



VOLUME 77 No 4

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April 2025

HANDS OFF USPS!

Hundreds rally at Minnesota State Capitol to say NO to privatization! Fight for a strong contract!

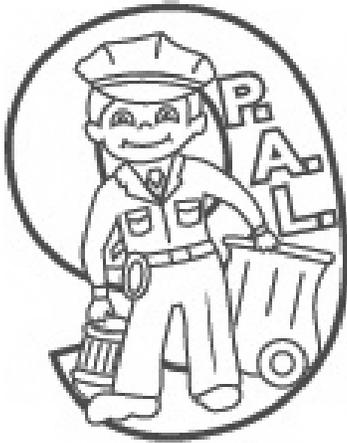


500 NALC members and supporters rallied at the Minnesota State Capitol on Sunday, March 23 for the Fight Like Hell—NO to Privatization of USPS and Fight for a Strong Contract Rally hosted by Branch 9 (Minneapolis), Branch 28 (Saint Paul), Branch 2942 (Hopkins), and Branch 440 (Rochester).

This is the kind of action that is needed to fight back against any attempts to privatize the postal service. As billionaire Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency is gutting federal agencies, and the Trump administration is moving forward with increasing attacks on the labor movement, like the cancellation of collective bargaining rights, first for TSA workers, and a few weeks later, for over 1 million federal employees represented by the American Federation of Government Employees.

The rally in Saint Paul was one of over 200 nationally coordinated rallies, and sent a clear message to the Trump administration—**Hands off the postal service!**

(Rally photos, and more information on pages 5-7, 10)



PAL 9 List

Contributors

Very Concerned (\$50 or more)

Deborah Grunnes
Wes Thomas
Donna Wiecks
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Concerned (\$25 donated)

Tony Winkels
Jennifer Schreiter
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Lerald Mellom
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Ted Parker
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IN MEMORIAM

William Winefeldt

**Branch 9 members
will be voting on
By-Law proposals
at the
April 22, 2025 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

Saturday April 26, from 5:30-8:30PM at the New Hope Bowl is sponsoring the Ron St. Clair Branch 9 Bowlathon to raise money for muscular dystrophy (MDA). It costs \$50 to bowl; \$25 to watch. Every station in the Branch has been asked to help by sponsoring a team of 4 bowlers and a basket for our silent auction. Please be on the lookout for businesses or individuals who could sponsor a lane for \$300. Donations are made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association and are 100% tax deductible because MDA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. I hope everyone will join us, bowl a few lanes with your NALC siblings and "HELP DELIVER A CURE" for MDA in 2025.

Sunday May 4 from 12:00 Noon to 3:30 PM is the Annual Red and Gold Dinner at the Delta Marriott Hotel 1330 Industrial Blvd NE. This is the event at which we pay honor to our retirees and especially those of us who have been members for 50 years or more. (Did you know 50 year members never have to pay dues again?) We will also honor a Retiree of the Year.

We are especially honored to have National NALC President Brian Renfroe as our guest keynote speaker. It's gonna be a great time!

Saturday May 10th is the NALC Food Drive. Blaine carrier

Jessie Vasquez has graciously volunteered to Chair the 2025 Branch 9 food drive and has contacted every station in our branch to participate. Now more than ever America needs your help to "Stamp Out Hunger". Food banks across the country — already facing huge cuts to locally grown food assistance — in late March learned that the U.S. Department of Agriculture is canceling \$500 million in expected food deliveries, further disrupting help at a time when need continues to rise. Please get behind her and help the NALC shine in this national effort to provide food to the hungry people in America.

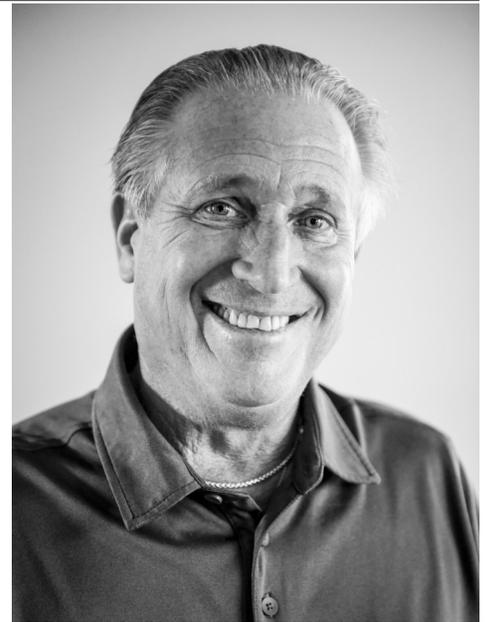
Politics. A tough business. I would be remiss if I didn't keep you up to date. Let's face it. We can have all the rallies and file all the grievances in the world but if the Congress of the United States votes to abolish the USPS we're done. There's some bills we all should be aware of.

