

JEROME J. KEATING BRANCH



BRANCH NINE NEWS

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

1964

Volume 78 No 4

Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC

May 2026

BOWLATHON

FOR MDA

THE 2026 RON ST. CLAIR



The 2026 Bowl-A-Thon was a hit as always. Thank you to all of those who came out, the stations that donated items for the auction, and the volunteers that made it all happen. This year Branch 9 made the MDA Honor Roll, coming in first place amongst branches with 1,500-2,000 members raising \$25,112.62 in 2025. More photos and details can be found on pages 11 and 14.



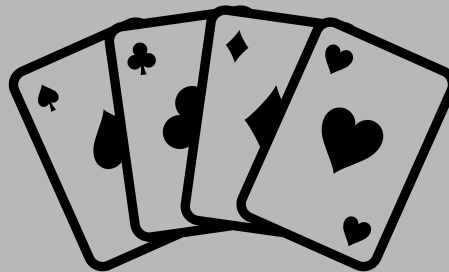
Retirements



Greg Rygg retires from Anoka Station with over 25 years of service

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

- Due to the relocation of the April GMM on short notice, the members in attendance voted to move the consideration of bylaw changes to the June 23rd GMM.
- Branch 9 members will be marching with the AFL-CIO group at the Pride Parade on June 28th. Reach out to the branch for more details.
- There will be a Cribbage Tournament held at the Branch 9 Union Hall on Thursday June 4th at 11AM.



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

Send articles to:

branch9news@branch9nalc.com

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

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Joe Rian

Exec Vice President

Chris Pennock

Recording Secretary

Andrew Hagan

Treasurer

Barb Watzcak

Financial Secretary

Stacey Ellingson

Editor

Tim Bash

Sergeant at Arms

Nate Serie

Trustees

Jorge Quintero

Zoe Bunzli

Alex Pouliot

Dir of Retirees

Vince Froelich

Health Benefits Rep

Susan Becker

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

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

Welcome New Branch Niners

Jacob Goffard

Anthony Harrington

Lowanda Harvey

Cymonne McKenzie

Join the NALC Veteran's Group





Please consider reaching out to your elected representatives about the following bills:

HR 491/S624

Equal COLA Act

HR1065/S463

Protect our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA)

HR70/S Res 147

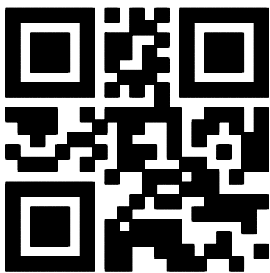
Oppose Postal Privatization

HR3170

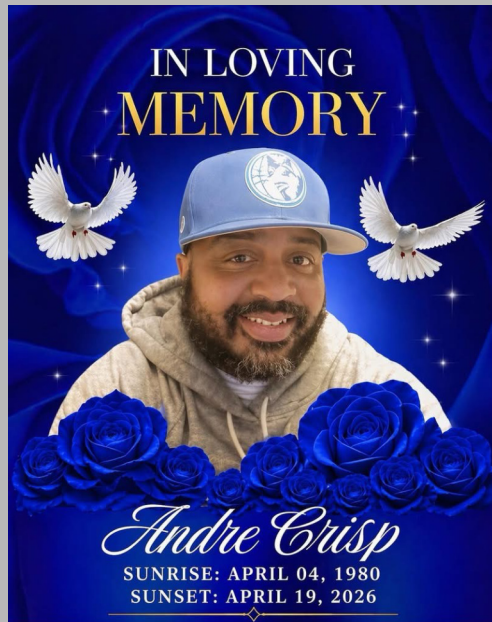
Improving Access to Worker's Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act

HR3011

USPS Shipping Equity Act



follow this link to nalco.org/action



Andre was a clerk at Powderhorn Station who passed away unexpectedly last month. He was loved by those in the Powderhorn community and he will be sorely missed.

