

The Twig of the Branch



Branch 1477 West Coast Florida Letter Carriers



Serving:

**St. Petersburg — Largo — Dunedin — Pinellas Park — Indian Rocks Beach
Punta Gorda — Englewood — Bradenton Beach — Palmetto — Ellenton**

VOLUME 605

VOICE OF BRANCH 1477

APRIL, 2020

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT
By President Joe Henschen
Twitter @JaHe1

**The 28th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive
is on Saturday, May 9, 2020.**

Letter Carriers have a unique perspective. We not only have the neighborhoods we live in, we are part of another community – where we deliver mail. It is usually difficult not to develop some compassion for the acquaintances we make in either area.

Every day on our routes, many letter carriers see the struggles our patrons have with providing for their basic needs. It is an honor to be able to contribute to the families and the communities we serve by helping our neighbors who face hunger.

Hunger affects about 1 in 6 people around the country, including millions of children, senior citizens and military veterans. The Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive is the country's largest single-day food drive. It is held annually on the second Saturday in May in 10,000 cities and towns in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam.

The plan is simple. Customers simply leave their donation of non-perishable goods in bags next to their mailbox before the delivery of the mail that day.

The nation's letter carriers collect the food donations and distribute them

NEXT BRANCH MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020 AT THE LETTER CARRIER HALL

to local food agencies. Our Branch, the West Coast Florida Letter Carriers Branch 1477 are partners with over 20 Food Banks and Pantries. These partners help collect and sort the donations and in some areas of the branch, also collect from mailboxes.

The timing is important, with food banks, pantries and shelters running low on donations from the winter holidays and with summer looming, when most school meal programs are suspended.

Several national partners assisted the NALC in this year's food drive: the U.S. Postal Service, the United Food & Commercial Workers International Union, the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, United Way Worldwide, the AFL-CIO, Valpak and Valassis. In Florida we have Farm Share helping by donating and printing the Stamp Out Hunger bags that we will distribute and deliver in the weeks to come.

Since it began in 1993, Branch 1477 has collected over 2,215,744.00 pounds of food to stock our local pantries and banks, but the need keeps growing. What used to last 4 months to distribute to the communities has been depleted in as little as 6 weeks in some communities. We have finished #1 in our category based on branch size 9 times and topped all collections in the nation twice.

With all these years under our belts you would think the discussion of the Food Drive wouldn't be such a surprise to customers. Annually we get a number of questions asked. Here are a couple of the frequently asked questions and answers:

I put food out and it wasn't picked up. Why not?

Letter carriers try to touch every single mailbox in America during the Food Drive, but the fact is that we do admittedly miss some. Please note, though, that participation is strictly voluntary, and as no system is perfect, oversights will occur. If your donation is not picked up, contact your local post office or simply place your donation by your mailbox on Monday instead. (Letter carriers will be picking up missed donations on Monday, too.) And of course, your local food banks and pantries will gratefully accept your donation in person. In any case, we are deeply thankful for your generosity and are truly sorry for any inconvenience.

I hear that some people got special Food Drive bags in the mail, but I didn't get one. What gives?

A number of letter carrier locals have entered partnerships with sponsors to provide specially marked "Food Drive" bags that get mailed to customers. These sponsorships help defray the

costs associated with making the bags and mailing them. Plus, some sponsors have also backed bag distributions as well in certain regions of the country. Bag distribution isn't national—at least not yet. And you can always use your own bags or boxes. As mentioned earlier, locally Farm Share, a Florida Non – Profit organization has donated 8 million bags for distribution throughout the state with postage affixed to ensure delivery.

Unfortunately, there is always a battle with apathy. I do not get it, but we all know it exists. Please let your Steward know if you notice someone does not want to participate. We have volunteers to help on Drive Day. Bags on the other hand have postage and have the same delivery standards as any other piece of mail. This is a NALC event, one that couldn't be a success without the support of USPS. I ask only that if you want help on Drive Day let someone know. Please do not force the Stewards and Officers to defend you in discipline when mail matter is not delivered. It's our duty to represent you and we will of course...please just deliver the bags and cards.

