



On March 13, the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) (H.R. 7629) was introduced in the House by Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH). The bill was announced at a press event outside the Capitol in Washington, DC, where President Brian L. Renfro, Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, Rep. Greg Landsman, Leader Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY), Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD), and Rep. Donald Norcross (D-NJ) spoke in support of the legislation.

This bipartisan legislation would provide \$7 billion in funding for the Postal Service to secure its infrastructure, including the installation of high-security collection boxes and the replacement of items carried by letter carriers with more secure electronic versions. The funding would be appropriated over five years, \$1.4 billion annually in fiscal years 2025-2029. When key infrastructure is devalued and more secure, letter carriers will be safer on their routes.

Additionally, the legislation would increase prosecution rates for these crimes by requiring the Attorney General to appoint an assistant U.S. attorney in each judicial district to prioritize any case involving an assault or crime against a letter carrier. Their principal responsibility in the district would be to coordinate and supervise the investigation and prosecution of these crimes.

The bill would also strengthen sentencing guidelines for these crimes, ensuring that they are

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!

**PROTECT
OUR LETTER
CARRIERS ACT**

TELL YOUR CONGRESSPERSON TO SUPPORT H.R. 7629

treated in the same manner as assaults on federal law enforcement officers.

“The rise in robberies and violent assaults being committed against letter carriers in recent years is deeply concerning and Congress must act to ensure their safety,” Rep. Fitzpatrick said. “I am proud to be leading this bipartisan effort, which provides necessary resources to protect our dedicated letter carriers while making sure we are punishing criminals to the fullest extent of the law. The men and women of the postal service are often the backbone of a community, and they work

hard around the clock, rain or shine, to deliver essential goods, and I will always have their back.”

“Our letter carriers are such a big part of our lives, and we have to keep them safe. This bipartisan effort will do just that,” Rep. Landsman said

“I urge the House to pass this bill that would protect the nation’s letter carriers who dutifully deliver medications, checks, ballots, packages, and other essential mail that all Americans depend on,” President Renfro said.

RETIREMENTS



Pam Cavanaugh (Richfield)
Last Punch with
Steward Joe Rian
Congratulations!



Patricia Jensen (Blaine)
Last Punch with
EVP Joe Tiemann
Happy Retirement!

Winners of the March 20 Mpls. vs
St Paul Cribbage Tournament:



(Left to right)
Jerry Swanson, Branch 28
2nd place
Steve Sommers, Branch 28
1st place
Len Ambrose, Branch 9
3rd place

NEW MEMBERS

Addish Abdulhakim
Chace Beell
Myles Bennett
David Bergstrom
Nicholas Burrows
Arthur Campbell
Wendy Crofton
Carter Dowdell
Alima Farma-Davis
Samaje Finch-Garrett
Orlando Flynn
Anthony Higgins
Cam Hollyfield
GouKama Johnson
Kalianne Johnson
Michael Johnson
Devin Jones Alelia
Kinch Makala Moore
Theodore Moore
Egal Muhamed
Muhammed Muhammed
Charles Mweresa
Brad Niedfeldt
Edgar Niola
Ryan Norrbohm
Beatrice Porter
Adam Reed
Manuel Saavedra Ramos
Anthony Scarcella
Tony Sherley
Alan Wheeler
Jonathan Witthuhn

IN MEMORIAM

Joe Trost
Duane Nienaber

**Branch 9 members
will be voting on the
By-Law proposals
at the
April 23, 2024 GMM**

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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

In March, Joe and I attended the Committee of Presidents (COP) in Jacksonville, Florida. Our National President Brian Renfroe was in attendance. The meeting started off with Presidents, including me, expressing that there is a huge problem right now with non-compliance. Management at all levels from station to Labor are settling grievances but are not paying them. President Renfroe advised that the OIG is currently investigating on the back pay process. He advised those of us in attendance to contact the National Business Agents (NBA) office for assistance with EP and non-compliance issues.

The backlog at Step B of the grievance process was discussed. Currently, there are over 13,000 grievances at Step B. This volume of grievances at Step B proves that management at the Informal and Formal A level of the grievance procedure are not bargaining in good faith by impassing grievances that in the past were settled. President Renfroe advised that there is a joint investigation of the Step B process underway, and they hope to find resolutions soon that will alleviate the backlog.

The Heat Illness Prevention Program (HIPP) was discussed as well. We have a national level grievance on this issue. The Union argues that Article 19 of the National Agreement covers the HIPP. The Postal Service argues that Article 19 does not cover the HIPP. If National takes this case to arbitration and loses, we lose our seat at the table for any input going forward with safety programs. Also, a loss would open the door for management to argue other issues that they feel are not covered by Article 19. President Renfroe advised that our best course of

action is to work with management to ensure future compliance to the HIPP. He says that management at the highest level is responsive to working in collaboration with the Union on this effort.

President Renfroe spoke on the status of the National Agreement. In response to the question what is taking so long to reach an agreement? He said we could have an agreement now, but we are holding out because we want the best possible outcome because our members deserve it. The Union and management continue to talk daily on the contract to try to reach a tentative agreement and at the same time are preparing for binding arbitration. President Renfroe expressed that we have a great case for several reasons. With the passage Postal Reform, the Postal Services' long term financial outlook looks good. The Postal Service claimed a 6-billion-dollar loss last year but much of that was associated with costs with new S&DC's and replacement of the aging delivery vehicles. Here are some of the things that the Union is looking for in the contract:

- To eliminate the non-career workforce.
- General wage increases that are not prorated.
- The continuation of COLA's
- Single pay table with significantly higher starting pay, mid, and top pay with a shorter amount of time to reach top scale.
- Changes to the ODL that allow more flexibility.
- Large increase in the uniform allotment.

