



The Seventy-Niner

Volume MCIII Number 11



November 2018

President's Report:

Grade Consolidation Pay Raise On The Horizon

-B J Hansen-

On November 24th, all career city carrier pay schedules will consolidate existing grade levels into a single grade classified as "City Carrier." Career carriers will move to the equivalent step in Grade 2 of their respective pay schedule. Carrier Technicians will receive an additional 2.1% of their applicable hourly rate. Carriers filling temporarily vacant technician positions for five days or more will receive the additional pay. The same process will occur for CCAs, with the grade level classified as "City Carrier Assistant." Happy holidays!

The start time change to 8:00 is going on at almost every station throughout Seattle District and beyond. This was the subject of our recent Shop Steward Council. Supposedly it's because too many carriers aren't "making standard" in the office (based on arbitrary, inaccurate DOIS data). Since we can't be disciplined for that they must have figured out a different punishment. Talk to your Shop Steward to get an update on grievances being filed. Earlier in my career, when the daylight hours grew short, we actually started earlier. Go figure. These days management is determined to make carriers start later

when it gets dark earlier. It's a speed up tactic that backfires when it comes to safety, actually getting all the mail delivered, and customer service. I'm not sure how much money management spent holding the Safety Symposiums around the country. The main message was that it's wrong for management to spout safety while they knowingly push workers to cut corners on it. How ironic. What's in it for carriers? Probably discipline if you have any kind of accident or injury, angry customers, and dogs loose in their yards after

(Continued on Page 4)

Folklore and Fairytales

-Don Nokes-

One of the premier folklore imaginings management tries to foist on everyone is that when a Letter Carrier joins the Union they immediately slow down. What happens is - they wise up. There's a lot to discover by attending Union meetings and hanging out with Shop Stewards that you're not going to learn from the lint picking, nitpickers who roam around with their clipboards. I'm sorry, but for our CCAs, management will never be meaningful facilitators in their learning process. Supervisors could never parse an address and tell you which side of the street to start on; they wouldn't have a clue. They only parse people. They weed out the wheat from the chaff and it's all based on who's fast.

I'm not sure if accuracy even counts. I don't want to hand out any bad ideas, but I'm pretty sure you could toss all the mail in a dumpster, and as long as you can beat the regular carrier's street time, you'd get a two-thumbs-up from the idiot egg-timers. Sadly, theirs is a very closed society, very "secret-y", very cloak and dagger/skull and crossbones kind of stuff, and they're certainly not going to let you in on how they weave their web. But the Union will, and learning how to unravel the knots you find yourself caught in can be a very liberating experience.

(Continued on Page 4)

In This Issue

(LOOK INSIDE TO FIND)

BRANCH 79

DAYS OFF

ROTATION

CALENDAR

FOR 2019

(HINT: IT'S IN THE MIDDLE)

Branch Meeting Summarized Minutes October 10th, 2018

-Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Kevin Gottlieb-

President BJ Hansen called the October Branch meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Chaplain Don Bennett gave an inspirational message.

A roll call of officers found Brian Wiggins, Rick Horner and Chriss Daniels absent. Edward Johnson arrived late.

Communications: Mark announced recent communications to the branch.

Applications for Membership: Kevin read the names of 24 new applications for membership. MSC

No Unfinished Business

No New Business

Officers' Recommendation:

- Officers recommend sending up to 35 paid delegates to the 2019 State Convention in Yakima. MSC

President BJ Hansen:

- Nominations are open for delegates and all officer positions. Will close at the end of business tonight.
- KCLC sanctions strike at Marriott.
- Highlights from the recent COP:
 - USPS having trouble hiring CCAs
 - Issue about carriers becoming grade 7.
 - JCAM is ready, but management does not want to release until grade 7 dispute is resolved.
 - Safety Ambassador Program is not fully removed in the Seattle District.
 - USPS has approached the NALC about a joint safety program.
 - NALC is

working with the Department of Labor on safety issues. Heat issues when carriers returning to work.

- Post Office says they are too broke for safety.
- Issues with leaving parcels at the door and the M-41.
- Trying to resolve the issue of Amazon leaving parcels in our mailboxes and charging of postage due. In the future may see scanner taking pictures of those parcels.
- Post Office is delivering 3.1 million Amazon parcels a week.
- Walmart, Target and CVS are contracting with the Postal Service.
- City vs. Rural dispute is being moved forward by the NALC.
- No joint process for route adjustments.
- NALC getting involved with FEMA with a new disaster relief program to help members. A new building has been purchased for this purpose.
- Carriers are delivering more than Amazon on Sundays.
- Some grievances at Step B are being

(Continued on Page 7)

The Seventy- Niner

Official publication of Branch 79. Published monthly in the interest of Branch 79, National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO, representing the Letter Carriers of Auburn, Bellevue, Bothell, Federal Way, Enumclaw, Issaquah, Kirkland, Mercer Island, Redmond, Renton and Seattle.

