in House #60.**



**Victor Boehmer (Coon Rapids) and friends in House #61.**

## Executive Vice President's Report

### Communication

Communication is nothing more than passing on information from one person to another, with one doing the speaking and one doing the listening. So why does it seem that we have so many problems with this supposedly easy process? As human beings, we can communicate on several levels, but as senders we communicate primarily through the spoken or written word.

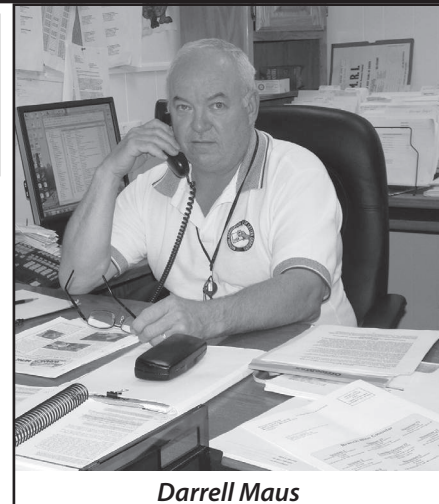
One of the main jobs of the NALC and Branch 9 is to communicate whether it be with Postal management, Congress, the media or our own members. Both management and the union are in the communications business, so why do we continue to fail in the communicating process? ***The answer, you can only communicate with someone if they are willing to listen and compromise.***

This question is heard on every workroom floor and at every one of our General Membership Meeting. While communicating with management is primarily conducted by the Branch officers and stewards we must also keep you, our members, informed. The best format and preferred method to receive this information is for you to attend our monthly meeting every 4th Tuesday of the month. If that is not possible Branch 9 has other ways of communicating with the membership and that is through flyers, letters, News by Nine and of course the Branch Nine News. We also ask the stewards to inform their stations about

what was discussed at the meetings and also what is in the mailings we have recently sent out. We also have them post the information on the Union's bulletin board for easy access. But this doesn't always work. We know that flyers and postings are not always the most effective ways to communicate, primarily because our retirees do not have access to the Union's bulletin boards at the stations so they miss out.

We use the Branch Nine News as one of our primary vehicles to communicate with our members. It acts as a means of communicating to the members who do not or can not attend a meeting. This paper is the official publication of Branch 9. It provides information about the issues facing letter carriers and their families from inside and out of the Postal Service. You can read about the latest news from the Branch officers and get information about upcoming Branch events. The Branch Nine News is published 10 times a year, has a circulation of about 2400 copies, and is mailed all over the country. It works as a great communication tool. We urge your feedback and comments, and we also appreciate it when a member takes the time to write an article that is pertinent to us as letter carriers.

Another tool we use to communicate is the Internet. Branch 9 has a website ([www.branch9nalc.com](http://www.branch9nalc.com)) and not only does it make for a convenient place to get current information it also provides a place where not so current, but useful



Darrell Maus

information can be stored and reviewed by stewards and members alike. Our website provides compilations of information from many different sources. Including copies of all flyers and information that is sent out to the stations by the Branch office. There is a listing of the calendar of events from the Branch Nine News that includes any changes that may have occurred after the printing of the paper. There is also information on a variety of topics that the Branch is involved in such as safety and political action. We also include links to other information that can be used to enforce the contract such as the JCAM and the individual Local Memorandums of Understanding covering the Minneapolis Installation and all of the Associate Offices we represent. The purpose of the website is to provide a virtual one-stop library. All you have to do is sit down at your computer and type in your browser [www.branch9nalc.com](http://www.branch9nalc.com). As with our paper, any ideas or feedback is welcome.

