

Branch 2184 ... "Speaks"

Official Publication of Branch 2184, NALC, AFL-CIO

September/October 2014

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:

November 5th, 2014
December 2nd, 2014
(7:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

Retirees Meetings:

November 12th, 2014
December 10th, 2014
(12:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

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President's Report

50-60-70 Year Members Honored

At our September 3, Branch meeting we honored our newest 50 and 60 year members. Earlier in the day National Business Agent Pat Carroll and I paid a special visit to our first 70 year member, Virgil LaPorte (Lincoln Park) who was in a nursing home nearby. The family made the arrangements for us to come down to the nursing home to make the presentation. Bob Kreager, the former Branch President of then Lincoln Park Branch 4888 met us there for the presentation. Brother LaPorte was in good spirits and he and his family were very touched that we thought enough of him to make the special visit. Later that night NBA Pat Carroll assisted with the presentation of the gold cards to 50 year member Ted Kama (Dearborn) and 60 year pin to past Branch President Dick Adams (Dearborn).

This year we had three members who qualified for their 50 year membership gold cards as well seven members who reached the 60 year milestone. The following is a list of Branch honorees who were unable to attend: 50 year members William Mather (Dearborn), Warren Mewhorter (Wayne - Westland). 60 year members Robert Crandall (Dearborn), Albert Falkewicz (Dearborn), Pete Gurchinoff (Plymouth), Alex Haykus (Dearborn), Lawrence Marshall (Lincoln Park), and Jim McMahan (Dearborn Heights). On behalf of your Brothers and Sisters here at the Branch I would like to congratulate all our 50 and 60 year members for their many years of loyal and dedicated service to the National Association of Letter Carriers and Branch 2184 and for attaining these significant milestones in their Union membership.

Postscript: On October 6, we received a call from the family of Virgil LaPorte, informing us that Brother LaPorte had passed away earlier in the day. On behalf of the Branch we send our deepest condolences to Mrs. LaPorte and family.

(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 |
| ..... | Ted Nowe |
| Dearborn (Annex)..... | Melvin MacDonald |
| ..... | Jacqueline McGregory |
| ..... | Rose Miller (alt) |
| ..... | Tom Klecha (alt) |
| Dearborn Heights | Richard Alaniz |
| ..... | Jim Hales |
| ..... | James Wolstencroft (alt) |
| ..... | John Czuchrak (alt) |
| ..... | Chris Tostige (alt) |
| Dundee..... | 313-295-1640 |
| Flat Rock..... | 313-295-1640 |
| Grosse Ile | Christopher Biegalski |
| ..... | Kim Bumbul (alt) |
| Inkster | James Wolstencroft |
| ..... | Phil Ashford (alt) |
| ..... | Thad Dillard (alt) |
| Lincoln Park..... | Scott Watts |
| ..... | Dave Reise (alt) |
| Monroe..... | Erik Venzke |
| ..... | Chris Carmon (alt) |
| Northville..... | Beth Maleszewski |
| ..... | 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 |
| Westland | Walter McGregory |
| ..... | Katrina Jones |
| ..... | Kim Clark (alt) |
| Canton..... | Samantha Hales |
| ..... | Lois Fritz (alt) |
| Ypsilanti | Mike Tredway |
| ..... | Paul Bordine |
| ..... | Alan Grajczyk (alt) |
| ..... | Rick Rider (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

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President's Report

Scholarship Winners

At the September 30, Executive Board meeting the 2014 Branch Scholarship winners were selected by the Trustees. Congratulations to Raymond Powell, the son of retired Dearborn Heights carrier Jim Powell; Mercedes Webster, daughter of retired Northville carrier Robert Webster; Nicole Carano, daughter of Plymouth carrier Anthony Carano; and last but certainly not least Tyler Hamilton, son of Lincoln Park carrier Nicole Pace. Each winner will receive \$500 from the Branch to use toward their tuition or other school-related expenses. On behalf of the Branch we wish you much success in your chosen fields of study.

MDA Satchel Drive

On the second Sunday in September, Branch 2184 once again participated in the annual NALC Satchel Drive day for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Letters carriers both active and retired were on the street corners near the Union office on Ecorse and Monroe. This year we added a second location, the westbound exit to Ford Road off of Telegraph. Our volunteers from Dearborn, Westland, Lincoln Park, Canton, Dearborn Heights, Northville, Ypsilanti, and Grosse Ile worked the streets from 10:00am until 3:00pm, filling the satchel for MDA. When the final tally was in we set a new Branch record for monies raised on Satchel Day, a total of \$2,014.11! Thank you to all the volunteers who made the day such a success! They are Scott Watts, Brandon Watts, Paula Hall, Walt McGregory, Katrina Jones, Joe Golonka, Patty Linna, Jim Hales, Samantha Hales, Alyssa Judd, Valerie Watkins, Janay Brown, Janice Mitchum, Paul Bordine, Gloria Warthen, and Jim Powell.