All articles are the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the attitude of Branch 79, its Officers or Members.

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Branch 79 Editorial Policy
Contributors are expected to use good taste and keep articles free of personal attacks and discriminatory or prejudicial references. Facts presented must be accurate. Submissions must comply with Article 1 of Branch 79's by-laws, which states, in part, that the object of this Branch is to unite members into one harmonious body for their mutual benefit.
All articles submitted to The Seventy-Niner are reviewed to ensure compliance with this policy.

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PresidentB J Hansen
Vice-PresidentChriss Daniels
Secretary-Treasurer.....Mark Myers
Asst. Sec-Treas.....Kevin Gottlieb
Sergeant-at-Arms..Edward Johnson Jr.
Dir. of Insurance.....Michael C. Keels
Director of Retirees.....John Sweeney
EditorGarrett Scott
TrusteeRick Horner
TrusteeJo Ann Pyle
TrusteeBrian Wiggins

Shop Stewards

Auburn.....Julie Blackwell
 Auburn.....Son Nguyen
 Bainbridge Island.....Erika Wales
 Ballard.....Tyson Burchak
 Ballard.....Michelle Holthaus
 Ballard.....Matt Rollins
 Bellevue Annex.....Eric Magat
 Bellevue Annex.....Harpreet Singh
 Bellevue Crossroads....Chris Bradshaw
 Bellevue Crossroads.....Henry Luiten
 Bellevue Main.....Cory Carlson
 Bellevue Main.....Victor Correa
 Bitterlake.....Carol Ford
 Bitterlake.....David Yi
 Bothell.....Susan Mulholland
 Bothell.....Erica Silva
Burien.....
 Columbia.....Edward Johnson Jr.
 Des Moines.....Dan Twigg
Enumclaw.....
 Georgetown.....JV Cortez
 Interbay.....David Kidder-Fincher
 Interbay.....Jose Martinez
Issaquah.....
 Kirkland.....Archie Asberry
 Kirkland.....Alfredo Dwan
 Lake City.....Andrew Forray
 Mercer Island.....Amlin Santos
 Midtown/Seattle.....Pedro Mobley
 Mill Creek.....Brian Wiggins
 Mill Creek.....Yoshi Nagamatsu
 North City.....Joshua Berg
 North City.....Pedro Vargas
 Part-Time Regulars.....Kevin Cronin
 Redmond.....Ken Stevens
Redmond.....
 Renton/Hlds....Deborah Znak-St.Germain
 Renton/Hlds.....Willie Castro Jr.
 Renton/Main.....Joseph Muro
 Riverton.....Dave Heiszler
 Riverton.....Curtis Matthews
 Seattle Carrier Annex....Teresa Danning
 Seattle Carrier Annex.Andrea Demajewski.
 Seattle Carrier Annex...Enrique Molina
 Skyway.....Lee Brown
 Term Station.....Gerlyn Elaydo
 Twin Lakes.....Kevin Gottlieb
Twin Lakes.....
 University.....Will Collins
 University.....Garrett Scott
 Wallingford.....Ralph Coolman
 Wallingford.....Nick Simmons
 Wedgwood.....Susan Steele
 West Seattle.....Kim Shasteen
 Westwood.....Scott Anderson
 Westwood.....Brad Larsen



Director of Retirees

John Sweeney
 206-283-3079

Director of Insurance

Michael C. Keels
 206-380-5971

(NALC Health Benefit Plan / MBA)

Dates to Remember

Branch Meeting

Swedish Club
 1920 Dexter Ave N
 November 14th / 7 pm

Next Month's Meeting

December 12th/ 7 pm

and at each meeting's conclusion:
Drawing for \$50 Gift card

Retired Club

IHOP
 10002 Aurora Ave N
 November 20th @ 11:00 AM
 Hope to See You All There!

