



Do you ever get the feeling that you're being watched?

The Orwellian surveillance system that is now in place to track every movement of the carrier demonstrates a complete lack of trust by management in the carrier to carry out faithfully his or her duty. It is a slap in the face that causes only bitterness, as the absolute contempt of management for the workers is made wholly manifest through this system of constant surveillance.

The scan points along one's route are apparently no longer sufficiently intrusive in management's eyes and must now be supplemented with additional promptings by a robotic disembodied voice right out of "1984" to check where on the block you actually are. The straight forward task of simply matching numbers on letters to house numbers is now complicated further by downtown's increasingly paranoid belief that carriers are trying to get something over on management. The increased volume of scanned packages on a split is enough to occupy the carrier without this added intrusion.

The carrier craft is all about providing service to each customer, the managerial class is heavily into control; it speaks volumes of the psyche's of this controlling class. Having a suspicious nature is one of the key attributes of this class; the higher up on the ladder the greater the insecurity and neurotic tendencies; couple these attributes with ambition and you have the perfect

formula for creating a nasty egocentric ruling class personality. At the station level management is merely following the decrees set out from on high, so one cannot lay blame at their feet. For the most part they attempt to create a decent working environment. Of course exceptions abound where the worst carriers find themselves promoted to station management. They tend to quickly go down in



eyes that suggest deeper issues. Upper Management should trust their Lieutenant's at the station more, be less concerned with tracking every move of a carrier, and concentrate on solving actual problems. **The glaring problem of the lack of window clerks is one problem they could address as customers get a wholly poor impression of the postal service when they are forced to wait in line.** Customers streaming out the door during peak times as one clerk deals with them is an unresolved problem that should have cost someone in upper management his or her job years ago. **Putting back the neighborhood collection boxes would be greatly appreciated**

flames as their incompetence and insecurity cause them to self-implode. These micro managers I've noticed tend to have an odd glint in their

by the public too and not force people to leave their outgoing mail dangling from a slot ripe for theft or to be subject to the elements. Drying out Netflix envelopes and other missives on the dashboard has become a standard procedure. I have never heard any reasonable explanation for removing this key convenience of neighborhood collection boxes. Perhaps upper level bonuses were based upon the conversion of collection boxes to scrap iron at the time.

Upper Management lives in an alternate universe where creating promptings on the scanner to return to the station to pick up one or two bulk rate letters gives them a feeling of really looking after the small details, while at the same time allowing DPS to continue to be riddled with mis-sorts. **Solving glaringly obvious problems is apparently too difficult and so they massage their egos by creating and "solving" pseudo problems.**

Specifically here at Nokomis it would really be swell if the toxic laced asbestos/filth ridden atmosphere could be dealt with; but then that has been an on going problem for the twenty seven years that I have been here. Management, in their special universe have other pressing concerns.

Tim Highland
Nokomis



The Following is a list of Paid Members of PAL 9 for February 2016.

VERY CONCERNED MEMBERS

Dale Forde	James Hamilton	Kieran Hughes	Roger Johnson
Theresa Johnson	Richard Kelly	Darrell Maus	Charles Rivers
Michael Theisen	Tony Thompson	Barry Weiner	

REGULAR MEMBERS

Joseph Bedor	Barry Berkovitz	Ronald Dauner	Robert Gossler
Michael Gravenish	Steven Grivicich	Nancy Hall	Gordon Hannah
James Hiben	John Hilden	Elmer Hill	Richard Hobot
Mary Hoch	Thomas Hoch	Robert Hollis Sr	Gregg Holmes
Theodore Hoven	Leonard Hrcir	Paul Hultgren	David Johnson
Ashley Keul	Teri Koch	Lori Lee	Jerry McGlade
Robert Miller	David Millette	Michael Mroska	James Nelson
Alice Nopola	Russell Ofsthun	Glenn Paulson	David Scheil
Michael Smith	Judy Thorbus	William Tuffs	Doug Waldhoff
Donna J Wiecks			

Submitted By
Ron Lawrence
Treasurer PAL 9



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Minneapolis, MN 55418
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Mike Zagaros

Exec. Vice President
Darrell Maus

Recording Secretary
JoAnn Gilbaugh

Treasurer
Lisa O'Neill

Financial Secretary
Samantha Hartwig

Editor
Jeremy Rothstein
branch9news@branch9nalc.com

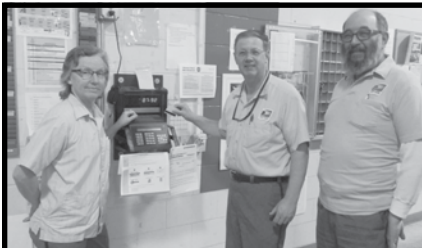
Sergeant at Arms
Jim Nelson

Trustees
Ken Jambois
Stacy Ellingson
Joe Rian

Director of Retirees
Rodney Anderson
C: (651) 270-7807

NALC Health Benefits Rep.
Mike Smith

RETIREMENTS



Craig Hanschen (Brooklyn Park) with Stewards Melia Derrick and Vince Froelich- Happy Retirement!