-- Mark Judd
President

EVP's Report**The Most Dangerous Job in the Federal Government**

In the Federal Times September 22, 2014 article, *Number of feds killed on job rises again in 2013*, they talk of the number of federal employees that were killed on the job. In 2013, 57 federal employees were killed on the job, according to preliminary data by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. That is up from 54 in 2012 and 41 in 2011. Seventeen letter carriers were killed on the job, the highest number of any agency, according to the BLS. Seven federal law enforcement officers were killed. These numbers include federal civilian employees within the states, not civilians overseas, such as Foreign Service or intelligence workers. This also excludes employees who died of an illness and military personnel.

The biggest cause of death was transportation-related accidents such as being in a car crash or being struck by a vehicle. Federal employees killed by violent acts fell last year, from 17 in 2012 to 12 in 2013. When these numbers smack you in the face, everyone should think twice about how they perceive their own safety on the job. You can never be too safe, especially when driving or where you park your vehicle. It is very easy to get complacent with your job and it becomes routine. This may result in you letting your guard down and before you know it, you have just become a statistic. Don't let this happen to you, be alert and know your surroundings, even if it's the same surroundings you pass every day.

In comparison with the private sector the federal employees have fewer fatalities per ratio. For every 36,000 employees there is one fatality in the federal workforce. In the private sector the ratio is one in 29,700. In this kind of statistical data there are no winners or losers, but it does illustrate that the letter carriers job is by far the most dangerous

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EVP's Report

job in the federal government.

On a different note don't forget to grab a friend or family member to get out the vote on Nov 4, 2014. I don't think I need to explain that your job may depend on it. The only way we can preserve our jobs is to vote for candidates that want to preserve the USPS.

In Solidarity

-- *Jim Wolstencroft*

Executive Vice President

VP Report

The Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan (K.I.M.) officer and steward training for NALC Region 6 has come and gone for 2014. This year's K.I.M. training was held at the Detroit Motor City Casino Hotel beginning on Saturday, October 11, 2014 thru the Columbus Day Holiday of October 13, 2014. In addition to representational issues, the training was inclusive of branch auditing/fiscal responsibilities as well as legislation and community service, and included detailed discussions on regional and national NALC issues and accomplishments.

The following Branch 2184 members attended the training: President Mark Judd, Vice President Walt McGregory, Injury Comp Specialist and Trustee Joe Golonka who served as a training instructor at the request of our National Business Agent; Sergeant-at-Arms Darryl Clay, NALC Step B Union Rep Tim Bailey, Taylor shop steward Michele Szafran, both Ypsilanti shop stewards, Paul Bordine and Mike Tredway; alternate stewards from Inkster, Phil Ashford and Thad Dillard; Lincoln Park shop steward Scott Watts and Step A representative Dave Reise; Canton shop steward Samantha Hales, and Westland shop steward Katrina Jones.

NALC National President Fred Rolando gave an overview of what is going on legislatively. He also told us that about ten percent of our NALC members were signed up for COLCPE within the K.I.M. region

and that we all needed to go back and share with the other ninety percent on how important it is to contribute to COLCPE.

Like it or not, everything about our jobs is now political. There are so many anti-letter carrier politicians that want nothing more than to see the Postal Service privatized. Now more than ever, every letter carrier needs to be signed up for COLCPE. There are four ways to contribute to COLCPE; online, phone, electronic funds transfer and from an annuity. For assistance in signing up for COLCPE, please call the Branch 2184 Office during normal business hours Monday-Friday, 9-5 p.m.

Remember, no matter what your political affiliation, don't forget to get out and vote on

Tuesday, November, 4th, 2014!

Election Day



November 4th

Customer Connect

Since the inception of the program back in mid-2003, letter carriers across the country have raised \$1.9 BILLION of USPS revenue and counting. If you have participated in the program by submitting a lead thus far, thank you. If you haven't participated yet, what are you waiting for? See your Customer Connect Coordinator and/or your shop steward regarding ways to submit a lead for our employer. Even if your lead doesn't turn into a sale, your participation in the program by submitting that lead could get your office a breakfast by the Detroit District for carrier participation.

CCA Uniform Bank

Thank you to every retired and active letter carrier who has donated to our CCA (City Carrier As-

(Continued from page 4)

VP Report

sistant) uniform bank. To participate in the uniform bank, all you have to do is bring in gently used letter carrier uniforms to the union office or the office where you work and give them to your shop steward. Your steward will bring those uniforms to the hall and you will receive acknowledgement in the next newsletter. Countless CCA brothers and sisters have taken already advantage of the CCA uniform bank. With the winter months ahead of us, let's make a special effort to donate those heavy letter carrier coats, boots and winter gear to help out your CCA brothers and sisters.

In Unionism,
 -- *Walt McGregory*
Vice President

Customer Connect



President Mark Judd and NBA Pat Carroll presented gold cards to 50 year member Ted Kama (above) and 60 year pin to past Branch President Dick Adams (below) at the September Branch Meeting.



