

Buckeye Branch 78 Bulletin

Columbus and Central Ohio



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DELAWARE
DUBLIN
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WESTERVILLE

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CIRCLEVILLE

NOVEMBER 2006



VOL. 27, NO. 9



**TO ALL OUR VETERANS
WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR BRAVERY,
YOUR SACRIFICES
AND
YOUR COMMITMENT TO
PRESERVE THE FREEDOM
WE SOMETIMES TAKE FOR GRANTED**

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

In 1918, during World War I, fighting came to an end on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. This original was called Armistice Day and later became known as Veterans Day. It is a simple way that we honor those who have served our country.

I have worked with many Letter Carriers who as young men served in Southeast Asia. In this very small time frame, their lives were changed forever. Many came back wounded from the enemy, some fully recovered and some are still suffering from their wounds. Now

our young men and women are facing a different conflict. This time in the Middle East. Each day I read the paper I see more and more dreadful destruction of human life. With each death a mother has lost a child and once again a life is changed forever. Let us not forget about the loved ones that are left behind and the tears that they shed daily. Let us not forget our grandfathers who fought in World War II and the Korean War Veterans who suffered 54,000 lives lost with over 100,000 injuries. Some froze to death because it was

so cold. The Persian Gulf Veterans, those who



Rocco Evangelista

served in Somalia, all Veterans deserve our gratitude. I personally, and we as Americans are always indebted to your service. Thanks to you all, we will keep fighting the good fight.

Rocco Evangelista



Rocco and Joan Casto, presentation of Certificate of Appreciation from the Mid-Ohio Food Bank for 2006 Stamp Out Hunger Campaign.

★ NALC ★ NALC ★ NALC ★ NALC ★



**TOGETHER
WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!**

★ NALC ★ NALC ★ NALC ★ NALC ★

SPEND AN EVENING WITH FRIENDS ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS!

STEWARDS MTG-6:30 P.M.
First Wednesday of
each month

OFFICERS MTG-6:00 P.M.
The Monday preceding
Steward Meeting



BRANCH MTG-6:30 P.M.
Second Wednesday
of each month

RETIREES MTG-1:00 P.M.
First Tuesday of
each month

A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT BOB SOLT



Bob Solt

Quite often we hear from Letter Carriers who state the routes they are assigned to are overburdened and ask what should be done to alleviate the problems caused by the route and usually the biggest problem - the contractually and socially challenged supervisors. But of course we have no less than ideal management employees marauding about the Columbus District. If you feel the route is out of adjustment a special inspection should be requested.

Special route inspections may be required when one or more of the following conditions or circumstances are present:

- a. Consistent use of overtime or auxiliary assistance. (When the X-Route process is utilized, routes may be "built up" to no more than 8 hours and 20 minutes during the interim period, see Memorandum of Understanding dated September 17, 1992.)
- b. Excessive undertime.
- c. New construction or demolition which has resulted in an appreciable change in the route.
- d. A simple adjustment to a route cannot be made.
- e. A carrier requests a special inspection and it is warranted.
- f. Carrier consistently leaves and/or returns late.
- g. If over any 6 consecutive week period (where work

performance is otherwise satisfactory) a route shows over 30 minutes of overtime or auxiliary assistance on each of 3 days or more in each week during this period, the regular carrier assigned to such route shall, upon request, receive a special mail count and inspection to be completed within 4 weeks of the request. The month of December must be excluded from consideration when determining a 6 consecutive week period. However, if a period of overtime and/or auxiliary assistance begins in November and continues into January, then January is considered as a consecutive period even though December is omitted. A new 6 consecutive week period is not begun.

- h. Mail shall not be curtailed for the sole purpose of avoiding the need for special mail counts and inspections.

When special inspections are made they must be conducted in the same manner as the formal count and inspection.

Even if the route does not need a special inspection, management is not to verbally abuse any Letter Carrier. As far as I know, there are no Letter Carriers out on a work release program from the local penitentiary and they should not be treated as convicted criminals with no rights. Letter Carriers have means available to stop abusive treatment from wannabe Postmaster Generals. We have the Joint Statements on Violence and Behavior in the Workplace to stop

abusive practices from management which state:

In our Joint Statement of February, we affirmed our belief that dignity, respect and fairness are basic human rights, and we pledged our efforts toward a safer, more harmonious, as well as a more productive workplace. Since then, we have continued to meet regularly and engage in an active dialogue on the issues addressed in that statement. We believe that effective communication and a cooperative spirit are the starting point for the resolution of the problems in our workplace. It is essential to our efforts that the same discussions

Continued on page 14

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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Asst. Secretary/Editor	Yana Miller
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MILLER'S MUSINGS

The trees are changing to their fall colors and dropping their leaves quickly. We've already had snow flurries in October so this might be a serious winter, which means the holidays are creeping up on us. I hope your station collections for One New Toy are picking up momentum. Everything needs to be at the Hall by the December meeting.

