

# 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 670

Voice of Branch 1477

April, 2026

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## President's Report

*By President Joe Henschen*

I want to begin this Article by apologizing first to the Editor Jillian Luliucci for changes made to my Article in last months Twig of the Branch, without her approval. I was wrong for doing it and Jillian you can be sure it will not happen again.

I'd also like to apologize to the members. I swung at a pitch in the dirt making comments that should not have been included in my article. Not something I normally would allow to happen.

With that said I do want to thank my friend Jeff for the advice you offered, it meant a lot thanks again.

### Second Saturday in May

On Saturday, May 09, 2026, Letter Carriers from across the country will again participate in the Stamp out Hunger Food Drive.

*Each year, letter carriers across the country head out on their routes on the second Saturday in May to collect donations of non-perishable food items to benefit local food pantries. Since launching in 1993, the National Association of Letter Carriers' annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has grown into the nation's largest one-day food drive, helping to fill the shelves of food banks in cities and towns throughout the United States.*

**NEXT BRANCH MEETING AT THE HALL AND VIA ZOOM: THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026**

*The need is great, but you can help. We invite you to join letter carriers and our partner organizations in the fight to end hunger in our communities by participating in the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.*

*For many years, a number of branches had collected food for the needy as part of their community service effort. The national, coordinated effort by the NALC to help fight hunger in America grew out of discussions in 1991. A revamped drive was organized for May 15, 1993—the second Saturday in May—with a goal of having at least one NALC branch in each of the 50 states participating. <sup>1</sup>*

Branch 1477 began participating in the Food Drive the first year it became a national drive. Since 1993 the Branch has collected over 17 million pounds of food. The Branch has been honored with 4 second place finishes in our Category which is determined by the size of the Branch Category 4 (1,000 –2499) members. In that category, we have finished first 5 times. In 2012, Branch 1477 finished First Overall collecting more food than any other Branch in the Nation.

We want to be successful again this year and will need your help. One of the key elements in the drive is the distribution of special bags imprinted with the Food Drive logo. These bags carry the First-Class G-10 permit and are considered First-Class Mail.

## **April 12, 2026**

Sunday, April 12th is an important date for the 2026 Food Drive. On this day, volunteers from the Florida 2 District will break down by facility pack advertisement cards and pack Food Drive logo bags for distribution by USPS transportation. Members from District Branches work to pallet and label their Branches' cards and bags. Remarkably, this takes about 2 hours total less for some Branches. Anyone wanting to assist in the distribution of cards and bags should call the Union Hall for the location and time of the work party.

<sup>1</sup> NALC.org Community Service Page

By the end of April each office will begin receiving boxes containing the Food Drive bags and trays containing the postcards. Each box will contain approximately 1,000 bags and each tray approximately 4,000 cards.