I appreciate the work that



Scott Bultena

President Renfroe and members of the Executive Council are doing to ensure we come out of this with a solid contract that awards letter carriers for their hard work and dedication. Please be positive while we wait for a new contract. I see a lot of negative feedback from people on social media platforms and unfortunately some members of Branch 9. Please know that our **elected officials** at the National level are doing everything in their power to represent us all.

On March 13th, the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) (H.R. 7629) was introduced in the House by Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH).

This bipartisan legislation would provide \$7 billion in funding for the Postal Service to secure its infrastructure, including the installation of high-security collection boxes and the replacement of items carried by letter carriers with more secure electronic versions. The funding would be appropriated over five years, \$1.4 billion annually in fiscal years 2025-2029. When key infrastructure is devalued and more secure, letter carriers will be safer on their routes.

Additionally, the legislation would increase prosecution rates

(Continued on page 19)

Adult Learners Scholarship

Leonard A. Larson/ Barry J. Weiner

**Adult Learners,
please submit your scholarship
application to Branch 9 by
May 28, 2024 or bring to that
night's GMM**

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

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

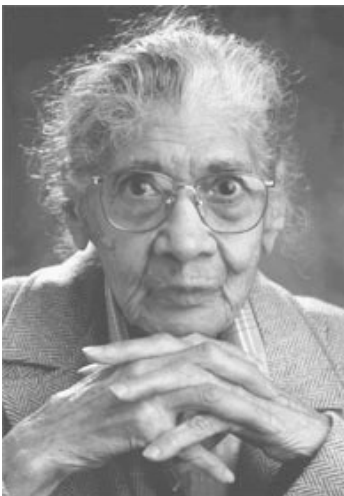
Active or Retired _____

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 28, 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 2024 - 2025 academic year now being accepted.

<http://www.nelliestone.org>

Exec. Vice President's Report

Breaking news!!! We have a new Officer in Charge (acting Postmaster) in Minneapolis, Chad Way. There have been so many Angela Bye-alations (violations) going on already in 2024, hopefully this new Postmaster can help cut down on them going forward. At the beginning of April, we are just short of 600 grievances already this year. Our stewards have been doing a fantastic job getting these filed and sent up.

Legislative update.

Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) (H.R. 7629)

Hopefully, you have heard some talk about the POLCA. This is the latest bill introduced to help keep us safe as letter carriers. As we are all aware of postal carriers being targeted and robbed over the last few years, this bill would make the keys that criminals want to get their hands on, worthless to them. Therefore, deterring future attacks on letter carriers. This bill was introduced to the House of Representatives on March 13, 2024. This bi-partisan bill would provide seven billion dollars in funding to update our collection boxes and make them high-security collection boxes and updating our arrow keys with electronic versions. If passed this funding would spread out from 2025 to 2029, 1.4 billion annually each fiscal year. This bill would also increase the sentencing guidelines for crimes against carriers, bringing them up to the same level if an assault happened to a federal law enforcement officer. I know that most people do not like thinking about politics, but, if passed, this bill is a huge step to help keep letter

carriers safe.

You can help get this bill passed. Visit www.NALC.org, look in the news and updates section and find the protect our letter carriers act. There is a link to ask your member of congress to co-sponsor the bill. It is extremely easy and took me about a minute to fill out. You can do one every day if you choose to do so. There is a list of other bills in the same area of the website as well if you are interested in learning more.

MDA Bowl-A-Thon

The Bowl-A-Thon is back, and this year is on April 27th. There is a flyer in this Branch 9 issue with all the details. The Bowl-A-Thon itself is a great time. Whenever letter carriers from our union get together to support a great cause, it is always a win-win. The cause of course is our national charity Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). The money raised will go to help kids attend Camp Courage. We talk a lot about the MDA as our national charity for the union, but we never really go into detail about what this camp means and how much we impact this group of kids.

Camp Courage specializes in offering education, recreation, and support services for kids living with muscular dystrophy. For many of the kids, it allows them to take part in activities that they may not be able to do in their daily lives. Some of the activities that the camp offers are a ropes course, hiking, rock climbing, farming, music and dancing, jewelry and designing, horseback riding, basketball, swimming, canoeing, fishing, and kayaking. Bottom line, it allows these kids to just be kids and have a great time. Kids living with muscular dystrophy



Joseph Tiemann

deal with so many hurdles in their daily lives and this camp is set up for kids to make a lot of great memories.

I have had the pleasure of visiting Camp Courage on a few occasions, and it is an amazing experience. Seeing these kids excited to get out in nature and be able to get around easily and enjoy doing activities around the camp is something I will never forget.

As one of our biggest local fundraisers for the MDA and Camp Courage, the Bowl-A-Thon is a fun event with lots of ways to contribute. Sponsoring a lane with a team of bowlers being the biggest, or if you do not bowl, just attending the event as a non-bowler and contributing to the silent auction is a great way to help. We ask that all the stations put together a creative basket for the event valued at around \$50 to \$100 for the silent auction. Nick Tiemann is our MDA coordinator and would be happy to coordinate the baskets and answer any questions. Let's make this event a great success and help as many kids as we can. I hope to see you all there.

In solidarity,
Joseph Tiemann



Hello brothers and sisters of Branch 9. Thank you for the opportunity to introduce myself to you. My name is Nicole Goodin and I stepped into the role of union steward at the Champlin office in 2021. Most recently I was asked to join the Executive Board as a trustee. I am truly honored to be asked.

I began working at the post office at the tender age of 18 as an RCA, following in my mother's footsteps. She said, "It will be a great college job! You only work on Saturdays!" It served me well enough, except I got married and became a mother that year as well. My city carrier career started as a casual in Watertown, NY. I was also a TE for 18 months during the implementation of DPS, finally becoming career in 1994. I transferred back home to Minnesota in 1996 when my husband's five year Army tour came to an end. The post office provided me with the income I needed to provide for my family and put my husband through college.