Support

The Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R.1522)

The Postal Service Anti-Privatization Act H.Res.70

Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R.1065/S.463)



Joe Rian

Please Oppose

The Protecting Taxpayers' Wallets Act (HR 1210),

Preserving Presidential Management Authority Act of 2025 (HR 2249)

The Paycheck Protection Act of 2025 (HR 2174),

The Reorganizing Government Act of 2025 (HR 1295)

(This proposed law would remove a limitation on the authority that previously prevented presidents from using it to abolish or transfer an executive department or independent regulatory agency. Think moving the USPS into/under the Department of Commerce) As always, call me with your questions.

Joe Rian
Branch President
NALC Branch 9 Minneapolis
612-781-9858

**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 27, 2025**

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.

Exec. Vice President's Report

Hello brothers and sisters. As many of you know the arbitration over our contract has been settled. We went from three general wage increases of 1.3% to one raise of 1.3%, one of 1.4% and one for 1.5%. We also went from having steps AA, A and B eliminated to only steps AA and A eliminated.

There's also news on our cost of living adjustments (COLA). We are getting four retroactive COLAs that total to \$2,725. That is the total that will be added to the yearly salary of the top scale pay. This amounts to a raise of \$1.31 per hour for top scale. The way our COLA works for table 2 carriers is that we get a prorated amount of that raise that is equal to the percentage of your pay relative to top scale pay. For instance, if you're step F then you'll receive 74.80% of this COLA.

Both the general wage increases and the COLAs are "tentatively" scheduled to go into effect beginning on April 19th and should show up on the May 9th paycheck. The new pay chart is up on NALC.org and the Branch 9 Facebook page. The back pay will take several months to calculate and we do not yet have details on when that will occur.

The outcome of this contract is a bitter disappointment to me and many other carriers. This

is not the contract that we deserve. The pay does not adequately compensate us for the difficult work that we do, it doesn't eliminate the "diet" COLA that our table 2 carriers receive, it doesn't address the out of control uniform costs, and there are many concessions in the work rules.

While this contract was a setback we should take heart that our union is learning how to fight again. On March 23 there were 210 protests all across the country organized by NALC to oppose privatization of the Postal Service. This is the kind of huge mobilization of our members that can have an impact. These actions made the national news. I will also note that these rallies were organized by National after rank and file letter carriers demanded them. In many cities, including here in Minneapolis we made the contract a central focus of our action. While these actions were great, they should have all included demands for a fair contract.

The protest that we held was at the state capitol and was our most successful demonstration over the past several years with about 500 people in attendance. We had a representative from the American Federation of Government Employees who spoke to the government's attempts to union bust TSA workers. Build a Fighting NALC had a banner on fighting for the



Chris Pennock

right to strike. We had the AP-WU, the bus driver's union, and the teacher's union, as well as senator Tina Smith and a staffer from Angie Craig's office.

We can apply the lessons we've learned to the next contract campaign that is only a year away. We've already won a resolution at the last National convention for nationwide demonstrations in support of our contract at the beginning of negotiations. We need to make sure National follows through on this. I think we need to fight for the right to strike, as withdrawing our labor is the ultimate power that we have as workers. We have to transform our union into one that is capable of winning the gains we need. Stay in the struggle brothers and sisters. Remember, when we fight we can win!

ALL OUT FOR MARCH 23

Rally to say NO to Privatization, YES to a strong contract!



Photos by Chris Berg, Richfield Station

EDITOR'S REPORT

On March 23 Branch 9 participated in the biggest day of nationally coordinated public rallies by NALC since the fight to preserve six-day delivery over a decade ago. Branch 9 organized one of, if not the biggest rally in the country, with around 500 in attendance, drawing from the experience of organizing rallies over the past few years, building off of our relationships and support within the local labor movement, and by putting forward the solid demands: **fight against** privatization, and **for** a strong contract.

