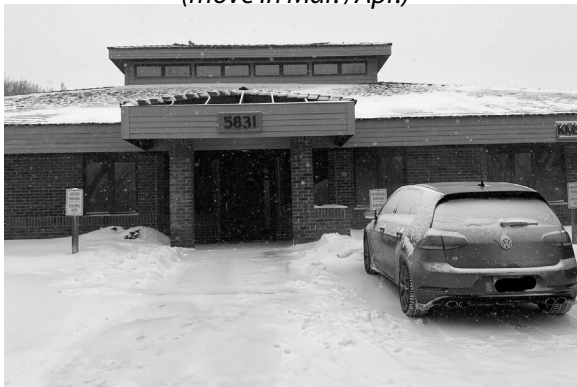


**VOLUME 74 No 1      Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC      January/February 2022**

**Branch 9's new home**  
 5831 Cedar Lake Road  
 Saint Louis Park MN 55416  
*(move in Mar./Apr.)*



The front of our new building



The back of our new building



Several offices and conference room



Upstairs office and storage space



The back entrance

**NOTICE TO ALL BRANCH 9 MEMBERS**

**Any proposed amendments to the  
 2021 Branch 9 By-Laws** must be  
 presented in writing to the  
 Recording Secretary no later than the  
 February 22, 2022 General Membership Mtg.

## RETIREMENTS



*Jim Trombley (Eastside) Last Punch with Steward Allyssa Schroeder, and their Safety Captain. Best Wishes!*



*Chris Childers (Loring) last punch with Steward Chris Walker and Retired Branch 9 President Mike Zagaros. Congrats!*



*Jeff Mansk and Tom Homstad from Thomas Burnett station Happy Retirement!*



*Greg Krohnfeldt (Osseo) last punch, with Steward Adam Minnick. Enjoy the retired life!*



*Randy Ferber last punch, with past Lowry Station Steward Joe Tiemann. Best Wishes!*

## NEW MEMBERS

Geoffrey Anda  
Steven Fowlkes  
Chelsea Hall  
Joshua Hansen  
Jasmine Hill  
Kyle Hodgen  
Sadad Hussein  
Heidi Ledman  
Gregory Meredith  
Evan Morgan  
Shelby Morgan  
Vincent Moua  
Maycy Yang  
Andrew Watroba

## In Memoriam

Delmont Stokke  
John R. Smith

## NALC Region 7 Training Seminar

The Region 7 office (612.378.3035) will be conducting its Annual Regional Training Seminar from March 28th — March 31st, 2020.

This year's training will be held in the Delta Hotels by Marriot. Located at 1330 Industrial Blvd. NE Minneapolis, Minnesota.

On Monday and Tuesday we will be offering concurrent Basic Steward Training, Intermediate Steward Training. Basic Steward Training provides an introductory view of the various responsibilities of the shop steward. Intermediate Steward Training focuses extensively on "Burden of Proof", case presentation and preparing Formal Step A and Step B grievance packages.

On Wednesday we will be offering four separate workshops in which each attendee will attend each class one time.

On Thursday we will conclude the training with a National Presentation.

*\*\*classes, dates and location/online are subject to change due to COVID restrictions.\*\**

Branch 9, NALC  
4001 Stinson Blvd. Suite 304  
Columbia Heights MN 55421  
Voice: (612) 781-9858  
Fax: (612) 781-9849  
Website: [branch9nalc.com](http://branch9nalc.com)

### Branch 9 Officers

#### President

Samantha Hartwig

#### Exec. Vice President

JoAnn Gilbaugh

#### Recording Secretary

Robb Petersburg

#### Treasurer

Barb Watczak

#### Financial Secretary

Stacey Ellingson

#### Editor

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[branch9news@branch9nalc.com](mailto:branch9news@branch9nalc.com)

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Christa Abraham  
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Joe Tiemann

#### Director of Retirees

Melia Derrick

#### NALC Health Benefits Rep.

Ken Jambois  
HBR: (763) 370-1392

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

This Holiday Season was the toughest I have seen in my 18 years in the Post Office with the understaffed offices and the continuation of COVID also wreaking havoc on stations everywhere. I want to express my thanks and gratitude for hard work, and long hours everyone has been working.

