



Branch 2184 ... "Speaks"

Official Publication of Branch 2184, NALC, AFL-CIO

May/June 2012

Branch 2184
Western Wayne County, MI
National Association
of Letter Carriers
AFL - CIO
6969 Monroe
Taylor, MI 48180-1815
(313) 295-1640
Fax: (313) 295-4134
E-Mail :
NALC2184@sbcglobal.net
Web Site www.nalc2184.org

Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Calendar

Branch Meetings:

Sept 5th, 2012
Oct 3rd, 2012
(7:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

Retirees Meetings:

Sept 12th, 2012
Oct 10th, 2012
(12:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

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President's Report

Legislative Update

Despite an intense lobbying effort by the NALC, on April 25 the United States Senate passed a bill known as S. 1789. This flawed legislation allows for the downsizing of the USPS, while failing to fully address the costly pre-funding issues regarding future health benefits. The bill in its current form also would give the Postmaster General the authority to move to five day delivery within two years if he can make a financial case to Congress that the move is needed to keep the USPS solvent. As if that were not enough, the legislation also amends the collective bargaining process in favor of management and allows for harmful changes in current funding levels for injured workers.

Where do we go from here? In the latest Bulletin from our National Office, President Rolando had this to say "Despite all the bad news, it's important for us to remain positive because the legislative process is far from over. For one thing, it may take some time to get a postal reform bill through the House, which would be then followed by the appointment of a joint House-Senate conference committee whose job it would be to come up with a bill both chambers could pass and President Obama would be willing to sign". As you can see, the fight to protect our jobs is far from over. We must be prepared to react to any additional attempts by Congress that would damage the USPS beyond repair.

Food Drive

The 20th annual National Food Drive to "Stamp Out Hunger" took place on Saturday, May 12. The NALC National office has reported the totals collected nationwide exceeded last year's amount of 70.2 million tons of food, but as we go to print the final totals had not yet been tallied. This year we in Branch 2184 saw a 35% increase in food donations from last year. The total amount of food collected this year by our Branch was 278,942 pounds! This is quite an achievement for an area of the country

(Continued on page 3)

Officers

President	Mark Judd
Executive Vice President	Jim Wolstencroft
Vice President	Walt McGregory
Recording Secretary	Casey Pennington
Financial Secretary Treas	Cathy Tondreau
Sergeant at Arms	Darryl Clay
Health Benefits Rep.....	Jim Powell
Retirees Officer	Leonard Zawisa
Trustee	Joe Golonka
Trustee	Gloria Warthen
Trustee	Patricia Linna
Editor	Leonard Zawisa
Branch Scribe	Joe Golonka
Web Site Design	Jim Hales
Injury Compensation	Joe Golonka



Branch 2184 Speaks is published 6 times a year by Branch 2184, National Association of Letter Carriers.

The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the editorial staff or the officers of the branch.

We invite all members to contribute articles for publication. Copy should be typed, double-spaced and signed by the contributor. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit, delete or reject the article for the good of the branch.

In the hope that material contained herein may be of benefit to the goals of the NALC, permission is hereby granted to copy or use material in this publication with our best wishes.

Stewards

Belleville.....	Lynn Taylor
.....	Gregory Bodziak (alt)
Dearborn (Main)	Darryl Clay
.....	Ed Williams
Dearborn (Annex).....	Melvin MacDonald
.....	Jacqueline Wiggins
.....	Rose Miller (alt)
.....	Tom Klecha (alt)
.....	Roderick LeLental (alt)
Dearborn Heights.....	Richard Alaniz
.....	Denise Viola
.....	Jim Hales (alt)
.....	James Wolstencroft (alt)
.....	John Czuchrak (alt)
Dundee.....	313-295-1640
Flat Rock	313-295-1640
Grosse Ile.....	Tom Harris
.....	Virginia McNew (alt)
Inkster	Bryon Hendricks
Lincoln Park	Scott Watts
.....	Dave Reise (alt)
Monroe	Erik Venzke
.....	Chris Carmon (alt)
Northville.....	Mark Cooper
.....	Beth Maleszewski (alt)
.....	Jim Holland (alt)
.....	Bridgette Sams (alt)
Plymouth.....	Don Oziemski
.....	Heather Childers
.....	Bob Venning (alt)
Rockwood.....	Gloria Warthen
Taylor	Michele Szafran
Temperance	313-295-1640
Trenton	Casey Pennington
.....	Gwen Heffinger (alt)
Westland	Walter McGregory
.....	Joan Hicks
.....	Felicia Bryant
.....	Kim Clark (alt)
Canton.....	Dianne Campbell
.....	Lois Fritz (alt)
Ypsilanti	Rick Rider
.....	Mike Tredway
.....	Alan Grajczyk (alt)
.....	Malcolm Muscato (alt)