I spent a number of years as a trainer in the Champlin office and I have also been safety captain. This year I'll be adding food drive coordinator to that list. During the time Pam Donato was Branch president, she asked if being a steward was something that I might be interested in. At that time, raising children was a high priority and I didn't feel that I could make time worthy of the position.

Fast forward to 2021...I paid my union dues, contributed to LCPF, but wasn't active in the union. When our previous steward Anna Dey stepped down I was nominated by the station along with my alternate Lisa Hammerstad.

I am truly grateful for those that have served before me and contributed their time and efforts. As I said at the start...it's never too late to learn, serve, and lead.

In solidarity,
Nicole Goodin

Hi everyone, spring is finally upon us. Let's talk food drive our Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is approaching very fast. Last year was our first year back and everything went well. This year I hope to increase the number of foods we donate to each food shelf. Food insecurity is a huge problem in this country. The food we gather comes at a significant time where kids that will be out of school over the summer and can utilize our efforts to reduce the strain on the household in the communities. This year we have a few changes such fewer cards and rural registration. This year the rural side has a separate registration. This year the rural must have a food drive coordinator to represent them and a count of residential deliveries. The reducing of cards means that the cards are only to be delivered to residential areas with the exceptions of apartments buildings and businesses. Now this is not a loss for us. Instead of putting the cards in the buildings we can be creative by hanging a poster in each apartment building and businesses. We have less cards this year because in past years we have recycled so many cards that an adjustment was necessary. Some offices still have food drive cards from last year. We will have yard signs to display the food drive as well. The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is one of largest fundraiser it is a one day event that help support our local food shelves and the communities we service. This food comes at a time where inflation is extremely



LETTER CARRIERS' DONOR DRIVE

National Partners



Please donate what you can to a food bank in your community.

1. Go to nalc.org/food
2. Select your state
3. Choose a food bank in your area
4. Make a contribution

It's that easy. All collections stay in the local community.

#NALC #stampouthunger #donordrive #lettercarriers #heroesdelivering

-Latasha McCaleb
Food Drive Coordinator

Director of Retirees Report

Retiring?

There have been many articles written to explain what to do to get ready for retirement and how long before the actual day you should have these certain things done. This article is to inform the "Retirees" what they have to do the days after the "last punch" day.

Article II, Section 1 of the Branch Nine By-laws states, "It is necessary to have filled out an 1187 to join the Union when you are an active carrier. But when you retire a form 1189 (Dues Check Off Provision) must be signed by all retiring members within Branch Nine who wish to retain their membership in said organization and health benefits program." So, every Carrier who signed an 1187 to join the Union is a member, but when they retire to continue to be members you have to resign with an 1189 form to continue your retiree membership. In the days after your "last punch", ah great words right, you will receive from the National Headquarters Office of the Financial Secretary of the NALC a letter and within it will be a form 1189 to fill out and

return. In addition, you will also receive from the Director of Retirees of Branch Nine a similar letter also with the same 1189 form included. This form must be signed and returned to continue to retain your NALC membership.

It is very important for new retirees to get this form 1189 filled out and returned to the NALC whether the National Office, which would be the best, or to the Branch Nine office immediately after receiving them. If after a time period the forms are not received you will be dropped from the Membership Roster and will no longer have membership in the NALC. If you lose you membership you will also lose your health benefits if you're in the NALC Health Plan. Once your Union Membership and Federal Health Benefits are gone you **cannot** get them back. I have heard some people say "well I'm not in the NALC Health plan so it is not a problem for me. That may be the case at the time when you retire but what if the NALC Health plan is the best plan available in the future with the



Darrell Maus

best coverage and affordable premiums, you would not be eligible for the plan then without a membership. You only have short window of opportunity after retirement to join, so don't take that chance on missing it. The dues are a mere \$5.71 per month and can be an allotment taken from your annuity. We have honored our "strikers" before at events and they walked the line and gave us all the benefits we have today. They knew there was strength in numbers and that is why we need that to continue with our retirees continuing to be our brothers and sisters with their memberships. If you have any questions or issues with the forms contact Angie at 612-781-9858 at the Branch office.

Darrell



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

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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

Letter Carrier Politics

I am happy to share with all of you the latest on politics in our community. First off I'd like to share my experience at the Humphrey/ Mondale dinner on March 15th. Pal 9 bought a table and a handful of branch 9 members were able to go. It was encouraging to hear the enormous amount of support labor has from Representative Craig and both Senators Klobuchar and Smith. It is clear that this is a big election for workers rights. The keynote speaker was Senator Warnock from the state of Georgia. I happened to be in the right place at the right time and I actually got to meet the Senator. Reading articles coming out of his district I can say he is a big advocate for labor unions. It was interesting to hear him speak and tie in his previous work before being a Senator. He is the head pastor at Atlanta's Ebenezer Baptist Church since 2005. The incredible Representative John Lewis from Georgia was a member of that church. Senator Warnock actually oversaw Representative Lewis funeral in July of 2020. As I am getting more involved in this position as LCPF coordinator I am learning quickly that we have incredible support for the post office and our union around the country and here in our state. It is an important election year for the labor movement and us as postal workers. Senator Klobuchar is up for reelection and Representative Craig and Omar are as well. I was able to interview Representative Omar on the topic of Postal Service and our union. Here is what she had to say:

What does the USPS mean for rural and metro Minnesotans?

The U.S. Postal Service is a lifeline for millions of people, regardless of where they live. Seniors count on it to get their Social Security checks, their medications, and their bills. Families rely on it for their online purchases, their holiday cards, and their magazine subscriptions. Small business rely on it for nearly all aspects of their operations.

Over half a million people are career employees of USPS - for many USPS workers, it is a ticket to the middle class. The pension they earn provides security for them in their old age. My dad was a longtime employee of the Post Office, and I also worked there as a young adult. I know the stability that USPS provided for my family.

There is hardly a corner of this country that isn't deeply interconnected with the USPS, either as employees or customers or both. To me, USPS represents some of the best of the American tradition.