### CCAs

One major staffing issue is retaining CCAs. Last November the Branch held a CCA/ new career conversion meeting and answered several questions about CCA rights and other topics pertinent to CCAs. As a result of that meeting the Branch made a decision to hold a CCA meeting every quarter. The next Branch 9 CCA meeting is schedule for February 10th at 7:00PM by ZOOM. To register for the CCA ZOOM meeting please send an email to [angie@branch9nalc.com](mailto:angie@branch9nalc.com), include your name and station you work out of. The link will be emailed to everyone who registers the day before the meeting. This meeting will not have an agenda, it will be a chance for CCAs and junior regular carriers to ask their questions. We have begun discussions with the Acting Postmaster of Minneapolis, Ken Johnson, to improve the experience for new employees, which we are hopeful that there will be an increase in CCA retention.

### COVID

Every night District Manager Tony Williams sends out an informational email to Management and Union Leadership. In that email are the numbers for new COVID cases in the Minnesota-North Dakota District. The numbers of new COVID cases where USPS employees need to quarantine is twice as high now as compared to last December and January.

There are multiple stations every night listed that are represented by Branch 9. It is important that everyone wears a facemask when walking around the work room floor and/or when a six-foot distance between co-workers can't be maintained.

I have received many questions on if letter carriers will be required to get a COVID 19 vaccination. The answer to this question is no. On January 13th the United States Supreme Court blocked the OSHA vaccine/ weekly testing for employers of more than 100 employees. The Supreme Court did uphold a separate rule requiring healthcare workers at facilities that receive Medicaid and Medicare funds to get vaccinated.

### Politics

On Jan. 12, the Postal Service Board of Governors (BOG) unanimously selected Roman Martinez, a Republican, to serve as chairman and Anton Hajjar, a Democrat, as vice chairman. The BOG is comprised of nine Governors who are appointed by the President of the United States and then need to be confirmed by the United States Senate. The BOG appoints the Postmaster General. The Deputy Postmaster General is selected by the BOG and the Postmaster General. Of the nine Governors on the BOG, no more than five (5) can be from the same political party.

The job of the BOG is to oversee the operations of the USPS. They direct and control expenditures, conduct long-range planning, set policies on all postal matter.

In the last few years, especially in last year's election, we have seen the USPS become a political "hot button" with debates surrounding mail in voting and Postal Reform coming center stage.



**Samantha Hartwig**

This is where all of us getting involved in politics does matter. From the BOG who oversee postal operations to getting Postal Reform Passed in Congress. We need to contact our Congressional Representatives asking for their support with Postal Legislation. This is the first step help our employer, the USPS, remain operational and sustainable well into the future. The other, even easier way to help in the political arena is to give as little as \$5.00 to the Local or National Political Action Committee (PAC) funds. Donating money to our friends in Congress and locally is how we make more friends who will support us.

Branch 9 has a local PAC fund, PAL 9. There was a recent letter mailed to every Branch 9 member asking for donations to PAL 9. Any money donated to our local PAC helps us make friends here in Minnesota. There is the National PAC Fund, LCPF. If you prefer to donate to the National PAC we can assist you with setting up automatic deductions for as little as \$5.00 a pay period. Money donated to LCPF is managed at the National level.

NALC Dues money cannot be used to support any candidate's PAC Fund for running campaigns, and that is why we are asking for PAC Fund donations.

*Pres. Report cont'd on page 4*

Pres. Report cont'd from page 3

H.R 3076 (Postal Reform Act of 2021) has only 1 cosponsor from Minnesota and that is Angie Craig in the 2nd Congressional District. If you live in the 2nd District, please take time to thank Angie Craig for being a cosponsor. We have a lot of work ahead of us to get more cosponsors from Minnesota on this important legislation, and we need bipartisan support.

S. 1720 is the bill number on the Senate for the Postal Reform Act of 2021. Senator Tina Smith has already signed on to this legislation, please take the time to thank her. We need to reach out to Amy Klobuchar and ask for her support on S.1720.