Steward Council

Branch 79 Office
 210 Queen Anne Ave N
 November 28th / 7 pm

GOLD CARD MEMBERS

Larry Austin	Robert Geiger	Wayne Morgan
Leonard Berglund	Conrad Gettman	Ed Morris Jr.
Gene Betz	June Gravelle	Kenneth Nelson
Billy Bigelow	Francis P. Hennessey	Gary Nolta
Robert Bigelow	Ron Henry	Mike Offield
G.R. Blair	Danny Hess	Larry Olsen
Lawrence J. Branze	Kenneth Hicks	Junji Ono
Sylvester Bunker	Charles H. Houston	John Otis
Frank Burdulis	Earlie L. Hudson	Charles Owens
Richard Byland	John Janousek	Dan Padilla
George Condon	Ronald Johnson	David Parmelee
Beverly Cook	Kenneth Johnston	David Payne
William Coyner	Jerry Jonason	Robert Peterson
Larry Davis	Richard Klein	James Robinson
Eugene Dell	Frank LaRiviere	David Rodger
George Egger	Ernest Lendy	Don Sanders
Ronald Eng	Donald Lowe	Donald Shannon
Ronald Engen	Roy Luquette	Ronald Sherrard
Robert Erb	Peter Madsen	Wayne Sonnenfeld
David Erickson	Michael Mangan	Robert Stringer
James Farmer, Jr.	John Martin	Robert Studley
Jon Felker	Richard McFadden	Jimmy Terada
Willard Fox	Robert McBerry	Ben Wittick
Earl Frank, Jr.	Bruce Miner	Donald Wissinger
William Gallagher	Michael Molloy	James Wood
	Lafayette Moore	

(Grade Consolidation from Front)

people are home from work. It's in everybody's interest (even if management doesn't agree) for all carriers to take the time it takes to deliver the mail safely. Take your lunch and breaks. You need them, and lunch is unpaid time. When you're out after dark and you find some deliveries unsafe, make sure you make note of why they were unsafe. When you get back to the station fill out a PS Form 1571, get a copy of the signed, completed form and keep it.

It appears that all but one Safe Driver Award (monetary) has finally been issued for the time from 2010-2014. I doubt that anybody got their SDA pins, certificates, or appreciation at a stand up, though. Now we're going for SDAs for 2015-2018. Nobody in management seems interested in the mandatory safety program that actually thanks carriers who are safe drivers. Sad.

Nominations for Branch 79 officers and 2019 convention delegates closed at the October branch meeting. Congratulations to the incoming officers who were elected for the 2019-2020 term by acclamation: Mark Myers, Secretary-Treasurer; Edward Johnson, Jr, Financial Secretary; Nick Simmons, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Garrett Scott, Editor; John Sweeney, Director of Retirees; and Scott Anderson, Sergeant-At-Arms. Ballots will be mailed out in November, and the results will be announced at the December 2018 Branch meeting. Look for the yellow envelope. My hope is that all of you will return your ballots and vote in the NALC elections, as well as in local and national public elections. Your voice does matter.

(Folklore and Fairytales from Front)

Usually, management gives you just enough rope to hang yourself with. Like DOIS! Now there's a whole, daily, doily-full of ropes crocheted and macraméd by the Madam Defarges of management. The Union can give you the ability to climb those ropes. It won't make carrying the mail any easier, but it does aid in maintaining your mental health and your physical wellbeing. Essentially, you learn that it's not you – it's them. You learn to refuse things that aren't healthy for you. You refuse to be bullied. You refuse to be frightened. You refuse to be scared when they shake their accusatory fingers in your face. Of course, when you're no longer swallowing the prescribed DOIS data, then your status with the supervisory Nurse Ratched is due for an adjustment. As when you first start refusing to take your "undertime" meds, and begin to question the "truth" concerning just how this cuckoo's nest is feathered – naturally, it'll be stink-eye time. And when your queries commence to roam outside the purview of the supervisor's bad parenting mantra of "Because I said so – that's why!" and you begin to quote Union Contractual language Chapter and Verse, well, the fastidious fuddy-duddies are apt to get their freak on. Most certainly, smooth sailing will be out of the question, but what's life for if not for getting involved, showing up and speaking truth to power. "To Be or Not To Be," that is always the question, but is the answer to live with your head cowed and your tail tucked, or to stiffen your spine and live boldly in an upright position?

