

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78 BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



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PICKERINGTON

DECEMBER 2010



12

VOL. 31, NO. 12

*Season's
Greeting*



*from our
family to yours*



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

2011 will bring many changes to the Postal Service. Five day delivery could come to light again, contract negotiations for the NALC and a new Postmaster General. The Postal Service's continued loss of revenue is definitely at the forefront of everyone's mind. Be aware, be educated and be ready to act when your Union asks you to get involved. You can only benefit. If we set back and do nothing we will lose.

Jason Fry has been appointed as the Financial- Secretary of Branch 78. Charles Sanders will fill the vacant Trustee position. I know both will do well. The Branch has gone through some transitions recently and may continue to see more in the near future. We have a very active

and competent group of officers who are willing to work diligently for you. I want to thank Charles and Jason for accepting the responsibilities that comes with the job.

A huge thank you goes to Gary Porter for all his hard work in putting together the 2nd annual bowlathon for MDA. Letter Carriers got together to raise money for a good cause. We saw many new faces this year. A number of stations sponsored lanes which helped with the cause. In order to be successful, a lot of hard work goes in to an event like this. It was a fun time for all involved, thanks again to Gary and his volunteers for all they did.

We have been active in trying to get PTF's promoted to regular

status. We have an arbitration slated for December 9, 2010. If we set back and do nothing, nothing will happen. We are still under withholding which is the reason why the Columbus District has not converted PTFs to regulars. I will let you know of the outcome.

I want to wish each and everyone of you a happy holiday season and a Merry Christmas. Take the time and spend it with your love ones and appreciate what you have.

Remember

Keep fighting the good fight!

Rocco Evangelista

Rocco Evangelista

A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT TODD HORNYAK

Branch 78 Second Annual Bowlathon for Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) was a great success. Safety and Health Officer Gary Porter once again put on a great event. The Bowlathon was held at the Columbus Square Bowling Palace, 5707 Forest Hills Blvd., Columbus, OH 43231, from 12:30 until 3:30 on November 7, 2010. This year's event had several outstanding prizes for those members who were able to attend including four sets of Columbus Blue Jackets hockey tickets, a \$100 cash prize and an OSU Corn hole set plus door prizes. All those who participated in this worthwhile cause with their friends and family had a great time and Branch 78 raised over \$1000.00 for MDA.

The annual steward's appreciation dinner was held December 1, 2010 at the Branch 78 Union Hall.

The event is to honor the stewards for all of their hard work representing the membership throughout the year. The Union Steward is one of the most difficult and important positions in any work location. The Steward sets the tone for each delivery unit or zip code. The union steward is also responsible for being a leader, educator, mediator, organizer, confidant, enforcer of the Contract. Sometimes, the steward needs to be a mediator, listening to and resolving a member's problem with management. Sometimes members just need someone to talk with, in confidence that it will be kept private. Stewards teach our members about their rights under the Law and the National Agreement. Stewards also have to teach our members about what the members themselves must contribute in

order to protect those rights.

The Shop steward must do "what's right" no matter what the issue is or who's involved. He or she must enforce the National Agreement all the time, every time, no matter who's involved or our own personal feelings. An important part of being that "leader" is being someone that others can respect. The other Carriers might not like the Steward personally, but they need to respect him or her for the way they do business.

Members need to know that their Union Steward will be straight-forward and truthful with them at all times whether they like what we have to say or not. We need to be constantly aware of what's going on around us and resolve issues before they become grievances. And, we need to know

Continued on page 9

MILLER'S MUSINGS

Congratulations to Gary Porter for the MDA Bowlathon event. It wasn't a huge crowd but everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The lanes were very nice and even the littlest bowlers knocked down some pins. Definitely mark your calendars to participate next year, great family fun for a worthy cause.

The Combined Federal Campaign is winding down and I hope that more people participated this year. There are so many organizations to choose from that need support since corporate donations are down and government support is lacking.

Our state will feel the results of the election as soon as the transition begins. There have been indications that the governor elect is wasting no time taking the reins way ahead of them being handed to him. It is apparent that his personality hasn't changed much from his days in Congress.

Congratulations to Charles Sanders, on his appointment to the Trustee vacancy. We have a lot of young, talented officers in our Branch. These are tough times for stewards and officers local and national.