Address Correction Requested

When you move, change your name, leave the letter carrier craft, retire, or your phone number changes, we need to hear from you. Your member benefits, newsletter and other mailings may be affected if we don't have the new information. It only takes a phone call or drop us a note. We will do the rest.

Call 313-295-1640

(Continued from page 1)

that is only now recovering from the great recession. Of course, none of this would be possible without the commitment of our members to this worthy cause. Special thanks go out to our station food drive coordinators, and to our Branch coordinator Cathy Tondreau for all of their hard work.

Branch Scholarships

Once again this year the Branch will be awarding four \$500 scholarships to a dependent child of a Branch 2184 member in good standing. The applicant must be a high school or GED graduate, who are currently enrolled or planning on enrolling or attending college or technical school in the fall 2012. Eligibility for the scholarships includes accredited and licensed colleges, trade schools, and schools of higher education. For further information regarding this important member benefit see the application in this month's "Speaks" or go to our Branch web site www.nalc2184.org.

COLCPE Raffle Contest

In the last issue of the "Speaks" Vice President Gregory reported that our Branch had won its "division" in last year's National COLCPE contest. For winning the contest, Branch 2184 received four \$100 American Express gift cards to raffle off to any COLCPE contributor in the Branch who is currently giving at the "Gimme 5" rate.

If you would like to be eligible to win one of these gift cards all you have to do is sign up for COLCPE at the appropriate rate. Members who are already COLCPE contributors and who are donating at the required level are already eligible. Those who have not signed up for COLCPE or who are not donating at the suggested rate will have until August 31, 2012 to sign up or to change their current contribution. The winner will be drawn on Labor Day, September 3, 2012. Sign up now and help us protect your job. For further information on the contest and how to enroll in COLCPE look in this

month's newsletter or on line at our web site www.nalc2184.org.

Back To The Future?

NALC Director of City Delivery Lew Drass has confirmed (what many of us already suspected), that the Postal Service has decided to walk away from negotiations regarding the joint route adjustment process for at least this year. The Postal Service's decision not to continue in the joint process only leaves them one option and that is full mail counts and route inspections as defined in USPS Handbook M-39. While the unilateral process chosen by our employer is one that we as an organization would not prefer, we nonetheless will be prepared. At the National level they are printing copies of the NALC *Route Protection Pocket Handbook* and updating the NALC *Guide to Route Inspections*.

Here at the local level we will be holding as necessary, Route Inspection classes for any offices selected for inspection. In April the Branch conducted training for our members in Dearborn Heights and Trenton. As I write this article consultations are under way in both offices. The stewards in these offices are utilizing national and local resources to make sure that the appropriate grievances will be filed.

Throughout these summer months and thereafter we must remember to always work in a professional manner - and try to keep cool.

-- Mark Judd
President

Attend Your
Branch Meetings
Next Branch Meeting-Sept 5, 2012
7:30 pm @ the Union Hall
Next Retirees Meeting-Sept 12, 2012
12:30 pm @ the Union Hall
July and August - No Meetings

EVP's Report

More with Less

The USPS is continually reducing the number of employees from its rolls with no end in sight. In the June edition of the Postal Record Secretary-Treasurer Jane Brondell talks of the declining membership. Between AP 5 of 2008 and AP 5 of 2012 the NALC had a decline of 34,570 (16.3%) active city carrier members. This was all done with the Postal Service adding approximately 1.8 million new delivery points (households and businesses) per year.

