

JEROME J. KEATING BRANCH



BRANCH NINE NEWS

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

1964

VOLUME 67 No 3

Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC

April 2015

Letter Carriers Giving Back!

April is National Volunteer Month and as you can see from the events listed below letter carriers are doing their part to help make things better in their communities.

**Branch 9
Annual Ron St. Clair
MDA Bowl-a-thon
Saturday, April 18, 2015**

**New Hope Bowl
7107 42nd Avenue North
New Hope, MN 55427
7:00 - 9:30PM**

- *Fax teams of 4 - 5 bowlers to the Branch Office at 612-781-9849
- *Minimum of \$40 per bowler donated to MDA
- *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

MDA®

Fighting Muscle Disease



On Saturday, May 9, 2015, the Letter Carriers' Food Drive will be celebrating its 23rd year helping the hungry.

During the 2014 food drive the NALC collected nearly 73 million pounds of non-perishable food nationwide. Because of the generosity of our customers and all the hard work done by our carriers and all the volunteers Branch 9 collected just under 534,160 pounds of food (over half a million pounds) of that national total.

Thank you in advance for your support again this year!

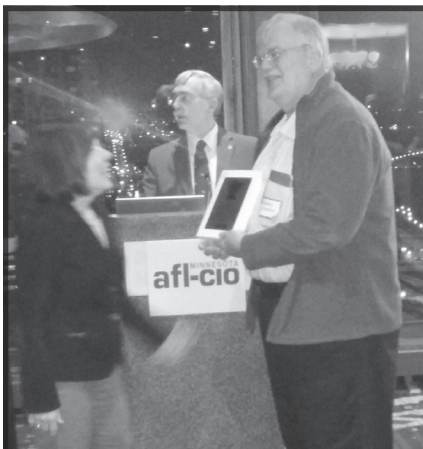
RETIREMENTS



Steve Nortrom and Jeff Heimer (Coon Rapids) are happy to be making their last punch with Steward Victor Boehmer looking on.

Welcome New Members

Komivi Amegnenou
Caresse J Anderson
Verna Bowman
Viken A Djerdjian
Terese R Hawkenson
Moises A Hernandez
Nikia T Holmes
Jeffrey A Koelmel
Bee Lor
Evalina L Neal
Carl A Sampson
David L Scott
Kyle C Tangen
Chavonn D Taylor
Choua Xiong
Kor Xiong



Rodney Anderson (Director of Retirees) accepting an award on behalf of Branch 9 from MN AFL-CIO President Shar Knutson for our work and volunteering this past election cycle.

2015 Branch 9 MSALC Delegates

Rodney Anderson
Bob Baird
Connie Beissel
Angelina Brown
Larry Chlebeck
Martin Cornell
Melia Derrick
Pamela Donato
Stacey Ellingson
James Fodstad
Troy Fredenburg
Vincent Froehlich
Carol Garnto
JoAnn Gilbaugh
Al Gulden
Samantha Hartwig
James Hendrickson
Renee Hickerson
Kieran Hughes
Ken Jambois
Catherine Jones
Jason Karnopp
Patrick Keeler
William Ladd
Lenny Larson
Darrell Maus
Ned McCraine
Jim Nelson
Elizabeth O'Neill
Patrick Paplow
Karen Pederson
Darwin Rian
Jeremy Rothstein
Gary Ruhl
Johnea Rystedt
Kevin Schmitz
Mike Smith
Anthony Thompson
Douglas Waldhoff
Julianne Waldemar
Barry Weiner
Michael Zagaros

Clarification

The March 2015 Branch Nine News calendar (back page) should have had March 21 as the anniversary date of Branch 9 joining the 1970 Postal Strike.

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Mike Zagaros

Exec. Vice President
Darrell Maus

Recording Secretary
JoAnn Gilbaugh

Treasurer
Lisa O'Neill

Financial Secretary
Melia Derrick

Editor
Jeremy Rothstein

Sergeant at Arms
Jim Nelson

Trustee
Mike Smith

Trustee
Cathy Jones

Trustee
Ken Jambois

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 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

The month of March was truly a memorable one for Branch 9. It was an opportunity for us to notice the whole spectrum of events that involved Minneapolis Letter Carriers from our earliest beginnings to the current day. It was truly a month to recognize our own.