March 23 represented a small, but important step forward for the union, and showed NALC members across the country that the union is about more than just grievances. The union can also be a force around bigger issues, from the contract, to defending the basic idea of a public postal service. It showed that the union can be a force that brings thousands of NALC members and supporters into the streets: at post offices, busy intersections, and in front of federal and government buildings across the country to say: "Hell NO to Privatization of USPS!".

We argued in Branch 9 that we could not just focus on fighting privatization while letter carriers have been without a contract for almost two years. We need to fight against any attempt to privatize the postal service, but we also need to fight for the kind of postal service that works for postal workers, and the communities we serve. That means fighting for a strong contract, one that many Branch 9 members believe needs raises that

keep us ahead of inflation, a \$30/hour starting wage, an All-Career Workforce, and so much more. These two struggles are linked, you can't fight for one without fighting for the other. It's regrettable that national leadership did not take this framing up, and if they had we could have seen an even bigger and more impactful mobilization to the rallies.

On March 24 the arbitration award was announced, forcing down the throats of members almost the exact same contract we rejected by an over 2-to-1 margin just a few months ago. NALC members across the country feel rightfully betrayed by this outcome. NALC should not be a part of any process that does not give members the final say. Members should always have the final vote on our contract. Binding arbitration for contract negotiations was a concession given to management in the aftermath of the 1970 postal wildcat strike, where we won the right to collective bargaining and binding arbitration for contract negotiations, instead of collective bargaining and the Right to Strike.

Build a Fighting NALC (BFN) is a growing national rank and file reform movement that I, and many Branch 9 members are a part of. BFN is dedicated to transforming NALC, and bringing us back to the roots of what made us a strong union. We believe this whole process around the contract shows why letter carriers, postal workers, and all federal workers need to fight for the Right to Strike.



Tyler Vasseur

I appeal to all NALC members: don't despair, and don't leave the union! While the contract looks like a defeat, we have made tremendous steps forward over the past few years. From the April 2023 contract rally in Minneapolis, to the movement for Open Bargaining, and the historic NO vote this winter. Thousands of NALC members are waking up, and getting active to transform our union. Change is a process, not just one event. But every fight, every rally, every major event we go through as a union gives us invaluable lessons and experiences to build off of for the future. I encourage all members to get involved in Branch 9, and prepare for the fights ahead.

2026 will be a pivotal year for NALC, as we have contract negotiations, the national convention, and national leadership elections. A reckoning is coming in NALC, and everything we've been through over the past few years will inform how these events play out. In every victory, and every defeat, there are lessons to be learned. Every step we take brings us one step closer to where we need to be as a union.

Upcoming
Events

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

Saturday, April 26, 2025

LOCATION

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

TIME

5:30 – 8:30PM

**If you have any questions, please contact Joe Rian or
Chris Pennock at the Branch office 612.781.9858.**

2025 Red and Gold Retiree Banquet

Sunday, May 4, 2025

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

REGISTRATION FEES:

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

2025 Retiree Banquet Registration Form

Name: _____

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

New 70 Year Honoree New 65 Year Honoree New 60 Year Honoree

New 55 Year Honoree New 50 Year Honoree Retired

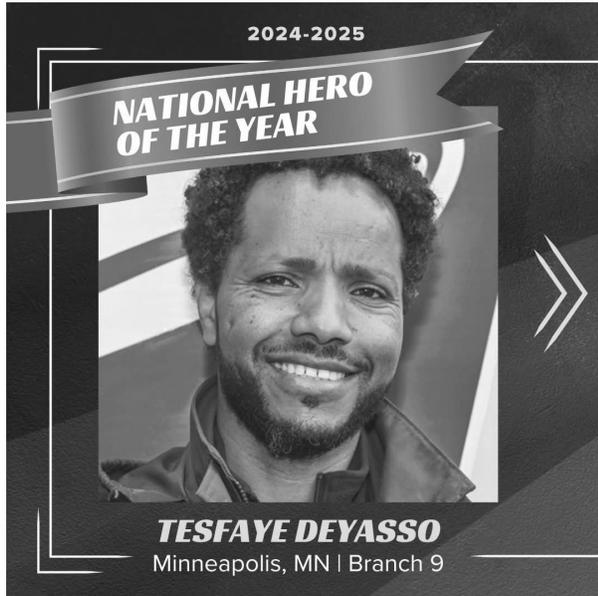
Active Steward **Amount Enclosed:** _____

I would like a ride. I am willing to be a chauffeur.