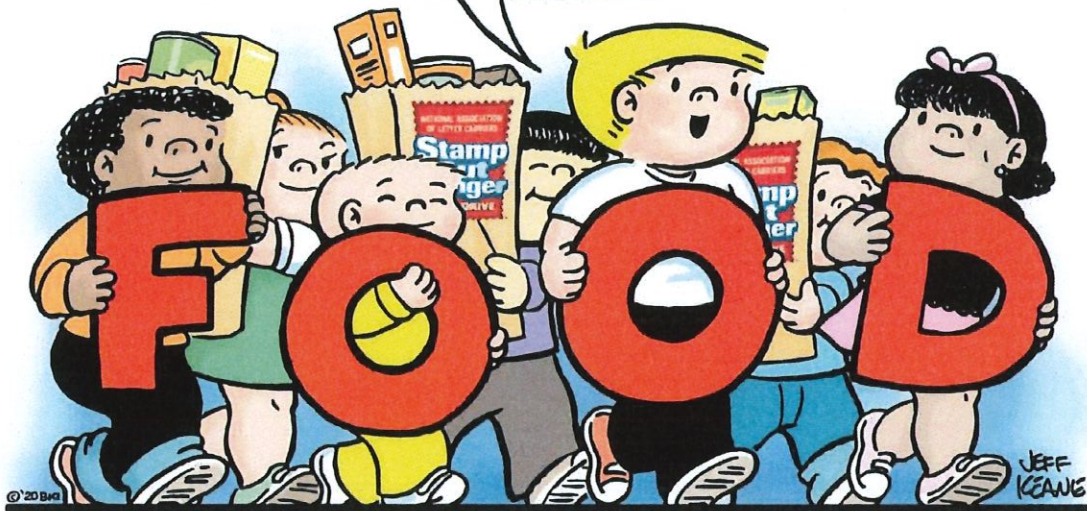
Union Stewards, we ask you work closely with the Distribution Clerks to ensure these bags are broken down and distributed to every delivery route. Sufficient cards and bags for each route must be spotted to each route using a flat tub. Make allowance for the prevailing vacancy rate within your Zone. The postcards should be delivered to homes starting Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> and deliveries completed Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>. The bags also should be delivered in homes starting Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup> and deliveries completed no later than Thursday May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Bags returned from the street are to be returned to the carrier case for collection. Under no circumstances should the returned bags be placed in a single location until they are reviewed. Stewards and/or office volunteers should monitor the delivery of the bags and cards and report to the Hall any reluctance by management to have the material distributed as early in week of distribution as possible.

Locally, the Branch has augmented the advertisement of the Food Drive with Food Drive Bags for the past 32 years. It is the most tedious part of the Drive but, especially this year, the most important. The neighbors we deliver to are struggling as the cost of groceries continues to climb. Now with summer coming in, schools will be on break soon and so will the school lunch programs. Many of the people that we deliver to every day depend on food donations to help feed their families. Let's do our part to help make this the best year ever!



THIS SPELLS  
HELP FOR LOTS OF  
FAMILIES THIS  
YEAR!



# LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE

**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*





## Roger That

*By Executive Vice President,  
Anthony Roger*

Well it is the slow season when mail drops off a bit first for some and for seasoned carriers just another season. This is the time that management wants to make their numbers but, unfortunately for our friendly management team, it doesn't work like that.

If the morning management comes by and gives you a projection from DOIS, the PET tool, or their feelings, that is all wrong. For instance, if they walk up to you and say you have "X" amount of DPS, "Y" amount of flats, and "Z" amount of packages, your leave time is 8:30 am, and your projected time is 1 hour of undertime. Management can give you your numbers, but dictating your day is not contractual. Under MOU 1664 which states in part **"DOIS projections are not the sole determinant of a carriers leaving or return time, or daily workload. As such, the projections cannot be used as the sole basis for corrective action."** Now with that being said, management cannot demand undertime from a carrier.

It is management's job to try to capture undertime, but it is your job as a carrier to give your estimate. If it's an 8 hour day that's great. If you are in need of overtime, Part 131.42 of Handbook M-41 states, **"Reporting Requirements 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."** Now with that being said, management should give you a PS Form 3996 "Carrier - Auxiliary Control" sheet in a perfect world.

Handbook M-39 Part 122.33 states, **"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."**

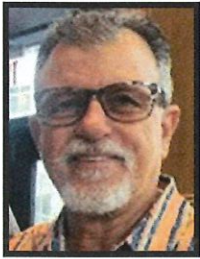
But alas we don't live in a perfect world. I know many of us have experienced when management wants to argue, haggle, or straight up be rude and demeaning to the carrier, so that's why I say **DON'T BITE THE BAIT.**

Now with that being said, when asking for over time, management will try tactics to get you to move faster such as great hits like, "I'm not authorizing your overtime" or "you don't need all that time". Now most carriers can get frustrated and argue, but please **DON'T** ask them then what would you like me to do with the time I can't deliver, don't say I can bring it back or to send you help. I cannot stress this enough to keep a level head and don't argue. Keep your 3996 because that is your "see ya" ticket if you're requesting overtime. The only thing management can do is a 3999, when management follows you all day. But just stay cool, do your job, and be safe, that means maintaining a safe and steady pace all day. Management will try to use scanner data to throw around corrective action, but alas they can't do it under MOU M01458. Which states in part, **"MSP data may not constitute the sole basis for disciplinary action. However, it may be used by the parties in conjunction with other records to support or refute disciplinary action issued pursuant to Article 16 of the National Agreement."** So, what that means is management has to get out there and witness the carrier doing whatever they think is bad in their opinion.

