

# BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

## BULLETIN

### Columbus and Central Ohio



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**AUGUST 2012**



**VOL. 33, NO. 8**

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Letter Carrier Doug Poole from Linden Station was released from the Ohio State University Medical Center June 29, 2012 after more than five months in the hospital. January 14, Doug was involved in an accident while delivering mail on his route. He has undergone 16 surgeries and has had some major complications from those surgeries. He has been able to overcome all the problems and is currently working on physical therapy at home. Doug is very thankful for the prayers and cards he has received from Branch 78 and letter carriers and branches across the country. I am glad that Doug is finally home with his family and I wish him continued success on his long road to recovery.

New District Manager Charles McCreadie has implemented a 1700 Window of Operation in the Cincinnati District. Supervisors have informed carriers during service talks that carriers that are not on the overtime list will be forced to work overtime to get the mail delivered to make this window of operation. Branch 78 and the NALC do not recognize a window of operation that violates the provisions of the National Agreement. Forced Overtime has been a problem for months in Columbus because of

understaffed offices. Management is now requiring more carriers to work forced overtime to meet this self imposed operational window. Article 12 withholding is still in effect in Columbus and management is not hiring career employees. The Cincinnati District is at the cap for hiring Transitional Employees (TEs). The problems will continue until more employees are hired.

Letter carriers are under more pressure than ever before to pivot. Management's unrealistic expectations to capture every minute possible have made conditions on the workroom floor difficult for letter carriers. If you are unable to complete your assignment in the allotted time you should inform management and complete PS Form 3996. If the 3996 is disapproved call the office to inform management from the street and ask for further instructions. All carriers should take 30 minutes for lunch and two 10 minute breaks. Don't allow management's faulty DOIS projections make you skip a break or lunch. Street supervision has increased so make sure you are doing your route by the book. All carriers need to carry their routes safely and professionally every day. The heat has been an issue for months

now. Be sure to drink plenty of water and stay hydrated. If you need to take extra time to cool down take the time and be safe.

The NALC 68th Biennial National Convention was held in Minneapolis, Minnesota July 23 thru 27. The general sessions of the convention were held daily and covered general resolutions, legislative resolutions, National Agreement resolutions and proposed amendments to the NALC Constitution. The delegation will report all information to the membership upon returning from the national convention at the August branch membership meeting on August 8. There are several issues that need to be addressed by the NALC and I am sure it will be an interesting and informative convention.

The Robert Solt Memorial Golf Outing to benefit MDA will be held August 12 at St. Albans Golf Club, 3833 Northridge Rd Alexandria, OH 43001. Get your team together for this worthwhile event.

*Fraternally,  
Todd Hornyak*



Todd Hornyak

## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT MARK BEACH



Mark Beach

First off I would like to take a moment and thank Mike Brim and Madonna Keller for all the hard work and extra time they put in as Formal A representatives. Due to the increase in the volume of grievances being appealed to the Formal step A Charles Sanders has now joined are ranks at the formal A level. I also would like to thank our President Todd Hornyak for his dedication and leadership during these extremely tough times. Todd is always at the hall when I arrive early in the morning and when I leave late at night. Twelve hour plus days have become the norm rather than the exception for the both of us. We will do everything in our powers to enforce the contract. I would also like to thank my wife and family who have had to make a huge sacrifice hardly having me around these last few months. I'm sure at times they may see this as a blessing in disguise. I would also like to thank and encourage those stewards that have put in the extra hours filing forced overtime grievances. Your hard work does not go unnoticed and unappreciated. I thank you for the sacrifices you make on a daily bases. To those stewards and stations either not yet effected by the forced overtime or that have chosen not to enforce the contract I advise you to step up now before it is too late.

I would like to tell them and the membership it will get better soon, but this would be a lie. The

issues facing branch 78 and its members will not be solved overnight. It will take a concerted and sustained effort by the members of Branch 78 to return the work-room floor to normalcy. We are now in one of the biggest struggles Branch 78 and its membership has ever faced with the issue of forced overtime and unwarranted discipline. We have a new District Manager, Charles McCreadie from the Western Pennsylvania area. Upon talking to union officials in that district we learned that forced overtime and the issuing of discipline seemed to exponentially increase upon his arrival. Brace yourself members we may be in for a long and bumpy ride. As always if you are issued discipline, see your Steward immediately. Make sure that if you are unable to make your assignment in the time management has determined, fill out a 3996 with a full detailed account as to why you are unable to meet their goals and yes even make that phone call around 3P.M. so the supervisor can have a second chance to correct their mistake.