Phone #: _____ Please call 612.781.9858 or email
angie@branch9nalc.com to volunteer.

Please return registration form NO LATER than May 1, 2025 to:
Branch 9 NALC, 5831 Cedar Lake Road, St. Louis Park, MN 55416.

Branch 9 Member Receives Hero of the Year Award



In April 2024 St Louis Park carrier and Branch 9 member Tesfaye Deyasso was the first person to rush to the scene of a car accident on the side of I-94 in Saint Paul. Deyasso and a crowd of people helped to pull a man out of a burning car, saving his life.

For this Deyasoo received the NALC Hero of the Year award in Washington DC on March 20, 2025.

Branch 9 is lucky to have members like Tesfaye Deyasso. Congratulations!



“HEY HEY, HO HO, PRIVATIZATION’S GOT TO GO!”



Photos by Chris Berg, Richfield Station

Adult Learners Scholarship

Leonard A. Larson/ Barry J. Weiner

**Adult Learners,
please submit your scholarship
application to Branch 9 by
May 27, 2025 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.

Become a contributor to the Branch Nine News!

Email the Branch Nine News Editor, Tyler at branch9news@branch9nalc.com

- Articles due by the first of the month to make it into that month's issue of the paper
- Articles about specific issues at your station, ideas for the union, cartoons, or even suggestions on layout and design are all welcome
- If you have an idea, but don't know where to begin, the Editor can work with you to help form your idea into an article
- Proposed articles are published at the discretion of the President, Executive Vice President, and Editor

2025 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

Article 2 SECTION 5

Existing Language:

Branch 9 shall sponsor and fund the annual Retired Carrier's Banquet. A NALC watch OR an equal value union made jacket with the Branch 9 NALC logo, as a remembrance, shall be given to retiring members who have been in good standing for two full years prior to retirement.

Proposed Language:

Branch 9 shall sponsor and **partially** fund the annual Retired Carrier's Banquet. A NALC watch OR an equal value union made jacket with the Branch 9 NALC logo, as a remembrance, shall be given to retiring members who have been in good standing for two full years prior to retirement.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article 2 Section 3.C

Existing Language

The convention fund will be capped at sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000). Once this amount is achieved, contributions will be discontinued and reallocated in equal amounts to organizing, training and education and legislation.

Proposed Language

The convention fund will be capped at ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$100,000). Once this amount is achieved, contributions will be discontinued and reallocated in equal amounts to organizing, training and education and legislation.

Submitted by Tim Bash

Article 2 Section 3

Existing Language:

SECTION 3. 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 the Convention Fund to be used for State and National Conventions. Revenue producing fund raisers may also be used to augment this fund. A. Eligibility to receive funds for conventions is determined by Article V of these By-Laws. B. The Convention Fund shall not be used for any other purpose unless so ordered by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership in a referendum ballot. The ballot to state the purpose and amount of such demand. C. The convention fund will be capped at ~~sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000)~~. Once this amount is achieved, contributions will be discontinued and reallocated in equal amounts to organizing, training and education and legislation.

Proposed Language:

SECTION 3. 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 the Convention Fund to be used for State and National Conventions. Revenue producing fund raisers may also be used to augment this fund. A. Eligibility to receive funds for conventions is determined by Article V of these By-Laws. B. The Convention Fund shall not be used for any other purpose unless so ordered by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the voting membership in a referendum ballot. The ballot to state the purpose and

amount of such demand. C. The convention fund will be capped at **Seventy-Five thousand dollars (\$75,000)**. Once this amount is achieved, contributions will be discontinued and reallocated in equal amounts to organizing, training and education and legislation.

Submitted by Stacey Ellingson

Article 3 Section 9

Existing Language:

SECTION 9. 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.