No doubt, the wind in your face will feel as if it's emanating from someone who's signed up for a lifetime supply of Alex Jones

(Infowars) juice, but remember management's half-baked ideas are usually a recipe for disaster, and something in which you should not partake unwittingly. Like when they walk around with their enchanted leave and return times. As tainted as those things are with arbitrary stats, they might as well be passing out poisoned apples. "Here's one for you, dearie. And one for you, and you, and you." It's like that children's movie Tangled – very apropos – as most of what they've got to peddle are nothing but fairytales. They're making wishes come true – for them, not for you. Your wish might be – to be left alone, to do your work, and then go home. Well, wish again. It's a Bibbidi-Bobbidi-Boo existence when you're moving numbers around on an iPad for a living, and in order to move up the managerial ladder, you've got to be pushy with your numbers. And when push comes to shove, people become a mere inconvenience, something in the way. "You're holding up progress here. Give 'em the boot. You're fired! I'll get one that's more malleable next time." Unfortunately, knowing how to traverse the slopes of clipboard chatter, learning to sidestep the DOIS doo-doo, and sensing the parameters of leave and return times are nothing you'll catch onto by keeping your ear to the ground. There's always much, too much managerial white noise and supervisory static to get a decent take on what's really going on. There is not a whole lot to "learning the ropes," but there are certain essentials that can keep you afloat, and far away from that dreaded feeling of constantly treading water in an ever-rising tide. Your Union is always there to toss you a lifeline, but you have to reach out.

Brookfield Uniforms

*Designers and Producers
of Highest Quality
Union Made Uniforms*

Get \$497 for your \$452 allowance.

Seattle Odd Zips

Ken Eline

Retired Br. 79

1526 NE 165th St

Shoreline WA 98155

206-365-2659 Cell: 206-271-3053

Seattle Even Zips

Larry Anderson

Retired Br. 79

P.O. Box 69444

Seattle WA 98168

206-465-6111

Membership Report

As Reported at the October 2018 Branch Meeting
Secretary-Treasurer Mark Myers

New Members	24
Left Service	38
Transfer Out	3
Cancelled	0
Retired	7
Deaths	3
Active	1801
Associate	37
Total Retired	514*
*Includes Gold Card Member	76
Total Membership	2352

ELECT KEVIN GOTTLIEB VICE PRESIDENT OF BRANCH 79



Brother and Sisters,

I have been a letter carrier and a union member for over 30 years.

I am proud to represent you and letter carriers since I became a shop steward in 2006.

Please support me in the upcoming branch elections.

Shop Steward: 2006 - present

Formal A Designee: 2007 - 2017

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Branch 79: June 2011- present

Dispute Resolution Team (back up team member): 2012 - present

CCA Orientation for the Seattle District: June 2014 - 2016

CCA Carrier Academy Instructor for the Seattle District: August 2014 – present

PAID POLITICAL AD

December Penalty Overtime Exclusion

-Vice President Chriss Daniels-

As we all know Christmas is coming up fast and so are the four consecutive weeks in the December period where you will not receive any penalty overtime or what you might also call "V" time or double time. This provision is in the National Agreement in Article 8 sections 4 and 5. This year, 2018, the penalty overtime regulations are not applicable beginning December 1 through December 28.

Just so there is not any confusion over the penalty exclusion, the Overtime Desired and Work Assignment lists rules do not change. The only difference that needs to be noted is if carriers work over 10 hours in a day or over 56 hours in a week during the 4 week penalty exclusion in December, they will not receive penalty overtime or also known as "V" time or double time. What you will receive for any work beyond 10 hours in a day or 56 hours in a week will be at the regular overtime rate of one and a half times the base hourly straight time rate beginning December 1, 2018 through December 28, 2018.

Management gets confused with this exclusion of penalty overtime in December. They may believe other

regulations of Article 8 change too, but they do NOT. Management still does not have the right to work non-ODL carriers overtime off assignment during the penalty exclusion period. If the office is under a mandate situation, then management is obligated to work CCAs and ODL carriers overtime before assigning mandatory overtime to regular fulltime carriers who do not want to work any overtime.

Prior to mandating non-ODL or Work Assignment carriers overtime off their assignment management must seek to use CCAs up to their maximum of 11.5 hours (12 including lunch) and ODL carriers 12 hours (12.5 including lunch) before an 8 hour carrier works overtime off their assignment. December does not give management an opening to schedule the Work Assignment or 8-hour carriers on their day off either. Management must abide by the Article 8 rules and utilize the ODL carriers 12 hours first! As we all know, in December the last truck dispatch in most stations are missed on a daily occurrence due to the heavy load of holiday parcels. So if that is happening, management does not have the last truck dispatch excuse to work carriers overtime improperly.