Any of you who have been seamstresses or tailors and have fabric that you have never made into garments I have an out for you. Donate that fabric to the Quilt Ministry headed by Karen Gulley. They are making quilts for children with emotional disorders that are in a center in Worthington. They have completed sixteen quilts so far. If you would like to assist them bring the material to the Hall.

October 19, a Canton carrier, a twenty-six year old female, was

caught in crossfire and died from her wounds. I have no more information at this time but our prayers and sympathy go out to her family.

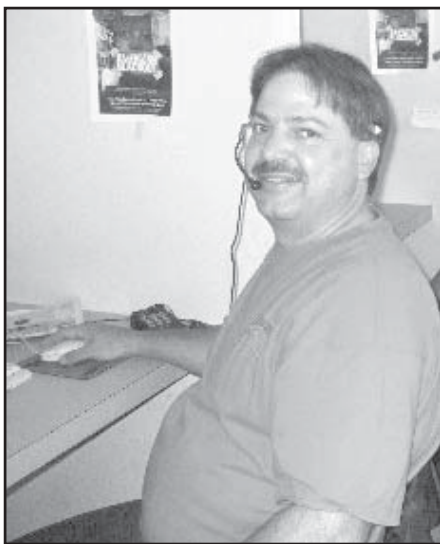
Those of you that were not at the Retiree Dinner missed a wonderful evening. We had the pleasure of National Director of Retirees, Don Southern and NBA, William Cooke join our Director of Retirees, Jack Levally in presenting pins to two recent retirees, Jim Lockwood, former steward of Marysville and Kenny Dean, a longtime Reynoldsburg steward. Eugene Gunn, former number one city carrier, who retired earlier this year, received his Gold Card for fifty years of NALC membership and a personal letter from National President Bill Young. The food was excellent the company great and if you missed it shame on you.

As we enter into this holiday season many people find themselves under extra pressure, whether it is the increased workload, family problems or just dealing with the season. Keep in mind there is someone for you to talk to about your problems. We have the excellent benefit of EAP-Employee Assistance Program. Someone is available 24/7 at 1-800-EAP4YOU. This program is FREE. It is available to all employees and anyone living in their household. It is completely CONFIDENTIAL. The counseling services are provided both on and off postal property by counselors that are NOT postal employees. If you need assistance call them, it can't hurt to get help.

Wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving from all the Officers of Branch 78!

Submitted by Yana Miller

TAKE BACK OHIO AFL-CIO PHONE BANKS



Todd Hornyak, who is full-time with Take Back Ohio during the preelection campaigns.



Doug Gulley and Jacki Mitchell hard at work manning the phones.

Timothy C. O'Malley
Director, Health Benefit Plan

INTRODUCING 2007 RATES TAKE A LOOK AT US NOW!

When it comes to choosing a health plan that is right for you and your family, you need to make the right decision. This can be a daunting task, but a necessary one. Health insurance is simply one of the necessities of life. If a serious illness should occur, choosing the wrong health plan could mean financial devastation. Consumers have become wise shoppers, searching for ways to reduce out-of-pocket costs while getting the most from their health care dollar. You asked for it and the NALC Health Benefit Plan delivered. In 2007, the Plan will offer better benefits and low out-of-pocket costs at a great rate. So I invite you to take a look at us now! Compare our 2007 premiums and benefits and you will see that joining the Plan is the right decision for you and your family. If you need more information during the upcoming Open Season, November 13 through December 11, 2006, call us at 1-888-636-NALC (6252).

Employee Contributions for
2007 NALC High Option Plan
Bi-Weekly Self Only Self & Family
Active Carriers \$38.80 \$60.85
Monthly Self Only Self & Family
Annuitants \$139.58 \$257.77

Open Season

November 13, 2006 - December 11, 2006

**CONGRATULATIONS
BILL COOKE ON THE ELECTION, NBA BILLCOOKE**

**ATTENTION
KNOW A STUDENT ENROLLED IN NURSING SCHOOL.
IF THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN APPLYING FOR A
SCHOLARSHIP: CONTACT EUGENE SMITH AT 614-879-7758.**

2006 Retirees Dinner-Active Members



2006 Retirees Dinner-Active Members



2006 Retirees Dinner



2006 Retirees Dinner



2006 Retirees Dinner



2006 Retirees Dinner



2006 Retirees Dinner-Official Guest



Bill Zimmerman and Director of Retirees Br 78, Jack LeVally



NBA Bill Cooke, National Director of Retirees Don Southern, Past President Doug Gulley.

