



# Branch 2184 ... "Speaks"

Official Publication of Branch 2184, NALC, AFL-CIO

March/April 2012

**Branch 2184**  
**Western Wayne County, MI**  
**National Association**  
**of Letter Carriers**  
**AFL - CIO**  
6969 Monroe  
Taylor, MI 48180-1815  
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Web Site [www.nalc2184.org](http://www.nalc2184.org)

**Office Hours:**

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

**Calendar**

**Branch Meetings:**

May 2nd, 2012  
June 6th, 2012  
(7:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

**Retirees Meetings:**

May 9th, 2012  
June 13th, 2012  
(12:30 p.m. - Union Hall)

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## President's Report

### PTF Conversions Part II

In my last report in the January/February edition of the *Speaks* I reported on the conversions of eight PTF's to fulltime CC2 positions. This month I have more good news. On April 7<sup>th</sup> the USPS Detroit District agreed to convert 12 more PTF's into residual CC2 positions. The following offices have been approved to convert PTF's: Taylor 2, Dearborn 2, Westland/Canton 3, Dearborn Heights 3, and Lincoln Park 2. We are in the process of reviewing the remaining residual vacancies Branch-wide and will be prepared to file the necessary grievances to ensure that any remaining CC2 residual positions left are filled.

### Route Inspections /MRA

In March the Branch was notified by the Detroit District that they would be conducting Formal Route Counts and Inspections in four of our Branch 2184-represented offices. They are Dearborn Main, Dearborn Heights, Lincoln Park and Trenton. Upon receiving official notice, I contacted Don Dombrow, the acting POOM II, to see if there was any interest in doing Minor Route Adjustments (MRA's). After some discussion he said he would like to see a copy of our old MRA agreement that we used prior to JARAP. I provided him a copy and we agreed to meet and further discuss the possibilities of doing the MRA's jointly.

After much discussion with the District we were unable to reach an agreement to do minor route adjustments at all four locations. However, they did agree to do Joint MRA's at the Dearborn Main and Lincoln Park stations. With that being said, we will now prepare for the full blown mail counts and inspections in Dearborn Heights 48127/48128 and Trenton. They are both scheduled to start April 28 and continue through May 11. The Branch will be conducting a Route Inspection Class for the Dearborn Heights and Trenton carriers, to be held here at the Branch hall

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### 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 .....	Amy DeGrand
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)
.....	David Bartaway (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**

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on April 25 at 6:00 pm. It has been at least five years since our last formal count and inspections, so plan on attending and brush up on those route count and inspection skills.

## Customer Connect

Lincoln Park is number one! That's right - Lincoln Park is the number one office for Customer Connect sales in the entire USPS Detroit District. Congratulations go out to Customer Connect Coordinator Paula Hall and also to Laura Schaeffer, a T.E. in Lincoln Park who turned in a lead that was worth over one million dollars! Steward Scott Watts and crew are a fine example of what can happen when Labor and Management decide to work together for a common cause, which is saving our Employer. Keep up the good work! An honorable mention goes out to our Westland office for being number 5 for Customer Connect sales in the Detroit District. It's not bad that two of the top five offices are from Branch 2184!

## Save America's Postal Service

On April 12, the NALC held "Save America's Postal Service" demonstrations outside of United States Senate member's offices across the country. The demonstrations were held to bring attention to pending legislation and to put pressure on the senators to oppose Senate bill 1789. Our Branch, along with Branch 1 got together and held a demonstration outside of Senator Debbie Stabenow's office in the Marquette Building on West Congress in Detroit. The demonstration took place to make the public aware of the dangers of passing S. 1789, which would hurt the Postal Service by ending six day delivery, phasing out door-to-door mail delivery, and not fully addressing the onerous pre-funding requirements or the overpayments into the CSRS pension fund. Senator Stabenow has already told the NALC that she stands

with us and would not vote to pass S. 1789 in its current form. Thank you Senator Stabenow, for your consistent support of letter carriers and our families!