Workplace Safety: Early in the month the employees at both Diamond Lake and Normandale Stations were recognized for being accident and injury free (motor vehicle/industrial) for the last quarter of 2014. The Postmaster and I went out to both stations to say thank you and to let them know how much of an accomplishment this is and how important it was. The Minneapolis Installation has 27 sections, stations and branches. The majority of our injuries and accidents happen in the first and last quarters of the year and the results are in for the first quarter of 2015 and once again both Diamond Lake and Normandale are accident and injury free. Results like this do not happen (pardon the pun) by accident. It takes a commitment from each individual carrier and clerk to take the time to be safe. Please take the time to look at your surroundings. Take that extra few seconds to be safe and always remember to leave yourself an out. The best safety program there is involves your eyes: e.g. look for hazards, potential slips, trips and falls or is it safe to drive forward?; your ears, listen to what is happening around you; and your brain, think about what you are doing: e.g. did you review the Dog Warning Cards?

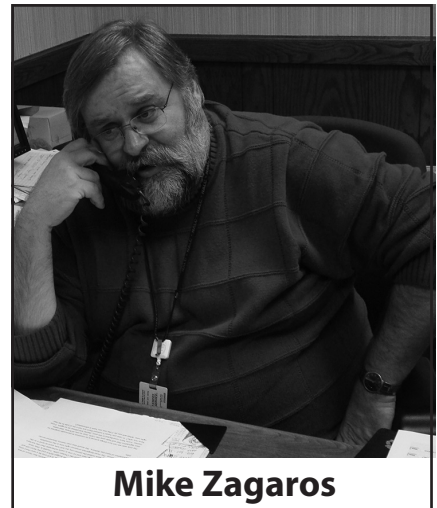
I know that not all accidents and injuries can be avoided. If you are involved in an accident or hurt at work, your first responsibility is to notify your supervisor and your steward. If you are injured, ask your steward for a CA-1 Checklist. Sometimes what should be happening involving workers' compensation (OWCP) can be difficult to understand. This checklist will

help you follow what should be the normal progression of your case. You should receive an acknowledgement from the Department of Labor within a couple of weeks. If you have any questions, contact Branch Office.

Branch 9's Safety Liaison Barb Rimer is working to finalize the Safe Driving Awards for 2014 and we will soon be making presentations at the work locations.

A Special Thank You: At the March Officer's and Steward's Board Meeting we held, what I hope will become an annual tradition, a Steward's Appreciation Dinner. As an organization, our Stewards are the most important part of the NALC. These men and women are the primary link between the rank and file member and the NALC from Branch to Headquarters. The dinner was an opportunity for us to say thank you to those who represent our carriers and the NALC on the workroom floor. The work of a union representative is often done without reward or a thank you. So please take a moment to say thank you to your steward. Each officer and steward was presented with a 125th Anniversary lapel pin as a small token of our thanks and appreciation for all the work they do. We chose the month of March because that was the month of Branch 9's 125th Anniversary of becoming a member of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

CDRAAP: By the time you read this, half of the 18 offices that have been selected to participate in CDRAAP will be at some stage in the process. The first units are nearing the implementation of route adjustments. Once that happens, the routes will be further reviewed during the 90 day period. If there is to be a further review, the data (office and street) reviewed will be from 30 to 75 days after implementation. In addition either party may request the review from the District Lead Team. As the units



Mike Zagaros

selected go through this process, I want to thank the men and women who have stepped up to be the local office contacts to help the REATS (Route Evaluation and Adjustment Teams) and the District Lead Team by providing them with the additional information about the units that simply looking at the data does not provide. If you want to learn more about the CDRAAP process, go to www.nalc.org on the web and go to City Delivery on the Workplace Issues Page. CDRAAP is the only way routes may be adjusted this year.

From Our Earliest Beginnings ... On the day of our General Membership Meeting (Tuesday, March 24th), we had the opportunity to reflect on two significant events in our history.