Congratulations...



Congratulations...

2006 Buckeye Branch 78 Scholarship Winners



Rocco, Carol Baugus & daughter.



Deborah Kinsley & husband.

2006 Retirees Dinner-Honorees

Congratulations...



Eugene Gunn receives 50 year NALC member gold card.

Congratulations...



Bill Cooke, Don Southern, Jim Lockwood, Jack LeVally.
Jim receives his retiree pin.

Congratulations...



Bill Cooke, Don Southern, Kenny Dean, Jack LeVally.
Kenny receives his retiree pin.

A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT BOB SOLT *Continued from page 3*

and cooperative efforts take place among representatives of management, postal unions, and management organizations at the region, division, and MSC levels, as well as at the national level. To the extent that representatives at those levels have not yet established an ongoing dialogue on these issues, we ask that you do so without further delay. The joint groups should focus on ways to foster safe, harmonious, and productive workplaces and, when a particular problem site is identified, the representatives should work together to eliminate the underlying problems. In our discussions at the national level on problem sites, we concluded that problems are best addressed, and resolved, at the lowest possible level. Accordingly, if a problem site comes to our attention at the national level, we will refer it to the appropriate regional joint group for attention. An intervention will not be initiated at this level unless the regional or local parties are unable to resolve the problems at the site. This problem-solving approach is not intended as a substitute for existing dispute resolution processes, but as an informal, cooperative approach to significant workplace relationship problems wherever they may occur. We can and must work together to resolve the factors contributing to disputes in our workplace, and we expect our counterparts at all levels of the organization to work toward that end.

We all grieve for the Royal Oak victims, and we sympathize with their families, as we have

grieved and sympathized all too often before in similar horrifying circumstances. But grief and sympathy are not enough. Neither are ritualistic expressions of grave concern or the initiation of investigations, studies or research projects.

The United States Postal Service as an institution and all of us who serve that institution must firmly and unequivocally commit to do everything within our power to prevent further incidents of work-related violence. This is a time for a candid appraisal of our flaws and not a time for scapegoating, fingerpointing or procrastination. It is a time for reaffirming the basic right of all employees to a safe and humane working environment. It is also the time to take action to show that we mean what we say. We openly acknowledge that in some places or units there is an unacceptable level of stress in the workplace; that there is no excuse for and will be no tolerance of violence or any threats of violence by anyone at any level of the Postal Service; and that there is no excuse for and will be no tolerance of harassment, intimidation, threats or bullying by anyone.

We also affirm that every employee at every level of the Postal Service should be treated at all times with dignity, respect and fairness. The need for the USPS to serve the public efficiently and productively and the need for all employees to be committed to giving a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, does not justify actions that are abusive or intolerant.

"Making the numbers" is not an excuse for the abuse of anyone. Those who do not treat others with dignity and respect will not be rewarded or promoted. Those whose unacceptable behavior continues will be removed from their positions. We obviously cannot ensure that however seriously intentioned our words may be, they will not be treated with winks and nods, or skepticism, by some of our over 700,000 employees. But let there be no mistake that we mean what we say and we will enforce our commitment to a workplace where dignity respect and fairness are basic human rights, and where those who do not respect those rights are not tolerated. Our intention is to make the workroom floor a safer, more harmonious, as well as a more productive workplace. We pledge our efforts to these objectives.

Intimidation is self inflicted. Do not allow yourself to be intimidated. If management is harassing you a grievance should be filed instantaneously. If you receive any type of discipline a grievance should be filed immediately.

On December 6, 2006 we will have our annual Stewards Appreciation Dinner. This event is when we pay tribute to the Branch 78 Stewards for their hard work and dedication to Letter Carriers throughout the year. Being a Union Steward is often one of the most difficult and unappreciated jobs, in our Union. The Steward is customarily the first line of defense a Letter Carrier has to protect them from

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A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT BOB SOLT *Continued from page 3*

an unrefined contractually challenged supervisor. Time and again the Union Steward will have the knowledge and determination to successfully tutor a supervisor that has a reduced amount of intelligence with reference to our National

Agreement. All Branch 78 Stewards, their Alternate Stewards, guests and families are invited to attend.. If you are able to attend or have any questions please contact me, or the volunteers consisting so far of : Branch 78 President Rocco

Evangelista, EEO Officer Michael Iacoboni, Branch 78 Head Trustee Carl Demko and Trustees Gary Boller and Todd Hornyak.