How important is it that the service remains a reliable source of delivery?

Under DeJoy's leadership, USPS is facing a crisis of faith from its customers, workers, lawmakers, and everyone in between. As faith in government broadly is flagging, USPS used to be one of the institutions that received broad support from everyone in the U.S. I believe the USPS has an important role to play as the government agency that has the most contact with the public - basically everyone in the U.S. is interacting with the USPS in some way on an almost daily basis. USPS has a responsibility to show that government can be a force for good - and Congress has a responsibility to support USPS in that effort and not hinder it. One of the ways Congress must do that is by providing better support for the workers who make up USPS.

Would you support privatization of the postal service?

I would absolutely not support the privatization of the US Postal Service. USPS provides an invaluable service that nearly every American relies on. There is no question that the privatization of the USPS would lead to worse service for customers, worse labor protections for workers, and big profits for whoever owns it. I was cosponsor of H.Res.47 in 2021, which expressed the House's belief that the USPS should not be

privatized.

I've also sponsored other bills that would protect USPS workers, stabilize USPS operations, and allow USPS to expand the services they offer to their customers:

H.R. 1624 - Postal Employees Appeal Rights Amendments Act
 H.R. 1623 - Postal Supervisors and Managers Fairness Act
 H.R. 695 - USPS Fairness Act
 H.R. 564 - Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act
 H.R. 308 - Secure and Fair Elections for Workers Act
 H.R. 8721 - Public Banking Act
 H.R. 8015 - Delivering for America Act
 H.R. 6425 - Protect Our Post Offices Act
 H.R. 2517 - United States Postal Service Shipping Equity Act

I'd like to thank Representative Omar for taking the time to share her thoughts and her actions protecting the service and us as workers.

I'll finish with region seven training. Renfro says we as a whole union are 12% politically organized. I can only imagine how powerful we could be if we got to 20% politically organized. But before we look at the big picture we have to look at our own branch. We as a branch are only 8.2% contributors to LCPF. We have to do better so our mission can continue in the U.S capital. We have important bills currently waiting to be voted on in the U.S house. H.R 7629 is the "protect our letter carrier act" and H.R 5995 is the "federal retirement fairness act". Both of these bills take a lot of money to get passed. There is word that there might be a QR code available in the coming months. That will make signing up even easier. Remember you can sign up for as little as a dollar a paycheck! www.nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity/body/letter-carrier-political-fund-postalease-online.pdf

Andrew Hagan
 Letter Carrier Political Fund Cord.

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

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____
 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 _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____
 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 _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____
 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 28, 2024**

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 28. All three forms should be submitted as there are three separate drawings for each scholarship. Please enter the three scholarship drawings only once.

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

Saturday, April 27, 2024

LOCATION

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

TIME

5:30 – 8:30PM

-
- ◆ 30 lanes of bowling
 - ◆ Teams consist of 4 – 5 bowlers
 - ◆ FAX 612.781.9849 **OR** e-mail angie@branch9nalc.com your stations team registration (including each player's name)
 - ◆ Teams must be in writing. **No phone calls!**
 - ◆ \$40 per bowler – checks made out to Branch 9
 - ◆ \$20 per non-bowler – checks made out to Branch 9
 - ◆ Bowlers will receive 2 games, shoe rental and pizza
 - ◆ Cash bar and restaurant on site
 - ◆ Silent auction baskets – donated by each station
 - ◆ Raffle ticket drawings – Members please donate "new" items
 - ◆ 50/50 raffle drawings
 - ◆ Three (3) stations with the "*best themed silent auction baskets*" will receive donuts at their station
 - ◆ Deadline for registration is **April 19, 2024**
 - ◆ **All proceeds will go to MDA**

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Bultena or Joe Tiemann at the Branch office 612.781.9858.

2024 Red and Gold Retiree Banquet

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Delta Hotels by Marriott Minneapolis Northeast
1330 Industrial Blvd NE, Minneapolis, MN 55413



TIMES:

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

REGISTRATION FEES:

Retirees & Guests - \$12.00/person
Active Members - \$18.00/person

The Registration Fee for Retirees is refundable upon arrival.

Stewards this event will count as your attendance to the May GMM

2024 Retiree Banquet Registration Form

Name: _____

Name (first and last) of Guest (s): _____

New 65 Year Honoree New 60 Year Honoree New 55 Year Honoree

New 50 Year Honoree Retired

Active Steward Amount Enclosed: _____

I would like a ride.
Phone #: _____

I am willing to be a chauffeur.
Please call 612.781.9858 or email
angie@branch9nalc.com to volunteer.

Please return registration form NO LATER than May 1, 2024 to:
Branch 9 NALC, 5831 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

2024 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

ARTICLE III SECTION 11

EXISTING LANGUAGE:

The Editor will be responsible for publishing and distributing the Branch Nine News. He/She will publish a minimum of 10 issues per calendar year, unless directed. The Editor will coordinate a publishing schedule with the Branch President and Executive Vice President. He/She will communicate with the Branch 9 Webmaster to share information between the Branch Nine News and the Branch 9 Website. The Editor may perform other such duties as the President may direct. The Editor will be paid the sum equivalent to 16 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Editor will be responsible for publishing and distributing the Branch Nine News. He/She will publish a minimum of 10 issues per calendar year, unless directed. The Editor will coordinate a publishing schedule with the Branch President and Executive Vice President. He/She will communicate with the Branch 9 Webmaster to share information between the Branch Nine News and the Branch 9 Website. The Editor may perform other such duties as the President may direct. The Editor will be paid the sum equivalent to 16 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

**Submitted by the Branch 9
Executive Board**

ARTICLE II, SECTION 4

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

As of January 1, 2023, thirty-five percent (35%) ~~of one month's dues~~, per year, per active and associate member shall be placed in a fund to be known as the Jerome J. Keating Branch 9 Building Corporation. These funds to be transferred to the Branch Building