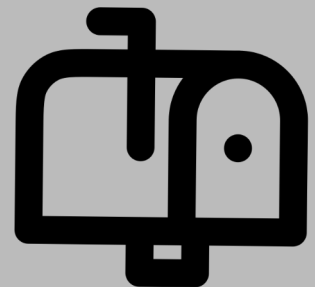
Twin Cities Labor Report



Local UFCW 663 member and union activist Paul KD puts together a weekly newsletter summarizing all the happenings of the labor movement, including rallies, strikes, pickets, bargaining sessions, contract updates and much more. The newsletter can be sent straight to your email inbox for free, and there is a paid tier that gets you the entire archive. Things happen fast, and a weekly update really helps keep up to date with all the events.

IN MEMORIAM

Gene Delano
Kenneth Lucas
Keith Brakke



MOVING?

Please notify the branch directly when you move, we are not notified otherwise!

Mail us notification of your new address to:

5831 Cedar Lake Road South

St. Louis Park, MN 55416

or call

(612) 781-9858



Joe Rian

Some members in the Branch wonder why we affiliate with the Minnesota AFL-CIO. I am in the habit of saying, “Well. Because it’s in our name, right there on page 1 of the National Agreement:

ARTICLE 1

UNION RECOGNITION

Section 1. Union

The Employer recognizes the National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO as the exclusive bargaining representative of all employees in the bargaining unit for which it has been recognized and certified at the national level — City Letter Carriers.

So, Branch 9 members of the MN AFL-CIO, I want to share this new-campaign with you in the hope you will have some fun and maybe learn a bit more about other unions affiliated with us.

Minnesota AFL-CIO has launched a “Better in a Union” campaign to promote union identity and cross-union solidarity in our state. The campaign begins with six weeks of paid digital ads targeted at a universe of union members we will be contacting again during the Labor 2026 political campaign this fall.

This unifying message is designed to both get members familiar with the Minnesota AFL-CIO and connect them with the broader labor movement.

The video ads feature members and leaders from across our movement talking about why “It’s Better in a Union.” They are available to view on our YouTube channel at <https://aflcio.mn/4tV5bCV>. Please take a look at the videos to get an idea what other union people are saying, then think about what you could say.

The ads will direct people to a landing page and a spot for you to create and share your own video testimonial. This page can be found at <https://aflcio.mn/itsbetterinaunion> where at the bottom of the page there is a spot to do your own video.

It would really be great if some of you more creative members, especially those of you who are retired could take a shot at making and posting videos on why you feel it’s better in our union, Branch 9. Maybe even a striker video?

I know it’s corny and a little like TikTok but maybe a little fun, too.

Your social media video posts could be seen on Facebook, Instagram, Threads, Bluesky, X, and probably others. Please watch the link below and share.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1CEfdA1CxR/>



Thank you everyone for participating in the great events Branch 9 has had in the last month. Regional training, MDA bowling, May Day Parade and the Red and Gold Banquet. Did you see the pictures on our Branch 9 Facebook page? People are really getting busy learning, having fun and creating social ties that will keep us strong in the face of never-ending malicious workplace attacks from USPS management to “make the numbers”.

Letter carriers are not the reason the USPS says they are losing money. We are the engines that generate revenue and make us grow, provide a blue-ribbon service to the American people and a support network of solidarity for each other.

Why should I join NALC's PAC, the Letter Carrier Political Fund?



- The Letter Carrier Political Fund identifies and contributes to candidates who support issues important to letter carriers.
- Joining the LCPF provides letter carriers with the opportunity to build electoral and legislative power required to ensure decisions that impact their lives are made with their best interests in mind.
- Only NALC members can contribute to the LCPF.
- Union dues are not used, and cannot be used, for political contributions.
- LCPF contributions are voluntary and can stop at any time. There is no open season.
- We encourage LCPF members to make suggestions for political contributions and to attend local fundraisers.
- LCPF members are encouraged to attend local events for members locally who support letter carrier legislative priorities