Also, I didn't forget about the CCAs because most CCAs don't have hold downs. Don't forget that for the most part, if you're on a route that you don't know, keep in mind Article 41.3.F of the National Agreement. Which state, **"A newly appointed carrier or a carrier permanently assigned to a route with which the carrier is not familiar will be allowed a reasonable period to become familiar with the route and to become proficient."** So, if management is trying to pressure you give them an estimate do what you can and give them a time you think you may need. Remember you can always amend your estimate under Part 131.41 of Handbook M-41. Part 131.41 states, **"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."

So, to conclude this month's article, I'd like to close with stay safe, keep your stress low, and as always "Stewards Lead The Way"!



## Insurance Update

*By Director of Insurance,  
Tom Phillips*

**For the life you want • Join Maven**

When life throws you for a loop, just remember you have Maven: the 24/7 virtual health platform that supports you through it all - from reproductive health goals to balancing a family, career, and everyday life.

Join today for unlimited access to top-rated reproductive and family health providers across 35+ specialties, a personal library of expert articles, on-demand classes, and more all covered by the NALC HBP (the Plan).

### The stories we're proud of

Here's what real Maven members are saying.

#### Clarity when you need it

"I absolutely credit Maven for making sure I got to the hospital on time."

#### Advice you can trust

"...before returning back to work, my Maven Career Coach helped me reset my perspective and go in with a clear mind."

#### Compassionate care

"My Maven Mental Health Provider is the best therapist I've ever had."

#### Personalized support

"I would've given up on breastfeeding if it weren't for Maven's amazing Lactation Consultants."

### Helpful answers, 24/7

"Our Maven Pediatric Sleep Coach gave us super helpful tips to get our son to sleep longer and they worked!"

\*\*The Plan has partnered with Maven Clinic to make life easier (and healthier) for you and your family. Maven offers private virtual care and 24/7 support for fertility journeys, adoption, surrogacy, pregnancy, postpartum, parenting and pediatrics, menopause, and midlife. Join Maven for unlimited access to 1,700+ providers, thousand of expert articles, on-demand classes, live virtual events, a dedicated Maven Care Advocate, and more.\*\*

It's all in the palm of your hand on the Maven app. Join now for fully personalized care you can trust (at no cost to you).

<https://mavenclinic.com/join/nalchbp>

 MAVEN



## Retiree Update

*By Director of Retiree Affairs,  
O.D. Elliott*

Over the years, I have sometimes found that when a Carrier, active or retired, becomes seriously ill, or dies, their spouse or other family members don't have the documentation of information they need. At the very least, you should compile the following documentation and information and provide it to your spouse/other family member:

- A. Medical history, i.e. operations, major illnesses, allergies and treatments
- B. Prescriptions
- C. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of your Doctors and include emergency contact information
- D. Wills, trusts and any executor of your estate
- E. Powers of attorney for financial and health care responsibilities

- F. Insurance policies and benefit summaries
- G. Bank accounts and investments, including property and personal debts
- H. Retirement information, which includes telephone numbers necessary to report changes in your marital status, beneficiary selections, the NALC Retirement Department and the number of your local Union
- I. Information concerning your Social Security and VA benefits.

Having this information available for your spouse/ other family member, should the need arise, would help them expedite necessary actions and relieve them, in part, from the stress.



## Short Stories

*By Trustee, Eric Short*

### DIVISION IN OUR RANKS

Many of our members know of the division in our membership when it comes to what is happening with the election of our 1477 President. Most know that the election was challenged by former Executive VP Chris Hubble. That challenge was upheld first by The Election Committee, then by the Board Members, then by the members themselves. With more challenges ahead this could go all the way to the National Convention in LA in August. As members we all have a right to know what is going on within our branch. To everyone, speak up, ask questions, get involved. Talk to your stewards who are generally going to be more privy to information due to the meetings we attend. 1477 is at a tipping point at this moment.