Former Branch President of Lincoln Park Bob Kreager, President Mark Judd and NBA Pat Carroll present a plaque and pin to our first 70 year member, Virgil LaPorte (Lincoln Park) and his wife



National Business Agent for region 6 Pat Carroll and Branch 2184 President Mark Judd presenting Judy Kahl (Lincoln Park) with her Hero Pin, as well as a certificate for her \$2,652,330.00 Customer Connect sale

Elections To Take Place For Contested Branch Officers and Office Steward Positions

At the October 1, 2014 Branch membership meeting, nominations for Branch officers, stewards, and convention delegates took place for a new three-year term of office from 2015 through 2017. **During November 2014 our members will have the opportunity to vote for contested officer and steward positions.**

The following members of the Executive Board were elected by acclamation at the October membership meeting. They are Vice President **Joe Golonka**, Recording Secretary **Casey Pennington**, Health Benefits Representative **Jim Powell** and Retiree Officer **Leonard Zawisa**.

Contested Executive Board Positions are as follows and are listed in order, as nominated on October 1, 2014

President (One to be Elected):

Mark Judd
Don Oziemski

Executive Vice President (One to be Elected):

Walter McGregor
James Wolstencroft

Financial Secretary (One to be Elected):

Cathy Tondreau
Mike Tredway

Sergeant at Arms (One to be Elected):

Jim Hales
Scott Watts

Trustees (Three to be Elected):

Patty Linna
Tim Bailey
Gloria Warthen
Heather Childers

Contested Office Steward Positions are as follows and are listed in order, as nominated on October 1, 2014

Inkster (One to be Elected):

Phil Ashford
Sheldon Allison

Additionally, the following office stewards were elected by acclamation:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Belleville | Lynn Taylor |
| Dearborn Main | Ted Nowc Darryl Clay |
| Dearborn Annex | Jacqueline McGregory Melvin MacDonald |
| Dearborn Heights | Jim Hales |
| Flat Rock | Joshua Zaas |
| Grosse Ile | Chris Biegalski |
| Lincoln Park | Scott Watts |
| Monroe | Eric Venzke |
| Northville | Jim Holland |
| Plymouth | Heather Childers Don Oziemski |
| Taylor | Michele Szafran Dawn Gable |
| Trenton | Justin Cooper Casey Pennington |
| Westland | Katrina Jones Walter McGregor |
| Canton | Samantha Hales |
| Ypsilanti | Mike Tredway Paul Bordine |

Finally, the following 57 members were elected by acclamation as delegates to the Union's National and State conventions from 2015 through 2017:

Cathy Tondreau, Dave Reise, Leonard Zawisa, Jackie McGregory, Walt McGregory, Kareem Bryant, Felicia Bryant, Dawn Gable, Michele Szafran,

Ryan Judd, Patty Linna, Heather Childers, Don Oziemski, Bob Venning, Mike Tredway, Gloria Warthen, Katrina Jones, Jim Hales, Jim Powell, Chris Biegalski, Kim Bumbul, Lynn Taylor, Paul Bordine, Samantha Hales, Joe Golonka, Chris Carmon, Tim Bailey, Eric Venzke, Jim Wolstencroft, Diane Landers, Keshya Boudreaux, Casey Pennington, Janay Brown, Ted Nowc, Valerie Watkins, Phil Ashford, Jose Hardrick, Sheldon Allison, Darryl Clay, Mel MacDonald, Scott Watts, Rose Miller, Paula Hall, Mark Judd, Kimika Griffin, Felicia Wallace, Kimberly Clark, Betty Karsten, Dave Richardson, Josua Zaas, Thomas Tworck, Mary Renaud, Lillian Bogosian, Micaela Williams, Bruce Prevost and Ed Sikora.

Branch 2184 President Mark Judd has appointed an election committee to oversee these elections. The committee consists of Chairperson David Reise, along with Leonard Zawisa, Jim Powell, Joe Golonka, Melvin MacDonald and alternates Ted Nowc and Betty Karsten.

Under Branch election policy, all candidates for contested positions were given the opportunity to provide a statement of candidacy to be published in the newsletter. Those provided are in this issue.

DISCLAIMER: The opinions expressed within the candidacy statements may not be the opinions of Branch 2184.

The election will be conducted by secret mail ballots. Ballots will be mailed to the last known home addresses of eligible members. The election committee determined **November 4, 2014** to be the date ballots will be mailed to eligible members. Ballots will include instructions and return deadline dates. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee. Ballots will be counted on **November 24th**. Results will be announced at the December 7th Branch Meeting.

-- Casey Pennington
Recording Secretary

Candidate Statement for Inkster Steward - Sheldon Allison

- Have been at the Postal Service for 10 Years
- Worked in Dearborn, Garden City, Lincoln Park and other surrounding offices
- Born and raised in the city of Inkster
- 1999 graduate of Inkster High
- Associates of Arts in General Science Degree
- Worked as a clerk and mailhandler
- I would like to be the next Steward of Inkster because I know my job well, and working for employee's rights is a privilege, as well as a right.

Thank you,
Sheldon Allison
10/17/2014

National Election Day November 4, 2014



Branch 2184 Election Return Ballots by November 24, 2014

2015 Letter Carrier Color-Coded

Rotating Days Off Calendars.

\$5.50 each

All Profits to MDA

Candidate Statement for President - Mark Judd

My name is Mark Judd and I am running for re-election to the office of President of Branch 2184. I have been a letter carrier from the Dearborn Installation and an active union member for 28 years. Prior to my election as President in 2006 I served the Branch in many other capacities, including Vice-President, Trustee, arbitration advocate, Steward and Step A representative.