CORRECTION from the Jan/Feb issue- Judy Thorbus & Doug (not Paul) Federly (Lost Lake) take their last punch with Steward Robb Petersburg.

Welcome New Members

Jacques Chasse
Quantavious Claiborn
Shelby Fromholz
Jason Krulish
Samantha Stademeyer

UNIFORMS NEEDED

Branch 9 needs your help restocking our used uniform supply for new CCAs.

Shirts,
Pants, Shorts,
Winter Gear, Rain Gear, etc.
(we need everything)

Make room in your closet for other things.
Donate your gently used/ freshly washed uniforms to us.

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

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

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

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Unless you have been living under a rock, you already know that this is a Presidential Election Year. Last week the 2016 election campaign took another step forward for us with the major Minnesota Political Parties' precinct caucuses. I want to take a moment to say thank you to all who took time out to attend your caucus. It may have been a little chaotic as a number of precincts reported record turnout this year, but it is important to be involved in the political process and have conversations about the Postal Service with our neighbors. I also want to thank those who presented resolutions on improving delivery standards and seeking support for the re-establishment of Postal Banking. So what happens next? That depends on you.

Throughout the months of March, April and May the political parties will be having their senate and congressional district conventions. **If you are a delegate to either parties' convention, would you please let the Branch Office know. Why some may ask? The primary reason is that we are always looking for members who are involved politically. The second reason is to provide additional information if needed about the resolutions regarding the Postal Service that hopefully will make its way to being part of the political parties' platforms.** When you are trying to get people involved in something like our political program, its best to start with people who may already be interested in the subject. It does not matter which party you are involved with. We are looking for people to speak with our members, friends and family as well as our members of Congress about the issues facing the Postal Service. We don't have the luxury of only speaking to one party.

Our members cover the spectrum as far as political affiliation and involvement. As such we all need to further the discussions about a strong and vibrant Postal Service.

At a recent meeting of the PAL9 Board the discussion turned to "turning on" our membership to our political/legislative campaign this year. It was during this meeting that we discussed reviving our station political coordinators. The political coordinators were asked to communicate with the members at their units about the legislative and political issues of the day. They would also work to find volunteers for our political action. For the last few election cycles our political involvement has been closely tied to the MN AFL-CIO and the Minneapolis RLF and getting volunteers for the various Labor 20XX campaigns and now it's Labor 2016. It was during the PAL9 Board Meeting that the question was raised about how to engage our newer members? It was agreed that we would work to develop an ongoing plan to Educate, Motivate and Activate our membership into supporting those issues that are key to ensuring a solid future for our members and their families.

The First Step - Educate.

How do we educate our members? First we all agreed at the PAL9 Board Meeting to use all of the different media sources that we have at our disposal: **The Branch Nine News, our website branch9nalc.com and our Facebook page Branch Nine Online**, to provide information (between now and election day) our members can use to learn about why it's important to get involved. We will also work to create a new generation of political coordinators at our work locations. We also agreed that we would work with the MSALC



Mike Zagaros

(MN State Association of Letter Carriers) to establish and conduct a training seminar that would be available to all of the branches in Minnesota. **The purpose will be to provide the attendees with the latest information about where we stand legislatively on issues such as the various incarnations of Postal Reform and its impact on us as letter carriers. To develop the attendees to become the next generation of political leaders for their branch. To talk about what will be asked of each branch as part of the larger Labor 2016 campaign.** We are starting this in May because it is before the bulk of the vacation season. There was a meeting at the end of February with Chris Wittenburg (NBA), Warren Wehmus (President MSALC) and also the presidents of the largest branches. They were all in agreement that Branch 9 would present this seminar on Sunday, May 22nd at 1:00 P.M. in Branch 28's hall at 1715 Van Dyke Street Maplewood, MN 55109.