Congratulations Recent Retirees

Tommy Carter

Michael Janneck

Lloyd Lam

Young Lim

Terrence Nixon

Anna Weber

Theresa Guiberson

Elect Jo Ann Pyle Director of Insurance Branch 79

- Former Branch President, Vice President, Trustee, AST and Steward; also State Director of Education
- Still committed to the success of our Union
- Member of NALC Health Benefit Plan for 30 years
- Conducted training on the Health Benefit Plan & Mutual Benefit Association for the NALC
- Attended numerous NALC Health Benefit Seminars
- Taught Insurance Benefits for newly converted career carriers



Paid Political Ad

(Summarized Minutes from Page 2)

sent to other teams in the country. We are getting decisions we don't like from another team.

- Thanked Seattle Formal A and Seattle Step B.

Business from the Floor:

- Why can parcels be delivered next day and letters taking 5 days?
- Many offices changing start time to 8am.
- National level discussions on parcel post routes ongoing.
- Chriss Daniels is on vacation.
- Rally on Monday about not privatizing the Postal Service.
- A movie about a carrier's last day was shown at the Seattle and Tacoma's film festival.
- Priority parcel was not picked up even though the flag was up.
- A motion was made to excuse Brian Wiggins who is on official union business. **MSC**
- National election results are not finalized yet.
- Everett rally on Monday.
- NALC Relief Fund.
- CCAs getting extra training from OJIs.

Books are closing at 8pm

Band Ken Eline:

- Motion was made to recognize members of the band as honorary members. **MSC**

Condolence Committee Ron Jilk:

- Read the names of those who recently departed. There was a moment of silence.

KCLC/WSLC:

- Mark spoke about the Labor Council presidential debate and the rally.
- Don Bennett talked about the Labor Council Forum and the general election ballots will be in the mail next week.
- Jo Ann informed the members the Executive Council voted

to nominate Lynne Dodson as Labor Council President. She has been very supportive of Letter Carriers.

Organizing Committee Edward

Johnson: no report

Good of Order: no report.

Legislative Committee:

- H Res 993 has enough co-sponsors.

MDA:

- Tonight's MDA door prize was announced.

Retired Club Pat Costello:

- Meeting next Tuesday at IHOP.
- They will be raising dues 20%.
- Looking to another location for future meetings.

By-Laws Committee Mats Julin:

- Proposed by-laws changes.
 - Article 6 Officers Duties and Salary. Committee recommends approval. **MSC**
 - Article 6 Director of Retirees. Committee recommends approval. **MSC**
 - Article 6 Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Committee recommends approval. **MSC**

BJ stated the deadline for the Seventy-Niner is Sunday.

Director of Retirees John Sweeney:

- Retirement seminar is October 18, 2018 at the branch office.
- Medicare cards in process of being mailed out.

Director of Insurance Michael C. Keels:

- Open Season for the health plans is November 12 – December 11, 2018.
- NALC Health plan members to receive new cards this month.

Trustees' Report:

- Jo Ann reported that the trustees met and found the books in good order. **MSC**
- There was a question about only one Trustee meeting on the books. Jo Ann stated that it is the same process.
- The membership was also informed of the donations approved by the officers.

Secretary-Treasurer Mark Myers:

- Reported on the Branch finances. **MSC**
- Membership report was given.

Nominations are now closed

Nominations Committee Don Nokes:

- The names of the nominations for delegates to the State Convention were read.
- The names of the nominations for officer positions were read.
- The following were awarded officer positions as no one ran against them:
 - Mark Myers – Secretary Treasurer
 - Edward Johnson – Financial Secretary
 - John Sweeney – Director of Retirees
 - Editor – Garrett Scott
 - Sergeant at Arms – Scott Anderson
 - Nick Simmons - Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Good of the Association and Improvement of the Service:

- Pedro Mobley recently started doing new employee orientation.
- Question about conversion training.

BJ gave the upcoming dates to remember.

MDA Door prize: Brooks Bennett

Door Prize: Nathan Martin

Meeting adjourned at 8:43pm



SIGN ME UP!

How to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund using PostalEASE — ONLINE Enrollment

Through PostalEASE, active letter carriers can contribute directly from their USPS paychecks to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) by designating the Political Fund as one of the three payroll "allotments."