Corporation monthly as accrued.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

As of January 1, 2023, thirty-five percent (35%) **of every pay period dues**, per year, per active and associate member shall be placed in a fund to be known as the Jerome J. Keating Branch 9 Building Corporation. *These funds to be transferred to the Branch Building Corporation at time of deposit.*

*(corrected submission)

**Submitted by the Branch 9
Executive Board**

ARTICLE III, SECTION 3

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The President shall be Chief Steward of the Branch. The President shall be a full-time officer of Branch 9. Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid thirty percent (30%) more than a Carrier Technician Step P, per annum, payable biweekly. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~ The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan) and FEGLI Life Insurance Plans. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of the Health Benefit Premium (not to exceed the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Premiums, Social Security (if the President is enrolled in CSRS) and a Disability policy through the Mutual Benefit Association (or a private disability insurance policy not to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the President. The President shall be allotted the I.R.S.'s current years allowable standard mileage rate for the use of his/her car. He/She shall be entitled to the same Annual Leave provisions of letter carriers. The salary of the Presi-

dent shall be adjusted in the same amount given to top grade letter carriers as their salary increases or decreases. The President or his/her designee will visit each station quarterly to stimulate the member's interest in Branch 9. The President shall appoint a By-Law Committee and any other committees he/she deems necessary. The President by virtue of his/her election to office would be one of the Regional Labor Federation (RLF) delegates. Each Branch 9 full-time officer is required to complete and maintain a daily attendance log each pay period. This log must: •List begin tour and end tour time and location for each workday; •Record any personal time taken in a regular workday (Monday - Friday); •Be signed by the full-time officer and submitted to the proper Branch 9 officers before any voucher or check is created each pay period; •Be available for member review at all GMM's.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

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

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to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the President. The President shall be allotted the I.R.S.'s current years allowable standard mileage rate for the use of his/her car. He/She shall be entitled to the same Annual Leave provisions of letter carriers. The salary of the President shall be adjusted in the same amount given to top grade letter carriers as their salary increases or decreases. The President or his/her designee will visit each station quarterly to stimulate the member's interest in Branch 9. The President shall appoint a By-Law Committee and any other committees he/she deems necessary. The President by virtue of his/her election to office would be one of the Regional Labor Federation (RLF) delegates. Each Branch 9 full-time officer is required to complete and maintain a daily attendance log each pay period. This log must: •List begin tour and end tour time and location for each workday; •Record any personal time taken in a regular workday (Monday - Friday); •Be signed by the full-time officer and submitted to the proper Branch 9 officers before any voucher or check is created each pay period; •Be available for member review at all GMM's.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 4

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Executive Vice-President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The Executive Vice-President shall be the Chair of the Stewards Board. The Executive Vice-President shall chair the Branch membership meeting at the discretion of the President or when the President is absent. He/She shall be alternate Chief Steward. He/She

shall be responsible for the training and educational programs of the Branch. He/She shall serve as associate Editor of the Branch Nine News. He/She shall be the President's designee for all negotiating and Labor-Management Meetings, the President's assistant on grievances and compensation. He/She shall assist the President in any other capacities as assigned by the President. The Executive Vice-President shall be a full-time Branch 9 officer. Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid twenty-five percent (25%) more than a Carrier Technician Step P, per annum, payable bi-weekly. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~ The Branch shall be responsible for the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Plans. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of the Health Benefit Premium (not to exceed the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Premiums, Social Security (if the Executive Vice-President is enrolled in the CSRS) and a Disability policy through the Mutual Benefits Association (or a private disability insurance policy not to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the Executive Vice-President. The Executive Vice-President shall be allotted the I.R.S.'s current years allowable standard mileage rate for the use of his/her car. He/She shall be entitled to the same Annual Leave provisions of letter carriers. The salary of the Executive Vice-President shall be adjusted in the same amount given to top grade letter carriers as their salary increases or decreases. The Executive Vice-President is expected to visit each station and associate

office at least once a quarter to stimulate the member's interest in Branch Nine. The Executive Vice-President by virtue of his/her election to office would be one of the Regional Labor Federation (RLF) delegates. Each Branch 9 full-time officer is required to complete and maintain a daily attendance log each pay period. This log must: •List begin tour and end tour time and location for each workday; •Record any personal time taken in a regular workday (Monday - Friday); •Be signed by the full-time officer and submitted to the proper Branch 9 officers before any voucher or check is created each pay period; •Be available for member review at all GMM's.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Executive Vice-President shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The Executive Vice-President shall be the Chair of the Stewards Board. The Executive Vice-President shall chair the Branch membership meeting at the discretion of the President or when the President is absent. He/She shall be alternate Chief Steward. He/She shall be responsible for the training and educational programs of the Branch. He/She shall serve as associate Editor of the Branch Nine News. He/She shall be the President's designee for all negotiating and Labor-Management Meetings, the President's assistant on grievances and compensation. He/She shall assist the President in any other capacities as assigned by the President. The Executive Vice-President shall be a full-time Branch 9 officer. Effective January 1, 1997, for the faithful performance of his/her duties, he/she shall be paid twenty-five percent (25%) more than a Carrier Technician Step P, per annum, payable bi-weekly. The Branch shall be responsible for

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the Employer portion of Federal Employee Benefit Plans including, but not limited to, CSRS, FERS, Health Benefit Programs (not to exceed the cost of the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Plans. In addition, the Branch shall pay the employee portion of the Health Benefit Premium (not to exceed the NALC Health Benefit Plan), FEGLI Life Insurance Premiums, Social Security (if the Executive Vice-President is enrolled in the CSRS) and a Disability policy through the Mutual Benefits Association (or a private disability insurance policy not to exceed the cost of the MBA disability policy, if available) for the Executive Vice-President. The Executive Vice-President shall be allotted the I.R.S.'s current years allowable standard mileage rate for the use of his/her car. He/She shall be entitled to the same Annual Leave provisions of letter carriers. The salary of the Executive Vice-President shall be adjusted in the same amount given to top grade letter carriers as their salary increases or decreases. The Executive Vice-President is expected to visit each station and associate office at least once a quarter to stimulate the member's interest in Branch Nine. The Executive Vice-President by virtue of his/her election to office would be one of the Regional Labor Federation (RLF) delegates. Each Branch 9 full-time officer is required to complete and maintain a daily attendance log each pay period. This log must:

- List begin tour and end tour time and location for each workday;
- Record any personal time taken in a regular workday (Monday - Friday);
- Be signed by the full-time officer and submitted to the proper Branch 9 officers before any voucher or check is created each pay period;
- Be available for member review at all GMM's.