Now more than ever I believe we need strong leadership moving forward. We need a President who's only concern is the betterment of Branch 1477. This is not an article backing either candidate. Its an article to show the seriousness of this situation.

I have talked to countless members who really don't know either of the candidates and just pick a name. Please get to know the candidates and what their intentions are for the branch moving forward. Make an educated decision if this does come down to a reelection.

Come to the General Membership Meetings. You can even request to come to the Board Meetings. It's a great way to know that if you do have to vote in a reelection, you're making that educated decision.



## Let Me Tell Ya A Question!!

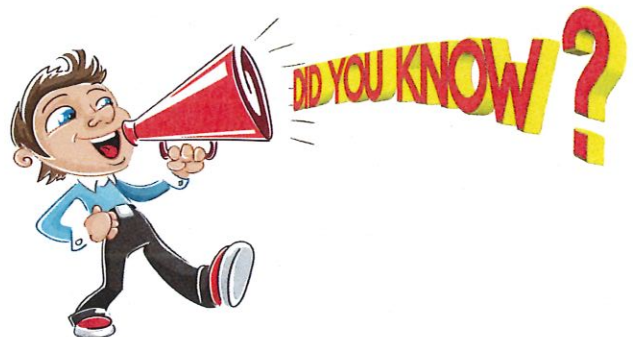
*By Sargeant at Arms, Donny DeMilta*

Did you know about the two unusual delivery methods used by the USPS?

The most unique method is called a Mule Train in Arizona. It's been operating since the 1930's, using 10-22 mules traveling 8 miles to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, 5 to 6 days a week. Carrying 200 pounds of mail, food and medicine.

The other method is Mail by Boat. A 45-foot mail boat named, J.W. Westcott II. This boat delivers mail to passing ships on the Detroit River and even has its own floating zip code 48222.

This would make Management's street observations interesting.



## Minutes of March 12, 2026 Membership Meeting



### Recording/Financial Secretary

By Ken Grasso

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

**Invocation:** Greg Welsh

**Pledge of Allegiance:** President Henschen

**Reading of Official Correspondence:**  
by Ken Grasso

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**March 2, 2026**

**Ken Grasso, Branch 1477, Financial/Recording Secretary**

Mr. Grasso, I am appealing the decision of the Branch, made at the General Membership Meeting on February 12, 2026.

In discussion, with NALC Executive Vice President Paul Barner, When this appeal is presented to the Branch at the next General Membership Meeting then the Branch has 20 days to prepare a written reply. Generally, the Branch President prepares the written reply. As I am the aggrieved party I am allowed to choose a Board Member to prepare the reply and appeal to the NALC Chairperson, Committee on appeals. I have asked Vice President Greg Welsh to prepare the written reply.

Fraternally,  
Joseph Henschen, President  
Branch 1477, NALC  
West Coast Florida Letter Carriers

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The Following Exhibits are included in this appeal:

1. Appeal to the General Membership the Decision of the Executive Board
2. The Decision of the Executive Board received 1/26/26 - 4 pages.

3. Notes of the Special Executive Board Meeting - 3 pages.
4. Formal Appeal to the Executive Board of the Election Committee Decision - 10 pages.
5. The Election Committee Decision of the Notice of Formal Appeal - 3 pages.
6. Formal Appeal: Election of NALC Branch 1477 President - 6 pages.
7. Statement of Theresa Bourlon, Branch Clerical Secretary
8. January/February Twig of the Branch - 12 pages.
9. March Twig of the Branch - 12 pages.

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***Formal Appeal to the NALC National Committee on Appeals to the Election of the Branch 1477 President.***

Submitted under 21.4 and 21.41 of the NALC Regulations Governing Branch Election Procedures.