So what do we do in the meantime? Branch 9 will be participating in political screenings of the candidates that will be on the ballot this fall.

What about the President, some of you may ask? In the most recent Postal Record, President Rolando stated that NALC would not endorse a candidate for President at this time.

Pres. Report cont'd on page 11

2016 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

ARTICLE III, SECTION 7

CURRENT LANGUAGE

The Treasurer shall perform the following duties: The Treasurer shall receive receipts for, and disburse all monies of the Branch, and keep a regular account thereof. He/She shall pay all warrants on him/her by the Recording Secretary voted by the Branch and signed by the President, and have all accounts receipted upon payment of the same. He/She will publish a monthly report of Branch expenditures. He/She shall, whenever requested by the President, and at the end of his/her term, make a report showing his/her receipts, disbursements and amount of money on hand; deliver his/her books, papers and money to his/her successor in office, when qualified; and to insure the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be required to furnish a bond in such sum as the Branch may direct. *The Treasurer shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of top grade letter carrier pay each month.*

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE SECTION 7.

The Treasurer shall perform the following duties: ...

The Treasurer be paid the sum equivalent to 20 hours of top grade carrier pay each month.

Submitted By
Elizabeth O'Neill

ARTICLE VI.B

NEW ADDITION SECTION 6

A. At the August General Membership Meeting of the year of the bi-annual MSALC training meeting, the Branch shall decide what compensation will be allowed to the attendees.

B. All members who meet the eligibility requirements and properly request funding will be entitled to an equal amount of available funds to defray the claimed expense for attendance at the bi-annual MSALC training meeting. Funding will come from dollars allocated under the training budget of the year the bi-annual MSALC training meeting is held.

C. Eligibility for payment of the expenses of any attendee of the bi-annual MSALC training meetings will include:

1. Attendance at 2 of the 12 General Membership Meetings immediately preceding the MSALC training meeting.
2. A Letter of Intent to attend, along with a Request for Funding if desired, submitted to the Branch Recording Secretary by July 1 of the year in which the bi-annual MSALC training meeting will be held.
3. Be a member in good standing at the time of the bi-annual MSALC training meeting.

Submitted By
Joe Rian

ARTICLE VI.D, SECTION 11

DELETE

When an elected office is vacated, the Branch President shall fill all vacancies occasioned by death or otherwise with a person duly qualified until the next regular election.

PROPOSED NEW LANGUAGE SECTION 11

A. When an elected office is vacated by death or otherwise, an election following procedures described in ARTICLE VI.D of our By-Laws will be held to fill the vacancy unless such election would have to take place less than 100 days before the next regular election. In this instance, the Branch President shall appoint a person duly qualified to fill the vacancy until the next regular election.

B. The Branch President will appoint an election committee and tellers for oversight of this election per ARTICLE III SECTIONS 13 and 14 of our By-Laws.

Submitted By
Joe Rian

Branch 9 members will be voting on the above listed By-Law proposals at the April 26, 2016 GMM



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

The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters



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

Executive Vice President's Report

BEING WATCHED

I'm sure many of you have seen the movie series titled "The Hunger Games" and how every move the contestants make is monitored and watched. Mike and I (as well as the other branch officers and stewards) have been telling carriers "do your job as if someone is constantly watching you and you will not have any problems." The reality is that with the new "Delivery Management System" (DMS) management has a way of monitoring every move you make and the length of time it takes you to do it. This form of micro management makes us feel like we are in a bubble with people standing on the other side always watching us. Truth is, THEY ARE! So they're watching us it's no big deal since we are doing nothing wrong it's not a problem right?

Wrong! Actually it's a big problem and that is whatever the program shows for times when you were not moving it automatically turns into a disciplinary issue, and you, the carrier, is automatically guilty. No explanation is acceptable to prove otherwise. When you are being questioned by management, remember to ask for your steward to be present as this discussion can lead to discipline. While the monitoring reports show you may not have been moving it does not know what you were doing at the time. We have times on the street when we are not moving from delivery to delivery, but are still performing our carrier duties. If something on the street takes some time to perform just remember it and if you are asked, tell management what the reason was. If they take the attitude that you are guilty and no answer you give will satisfy them, contact your steward.

With that in mind let's talk about social media. Facebook, Twitter and other similar sites are a great way to communicate with a large group

of friends. Unfortunately anyone and everyone can see those same posts and nothing is a secret anymore once it is on the Internet.

I was contacted by a member that does a lot of web searches seeking out postal information. He came across some information I would like to share with you. It seems management has now taken monitoring us to a whole new level.