Another easy way to help get in contact with your specific representatives is go to the website: [www.NALC.ORG](http://www.NALC.ORG). On the homepage there will be a page highlighting bills H.R. 3076 and S.1720, with a link. After you click on the link it will bring you to a "Take Action" section. Click the Take Action button. Follow the format to log in, and you will be brought to a page that lists your representatives, and when you scroll down the page you can read the form letter that will be sent to all of your listed representatives when you click on the go button. The USPS has always been subject to politics since its founding. As we move forward it remains important to get involved politics

that will have a lasting impact on the long term viability of the USPS. The degree of involvement is your choice, and we need all letter carriers doing something. If politics is of interest to you there are more opportunities available to increase political involvement, all you need to do is contact the Branch Office and ask how.

#### **Route Adjustments**

The Post Office is planning on route adjustments this year. What we don't know yet is if there will be a National Agreement on route adjustments. The Postmaster has agreed that whatever route adjustment process occurs there will be Co-Leader Process for Minneapolis. This is good news for carriers as we will have NALC Representatives involved from the first day of route inspections all the way through any adjustments. We are still discussing the particulars of how the Co-leader process will work out. As soon as an agreement has been reached on the Co-leader process, we will start training the Co-leaders. Any carriers interested in possibly being a Co-leader in this process need to contact me at the Branch Office.

#### **Safety**

With the insane hours many carriers have been working due to understaffed offices I want to reiterate the importance of keeping yourself safe. When Management gives an order to go

back out and deliver more mail you are expected to follow that order; unless it is a safety issue or illegal. At any time, if it becomes unsafe to deliver the mail don't do it, make sure to tell management what the safety issue is, bring the mail back, then complete the 1571 curtail mail slip. Some examples of potential safety issues: you have worked so many hours that you are exhausted, delivering in the dark and hear a dog bark but can't see the dog, slipping on the ice in the dark because you can't see it. Carriers have a drive to deliver all the mail but that drive should not take precedence over safety. There has never been a carrier disciplined for bringing mail back because there was an unsafe condition.

#### **New Building**

We are still on track for closing on our new building March 1st and moving the office to the new permanent location in April. I will be appointing a History Committee to work on gathering historical items for the new office, and anyone interested in possibly volunteering on this committee needs to contact the Branch Office. While we lost most of the historical items donated to the Branch because of the fire, we are looking forward to creating a new historical display for everyone to see.

In Solidarity,  
Samantha

*LCPF Disclaimer: By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 per calendar year. Any guideline amount is merely a suggestion, and an individual is free to contribute more or less than the guideline suggests and the Union will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount of their contribution or their decision not to contribute.*

## Exec. Vice President's Report

We all know there are plenty of problems in our workplace. The most urgent right now is Covid and short staffing. It has caused an unprecedented, unacceptable circumstance; exhaustion that repeats itself daily, not only in our craft, but for essential workers across our Nation. Not a day goes by that we don't receive phone calls at the Branch office from carriers who are so mentally and physically exhausted they can no longer function. Management recognizes that they are pushing us too far, putting carriers' safety at risk with the number of hours worked, but they continue to do so. They are in an unenviable position of deciding how to get the mail delivered to the American public under these conditions. As usual, carriers are taking the brunt of the punishment.

WebMD describes exhaustion as extreme tiredness. It is also known as fatigue. When we experience this day after day, it's a matter of our health and personal safety. Some symptoms/signs of exhaustion are:

- **Lack of physical or mental energy**
- **Inability to stay awake or alert**
- **Accidentally falling asleep, such as when driving or operating heavy machinery**
- **Inability to maintain or complete an activity**
- **Tiring easily**
- **Difficulty concentrating, memorizing, or maintaining emotional stability**

Carriers that call the Branch office want to know if they can go home when they hit 12 hours in a day, or 60 hours in a week. After all, those are the hour limits that our contract mandates. The answer is not what anyone wants to hear. Management has the right to manage, or, as in this case, mismanage, and force us to work past those hours. Do we agree with or condone those actions? No. But under the contract, we are to obey instruction, and if it is a violation,

grieve after the fact. While that is our recourse, everyone realizes this usually doesn't provide immediate relief of the situation. We often forget that as with any other business, we are employees who must follow their managers direction. Our advantage is that as union craft employees, we do have rights not provided to the average non-union worker. Our rights, when violated, are enforced through the grievance procedure.