Reprint from NALC.org

Thank you PAL 9 Contributors

Very Concerned Members (\$50 or more)

William Tuffs	Jhnea Rystedt	Andrew Hagan	Steve Olson
Thomas Guthrie	Dale Carney	Tim Bash	Charles Scheid
Patrick Rottach	Wesley Thomas	Sonia Stark	Renee Hickerson
Catherine Jones	Greg Piela	Don Holthus	Cindy Fossum
Thomas Hoban	Karin LeBak	Al Gulden	Ron Sumstad
William Halos	Donna Wiecks	Mark Larson	Gerald Broman
Ronald Barker	Jonathan Peterson	Harry Sedesky	Dan Loppnow
Jon Thompson	Michelle Benson	David Johnson	Bruce Wallace
Susan Hoban	Bradley Knutson	Duane Pederson	

Concerned Members

Gary Weihl	Brett Thompson	William Hofstad	Alice Nopola
John Burmis	Geno Taddei	Kim Kline	Marlys Fox
Vernon Zierman	Douglas Dopp	Steve Bjoraker	Rick Rimer
Michael Mroska	Russ Ofsthun	Larry Schuster	John Vesovich
Gary Svidron	Thomas Dvorak	Steven Schwede	Pat Paplow
Aleesha Berg	Lisa Beckstrom	Mary Knoss	Mary Hoch
Doug Orhan	Katy Johnson	Theresa Oelrich	Charles Stauffer
David Millette	Steven Oehlerich	Jon Frick	Thomas Hoch
Barb Watzak	Michael Bangsund	Dennis Johnston	Mark Olufson
Thomas Holten	Roger Harwarth	John Keeley	Andrew Truckenmiller
Peter Schilling	Stephen Wallerius	Kevin McCanney	



EXEC VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Chris Pennock

Updates from the Committee of Presidents Meeting

The Branch sent me to the recent COP meeting that was held on April 19th and 20th where we heard from our national president and had discussions on the issues we're facing as letter carriers. President Renfro discussed collective bargaining, the state of USPS and the status of the government.

Renfro laid out that our bargaining goals included higher pay throughout the pay scale, a full COLA for all carriers, shortening the time to top scale, and an all-career workforce. Management is of course putting forward that they don't have enough money to pay us what we deserve. They want to continue with CCAs, make it easier to discipline us, and to weaken the no-layoff clause. Renfro said that it's unlikely that we'd come to an agreement on the economics (our pay), which means that we'd be headed to arbitration.

There was also an announcement of a "Collective-Bargaining Conference" to be held June 1st - 3rd in Washington DC. One representative from each branch and state association will be invited to discuss where we are in the negotiations and the details of what taking our contract to arbitration would look like. I think

this is a positive development as it brings more voices to the table on the path forward for our contract.

One other positive development is that there are brief contract updates on the nalc.org website on the members-only portal. Once you log in you go to the members' menu and then Collective Bargaining where you'll see a bargaining update every two weeks.

There's a lot to be concerned about with the negotiations, but the increased transparency and participation of the broader union in collective bargaining is a direct result of the pressure that rank-and-file carriers have put on national. Branch 9 members have been a big part of that as have organizations such as Build a Fighting NALC, and that's something we can be proud of.

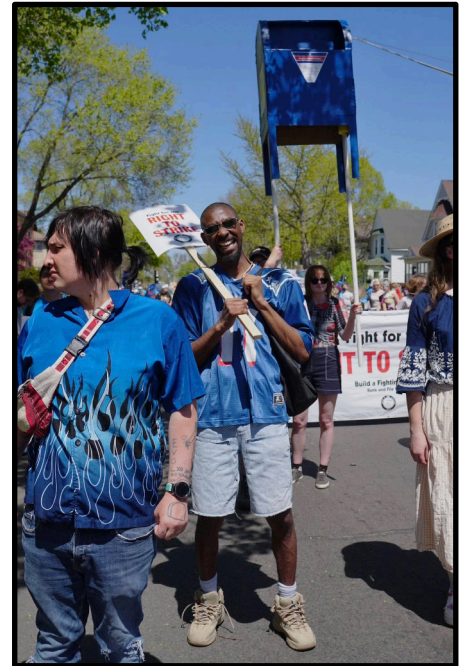
We need to continue to build a fighting campaign for our contract. I think that fighting for the right to strike is a very important weapon that is missing from our arsenal. In August we'll be going to the NALC National Convention to support the right to strike resolution we passed in Branch 9. This is one of the ways many of us are working to strengthen the Union, and I'd invite you to join us in lending your strength to the Union in whatever capacity you can. When we act together, we are strong.