The first event, the birth of Branch 9. In August of 1889, the Minneapolis Letter Carriers Association, which began on November 5, 1883, sent delegate F.W. Campbell as one of the 48 delegates to attend a meeting in Milwaukee, WI. The purpose of this meeting was to establish a national organization, called the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC). Following that meeting, the members of the Minneapolis Letter Carriers Association voted to join the NALC and received its Charter as Branch 9 on March 24, 1890.

125 years later we are still here, and are now known as **the Jerome**

Pres. Report cont'd on page 9

Burnsville Station Wins Customer Connect Award



(L - R) Northland District Marketing Manager Mark Janda, Postmaster Ken Johnson, District Manager Anthony Williams, USPS Small Business Development Director Mary P. Anderson, NALC National Business Agent Chris Wittenburg, Northland District Customer Connect Coordinator Kelly Wiberg, NALC Branch 9 President Mike Zagaros, Burnsville/Savage Customer Connect Coordinator Connie Beissel and NALC Branch 9 Executive Vice President Darrell Maus

Customer Connect

What a wonderful surprise we had in January. Last year the Burnsville Post Office out performed every post office in the Western Area on Customer Connect Leads and Sales. For our efforts the Postal Headquarters Sales Representatives came to Burnsville to honor us with a ceremony and a

catered breakfast. Among the attendees were Tony Williams, Chris Wittenberg, Mike Zagaros and Darrell Maus. Our local Customer Connect Coordinator Kelly Wiberg did an outstanding job at setting up a wonderful program and presentation for all of the carriers.

Becoming the "Best" in the Western Area was really not that hard.

The carriers in Burnsville all did their part by turning in leads to me and I would send them in. Some of the leads ended up as No Sales and some were very good revenue producing sales. As the office customer connect coordinator I went around to every carriers case and talked to each carrier about what to look for and how to ask their business customers about saving money by shipping with the USPS.

Next year our union contract expires with our employer. When it comes time to negotiate wages and benefits it behooves us to have an employer with a healthy revenue budget to work with.

The better off the Postal Service is the better off the employees are. So I challenge you all to go out and look for at least 1 lead this year. If we can do it so can you.

Connie Beissel
Burnsville Post Office
Customer Connect Station Coordinator & Steward

Above and Beyond Award, Tonya Nelson



Mike Zagaros presents Tonya Nelson with the Branch 9 Above & Beyond award

Tonya Nelson, a Robbinsdale carrier, saw a need and did something about it.

After meeting a military family on her route, she noticed that they were struggling and with the holidays coming up, she came up with an idea to connect people in need with people willing to help.

Starting in October Tonya, her husband Toby and friend Josie De LaCruze Schulte started making a difference. By using social media they created a phenomenon on Facebook called "Adopt a Family Angels Minnesota." In those two

short months leading up to Christmas, 255 families were adopted by people from around the country.

Tonya plans to expand things this year to help more families during Thanksgiving and Christmas.

If you would like to help or learn more about Tonya's efforts visit her **Facebook page Adopt a Family Angels Minnesota** or visit her on the web at <http://www.adopta-familyangels.com/>

Thank you Tonya for going Above and Beyond to make a difference in the lives of so many!

Exec Vice President's Report

ACCOUNTIBILITY - WHAT DOES IT MEAN REALLY?

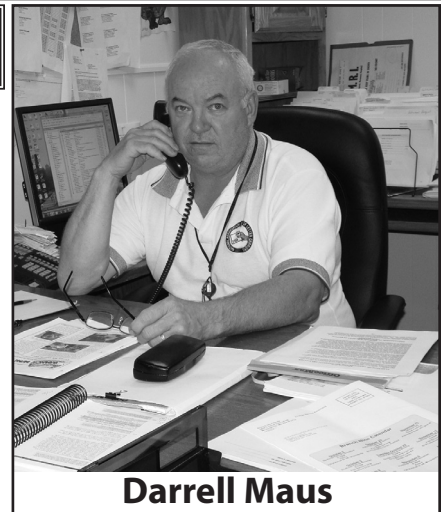
"Accountability" is a popular buzz word. It shows up on all sorts of surveys, plans and reports. When we think of accountability, each of us may have a little different view of what it actually means. All too often lately it is being used by management to label our carriers with the lack of accountability in the performance of their duties.