Another question asked is ***"What if I refuse to go back out?"*** The answer, again, is we are to follow instruction, then grieve. But carriers also need to remember that there are two reasons we are allowed to not obey a direct order; if the instruction would cause us to break the law or if that instruction puts our safety (peril of life or limb) at risk. Make no mistake, extreme exhaustion is a safety issue. It is incumbent on carriers to communicate with their supervisor if they are unable to safely continue delivery. Much like our situation with delivery after dark, whether a carrier is too exhausted to safely work is dependent on their individual circumstances. In fact, the Delivery After Dark rules are easily converted to the topic of safety and exhaustion.

If you find yourself in a situation where complete exhaustion is putting you at peril, REMEMBER THAT YOU DO HAVE RIGHTS, and follow these instructions:

1. Inform your supervisor in the morning of your need of auxiliary assistance in order to complete your street duties. **THIS MEANS FILL OUT FORM 3996 - HELP SLIP.**
2. Notify your supervisor prior to heading out to the street that you may not be able to complete your duties due to your exhaustion.
3. When on the street if you realize that you definitely cannot safely complete your duties, call your supervisor, and make them aware of that reality. Stress your concern for your safety and again



**JoAnn Gilbaugh**

request auxiliary assistance.

4. Assuming no help arrives, attempt to continue, however,

5. **IF** while attempting delivery, you experience a safety hazard (i.e., stumbling, tripping, inability to stay awake or alert, etc.) call your supervisor. Explain your situation and notify them that you cannot safely continue delivery then return to your station.

6. COMPLETE FORM 1571 - Curtailment form for the undelivered mail.

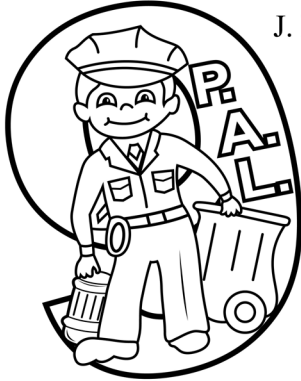
Be sure to hand the curtailment slip to the supervisor and ASK FOR A COPY. The copy is for your protection. You can also request a Form 1767 - Notice of Hazardous Working Condition. This will help you document the safety hazard(s) you encountered while attempting to deliver.

**It is important to note that these instructions are not intended to endorse or encourage the unnecessary curtailment of any mail. It is about your safety and the protection of the mail in our charge.**

There is not a single answer for every possible situation. It simply is the responsibility of each carrier to measure their safety and ensure that they are working safely. PERIOD.

It has been asserted by some that our current working conditions are the Union's fault, that we

*EVP Report cont'd on page 8*



J. Keating Local Branch 9, National Association of Letter Carriers

**P. A. L. 9 (Political Action League)**

Joel Carter  
President

James Fodstad  
Treasurer

Rodney Anderson  
Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

Bob Baird  
JoAnn Gilbaugh  
Ron Lawrence

Connie Beissel  
Samantha Hartwig  
Barry Weiner

Melia Derrick  
Lenny Larson

January 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

**Re: P.A.L. 9 ANNUAL LETTER**

We are writing you today to ask for a financial contribution to our Political Action Committee, PAL 9. As long as the Postal Service is governed by Congress, we, as letter carriers, must be active and engage in politics at the federal, state and local levels.

With eager anticipation, we are awaiting a decision on the Postal Reform Act of 2021. This Act would repeal the pre-funding mandate that has been in place since 2006, and remove a huge financial burden off of the USPS. The Service would then be able to move forward and confidently meet the challenges and ever-changing needs of postal delivery. Regardless of whether or not the Postal Reform Act passes, it will **not remove the need to educate and support our friends in Congress.**

The Postal Service needs to deliver an exceptional experience while continuing to give postal customers the products and services they deserve, but we need our friends in Washington to help ease the way. Your donation and participation (voting and/or contacting your Congressional Representatives) will help us achieve our goals to improve working conditions and secure future retirement benefits.