Solidarity



At the March GMM, member Connie Beissel passed a motion asking the branch to donate gift cards to AFGE members from the TSA who were working during the government shutdown. They eventually went 44 days without compensation, but luckily they have since gotten full backpay. The fight is not over as they are being paid through a "temporary funding mechanism" and there are more budget fights ahead.





Branch 9 members took part in the yearly Mayday Parade in Powderhorn Park



Did you know?

Your membership in Branch 9 means you are also a member of the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation (MRLF), the St Paul Labor Federation (SPRLF), the American Federation of Labor - Congress of Industrial Unions (AFL-CIO), and the Minnesota State Association of Letter Carriers (MSALC)? These organizations engage in advocacy of worker's rights, endorse labor friendly candidates for public office, donate large sums to charities, and build community within organized labor. Branch 9 pays dues to be a member of all these organizations and needs the active participation of our members. The President of Branch 9 serves as a Vice President of the MRLF, and we send members as delegates to each.

Championing the Federal Workforce: Rep. Ilhan Omar's Advocacy for Letter Carriers

As the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, Representative Ilhan Omar has emerged as a formidable ally for federal employees. Her work on the House Committee on Education and the Workforce centers on a fundamental principle: that those who dedicate their careers to public service—especially the letter carriers who bind our nation together—deserve financial security and dignity in retirement.

The Fight for the Equal COLA Act

One of the most pressing issues for the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) is the disparity in retirement adjustments. Under the current system, retirees under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) often receive a "diet COLA"—a cost-of-living adjustment that fails to keep pace with actual inflation when the Consumer Price Index (CPI) exceeds 2%.

Rep. Omar is a key cosponsor of the Equal COLA Act (H.R. 491). This critical legislation aims to:

- Ensure Fairness: It aligns FERS COLAs with those received by Social Security recipients and Civil



May 2026

Service Retirement System (CSRS) retirees.

- Protect Purchasing Power: By ensuring the adjustment matches the full increase in the CPI, it prevents the slow erosion of retirement benefits for thousands of postal workers.

Strengthening NALC Legislative Priorities

Beyond retirement adjustments, Omar's legislative record reflects a deep commitment to the broader NALC agenda. In the current session, her advocacy has focused on several "bread and butter" issues for the union:

1. Protecting Federal Benefits: Omar has consistently stood against proposals to increase FERS contribution rates, which act as a direct pay cut for newer letter carriers.
2. The Social Security Fairness Act: Building on the momentum of recent years, she continues to support the full repeal of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO), ensuring public servants receive the full benefits they earned.
3. Workforce Protections: In her subcommittee role, she has been a vocal opponent of efforts to convert federal positions into "at-will" employment, fighting to maintain the civil service protections that ensure a stable and non-partisan Postal Service.

A Reliable Voice in Committee

As the ranking member on the Education and the Workforce Committee, Representative Omar has utilized her platform to highlight the physical and economic challenges faced by postal workers. Whether



pushing for heat stress protections or advocating for the Federal Retirement Fairness Act, her work ensures that the needs of the "men and women in blue" are never sidelined in the federal budget or policy debates.