#### **Discussion:**

All internal appeals have been somewhat followed in accordance with the Regulations Governing Branch Election Procedures.

A formal appeal of the election results was made by Former Executive Vice President Chris Hubble and received at the Branch on December 15, 2025.

The Election Committee was convened in December 19, 2025. At that meeting Brother Hubble was called to address the committee. At the time he was the aggrieved party, however I as the President elect was not given an opportunity to address the committee.

The Election Committee responded on December 26, 2025, upholding the appeal.

I, then as the aggrieved member appealed the decision of the Election Committee to the Branch 1477 Executive Board. On January 9, 2026, I appealed the decision of the Committee to the Branch Recording Secretary. After repeated attempts to choose a date that I could participate in the meeting, five members of the Executive Board called a Special Meeting of the Board to discuss the appeal of the Election Committees decision on January 15,

2026, without my presence. As a Board Member I was not given a chance to discuss the appeal. The Board denied the appeal. The denial was received on January 26, 2026.

On January 30, 2026, I appealed the decision of the Branch Executive Board Meeting to the General Membership Meeting to be read, February 12, 2026.

Branch 1477 produces a newsletter monthly with the exception of December and January. A January/February Edition is released in February, In that edition the reports of the Election Committee, and the appeal submitted by Branch 1477 former Executive Vice President were printed. My appeal to the Executive Board and the Board's decision was after the deadlines for the publication.

The February General Membership Meeting went true to form inasmuch as only one side of the story had been communicated to the Membership denied the appeal to.

#### **Basis of appeal.**

**21.4 States in part.** Any aggrieved member dissatisfied with the decision of the Branch Meeting may appeal to the NALC National Committee on Appeals, except for decisions concerning the election of delegates and alternate delegates to National and State Conventions.

**21.41 States in part.** An appeal to the National Committee on Appeals must be in writing and filed with the Branch Recording Secretary within twenty (20) days from the date of the Branch decision. I ask the NALC National Committee on Appeals to review the record and determine:

**1. Was it improper to utilize the membership list to conduct a campaign mailing.** It should be noted that in November/December 2015, the then Branch 1477 Vice President utilized the Branch Membership roster to mail campaign literature while campaigning for the office of Branch 1477 Executive Vice President, a position which he held for 3 terms. This is exhibited by the statement included in this appeal of Branch 1477 Clerical Secretary Theresa (TC) Bourlon. TC has been an employee of the Branch 1477 since August of 1995. She attests that she

assisted in labeling the campaign literature for the EVP candidacy. That should be clear, knowledge of the list availability, and access to the list was allowed if requested to all parties. **No reasonable request would have been denied.**

**2. Was Article 9.7 violated when a copy of the mailing list was printed from the Branch database,** when all expenses associated with this action were reimbursed the Branch. All receipts are attached, other than off-site printing from a Union Printer, the cost of the labels and per page were reimbursed the Branch in the amount of \$19.54.

**3. And finally, was it improper keep the PO Box keys in the Branch safe until the prescribed time to collect the Ballots for tallying.**

**17.2** of the Article NALC Regulations Governing Branch Election Procedures. State: Before counting any Ballots, the Election Committee must bring the absentee ballots to the counting place and follow the procedures in Section 16.0

**16.2** states: Before tabulating any voted (Section 17.2) the absentee ballots must be picked up from the designated Post Office Box by the Election Committee's Chairperson or designee and immediately brought to the counting place.

**12.7 refers to counting of the ballots:** Unless the counting of ballots is done immediately after the balloting (Section 17.0), the Election Committee must seal the ballot box and deposit it in a locked place to which only the Committee has access. As listed in the decision of the Election Committee I was asked for the Keys to the PO Box keys on November 24, 2025. My response was that I would discuss it with the Executive Board for propriety and on December 6, 2025, the keys were provided with the approval of the Executive Board. I do not think a nexus can be drawn between the PO Box locking up un-tallied ballots on the day of the count.