As an officer of the Branch and as a candidate for office, the welfare of the membership has always been my main concern. When I first ran for office I believed then and still do that Union leaders must be more responsive to the needs of the membership. During the past nine years have made membership services the hallmark of my administration. Whether it is Contract administration, retirement, injury comp issues, or NALC Health Plan-related problems I have ensured that our member's questions or concerns were answered and that their interests were being served.

If re-elected I pledge to continue to provide the high level of representational services that our members have become accustomed to, and to continue the fiscal reforms that we put in place when I was first elected. While the past three years have proven to be the most challenging financially, I am very proud that despite the condition of the USPS and the effects of the Great Recession, we have not had to curtail or compromise any member services. Equally important, we have managed to have a budget surplus each year of my administration.

I am very proud of what we have accomplished together. However, the job is not finished! We still have many challenges ahead and battles that will require experienced leadership. That is why I am asking for your vote.

Candidate Statement for President - Don Oziemski

My name is Don Oziemski and I am running for the office of President of Branch 2184. In my 20 plus years of experience I've served as alternate steward, steward, step A representative for Plymouth and former trustee for our branch. I have one of the best, if not the best winning percentage rate for arbitration cases in our branch as stated numerous times by our current President.

I support rolling back union dues that were raised during the current President's terms. Dues were raised because of financial crisis the branch was experiencing and to offer training. Currently our branch has a balance of around \$340,000 and very little training has been done. I believe we need to build a budget so the members know how their money is being spent. I want to expand training opportunities to all stewards and interested members in our union. I believe an educated membership makes for a stronger union. The attendance of members at our monthly meetings is continually decreasing and quorums are not being met. I want to help member become more interested in our union.

I believe the branch should supply lap top computers to each office with a union steward so reference material can be readily available to inform members and for processing grievances. I believe the union stewards should be trained as Step A representatives for their office, rather than having the branch incur the cost and expense of having an appointee sent to the offices to handle the Step A grievances.

No matter whom you decide to vote for, remember the important thing is that each member needs to become more involved in their union. In filling out your ballot, you are determining who will lead and the strength of your union in these trying and uncertain times of the Postal Service.

In Solidarity,
Donald Oziemski

Candidate Statement for Executive VP - Walt McGregory

My name is Walt McGregory. I am currently the Branch 2184 Vice President and I am running for the office of Executive Vice President. I have been a letter carrier and union activist since the first day of my Post Office career in Wayne some 14 years ago. During this time I have held many positions within my installation and Branch 2184. This includes alternate steward, steward, Step A representative, arbitration advocate, Customer Connect Coordinator, Food Drive Coordinator, and COLCPE Coordinator.

I had the honor of being selected as the Michigan State Association's "Steward of the Year" in 2010. I have the distinction of being the only member from Branch 2184 to be chosen to attend the NALC's Leadership Academy. I have also worked as a local business agent at the request of National Business Agent Pat Carroll.

I have always believed that being a union leader means leading by example. In that regards, I am always one of the last to leave a steward meeting, gladly helping our newer stewards that need one-on-one assistance. The commitment I made as a graduate of the NALC's Leadership Academy was to "Pay it Forward." I don't take that commitment lightly. I believe that I have a responsibility to share what I have learned with our stewards and the members of our Branch.

Since first elected as an officer of the Branch, I have had the opportunity to work closely with my longtime mentors, Branch officer Joe Golonka and Branch President Mark Judd. I have the leadership experience and training to get the job done. If elected to the office of Executive Vice-President, I pledge to continue to lead by example and to continue Branch 2184's reputation of excellence.

Candidate Statement for Executive VP - James Wolstencroft

As your Executive Vice President for the last 9 years it is my honor to have this opportunity to write this letter of candidacy. My name is Jim Wolstencroft and I ask for your support for 3 more years as Executive Vice President.

I have worked with the last 5 branch Presidents. I have been active in branch activities for 27 years. Over the years I've always had the members best interest in mind. From cooking a meal to advocating in arbitration I've represented the members of Branch 2184 to the best of my ability.

I've served as Steward, Trustee, Sergeant at Arms, EVP in the Branch. I have also served on Joint Committees at the District level for EAP, Safety and Route Adjustments. I have been Trained and worked at the National level in the Dispute Resolution Process and as a Arbitration Advocate. Currently I serve as a board member for the Michigan State Association of Letter Carriers.

For those who do not know me or are new members, I started my union career when I saw the injustice that carriers were enduring. I felt I could make a difference and did that with a no-nonsense approach.

Whether it's listening to carriers vent or to file the appropriate grievance I've been there for the members. Even when at times this has caused disagreement with my union bosses.

So to all that have supported me in my 27 years of union activism I thank you. To those of you who want me to continue as your Executive Vice President I ask for your vote.