While I am sure this has been used before, but hopefully not to this extent. I have copied the article concerning future training for OIG agents.

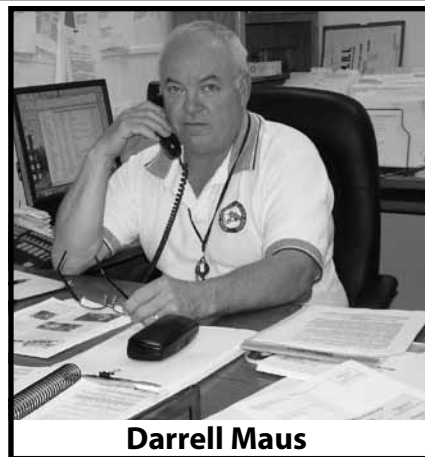
Internet Reconnaissance and Social Media Training

November 25, 2015 USPS OIG agents will be getting Internet Reconnaissance Training next June on methods to find target individual's social media and Internet footprint. These could be individuals on workers compensation, for example, exceeding their limitations? Crooks selling stuff on Craigslist? Only reconnaissance techniques that are legal and within agency policies/USAO guidance should be presented/discussed. Must be done covertly with no attribution back to the OIG.

The Supplier shall provide training on the methods to identify the target individual/organization's social media and Internet footprint. The training must, at a minimum, include the following items:

a) Internet Reconnaissance – Internet Footprint (Overview of areas of interest to be covered and how to focus and prepare Agents to conduct successful Internet Reconnaissance).

- All social networks, person search, dating websites, user names search, phone search, public record, court record, website download



Darrell Maus

- locating targets and developing the methods necessary to attack those targets successfully (Via Social Media/Internet)
- Only reconnaissance techniques that are legal and within agency policies/USAO guidance should be presented/discussed
- Must be done covertly with no attribution back to the OIG

b) Internet Reconnaissance Checklist of Sites and Searches

- TIO/lexusNexus/Accurint
- Facebook/linkedin/ Google+/ Twitter/Instagram/YouTube/ MySpace/linkedin/YouTube/ Classmates
- Picasa/Flickr/Vimeo/Pinterest/ Google Image Recognition/TinEye
- Online Sales & Services ~ eBay/ Craigslist/Amazon
- Public Records Search ~ Federal/ State/Local & County Grantor Grantee
- Public Liens
- Public Leases
- Civil & Criminal
- Divorce
- County Probate
- County Clerk
- Real Estate & Tax Assessor's Records
- Bankruptcy
- Federal District Court Records
- Corporation Records and Filing

c) Google Advanced Search

- All names/accounts/Email/ Nicknames/Aliases/Phone #'s
- CorporationWiki.com (if business references are identified)

Exec VP Report cont'd on page 6

Director of Retirees

Real News!

I recently got a hard lesson in how the news media works.

On February 9, Darrell and I were privileged to go to the very first regional Worker Voice Summit, hosted by the Secretary of Labor and held in south Minneapolis.

After being introduced by the Department of Labor's Kimble Snyder, our good friend, Congressman Keith Ellison spoke. He told us how 47% of all workers have no paid sick leave, which is more of a common-sense health issue than a labor one. Likewise, 89% of all fast-food workers endure wage theft, having to work extra for no pay.

Ellison introduced "America's greatest Governor", Mark Dayton, who jokingly apologized that he had to leave early to go serve dinner to some 5th graders in White Bear Lake. Nevertheless, he announced that he was extending six weeks of paid parental leave to all Minnesota state employees.

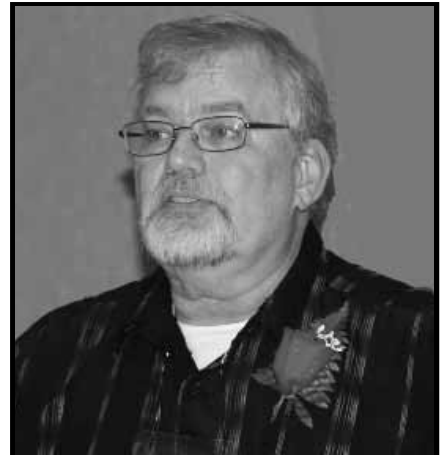
Dayton gave way then to the United States Secretary of Labor, Thomas Perez. He is a wonderful speaker, and said things like "**We all succeed when we all succeed**" (so reminiscent of Paul Wellstone). His theme was that we all share a social compact from the Constitution, "**We, the People, in order to form a more perfect union....**" The most important word in our language, said Secretary Perez, is **WE**. The need is for everyone — Labor, business, faith communities, public and private sectors to work together for shared prosperity for everyone. Then we listened to a diverse

panel from a Target management employee to a Super America worker. Al Franken's Field Rep Charles Sutton reminded us of Senator Franken's statement that "**The economy doesn't grow from the top down, but from the Middle Class out.**"