**Submitted by the Branch 9
Executive Board**

ARTICLE III, SECTION 5

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Recording Secretary shall perform the following duties: The Recording Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Branch in a book to be kept for that purpose. He/She shall draw all warrants on the Treasurer ordered by the Building Corporation. He/She shall notify applicants for membership in writing of their election or rejection, and members of their suspension, expulsion or acceptance of resignation. He/She shall report to the National Secretary-Treasurer immediately the suspension, expulsion or reinstatement of a member. He/She shall attend to all correspondence of the Branch, and properly mark and file all papers for inspection at any time and notify the members of special meetings when ordered by the President. He/She shall make, semi-annually, a report to the Branch showing the number of members elected, rejected, initiated, suspended, reinstated, withdrawn, the number of deaths, and giving the date of death. Within one (1) week after his/her term expires, or upon an earlier termination thereof, he/she shall deliver to his/her successor all books and papers, together with all other property of the Branch in his/her possession. The Recording Secretary shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Recording Secretary shall perform the following duties: The Recording Secretary shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of the Branch in a book to be kept for that purpose. He/She shall draw all warrants on the Treasurer ordered by the Building Corporation. He/She

shall notify applicants for membership in writing of their election or rejection, and members of their suspension, expulsion or acceptance of resignation. He/She shall report to the National Secretary-Treasurer immediately the suspension, expulsion or reinstatement of a member. He/She shall attend to all correspondence of the Branch, and properly mark and file all papers for inspection at any time and notify the members of special meetings when ordered by the President. He/She shall make, semi-annually, a report to the Branch showing the number of members elected, rejected, initiated, suspended, reinstated, withdrawn, the number of deaths, and giving the date of death. Within one (1) week after his/her term expires, or upon an earlier termination thereof, he/she shall deliver to his/her successor all books and papers, together with all other property of the Branch in his/her possession. The Recording Secretary shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

**Submitted by the Branch 9
Executive Board**

ARTICLE III, SECTION 6

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Financial Secretary shall perform the following duties: The Financial Secretary shall keep a record book showing the names of members, when admitted, and places of residence, collect dues and all other monies due the Branch, keep a regular account thereof, and at each meeting (or prior thereto whenever the prompt payment of the National per capita tax or other necessity may require same) pay the same to the Treasurer, take his/her receipts and retain them as vouchers in settlement. He/She shall personally, or

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through duly authorized deputies appointed when necessary for each station, and who shall whenever practicable be the station delegate or representative selected or appointed to represent the station, solicit payment from all members in arrears, and on the day of election and before ballot is taken, furnish the President with a list of members not entitled to vote. He/She shall semi-annually furnish the National Secretary-Treasurer with a list of names of all the members of the Branch in good standing and shall notify the National Secretary-Treasurer monthly of the election of new members, all those suspended, expelled, deceased or resigned. He/She shall publish a monthly report of Branch receipts. He/She shall keep account of all properties, investments, and funds of the Branch which at all times shall be open for inspection, and at the end of his/her term make a report, and deliver to his/her successor in office, when qualified, all books, papers and property in his/her possession belonging to the Branch. The Financial Secretary shall receive receipts for all monies of the Branch and keep a regular account thereof. The Financial Secretary shall receive receipts for the Branch 9 Building Corporation and keep a regular account thereof. The Financial Secretary will reconcile all Branch accounts and all Building Corporation accounts per the account statement schedule. The Financial Secretary shall maintain and coordinate the insurance policies of Branch 9 and the Branch 9 Building Corporation. To ensure the faithful performance of their duties, the Financial Secretary and his/her deputies shall be bonded in such amount and in such manner as the Branch may direct. The Financial Secretary shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Financial Secretary shall perform the following duties: The Financial Secretary shall keep a record book showing the names of members, when admitted, and places of residence, collect dues and all other monies due the Branch, keep a regular account thereof, and at each meeting (or prior thereto whenever the prompt payment of the National per capita tax or other necessity may require same) pay the same to the Treasurer, take his/her receipts and retain them as vouchers in settlement. He/She shall personally, or through duly authorized deputies appointed when necessary for each station, and who shall whenever practicable be the station delegate or representative selected or appointed to represent the station, solicit payment from all members in arrears, and on the day of election and before ballot is taken, furnish the President with a list of members not entitled to vote. He/She shall semi-annually furnish the National Secretary-Treasurer with a list of names of all the members of the Branch in good standing and shall notify the National Secretary-Treasurer monthly of the election of new members, all those suspended, expelled, deceased or resigned. He/She shall publish a monthly report of Branch receipts. He/She shall keep account of all properties, investments, and funds of the Branch which at all times shall be open for inspection, and at the end of his/her term make a report, and deliver to his/her successor in office, when qualified, all books, papers and property in his/her possession belonging to the Branch. The Financial Secretary shall receive receipts for all monies of the Branch and keep a regular account thereof. The Financial Secretary shall receive receipts for the Branch 9 Building Corporation and keep a regular account thereof. The Financial Secretary will

reconcile all Branch accounts and all Building Corporation accounts per the account statement schedule. The Financial Secretary shall maintain and coordinate the insurance policies of Branch 9 and the Branch 9 Building Corporation. To ensure the faithful performance of their duties, the Financial Secretary and his/her deputies shall be bonded in such amount and in such manner as the Branch may direct. The Financial Secretary shall be paid the sum equivalent to