Support the NALC Legislative Agenda

If you believe in a strong, stable, and fair Postal Service, consider calling your representative to support these key bills:

Equal COLA Act - Matching FERS COLAs to full inflation. Active - House Oversight

Federal Retirement Fairness Act - Allowing buy-back of non-career time. Active - House Oversight

Protect Postal Service Operation Act - restricts local/regional transportation changes (LTO/ RTO) that would decrease mail frequency. Active- House Oversight

By standing with leaders like Rep. Ilhan Omar, we can ensure that a career in the postal service remains a pathway to a middle-class life and a secure retirement.

2026 Proposed Bylaw Additions and Changes

In order to conserve space the “proposed” sections of the bylaw submissions below contain the sentences preceding and succeeding the language being changed. Be aware that there are bylaw proposals in this edition of the Branch Nine News that did not appear in the previous two editions, but were submitted in time to be considered. The following formatting applies: 1) Proposed language being considered for addition is bolded 2) Proposed language being considered for removal is struck through 3) Language being considered for replacement is struck through in the “Current” section and bolded in the “Proposed” section.

Article II SECTION 2

Current

The monthly dues of this Branch for all active and associate members shall be equal to 2 hours base pay of a Carrier Technician Step P, payable biweekly. The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22). This ratio between the current minimum dues structure of the NALC National Dues would be maintained as the permanent dues structure for Branch 9. Members retiring after December 31, 1960 shall pay \$12.00 per annum. Members retiring after December 31, 1977 shall pay \$18.00 per annum. Members retiring after December 31, 1987 shall pay \$24.00 per annum. Members retiring after December 31, 1996 shall pay, per annum, an amount equal to two hours City Carrier pay at Step D letter carriers pay at the time of their retirement.

Proposed

The monthly dues of this Branch for all active and associate members shall be equal to 2 hours base pay of a Carrier Technician Step P, payable biweekly. ~~The pay increase will NOT take place until November 19, 2022 (11/19/22).~~ This ratio between the current minimum dues structure of the NALC National Dues would be maintained as the permanent dues structure for Branch 9. Members retiring after December 31, 1996 shall pay, per annum, an

amount equal to two hours City Carrier pay at Step D letter carriers pay at the time of their retirement. **Members retiring after December 31, 2026 shall pay, per annum, an amount equal to two hours of City Carrier Step D table 1 on January 1 in the year of their retirement.**

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article II SECTION 4

Current

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 9 Building Corporation ~~monthly as accrued.~~

Proposed

As of July 1, 2026, 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 **are** to be transferred to the Branch 9 Building Corporation **within 4 days of receipt of each per capita check from NALC HQ.**

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article II SECTION 6.A

Current

Any active member on the USPS rolls who is in a non-pay (no-deduct) status for reasons of; members on OWCP, members in non-pay status pending removal, members in non pay status for medical reasons must pay full membership dues directly to the Branch 9 Financial Secretary each month. If an active member exceeds a period of ninety (90) consecutive days without having contacted the Branch or paid membership dues, they will be dropped from the Branch 9 NALC membership. Active members may, for extenuating circumstances, appeal to the Branch 9 Executive Board to have their membership dues waived and thereby retain their NALC membership. The Executive Board will rule by majority on all such appeals.

Proposed

.... If an active member exceeds a period of ninety (90) consecutive days without having contacted the Branch or paid membership dues, they **may** be dropped from the Branch 9 NALC membership. Active members may, for extenuating circumstances, appeal to the Branch 9 Executive Board to have their membership dues waived and thereby retain their NALC membership....

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article III SECTION 3

Current

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 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.

Proposed Change #1

...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.

Submitted by Chris Pennock

Proposed Change #2

...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.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Proposed Change #3

... 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 **sick and** annual Leave provisions of letter carriers. **Upon vacating the office, he/she shall be paid out the remainder of their sick and annual leave balance.** The President or his/her designee will visit each station quarterly to stimulate the member's interest in Branch 9.