We concluded the session with a number of breakout groups. I attended one hosted by the AFL-CIO's Todd Anderson, he spoke about the bidding process for publicly-funded ventures. The main theme was to hold our public taxpayer dollars accountable. The bidding system for public works should not necessarily go to the lowest bidder, but to the firm that can demonstrate the highest rate of investment, that will contribute to the maximum public good.

I left this meeting feeling very excited. I even noticed TV crews from all the major television stations were there. That night I eagerly flipped back and forth through the channels during the evening news to see what coverage of this event would be broadcasted. I finally found one short piece of news. It was a cutesy warm fuzzy piece about the Governor going to White Bear Lake to serve lunch to 5th graders. Nothing about the American compact. Nothing about shared prosperity. Nothing about the Secretary of Labor. Nothing about Keith Ellison. Nothing about the reasons behind this event at all.

One of my favorite pundits, Bill Maher, has lately been excoriating broadcast news. He complains that you get about 3 minutes of real news, then just stories to frighten us, or uplifting nonsense stories. I fear he's right.



Rodney Anderson

Oh Edward R. Murrow; Oh Walter Cronkite; Oh Chet Huntley; Oh David Brinkley and Oh Tom Brokaw where art thou in this, our hour of need of the truth and real news?

Exec VP Report cont'd from page 5

d) Website/Screen Capture Utilities

- Adobe Acrobat Pro (Create PDF from Web Page)
- HITrack Website Copier
- Opanda Ixif Viewer
- Jeffery's Exif Viewer (online only)
- Awesome Screenshot Capture
- FacePaste
- Video Download Converter
- Fireshot Capture
- Download Facebook Album (works with Instagram too)
- Vigram

***Source: Federal Business Opportunities - Internet Reconnaissance Training**

It seems like management must not have enough staffing to handle the managing of their stations and monitor us as well.

Remember, anytime you are questioned by management postal inspectors or OIG agents ask for your steward!

March is the anniversary of the Postal Strike. **To all our 1970 strikers I want to say THANK YOU. It is because of your commitment and courage that all of us enjoy the benefits and compensation we now receive.**

Remembering the Day the Mail Stopped

At 12:01 a.m. on March 18, 1970, a courageous band of letter carriers in New York City launched what is now called the Great Postal Strike. On its 46th anniversary, the NALC remembers their actions and the legacy it left.

It's important to put the strike in its context. Postal workers had suffered a 50-year losing streak beginning with World War I. Pay scales were frozen, then cut back, and even the "happy days" of the 1950s passed them by as President Eisenhower vetoed four postal salary bills.

By 1967, things were so bad that post office job turnover was around 25 percent a year. Under the gun from their bosses, local managers became increasingly authoritarian and letter carriers became increasingly exasperated and tired of being bullied and denied a living wage.

The National Association of Letter Carriers was caught between a political rock and a legal hard place—a political establishment unwilling to deliver good wages,

a decent workplace, and there was a legal ban on strikes by government employees.

At the stroke of midnight, members of Branch 36 began throwing up picket lines around post offices throughout Manhattan and the Bronx. Within hours, other branches joined in and the wildcat strike spread across the land.



There is much more to this story, as told in the NALC history, Carriers in a Common Cause, but the key result was the adoption of the Postal Reorganization

Act of 1970, which created the U.S. Postal Service. The act gave postal unions the power to bargain for wages and benefits, and the ability to arbitrate contract disputes and enforce members' rights.

As bargaining begins on a new national agreement, we take a moment to say **THANK YOU** to the men and women who put their jobs on the line to protect themselves and the carriers who have followed in their footsteps.

From the NALC Postal Record

Retiree Cribbage Tournament

**Wednesday, April 13th
10:00AM**

LOCATION

NALC Branch 28
1715 Van Dyke Street
Maplewood, MN
651.771.0533

\$3.00 Entry Fee

If you have any questions call Rodney Anderson at 651.270.7807

Branch 9 is MAD (Making a Difference)

Help us celebrate the life of and to honor our union sister, co-worker and friend **Julie Waldemar** and people everywhere that are in the fight for their lives against breast cancer.