We were fortunate to have Tim O'Malley, NALC Director of Health Benefits, at the Branch to personally answer questions about

the NALC Health Benefit Program. I was disappointed there wasn't a better turnout. Hope you check out OUR plan and sign up before Open Enrollment Season ends December 13th.

There are several phrases we hear way too often on the work-room floor: when I carried mail, it doesn't take any longer and that is unacceptable. It is thought that no one remembers the type of carrier some of these individuals were. If it didn't take longer everyone would be back early after carrying their route and taking lunch and breaks, when everything but the kitchen sink is thrown on the machines. What's truly unacceptable is the manner in which some people attempt to manage people under their direction.

There is all this interest in improving the VOE scores. No one listened before to our suggestions why repeat it over and over to deaf ears. There are contract negotiations in the near future and no one wants a repeat of the previous attempt to use VOE comments to cut salaries and benefits. I suspect the majority of employees give their customers outstanding service in spite of the postal service guidelines that thwart us at every turn. We will continue to give excellent service as long as there is a USPS to represent. There are a few that

disgrace us all and they get the headlines and news coverage but the majorities are honest, hardworking dedicated men and women.

I thank you in advance for supporting **ONE NEW TOY** and hope that you have a very **Merry Christmas**.

*Happy Holidays
from my family to yours,
Yana F. Miller-Farney*



Yana Miller-Farney

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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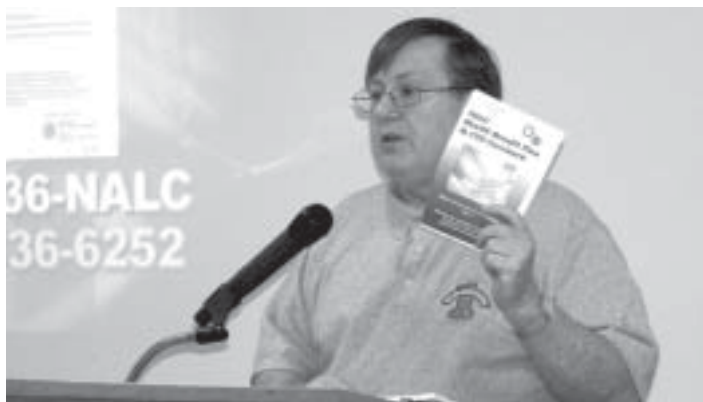
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**TOGETHER
WE CAN
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE ! ! !**

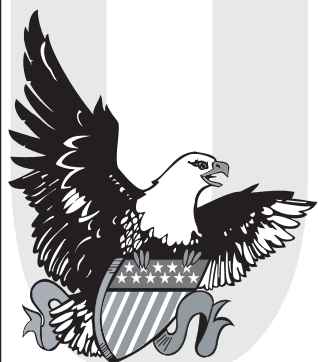
O'MALLEY, NALC DIRECTOR OF HEALTH BENEFITS, ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT NALC HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM



BUDGET

Branch		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
		Budgeted 42,110.00	41,000.00	20,000.00	\$30,380.16	\$15,016.00	\$17,667.20
	Used	11,066.49	21,492.53	13,788.03	\$10,434.00		\$0.00
Payroll	Budgeted	200,000.00	200,000.00	220,000.00	\$225,000.00	\$225,000.00	\$225,000.00
	Used	183,251.14	199,486.76	212,385.40	\$215,742.00		
Per Capita	Budgeted	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00	\$2,600.00
	Used	\$1,170.20	\$1,080.20	\$1,249.48	\$1,080.00		
Delegate	Budgeted	\$37,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$37,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$15,000.00
	Used	\$36,323.24	\$11,904.60	\$35,178.00	\$12,507.00		
Education	Budgeted	\$16,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$16,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00
	Used	\$14,119.20	\$14,805.08	\$8,171.96	\$17,632.00		
Taxes	Budgeted	\$5,100.00	\$7,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$8,000.00
	Used	\$6,440.05	\$7,290.40	\$6,570.92	\$6,862.18		
Office Supplies	Budgeted	\$27,500.00	\$29,821.60	\$27,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
	Used	\$22,939.35	\$29,743.22	\$28,828.04	\$23,947.00		
Social Rec	Budgeted	\$13,000.00	\$13,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$20,000.00
	Used	\$12,463.83	\$11,163.47	\$14,838.39	\$14,819.00		
Utilities	Budgeted	\$15,000.00	\$16,700.00	\$16,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00
	Used	\$10,039.45	\$12,853.94	\$13,522.67	\$13,584.00		
Bldg. Maintenance	Budgeted	\$30,000.00	\$35,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$12,500.00	\$17,000.00
	Used	\$9,823.70	\$23,546.26	\$28,847.13	\$53,112.00		
Charity	Budgeted			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$6,000.00
	Used			\$4,299.00	\$7,441.00		
Totals	Budgeted	\$386,910.00	\$382,721.60	\$384,200.00	\$403,680.16	\$394,316.00	\$381,767.20
	Used	\$307,636.65	\$333,366.46	\$363,380.02	\$377,160.18	\$0.00	\$0.00