What's old is what's new. In the past few years routes have been adjusted jointly (union and management) with minimal problems. With no joint process currently in place, postal management has decided to have full-blown inspections in many offices across the country. All I remember from full-blown route inspections is the number of grievances that would follow. And I expect the same this

time around. The problem with this is that while a grievance may be warranted the remedy may not be forthcoming for some time, which is an adjusted route of 8 hours. There are currently 645 cases pending arbitration in the K.I.M. Region. Meanwhile, everyday you are forced to work on an assignment that is not 8 hours. You will for certain be at odds with your supervisor about your daily workload. If your route is over 8 hours *you* better be able to show that it is over 8 hours.

Do not let your supervisor harass, intimidate, or coerce you into work that can't be done in the allotted time in a safe and consistent manner.

Things that you may want to consider:

- 1) Don't do favors for the boss because they will expect it every day. Just do your job and be professional.
- 2) Don't skip your breaks and lunch times.
- 3) Don't extend your field times unnecessarily.
- 4) Don't work off the clock.
- 5) Notify management if you can't perform the duties assigned to you within the time allotted.



Brookfield[®] Uniforms

Serving the Postal Industry for Over 40 Years

Support the Company that Supports Letter Carriers

- Brookfield replaces uniforms lost due to fire and natural disasters!
- Brookfield, along with State and Local NALC Branches, has raised over \$500,000 for COLCPE.
- Brookfield provides assistance for Conventions, Seminars, and Charity fund raising events!

Contact Your Brookfield Representative!

Robert Kreager

Branch 2184 Retired

1802 Ford Blvd. Lincoln Park, MI 48146-3956
313-386-0527 (voice) 313-386-3270 (fax)

- 6) Record your times by retro-swiping or filling out PS form 3996 when working off assignments. If you don't put the times in, your supervisor will input whatever times they want.
- 7) Learn what your duties are by reviewing Handbook M-41 City Carriers Duties and Responsibilities. These should be at every route's case.
- 8) Know your rights and exercise those rights.
- 9) Work in a consistent and safe manner every day. Work as if the boss is with you every day.

The bottom line in what I am trying to say is don't be fooled into doing *more* than 8 hours of work for 8 hours of pay. We are already doing more work with fewer carriers.

In Solidarity,

-- Jim Wolstencroft

Executive Vice President

VP's Report

DON'T FORGET ABOUT COLCPE OVER THE SUMMER

While the summer months have arrived and there isn't another membership meeting until September 5, 2012, Branch 2184 is still signing members up for COLCPE. If you are an annual COLCPE contributor, please send your COLCPE check or money order to the Branch 2184 office by mail at 6969 Monroe, Taylor MI 48180. You can also send your check or money order by way of your office steward. As always, there is an officer at the union office Monday thru Friday 9 AM - 5 PM to accept your check or money order for COLCPE.

Of note, any active member who signs up for COLCPE "Gimme 5" level which equals \$130 a year, either via check, money order or automatic payroll deduction, will have a chance to win one of four \$100 gift cards that the Branch won in the

2011 NALC National contest. The drawing will be held on Labor Day, September 3, 2011. Any retired member must be giving at least \$60 a year to COLCPE to be eligible for the Branch 2184 raffle. So, if you are a long time COLCPE contributor and/or a new COLCPE contributor donating at least \$130 a year for active member or at least \$60 a year for retired, you are also entered in the 2012 National COLCPE contest. Additionally, if you are donating at the "Gimme 5" level you can win one of those \$100 American Express Gift cards. Remember, you have to be in it, to win it.

On a contract note, The NALC and the Postal Service have agreed upon the selection of National Arbitrator Shyam Das as chairman of the three-person arbitration board that will set the terms of the next collective-bargaining agreement between the union and the USPS. Das is a member of the American Arbitration Association's labor panel and has been a full-time labor arbitrator since 1977. He has served on national arbitration panels involving postal workers since 1996 and has chaired arbitration proceedings involving United Steelworkers Union, the National Football League Players Association, and the Major League Baseball Players Association.