In Solidarity,
Jim Wolstencroft

Candidate Statement for Financial Sec. - Cathy Tondreau

My name is **Cathy Tondreau** and I am the incumbent Branch 2184 Financial Secretary-Treasurer. I have been your Financial Secretary-Treasurer for nineteen years and I am running for re-election. During my tenure the Branch has undergone numerous changes. One of the changes that has taken place is the upgrading of our financial record keeping system. I have played a major part in these changes and have ensured that the branch and the interests of all members have been protected at all times. It is my fiduciary responsibility as Financial Secretary-Treasurer to ensure that these records are accurately kept in accordance with all Department of Labor regulations.

During the time I have spent as Financial Secretary-Treasurer I have attended numerous classes concerning the responsibilities and duties of my office, including Branch Secretary-Treasurer training in Chicago, Detroit, St Louis, Washington DC, Orlando, and Department of Labor Laws training in Madison, Wisconsin. I was first elected as a Branch officer in 1993, holding the office of Recording Secretary before being elected as your Financial Secretary-Treasurer. I have also been the Branch Food Drive coordinator for many years. Because of the ever changing and more stringent Department of Labor reporting requirements, it is now imperative that candidates for this office have a keen understanding of not only finances but also a thorough knowledge of Department of Labor Regulations. I believe that I bring this knowledge to the office I hold and am currently seeking re-election to. Therefore, I am asking for your vote.

If I am re-elected, I will continue to competently handle the important and often complicated duties of this office.

Candidate Statement for Financial Sec. - Michael Tredway

Dear Brothers and Sisters of 2184:

Hello my name is Michael Tredway and I am the shop steward at the Ypsilanti Post Office. I am currently running for the office of Financial Secretary-Treasurer. I have experience working in the financial industry. I specialized in commercial/personal banking. After joining this great organization the NALC over 9 years ago, I have been an active member of BR 2184. I have attended many different training such as the National, Regional, and State Conventions to expand my knowledge for the betterment of our branch. I have diligently served as Acting Sargent At Arms, on Local Negotiations and Customer Connect Coordinator for our branch. Serving as the shop steward for the past five years, I've successfully coordinated the annual food drive for the Ypsilanti Post Office and have an excellent success rate. I am a firm believer in my union and will dedicate my time and strong skill set to work for my fellow brothers and sisters. I am certain that our vision must be one with shared values and a common purpose in order to make an impact. I am passionate about making a difference and believe that it starts with each one of us. As your Treasurer honesty and integrity is a must, I will maintain accurate records and ensure the financial stability of our union, thereby strengthening the organization as a whole. If elected, I will continue to uphold ethical standards while being a vital contributor to the advancement of our union. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to serving you as your next Treasurer of Br. 2184.

Candidate Statement for Sergeant at Arms - Jim Hales

Hello, NALC brothers and sisters.

My name is **James Hales** and I am running for the office of Sergeant-at-Arms for Branch 2184. I am a disabled American veteran, serving in the Marine Corps from 1985 to 1987. I have been a union member since being hired as a letter carrier at the Belleville Post Office in 1988. I transferred to Dundee in 1992 and then to Dearborn Heights in 1994 where I am currently stationed. I first stepped up as a steward in 1992 and have become more and more involved with our Branch ever since. In 2011 I was appointed formal A representative for Dearborn Heights by Branch President Mark Judd.

Along with representing carriers as a steward for twelve years in Dearborn Heights, I have represented our Branch by volunteering for numerous food drives, legislative campaigns, MDA fundraisers, parades, and Branch picnics. I designed our Branch website <http://www.nalc2184.org> and currently oversee the site. In 2008 I was nominated by Branch President Mark Judd and served as a DEAT — District Evaluation and Adjustment Team — for the MIARAP, JARAP and now the CDRAAP processes.

This past month I was again called upon by our National President Fred Rolando to go to the National COR (Carrier Optimal Routing) training and appointed the NALC COR technician for the Detroit District. I believe that serving on the Executive Board and holding the office of Sergeant-at-Arms both demand the commitment which I feel I have demonstrated. It would be an honor to now serve you as the Sergeant-at-Arms of Branch 2184.

Fraternally yours,
-- *James Hales*

Candidate Statement for Sergeant at Arms - Scott Watts

My name is Scott Watts and I am running for the office Branch 2184 Sergeant-at-Arms. I have been working for the USPS for 24 years and also served in the United States Air Force for 5 years. During the past 4 years I have served as an NALC Steward in the Lincoln Park office, and I am dedicated to the representation of all letter carriers. I attend and participate in all of our Steward meetings and the Branch membership meetings.

Additionally, I am very active in other Branch 2184 activities, such as the Labor Day parade, Fill-the-Satchel Drive and bowling for MDA, as well as the annual Branch 2184 picnic for our members and their families. This year I attended my first NALC National convention, and have attended regional training sessions conducted by the National Business Agent's office during each of the past four years.

I also serve our members as an NALC Congressional District Liaison for Michigan's 12th Congressional District. This year and also in 2012 our National Union has chosen me as one of two Branch 2184 members to be released to work on the National election campaign, helping to ensure that letter carrier and working family-friendly candidates are elected to partisan political offices such as United States Senator, United States Congressional Representative, and Michigan's Governor.

It would be my honor to serve on the Branch 2184 Executive Board as Sergeant-at-Arms and I am asking for your vote.