Management has the right to use their projections of what a carrier's daily work load should be only as a tool and not the absolute numbers they can expect us to achieve. When this doesn't happen, *EVEN WHEN THE CARRIER HAS INFORMED THEM OTHERWISE*, they bring into question our accountability. Some in management go as far as to say that we are stealing from the Service with our performance and the hours we have worked.

All too often the numbers management want us to achieve has come from some type of inspection time loaded with several deletions and disallowed times and we are faced with numbers that are a mere illusion of what management wishes for. I have worked with numbers my whole life and have come to realize and said often *"figures never lie but liars do figure"*. All a person has to do is read the information that comes out of Washington these days to prove this statement. If at any time an issue is raised that concerns your hours of work or performance and you are being questioned about it by management make sure to request your steward. This leads into the next part of my article.

EAP - April is Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Month. Sometimes, when we need it the most, we are the least likely to recognize it. The pressures in our daily lives stem from many reasons. It could be the loss of a loved one, being diagnosed with a major illness, divorce, work issues, severe stress, anxiety, on top of management's conduct and work issues. Most of us can identify with the enormous impact these issues create in our lives (both at home and at work). We see it, we extend our sympathies with cards or calls and try to support and help those in need to cope. We even inform others that are suffering that EAP is an excellent resource! WONDERFUL! Unfortunately, there is no definitive list of reasons or times to use EAP. Moodiness, anxiety, problems sleeping, energy loss, and irritability may be some of the warning signs trying to get our attention. Realizing and acknowledging the issues going on in our lives is key to what we believe our choices are in dealing with them.

With that in mind, I encourage everyone that is reading this issue to take a closer look at yourselves, your families and your co-workers. Certain actions and behaviors "stressors" as they're sometimes called can individually be discounted or ignored. Separately, they don't make the "front page" of events in need of special consideration or attention in our lives but over time collectively they pile up, one on top of another. Financial problems, trouble with the in-laws, spouse loses a job, child going off to college, serious illness of a parent, family members drug problem, change in work schedule/methods, behavior of manage-



Darrell Maus

ment or carriers at your office the list is endless. The pile continues to grow until there seems to be no relief. Although it is easy to watch for and see and more readily acknowledge the big things, our world today is far more complex and demanding that we handle many stressful situations (large, medium, or however small they may seem) sooner rather than later.

Remember, EAP is FREE to you, your family and anyone living in your household (except tenants or live-in employees). Your privacy is strictly protected. If you happen to be a family member and wish to use EAP anonymously, you can! You do not need the approval, permission or the notification that a family member is a postal employee in order to utilize this resource. **Your participation is completely confidential. There is help waiting just a phone call away.**

If you have any questions or come to realize you may benefit from an appointment...**MAKE THE CALL!!!**

Joe Boyle
612-349-4421

Patricia Randall
651-681-2575

National Hotline
1-800-EAP-4-YOU
(1-800-327-4968)

Director of Retirees

PART 1

The Postal Prefunding Requirement for Dummies (which is why I'm writing this)

Wow, am I stupid, or what? One brother retiree asked me some time ago to write an article that simplifies and explains this "Postal Pre-Funding Crisis". I should have heard the alarm bells as I stepped into the World of Congressional Oversight and Postal Finance, but I didn't. Here then are the fruits of my research — with the caveat that I'm sitting here questioning whether Congress and the USPS are nuts, or is it just me?

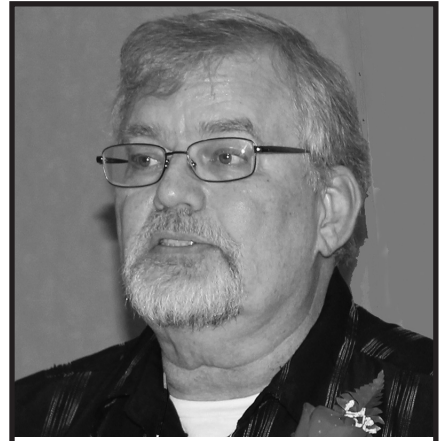
It's the end of a long story. Ever since the Postal Service became an independent and theoretically self-sustaining agency in 1970, it also became a Congressional plaything. *Congress has long been fond of screwing around with our futures, as evidence by the 1986 law launching the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS), when there was still debate over the future sustainability of the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS). New laws were passed in 1989 and 1993 demanding that the USPS pay further COLAs or the like to annuitants.* But other forces were at work behind the scenes, since late in the last century. For example, in 2002 the USPS Comptroller General David Walker testified before Congress that pension and health obligations owed to the retirees by the USPS made the USPS future look very bleak. This is, incidentally, the same David Walker who went on to become the CEO of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, which advocates for privatizing the Postal Service. The vipers, those who were dedicated to our destruction, were in our own midst.