Stewards, please remember to monitor residual vacancies and file grievances for CC-1 and CC-2 positions that are residual and remain unfilled. For assistance with these grievances, please contact the union office and a Branch officer will be happy to assist you.

Everyone enjoy your summer and stay safe. Hope to see you all at the next Branch meeting in September.

In Unionism,

-- Walt McGregory

Vice President

**OUR ADVERTISERS ARE
YOUR FRIENDS.
MENTION YOU SAW THEM
IN OUR NEWSLETTER.**

COLCPE Contributors

Belleville

- ✓ Gregory Bodziak
- ✓ Linda Manning
- ✓ Bruce Prevost
- ✓ Lynn Taylor
- ✓ Cindy Trzeciak (R)

Dearborn Main

- Richard Adams (R)
- George Bolash (R)
 - ✓ Darryl Clay
- William Mather (R)
 - ✓ Daniel Smith (R)
 - ✓ Ed Waldon
 - ✓ Ed Williams
- ✓ Leonard Zawisa (R)
- ✓ Margaret Zywicki (R)

Dearborn Annex

- Nancy Altman
- ✓ Timothy Bailey
- ✓ Michael Bergin
- Hubert Brown
- ✓ Mark Cornett
- ✓ Mark Judd
- ✓ Roderick Lelental
- ✓ Melvin MacDonald
- ✓ Carol Macieczni
- ✓ Rosemary Miller
- ✓ Karen Regentik
- Brian Rodden (R)
- ✓ Cathy Tondreau (R)
 - ✓ Jackie Wiggins

Dearborn Heights

- ✓ Rich Alaniz
- ✓ Roger Corpolongo
 - ✓ Jim Hales
 - ✓ Ian Mair

James Powell (R)

- ✓ Alan Swinteck
- ✓ Christopher Tostige
 - ✓ Denise Viola
- ✓ James Wolstencroft

Dundee

- ✓ Chatrina Gensler
- ✓ Jerome Mannlein (R)

Flat Rock

Grosse Isle

- ✓ Christopher Biegalski
- ✓ Kimberly Bumbul
 - ✓ Thomas Harris
- ✓ Virginia McNew
 - ✓ Mary Renaud

Inkster

- ✓ Eric Gant
- ✓ Bryon Hendricks
 - ✓ Roy McMahan
- ✓ Calvin Simmons (R)

Lincoln Park

- ✓ Thelma Balogh (R)
- Laura Fitzgerald
 - Leah Gray
 - Jennifer Green
 - ✓ Paula Hall
 - Ronald Hausch
 - Dawn Hickman
 - Lawrence Jesue
 - Judith Kahl
 - ✓ David Kemp
- Nicholas Longo
- ✓ William Mason (R)
 - ✓ James Martyna

✓ Pace, Nicole

- Randall Parsley (R)
 - Karen Purvis
 - David Reise
- ✓ Bela Rito (R)
 - Gayle Rohde
 - Ruston Shawn
- ✓ Barbara Scaggs
- Larry Skillman (R)
 - ✓ Scott Watts
- Teresa Wisniewski

Monroe

- ✓ Chris Carmon
- ✓ Lillian Bogosian
- ✓ Joanna MacKinnon
- ✓ Kenneth Masserant
- ✓ Jennifer Neikirk
 - ✓ Erik Venzke

Northville

- Elizabeth Karsten
- ✓ Bridgette Sams

Plymouth

- ✓ Cary Black (R)
- ✓ Heather Childers
- ✓ James Crossey
- ✓ Tiffani Howell (R)
- ✓ Patricia Linna (R)
 - ✓ Gary Macioce
 - ✓ Dan Marek
- ✓ Kristie Nelson
- ✓ Ricky Rosales

Rockwood

- ✓ Gloria Warthen

Taylor

John Bostek (R)