Fraternally,  
Joseph Henschen, President  
Branch 1477, NALC  
West Coast Florida Letter Carriers

Several Points of Order were brought up by several members after the reading of the appeal:

— Chris Hubble: Asked where in the NALC Constitution does it say that and asked about NALC Regulations concerning Elections states the President selects the Branch Officer to represent the entire membership and does he seek council from the membership?

— Cheryl Anderson: Does Everything get sent to the Committee of Appeals and is the material that is sent proofread and checked by another party?

— Laurann Rose: Asked if the material in the appeal is verified and by whom?

President Henschen responded that everything to date is in the Appeal from both candidates and the Appeal is going to be handled according to NALC regulations.

**Minutes of previous meeting:** Motion to accept previous minutes of last month's meeting by Terry Johnson seconded by Tom Phillips. Motion passes.

**Treasurer:** Chuck Cavicchio - Read the checkbook balances sheet for the previous month. Motion to accept the Report of the Treasurer by Greg Welsh seconded by Ann Przetocki. Motion passed.

**Branch by Numbers:** As of the latest dues roster, 796 Active Per Capita, 770 Members paying dues.

Retirees 568

(120 Gold Cards) – 1364 Total Members.

Recognize Interpreting Services we have Kelli Bins and Brooke in the room tonight.

#### **Reports of Committees/Officers.**

**Director of Retiree Affairs:** O.D. Elliot - Spoke about getting involved in the Union throughout his career.

**Director of Insurance:** Tom Phillips - Eye Glass Report: Jan total \$1,139, Feb total \$841.99. Been going around a few stations. CCA signed up with NALC self and family, problem is if you're not a regular USPS doesn't pay for the family portion of the premium only self.

#### **Political District 13 Congressional Liaison:**

Tom Phillips - The latest Postal Record said that 93% of the members are in the Union. With the Political Fund it's only 12%.

**Trustee Report:** Brian Andrews - I want to thank Shiela Bradley for all her years of being a Trustee and welcome Eric Short as Trustee. Books are in order up through December.

**Vice President Report:** Greg Welsh - Told some examples of when he held various positions and how his decisions on things made him look good, but it wasn't what always benefited the carriers.

**Executive Vice President:** Anthony Roger -

Welfare Reports:

#### **Sad:**

- Brian Andrews Trustee/Steward - his Brother passed away and his Brother-in-Law.
- Neal Williamson, Largo retiree passed away
- Cindy Deakins Carrier Crossroads - is having more surgery.
- David Cambell Largo - is having surgery.

#### **Glad:**

- Doug Magruder Carrier Gateway -is getting married.
- Tiffany Naughton Carrier Northside - got married.
- Alonso Ford Carrier Punta Gorda - Retired
- Lisa Ryan Carrier Madeira Beach - Retiring
- Ralph Brown Carrier Madeira Beach - Retiring
- Vicki Weber Carrier Historic Open-Air - Retiring
- Sam Haddad Carrier Port Charlotte - Retiring

#### **CCA Promotions:**

Carina Termini (St. Pete)  
Bradley Walters (Crossroads)

#### **ORNA Promotions:**

Alisha Henry (St. Pete)  
Cortez Fogerty (St. Pete)

**New Hires:**

- St. Pete 34
- Dunedin 2
- Palmetto 1
- Punta Gorda 3
- Englewood 1
- Pinellas Park 1
- Largo 1

**Total 43 CCA's since January**

**Grievances by the numbers:**

Since January 12:

- Informal A Grievances Filed - 49
  - Formal A Grievances - 22
  - Step B Appeals - 15
- Total 86**

- Resolved at Informal A - 31
  - Resolved at Formal A - 25
- Total 56**

**Presidents Report:**

**Food Drive:**

On April 12, 2026, volunteers from the Florida 2 District will break down bags and cards for distribution to the delivery units in the area. We will come to a location in Tampa and work to pallet and label their Branches Bags and Cards. This takes about 2 hours to complete for some Branches. Anyone wanting to assist in this please call the hall.

The postcards and Bags should be delivered in homes starting Saturday May 2nd and deliveries completed Thursday May 7th.