We appreciate your past and (hopefully) future contribution to PAL 9, and we hope you and your family have a happy and healthy New Year!

Joel Carter  
President, PAL 9

James Fodstad  
Treasurer, PAL 9

Rodney Anderson  
Secretary, PAL 9

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street and Apartment Number)

**Address 2:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State and Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 (Annual Dues)

\_\_\_\_\_ Very Concerned Membership (\$50.00 or More)

\_\_\_\_\_ Active Carrier (Station \_\_\_\_\_)

**Clip & Mail To:**

James F. Fodstad  
7032 Jersey Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55428

\_\_\_\_\_ Retired Carrier

## Why contribute to P.A.L. 9

While giving a PAL 9 report at a recent GMM, it occurred to me as I stood before the members in attendance that an increasing number were not around when this political action committee was originally started in Branch 9. Hopefully a little history and better understanding will loosen up letter carrier wallets.

The earliest Branch records show that efforts by our leadership at that time were engaged with forming PAL 9 in 1975. In early 1976, President Bob Tripanier in correspondence with National Ex. V.P. J. Joseph Vacca, sent his ideas about a local pac that would work in conjunction with NALC headquarters.

As it turned out, our Branch started PAL 9 on our own. Since that time we have gone through many changes in how we operate. At first, due to Hatch Act provisions, only retired members could make up the PAL board and its' officers. Revisions to the Act in 1993 now made it possible for active carriers to take an active role.

At this time we also became much more active in the state AFL/ CIO and the central labor union. Because of these affiliations, it was important to become involved with state and local politics as well as federal elections. This involvement helped to give the rise of support for our causes from local unions and politicians. Evidence of this support has been repeated many times over. All of our rallies and campaigns to protect our jobs were attended and supported by these locals and the politicians we support.

Some may wonder why we have a political action committee while our National operates one of its' own. There have been times that our national leadership has asked this same question. There are several reasons. Because our pac funds are local we are able to contribute to local and state candidates as well as federal. Although our national office encourages us to attend political fundraisers, our requests for funding were often turned down. Oftentimes these events are planned on very short notice making it very difficult to obtain funding to go because of time constraints within our national.

Local control of funding to at least attend a political event gives us much greater ability to meet our candidates and explain our position on matters of legislation affecting letter carriers. We believe that face to face meetings with candidates and politicians to be much more effective than just a late donation through the mail.

Additionally, we have used PAL 9 funds to help other Branches within the state to attend political events and candidate fundraisers. Our feeling is that we need to elect as many labor friendly candidates from Minnesota as possible.

After participating and overseeing PAL 9 for over thirty years one thing still bothers me. Retirees always contribute in greater numbers than active carriers. Active letter carriers stand to lose an entire career. Most of the misery you suffer at the hands of management can be directly attributed to Congressional actions.

Recent hires pay more into retirement and have to work more years to be eligible. The prefunding requirement for future retiree health benefits has pinched postal finances to the point that active carriers get pinched in the ass to make up for the shortfall.

The only resolution to these problems is legislative action. I sit at the monthly union meetings and listen to all the problems the members want the officers and stewards to resolve. How about doing something only you can do for yourself?

**DONATE TO P.A.L.9!**

Lenny Larson  
Former P.A.L. 9 President & Branch 9 President Emeritus  
*(reprinted from a previous issue)*

*EVP Report cont'd on page 5*

have the ability to immediately "fix" the situation but are doing nothing to enforce the contract or provide relief for our members. This opinion and belief is 100% untrue. There is no immediate fix, but action has and is being taken. Carriers are receiving monetary remedies for improper force situations. We are actively grieving for higher monetary and additional enhanced remedies. We are debating staffing issues at weekly labor/management meetings. We provide daily reports to the NALC national level. This issue is not limited to our specific area, it is nationwide, and is being addressed at every level of the NALC.

People can only be stressed and physically pushed so far before they break. Our current working conditions are interfering with our ability to sustain our livelihood and negatively affects our homelife and families. It just isn't right or fair.