By this time, Congress was busily fixing one mistake with another, usually with self-serving and badly researched data. For example, in 2003 argument erupted between

the Officer of Personnel Management (OPM) and Congress's oversight watchdog, the General Accounting Office (GAO) over retirement benefits for veterans. OPM decided that the USPS had the responsibility for funding veteran's health care BEFORE they joined the Postal Service. Despite new data compiled by OPM that the USPS's pension obligation was much brighter than previously thought, the Bush Administration rammed through Congress the 2003 Postal Pension Reform Act.

This little-known act was a disaster for the Postal Service. It required the USPS rather than the Treasury to fund ALL the health care requirements of its veteran annuitants from even before they joined the USPS, which cost the USPS \$27 billion. It required the USPS to put up \$3 billion per year to pay off Treasury loans or to be put into an escrow fund. Finally, it required the USPS to report back on how the funding of CSRS Health care costs were doing.

Not well, according to what Congress would be hearing. Dan Blair (at the time head of OPM, but future Republican-appointed chairman of the Postal Regulatory Commission) testified to Congress that the USPS should continue to carry these burdens



Rodney Anderson

(obviously, in hopes that the USPS would collapse). At the same time the right-wing Heritage Foundation said that any relief to postal financing "would primarily serve to subsidize mass mailers, while making it more difficult to bring federal spending under control."

All of this was primarily right-wing privatization BS, but at that time they controlled the Congress and the Presidency. However, after the GOP Rascals were pitched out in the November 2006 mid-terms, the Republicans hastily crafted the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006, and rammed it through the Lame-Duck Congress that December. Here is where the Pre-fund Crisis came from.

Are you still with me, or have I lost you? Watch for PART 2 in the next issue...



Branch 9's Annual Red and Gold Retiree Banquet

Sunday, May 3, 2015

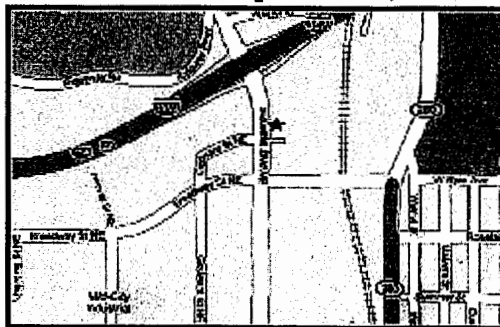
Minneapolis Ramada Plaza

1330 Industrial Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN



Mexico

- 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 - 1:30

Social Hour 12:30 - 1:30

Lunch 1:30 - 3:30

Retirees the \$12.00/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 30.