Online Enrollment

1. Login to USPS's Postal Ease website at <https://ewss.usps.gov>
You may also get to the Postal Ease website through the USPS LiteBlue website See the instructions below
2. Click "I agree"
3. Enter your Employee ID number and Password and click "Submit"
If you have not yet set up a password click the link provided on the page or go to:
<https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/welcome.xhtml>
If you forgot your password click the link provided on the page or go to:
<https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/einVerification.xhtml>
4. Under Payroll click "Allotments / Payroll Net To Bank"
5. Click "Continue"
6. Click "Allotments"
7. Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: 0 6 4 0 0 0 1 7
8. Enter your 17-digit Account Number _____ 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5
See instructions in step D at right
9. Enter Account type as "checking"
10. Enter amount of your Allotment: \$ _____
The maximum yearly amount is \$5,000
11. Click VALIDATE
12. Click SUBMIT
13. Print or write down your confirmation number for your records

To get to Postal Ease through Lite Blue:

- Got to www.liteblue.usps.gov
- Enter you employee ID and Password and click "Log On"
- Click "My HR"
- Click "Employee Apps"
- Click "PoastalEASE"
- Begin at step 1 above

BEFORE YOU START, YOU'LL NEED:

- A. Your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub)
- B. Your USPS password
- C. Your Postal Record Number (Located on the back cover of your Postal Record magazine, above your name. Or call 202.393.4695 to get your Postal Record Number). See the example below.



- D. To create your personal account number, insert the seven digits of your Postal Record Number to the spaces below:

_____ 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor.

JANUARY 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			NEW YEARS DAY 1	2	3	4
			D HOLIDAY	E	F	F
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	A	B	C BRANCH MEETING	D	E \$	E
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	F	A	B	C	D	D
19	MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR DAY 20	21	22	23	24	25
	E HOLIDAY	F	A SHOP STEWARDS' COUNCIL	B	C \$	C
26	27	28	29	30	31	
	D	E	F	A	B	

Vote for Pedro



Branch 79 Trustee

- Midtown Station Letter Carrier
- Active Informal A Chief Steward
- Alternate Formal A Chief Steward
 - CCA Organizer Seattle District
- CCA Conversion Coordinator Seattle District
 - SSCC Associates Degree

Pedro Mobley, a trustee you can trust.

Really Rainy Rally in Everett: US Mail Not For Sale

--Trustee Jo Ann Pyle --

On October 8th I attended a rally in Everett to bring awareness to the threats of privatizing the Postal Service. Postal unions arranged locations all across the country. In Washington there were two rallies. One in Seattle and the other in Everett. President Bob James of Snohomish County Branch 791 coordinated the effort up North. We had a good turnout, despite the rain. Members of Branch 791, other postal unions and a few Branch 79 members made their way to Everett. Non-postal unions also helped out and we had a staff person from

Senator Maria Cantwell's office and others.

Postal employees need to gather support to make sure we stay in business. Privatizing would hurt American businesses, American customers, jobs and the economy and the US election system. It would most assuredly cost more to send a letter across the country than it does now with our universal service mandate.

There was a nice article in the Everett Herald on Sunday, October 14th written by Julie Muhlstein. You might enjoy

looking it up. It's at heraldnet.com and is in the local news.

Please talk to your friends, family and neighbors about this attempt. We've written in The Seventy-Niner before about the importance of contacting our Congressional Representatives. You can go to the NALC website to see if your representative has already signed on to cosponsor H Res 993. But we also need to contact Senator Maria Cantwell, as she has not signed on to the Senate version (S Res 633).

The US Mail is not for sale!



(Photo courtesy of Bob James)



Experience and Dedication

Please Vote

BJ Hansen
President

I also support:

Tracy Holzwarth
Vice President

Pedro Mobley
Trustee

Ron Jilk
Trustee

Austin Cooper
Trustee

Paid Political Ad



Comic Courtesy of Jack Hayes



**ELECT
BRIAN WIGGINS**

President Branch 79

With my leadership, the council will:

Educate the stewards more efficiently

Be present at every station

Increase labor-management meetings

Ensure an officer is available to every member

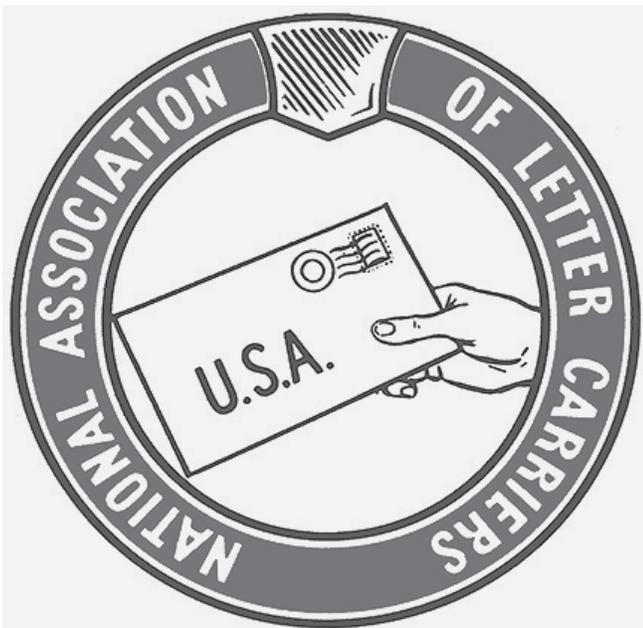
Train one-Train all



Welcome New Members

Aeron Bautista
Vu Nguyen
Jousua Benzler
Kristie Blevins
Karen Nelson
Tyler Son
Chyong Lee
Kelly Presley
Michelle Simmons
Bhudayal Singh
Christie Kreisher
Binyan Tulu

Richard Chang
Immanuel Jun
S.P. Navone
Leif Dayberry
Matthew Guzman
Clayton Hansen
Craig Arakawa
Chico Bosques
Hayley Brewer
Tesfay Gebrekidon
Brian Taylor
Todd Budden



Shared Services

(National Human Resources)

1-877-477-3273

<http://liteblue.usps.gov>

You'll need your Employee ID#
and your USPS PIN.

(Riverton Review from Back)

managers moved around when caught cooking the books (as if that behavior will stop simply because they go to a different station), I have had managers who look at their employees as second class citizens and view their office like a caste system, I have had managers go on fishing trips while they were on sick leave (must have thought taking 2 shots at the dock was the same as going to the doc, and getting 2 shots), have had managers running their outside business while on company time when the carriers are on the street, even had one years ago who allowed a friend to solicit carriers while on the clock to buy insurance from them in the break room! The list goes on and on but the results are always the same....no accountability.

In today's environment with the rise of the "Me Too Movement," how is it that the P.O. just keeps chugging along like it is still 1950? I'm a white male and, as such, have not faced nearly the indignities that many of my brother and sister carriers have faced over their careers. If you think racism and sexism is not a problem in this company, just look at the tremendous number of E.E.O. complaints filed against this

organization. It blows my mind how this company responds to complaints filed against it. For example, with any claim, you must look for patterns and evidence. Why is it that with evidence like inappropriate texts or eye witness accounts of touching or inappropriate language, the normal action of this company is simply to move the offending manager to a different work location? Isn't that like telling an alcoholic "no more whiskey for you!... here, try vodka."

Something else that always amazes me is the double standard in this company regarding time and expectations. If you're a Carrier you're expected to adhere to a strict time line measured to the unit. I have seen some managers spend 20 minutes arguing with a carrier over 10 minutes difference between what DOIS says and what the carrier estimates. As a carrier, you are held accountable for being back in 8 hours, being off the clock no later than 6 pm, leaving the office no later than 9am, performing 30 minutes of under time, etc..... Now let's look at the strict time lines management is held to. We had a rash of CBU break-ins at Riverton a while back. These units were located in a large business park and

after many weeks of "investigation" it was determined they were originally installed by the Postal Service, therefore the P.O. was responsible for replacement. Sounds simple, one would think, oh but you would be wrong. It has only been about two years and still no new boxes installed. It has become the running joke with the affected businesses that their new boxes will be installed soon! After only about a year and a half, the boxes were finally ordered and arrived at Riverton. They now have been stacked up on our loading dock and work room floor, evidently waiting for just that special time to actually install them.

Another case of management being right on top of things in a timely manner involves customers who waste their time trying to get a problem resolved via the phone. After many, many rings, they finally feel vindicated when they actually talk to a supervisor or manager who they mistakenly believe will help solve their issue. I have lost track of how many customers I have talked with that are so frustrated they just need to vent. Repeatedly, they tell me how, after they were assured the

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supervisor or manager would look into their complaint and call them back, but sadly coming to the conclusion that the return call will never come.

Another “timely” issue concerns this past summer’s air quality problems due to wild fire smoke. It was a repeat from the year before. After last year, it was decided that the post office would order appropriate air masks and have them available for any employee who wants to use one when needed. Fast forward to this year and apparently a year was not enough time for management to actually honor their commitment. When the smoke arrived this year, I discovered we had zero masks available and unfortunately, that was the similar case in many stations. I was assured they would be ordered right away! Evidently expecting management to act within 12 months is simply being unreasonable.