Carriers have the admirable mindset that service to our customers comes above all else. We don't want to let them down or cause our fellow workers to have to work harder and longer by not being there. However, we help no one if our exhaustion causes a fatal accident or lands someone in the hospital. Tired is one thing, but exhaustion to the extent of the inability to function is altogether another.

The bottom line, as always, is that we are responsible for our own safety. As union brothers and sisters, we look after our own. Through these tough times, together we can safely prevail. If someone is obviously unable to safely function, speak with them, your steward, or even your supervisor. Call us at the Branch office. We want everyone to come home safe at the end of the day.

In Solidarity,  
Jo

**White House partners with USPS to deliver at-home Covid tests**

In early January, the Biden Administration announced that it would partner with the Postal Service to mail free, at-home rapid Covid-19 tests to Americans in an effort to make testing accessible to families amid a shortage of testing options in communities nationwide.

On Jan. 15, the administration said that four days later it would launch covidtests.gov, where each household can request up to four free tests, which would be expected to ship within 12 days. The tests will be sent through First Class Package Service, and the administration plans to prioritize distribution to communities that have limited access to testing and that also are high-risk.

Five hundred million tests will be made available on Jan. 19, and the White House plans to procure an additional 500 million at-home tests, bringing the total number of free tests being made available to one billion. The White House also plans to launch a call-in line for households to request these tests. This number has not yet been made public.

"The ongoing pandemic has proven beyond a shadow of doubt the critical importance of the services we provide six and seven days a week to keep people connected and essentials moving," NALC President Fredric Rolando said. "This partnership is the perfect example in action. Letter carriers are proud to be the face of this important initiative as we continue serving all communities equitably."



Lowry retiree gathering clockwise starting on Lower left: Dave LaLonde (active carrier), Chuck McDonough (retired carrier) Dave Batchler and Gordy Davis (retired clerks), Jerry Poole, Joe Tanner and Randy Ferber (retired carriers).

**BRANCH PUBLICATION AWARDS 2020 ANNOUNCED**

**BEST NEWS OR FEATURE STORY THIRD-PLACE AWARD** for Best News or Feature Story to Branch Nine News, Minneapolis, MN  
Branch 9: "That's Your Money" by JoAnn Gilbaugh

Some more photos of our new building @5831



Angie's new desk



Full Kitchen



## Director of Retirees Report

A big thank you to all the members who voted in our recent election. Also, thank you to all the people who added their name to the ballot; that involvement is important. Win or lose, stay active in the Branch. If we are to grow this union, we need the energy of the younger members to identify the new challenges of the USPS. How can we retain CCAs? How can we support carriers at work and that all important balance of home life? What needs to change? Who are we looking to for these answers? Members. All of you.

Each year ends with an Open Season when we perhaps adjust our health care and insurance positions. But did you consider your TSP account? As a retiree, you have options on using these monies which can be adjusted any time of the year. Retirees can begin regular (monthly, quarterly or annually) installment payments. These payments can be raised or lowered depending on your needs. Monies can be left in the account with no withdrawals and it will continue to grow. Sorry, but you can't contribute any longer. However, retirees must start withdrawing TSP money by April 1 of the year following the year you turn 70 and a half. The TSP website

offers calculators to determine how long your account might last at different levels of withdrawals. Try it; it's fun. The site also provides links to tax information on the implications of your choices. As with all money transactions, contact your tax person.

Hopefully everyone has received notice of their COLA adjustments. CSRS retirees will receive a 5.9% increase while FERS will get a 4.9% COLA in January. What?? Why should FERS COLAs be less? Thank Congress. Congress decided the benefit of the TSP investments, including a matching amount provided by the federal government for an employee who invests in the TSP and the additional income provided during retirement by the Social Security system justified a lower COLA than the one provided for CSRS employees. FERS COLAs began in 1988; over time retirees under this system have lost out on many increases (22 out of 34 years). Sound fair?

Right now, H.R. 304 can change this by eliminating the reduction of COLAs. It has 27 cosponsors (3 Republicans). None of whom are from Minnesota. And no vote. Introduced in January of last year,



**Melia Derrick**

it has gained no momentum. Sound familiar? Congress can give and take away. Support Congress people who support you and your retirement benefits.