United We Stand!



*Support our men and
women in the
military who are fighting
for our freedom!
God Bless America!!!*



**Don't Pay
Bills Online!**

**Help Keep
Letter Carriers
Working.**

**Mail Your
Bills or Letters
Today!**



**2010
NALC
BRANCH 78
MDA
BOWL-A-THON**



PHONE BANK



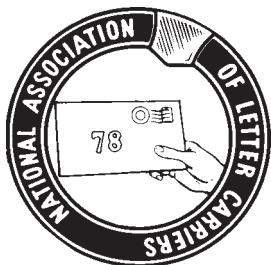
During the elections there were a few carriers that answered the call to man the phones and attend rallies for Governor Strickland and other Ohio candidates.

Hopefully, more of our members will be willing to participate in the next round of elections. The Carrier Corps needs active participants.

DON'T FORGET!

To Make Your Contribution To COLCPE

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO COLCPE



Mail to:
Buckeye Branch 78
1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio
43223-2524

**MAIL
YOUR
CONTRIBUTION
TODAY!**

**SIGN UP
FOR
AUTO DEDUCT
FROM YOUR
PAY CHECK
OR
CHECKING
ACCOUNT!**



A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT TODD HORNYAK

Continued from page 2

the rules and lead by example. “Do as I say, not as I do” might work for management, but it won’t work for the Shop Steward. In order to be a good union representative of the NALC, Stewards need to know the rules as laid out in the National Agreement and other handbooks and manuals. And finally, Stewards must be able to share all that

knowledge with their members at the station. I would like to personally thank all of the Stewards for their hard work representing the membership throughout the year.

Penalty Overtime Exclusion: This year during a four-week period (two consecutive pay periods) in December, the application of penalty overtime is suspended (*Ar-*

ticle 8, Sections 4 and 5). The USPS has designated the Penalty Overtime Exclusion period for 2010: December 4-31, 2010 (Pay Period 26-10, Week 1 through Pay Period 01-11, Week 2).

*Fraternally,
Todd Hornyak*

COMPENSATIONS

I would like to touch base on what the FORM CA-2a [NOTICE OF RECURRENCE] is and how and when to fill out this form. With the implementation of NRP by management you may have to complete this form. A RECURRENCE OF DISABILITY is work stoppage caused by three issues:

1. A spontaneous return of the symptoms of a previous injury or occupational disease without intervening cause;
2. A return or increase of disability due to a consequential injury (defined as one which occurs

due to weakness or impairment caused by a work-related injury);

3. Withdrawal of a specific light duty assignment when the employee cannot perform the full duties of the regular position (NRP). This withdrawal must have occurred for reasons other than misconduct or non-performance of job duties.

Only one of the issues has to happen to file a notice of recurrence.

A RECURRENCE OF THE MEDICAL CONDITION is the documented need for additional

medical treatment after release from treatment for the work-related injury.

Do not confuse the FORM CA-2 with the FORM CA-2a, they are very different from each other.

Lastly if you are sent home because of a withdrawal of light duty assignment you may claim wage loss on FORM CA-7 from OWCP .

*Gary L Porter
Safety/ Compensation Officer*

Danny Stoughton, Gahanna, hits that clock one last time, retiring with forty years of service. Check out that grin! Best wishes to a great guy.