20 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 7

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Treasurer shall perform the following duties: The Treasurer shall receive, receipt 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 shall pay all warrants on him/her by the Recording Secretary voted by the Building Corporation 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 20 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

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~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Treasurer shall perform the following duties: The Treasurer shall receive, receipt 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 shall pay all warrants on him/her by the Recording Secretary voted by the Building Corporation 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 20 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 8

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order in the meeting under the instruction of the President. He/She shall sign the attendance book one-half hour after the actual start of all Branch meetings. It shall be his/her duty to see that no one but members are present at the meetings unless directed by the President or a vote of the Branch. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be paid the sum equivalent to

5.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order in the meeting under the instruction of the President. He/She shall sign the attendance book one-half hour after the actual start of all Branch meetings. It shall be his/her duty to see that no one but members are present at the meetings unless directed by the President or a vote of the Branch. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be paid the sum equivalent to 5.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 9

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Health Benefit Representative shall be enrolled in the NALC Health Benefit Plan, shall perform such duties as the Constitution and the Laws of the NALC Health Benefit Plan requires, and shall serve as N.S.B.A. and M.B.A. officer. He/She shall write a periodic article in the Branch Nine News to keep the members well informed on health benefits and insurance plans. He/She shall correspond with the Plan whenever the need arises to aid members of the Plan on any insurance policy. He/She shall make his/her telephone number available to the members. He/She shall visit the retired carriers club at least once a year to answer their questions on health benefits. The HBR shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~ The yearly rebate check from the Mutual Benefits Association will go to the Branch.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Health Benefit Representative shall be enrolled in the NALC Health Benefit Plan, shall perform such duties as the Constitution and the Laws of the NALC Health Benefit Plan requires, and shall serve as N.S.B.A. and M.B.A. officer. He/She shall write a periodic article in the Branch Nine News to keep the members well informed on health benefits and insurance plans. He/She shall correspond with the Plan whenever the need arises to aid members of the Plan on any insurance policy. He/She shall make his/her telephone number available to the members. He/She shall visit the retired carriers club at least once a year to answer their questions on health benefits. The HBR shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. The yearly rebate check from the Mutual Benefits Association will go to the Branch.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 10

Current Language:

The Trustees shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The Trustees shall examine and report to the Branch the condition of the books of the officers at least once every three months, compare the vouchers and records and see that they correspond with the collections and disbursements. Trustees, in conjunction with the Financial Secretary, shall perform an annual inventory of Branch property and report same at the October General Membership Meeting. They shall have custody of all Branch property and shall perform such other duties as the Branch By-Laws may require. For the faithful performance of his/her duties each Trustee shall be paid the sum equivalent to 6.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay in-~~

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~~crease will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Trustees shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The Trustees shall examine and report to the Branch the condition of the books of the officers at least once a month, compare the vouchers and records and see that they correspond with the collections and disbursements. Trustees, in conjunction with the Financial Secretary, shall perform an annual inventory of Branch property and report same at the October General Membership Meeting. They shall have custody of all Branch property and shall perform such other duties as the Branch By-Laws may require. For the faithful performance of his/her duties each Trustee shall be paid the sum equivalent to 6.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 15

Current Language:

Effective January 1, 2000, the Steward of any station, branch or section of Branch 9 shall be paid the sum equivalent to 4 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. Pay shall be divided into 2-1/2 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay per Stewards Board Meeting and 1-1/2 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay per General Membership Meeting, per month, payable quarterly, when each steward attends the Stewards Board Meeting or General Membership Meeting. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~ Subsequent stewards pay increases will be recalculated and placed into effect January 1st of each year based on the cumulative

carrier's pay increases from the previous year. In the event that a steward cannot attend the Stewards Board or General Membership Meeting, he/she may still receive his/her monthly allotment, provided he/she sends another carrier who signs the attendance book with his/her name, "for the Steward." Stewards may be excused from a meeting by a full-time officer (who will notify the Sergeant-at-Arms) for valid reasons including, but not limited to illness, vacation, labor and/or Union classes and bona fide emergencies.

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

Effective January 1, 2000, the Steward of any station, branch or section of Branch 9 shall be paid the sum equivalent to 4 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. Pay shall be divided into 2-1/2 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay per Stewards Board Meeting and 1-1/2 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay per General Membership Meeting, per month, payable quarterly, when each steward attends the Stewards Board Meeting or General Membership Meeting. Subsequent stewards pay increases will be recalculated and placed into effect January 1st of each year based on the cumulative carrier's pay increases from the previous year. In the event that a steward cannot attend the Stewards Board or General Membership Meeting, he/she may still receive his/her monthly allotment, provided he/she sends another carrier who signs the attendance book with his/her name, "for the Steward." Stewards may be excused from a meeting by a full-time officer (who will notify the Sergeant-at-Arms) for valid reasons including, but not limited to illness, vacation, labor and/or Union classes and bona fide emergencies.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTION 16

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Director of Retirees must be a retired letter carrier and work with and under the supervision of the President. He/She shall perform the following duties: Be active in 9 PAL. Assist in coordinating Branch 9 legislative programs. Serve as liaison between active and retired members. Attend retired letter carrier meetings and functions. Report on retiree issues at General Membership Meetings of the Branch. Write articles for the Branch Nine News, prepare a plan of action for the year and submit reports as needed. Develop new and varied programs of interest to retirees. Assist retirees and their families with questions or problems. Conduct such training sessions or seminars to provide appropriate information as deemed necessary to active and retired carriers. He/She may perform other such duties as the President may direct. The Director of Retirees shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Director of Retirees must be a retired letter carrier and work with and under the supervision of the President. He/She shall perform the following duties: Be active in 9 PAL. Assist in coordinating Branch 9 legislative programs. Serve as liaison between active and retired members. Attend retired letter carrier meetings and functions. Report on retiree issues at General Membership Meetings of the Branch. Write articles for the Branch Nine News, prepare a plan of action for the year and submit reports as needed. Develop new and varied programs of interest to retirees. Assist retirees and their families with questions or problems.