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

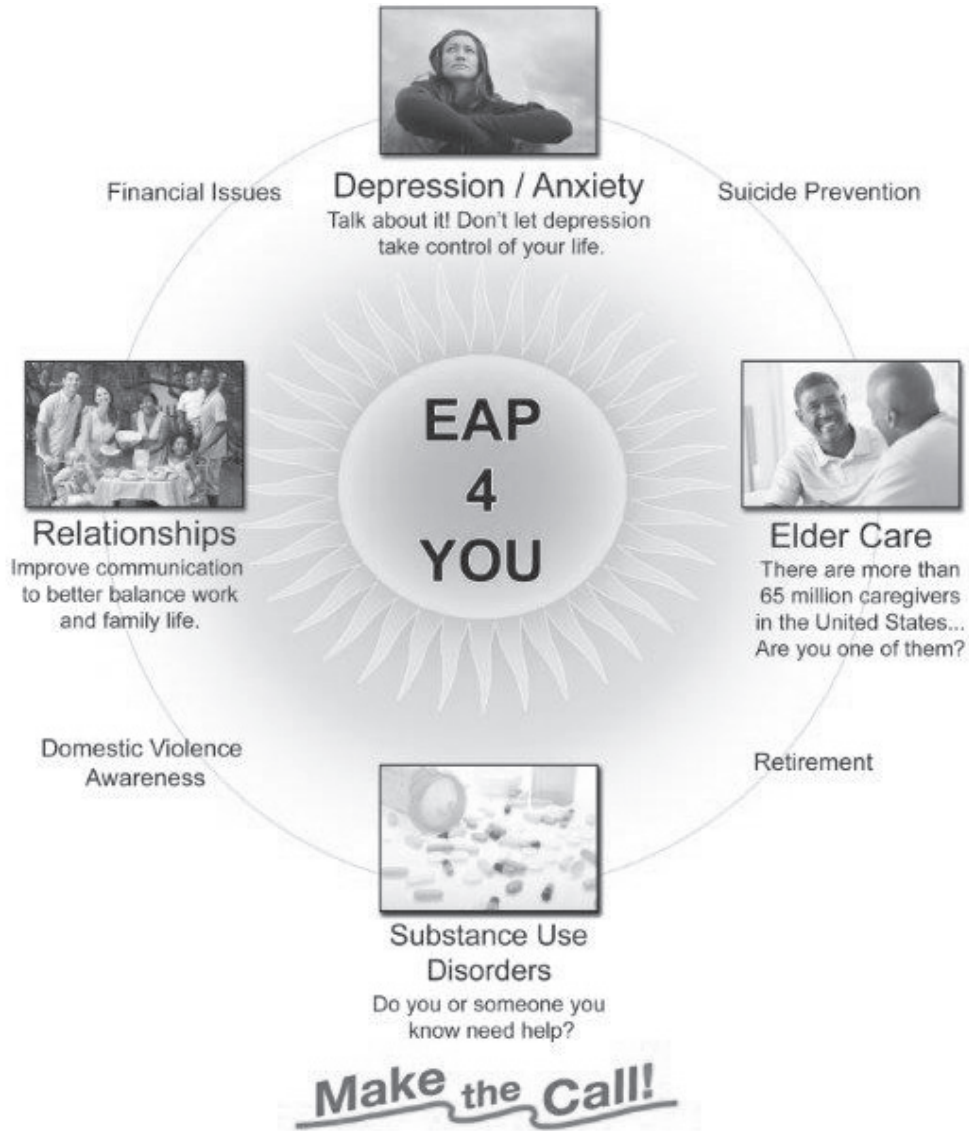
I would like a ride to the Banquet

Active

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

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

Amount Enclosed _____



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1-800-327-4968

(1-800-EAP-4-YOU) TTY: 1-877-492-7341

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

Ame's Uniforms are a UNION PREFERRED vendor

Pres. Report cont'd from page 3

J Keating (former National President of the NALC who was from Branch 9 and began his postal career on March 28, 1924) **Branch 9 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.**

The second event, was the end of the first nation-wide strike against the United States Government, the *"Postal Strike."*

Letter carriers were frustrated with the poor wages and the fact that their jobs and themselves were under-valued. The government did not understand how important letter carriers are and took the mailing and delivering of letters and packages for granted. But that all stopped on a cold day in March.

The strike began at 12:01AM on Wednesday, March 18, 1970 in New York City, following a vote from the previous evening. That vote started a fire that burned across the country.

By that Friday, the letter carriers of Branch 9 voted to go out on strike and by the following Tuesday, March 24 carriers voted to end the strike in Minneapolis.

Branch 9 President Vern Doll (1968 - 1972) stated *"We all voted to go out together, and we also voted to return together. Not a Wild-cat Strike, but a unified decision."*

These two events did more to shape our lives and jobs as letter carriers than anything else. The debt that we, the letter carriers of today, owe these courageous men and women is immeasurable. It is incumbent on all of us to pass the lessons of our history to those that follow.