At the core of all these violations is the implementation of a 5 o'clock window for the Columbus installation. The union does not recognize or support any window of operation that violates provisions set forth in article 8 of our National Agreement. This new policy clearly does not make any sense and cannot be maintained with the current letter carrier staffing (or lack of) in the Columbus installation. Branch 78 intends to enforce the contractual guarantees of article 8 fully and

in every office when possible. If you are on the ODL and not working overtime that is being given to non ODL carriers, see your steward. If you are a NON-list carrier being forced to carry overtime see your steward. When the steward asks you to write statements don't refuse or say you don't want to get involved it is your rights the steward is protecting. Give your steward the tools necessary to protect your contractual rights that the union has fought so hard and long for. Speaking of stewards Branch 78 is looking for a few quality people in several offices to step up and represent our membership. Branch 78 does an excellent job offering support and training for our stewards. If the job is done right it can be very fulfilling and rewarding for a member who is concerned about both our future as letter carriers and union members. We have had several new stewards that have come on board of late. Each has expressed to me they didn't realize how tough and important the stewards job was until taking on the responsibility themselves. I thank them for their continued effort and support of their union. We also need the members of Branch 78 to continue to encourage the small percentage of non-members to join the union to show management we are united. Those non-members who choose to not be in the union because of the little bit of money they save and think they are getting over are living a fools dream. If everyone had the same mindset as the non member management would be able to do

# MILLER'S MUSINGS

This is written prior to the national convention and there is anticipation of hearing from other carriers across the nation. We know that we are dealing with the same issues of insufficient staffing and many contractually challenged managers. It does ease the soul, somewhat, to know that you are not alone. Sometimes you hear about a ray of sunshine, a manager that actually adheres to the contract who tries to work with their staff and not against them but those stories are few and far between. It has become increasingly difficult to work in the present conditions because time away from our jobs with family and friends is what motivates us to show up. When you are consistently forced in and miss those times, you lose your drive to perform. Morale collectively slumps and quality of work suffers as well.

Asinine are orders to deliver auxiliary as soon as received at all costs, with no consideration for the types of deliveries you have. Case in point, I have a business route and I have two hours brought out at 2PM, I drop my businesses and go deliver two hours of residential with thirty minutes travel and a ten minute break thrown in, so when do my businesses get their mail? 4:40, 5:10 or maybe the next day if they are already closed. That makes GOOD business sense? I think not! These people have no clue when they make edicts of this sort. And there are immediate supervisors too insecure to make a decision on their own or those who have no clue why this

is a poor decision. It is hard to save a business that refuses to save itself. One size does not fit all!

I doubt that any of you have noticed the increased political ads. It is practically to the point that the shows are commercials between the ads. The importance of Ohio to both parties means the onslaught will continue till the election ends. I cannot emphasize the need for all of us to be COLCPE donors. We hear every excuse but none will matter if you have no job or benefits are slashed. There is a very unfriendly House, many of our advocates seats are up for grabs. We can continue to bury our heads in the sand or we can actively fight to maintain what we have. It is ALL of our responsibility to do our part to support labor friendly candidates. HR 2309 is not completely out of the picture nor will it be as long as the Issas and Rosses remain in control. Some cite social reasons for not supporting labor friendly candidates but if you have to have two jobs to make almost what you earn now will it matter? At least our salaries afford us the resources to support whatever we choose those two minimum wage jobs won't afford us that luxury. We know it will be hard to get concessions in our arbitration because of the cuts the other unions have accepted, but maybe they won't be as severe. Our National will fight to preserve our hard fought benefits but the final say is not theirs. We as a union must strive to be more proactive to maintain our jobs.

Five dollars a pay is a trip to Starbucks, isn't your job worth that?

We are so pleased that Doug Poole has been released home. The United Way was kind enough to offer assistance through our brother unions, to try to make his home more accessible. Homer Cordle took reps from Plumbers & Pipe Fitters to assess his needs with a commitment from Lowe's and Smoot Construction to assist. How great was that? Keep this in mind when CFC time rolls



Yana Miller-Farney

*Continued on page 5*

## Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

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# COLCPE'S GIMME 5 CAMPAIGN

## WHY EVERY NALC MEMBER NEEDS TO SUPPORT COLCPE'S GIMME 5

Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission was a case settled by the Supreme Court in January 2010. In a nutshell, it permits unlimited spending in political campaigns by corporations and labor unions. The change for labor unions was that they could now dip into the funds raised through member's union dues and they no longer had to rely on the monies they raised through their Political Action Committees. This ruling technically applies to the NALC, but in practice it **does not**. **NALC doesn't use union dues for it's political outreach.** They decided long ago to maintain a wall between the union's efforts on behalf of letter carriers in negotiations with management and their efforts on behalf on letter carriers on Capital Hill. For their political efforts, **the National Association of Letter Carrier's relies solely on contributions to COLCPE.**