- ✓ Roger Gilliam
- ✓ James Kelly (R)
- William Lowe (R)
- ✓ Frances McGuckin
- ✓ Walter Modelski (R)
 - ✓ Bob Parisi
 - ✓ Fran Phillips
 - ✓ Bob Sedore (R)
 - ✓ Irene Sly (R)
- ✓ Michele Szafran
- Terry Theeck
- Janie Youtsey

Temperance

- ✓ Kari Guthrie

Trenton

- ✓ Anthony Conley
- ✓ Colette Graves
- ✓ Gwen Heffinger
 - ✓ Dennis Lucas
- ✓ Casey Pennington
 - ✓ Gary Ritchie

Westland

- ✓ Arnita Adams
- ✓ Michele Barnes
 - ✓ Lori Boljesic
 - ✓ Felicia Bryant
- ✓ Kenyatte Byron
- ✓ Veronica Chambers
 - ✓ Wenoia Clark
 - ✓ Ted Gagnon
- ✓ Albert Gilliespie
 - ✓ Joan Hicks
- ✓ Caprice Hughes
 - ✓ Katrina Jones
- David Marshall

COLCPE Contributors

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Tamara Martin ✓ Walter Gregory John Meleski (R) ✓ Ladonna Miller ✓ Kurtis Ranney (R) ✓ Sharonlynn Roulo ✓ Marie Shannon ✓ Edward Sikora ✓ Christen Tharp ✓ Raymond Tobin ✓ Tammy Viecelli ✓ Amy Williams ✓ Calvin Winbush | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Ypsilanti</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Manuel Ballesteros ✓ Kimberly Blake ✓ Timothy Bowsher (R) ✓ Carl Brown ✓ David Dagostino ✓ Betty Daraban ✓ Brian Frost ✓ Alan Grajczyk ✓ Kimika Griffin ✓ Willise Jeffery ✓ Mike Karjala (R) ✓ Gene Meadows ✓ Jamie Meloche Malcolm Muscato ✓ Brian Mueller Patricia Neeley Mike Radecki (R) ✓ Richard Rider ✓ Larry Rowland ✓ Michael Tredway |
|---|--|

Canton

- ✓ Dianne Campbell
- ✓ Lois Fritz
- ✓ Joe Golonka (R)
- Douglas Koluch
- Gilbert Pruiett



Protect your job "Join COLCPE today!"

Call 313-295-1640

- ✓ Check mark indicates you are signed up for automatic COLCPE contributions.

(R) Indicates retired members.

Committee On Letter Carriers Political Education
(COLCPE)

Start your COLCPE automatic contribution NOW!

COLCPE Contest

\$100 WIN 1-of-4 \$100
American Express Gift
\$100 Certificates \$100

It's easy as 1-2-3

1. Join up for COLCPE
 2. Donate at the "Gimme 5" rate to be eligible.
 3. Sign up by August 31st.
- Drawing to be held Labor Day

Active Members can contribute directly from their paychecks via PostaleASE online. (see online sign up on page 8)

Active Members also can sign up using PostaleASE by phone.

Other methods to sign up for both active and retired members include monthly contributions from your bank account via Electronic Fund Transfer.

Retired Members can contribute from their OPM annuity.

For more information or assistance to sign up using any of the above methods, stop by or call the branch office (313-295-1640) or visit the Branch 2184 web site at www.nalc2184.org.

-- REMINDER --

The Branch office will be closed during the week of the National Convention.

July 23rd through July 27th

Branch officers will check for phone voice messages daily.



Active letter carriers: Contribute to **COLCPE** using PostalEASE

online.....

Carriers can also go online to use PostalEASE. With PostalEASE, carriers can contribute directly from their paychecks every pay period. Through PostalEASE you can designate COLCPE as one of your three payroll "allotments."