Saturday May 9, 2026, across the country will participate in the Stamp out Hunger Food Drive

**Update on Building:**

Phone lines are up and running. We are taking bids to put up a new fence. We had measurements taken.

At next week's Steward Training we will be covering some of the rights and benefits for the CCA's.

This week we had 2 different CCA's state they were injured and told they couldn't file OWCP Claim or Grievances for issued Discipline because they were CCA's.

Treasurer Chuck Cavicchio will be out for a couple of weeks having surgery. Director of Insurance Tom Phillips will be assisting in the hall.

Prior to the February General Membership, we had Chuck, his wife Joyce and daughter Kayla come in and cleaned the hall prior to the meeting and provided food for the members.

Since that time, they have come in on 5 Sundays to continue to get the hall back into shape and again arranged for the Food for tonight's Dinner.

I think its is appropriate that we do something for them. O.D. Elliott made a motion to compensate them \$150 for each time they came in, seconded by Glenn Fagan. Motion passed.

**I-9 Form:** Treasurer Chuck Cavicchio briefly spoke on the importance of all the Officers and Stewards fill out copies of the required documents. The IRS and Department of Labor do audits of Labor Unions and the penalties can be severe if these forms are not documented correctly.

**Door Prize Drawing: Lotto — Scratch-Off Ticket**

- Daevid Brown

**Steward Meeting Attendees**

**March 19th:**

Joe Henschen, Laurann Rose, Scott Held, Eric Short, Jody Dodd, Karen Peck, Tim Cox, Javier Urrutia, Donny DeMilta, Daevid Brown, Erica Donaldson, Anthony Roger, Patrick Jacques, Ken Domingos, Chuck Cavicchio, Jason Kruty, Louquandria Desamour, Tiffany Naughton, Jacob Lovelace, Tom Phillips, Wyatt Stribling, Al Baldwin, Nadir Alwani, Scott Archbold, and Ken Grasso

# NALC and Branch 1477 Scholarship Info:

<https://www.nalc.org/member-benefits/benefits-for-members/scholarships#JTD>

## Costas G. Lemonopoulos Scholarship Trust

The Costas G. Lemonopoulos Scholarship Trust awards scholarships to children of NALC members attending public, four-year colleges or universities supported by the state of Florida or St. Petersburg Junior College (no private colleges or universities and no other junior colleges). Scholarships are renewable one time.

The trust was established in 1985 by the late Costas G. Lemonopoulos, a retired letter carrier and member of West Coast Florida Branch 1477 in St. Petersburg.

To receive details about eligibility and requirements and an application form, print and fill out the preliminary application form and mail to the Costas G. Lemonopoulos Scholarship Trust, NALC, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144 no later than June 1.

<b>Lemonopoulos Scholarship Application</b>	
<i>(Please print clearly)</i>	
Date _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Check if renewal
Please send details on how I can compete for a scholarship award.	
son retired	
I am the _____ of active letter carrier _____	
daughter deceased _____ <i>(Name)</i>	
of Branch No. _____	City _____ State _____
My name is _____	
My home address is _____	
City _____	State _____ Zip _____
_____ Signature of NALC parent member (or spouse if deceased)	_____ Signature of branch officer
_____ NALC parent's Social Security No.	_____ Title _____ Date _____



# 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/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 May branch meeting.
5. Two scholarships in the amount of \$750. each will be awarded.
6. Applications must be postmarked by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
7. The Scholarship Committee will administer the program as it relates to advertising, applications, selections, etc.

### Branch 1477 Scholarship Application

(Must be postmarked by May 31)

**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 in school year 2025-2026 Or a freshman in college, community college, university, or vocational/technical institute in the school year 2025-2026

Branch 1477 Member \_\_\_\_\_ Active      Retired      Deceased

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.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(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.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Signature of Applicant)

# DOHERTY & DONELON SCHOLARSHIPS

**Deadline: This form must be returned to NALC Headquarters no later than December 31, 2025.**

## Eligibility

- Applicant must be the son, daughter or legally adopted child of a letter carrier NALC member in good standing—active, retired or deceased. Stepchildren and grandchildren are eligible if they live with the letter carrier in a regular parent-child relationship.
- Applicant's parent must be a member in good standing of NALC for at least one year prior to making application.
- Applicant must be a high school senior when making application and must submit the form provided at right, signed by the NALC member and an officer of the member's NALC branch. This form must be returned to NALC Headquarters by December 31, 2025.