The NALC relies on voluntary contributions to COLCE to lobby Congress and the Presidential

Administration on the behalf of its members. That's why the list of COLCPE contributors in the latest issue of the **Buckeye Branch 78 Bulletin** was so dismaying. I was amazed that only 49 members of our union are signed up for Gimme 5 and 15 of those who participate are retirees. That's less then 5% of the membership. Yes, I'm on the list and I recognize that many of our members give to COLCPE in lump sum contributions, but it's really important to sign up for automatic contributions to COLCPE. It's difficult for the NALC to budget funds for their political efforts on our behalf if they're not sure how much money is going to come in each year. If \$130 a year will be a budget buster for you, please consider a contribution of even \$2.00 a paycheck. The pay-off for that donation might be the viability of the Postal Service and maintaining your middle class job.

As Postal employees we are directly affected by how politics is conducted in Washington.

The NALC doesn't care about a political candidate's party affiliation, they only care whether or not the candidate supports policies that are positive for our members and the Postal Service. At the moment, many of the folks who are in office don't believe in the Postal Service as a vital common good for the citizens of this nation. They see it only as a failed business, that must be downsized and perhaps, eventually dismantled and given over to private industry. COLCPE makes it possible for the NALC to work on campaigns for our political friends and lobby for our interests in Washington. The private corporations have an army of lobbyist to further their interests. The NALC counts on us, the union membership, to contribute the funds to COLCPE because that gives craft employees, the backbone of the Postal Service, a seat at the table.

**Brenda Barton**

*Congratulations....*



*Ron Santivicca receives his Past Secretary pin.*

**SAVE YOUR JOB!**

**CALL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND WRITE THEM.**

**DONATE TO COLCPE**





## A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT MARK BEACH

*Continued from page 2*

whatever they wanted to do. I'm sure they would make the Postal service a great place to work with a wage scale better than what the union has currently bargained. I pause a moment to let that sarcasm take effect. Members it is time for you to strongly encourage this minority to join the union. Tell them to move beyond whatever slight or past situation they have had with the union. No member or union representative is perfect. We all make mistakes. However the ultimate goal of the union everyone can agree upon. To enforce the contract and educate its membership, while seeking out the best possible benefits during contract negotiations.

House Bill 2309 may hit the floor of Congress in August. We are asking our members to write their representative and tell them that we oppose this bill which guts the Postal service and destroys letter carriers good paying, middle class jobs that are vital to millions of Americans and the economy. If you have never been active before now is the time regardless of your political affiliation to tell your representative to support the NALC plan to save the Postal service.

At the time of writing this article we are less than a week away from the NALC 68th Biennial Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota. We have asked the

delegates to attend as many training classes as possible and they are required to attend the general session every day. The delegates use their own annual leave to attend the convention. This is a tremendous sacrifice on their part to help advance the training and knowledge of Branch 78 as a whole. We expect the delegates to share their knowledge with the membership upon their return. We hope to return with an update on the ongoing contract arbitration and the union's vision for the future.

*United We Stand  
Mark Beach*

## MILLER'S MUSINGS *Continued from page 3*

around!

Kirk Koblenz, West Worthington, has had some major surgery. Retiree, Jim Wilson has been trying to keep up with me riding a knee walker after foot surgery. Tom Wilson is still

fighting to regain his health. Keep all of these brothers in your prayers.

Please contact Trevor Payne and get registered for COL-CPE and eActivist. If you have moved since the last Presidential

Election register your new address with the Board of Elections. If you are not registered to vote sign up.

*Submitted by  
Yana Miller-Farney*

# BRANCH 78 ANNUAL PICNIC

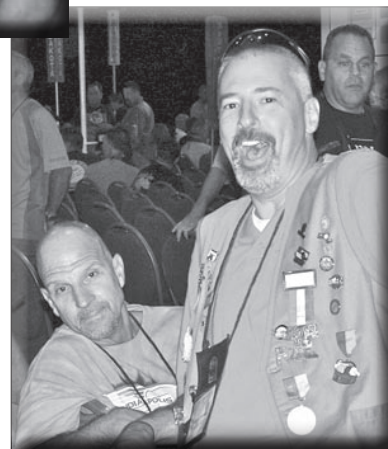
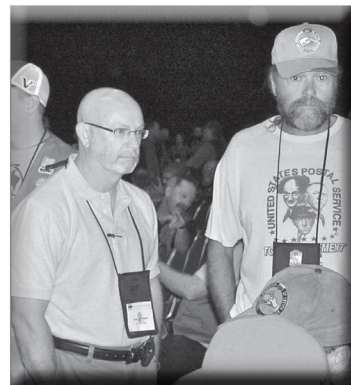
**Heimat Haus Party House**  
**4555 Jackson Pike**  
**Grove City, Ohio**  
**Noon - 4**