I guess in the company’s eyes, it is reasonable to measure carriers with stop watches, but when measuring management, a calendar and sun dial should be used.

As summer came to a close, I was again invited to attend the Columbia Station Labor Day picnic organized by Brother Rick Hoang. My hat is off to the outstanding job Rick does in putting together a spectacular event. There was no shortage of food and one thing I can attest to is that the Columbia crew takes their barbeque seriously! It was great to see so many carriers attend with their families and friends. By staging this kind of event, Rick is building the Union bonds ever stronger. Keep up the good work, Rick!

Lastly, on the Columbus Day holiday, many Postal employees participated in demonstration rallies across the

country at offices of select members of Congress. In Seattle, we rallied at Congresswoman Jayapal’s office. She has signed onto a bipartisan bill that supports a Postal Service that belongs to the people of this country, rather than privatizing it as suggested by the current administration. I encourage every employee to get active in the fight to save the Post Office. Privatization would result in service for some (big cities) and no service (small towns) for others. It would also result in pay cuts, retirement benefit cuts and health care cuts to those of us working for this company. If you don’t believe me, you simply can look at any of the numerous countries where Postal privatization has occurred. This is a fight we must stay active in and is one that we can

win. Saving the Postal Service is a bipartisan issue. Currently, we have 220+ house members signed on to our cause (H Res 993), but we are lacking 10 Senate members (S Res 633) for a majority in both houses. A simple way for everyone in our state to support the cause is to sign up for the NALC app. It will identify if your House member is supporting us or not. Thanks to all who turned out to make our voices heard, the job you save may be your own. We must thank those who support us and hold those who don’t accountable at election time.

In Solidarity,

Dave

MEMORIAL

**Brother Bruce Baldrige
Retired**

**Brother Robert Boyer
Retired**

**Sister Mary Graham
Retired**

**Cheryl Saucedo
Granddaughter of Brother Francisco Saucedo**

**Gail Ann Clark
Daughter of Brother Roger White**

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Riverton Review

-Dave Heiszler-

Lately in Seattle, it appears we have an absence of leadership. Our current Ghost Master is MIA, his second in command is heading for California (our loss is their loss), next up is an individual who has burned many bridges in this town and should have been sent packing long ago. Lastly is the newest member of the keystone cops who has been just as invisible as the rest of the "team." How is it that with only a couple of dozen facilities in Seattle, the four of these "leaders" are so busy they can't manage to find the 15 minutes it would take to drive to Riverton? Don't get me wrong, I don't think any of these individuals would actually be of any help to us workers, but I do find it telling that as an organization, they are that out of touch with their front line employees. When one looks closer at the recent team that on paper leads the Seattle Installation, where else but the Postal Service would any of these individuals even have a job managing more than the deep fryer at the local burger barn? Let's start with the Ghost Master; I honestly can't remember the last time he was at my station for a visit. Not for retirements, not for holiday potlucks, not for employee awards (o.k. I just threw that one in there, we all know this company never gives awards to the workers anymore!), not for the roll out of any new Postal products or services and not even when our station management team changes again and again. It's not that we miss him by any

means; it just amazes me that a leader in an organization this size can be so nonexistent.

Let's look at some of the next in line who are tasked to oversee this sinking ship. We have had a number of Area Managers who keep going through the revolving door that is Postal Management. In my career we have had managers who have gotten into screaming matches on the workroom floor with workers (always a sign of maturity and professionalism), we have had one who treated a worker so badly a customer called the police on them (unfortunately he left before the police arrived), we had one caught on video verbally assaulting a worker while physically approaching within inches of his face, and we had one who went to the other extreme and was caught in bed after hours with one of their workers (by the worker's spouse, no less). This is just but a sampling of behavior this company can be proud to condone. Oh, and by the way, all of these individuals were dealt with in the most severe way... hahaha, I just threw that in there to see if you were paying attention. In reality, virtually nothing was done to these individuals.

Next let's look at some of the up and coming station managers we have had in Seattle over the years who all aspire to reach the next level of Postal Survivor. Again in my career, I have seen managers scream profanities at both workers and customers alike. I have had managers outright lie and then double down when confronted and lie again to try and justify it. I have seen managers moved around when caught cooking the books (as if that behavior will stop simply because they go to a different station), I have had managers who look at their employees as second class citizens and view their office like a caste system, I have had managers go on fishing trips while they were on sick leave (must have thought taking 2

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