

BUCKEYE BRANCH 78

BULLETIN

Columbus and Central Ohio



CANAL WINCHESTER
HILLIARD
REYNOLDSBURG

CIRCLEVILLE
LONDON
WORTHINGTON

DELAWARE
MARYSVILLE
WESTERVILLE

DUBLIN
MT. GILEAD
PLAIN CITY

GROVE CITY
MT. STERLING
WEST JEFFERSON

GROVEPORT
PICKERINGTON

APRIL 2020



VOL. 40 NO. 4

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Todd Hornyak

The Coronavirus Pandemic has basically shut down our nation at this current time. Our employer, the United States Postal Service remains open and function-

ing while many other businesses are closed. I want to thank every letter carrier for their dedication of delivering for our customers during these trying times. I appreciate that most carriers continue to show up to work during these trying times. I have been talking with Acting Columbus Postmaster Andrea Dallas and the Postmasters from the associate offices daily with updates on the conditions at the stations. I have also been on a teleconference every morning with Ohio Valley District Manager Jean Lovejoy who briefs the Union Presidents on the latest updates. The first week of March supplies were very limited across the Ohio Valley District when there were no supplies that could be found. Supplies are limited now but each office should have gloves, hand sanitizer and masks. Sanitizing wipes are hard to find as most of us know from going to the store.

The National Union and Postal headquarters have worked together and have signed several Memorandums of Understanding regarding the Covid19 outbreak. Vice President Beach addresses the first two memos in his article and I will cover the others that are out as of now.

M-01913 – March 23, 2020 – (MOU) instituting the use of Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM) Section 432.53, City Letter Carriers (7:01 Rule). A city letter carrier who actually works more than 7 hours but less than 8 hours of a regular scheduled day will, upon his/her request, be officially excused from the completion of the 8-hour tour and still credited with 8 hours of work time for pay purposes.

M-01914 – March 23, 2020 – Letter from Postal Service Vice President, Labor Relations Doug Tullino to the management in the field regarding recent agreements, leave policy and approval of requests for changes of schedule due to child-care needs related to the Covid19 pandemic.

M-01915 – March 30, 2020 – (MOU) implementing temporary workplace changes to promote social distancing amongst city let-

ter carriers. The MOU commits the parties to limiting individuals to working in their employing facilities to the extent possible. The MOU also directs the local parties to immediately discuss potential scheduling and office setup changes such as staggered start times, scheduling letter carriers to begin tours in groups of 10 or less, the manner in which stand-up talks are given, break locations and times, etc.

M-01916 – March 30, 2020 – (MOU) which allows the Postal Service to employ Temporary Carrier Assistants (TCA's) during the period between March 30, 2020, and May 27, 2020, as operationally necessary to replace city letter carriers absent due to COVID19. The MOU includes restrictions about when TCA's can be utilized regarding current CCA's and ODL employees. The Postal Service will provide NALC with reports on the number of temporary carrier assistants hired. The parties will revisit this issue immediately prior to the MOU's May 27, 2020, expiration date to determine if an extension is appropriate.

There have been several safety talks sent out regarding changes

Continued on page 5

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Mark Beach

The COVID19 virus has brought a rapid response from the union and the USPS to the situation. At NALC Branch 78 we are trying to keep the members and stewards as up to date as possible on the ever-changing world that we now live in with the Covid19. Mark Camilli, Region 11 Business Agent has been forwarding all information and memorandums agreed to, concerning the pandemic and our jobs as letter carriers.

Letter carriers are considered essential employees by the federal government. Only the government can decide if the Postal Service will shut down during this pandemic. Letter carriers may be called on to deliver food, medicine, test kits and even vaccines. All active letter carriers should have received documentation from the Post Office to travel for work. This along with your badge should be presented to law enforcement officials if you are pulled over during the shelter in place directives. Any questions from law enforcement should be directed to your supervisor or management team.