Join our team on
Sunday, May 8th

for the Komen Race for the Cure at Southdale Center located on 66th St and France Ave in Edina

The cost is
\$30/Adults
\$15 for Children 12 & Under

Contact Team Captain Carol Garnto to register and for more details at either 612.709.8815 or cgarnto@gmail.com.



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

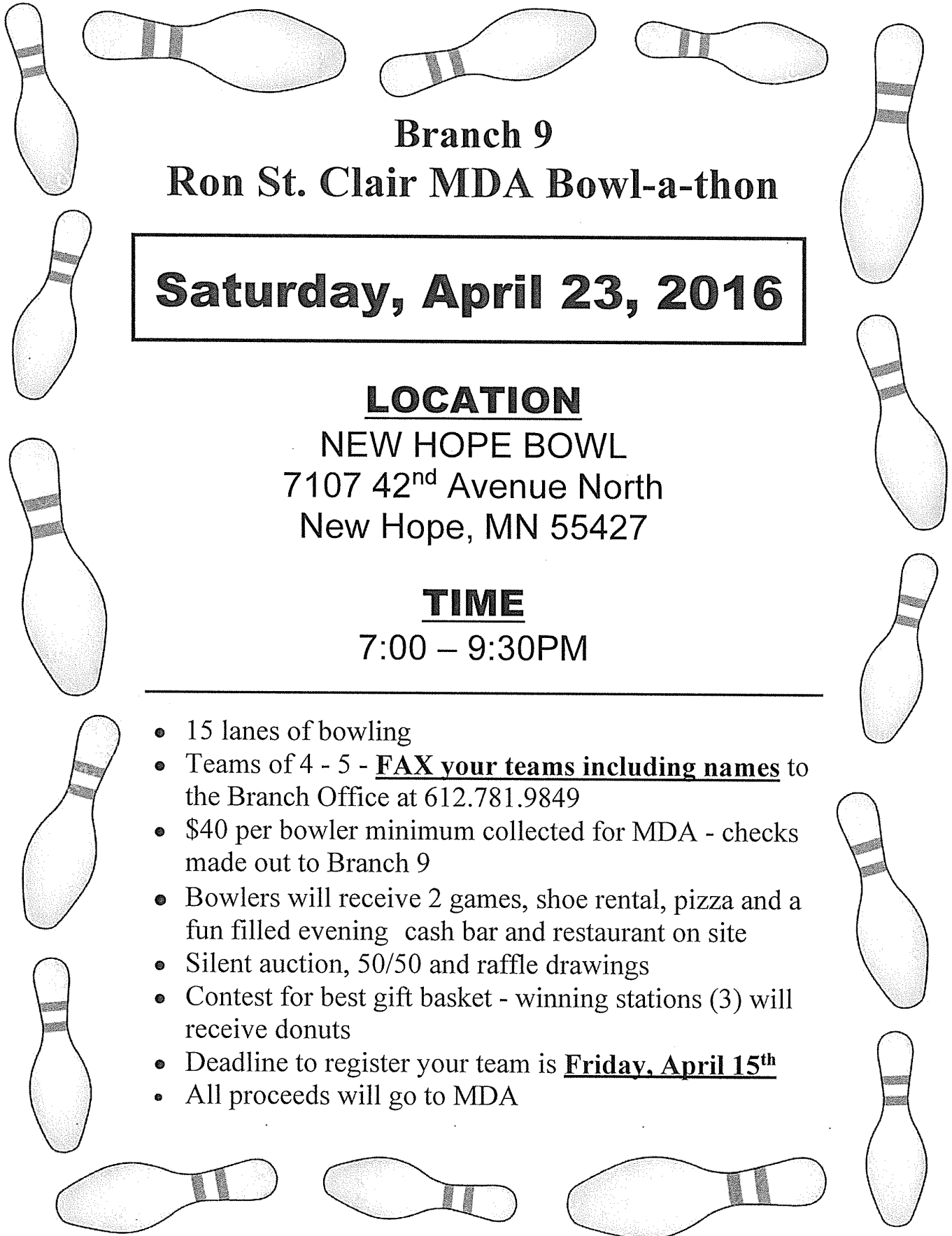
AME'S UNIFORMS

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 are a UNION PREFERRED vendor