Candidate Statement for Trustee - Patricia Linna

My name is Patricia Linna and I am seeking reelection to the office of Branch 2184 Trustee. I have now served as a Branch 2184 Trustee for four consecutive terms. During the past decade as Trustee I have developed a close working relationship with the current officers of our Branch. Along with our two other trustees, I have conducted audits twice yearly and have helped maintain the security of our property and growth of the Branch's finances from \$40K to an impressive total of monetary assets over \$300K.

We have overseen initiatives to update the Branch's computer system and move our grievance files and member records to readily accessible computer files. I have attended every State and National convention during this time and taken classes/workshops to maintain up-to-date training related to my responsibilities.

My previous NALC activity includes serving as Steward in Plymouth and as a member of the Detroit District Safety Task Force. I was NALC Food Drive coordinator in the Plymouth office for two years. My volunteer activities include MDA Bowl-A-Thons, Fill-the-Satchel Day, and our Branch 2184 picnics.

I am currently NALC Legislative Liaison for the 13th Congressional District, working closely with Representative John Conyers' office regarding issues important to letter carriers. In March of 2012 I was asked by MISALC President Dan Florkowski to be Site Lead for the Rally to *Save Saturday Mail Delivery*, and was chosen by NALC National in 2012 and 2014 to work with the AFL-CIO coordinated campaign to help elect worker-friendly candidates.

In closing, I pledge to continue to safeguard the Branch, its inventory, assets and funds. I believe my experience as a Branch 2184 Trustee would be a valuable asset to the Branch, and it would be my honor to continue serving our members for another term.

Candidate Statement for Trustee - Tim Bailey

My name is Tim Bailey and I am running for the office of Branch 2184 Trustee. I have been a letter carrier and active Branch 2184 member in the Dearborn Installation for 26 years. In 1997 I became an NALC Steward in Dearborn and a year later I was chosen to serve as the Union's representative on one of the two Detroit District Dispute Resolution Process Step B Teams. Since then I have continued to be the Union's strong advocate as a NALC Step B representative and now have the longest tenure in that capacity of any letter carrier in the United States.

Additionally, I am an active participant in many other Branch 2184 and NALC functions. I have attended and actively participated in numerous NALC National and State conventions as well as training seminars conducted by our National Business Agent's office, where I have also served as an instructor. I faithfully attend all Branch 2184 membership meetings and often assist our Branch officers and stewards with information and insight regarding contract interpretation and enforcement issues from the perspective of the Step B Team.

I also actively participate in many other Branch 2184 functions such as our annual picnic for members and their families, the Labor Day parade, and MDA fundraising. If elected I pledge to work closely with Branch 2184 President Mark Judd as well as the other Branch Trustees and Executive Board officers to ensure that our Branch maintains the highest level of accountability and member services. It would be a privilege and an honor to serve you as a Branch 2184 Trustee and that is why I am asking for your vote.

Candidate Statement for Trustee - Gloria Warthen

My name is Gloria Warthen and I am seeking re-election to the office of Branch 2184 Trustee. I have been a letter carrier in the Rockwood and Grosse Ile offices for more than 15 years and have been a Trustee of our Branch since 2006. My previous Union experience includes ten years of service as a NALC Steward, providing representation in both the Rockwood and Flat Rock offices. As an active Union member I attend all Branch 2184 membership meetings as well as all State and National conventions.

Additionally, I have attended numerous training seminars conducted by the NALC, and I am an active participant in many Branch activities. I am a strong supporter of COLCPE and have worked hard to elect candidates that support letter carrier-friendly candidates.

During the past nine years Branch 2184's Trustees have helped to oversee the steady growth of our Branch's finances. I am proud to have been a part of this, working closely with Branch President Mark Judd and the other Executive Board members as well as conducting twice-yearly audits. I am dedicated to the betterment of the Branch and I believe that we can do still more. As a Trustee I can continue to serve Branch 2184 by safeguarding the interests of our members and ensuring that our business is conducted in a matter that is beyond reproach. If re-elected, I promise to continue this mission and that is why I am asking for your vote.

Candidate Statement for Trustee - Heather Childers

My name is Heather Childers I am a union steward in Plymouth. I have worked in Plymouth for 11 years and I understand what challenges our current work force faces. Two years ago at the union picnic I was told by a few members they felt that their needs were ignored because they weren't part of the inner circle. Even as a union steward I've had trouble getting the training, supplies, and general information needed to fulfill my duties. We shouldn't have to fight our own union to get information and resources we are paying increased dues for.

I encourage all the members to get more involved. Go to the monthly meeting find out what your dues money is being spent on. Ask your stewards how often in the last two years they have been brought in for that additional training we are paying for. I am running for Trustee. If elected I will do my best to make sure your dues are accounted for. I believe we need to set up a budget to ensure our funds are being utilized properly. When you vote please vote for people you can trust to fight for you. We face difficult times ahead and need people who are strong enough to stand up to these future challenges. If you are unsatisfied with the current system then make your vote count.