With all of the new communication avenues (like Facebook and Twitter, etc.) we have today they allow for our members to be in

*VP article continued on page 10*

## The following is a list of PAL 9 Paid Members for February 2014

### VERY CONCERNED MEMBERS

Richard A Kelly	Larry F Chlebeck	Thomas J Ryan	Jeff M Heimer	David J Wallentiny
Diane M Hall	Deborah A Grunnes	Roger D Tanghe	Karen J Schneider	John F Marszalek
Kenneth A Jambois	Jason A Karnopp	Kelly M Lundgen	Cyril Toay	Ted M Parker
Michelle M Benson	Nancy T Hall	Jon D Thompson	Wesley E Thomas	Charles E Rivers
Patrick D Keeler	Charles M Glover	Leonard H Rardin	James R Sharp	Herman A Metzler
Robert E Zimdars	Ronald Barker	Darrell G Maus		

### REGULAR MEMBERS

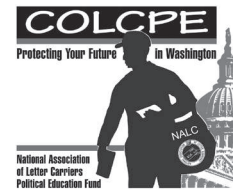
William C Tuffs	Mary Hoch	Tom Hoch	John M Keeley	John G Burmis
James R Stanley	Gary Hughes	David R Millette	Mark E Olufson	Karen M Torell
Gary S Mierek	Dan L Olson	Mary K Fick	Harley Ring Jr	Thomas M Costello
Kathleen Johnson	Robert Dondelinger	Jon E Frick	David W Scheil	Robert Schreder
Luverne Schwarz	Theodore F Hoven	Carl H Walsten	Colleen Sagedahl	Lawrence Schuster
Jericho F Tabor	Renee C Hickerson	Ronald P Sumstad	Charles L Friend	Richard L Wells
Merlin D Byers	Robert R Harris	Curtis M Blackwell	Thomas R Thorsen	Jeffrey W Smeets
Timothy J Bedor	Joseph Steckler	Barry J Berkovitz	Gary A Kroeten	Andro Hiben
Norma J Peterson	Kathy J Fitzhenry	Earl D Anderson	James M Nelson	Timothy W Bearth
Richard W Hobot	Steven R Grivicich	Mary Ann Knoss	Richard C Graves	Vernon J Zierman
Clarence Gervais	Michael R Adams	Robert J Logelin	Michael Smith	Donna J Wiecks
Paul H Hultgren	Karin A Lebak	Douglas T Waldhoff	Jeanne M Spratt	Harry L Sedesky
James Hiben	Robert J Miller	Scott A Randolph	Lori A Randolph	Kimberly Kline
Johannes S Magdal	David A Olson	Veronica V Fencis	Shawn K O'Brien	Ronald A Manzke
Emma A Granger (for Donald Granger)				

**Ron Lawrence**  
Treasurer PAL 9

*(This is just a partial list)*

### Stay informed by:

- Signing up for E-activist at [NALC.org](http://NALC.org)
- [Branch9nalc.com](http://Branch9nalc.com) (website)
- "like" our Branch 9 facebook page
- Follow us on Twitter



# UNIFORMS UNLIMITED

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

The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters

USA  
Union preferred

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

## How to Retire, Part 2

This is the second in a series of articles on HOW to Retire. Many of our members are eligible for retirement so it's a good idea to get a "Computer Generated Annuity Estimate". **This in no way obligates you to retire at a certain time.** It merely gives you a general idea of what your pension will look like, and what some of the bigger deductions will be (Survivor's Benefits, Health care premium deductions, etc). When you are serious about picking a date, all you have to do is to call Shared Services (1-877-477-3273) and pick Option 5. They will ask you what date you are thinking about, so they can send you an updated calculation. AGAIN, THIS IN NO WAY OBLIGATES YOU TO RETIRE ON THAT DATE, in case you change your mind. Personally, I would do this at least 2 months before you intend to retire.

Dealing with the Retirement Specialists in the Office of Shared Services has been a very pleasant surprise. In virtually all of the cases that I am familiar with surprisingly, the Retirement Counselors are on YOUR side.