How can you support your Congress person? PAL 9 could be a good place to start. This fund is from Branch 9 members whose money goes to legislators who are friends of the Postal Service. You should have received a letter asking you to join. We need friends in Congress. There is much work to be done.

Stay tuned in  
Melia Derrick



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 NALC  
City Carrier Assistant and  
New Career Employees Quarterly Meeting**

This meeting provides City Carrier Assistants (CCAs) and new career employees a great opportunity to learn more about your rights at work and your future with the Postal Service.

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2022  
7:00PM**

**VIA ZOOM - ONLY**

**To receive the e-vite you MUST register your e-mail address (please include your name, station and e-mail address) to [angie@branch9nalc.com](mailto:angie@branch9nalc.com).**

CCA's will decide what topics will be addressed through a "Question and Answer" format. This meeting will be led by President Samantha Hartwig, Executive VP JoAnn Gilbaugh and members of the E-Board will also be in attendance.

*We hope you join us for this informative ZOOM meeting!*

### ANNUAL BRANCH 9 NALC

# Ice Fishing Outing on Lake Mille Lacs Twin Pines Resort & Motel-Restaurant

Located just two hours north of the Twin Cities on U.S. Highway 169 (mile marker 232).

For more information contact Branch Office at (612) 781-9858



**Noon Sunday to Noon Monday  
February 20 & 21  
\$50/Adult  
\$45/Children under 14**



**This is a Branch 9 sponsored event for our members.**

**The limit for adult non-member guests per member is 2.**

**\*The Branch will be hosting a chicken and rib buffet dinner  
at the Twin Pines Resort on  
Sunday, January 14th from 3:00 - 8:00PM.**

**This dinner is included in the price of the ice house.\***

Several Types of Houses Available:

- \*4 Hole Ice House (sleeps 2 - 3)
- \*8 - 12 Hole Ice House (sleeps 5 - 6)
- \*10 - 14 Hole Ice House (sleeps 10)
- \*6 - 10 Hole Ice House (sleeps 4 - 6)
- \*10 - 12 Hole Ice House (sleeps 8)
- \*11 Hole Ice House (sleeps 10)
- \*14 Hole Ice House (sleeps 14)

Each house includes:

Propane heat, lights, table/chairs, covered pad for bunks, carpeted floors.  
Cook stoves are available in the larger houses.  
Check in time is 12:00PM (Noon)

### Branch 9 Ice Fishing

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Station: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Ice House: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Guests: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Guests & Station: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Non-Member Guests (include age of children): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Deadline is  
Wednesday, February 16

Checks payable to: Branch 9 Ice Fishing  
4001 Stinson Blvd. Suite 304  
Columbia Heights MN 55421

Branch Nine News  
4001 Stinson Blvd. Suite 304  
Columbia Heights MN 55421

Change Service Requested

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**Stay informed by:**

- \*Join Veterans Group <https://www.nalc.org/member-benefits/join-the-nalc-veterans-group>
- \* Branch9nalc.com (website)
- \* "like" our Branch 9 Facebook Page

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](http://nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity)

## Branch 9 Calendar

### January 11

Steward Meeting  
7:00 PM

\*ZOOM Online Only\*

### January 17

Holiday  
Martin Luther King Day

### January 25

General Membership Meeting  
7:00PM

\*ZOOM Online Only\*

### February 8

Steward Meeting  
7:00 PM

\*ZOOM Online Only\*

### February 10

CCA/New Carrer Carrier Mtg  
7:00 PM

\*ZOOM Online Only\*

### February 20-21

Br. 9 Ice Fishing Outing  
Twin Pines Resort  
noon to noon

### February 21

Holiday  
Presidents' Day

### February 25

General Membership Meeting  
7:00PM

\*ZOOM Online Only\*

**Most BRANCH 9 Meetings and events have been modified**, please continue to check the website and Facebook page for the latest information on Branch 9 meetings and events.

### 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

### Fridley Retiree Lunch

2nd Tuesday of the Month  
11:30 AM

Route 47 Pub and Grub  
7820 University Ave