We are encouraging letter carriers to take as many precautions as possible during this epidemic. All offices should be supplying masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and cleaning wipes to the carriers. Maintenance should be cleaning the carrier cases daily, along with the trucks. Some offices have asked the carriers to wipe down the trucks with disinfectant wipes

if the maintenance staff do not have time to do so. I have been checking with the stewards weekly and elevating any deficiencies to the Business Agent. If there are any issues, please have your steward report it to me immediately. If any safety hazard exists, you have the right to fill out a PS form 1767 and report the issue to safety.

If you choose to wear masks and gloves keep them on throughout the day and worn appropriately (i.e mask over nose). Removing them and then putting them back on, places you at a higher risk for exposure to the virus. Avoid touching your face and cover any open cuts or wounds. When taking lunch remove mask and gloves, wash hands vigorously for at least 20 to 30 seconds with a generous amount of soap and hot water. Then wear a fresh pair of gloves and mask after lunch if you so choose. If you decide to not wear gloves and a mask, please wash your hands as much as possible this according to the CDC along with social distancing are the best preventive measures to avoid exposure to the virus.

If required to quarantine by a doctor due to COVID19 and medical documentation is provided then the employee is placed on administrative leave. Those that choose to self-quarantine will need to use their own sick leave or annual. If a diagnoses of Covid19 is ren-

dered then the employee should remain on administrative leave. If this is not the case, please contact your steward immediately to file a grievance.

The post office and union signed a memorandum of understanding M-01911 to extend 80 hours of sick leave for city carrier assistance who have been directly exposed or contract Covid19 until May 17, 2020. The parties also signed memorandum M-01910 which expands the coverage for sick leave dependent care to cover those who lost childcare as a result of COVID19. This expansion includes the same end date as the previous memorandum. It does not expand the 80 hour overall sick leave dependent care limit.

Many other changes have taken place on how the Post office operates during this pandemic and they can be found at the NALC Branch 78 website. The United States Government passed an initial stimulus package of 2 trillion dollars to insulate the American economy and soften the blow of the viruses impact. Cut from that bill was aid for the United States Postal Service, which is being directly impacted by the COVID19 economically. The aid was cut from the bill with direct influence from the President. Still think not giving to the Letter Carrier Political fund isn't important.

***Our future survival
depends on it!!!***

**Wear your gloves and mask, carry hand
sanitizer and cleaning wipes.
REMEMBER STAY SAFE!
STAY WELL!
WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!**

MILLER'S MUSINGS

Three weeks ago was normal, then suddenly the dreaded disease from around the globe had started popping up with more frequency every day. Not sure if we thought it wasn't coming here or what happened, that we were so miserably unprepared. Covid19 dropped down on us, attacking the most vulnerable segment of our population after young children, our seniors. Every other society cares for and cherishes their elders, we do not. We miss out on the history, experiences and wisdom they have garnered over the years. Now would be a good time to turn that tide before it's too late, at least as soon as it is safe.

What do you do other than practice social distancing from people not a part of your household? How do I know if I'm sick with the flu or COVID19? There is only so much I can do as a Letter Carrier. We don't have the luxury of a constant source to wash our hands. Aren't the doctor's offices closed, too?

Be creative, write letters to people. Speak to your neighbors or wave at least. Explain to your children why it is important to maintain safe distances from others for a while. Plan your trips outside carefully. Try to spend as little time in groceries, pet food stores, drug stores and gas stations. If you don't have masks, use bandanas to cover your nose and mouth when out on errands, safety glasses can shield your eyes if you don't wear glasses. (Rethink this if going to the bank) If you don't have rubber gloves use work gloves that can be washed after each trip. Soon as you get home, peel off your personal protective equipment (PPE) and put in the washer. Wash your hands vigorously

and keep hand sanitizer close when you can't use soap and water. Don't eat anything without cleaning your hands; gum, candy or food.

If you don't feel good, call your Primary Care Physician, first. Most are open, they are limiting face to face visits, many have transitioned to Telephone Visits, some are doing video appointments. Those require a laptop, desktop, tablet or phone with an attached camera, it might require you to work through the patient portal, by downloading a communication app. Basically you need a phone, to discuss your symptoms with the doctor. There are several questions the scheduler will ask: have you travelled, have you been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID19, do you have a fever, do you have a cough have you been more tired than usual. If you answer YES to two or more you will be transferred to the Covid19 screening line, they will determine if you need to be tested and give you further direction. The goal of all health systems is to keep as many people out of Urgent Cares, Emergency Departments and hospitals so they can concentrate on infected patients. We are at the beginning of cases, there is no concrete guess on when we will peak then see the number of cases decline.

Carriers, invest in some wipes to clean your hands, carry your hand sanitizer, keep empties to refill at the station. Do not touch your face unless you have cleaned your hands. Check on your Seniors, handicapped and individuals living alone as we have always done. Your daily visits are more important than ever. You can advise Police if you suspect

something is wrong. This is really no change, we've been doing this since way back. THANK YOU FOR DOING WHAT YOU DO DAILY!!!

Sadly, there aren't enough test kits so there is no way to know how many are actually infected. Some are carriers and will have no symptoms, others will have mild effects and others will be hit hard; they're the people that will need hospitalization and possibly placed on ventilators and many of them will not survive.

We have got to take this seriously, it is no joke! Please do what you can to protect yourselves and others. We will get through this but everyone has to practice safety. Remember, **no meetings at the Union Hall this month.** Be safe and be well.

Submitted by Yana Miller Farney

Buckeye Br. 78 Bulletin

**Published and Paid for
by Br.78**

Published monthly

**Volume 40 - Issue 4
April, 2020**

President	Todd Hornyak
Vice President	Mark Beach
Recording Secretary	Trevor Payne
Asst. Secretary/Editor	Yana Miller-Farney
Financial Secretary	Jason Fry

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Branch.

Please notify your local union of address changes as soon as possible.
Send address changes to:

Br. 78 Bulletin
1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus OH 43223-2524
614-279-2778
www.nalc-branch78.org

Printed by

Lanz Printing Co.
Columbus Ohio



PS FORM 3996

DOIS is a management tool. PS Form 3996 is the carrier's tool. All carriers are required to fill out a PS Form 3996 if they can't complete their assignment in eight hours or the time authorized. This includes any alleged pivot time. This means you should case all mail, never curtail mail on your route to pivot on another assignment. If you can not agree with your supervisor on a time, don't argue just ask for a 3996. Branch 78, the NALC, nor the Contract recognizes DOIS as the final arbiter of whether or not a Carrier needs auxiliary assistance. The instruction "Complete the assignment and be back in 8 hours" is not uncommon on the Postal work floor. However, when a Carrier has verbally stated or given a Form 3996 informing that he or she cannot follow that instruction, management must make a decision. The instruction actually contains 2 directives. The Carriers has informed management that he or she can do one or the other. It is management's responsibility to decide which one it wants complied with. According to Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities, section 131.33 states:

131.33 Unless otherwise instructed by a unit manager, deliver all mail distributed to your route prior to the leaving time for that trip and complete delivery within scheduled time. It is your responsibility to inform management when this cannot be done.

According to Handbook M-39, Management of Delivery Services, section 122.33 states:

122.33 The employee, upon request, will be provided a Form 3996, Carrier - Auxiliary Control, after the supervisor has been verbally informed as to the reason for the request. The employee shall not be denied the form and, upon request, a duplicate of the completed form will be provided the employee.

According to Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities, sections 131.41, 131.42, and 131.43 state:

131.41 It is your responsibility to verbally inform management when you are of the opinion that you will be unable to case all mail distributed to the route, perform other required duties, and leave on schedule or when you will be unable to complete delivery of all mail.

131.42 Inform management of this well in advance of the scheduled leaving time and not later than immediately following the final receipt of mail. Management will instruct you what to do.

131.43 Complete applicable items on Form 3996, Carrier-Auxiliary Control, if overtime or auxiliary assistance is authorized in the office or on the street.

2016-2019 National Agreement Article 41.3.G, Joint Contract Administration Manual page 41-21 and 22:

41.3. G. The Employer will advise a carrier who has properly submitted a Carrier Auxiliary Control Form 3996 of the disposition of the request promptly after review of the circumstances at the time. Upon request, a duplicate copy of the completed Form 3996 and Form 1571, Report of Undelivered Mail, etc., will be provided the carrier.

If, while in the normal course of picking up DPS mail, a letter carrier determines the need to file a request for overtime or auxiliary assistance (or to amend a request that was previously filed), the carrier may do so at that time. The supervisor will advise the letter carrier of the disposition of the request or amended request promptly after review of the circumstances. (Pre-arbitration Settlement, H90N-4H-C 94048405, October 21, 1998, M-01366)

Continued on next page

What items should be completed on the 3996?

A. Delivery Unit-Enter the name of the delivery unit.

C. Date-Enter the date requesting assistance.

D. Carrier's Name and Route No. - Enter the name of the carrier requesting assistance or overtime and the route number.

J. Reason for Use of Auxiliary-Show the reason assistance is being requested. (Omit during Christmas period)

K. Estimated Work- Hours /Minutes- The carrier must enter the estimated hours and minutes of the amount of assistance being requested.

L. Management Action. Check and initial all appropriate actions.

MANAGEMENT ACTION - This section is completed by the manager reviewing the form. The manager reviews the request and makes a determination as to the appropriate actions. The manager shall check the appropriate actions and initial each section.

What information should be included in the reason for auxiliary? At the top of the PS Form 3996 write copy requested so you will be given a copy of your request as required by the National Agreement. There are several reasons for the use of overtime or auxiliary assistance. Pivot on another route, Travel time, Overburdened route, Excessive Parcels, DPS, Excessive Accountables, Rain, Snow, Ice, Late leaving, Change of address cards, Plan 5 talk, Safety talk, Window service (spoke with patron), Full coverage, Hot case mail, Feeling ill, waiting for mail, late dispatch, unfamiliar with route, new case labels, carting mail cased by others, cased PM mail from previous day, Thin mail, Thick mail, Sloppy mail (ADVO inserts), Traffic/construction delays, Deviate to deliver Express mail, Customer connect meeting. Turn your 3996 after you receive all mail. If you can check your DPS mail prior to turning in your request you should do so in order to better estimate your workload. If you pick up your DPS and determine the need to fill out a 3996 or amend your 3996 turned in earlier you may do so. The supervisor is to advise the carrier of the request promptly after a review of the circumstances, If you are unable to come to an agreement with the supervisor do not argue, call in at the required time and let the supervisor make the decision to carry the mail or bring it back or send assistance. All carriers must remember that we should fill out 3996s when we can't take all the mail and do our route in eight hours. We must carry our route safely and professionally at all times.

ROUTE INSPECTION AND LCPF TRAINING



President's *Continued from page1*

to delivery and new procedures that carriers are to follow. Please go to our national website nalc.org, or nalc-branch78.org for all the latest information. I would like to congratulate Gary Biliter from Upper Arlington Station, John Pin-

nix from the Main Office, Deborah Tackett from Northwest Station, Larry Zimmerman from London Post Office on their recent retirements and wish them well in the future. Please stay informed and attend the monthly Union meeting the

second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Branch 78 Union Hall located at 1029 Harrisburg Pike Columbus, Ohio 43223.

Fraternally,

Todd Hornyak

Welcome to our *New Members*



Victoria Wessa, Todd, Ebony Bateman and Brianna Johnson took the Oath of Membership.



Sarah White took the Oath of Membership.

Congratulations on your *Retirement*



John Pinnix retiring from main office.



Retiring April fourth Gary Biliter of Upper Arlington the senior carrier in the Columbus Installation!



Larry Zimmerman London Ohio retired after 30 Years of Service.



Deborah Tackett retirees from Northwest Station.

MARCH 2020 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:37 by President Hornyak; Pledge led by Jackie Habash; Invocation by Yana Miller-Farney.

Minutes read and accepted.

Trevor Payne - no communications; read the Bills List and 18 applications for membership.

New member Sarah White took the Oath of Membership.

Mark Beach - continuing training for New Stewards.

Trevor read Article 7 Section 11 - Dues. ~ **Passed** Read Article 1 Section 3-Policy Book. ~ **Passed**

Trevor read an Appeal from the National for Jeremy Hirschfelt, Jacki Mitchell and Rod Robinson requesting \$900, \$300 each be paid Per Diem for Advanced Formal A & Beyond Training citing Article 11. Committee of Appeals Denied Appeal that the Branch acted properly.

Ramon Lawson gave information on multiple MBA offerings for Whole Life and Renewable Term Life Instruments plus Annuity Plan. Last chance to get in Weight Loss Challenge, \$30/3 months and \$50/6 months weigh in tonight

Gary Porter - Safety Blitz yesterday; you are required to have your ODL on your person at all times, operating a Postal vehicle. Please check your tires, don't drive on bald tires; turn in for replacement.

HMR has been closing OWCP cases, if this happens follow up in **writing immediately**. If Corona Virus video has not been shown report to Union.

Jason Fry read the Treasurer's Report.

New Business

Yana Miller-Farney made a motion spend \$750 to purchase a table and sponsor a student at the George Meany Dinner, seconded by Stevie Bryant. ~ **Motion Passed**

Mark Beach made a motion to spend \$1000 to purchase Clippers tickets for June 14 game with Syracuse, seconded by Jacki Mitchell; sell to members at half price. It's a Sunday game starts at 2:05 PM. ~ **Motion Passed**

Ramon Lawson made a motion, seconded by Jamal Grinston to provide \$1.75 per carrier on the Food Drive Day, May 9, 2020 towards food for carriers; receipt must be the original, sent to Jason Fry by May 30, 2020. Only Stewards can be reimbursed. Based on Trevor's roster or list from supervisor. ~ Motion Passed

T-shirt information was sent to stewards if anyone wants to purchase, they can be worn the week before the Food Drive. UFCW is donating 350,000 bags, plastic because of the paper ripping; Mid Ohio Food Bank has changed it's name, will still be major recipient of donations. Local food pantry in AOs can accept for their area. Some were overwhelmed last year, unprepared for the sheer volume.

Don Shepherd made a motion, seconded by Ed Thomas to spend up to \$10,000 to refurbish the four glass doors and one Kitchen door. ~ **Motion passed**

An arbitration decision was made on APWU contract through 2022; \$.30 COLA added to base salary and changed in their Grade 5 steps; added 1% to health care costs. NALC expects to start arbitration decision this spring. COVID19/Pandemic update. NALC cancelled the celebration of the Strike Dinner, Meany Dinner has been rescheduled to September at Villa Milano. National Officer Training has been cancelled. PM Jennifer Goldstein on detail in Philadelphia, PA; Dayton PM detailed here. Five AO conversions 3/14/20. Hatch Act case is on hold. New CVS Program will have alerts sent through MDD to pickup outgoing mail between 4 and 5 PM. Columbus bids delayed in February, grievance has been filed. Discussed LCPF up to 7% in Br 78, need to get 11%. Legislative Training at the Hall; 10-3 Sunday; mandatory for those going to DC. credentials received for Hilton Hawaiian Village, Headquarters hotel. Reservations sent, should be taking all 27 delegates. Must figure out costs first.

Improvement of Service

Welcomed Ebony Bateman and Brianna Johnson, they took Oath of membership, are CCAs with one year of service, also new member Victoria Wessa. Scott Hoxworth won gas card, Victoria won CCA gas card. Brandon Winkley would have won \$90 had he been present.

Submitted by Yana Miller Farney

Buckeye Branch 78

1029 Harrisburg Pike
Columbus, Ohio 43223-2524

National Association of
Letter Carriers
AFL-CIO



Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Columbus, Ohio
Permit #1291

BRANCH 78 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	TODD HORNYAK	ToddHornyak@gmail.com
VICE PRESIDENT	MARK BEACH	markbeach78@gmail.com
REC SECRETARY	TREVOR PAYNE	thetrevorpayne@gmail.com
ASST SECRETARY/EDITOR	YANA MILLER-FARNEY	dogmamayfm@gmail.com
FIN SECY-TREASURER	JASON FRY	jasonfry44@gmail.com
SAFETY & HEALTH	GARY PORTER	GaryPorter8241@sbcglobal.net
SGT-AT-ARMS	JACKI MITCHELL	jackibr78@gmail.com
DIR OF RETIREES	DOUG GULLEY	dgulley538@aol.com
MBA HEALTH BENEFIT	RAMON LAWSON	rlawsonformala@gmail.com
HEAD TRUSTEE	DON SHEPHERD	shep7961.ds@gmail.com
TRUSTEE	MYRON MILLER	mmmoh@att.net
TRUSTEE	CHUCK SNYDER	theregular99@aol.com
TRUSTEE	BRENDA STIDAMS	bstidams@gmail.com
TRUSTEE	ED THOMAS	oakwooded@gmail.com

STATIONS	STEWARDS	BUSINESS-HOME
BW Beechwood	Doug Lawver/Scott Lloyd/ Karlton Wilson Alt.	614-447-0146
BEX Bexley	Roderick Robinson	614-237-2830
Canal Winchester	Mark Beach	614-837-7953
CIR Circleville	Brian Tatham	740-474-3113
DEL Delaware	Mark Beach	740-363-1906
DUB Dublin	Debbie Guthrie/Mary Metzen Alt.	614-889-6571
Eastland	Jeff Stiverson/Mark Elkins Alt./Jamal Grinston	614-237-1912
East City	Charles Sanders/Brian Ball/Dillien Miller Alt.	614-469-4466
F German Village	Jacqueline Habash/Dean Peruzzi Alt.	614-449-9565
G South Columbus	Eli Turner	614-444-0217
GAH Gahanna	Dierre Bell/Jacquelyn Mitchell/Brenda Stidams Alt.	614-472-0696
GP Groveport	Mark Beach	614-836-5452
GC Grove City	Melissa O'Linn	614-875-6327
HILL Hilliard	Mark Beach	614-876-7021
LIV Livingston	Ramon Lawson/Reggie Falls Alt.	614-237-9570
LON London	Mark Beach	740-852-1881
MV Marysville	Dave Eblin/Adam Tullis Alt.	937-642-1961
MT Gilead	Joe Kegley	419-946-5846
NL Northland	Sammy Tonyemba/Larez Harper	614-890-1180
NW Northwest	Myron Miller Jr.	614-451-1502
OP Oakland Park	Daniel Dillinger/Antonio Scott	614-476-1680
PIC Pickerington	Mark Beach	614-837-5793
PLN CTY Plain City	Mark Beach	614-837-4004
REY Reynoldsburg	Mark Beach	614-866-6049
UA Upper Arlington	Jeffrey Williams/Joshua Anthony Alt.	614-451-2302
West City	Allan Moore Sr./ Heather Christy/Shawn CarterAlt/ Richard Hannon Alt.	614-469-4465
WV Westerville	Richard Kidwell/Courtney McCreery/Dee Dee Miller Alt.	614-882-2243
Westland	Samuel "Cory" Bailey	614-351-0138
WJ West Jefferson	Mark Beach	614-879-9145
WW West Worthington	Jeremy Hirschfeld/Cornelius Scott/Jason Fry Alt.	614-793-9789
WH Whitehall	Gary Porter	614-237-1722

LOOK

FOR THE

UNION LABEL



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

**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 directly reflect those of Branch 78 or the Editor.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS 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
RETIREEES MEETING-1:00 P.M.

First Tuesday of each month

BRANCH OFFICE PHONES:

279-BR78 • 279-2778
www.nalc-branch78.org