Branch 9
Ron St. Clair MDA Bowl-a-thon

Saturday, April 23, 2016

LOCATION

NEW HOPE BOWL
7107 42nd Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55427

TIME

7:00 – 9:30PM

-
- 15 lanes of bowling
 - Teams of 4 - 5 - **FAX your teams including names** to the Branch Office at 612.781.9849
 - \$40 per bowler minimum collected for MDA - checks made out to Branch 9
 - Bowlers will receive 2 games, shoe rental, pizza and a fun filled evening cash bar and restaurant on site
 - Silent auction, 50/50 and raffle drawings
 - Contest for best gift basket - winning stations (3) will receive donuts
 - Deadline to register your team is **Friday, April 15th**
 - All proceeds will go to MDA



**Carol Garnto
MDA Chair**

The annual Ron St. Clair MDA Bowlathon is set for April 23 at the New Hope Bowl (7107 42nd Avenue North) in New Hope. Money raised during this event will be donated directly to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

MDA's mission is to save and improve the lives of people fighting muscle diseases. Seventy four cents of every dollar that is donated is used for research, services and education to support the families in their struggles to understand and cope with the disease.

The money we collect on April 23 will help pay for (1) One day of medical supplies at a MDA Summer Camp, (2) Support a group therapy session, (3) Provide physical therapy, (4) Supply durable medical equipment to help people maintain their independence and (5) For the kids to have a camp



The Annual Ron St. Clair MDA Bowlathon

where they can enjoy themselves and have professional counselors available that are trained in the special needs required by these children.

35,000 kids and adults receive treatment each year from a MDA clinic. 3,800 kids go to a MDA summer camp each year. This is the reason we have a MDA Bowlathon. This is how we unite our Union members.

Branch 9, MDA needs your help! Branch Niner's working together will have an enormous effect on the total dollars raised at this event. The money we raise will help to send several kids to summer camp and seeing those children smile and having fun will be nothing short of mission accomplished.



There are several ways every carrier can participate: Come bowl 2 fun games, eat some pizza and have refreshments. You'll have a great time watching your fellow co-worker score 6 strikes in a row or by watching the challenged bowler bounce their balls off the gutters. The talk at the time clock line on Monday will be entertaining.

There is a \$40 minimum with no maximum limit of the pledges you can get. Lane sponsors will get their company name posted in large print at the Bowlathon. The lane sponsors get the added benefit of free advertising in the Branch Nine News for their company and the MDA receives

maximum dollars.

While you are bowling, enjoy the full service restaurant/beverage center. In-between games order some crunchy fries and place a bid on one of the many fabulous baskets created by the Branch Niner's.

There is always a good deal to be had at the silent auction. Typically, there are several types of baskets including, but not limited to baskets with beverages, food, alcohol, tools, gift certificates, and personal care products. Something for everyone to enjoy!

We understand that not everyone can attend this event, but there is still a way you can participate: Take up a collection at your station and donate a basket to the silent auction. A basket can be put together for less than \$50. This is a perfect price range. The station with the (1) Most unique basket, (2) Most useful items basket and the (3) Most daring basket will be treated to wonderfully fresh sweet donuts by the Branch. There are 3 chances to score points for your station and ultimately score dollars to help the kids maintain independence through the services and research provided by MDA.

The MDA flyer is on page 6. Carol Garnto can be reached for MDA or bowlathon questions by e-mail at cgarnto56@gmail.com or on her cell 612.709.8815.



Branch 9's Annual Red and Gold Retiree Banquet

Sunday, May 1, 2016

**Minneapolis Ramada Plaza
1330 Industrial Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN**



Menu

Garden Salad

Merinated Vegetable Pasta Salad

*Grilled Flank Steak in a
Chimichurri Sauce*

*Roasted Chicken Breast in a
Tomato-Basil Cream Sauce*

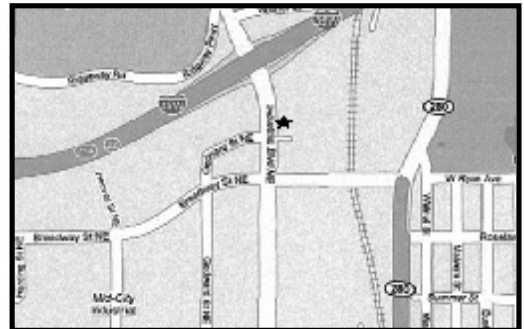
Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Wild Rice Pilaf

Fresh Seasonal Vegetables

Assorted Rolls and Butter

Fruit Pies



Registration Noon - 1:00
Social Hour 12:30 - 1:15
Lunch 1:15 - 3:30

*Registration Fee for Retirees and
Station Stewards is \$12.00/per person.
Cost for Active Members is \$18.00/per person*
**The Registration Fee for Retirees
is refundable upon arrival.*

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.