- 1 **Be sure you know your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub) and your 4-digit USPS Personal Identification Number (PIN).**
If you cannot remember your PIN, call PostalEASE at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273), select "1", enter your Employee ID Number, and select "2" to have your PIN mailed to you.
- 2 **Create your own Account Number by inserting in the spaces at right the first seven digits of the ID number that appears above your name on the back cover of your Postal Record.**

YOUR 17-DIGIT ACCOUNT NUMBER:

----- 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5
(First 7 digits of ID number on Postal Record label)

*****AUTO** 5-DIGIT 54321
 XXXXXX89 LC 9876 W13 08
 JOHN CARRIER
 1234 MAIN STREET
 ANYWHERE, US 54321-9999

3 Now you are ready to go online to liteblue.usps.gov

- Enter Employee ID and PIN and click "log on"
- Click on "Postal Ease"
- Click on "I agree"
- Enter Employee ID and PIN again and log in
- Click on "Allotments/Payroll NTB"
- Click on "Continue"
- Click on "Allotments"
- Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: **0 6 4 0 0 0 0 1 7**
- Enter your 17-digit Account Number from above
- Enter Account type as "checking"
- Enter amount of your contribution
- Click on "validate"
- Click on "submit"
- Click "print page" to see and print your confirmation number for your records

Contribute on the web at
liteblue.usps.gov

By making a COLCPE allotment through PostalEASE, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your monthly contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it a part of union dues. You may refuse to contribute without any reprisal. COLCPE 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 through the PostalEASE system. Only NALC members, NALC executive and administrative staff, and their immediate household family members may contribute to COLCPE. Contributions to COLCPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Branch 2184 2012 Scholarship Application

Qualifications:

1. Must be a dependent child of a Branch 2184 member in good standing (active or retired) or a child of a member now deceased.
2. Applicant's parent must be a member in good standing of Branch 2184 for at least one (1) year prior to making application, with the exception of children of members now deceased who were previously members in good standing of Branch 2184 at the time of their death.
3. Must be a high school senior, high school graduate, GED recipient, or attending college or technical school (undergraduate) at the time of submitting the application, and attending an eligible school in the fall. **
4. Only one application per child per year. Only one scholarship per family will be awarded each year.
5. Student must have maintained a 2.0 grade point average or above. A copy of grade transcript or equivalent must accompany application for scholarship.
6. If the NALC parent of a successful applicant is suspended by the Branch or makes an application for a supervisory position before monies are paid, the scholarship will be cancelled. Children of members who have applied for a supervisory position are excluded from making application for two (2) years following withdrawal of the supervisory application.
7. Students with full scholarships are not eligible.
8. Eligible schools: accredited and licensed colleges, trade schools, community colleges and schools of higher education only. The institution's eligibility shall be determined by the scholarship committee.
9. All decisions of the scholarship committee will be final.

**** TO BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP YOU MUST BE ENROLLED IN OR ENTERING AN ELIGIBLE SCHOOL FULL OR PART-TIME IN THE FALL OF 2012.**

Awards:

1. The scholarship committee shall award the scholarships by random drawing of all eligible applicants.
2. Scholarships will be on a yearly basis and will be awarded at the October monthly meeting.
3. Scholarships will be awarded in allotments of \$500.00. Four (4) scholarships of \$500.00 shall be allocated.
4. Four (4) alternates will be selected in the event that any scholarship winners are later ruled ineligible. The alternates' names will not be disclosed.
5. The scholarship will be disbursed to the student when a copy of a receipt for tuition, room and board, or books is provided to the committee. The student must be full-time or part-time as established by their school or college.

Member's Name:		Member's Phone Number:	
Member's Station:			
Applicant's Name and (Date of Birth):		Name of School:	
Address:		Address:	
Signature of Member:		Date:	
Signature of Applicant:		Date:	
Signature of Steward or Officer:		Date:	

**THIS APPLICATION
MUST BE MAILED TO
THE FOLLOWING
ADDRESS:**

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
BRANCH 2184, NALC
6969 Monroe
Taylor, MI 48180-1815

**Applications
Must be Received by
SEPTEMBER 24, 2012**

Branch 2184 2012 Food Drive Results

Office	2011	2012
Belleville	11,844	11,500
Dearborn Main	5,111	10,319
Dearborn Annex	13,619	19,000
Dearborn Heights Teleford	18,000	26,000
Dundee	325	1,751
Flat Rock	3,800	3,850
Grosse Ile	2,045	2,865
Inkster	8,000	6,300
Lincoln Park	11,000	22,460
Monroe	9,000	16,964
Northville	11,000	11,500
Plymouth	7,200	13,632
Rockwood	4,240	10,560
Taylor	21,000	25,000
Temperance	4,615	4,917
Trenton	17,000	10,014
Canton	11,998	17,962
Westland Wayne	23,976	30,048
Ypsilanti	9,501	34,300
Grand Total	193,094	278,942

Contract Corner:

Q: A letter carrier in my office has been off work for more than a year. Shouldn't the carrier's route be posted for bid and awarded to another carrier?

A: Absent other information about this situation, the answer is clearly NO. It is common but entirely false myth that an absence of more than a year due to illness or injury means that the carrier's assignment should be vacated and posted for bid. However, this is not and has never been the case. The relevant Contractual information can be found in Article 41, section 1.C. of the Collective Bargaining agreement and accompanying discussion in the Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM). There is no set or predetermined timeframe for vacating a bid assignment due to the incumbent carrier's long term illness or injury. The absent employee continues to hold the assignment unless and until their own physician (not management's) provides medical evidence to management that the employee's condition is "permanent and stationary" and will prevent him or her from ever returning to the duties of the bid assignment. Upon receipt of such evidence, then (and only then) may management vacate the assignment and post it for bid in accordance with regular Article 41 procedures.

The Weingarten Declaration

"If the discussion I am being asked to enter could in any way lead to my discipline or termination or impact my personal working conditions, I ask that a union steward, representative or officer be present. Unless I have representation I respectfully choose not to participate in this discussion."

Keep in mind if you do not **REQUEST UNION REPRESENTATION**, then you are considered to have waived this valuable right.

Customer Connect

Congratulation to the following Branch 2184 carriers who turned in customer connect leads which turned into sales.

Paula Hall (Lincoln Park) \$86,151.00

Paula Hall (Lincoln Park) \$25,000.00

Michael Chevillot (Westland) \$38,220.00

James Bryant III (Dearborn Annex) \$10,062.00

Erik Venzke (Monroe) \$5,000.00

Martina Gramer (Plymouth) \$1,500.00

Through Customer Connect, letter carriers are taking advantage of their special relationships to encourage business customers to use USPS instead of private delivery services. Since the startup in mid-2003, letter carriers have generated more than **1.4 billion** in new revenue.

Branch 2184 Web Site www.nalc2184.org

Retirement Information
OWCP Information
"OWCP" Forms
Branch Calendar
"FMLA" forms
Online "SPEAKS" Newsletter
Carrier Pay Chart
Online Forms 3971, 3996, 3189

Steward Resources:

Grievance Forms
Grievance Guidelines
National Agreement
Defenses to Discipline
JCAM, MRS, M-39, M-41
2184 Memo of Understanding

Allie Brothers Uniform Store

"Family Owned and Operated"

- ◆ Complete inventory of postal uniforms and shoes
- ◆ Friendly, expert service
- ◆ Tailor on premises
- ◆ Open Thursday until 8:00 p.m.
- ◆ **WE GUARANTEE YOUR SATISFACTION**

HOURS	
M, T, W, F	9:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Thursday	9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

1-248-477-4434

• 1-800-35-ALLIE

20295 MIDDLEBELT ROAD

LIVONIA, MI 48152

(3 blocks south of 8 mile)

www.alliebrothers.com

2012 FOOD DRIVE



Chris Badynee pitching in



Troy Clark (KIM Region RAA) – Jackie Wiggins
Dbn annex – Mark Judd (Branch President) –
Makeba Juners (Dbn annex)



Fran Ladach and Family



Makeba
Juners
and helper



BRANCH 2184 • WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY, MI
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS • AFL-CIO
6969 Monroe
Taylor, MI 48180

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1927
DETROIT, MI