Submitted by Chris Pennock

Article III Section 4

Current

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 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



Columbia Heights



Zone 4/54



Lake Street



Brooklyn Center



Powderhorn



Retirees

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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 Change #1

He/She shall be entitled to the same **sick and** annual leave provisions of letter carriers. **Upon vacating the office, he/she shall be paid out the**

remainder of their sick and annual leave balance. 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. Submitted by Chris Pennock

Proposed Change #2

.... 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.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Proposed Change #3

.... 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.

Submitted by Chris Pennock

Article III SECTION 6

Current

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 of semi-annually furnish the National Secretary-Treasurer with a list of names 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.~~

Proposed

The Financial Secretary shall perform the following duties: The Financial Secretary shall keep a record showing the names of members, collect **past** dues and all other monies due to the Branch. **He/She shall receive all payments to the Branch and/or Branch 9 Building Corporation to include but not limited to NALC per capita tax for active and retired members and any other monies that are given to the Branch. On the day of election and before ballot is taken, furnish the President with a list of members, not entitled to vote based on who owes the Branch monies.** 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 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 the Branch 9 Building Corporation and keep a regular account thereof. The Financial Secretary will reconcile all Branch accounts and all Building Corporation accounts **at the end of every month. He/She shall publish monthly report of receipts for the monthly General Membership Meeting. The Financial Secretary shall be**

allotted the I.R.S. current year's allowable standard mileage for the use of his/her car. 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

Stacey Ellingson

Article III SECTION 15.D

Current

~~Stewards may be immediately suspended from their position by the Branch President for failure to perform their duties or for cause. The steward may appeal his/her removal to the Executive Board and a committee of three (3) stewards appointed by the President within thirty (30) days. Upon receipt of said appeal, the Executive Board and Steward Committee will conduct a special meeting with the carriers from the affected station or associate office. The Board and the Committee will then meet to decide to upgrade the suspension to remove or other remedy they deem appropriate. The decision will be decided by majority vote of that group. The Branch President will remain engaged throughout the entire process but will not have a vote on the final disposition of the case.~~

Proposed

Stewards may be immediately **removed** from their position by the Branch President for failure to perform their duties or for cause **as per Article 6, section 1 of the NALC Constitution for the Government of Subordinate and Federal Branches. Any appeal of a decision of the**

branch president must conform with Article 11 of the NALC Constitution for the Government of Subordinate and Federal Branches.

Submitted by Christopher Pennock

Article III SECTION 17

Current

The President shall, at the beginning of each term, appoint as many legislative Co-chairpersons as he/she deems necessary, with no more than six and no fewer than three, representing the third, fourth, fifth and sixth districts, respectively. The co-chairpersons shall be paid twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month.

Proposed

The President shall, at the beginning of each term, appoint as many legislative

Co-chairpersons as he/she deems necessary, with no more than six and no fewer than three, representing the **second**, third, fourth, fifth and sixth districts, respectively. The co-chairpersons shall be paid twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per month.

Submitted by Connie Beissel

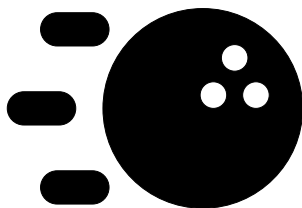
Article III SECTION 19

Current

In the event of a strike or work stoppage, no full-time officer or part time officer of Branch 9 shall draw any salary.

Proposed

In the event of a strike or work stoppage, no full-time officer, part-time officer **or any employee** of Branch 9 shall draw



If you were unable to attend this year's event but want to make a donation to MDA, follow the link in this QR code or come to the GMMs and buy 50/50 tickets.



any salary.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article III Section 26

Proposed New Section:

If the National Agreement between USPS and NALC is not settled in a timely manner, there will be no retroactive pay or backpay for full-time officers, part-time officers, or stewards unless a motion was approved at a general membership meeting providing such pay.

Submitted by Christopher Pennock

Article VIII

Proposed New Section:

All Branch 9 employee contracts will be attached to the Branch 9 by-laws and at the expiration or termination of the employee contract it will be removed from the Branch 9 by-laws.