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Conduct such training sessions or seminars to provide appropriate information as deemed necessary to active and retired carriers. He/She may perform other such duties as the President may direct. The Director of Retirees shall be paid the sum equivalent to 13 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by the Branch 9 Executive Board

ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 11 & 26 CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Editor will be responsible for publishing and distributing the Branch Nine News. He/She will publish a minimum of 10 issues per calendar year, unless directed. The Editor will coordinate a publishing schedule with the Branch President and Executive Vice President. He/She will communicate with the Branch 9 Webmaster to share information between the Branch Nine News and the Branch 9 Website. The Editor may perform other such duties as the President may direct. ~~The Editor will be paid the sum equivalent to 16 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~

~~The Branch President may, at the beginning of each term, appoint a "Webmaster" to manage the Branch 9 website. This appointee will work with the Branch Officers on the content and future developments of the Branch's website. The Webmaster will work at the direction of the Branch President. Compensation for the Webmaster to be determined by the Branch President and the Executive Board.~~

PROPOSED LANGUAGE:

The Editor/Webmaster will be re-

sponsible for publishing and distributing the Branch Nine News. He/She will publish a minimum of 10 issues per calendar year, unless directed. The Editor/Webmaster will coordinate a publishing schedule with the Branch President and Executive Vice President. He/She will share information between the Branch Nine News and the Branch 9 Website. The Editor/Webmaster may perform other such duties as the President may direct. The Editor/Webmaster will be paid the sum equivalent to 16 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. He/She will work with all the Branch Officers on the content and future development of the Branch's website.

Submitted by Stacey Ellingson

ARTICLE 11. OFFICER DUTIES, PAY & EXPENSES

SECTION 10 TRUSTEES

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

The Trustees shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches. The Trustees shall examine and report to the Branch the condition of the books of the officers at least once every three months, compare the vouchers and records and see that they correspond with the collections and disbursements. Trustees, in conjunction with the Financial Secretary, shall perform an annual inventory of Branch property and report the same at the October General Membership Meeting. They shall have custody of all Branch property and shall perform such other duties as the Branch By-laws may require. For the faithful performance of his/her duties each Trustee shall be paid the sum equivalent to 6.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022.

PROPOSED CHANGE:

The Trustees shall perform all duties as outlined in the National Constitution for Subordinate Branches.

The Trustees will perform a monthly audit of all Branch 9 and Building Corporation financial records to include but not limited to vouchers, warrants, random sample of disbursements, collections of any and all funds, reconciliations completed for all Branch 9 and Building Corporation Accounts, LM-2 filing date, all insurance policies are reviewed by the Executive Board no less than once a year and date of that review. The Trustees shall do an oral report, no less than once every calendar quarter, to the General Membership (GMM) and report the findings of their audits. The minimum audit reporting schedule will be as follows, Quarter 1 (January, February, March) report at the April GMM, Quarter 2 (April, May, June) report at July GMM, Quarter 3 (July, August, September) report October GMM, Quarter 4 (October, November, December) report January GMM. ~~The Trustees shall examine and report to the Branch the condition of the books of the officers at least once every three months, compare the vouchers and records and see that they correspond with the collections and disbursements.~~ Trustees, in conjunction with the Financial Secretary, shall perform an annual inventory of Branch property and report the same at the October General Membership Meeting. **The quarterly audit reports and annual audit/inventory reports will be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall for members to review at all General Membership Meetings. They shall have custody of all Branch property and shall perform such other duties as the Branch By-laws may require, **and as directed by the Branch 9 President.** For the faithful performance of ~~his/her~~ **their****

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duties each Trustee shall be paid the sum equivalent to 6.5 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022.~~

**Submitted by Samantha Hartwig
Branch 9**

ARTICLE VIII

SECTION 2.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

Trustees shall audit books each quarter; the quarterly report will be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall. There shall be an annual audit and that will be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall.

PROPOSED CHANGE:

Delete Article VIII section 2 as it is incorporated into the Article III Section 10 By-law for Trustee Duties.

Article VIII section 2 has been incorporated into Article III section 10

~~Trustees shall audit books each quarter; the quarterly report will be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall. There shall be an annual audit and that will be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall.~~

**Submitted by Samantha Hartwig
Branch 9**

2024 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.mnafcio.org/about/scholarships-awards>

(Continued from page 3)

for these crimes by requiring the Attorney General to appoint an assistant U.S. attorney in each judicial district to prioritize any case involving an assault or crime against a letter carrier. Their principal responsibility in the district would be to coordinate and supervise the investigation

and prosecution of these crimes. The bill would also strengthen sentencing guidelines for these crimes, ensuring that they are treated in the same manner as assaults on federal law enforcement officers.

Please take action by going to

the nalc.org website and follow the link to ask your member of Congress to cosponsor the POLCA.

In Solidarity, Scott

Branch Nine News
5831 Cedar Lake Road South
St. Louis Park, MN 55416

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
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PERMIT NO.
91964

Branch 9 Calendar

April 9

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

April 23

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

April 27

Ron St. Clair MDA
Bowl-a-thon
New Hope Bowl @ 5:30 PM

May 5

Red & Gold Retiree Banquet
Noon to 3:30 PM
Delta Hotels by Marriott

May 11

FOOD DRIVE

May 14

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

May 27

MEMORIAL DAY
HOLIDAY

May 28

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

June 11

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

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

Stay informed by:

*Join Veterans Group [https://www.nalc.org/
member-benefits/join-the-nalc-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