CLOSING TIME

As the calendar year comes to a close, most of us take a moment and reflect on the events of the last year. Our Postal lives were filled with major events over the twelve months. It started out in January and February with the major snowstorms we trudged through. Spring brought JARAP and a say at the table for carriers in route adjustment. Like the process or not, making the adjustment by clock rings is on each of us now. If we can just do away with 3999's on non-representative days and create more choice territory as mail volume shrinks, every carrier would be happy. Bottom line; route adjustments aren't easy on anyone. If mail volume was growing it would be great, but the more it declines the more change we will face. I, for one, would rather do it this way than go back to rigged inspections.

The summer brought more bad news for the Post Office. Reports of billion dollar losses, FSS flat sorters not working, extreme heat, NRP and the convention; just to name a few. Going to the convention for me was a great learning experience. The convention also helped me to realize two things. One, anyone who says the national union is doing nothing is not paying attention. Secondly, there are carriers all over the country fighting for our common cause.

In my last article I referred to non-members as "scabs". I meant to change this to non-members. Although I regret this oversight I'm glad it happened. Many of you non-members approached me during JARAP and spoke your mind. It gave me a great opportunity to tell you why you are wrong. I guar-

antee you, that if the union didn't have to represent you as a non-member; you would join in a heartbeat. Just imagine if management could pay you whatever they wanted, discipline you without any recourse, send you home at the drop of a hat, and cut your benefits without warning. It's great being a non-member until negotiations come around then the Post Office uses it to lower all of our benefits. What are you waiting for, if you are a non-member join? If you know a non-member go up, shake their hand and tell them we need them to join.

NRP was rolled out in Columbus and lives were changed. Some people were miraculous healed overnight. Others retired, not wanting to face the stress they would be going through working for the Postal Service. Others were sent home wanting to work and left to fight a battle. Even more went back to full duty working in pain and risking their health. The Union is filing grievances and winning most of them at the national level. Read carefully non-member this is what our dues help pay to protect your rights.

Fall brought great tragedy to our local branch as well as the Postal Service. The Postal Service lost major battles when it came to the rate increase and the \$55 billion in overpaid health benefits. Easily summed up, we got screwed. We lost a lot of friends in congress and now our jobs may be in major jeopardy. Are you hearing what I'm saying non-member, how does a 50% pay cut sound. Five day delivery was defeated for now, but I guarantee management will bring the idea back real soon. They are

either not smart enough or don't care that it would be the end of the USPS as we know it.

We all lost a great friend and advocate when Bob Solt passed away. I wasn't surprised at the huge turnout of carriers and friends at his funeral. I was disappointed that no management people from Columbus could take the time to show up. Thank you Karen Garber, Postmaster of Dayton, and the Postmaster from Dublin for showing up and paying your respects. Both of you have my respect. I guess everyone from downtown was too busy on a Saturday to show up.

Fall also brought a major push by me to get you in the carriers health benefits plan. As you read this article only a few days will be left in the open enrollment season. Dare to compare and switch to the plan they can't take away at the bargaining table. Remember we are non-profit so the more members we get into the plan the better the benefits become.

Winter brings the holidays, friends, family, good times and time for reflection. For us as letter carriers it brings heavier parcel delivery, cards with no addresses, One New Toy and cold weather but I know we will get the job done again! I know I missed mentioning a lot of important things and events, but these are the ones that affected me the most this year. Take a second and reflect on 2010 at the Post Office. How can you make next year better? Get involved, secure your job and stay active and informed.

Mark Beach
Health Benefit Representative

NALCREST RETIREMENT VILLAGE



Doug Gulley Director of Retirees Branch 78 with Retired Officer and member Eddie Stewart of Branch 78 at his residence at NALCREST.



Doug Gulley Director of Retirees Branch 78 and Jerry Kane, General Manager of NALCREST during a recent visit to NALCREST

NALCREST owned and operated by the NALC is a retirement village where many retired letter carriers go to retiree after a long hard career carrying mail. Letter Carriers from across the nation move to Florida to enjoy the fun, sun and warmer climate. Some live there year round others just spend the winters coldest months others make frequent trips during the year. In 2013 NALCREST will

celebrate 50 years of existence. NALCREST was a dream of Bill Doherty years ago to give letter carriers reasonable housing in warmer climates after a long grueling career in colder weather. There is a bond among many of the residents forming clubs and teams filling some of their time with sports and other activities. Recently, the residents of NALCREST received notice of a

rent increase, major in most opinions. If you are near retirement and are thinking about moving to NALCREST go take a look there are currently vacancies. NALCREST is just about an hours drive from Orlando, easy to find. It was good to meet with Jerry Kane the Manager of the property and very nice to see an old friend and longtime officer of Branch 78, Eddie Stewart.