Proposed Language:

SECTION 9. The Health Benefit Representative shall be enrolled in the NALC Health Benefit Plan, shall perform such duties as the

(Continued on page 13)

2025 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

(Continued from page 12)

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. **The Mutual Benefits Representative shall be a member of the NALC duly elected in the manner prescribed for elections of NALC Branch Officers. The MBA Representative is neither an agent of the MBA nor an agent of the NALC and therefore has no authority to act as such. The MBA Representative shall be the liaison between the members of their branch and the MBA home office and perform such duties as required by the MBA home office. Before entering on the discharge of their duties, they shall enter and acknowledge a bond of such sureties as the branch may deem sufficient for the faithful discharge of their duties as MBA Representative. At the expiration of their term of office, they shall turn over to his/**

her successor or to the branch, all documents, books, papers or money that may be in their possession and belongings to the MBA.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article 3 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.

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 be the Branch 9 Webmaster and 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 17 hours of Carrier Technician Step P pay each month.

Submitted by Stacey Ellingson

Article 3 Section 26

Existing Language:

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 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.~~

Submitted by Stacey Ellingson

Article 6 Section 1.A

Existing Language:

Forty-five (45) days prior to all Branch 9 elections of National Delegates the Financial Secretary shall prepare a list of members eligible to vote in the election. Care should be taken to assure that the list is accurate, complete and up to date.

(Continued on page 14)

2025 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

(Continued from page 13)

Proposed Language:

Forty-five (45) days prior to all Branch 9 elections of National Delegates the Financial Secretary shall prepare a list of members eligible to vote in the election. Care should be taken to assure that the list is accurate, complete and up to date. **For Purposes of Branch 9 officer elections only; a member in good standing shall be one who is current in all dues and assessments 60 days prior to the election nominations. Only members in good standing shall receive a voting ballot in the mail.**

Submitted by Chuck Glover

Article 6 Section 1.B

Existing language:

Forty-five (45) days prior to all Branch elections of State Delegates the Financial Secretary shall prepare a list of members eligible to vote in the election. Care should be taken to assure that the list is accurate, complete and up to date.

Proposed Language:

Forty-five (45) days prior to all Branch elections of State Delegates the Financial Secretary shall prepare a list of members eligible to vote in the election. Care should be taken to assure that the list is accurate, complete and up to date. **During Branch 9 officer election years only, the financial secretary shall compile a list of members who owe any dues and/or assessments to the branch. They will coordinate with the**

Branch Nine News editor to have these names posted in the May issue of the Branch Nine News. It is the members' responsibility to keep the branch up to date with any and all address changes to reduce the chances of Unable to Forward (UTF) cases.

Submitted by Chuck Glover

Article 6.C Section 3

Existing Language:

Effective with the 1994 Branch election, Branch 9 Minneapolis RLF delegates, by virtue of their election, will serve as Branch 9 delegates to the State AFL-CIO Convention. The President shall appoint any remaining AFL/CIO delegates and RLF delegates not covered by these by-law election rules. The President and Executive Vice President shall be delegates by virtue of their election to office. (Note: Both notice of election and the election ballot used for the election of Minneapolis RLF delegates should specify that they will also serve as convention delegates.)

Proposed Language:

Effective with the 1994 Branch election, Branch 9 RLF delegates, by virtue of their election, will serve as Branch 9 delegates to the State AFL-CIO Convention. The President shall appoint any remaining AFL/CIO delegates and RLF delegates not covered by these by-law election rules. The President and Executive Vice President shall be delegates by virtue of their election to office. (Note: Both notice of election and the election ballot used for

the election of RLF delegates should specify that they will also serve as convention delegates.)

Submitted by Joe Rian

ARTICLE 6.D SECTION 9

Existing Language:

Election of Shop Stewards shall be held following the election of Branch officers at each associate office, branch, station or section, commencing on December 1st. Each station shall conduct its own election in the following manner:

- A. Designation of election committee.
- B. Post on Union bulletin board notice of election which shall be five (5) days prior to voting.
- C. Nominations shall be made from the floor.
- D. Balloting shall begin after the fifth (5th) day and conclude within five (5) days.
- E. The new Shop Steward shall take office at the Steward's Board Meeting in January and shall be installed along with the Officers prior to or during the January General Membership Meeting. Ballots shall be kept for thirty (30) days. Election results shall be posted on the Union bulletin board. If there is no officer or member who will run for election, the President may appoint someone.
- F. In the event of a vacancy of a Shop Steward position an election will be held unless such election would have to take place less than ninety (90) days before the regular election for Stewards in the station. In this instance, a Steward may be appointed by the Branch President to serve out the time remaining on the resigned

2025 Proposed By-Law Additions & Changes

or vacant Stewards term.