In solidarity
Heather Childers

KIM REGION 6 REPORT

Kentucky - Indiana - Michigan National Business Agent's Report October 2014

Patrick C. Carroll

Health Benefit Open Season

The Open Season for selection and changing your health benefit plan has been announced. The Open Season period will be November 10- December 8, 2014. This will be your opportunity to enroll in the NALC Health Benefit Plan offered by your Union. Ask anyone who is a member of the plan and they are sure to tell you about the satisfaction they have with our plan as it has been ranked # 1 in customer satisfaction over the last several years. Benefits and premiums are as good, and in many cases, better than any plan in the FEHBP. If you are not a member you can go on OPM.gov and do a comparison. I am sure you will be impressed.

KIM Regional Training Seminar

Final preparations are taking place as we move closer to our KIM Regional Training Seminar October 11-13, 2014 in Detroit. Class selection is complete and instructors are preparing for what will be a great annual training. National President Fred Rolando will do his session on Sunday morning. We are always glad to have Fred with us.

Penalty Overtime Exclusion Period

As referenced in Article 8, Sections 4 and 5 of the National Agreement, the Penalty Overtime Exclusion period will be from December 6, 2014 to January 2, 2015. During this period there will be no double time payment for working over 8 on an NS day or 10 hours on a regular work day.

COLA and Wage Increase for Career Carriers

You should have noticed in your September 26, 2014 pay check COLA increases which amount to \$1,227.00 which was the deferred second COLA (\$541 or .26 cents per hour) and the fourth COLA (\$686 or .33 cents per hour) under the DAS award. In addition to these combined COLA payments, effective November 15 you will receive 1.5% wage increase of your basic annual salary for each grade and step in Table 1 and 2 of the National Agreement.

City Carrier Assistant Wage Increases

Although the DAS award did not provide for COLA for CCA's, it did provide for 6 wage increases as compared to the 3 wage increases for career employees. That said, CCA employees will receive 2.5% contractual wage increase effective November 15, 2014. The total wage increase for CCA employees over the course of the contract will equate to 7% basic hourly rate. When CCA's are converted to career status, the switch to the same pay system as career employees.

City Delivery Route Alternate Adjustment Process (CDRAAP)

After months of negotiations the National parties have reached agreement on a new route adjustment process. This process will be the only means of adjusting routes with the exception of a 271-G Special Inspection or an inspection-adjustment resulting from a grievance settlement or arbitration award. Training for NALC route adjustment teams and COR technicians will occur in October with site selection for adjustments to occur November 3-14, 2014. No adjustments will occur until after January 1, 2015.

Mandatory Park Point Safety Talks

As I reported last month we have had serious life changing injuries and deaths as a result of carriers being struck at the back of their vehicles while in performance of duty. I have reached agreement with the Great Lakes Area that the mandatory Park Point Safety talk, which should have been done in March 2012, will be given in every office and certified and validated by the NALC steward and local Management that it was given no later than October 25, 2014. I would advise all NALC stewards to obtain a copy after they have certified this talk was given.

That is the first part. The second part is that if any carrier has a situation with a dangerous park point and management will not move the location, please contact your branch President and they will advise me so that I can address it with the appropriate USPS official who will make the change.

I will be sending a copy of the Park Point Safety talk to every NALC branch in the region so you can make sure it is given and the proper action taken with dangerous and unsafe park points.

Interesting Facts You Should Be Aware Of

First our Region 6 CCA Union membership is 75.5% and the National CCA membership is 81%. Let's all work to get that CCA percentage in the high 90% range.

Second in this upcoming midterm elections the NALC will have 11 full time releases in Kentucky and 5 full time releases in Michigan. We need to get friends in the Senate and Governor races that will help letter carriers in our fight against Issa and his cronies who want to destroy the Postal Service.

Third, congratulations to Branch 2184 Western Wayne County and the Lincoln Park, MI carriers who celebrated two Customer Connect sales of \$4.1 MILLION in new revenue. Great job.

In Unionism,

Patrick C. Carroll

National Business Agent

43456 Mound Road, Suite 501

Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Office: 586-997-9917

Fax: 586-997-9916

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Attend Your Branch Meetings

7:30 pm @ the Union Hall

**6969 Monroe
Taylor MI. 48180**

COLCPE Contributors

Belleville

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

Dearborn Main

- ✓ Darryl Clay
- ✓ Wanda Ellison
- ✓ Lisa Franklin
- ✓ Patricia MacDonald
- ✓ Carol Macieczni
- ✓ Ted Nowc
- ✓ Robert Panchenko
- ✓ Dan Smith (R)
- ✓ Ed Waldon
- ✓ Tammy Wheeler
- ✓ Leonard Zawisa (R)
- ✓ Margaret Zywicki (R)

Dearborn Annex

- ✓ Carl Anderson
- ✓ Timothy Bailey
- ✓ Michael Bergin
- ✓ Peter Borella (R)
- ✓ James Bryant
- ✓ Mark Cornett
- ✓ Sherry Garcia
- ✓ Joe Garcia
- ✓ Mark Judd
- ✓ Thomas Klecha
- Joanne Kuzala (R)
- ✓ Roderick Lelental
- ✓ Melvin MacDonald
- William Mather (R)
- ✓ Jackie McGregory
- ✓ Rosemary Miller
- ✓ Karen Regentik
- Brian Rodden (R)
- ✓ Darren Smith