*On the other hand, the issue we sometimes face is that the support of the local Postmaster isn't always emphasized when the local Supervisor is trying to make their numbers at any cost. Annually calls come to the Hall on Friday advising us that the supervisor has disallowed bag delivery. **This year, if there is push back on bag delivery, we ask you call the hall daily.** Finding out on Friday makes it impossible to ensure that the time to deliver them is allowed - when it counts! Please help us make sure the bags and cards are delivered.*

This year around April 10-12, the local branches in Lakeland, Tampa and Clearwater will join our volunteers in preparing the shipment of Food Drive Bags and Cards for each delivery unit. These bags will be available for delivery the week of May 4, 2020.

I urge each of you to do your part in making this year's Food Drive a success on your route. If we all do, we will break records.



Hubble's Troubles

By Executive Vice President,
Chris Hubble

☺ *you're on candid camera....*

Surveillance cameras are installed almost everywhere today and as a result, the average American has their image recorded by dozens of cameras every day. Some have even estimated that on average, any one person who lives in an urban environment is recorded as much as 50 times a day, and that number will continue to grow. "We are heading toward a total surveillance society in which your every move, your every transaction, is duly registered and recorded by some computer," says Jay Stanley, a privacy expert with the American Civil Liberties Union.

The technology advancements in surveillance cameras have come a long way. For just \$99.00 per unit, a homeowner and/or renter can install a WIFI doorbell camera with High Definition. Even if someone doesn't press the doorbell, motion sensors can send notifications and record video of events from the street to the doorstep. It is naive to think that you or I won't be recorded at some point in the day while delivering our routes. You would think the presence of cameras persuades people to be on their best behavior, knowing that your every move may be captured on video. Video is some of the most damaging and compelling evidence. After all, what's better than catching someone in the act? This can catch the guilty but also exonerate the innocent, because the replay puts your actions in perspective.

With that said, we've all had the chance of viewing videos posted of delivery drivers throwing parcels or an unattended vehicle driving away without a driver. But what you don't see or hear about is what happened to those who were videotaped. If they were employed by the USPS, they most likely were handed an Emergency Placement and/or Removal Letters that began with:

"The video shows the Grievant..." What did the video show, are they guilty or innocent? The difference of opinion may be more semantic, according to both parties involved. Regardless of how it may be interpreted, no one wants that fifteen minutes of fame.

Pressure by a supervisor to be back at a certain time is not an excuse for taking short cuts. Instead, this inappropriate behavior destroys the character of our workplace, our esprit de corps and our ability to engage our customers. The pressure and intimidation only leads to employees making bad choices. The anxiety that they have leads to fingering mail while driving or while walking up or down steps or while crossing the street, just to save some time. They don't take the extra time to fasten and unfasten their seatbelts or close the driver's door to save a few minutes, and they leave the engine running to jump for a parcel!

If you are being pressured and/or intimidated by your supervisor's instructions to accomplish all the work assigned to you and be back at a certain time, it's important to stay calm and not argue with the supervisor. You should always fill out PS Form 3996 when you believe the route you were assigned to carry has more work than you can complete within eight hours or you believe you cannot complete all of the work assigned to you for the day within your scheduled time.

You will use PS Form 1571 when mail assigned to your route is not delivered for any reason. It could be mail your manager or supervisor instructed you to leave in the office or mail you were unable to deliver on the street and instructed to bring back. If you did not deliver the mail, then the reason, amount, and type must be recorded on this form. Lastly, inform your local NALC representative about the situation so it can be elevated and a grievance initiated.



“Mary Lou Jackman-William Corbeau” Scholarship Application

(Please do not reduce the size of this application)

Name of Student: _____

Male ☐ **Female** ☐

Address: (print legibly) _____

City, State , Zip: _____

Contact Phone Number: Cell _____ **Home** _____

NALC Branch Name/Number: _____

Branch Contact Phone Number: _____

NALC Member's Name :(print legibly) _____

I certify the above named member of the FSALC is in good standing .

_____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Local Branch President or Secretary

Return all applications to:
John W. Mitchell, FSALC Director of Education
C/O Branch 1779
P.O. Box 3343
Lakeland, Florida 33802

To Qualify, the following requirements must be met:

- 1. The Student must have graduated from an accredited high school or have a GED.**
- 2. The Student must be a dependent of a member or the spouse of a deceased member of the FSALC who has not remarried.**
- 3. Applicant must enroll as a full-time student in an accredited college or university, and submit proof of enrollment to receive the funds if awarded (DO NOT SUBMIT PROOF OF ENROLLMENT AT THIS TIME)**
- 4. Applications must be postmarked on or before July 1, 2020**

*This scholarship award is based on a random drawing, not on academic records or qualifications. There will be four scholarships awarded—two for female and two for male—each in the amount of \$2000. This drawing will be held during the NALC 72nd Biennial Convention August 17-22, 2020
(Please do not reduce the size of this application)*

**George B. and Annie R. Elliott,
Branch 1477 Scholarship Program**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. At time of application applicant must be the son, daughter, or dependent of an active, retired, or deceased regular member of Branch 1477 as defined in Branch 1477's by-laws.
2. Applicants who have one parent in management and one parent a Branch 1477 member are eligible, provided all other eligibility requirements are satisfied.
3. When making application, applicant must be a high school senior or working toward an undergraduate degree in a community college, university, or vocational/technical institute.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or SAT and/or ACT scores reflecting the national average. GPA or SAT and/or Act scores must accompany application.
2. Application must be signed by the President or Secretary of Branch 1477 to verify parent's Branch 1477 membership.

REGULATIONS

1. Scholarship will be paid to the student and/or the college after acceptance to the college.
2. Scholarship may be used for any accredited trade school, vocational/technical institute, community college, or university.
3. Scholarship is non-renewable. Past recipients are ineligible to apply for future scholarships. Scholarship applications are valid for current year only.
4. Winners will be selected by a random drawing at the June branch meeting.
5. Two scholarships in the amount of \$750. each will be awarded.
6. Applications must be postmarked by May 31st.

**George B. and Annie R. Elliott,
Branch 1477 Scholarship Application**

(Must be postmarked by May 31st)

Branch 1477 Scholarship Committee, 5369 Park Blvd. Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Please print clearly.

Please accept my application for a Branch 1477 Scholarship. I am a senior in high school, or working toward an undergraduate degree in a , community college, university, or vocational/technical institute.

Branch 1477 Member _____ Active Retired Deceased
(name)

Relation to Branch 1477 Member	Son	Daughter	Dependent
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Applicant's name

Applicant's home address _____

City, State Zip

Applicant's phone number

This is to certify that the above named Branch 1477 parent is a member in good standing in Branch 1477.

(signature of Branch 1477 President or Secretary)

I certify that the foregoing information is correct to the best of my knowledge
And that I have included all required items with this application.

(Signature of Applicant)

Bernard “Bernie” Baxley Scholarship

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. At time of application applicant must be the son, daughter, or dependent of an active, retired, or deceased regular member of Branch 1477 as defined in Branch 1477's by-laws.
2. Applicants who have one parent in management and one parent a Branch 1477 member are eligible, provide all other eligibility requirements are satisfied.
3. When making application, applicant must be a high school senior or working toward an undergraduate Degree in a community college, university, or vocational/technical institute.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or SAT and/or ACT scores reflecting the national average. GPA or SAT and/or Act scores must accompany application.
2. Application must be signed by the President or Secretary of Branch 1477 to verify parent's Branch 1477 Membership.

REGULATIONS

1. Scholarship will be paid to the student and/or the college after acceptance to the college.
2. Scholarship may be used for any accredited trade school, vocational/technical institute, community college, or university.
3. Scholarship is non-renewable. Past recipients are ineligible to apply for future scholarships. Scholarship applications are valid for current year only.
4. Winners will be selected by a random drawing at the June branch meeting.
5. **One scholarship will be awarded for \$500.00.**
6. Applications must be postmarked by May 31st.

Bernard “Bernie” Baxley Scholarship

(Must be postmarked by May 31st)

Branch 1477 Scholarship Committee 5369 Park Blvd. Pinellas Park, FL 33781

Please print clearly.

Please accept my application for a Branch 1477 Scholarship. I am a senior in high school, or working toward an undergraduate degree in a community college, university, or vocational/technical institute.

Branch 1477 Member _____ Active Retired Deceased
(name)

Relation to Branch 1477 Member Son Daughter Dependent

Applicant's name _____

Applicant's home address _____

City, State Zip _____

Applicant's phone number _____

This is to certify that the above named Branch 1477 parent is a member in good standing in Branch 1477.

(signature of Branch 1477 President or Secretary)

I certify that the foregoing information is correct to the best of my knowledge
And that I have included all required items with this application.

(Signature of Applicant)

SECOND SATURDAY IN MAY



PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX.
WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.

National Partners





Vice President

By Zulma Betancourt

F M L A

Family and Medical Leave Act

Is your FMLA being denied? If you wonder why, make sure you check any mail you receive from that comes from FMLA so you can meet the deadlines required and won't be disqualified from receiving the benefits you are eligible for. Many carriers don't know they don't have to call in sick in order to receive FMLA. If you are denied you should always find out why, it is usually something so simple such as how many occurrences per month you are having, then you can get an extension to get the help you need.

Regular Carriers and CCAs can qualify for FMLA protected leave if they have worked for the Postal Service for at least 12 months total or 1,250 work hours that do not have to be done consecutively. One very important thing many people don't know is that they need to know is which leave they are choosing since it's **YOUR CHOICE** to use *Annual Leave, Sick or Leave Without Pay which are all FMLA related*. FMLA can be used for doctors' appointments related to your condition and FMLA also guarantees any eligible letter carriers up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for a covered service member and qualified related family members with a serious injury or illness such as their spouse, son, daughter, parent, or next of kin.

1

In the **ELM Section 515 (Chapter 510)** - USPS Employee and Labor Relations Manual contains all regulations covering FMLA rights as well as the Department of Labor, both valuable resources in making sure that you get the benefits you and your family may need.

If you have any other questions about your FMLA, please call the office at **877-477-3273**, select option 5 and then option 3. You can also mail completed forms to **HRSSC - FMLA Southeast, PO Box 970909, Greensboro, NC 27497-0909** or fax them to **651-456-6067**. Forms for FMLA can be picked up from your local Union branch or on the branch website for easier convenience at: www.branch1477nalc.org/links.html.

¹ NALC, Workplace Issues, (2020), Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), <https://www.nalc.org/workplace-issues/contract-administration-unit/fmla>



Editor's Corner

By Editor/Webmaster,

Judy Dorris

Due to the ongoing crisis with the COVID-19 Coronavirus and the often-changing information that is coming to us, I have added a page on the branch's website to keep you informed. President Henschen will be participating in a daily telecon relaying information regarding the virus.

As we get updates from either NALC or the Suncoast District Manager, the changes will be available. This is located on the Home Page. Simply click on: **COVID-19 Updates** and you will be linked to a page with the information.

All meetings have been cancelled for April, with the exception of the retiree breakfasts. Until we are notified otherwise, they are still scheduled. Retirees should also check the above link for any updates on the breakfast gatherings.

Please check the website frequently as President Henschen will be reaching out via the website to keep everyone current with changes and information; branch1477nalc.org



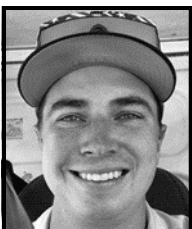
Retiree Update

By Director of Retiree Affairs,
O.D. Elliott

When you retire, I urge you to continue your NALC membership. To do so, you only need to complete a PS Form 1189. Dues for retirees are considerably less than dues for active members. For retirees of Br1477, the dues are only \$1.91 per month (\$22.90 yearly). NALC retirees are treated uniquely compared to retirees of other labor

unions. Most labor unions don't allow their retirees to serve as officers or delegates to their conventions or to participate in the operation of their locals. NALC retirees have all the rights of active members with the only exceptions being they cannot vote on ratification of National Agreements or Local Memorandums or proposed work stoppages. They can run for and serve as delegates to State and National Conventions. They can also serve as Branch, State and/or National Officers and they can participate and have a voice in the operation of their Branch.

Additionally, all members, both active and retired or Branch 1477 are entitled to reimbursement each year of (up to \$60 for self and \$50 for spouse) for out-of-pocket expenses for eye examinations or purchase of eyeglasses. As a retiree, you will continue to receive the NALC's monthly publication, "The Postal Record" and Branch 1477's monthly publication "The Twig Of The Branch". Also Branch 1477 is available to assist retired members concerning possible changes to their retirement due to personal changes, i.e. divorce, death of spouse, remarriage, etc. We also provide assistance to your survivors in the event of your passing.



Sergeant at Arms

Clay Hansen

Many carriers have been concerned as well as customers about parcels transmitting the virus COVID-19. According to the World Health Organization *the likelihood of an infected person contaminating commercial goods is low and the risk of catching the virus that causes COVID-19 from a package that has been moved, travelled, and exposed to different conditions and temperature is also low. We have also been informed that the airports are taking extra precautions by quarantining foreign parcels for 3-4 days before releasing them for sorting and delivery.*

As a workforce we have plenty of measures to help eliminate the spread of this virus. Wash your hands frequently and be sure to wash them for at least 20 seconds. I know I struggle to do this but TRY to keep your hands away from your face, our hands come in contact with all sorts of things throughout our work

day and if they become contaminated, they can transfer a virus through our eyes nose or mouth. Practice "Social Distancing" while around customers or coworkers, this is defined as maintaining a 3-foot distance between you and anyone you may come in contact with. This will prevent any droplets spreading through sneezing, coughing, or even talking. Lastly stay home if you feel unwell please don't put your coworkers at risk by working while sick. If we can continue to take care of ourselves and maintain a safe and healthy workplace, we could avoid a spread of COVID-19 within our local offices. As always stay safe and wear your seatbelt, **you are your most important delivery.**

Minutes of March 12, 2020 Membership Meeting



Recording/Financial Secretary **Ken Grasso**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Joe Henschen.

Invocation by: O.D. Elliott

Pledge of Allegiance: led by President Joe Henschen.

Minutes of previous meeting: Motion to accept as printed in last month's Twig by Chuck Cavichicco, seconded by Terry Johnson. Motion passes.

Reading of Official Correspondence: by Ken Grasso: None

New Members: None.

Branch by the Numbers:

Per the recent 2019 Bi Weekly Dues Roster And including the recent hiring information NALC Reports: Active Members 800 with 778 paying dues (currently 5 pay directly). 15 Active Members (no deduct) do not pay in accordance with the Bylaws. 2 Break in service and 2 Military Leave,

We have 589 Retirees.
Total Membership 1389

I would like to welcome Kelly Bend from Absolute Quality Interpreting Services LLC.

Treasurer: Chuck Cavicchio—Read the balances. Motion to accept Report of the Treasurer by Pat Kelly, seconded by Roger Williams.

Director of Retiree Affairs: O.D. Elliott—Recently assisted the wife of a deceased member with some paperwork.

Director of Insurance: Tom Phillips—No Report.

Political District 13 Liaison: Tom Phillips—No Report.

Political District 15 Liaison: Gene Carroll—No Report.

Trustee Report: Willie Cochran—No Report.

Sergeant at Arms: Clay Hansen—No Report.

Editor/Webmaster: Judy Dorris—No Report.

Vice President Report: Zulma Betancourt—Be aware that all accidents no matter how insignificant should be reported immediately. Don't wait til you return to station to report it.

Executive Vice President: Chris Hubble—We are videotaped at least 50 times a day from someone's surveillance camera. Just be doing your job the best that you can do.

Welfare Reports:

Sad:

- Ozzy Antonetti, Retiree Palmetto & former steward— passed away 2/20/2020.
- Robert Naja, Retiree Largo—passed away.
- Eddie Dunbar, Carrier Gateway—Sister Sharon passed away.
- Jerry Vann, Carrier Northside—Mother fell and broke her hip.
- Roberto Martinez, Carrier Pinellas Park—Mother Passed away.
- Rick Renshaw, Retiree St. Petersburg—Wife

Lori had a trip and fall resulting in a serious injury.

- Darryl Moore, Manager Customer Service St. Pete—had a trip and fall re-injuring his knee.

Glad:

- Congratulations to Chris Hubble and Vicki Weber on their Marriage on March 7, 2020.
- Rudy and Zulma Betancour—Nephew re-enlisted in the Army.
- O.D.Elliott and Wife will be celebrating 50 years of Marriage on April 4 next month.
- Roger Williams and his wife will be celebrating 50 years of Marriage on April 18th.
- Ellis Pujols, Carrier Open Air—has a new Granddaughter.

Presidents Report:

This coming Saturday we will be able to link up with E-Comp about injuries on the job. You still have to report accidents to your Supervisor but you can go online and file your own CA-7.directly to OWCP.

I will help you to get set up with this process and it should speed up things.

Still have a couple of Emergency placements out there, couple of removals. In Dunedin we had an emergency placement with a carrier who drove through an intersection with her door open.

Ellenton made the list where mail was discovered discarded in a mailroom over a 2 year period. The carrier was listed to be converted on March 14. He has since resigned.

In Port Charlotte we have a case where a CCA on OWCP waiting for surgery approval was sent a letter stating she wasn't being returned after her break in service. This is at Step B process now.

Amazon is cutting 1300 jobs in Florida. This will impact the USPS as the once handled parcels will be turned back over to the Post Office.

Labor Management Meeting with St. Petersburg we discussed the 3rd week in a row 20 hub routes were staffed for and they had 25,000 packages. And this Sunday I was told they plan 21.

The Rogue Nation was created on a principle by a handful of like minded individuals looking for a little Revolution that started in Oregon. Today they have grown to over 270,000 citizens.

They basically enter State and Federal Buildings and stick a camera in worker's faces and hope for a reaction. This has happened all over the Suncoast, please remind everyone not to engage these individuals.

The Census is getting ready to start this week so be aware. This is the single largest mailing in U.S. history.

May 9 is the 28th Annual Food Drive and have about 8 million bags to distribute in the State of Florida. Farm Share is picking up the expense of these bags.

March 11, we received information from National concerning COVID-19 Corona Virus. Several events have been cancelled within our Union. The AFL-CIO postponed the executive council meeting and presidential forum scheduled for the week of March 9.

The NALC postponed a dinner to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Great Postal Strike scheduled for March 21, 2020.

The Committee of Presidents scheduled for April in Anchorage, Alaska and in St. Petersburg in September has been postponed.

The NALC Executive Council has decided to reduce the risks for NALC Members and employees by minimizing air travel and large group exposure.

The NALC recommends Branches and State Associations do the same. Since Branch Bylaws dictate meeting nights and times all Branches have been given a notice of dispensation to release these requirements.

I have reached out to the Executive Board and it has been decided that after tonight there will be no Stewards or South Meeting. Beginning in April all meetings in April are cancelled until the COVID-19 outbreak stabilizes. Steward's meeting will be telephonically.

MDA Grand Prix has cancelled the spectator part of the race. Thank you to those who volunteered and a big thank you to Sandra Pagan who organized this event.

Glenn Fagan announced that this year's MDA Golf tournament has also been cancelled. We will start thinking about next year's tournament.

Keep an eye on the Branch Web page so you can be kept up to date with any info that we need you to know.

Unfinished Business:

Old Business/New Business;

Winners of drawings:

50/50: \$ 41.00- Terry Johnson

Lotto/Power Ball/ Mega Millions:

Joel Baez

Two \$25 Gift Certificates donated by Joyce Keller of Arslan Uniform the winners are:

Sandra Pagan

Zulma Betancourt

Auxiliary raffle baked goods:

O. D. Elliott, Eric Short (twice), Joe Henschen, Tonya Lee, Pat Kelly, Chuck Cavicchio (twice) Zulma Betancourt (twice), Rick Renshaw Terry Johnson, Dee Grant

Motion to Adjourn



Pictured above are the Stewards who attended a District II Training Seminar on February 23rd:

Denise Clark, Clay Hansen, Patrick Jaques, Doug Hobbs, Bert Lewis, Tom Phillips, Shiela Bradley, Tonya Lee, Shledon Jones, and Joel Baez.

Not pictured: Joe Henschen and Chris Hubble



Director of Insurance, Health and Mutual Benefits Representative

By Tom Phillips

MBA NEWS

I received a letter from Jim Yates MBA Director, life Insurance. Introducing three (3) new insurance plans being offered to the NALC membership. The insurance plans Term Life Insurance policies, which offer affordable protection over a certain period of time.

The new Term Life Insurance policies include: **20 Year Term Life, Term to Age 65, and 5 Year renewable and Convertible Term life.** The plans are available to the NALC member, spouse, children, stepchildren, grandchildren, step grandchildren, great grandchildren, and even the parents of the NALC member. The proposed insured must be between the ages of 17 and 60. The Face Value (Death Benefit) for each insured may be any amount from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

The 20-year Term Life plan offers insurance protection for a period of 20 years. The premium rate is based on the current age of the proposed insured and the amount of life insurance applied for. The premium rate will never increase for the 20 year period. As long as the premiums are paid on the policy, the insured is guaranteed life insurance for a period of 20 years.

The Term to Age 65 plan offers insurance protection until the insured reaches age 65. Regardless of the issue age the insured, the policy will remain in force until the policy anniversary date the insured reaches 65. Like the 20 Year Term, the premium rate is based on the current age of the proposed insured and the amount of insurance desired. In addition, the premium rate will never increase during the lifetime of the policy. This plan of term insurance is especially valuable to those individuals who will not need additional insurance during their retirement years.

The 5 Year renewable and Convertible Term Life plan provides insurance protection for a period of 5 years. As with the two plans above, the premium rate is determined by the proposed

insured's age and the amount of coverage. After each 5 year period, the policy owner may choose to renew the term policy for an additional 5 year period or convert the policy to a whole life insurance policy. The insured may choose to either option without providing evidence of insurability or taking a medical exam. The premium rate at the time of renewal or conversion will be at the insured's current age (generally the premiums will increase). The policy is convertible until age 65 and renewable until age 80.

These new Term Life Insurance plans are especially attractive to City Carrier Assistants (CCAs) who are not eligible to obtain the federal Employees Group Life Insurance (FGLI). These plans allow the CCAs to provide life insurance protection for their families at a reasonable cost well into the future.

The MBA will have an insert in the April 2020 edition of The Postal Record introducing these new Term insurance plans to the membership. In addition to a description of each plan, an application for insurance will be provided.

Important Health News:

Did you know Telehealth Virtual Visits are available?

You can receive high quality, affordable care for minor acute conditions wherever you are! A virtual visit with a physician or nurse practitioner for things such as sinus problems, allergies, flu symptoms, abrasions and minor wounds can save you time and money. If appropriate, prescriptions for medications can even be ordered for a \$10 copayment per visit.

Please select your Plan below to learn how to access your benefit.

High Option
CDHP/Value Option

Go to NALCHBP.ORG/telehealth to download the app right to your phone. This is a very convenient way to have a doctor give you a diagnosis, prescribe medication and provide documentation for you to provide your supervisor. Rather than going to the doctor's office and waiting to be seen it is a time saving and cost savings for you.

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Auxiliary 181 News

By Dottie Tutt-Hutchinson

We had a fabulous St. Patrick's Day dinner and bingo game on March 15th at the Union Hall. We each brought gifts for bingo game prizes. The games are always fun, until someone gets to steal your winnings. Some of us had a hard time letting them go! But Joyce Keller, as usual, made sure that no one went home empty handed. What a kind heart she has. We surprised Lorie Davenport with a birthday cake for her special day. She spent the past week celebrating by going to a Lightning game, dinners with friends, and party with relatives, so we were lucky that she still had the energy to attend our party.

Thank you to Lorie for stepping in as host for me for the March 4th meeting--at the last minute! Joyce was delighted winning the lovely scented candle. Sandy Hart will host the April 1st (really!) meeting at noon at Joyce's home. Remember to bring your lunch. We'll decide what finger foods we want to serve for the Friendship Tea. Please help Joyce set up at the Union Hall on Friday, May 1st at 10:00. Joyce and I baked for the March Union meeting, while she and Sandy will bake for the April 9th date.

Friendship Tea

Lady Letter Carriers, Spouses, Friends of Aux. 181

May 3, 2020 1:00 p.m. Letter Carrier Hall

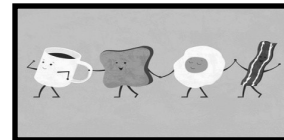
5369 Park Boulevard, Pinellas Park

RSVP Joyce Keller 541-2194

Please bring a tea-related item or tea cup to share.

Happy April birthdays to Sandy Hart (4), Joyce Keller (4), and Zulma Betancourt (29). Happy anniversary to Sue and Denny Elliott on April 3rd. Happy Easter to all.

Meeting and Breakfast Attendees



Largo All-Craft Breakfast

The All Craft Retirees breakfast was on March 4th at Denny's. In attendance: Rick Melnyk, Tom YoungeDyke, John Sipos, Cherie Mayer, O. D. Elliott, Jim Disney, Don Cox, Rose Williams, Jerry Boies and yours truly. Nice to see three retired clerks participate. Everyone is welcomed – carriers, clerks and supervisors.

Attendance was a little on the low side perhaps due to coronavirus concerns, doctor appointments or other planned activities. Nevertheless, we had ten active retirees jibber-jabbing stories from postal past. Here are some highlights – who remembers the so-called secret illegal “postal lottery” that was the brainstorm of Ray Pannone? Yeah, about 80 – 90 employees, to include some in supervision, were participants. Of course the word got out and poof, no more secret! PM Junior Short nip it in the bud and Ray Pannone was going to be charged with racketeering! Some heads did roll! What a mess! Another story was about doors on both the

old jeeps and the newer LLV's. Who can forget those damn doors slamming shut upon stopping when you thought they were fully opened. Yep, you tried stopping it and lo and behold, fingers, hand and wrists were in the line of fire and ouch!!!! And on the old jeeps, that door lock almost always got in the way of your knees, more pain. Finally, fish stories from Tom YoungeDyke – almost fighting over catch and release mistake – funny, you had to hear him tell it.

Welfare news – Bob Naja's funeral was March the 6th and was well attended @ Bay Pines with a military tribute. Oldest retiree – Bernie Ososky ('03), youngest – John Sipos ('19). Free breakfast – Cherie Mayer, who won AGAIN! Did I mention that she drew her own winning ticket? Everyone present didn't even look at their own ticket because they knew she was going to win. How does that happen!

Next breakfast – April 1st (Fools Day). That's how it happened and remember – Get Out There & Enjoy The Hell Out Of The Rest Of Your Life!

First Tuesday of the Month Bunch

The following attended the Pinellas Park Retiree Breakfast on March 3rd:

Brian Britt, Bill Butler, Ann Friel, Linda Leporati, Fran Friel, Leon Jernigan, Gloria Phillips, Denny Elliott, Willie Santiago, Bob Shokey, Dave Meier, Rick Barker, Johnny Wagner, Ron Hearon, Kathy Vitrano

Next breakfast is April 7th

St. Pete Retiree's Breakfast

The following Attended the St. Pete's Retiree Breakfast on March 18th:

Ron Cherry, Hank Goettelman, Don Kosier

Our regular server met us at the door to apologize and to tell us they will only allow a maximum of 10 people in the room for our breakfast. Well, OK, the overflow can sit in a booth at the side of the room, I guess?

So, we sat down at naked tables, they are not allowed to set the tables because everything that is put out then has to be disinfected when you leave so, don't put anything out to begin with, unless asked for. We sat for a few minutes, then ordered. We were it, NOBODY else showed up! We all agreed Denny Elliott owes us each for the breakfast door prize. 😂 And, no kidding, who knows if we will even have one next month. The server says they are considering closing the dining portion of the restaurant and going to strictly take-out service only.

Anyway, this is the update for March.
Hank



Steward's Meeting

Steward's meeting for March at the Hall was cancelled and training was held telephonically

South Meeting

The following attended the meeting on February 27th:

Steve Delceg, Joe Henschen, Chris Hubble, Chris Kotonski, Susan Chavez, Sam Haddad, Lisa Barth, Kevin Kelly, Joe Bailey, Paul Keesee, Cindy Green, Jason Baldwin, Dean Kauffman

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Midtown 12	Harry Nieves	(787) 564-4993
Alt	Willie Cochran	(727) 687-4163
Northside 2	Doug Hobbs	(954) 448-3720
Northside 16	Tonya Lee	(813) 270-2918
Open Air	Tyler Crevasse	(727) 483-4452
Alt	Tony Mells	(727) 385-8579
St. Pete Beach	Cheryl Anderson	(727) 531-1477
St. Pete Main 13	Anthony Roger	(813) 574-9971
St. Pete Main 14	Alan Pollard	
Alt	Anna Ramos	(727) 531-1477

Bradenton Bch	Brian Andrews	(941) 748-5594
Dunedin	Chuck Cavicchio	(727) 798-8506
Ellenton	Bert Lewis	(941) 266-2109
Englewood	Josh LaGrew	(763) 232-8954
Alt	Kris Beal	(813) 500-0841
Indian Rocks Bch	Denise Podzikowski	
Largo 70/71	Jim Grazioso	(727) 410-6492
Largo 73/78	Eric Short	(727) 251-9846
Palmetto	Sheldon Jones	(941) 580-1058
Pinellas Park 81	Nick Worthington	(610) 809-4891
Alt	Chris Still	(239) 910-4681
Pinellas Park 82	Alicia Gary	(973) 981-2174
Punta Gorda	Chris Kotonski	(330) 212-1777
(PC Annex)	Sam Haddad	(941) 219-9306
Seminole 72/74	Anne Winkelbauer	(708) 692-6540
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April, 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Largo All Craft BK	2 Board Meeting CANCELLED	3	4
5	6	7 Pinellas Park Retiree BK	8	9 General Membership CANCELLED	10	11
12 Easter	13	14	15 St. Pete Retiree BK	16 Steward's Meeting CANCELLED	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 South Branch Meeting CANCELLED	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		