Proposed Language

Election of Shop Stewards shall be held ~~following the election of Branch officers~~ **each year** at each associate office, branch, station or section, commencing on December 1st Each station shall conduct its own election in the following manner:

- A. Designation of election committee.
- B. Post on Union bulletin board notice of election which shall be five (5) days prior to voting.
- C. Nominations shall be made from the floor.
- D. Balloting shall begin after the fifth (5th) day and conclude within five (5) days.
- E. The new Shop Steward shall take office at the Steward's Board Meeting in January and shall be installed along with the Officers prior to or during the January General Membership Meeting. Ballots shall be kept for thirty (30) days. Election results shall be posted on the Union bulletin board. If there is no officer or member who will run for election, the President may appoint someone.
- F. In the event of a vacancy of a Shop Steward position an election will be held unless such election would have to take place less than ninety (90) days before the regular election for Stewards in the station. In this instance, a Steward may be appointed by the Branch President to serve out the time remaining on the resigned or vacant Stewards term.

Submitted by Tyler Vasseur

Article 6.D Section 1

Existing Language:

Regular election of Officers and ~~Minneapolis~~ RLF delegates shall be by referendum vote. The double envelope system shall be used for all regular Branch 9 elections. The procedures for conducting this type of election are described here. Each member eligible to vote should receive the following: A. One (1) notice of election with instructions. B. One (1) unmarked ballot. C. One (1) small envelope, either unmarked or marked "Ballot Envelope". D. One (1) larger stamped envelope with space for the member's printed full name and his/her signature and address in the upper left corner. E. The four (4) items are placed in the cover envelope bearing the member's name and last known address. This is put under the custody of the election officials who deposit the mail in a post office. The mail receiving point for returned ballots should be selected in advance by the election officials. This may be a post office box or other mutually agreed upon location, such as the Union's accounting firm, etc.

Proposed Language:

Regular election of Officers and RLF delegates shall be by referendum vote. The double envelope system shall be used for all regular Branch 9 elections. The procedures for conducting this type of election are described here. Each member eligible to vote should receive the following: A. One (1) notice of election with instructions. B. One (1) unmarked ballot. C. One (1) small envelope, either unmarked or marked "Ballot Envelope". D. One

(1) larger stamped envelope with space for the member's printed full name and his/her signature and address in the upper left corner. E. The four (4) items are placed in the cover envelope bearing the member's name and last known address. This is put under the custody of the election officials who deposit the mail in a post office. The mail receiving point for returned ballots should be selected in advance by the election officials. This may be a post office box or other mutually agreed upon location, such as the Union's accounting firm, etc.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article 8 Section 2

Existing Language:

When making withdrawals, writing checks, or cashing bonds, the Treasurer or Financial Secretary must have the signature of ~~any one (1) of the three (3) Trustees~~ in addition to his own. As soon as possible after each annual election the ~~Recording Secretary~~ shall notify all financial institutions in which we have deposits, of the names of those eligible to withdraw funds, write checks or cash bonds.

Proposed Language:

When making withdrawals, writing checks, or cashing bonds, the Treasurer or Financial Secretary must have the signature of any in addition to his own **President or Executive Vice President**. As soon as possible after each annual election any one of the **four financial officers** shall notify all financial institutions in which we have deposits, of the names of those eligible to withdraw funds, write checks or cash bonds.

Submitted by Stacey Ellingson

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

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Branch 9 Calendar

April 22

General Membership
Meeting
7 PM
Crystal VFW

April 26

MDA Bowl-a-thon

May 4

Retiree Banquet
12 PM
Delta Hotel Marriot
Minneapolis

May 10

Stamp Out Hunger
NALC Food Drive

May 13

Steward Board
7 PM
Crystal VFW

May 27

General Membership
Meeting
7 PM
Crystal VFW

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

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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

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

nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity