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 26 to:
Branch 9, NALC
2408 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis 55418

Amount Enclosed _____

2016 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.*

*Information and applications available at
<http://www.mnaflcio.org/about/scholarships-awards>*

To some people, their political involvement starts and ends by making contributions to PAL9 and the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF formerly known as COLCPE). In the coming weeks and months, you will be hearing from Renee Hickerson (Andover). Renee has agreed to be the Branch 9 LCPF Coordinator. **Currently we have just over 10% of our membership who contribute to the LCPF, some contribute to the PAL9 our local political action fund and some contribute to both. But we can and need to do better.**

I know that some of you have zero interest in politics and think that the Branch should not be involved in such things. Respectfully, I must disagree. As we begin contract negotiations with the Postal Service over our next collective bargaining agreement, we need to remember that the next President and the 535 members of Congress have the ability and the power to make changes to everything that we know about our jobs and our benefits than any of the parties who will be at the negotiating table.

" ... engaging in our democracy and in the political process is not optional. Our jobs and standard of living— and the continued viability of the U.S. Postal Service—depend on it."

Fred Rolando February Postal Record

Pres. Report cont'd from page 3

"It was clear to the Council that all three candidates who answered our survey were strong supporters of letter carriers and the Postal Service. It was also clear from our polling that both Clinton and Sanders had strong support among our members. They were the two clear winners in the readers' poll, and in the Hart membership survey both Clinton and Sanders were strongly preferred over any of the possible GOP nominees.

Given our close ties to Secretary Clinton, developed during her time in the Senate and during her historic 2008 presidential campaign, and given our equally strong relationship with Sen. Sanders and his staunch advocacy on behalf of the Postal Service and its employees, the Council decided not to endorse either candidate at this time—while committing to work tirelessly for either candidate in the 2016 general election campaign."



**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,
please submit your scholarship
applications to Branch 9 by
May 24, 2016 or bring to
that night's GMM**

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 educational institution next fall, should complete the applications and return them to the Branch Office by May 24 or bring them to that night's GMM. All three forms should be submitted as there are three separate drawings for each scholarship. Please enter the three scholarship drawings only once.

Adult Learners Scholarship

Leonard A. Larson/ Barry J. Weiner Scholarship

**Adult Learners,
please submit your scholarship
application to Branch 9 by
May 24, 2016 or bring to that
night's GMM**

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



Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship A Labor and Education Partnership

This scholarship provides financial assistance to racial/ethnic minority union members and their families who wish to pursue post-secondary education at one of Minnesota's State Universities or at one of the two year community and technical colleges that are part of the Minnesota State colleges and Universities (MnSCU).

Application for 2016 - 2017 academic year now being accepted.

<http://www.nelliestone.org>

2016 Minnesota AFL-CIO Scholarships

UNIVERSAL APPLICATION FORM

(Entry Deadline: April 30, 2016)

The Minnesota AFL-CIO sponsors scholarships for high school seniors graduating in 2016. 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, 2016*, to:

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

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

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

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Stay informed by:

- *Signing up for E-activist at NALC.org
- * Branch9nalc.com (website)
- * "like" our [Branch 9 Facebook Page](#)
- * Follow us on [Twitter](#)



Contribute to the PAC

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

nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity

Branch 9 Calendar

April 12

Steward Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN

April 23

Ron St. Clair MDA Bowlathon
7:00PM
New Hope Bowl

April 26

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN

Sunday, May 1

Red & Gold Retiree Banquet
12:00 - 3:30PM
Minneapolis Ramada Plaza
1330 Industrial Blvd, Minneapolis

Sunday, May 8

Komen Race for the Cure
Southdale Center, Edina, MN

May 10

Steward Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN

Saturday, May 14 **NALC Food Drive**

Sunday, May 22

Political Conference
1:00PM
Branch 28, Maplewood, MN

May 24

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW, Crystal, MN

May 30

Memorial Day
HOLIDAY

Northside Retiree Breakfast

1st Tuesday of the Month
9:30AM @ Elsie's
729 Marshall St. NE, Minneapolis

N Suburban Retiree Breakfast

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

Southside Retiree Breakfast

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

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast

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

POCUM

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