BRANCH 78 MEMBER UPDATE FORM

Name: _____

Work Station: _____ Route Number: _____

Home Address: _____

Address line 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Cell Phone Number: _____

E-Mail (optional): _____

Please complete the fields above and give to your Union Steward or mail to:

NALC Branch 78 • 1029 Harrisburg Pike • Columbus, Ohio 43223

Buckeye Branch 78

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Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524
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Letter Carriers
AFL-CIO



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SGT-AT-ARMS	RICK BAKER	279-2778
DIR OF RETIREES	DOUG GULLEY	279-2778
MBA HEALTH BENEFIT	MARK BEACH	279-2778
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TRUSTEE	JOHN KLINGER	
TRUSTEE	JACKI MITCHELL	237-2830
TRUSTEE	ORRIN BOWMAN	740-361-7865
TRUSTEE	CHARLES SANDERS	279-2778

STATIONS STEWARDS BUSINESS-HOME

A Short North	Ramon Lawson	469-4466
B Clintonville	Douglas Lawver	447-8078
BW Beechwood	John Wyckoff/ Karlton Wilson Alt.	447-8078
BEX Bexley	Jacki Mitchell/B. Stidams Alt.	237-2830
Canal Winchester	Rocco Evangelista/Todd Hornyak	279-2778
C Linden	Marcus Jones/A. Mateen Alt.	476-1590
CP Central Point	Alan D. Moore Sr.	469-4465
CIR Circleville	Patrick Moore	1-740-474-3113
City Gate Collection Unit	Chuck Snyder/Alt. Spencer Lymon	472-0500
DEL Delaware	Randy Hartman	1-740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Orrin Bowman	889-0763
Eastland	Dean Peruzzi/M. Sayers Alt.	237-1912
E Olde Town	Steve Bryant	469-4556
F German Village	Douglas Bryant/Ed Thomas Alt.	449-9565
G South Columbus	Eli Turner	444-0217
GAH Gahanna	John Slifko/Doug Doherty Alt.	472-0696
GP Groveport	Rocco Evangelista/Todd Hornyak	279-2778
GC Grove City	Dave Kitchen	875-6327
HILL Hilliard	Keith Fekete	876-7021
HT Hilltop	Michael Brim	351-0137
LV Lincoln Village	Mark Beach	351-0137
LIV Livingston	Ray Pugh/Mike Steele Alt.	237-9570
LON London	Jon Robinson	1-740-852-1881
MO Main Office	Matthew Gannon/Marvin West Alt.	469-4216
MV Marysville	Todd Longworth	1-937-642-1961
MT Gilead	Emma Jane Vail	1-419-946-5846
MTV Mount Vernon	Charles Sanders	351-1701
NE Northeast	Kim Demarcus	476-5786
NL Northland	Joan Nevels	890-1180
NW Northwest	Myron Miller, Jr.	451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Madonna Keller/P. Trzcinski Alt.	476-1590
PIC Pickerington	Rocco Evangelista/Todd Hornyak	837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Rocco Evangelista/Todd Hornyak	614-873-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Doug Sawyer	279-2778
SHEP Shepard	Larry Hamby	476-1590
TV Tri-Village	Brenda Barton	469-4232
U University	Rocco Depassio	469-4466
UA Upper Arlington	Ed Ralston	451-2302
WV Westerville	K. Fraley/T. Hannum	882-2243
WJ West Jefferson	Robin Brown	1-614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	J Chris Imwalle	793-9789
WH Whitehall	Dan Churry/Gary Porter Alt.	237-1722
WOR Worthington/Busch	Jeff Freeman	846-6088

LOOK

FOR THE

UNION LABEL



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

**ARTICLES RECEIVED AFTER THE
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The views expressed in articles printed in this publication do not directly reflect those of Branch 78 or the Editor.

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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