Fraternally,

Bob Solt

SOCIAL REC WILL SPONSOR A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

**DECEMBER 3, 2006
2-5 PM**

**CAFETERIA @ CITY GATE
2323 CITY GATE DR**

**VISIT WITH SANTA
BOBO THE CLOWN and FRIENDS
COOKIES AND PUNCH**

CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER ONLY



Branch 78 News Flash

At the October meeting Jim Pierce would have won \$260 but he didn't attend the meeting.

So it continues to grow each month. **WILL YOU BE THERE?**

OSA Retiree Seminar November 5, at the Blackwell Inn. Representatives from Human Resources, Social Security and National Director of Retirees Don Southern.

One New Toy collections need to be in the hall by the December Branch Meeting.

Buckeye Branch 78

1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524

National Association of Letter Carriers

AFL-CIO



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SGT-AT-ARMS	EDWARD STEWART	279-2778
DIR OF RETIREES	JACK LEVALLY	875-2220
MBA HEALTH BENEFIT	CHUCK SHARP	(H) 937-843-2546 or (C) 614-314-9302
HEAD TRUSTEE	CARL DEMKO	351-0137
TRUSTEE	GARY BOLLER	471-8289
TRUSTEE	CARL BOOTH	491-1675
TRUSTEE	TODD HORNYAK	351-0137
TRUSTEE	TREVOR PAYNE	447-8078

LOOK

FOR THE

UNION LABEL



**THE JOB YOU SAVE
COULD BE YOUR OWN!**

STATION	STEWARD	BUSINESS-HOME
A Short North	Jerri Frierson	294-4922
B Clintonville	Douglas Lawver	447-8078
BW Beechwold	John Klinger	447-8078
BEX Bexley	Jacki Mitchell	237-2830
Canal Winchester	Gary Boller	471-8289
C Linden	Marcus Jones	
CP Central Point	Frank Lisath	228-1570
CIR Circleville	Rocco Evangelista/Bob Solt	279-2778
City Gate Collection Unit	Chuck Snyder	472-0500
DEL Delaware	Randy Hartman/K. Sutton Alt.	1-740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Christine Gonda	889-0763
Eastland	John Gibbons/Jim Gilmer Alt.	237-1912
E Olde Town		253-7350
F German Village	Douglas Bryant	449-9565
G South Columbus	Walt Brumfield/Vince Eddy Alt.	444-0217
GAH Gahanna	John Slifko	471-8289
GP Groveport	Rocco Evangelista/Bob Solt	279-2778
GC Grove City	Dave Kitchen	
HILL Hilliard	Chris Haser/John Farranto Alt.	876-7021
HT Hilltop	Mark Beach	351-0137
LV Lincoln Village	Rick Baker/T. Hornyak Alt.	351-0137
LIV Livingston	Ray Pugh/Bob Connell Alt.	237-9570
LON London	Jon Robinson	1-740-852-1881
MO Main Office	Keith Jones/Matthew Gannon	469-4216
MV Marysville	Doc Holliday	1-937-642-1961
MTV Mount Vernon	Paul McCamey	351-1701
NE Northeast	Mark Martin	279-2778
NL Northland	Kent Fling/Mike Little	890-1180
NW Northwest	James Williams	451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Madonna Keller/P. Trzcinski Alt.	476-1590
PIC Pickerington		837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Teresa Thomas	614-873-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Doug Sawyer	279-2778
SHEP Shepard	Larry Hamby	476-1590
TV Tri-Village	Brenda Barton	469-4232
U University	Rod James	294-7292
UA Upper Arlington	Tom Wilson/Tom Parise	451-2302
WV Westerville	Dennis Manning	882-2243
WJ West Jefferson	G. Chaffins	1-614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	Danny Green	793-9789
WH Whitehall	Ken McCauley	237-1722
WOR Worthington/Busch	Andy Curtis	846-6088

**ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE
FIRST WEDNESDAY OF ANY
MONTH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN
THE FOLLOWING MONTHS
BULLETIN**

**The views expressed in articles
printed in this publication do not di-
rectly reflect those of Branch 78 or
the Editor.**

**ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICA-
TIONS TO :**

**1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524**

STEWARDS MEETING-6:30 P.M.

First Wednesday of each month

OFFICERS MEETING-6:00 P.M.

**The Monday preceding Steward
Meeting**

BRANCH MEETING-6:30 P.M.

Second Wednesday of each month

RETIREES MEETING-1:00 P.M.

First Tuesday of each month

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:

279-BR78

279-2778

www.nalc-branch78.org