## Requirements

- All applicants must take the Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT) in either their junior or senior year. A copy of the official scores from the administering organization must be received at NALC Headquarters by midnight, March 31, 2026. (Computer-generated print-outs of test scores will not be accepted.)
- All biographical questionnaires and secondary school reports must be received at NALC Headquarters by midnight, March 31, 2026.

## Regulations

- Scholarship is to be used toward pursuing undergradu-

ate degree at an accredited college of recipient's choice.

- Winners may accept other college scholarship assistance in addition to the NALC award.
- Any change of schools or course of study must be done only with the permission of the NALC Scholarship Committee.
- A transcript of grades must be forwarded to the committee at the end of each school year.
- If winner suffers certified serious illness, scholarship will be held in abeyance for not more than one year.
- If unusual conditions are going to require an interruption in schooling, recipient must state reason(s) in writing to the Scholarship Committee and request that the scholarship be held in abeyance. Request(s) will be reviewed by the Committee and a decision rendered.
- If the NALC member is suspended by their local NALC branch or enters supervision, scholarship will be canceled.

## Terms of awards

- The official scholarship judges will award one William C. Doherty Scholarship in each of the five USPS regions and one John T. Donelon Scholarship. Winners are judged on the basis of secondary school records, personal qualifications and test scores. As in the past, the scholarship judges will consist of experienced persons in the educational field. Decisions of the judges will be final.

- Doherty Scholarship awards will be \$4,000 per year and the Donelon Scholarship award will be \$1,000 per year. Each scholarship is renewable for three consecutive years thereafter, provided the winner maintains satisfactory grades. Award money will be deposited annually with the college. It will be credited to the winner's account to be drawn upon under the rules and regulations that the college has established for handling scholarship funds. Award money is to be used for required college fees, including room and board and transportation fees.
- Children of NALC national officers are not eligible.

In honor of NALC's president from 1941 to 1962, the **William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund** will again award five \$4,000 scholarships to children of members in good standing. **The John T. Donelon Scholarship Fund** will award one scholarship in honor of Donelon, longtime NALC assistant to the president. Applicants must be high school seniors and must meet all of the following eligibility criteria to be considered.

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Please send instructions as to how I can compete for a scholarship award. I am a senior in the 2025-26 school year.

I am the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 • daughter • son • active  
 • stepdaughter\* • stepson\* • retired  
 • granddaughter\* • grandson\* • deceased

letter carrier \_\_\_\_\_

of Branch No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

My address is \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of NALC parent member  
(or spouse if deceased)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last 4 digits of Social Security No.

Signature of branch officer

Printed name of branch officer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title Date

This form must be returned no later than Dec. 31, 2025, to the NALC Scholarship Committee, in care of the National Association of Letter Carriers, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144.

\* Stepchildren and grandchildren are eligible if they live with the letter carrier in a regular parent-child relationship.

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The Twig of the Branch is published monthly by Branch 1477 West Coast Florida Letter Carriers. Articles and opinions printed herein are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of Branch 1477 or the NALC. We invite all members to contribute material for possible publications. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject such material for reasons of good taste, legality, space, or the good of the Branch. Articles should be of general interest, be 350 words or less and be submitted by email to [branch1477nalc.editor@gmail.com](mailto:branch1477nalc.editor@gmail.com) by the 10th of the month.



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## APRIL 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> Largo Retiree Breakfast	<b>2</b> Executive Board Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> Easter 	<b>6</b> Pinellas Park Retiree Breakfast	<b>7</b> St. Pete Retiree Breakfast	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> General Membership Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Steward's Meeting	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> South Branch Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>		