Once you declare your intentions to retire, OPM will mail you "*The Blue Book*", which is a large 8x11 book full of information and all the forms you will need, again largely personalized. If there is some arcane form you need, OPM will have it in there. When I have dealt with them over the phone, they usually have the answers to the questions I hadn't even thought to ask.

While you're waiting for your Blue Book, start thinking of any questions you might have, and write them down. The first thing the Retiree Counselors will want you to do is to call them and arrange a phone interview with one of them. Again, I was pleasantly surprised at how knowledgeable and helpful the person I spoke to was. My wife was on another phone line, and we peppered him with all sorts of questions. He had all the answers we needed. Furthermore, he actually went through my Blue Book with me, and told me what to put down for information. Although I didn't do so, I could have filled out all the necessary forms while on the phone.

Let me give you an example of a bit of confusion he helped me with. He asked me when my official retirement date was? I told him I supposed January 1, because that's when I wanted my first annuity check. Well, he said, what is the last day you will be working? I said December 3. "*In that case,*" he corrected me, "*your official retirement date will be December 4*" --- because if I retired January 1, I wouldn't get a pension check until February 1. I did as he said, and everything worked perfectly. **So I strongly encourage you to lean on the expertise of these people.**

If you want to ask me anything, either call or write me at the Branch office, send me an e-mail at [rodney@branch9nalc.com](mailto:rodney@branch9nalc.com) or my phone number is 651-270-7807. I may not know the answer off-hand, but so long as you're an NALC member, I'll find out for you.

## Retiree Cribbage Tournament

**Wednesday,  
April 16th  
10:00AM - 1:00PM**

### Place:

NALC Branch 28  
1715 Van Dyke Street  
Maplewood, MN  
651.771.0533

### Directions:

Take Highway 36 to  
White Bear Avenue, then go  
south to Larpenteur Avenue  
**or**  
Take Highway 94 to  
White Bear Avenue then go  
north to Larpenteur Avenue.

## \$3.00 Entry Fee

If you have any questions or if you need a ride, Call Rodney Anderson at 651.270.7807

**Bring a friend, your cribbage board and cards.**

Refreshments will be provided.

**Hope to see you there!**

### 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 27, 2014

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 27 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 27, 2014**

**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 27, or bring it to that night's General Membership Meeting.



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

## A.M.E.'s UNIFORMS

**OUR BUSINESS IS MAKING YOU LOOK GOOD!**

We offer "Life of the Garment" guarantee.

If fixable we will repair your uniform at no cost to you.

Take waist in/out and change hem length

**Ame's Uniforms is a UNION PREFERRED vendor**

*VP article continued from page 5*

constant contact with each other. These types of communication are helping the Branch to provide immediate information related to upcoming events and political action that needs immediate attention - like calling our legislators about Postal reform.

It seems like everything we once knew to be a constant (be it our home lives, work methods and rules, route structure, and political issues) is now in flux. We must find better and more effective ways of communicating with each other in this environment. If the Branch is not meeting your needs as a communicator let us know.

As more communication options become available, we will continue to explore ways to get the message out to you because we want you to be able to make informed decisions and enjoy the opportunities of being a Branch 9 member.

A special thanks to the two people who work very hard to get the information out - Chuck Glover, Editor of the Branch Nine News and Jeremy Rothstein, Webmaster of the Branch 9 website. It is through their hard work and dedication that helps us get our message out to you, our members, and be successful in the communication process.



**"Come over to the dark side. Don't become informed. Believe everything management says. Do not attend union meetings."**

## 2014 Minnesota AFL-CIO Labor Leadership Grants

**Sponsored by the Minnesota AFL-CIO for members of affiliated unions seeking to develop their abilities and skills as union leaders.**

### **The Tobey Lapakko Labor Leadership Grant (a total of \$1,000 in grants will be awarded)**

Available to women who are union members in good standing to help defray the cost of classes, programs or conferences sponsored or endorsed by the AFL-CIO or affiliated organizations.