Submitted by Andrew Hagan

Article VIII

Proposed New Section:

CHARGES AGAINST BRANCH 9 OFFICER(S)

In case of neglect of duty or violation of the NALC Constitution or Branch 9 Bylaws, the following procedures will be strictly adhered to.

The charging party(s) will submit their claim in writing via Certified Mail to the Branch 9 Officer(s) affected.

A retired representative for the Charging Party, and a retired representative for the Branch Officer(s) charged, will

meet at a neutral location as soon as possible and select an agreed retired third party, who will head, with both party representatives, an investigation into the charges filed, and within Fifteen (15) days submit their findings to both parties.

The investigative findings will be read at the next general membership meeting. This panel will recommend or deny any penalty towards the Branch 9 Officer(s). The general membership in attendance will vote by numbered secret ballot to uphold charges or exonerate the Branch 9 Officer(s).

For their duties, the investigation team, upon completion and report to general membership, will be paid by branch 9 check, the sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) each.

Submitted by Chuck Glover

Article VIII

Proposed New Section:

Any Minnesota AFL-CIO or Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation (MRLF) or St Paul Regional Labor Federation endorsed or sanctioned labor movement action may be endorsed by the Branch via a majority vote of the Executive Board when the announcement of the action and the action itself falls in-between Branch 9 General Membership Meetings.

Submitted by Chris Pennock

Article VIII

Proposed New Section:

The Executive Board, upon majority approval, shall have spending authority of up to \$5000 per month for any motion made during monthly

Executive Board meetings

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article VIII

Proposed New Section:

The Branch 9 Treasurer, with Executive Board majority approval, shall have the authority to reallocate budgeted funds between budget categories, up to a limit of \$5000 per category.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article VIII Section 3

Current

Dedicated funds will be deposited in each proper account as withholding check is received from the National office.

Proposed

Dedicated funds will be deposited in each proper account **within 4 days of receipt of the electronic per capita deposit** withholding check from the National office.

Submitted by Joe Rian

Article VIII Section 7

Current

Monthly Branch expenditures shall be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall. Note: For compliance by the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer.

Proposed

Monthly Branch **income and** expenditures shall be published and placed at the rear of the meeting hall. Note: For compliance by the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer

Submitted by Joe Rian

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



PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
TWIN CITIES MN
PERMIT NO. 91964

MAY 25

Memorial Day

MAY 26

General Membership Meeting
Every 4th Tuesday 7PM
Crystal VFW

JUN 4

Cribbage Tournament
11AM
Branch 9 Union Hall
5831 Cedar Lake Road S
St Louis Park

JUN 5-10

AFL-CIO
National Convention
Minneapolis
Convention Center

JUN 9

Steward Board Meeting
Every Second Tuesday 7PM
Crystal VFW

JUN 19

Juneteenth

JUN 23

General Membership Meeting
Every 4th Tuesday 7PM
Crystal VFW

Bylaw Meeting

Northside Retiree Breakfast
First Tuesdays @9:30

Elsie's
729 Marshall St. NE
Minneapolis

N Suburban Retiree Breakfast
First Fridays @8:30

Denny's Restaurant
9020 Quadday Ave
Otsego

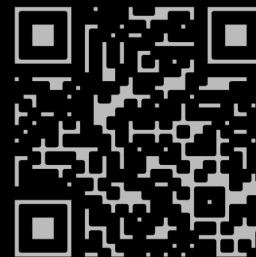
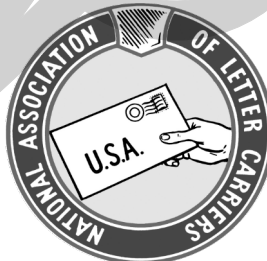
Fridley Retiree Lunch
Second Tuesdays @11:30

Route 47 Pub and
7820 University Ave
Fridley

Look out next month for
coverage of the Red &
Gold Banquet



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Branch 9
Online*



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