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2012**



- Food & Beverages • DJ/Music • Pony Rides •
- Bean Bag Toss Tournament • Fishing Pond-Kids Tournament • Prizes •

# THE NALC 68<sup>TH</sup> BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION





# **THE ROBERT SOLT MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING TO BENEFIT MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY**

**AUGUST 12, 2012**

**ST. ALBANS GOLF COURSE**

**SHOTGUN START - 7:30 AM**

**GET YOUR FOURSOME SIGNED UP EARLY**

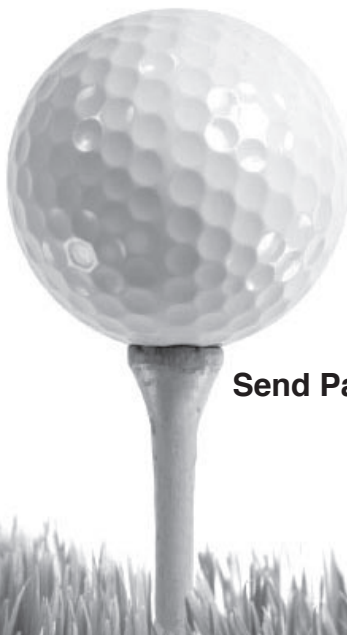
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Phone Contact Number \_\_\_\_\_ Amt. Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

- **\$70.00 per  
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ACTIVE  
CARRIERS**

**FEE INCLUDES**

**STEAK  
DINNER**



- **\$60.00 per  
person for  
RETIRED  
LETTER  
CARRIERS**

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NALC  
1029 Harrisburg Pike  
Columbus, Ohio  
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# Buckeye Branch 78

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## STATIONS STEWARDS BUSINESS-HOME

A Short North	Ramon Lawson	469-4466
B Clintonville	Douglas Lawver	447-8078
BW Beechwood	John Wyckoff/ Karlton Wilson Alt.	447-0146
BEX Bexley	Jacki Mitchell	237-2830
Canal Winchester	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	837-7953
C Linden	Marcus Jones/Anwar Mateen Alt.	476-1590
CP Central Point	Alan D. Moore Sr./Don Davis Alt	469-4465
CIR Circleville	Brian Tatham	740-474-3113
City Gate Collection Unit	Chuck Snyder/Alt. Spencer Lymon	472-0500
DEL Delaware	Ryan Chanley	740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Orrin Bowman	889-0763
Eastland	Dean Peruzzi/John Gibbons 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/Tim Flanery Alt.	444-0217
GAH Gahanna	John Slifko	472-0696
GP Groveport	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	836-5452
GC Grove City	Chad Keyes	875-6327
HILL Hilliard	Keith Fekete	876-7021
HT Hilltop	Charlie Malone/Christina Alderfer Alt	351-0137
LV Lincoln Village	Mark Beach/Brian Nickell Alt.	351-0138
LIV Livingston	Ray Pugh/Kirk Hilty Alt.	237-9570
LON London	Jon Robinson	740-852-1881
MO Main Office	Matthew Gannon/Kesean Williamson Alt.	469-4216
MV Marysville	Todd Longworth/Dave Eblin Alt.	937-642-1961
MT Gilead	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	419-946-5846
MTV Mount Vernon	Charles Sanders	469-4433
NE Northeast	Kim Demarcus	476-5786
NL Northland	Joan Nevels	890-1180
NW Northwest	Myron Miller, Jr.	451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Madonna Keller/Pete Trzcinski Alt.	476-1680
PIC Pickerington	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	614-873-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Todd Hornyak/Mark Beach	866-6049
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TV Tri-Village	Todd Davis	469-4232
U University	Rocco Depassio	469-4466
UA Upper Arlington	Ed Ralston	451-2302
WV Westerville	Keith Fraley	882-2243
WJ West Jefferson	Robin Brown	614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	John Chris Imwalle	793-9789
WH Whitehall	Gary Porter	237-1722
WOR Worthington/Busch	Jeff Freeman/ Joseph Andy Curtis Alt.	846-6088

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FOR THE

# UNION LABEL



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COULD BE YOUR OWN!**

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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](http://www.nalc-branch78.org)