- ✓ Jerry Taylor

- ✓ Cathy Tondreau (R)
- ✓ Steven White

Dearborn Heights

- ✓ Rich Alaniz
- ✓ Jim Hales
- James Likeric (R)
- ✓ Ian Mair
- James Powell (R)
- ✓ Richard Ramsey
- ✓ Alan Swinteck
- ✓ Christopher Tostige
- ✓ Denise Viola
- ✓ James Wolstencroft

Dundee

- ✓ Chatrina Gensler
- ✓ Jerome Mannlein (R)

Flat Rock

- ✓ Lillian Bogosian

Grosse Isle

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

Inkster

- Phil Ashford
- ✓ Thad Dillard
- ✓ Eric Gant
- ✓ Roy McMahan
- ✓ Calvin Simmons (R)

Lincoln Park

- ✓ Thelma Balogh (R)
- ✓ Richard Dedeaux
- ✓ Laura Fitzgerald

- ✓ Paula Hall

- ✓ Ronald Hausch
- ✓ David Kemp
- ✓ Nicole Pace
- ✓ Karen Purvis
- David Reise
- ✓ Barbara Scaggs
- ✓ Scott Watts

Monroe

- ✓ Chris Carmon
- ✓ Joanna MacKinnon
- ✓ Kenneth Masserant (R)
- ✓ Erik Venzke

Northville

- Betty Karsten

Plymouth

- ✓ Heather Childers
- ✓ James Crossey
- ✓ Mary Ferrari (R)
- ✓ Tiffani Howell (R)
- ✓ Patricia Linna (R)
- ✓ Gary Macioce
- ✓ Kristie Nelson
- ✓ Ricky Rosales
- ✓ Robert Venning

Rockwood

Taylor

- ✓ Patricia Davis (R)
- ✓ Roger Gilliam
- ✓ James Kelly (R)
- William Lowe (R)
- ✓ Frances McGuckin
- ✓ Walter Modelski (R)
- ✓ Bob Parisi
- ✓ Bob Sedore (R)
- Anthony Santy

- ✓ Irene Sly (R)

- ✓ Michele Szafran
- Jeanie Youtsey

Temperance

- ✓ Kari Guthrie

Trenton

- ✓ Anthony Conley
- ✓ Dwayne Conley
- ✓ Colette Graves
- ✓ Gwen Heffinger (R)
- ✓ Dennis Lucas
- ✓ Casey Pennington
- ✓ Gary Ritchie

Westland

- ✓ Arnita Adams
- ✓ Bertha Battista
- ✓ Lori Boljesic
- ✓ Veronica Chambers
- ✓ Michael Chevillot
- ✓ Wanda Clark
- ✓ Ted Gagnon
- ✓ Albert Gilliespie
- ✓ Caprice Hughes
- Katrina Jones
- David Lehman (R)
- David Marshall (R)
- ✓ Walter McGregory
- John Meleski
- ✓ Ladonna Miller
- ✓ Marie Shannon
- ✓ Edward Sikora
- ✓ Carol Thornton
- ✓ Raymond Tobin
- ✓ Tammy Viecelli
- ✓ Amy Williams
- ✓ Calvin Winbush

COLCPE Contributors

Canton

- ✓ Lois Fritz
- ✓ Joe Golonka (R)
- ✓ Bonnie Price (R)
- ✓ Samantha Hales

- ✓ Willise Jeffery
- ✓ Gene Meadows
- ✓ Richard Rider
- ✓ Larry Rowland
- ✓ Randall Sano
- ✓ Michael Tredway

Ypsilanti

- ✓ Paul Bordine
- ✓ Timothy Bowsher (R)
- ✓ Alan Grajczyk



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)

Branch Uniform Bank Now Open!

As our new CCA Brothers and Sisters join us as new members, Branch 2184 is asking our retired and active carriers to donate new or used uniforms that they no longer need. If you would like to donate please bring them to the Branch office or give them to your Steward to drop off.

Thank you to **Irene Sly** (Taylor Retired), **Chris Badynee** (Dearborn Annex), **Joanne Bomia** (Dearborn Annex), **Karen Purvis** (Lincoln Park), **Andy Diciccio** (Dearborn Heights Retired), **Gary Gore** (Lincoln Park), **Dennis Soltz** (Lincoln Park Retired), **Dave Dallaire** (Westland Retired) for their donations.

Lets make our new members feel welcome.
For more information call -- 313-295-1640

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Gary Peters (running for U.S. Senate), Dave Reise (Lincoln Park Step A), Scott Watts (Lincoln Park Steward), Barb Neubauer (Secretary of Branch 4374) and Brandon Watts are among those that participated in the 2014 Labor Day Parade



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Contact Your Brookfield Representative!

Robert Kreager

Branch 2184 Retired

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Patricia Linna

Trustee

Gloria Warthen

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Tim Bailey

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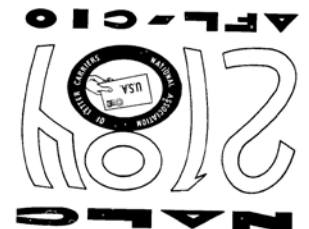
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