To Our Future: On Thursday, March 26 we had a special meeting for our CCAs and newly con-

verted regulars. The Branch has these meetings three times a year, spring, summer and fall. The purpose of these meetings is to provide a place where our newer members can bring their questions and issues. It is important that we make sure that everyone knows and understands the rights that we have as letter carriers, whether it is as a career regular or a CCA. Our next CCA meeting is tentatively scheduled Thursday, July 23rd, the week after the Rap Session and the Fall Meeting will be after the State Convention.

The National Parties have agreed to extend the Memorandum of Understandings that deal with CCAs this includes the MOU that addresses converting CCAs to career and the filling of residual vacancies. This extension goes through the end of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) in May 2016. In addition, the National Parties have agreed that *"City carrier assistants converted to full-time career status during the term of this agreement will not serve a probationary period when hired for a career appointment provided the employee successfully served a cumulative 360 days as a city carrier assistant directly before conversion to full-time career status."* This memorandum was signed on April 1st.

It has often been said that CCAs are our future. We need to make sure that we are preparing them for the future as those who came before did for us.



Volunteerism: April is National Volunteer Month. Branch 9 members and their families have a long history of volunteering their time, talent and resources to the Branch (e.g. The Food Drive, MDA, and

political events) and also to their churches and communities.

The Greater Twin Cities United Way recently celebrated its 100th Anniversary at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Their plan is to celebrate their Centennial for the entire year. The cornerstone of this plan is to have 100,000 people volunteer to take action in 2015. This would be an increase of about 30,000 volunteers in the Twin Cities area. Instead of having a variety of new volunteer opportunities chosen by the Branch, I am asking each office to discuss and choose an opportunity for your station to give back to the community where you work. Once you have chosen your volunteer activity, give the Branch Office a call and let us know what you are doing and how we can help.

So what can you do? Recently, Doug Flateau, the Director of Working Partnerships (the community services arm of the Minneapolis RLF in partnership with the United Way) spoke at our GMM. He thanked us for all the work we do from the food drive to the community projects we do with the RLF. *"Letter Carriers are always there. Whenever I have asked for volunteers, you have answered the call."* Doug also provided a list of agencies with volunteer opportunities that are in the communities covered by Branch 9. If you would like more information or want some assistance with your volunteer activity, give us a call at the Branch Office.

It was good that we took the time to recognize our members. Our next recognition celebration will be on Sunday, May 3rd with the Red & Gold Retiree's Banquet. I hope to see you there.

	<p>The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters</p>	<p>St. Paul 935 N. Dale Street St. Paul, MN 55103 651- 224 - 7567</p>
<p>Minneapolis 2220 Lyndale Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55405 612-377-0011</p>		

**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 26, 2015**

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 26 or bring them to that night's meeting. All three forms should be submitted as there are three separate drawings for each scholarship.

Leonard A. Larson/ Barry J. Weiner
Adult Learners Scholarship

**Adult Learners,
 please submit your
 scholarship application
 to Branch 9 by
 May 26, 2015**

**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.

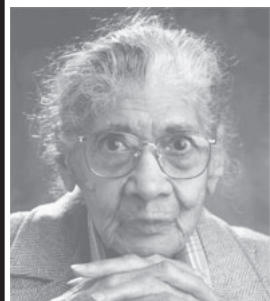
2. Whether active or retired.

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

**** 2015 Minnesota AFL-CIO Scholarship applications deadline April 30, 2015.
 Applications can be found in the March edition of the Branch Nine News.****



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 2015 - 2016 academic year now being accepted. <http://www.nelliestone.org>

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Minneapolis, MN 55418-3712

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PERMIT NO. 91964

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



Branch 9 Calendar

April 14

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

April 14

Steward Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lk Rd, Crystal

April 15 TAX DAY

April 18
Ron St. Clair MDA Bowl-a-thon
7 - 9:30PM
New Hope Bowl
7107 42nd Ave N, New Hope

April 22 EARTH DAY

April 27 - May 1

Region 7 Training
8:00AM
Radisson Hotel
2540 Cleveland Ave N, Roseville

April 28

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

April 28

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lk Rd, Crystal

May 1

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

May 3

Red and Gold Retiree Banquet
Noon to 3:30pm
Minneapolis Ramada Plaza
1330 Industrial Blvd, Minneapolis

May 9