### **The Charles McKenna Leadership Grant (a total of \$1,000 in grants will be awarded)**

Available to men who are union members in good standing to help defray the cost of classes, programs or conferences sponsored or endorsed by the AFL-CIO or affiliated organizations

### **Martin Duffy Adult Learner Scholarship Award \$500 Tuition Scholarship for use at any accredited University, College or Vocational School. Two Scholarships are awarded each year.**

No academic performance standards or records required for eligibility. Awards must be used within one year of receipt of notification letter.

***Please submit ONLY one application.  
Duplicate entries will be disqualified.***

**\*\*This will be the ONLY notice  
for the above grants.\*\***

**Application forms will be  
available at the  
April Steward's Board and  
General Membership Meetings.**

**Deadline for applications to be turned in is April 30th.**

## 2014 Minnesota AFL-CIO Scholarships

**UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FORM**  
(Entry Deadline: April 30, 2014)

**The Minnesota AFL-CIO sponsors scholarships for high school seniors graduating in 2014. 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 Unionand 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 TitleAddress \_\_\_\_\_  
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, 2014*, to:**Minnesota AFL-CIO  
Education Committee  
175 Aurora Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55103**

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

*NBA article continued from page 3*

of the convention center. Additional details and information regarding our gathering will be mailed to you at a later date.

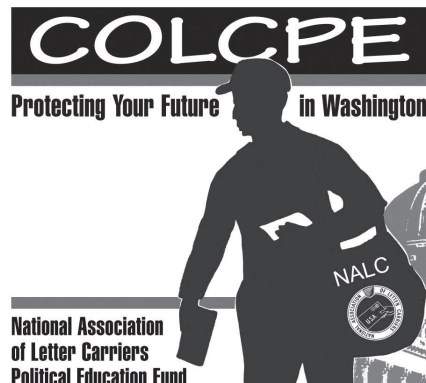
Tuesday, July 22nd is the 69th Biennial Convention Night Out at the Ballgame. The NALC has reserved nearly 4,500 tickets to the Philadelphia Phillies -San Francisco Giants baseball game.

President Fredric Rolando will participate at Citizens Bank Park by throwing out the first pitch at the opening of the game at 7:05 PM. The tickets are being made available by NALC to branches for \$24 per ticket for NALC delegates and family members. The prices include free bus transportation for those staying at the NALC block hotels.

Branch presidents must purchase the tickets in blocks and must include the total amount due with their order.

- Tickets will not be sold individually.
- Seating will be allotted on a first-come, first-served basis, based on the date of receipt of the completed form (found at NALC.org) and payment.
- All ticket orders must be received by June 1.

Thursday, July 24th is the retirement dinner for national officers.



**Post Office..... Priceless**

There was a man who worked for the Post Office whose job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day, a letter came addressed in a shaky handwriting to God with no actual address. He thought he should open it to see what it was about. The letter read:

Dear God,  
I am an 83 year old widow, living on a very small pension.

Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had \$100 in it, which was all the money I had until my next pension payment. Next Sunday is Christmas, and I had invited two of my friends over for dinner. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with, have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope...

Can you please help me?

Sincerely,  
Edna

The postal worker was touched. He showed the letter to all the other workers. Each one dug into his or her wallet and came up with a few dollars.

By the time he made the rounds, he had collected \$96, which they put into an envelope and sent to the woman. The rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of Edna and the dinner she would be able to share with her friends.

Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter came from the same old lady to God. All the workers gathered

around while the letter was opened. It read:

Dear God,  
How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me?

Because of your gift of love, I was able to fix a glorious dinner for my friends. We had a very nice day and I told my friends of your wonderful gift.

By the way, there was \$4 missing. I think it might have been those #@%#\*\*'s at the post office.

Sincerely,  
Edna

**The 22nd Annual Letter Carriers' Food Drive is Saturday, May 10, 2014**

Each year on the second Saturday in May, hundreds of thousands of letter carriers, retirees, family members and volunteers take to mail routes in every state and territory across America, pick up sacks of non-perishable food and deliver the goods to the food banks and pantries that serve their local communities.

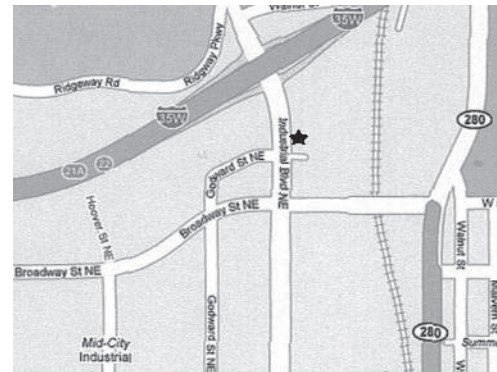
# Branch 9's Annual Red and Gold Retiree Banquet Sunday, May 4, 2014

Ramada Plaza Minneapolis  
1330 Industrial Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN



*Menu*

- Garden Salad  
w/ Ranch and French Dressing
- Marinated Vegetable Pasta Salad
- Grilled Flank Steak with Chimichurri Sauce
- Roasted Chicken  
in a Sundried Tomato-Basil Cream Sauce
- Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Wild Rice Pilaf
- Fresh Seasonal Vegetables
- Warm Rolls and Butter
- Fresh Baked Fruit Pies



**Registration Noon - 1:30**  
**Social Hour 12:30 - 1:30**  
**Lunch 1:30 - 3:30**  
*Retirees: the \$12/per person registration fee is refundable upon arrival. Cost for active members is \$18 and cost for stewards is \$9.*

**Reservations must be returned to the Branch Office no later than Tuesday, April 29.**

*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 always welcome to join in the festivities.*

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, MN 55418

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

# **Ron St. Clair Memorial MDA Bowl-a-thon Saturday, April 26, 2014**

## **LOCATION**

Park Tavern  
3401 Louisiana Avenue South  
St. Louis Park, MN 55426

## **TIME**

Registration 6:30PM  
Bowling 7:00 - 9:00PM

- 20 lanes of bowling (all teams bowl at same time)
- Teams of 4 - 6
- 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 the station gift basket receiving the highest bid - winning station will receive a free breakfast
- Deadline for registration is Tuesday, April 15th
- MAIL your teams with names to:  
Branch 9  
2408 Central Avenue NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418

***Come join the fun and donate to a good cause!***

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

## Branch Nine Calendar

### \*April 4\*

N Suburban Retiree's Breakfast  
8:30AM  
Denny's Restaurant  
9020 Quaday Ave NE, Otsego

### April 8

Southside Retiree Breakfast  
9:00AM  
Fred Babcock VFW Post 5555  
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

### April 8

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

### April 10

CCA/New Member Meeting  
7:00PM  
Golden Valley VFW Post 7051  
7775 Medicine Lake Rd  
Golden Valley

### April 16

Retiree Cribbage Tournament  
10:00AM - 1:00PM  
Branch 28 Office  
1715 Van Dyke St, Maplewood

### April 22

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast  
9:00AM  
Fred Babcock VFW Post 5555  
6715 Lakeshore Drive, Richfield

### Tuesday, April 22

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

### Saturday, April 26

Ron St. Clair  
Memorial Bowl-A-Thon  
Park Tavern  
3401 Louisiana Ave S  
St. Louis Park

### \*May 2\*

N Suburban Retiree's Breakfast  
8:30AM  
Denny's Restaurant  
9020 Quaday Ave NE, Otsego

### Sunday, May 4

Red & Gold Retiree Banquet  
Registration starts at Noon  
Ramada Plaza Minneapolis  
1330 Industrial Blvd, Minneapolis

### May 6

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

### Saturday, May 10

NALC FOOD DRIVE