-- *Mark Judd*  
*President*

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## EVP's Report

### Keeping Focused

As of April 18, 2012, the United States Postal Service's future is hanging in the halls of the U.S. Senate. The Senate has brought S.1789 to the floor for debate. As written S.1789 will put the USPS in a downward spiral that it may never overcome. The bill (S.1789) will dismantle the USPS by taking away many of the services that the US public have come accustomed to. Such as, receiving mail 6 days a week, getting mail delivered to your door, delivery standards that get mail to its destination within a day or two. Taking away services will send our customers away to seek alternative delivery and will create a loss of revenue. This loss of revenue will only push the USPS further into a downward cycle and will never break even with it's operational costs. If this is to pass, I fear in a couple of years down the road they will be talking of more cuts such as 4 day or 3 day delivery. When will it end?

In October 2011 the NALC hired the international financial advisory firm, Lazard. The Lazard firm has extensive experience in restructuring strategy. They came out with a white paper on April 17, 2012 "Delivering Change to Revitalize an American Icon" which you may view at [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org). What they discuss in their findings is that the USPS needs a business model that should expand its products and services, be given flexibility in its pricing of such products and services and better leveraging of the USPS delivery network to grow its parcel service business. They also address the burdensome and unique Congressional mandate

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EVP's Report

requiring USPS to pre-fund retiree health care for the next 75 years in just 10 years by calling for legislative action to correct this problem. Lazard further goes on to say the USPS plan of shrinking services to survive is unlikely to succeed and will instead quite possibly worsen its business situation.

As many of you know or have known for some time that we are defiantly in the battle of our careers. At no time in my 26 years of service has so much been at stake. We all have an interest in what is happening. We have come a long way in telling the public and anyone who will listen as to what is actually going on with the USPS. Having this problem go on and on with no resolution may make one feel tired or helpless in their efforts. That's where we should keep focused on this issue until there is a resolve that will serve all those interested in the survival of the USPS and not its demise.

-- James Wolstencroft  
Executive Vice President

**Attend Your**  
**Branch Meetings**  
1st Wednesday of the Month  
7:30 p.m. at the Branch Hall

**Retirees Meetings**  
2nd Wednesday of the Month  
12:30 p.m. at the Branch Hall

**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.



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**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)



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MAY 12, 2012**

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CARRIERS  
FOOD DRIVE**



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NATIONAL PARTNERS



# 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)
- Brian Rodden (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
- ✓ Cathy Tondreau (R)
- ✓ Jackie Wiggins

## **Dearborn Heights**

- ✓ 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**

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

## **Lincoln Park**

- ✓ Thelma Balogh (R)
  - Laura Fitzgerald
  - Leah Gray
  - ✓ Paula Hall
- Ronald Hausch
- Dawn Hickman
- Lawrence Jesue
- Judith Kahl
- ✓ David Kemp
- Nicholas Longo
- ✓ William Mason (R)
- ✓ James Martyna
  - ✓ Pace, Nicole
- Karen Purvis
- David Reise

- ✓ Bela Rito (R)
  - Gayle Rohde
- ✓ 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
  - Jeanie 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
- ✓ Tamara Martin
- ✓ Walter McGregory
- John Meleski (R)
- ✓ Ladonna Miller
- ✓ Kurtis Ranney (R)
- ✓ Sharonlynn Roulo

## COLCPE Contributors

- ✓ Marie Shannon
- ✓ Edward Sikora
- ✓ Christen Tharp
- ✓ Raymond Tobin
- ✓ Tammy Viecelli
- ✓ Amy Williams
- ✓ Calvin Winbush
- ✓ David Dagostino
- ✓ Betty Daraban
- ✓ Brian Frost
- ✓ Alan Grajczyk
- ✓ Kimika Griffin
- ✓ Willise Jeffery
- ✓ Mike Karjala (R)

### Canton

- ✓ Dianne Campbell
- ✓ Lois Fritz
- ✓ Joe Golonka (R)
- Douglas Koluch
- Gilbert Pruiett
- ✓ Gene Meadows
- ✓ Jamie Meloche
- Malcolm Muscato
- ✓ Brian Mueller
- Patricia Neeley
- Mike Radecki
- ✓ Richard Rider
- ✓ Larry Rowland
- ✓ Michael Tredway

### Ypsilanti

- ✓ Kimberly Blake
- ✓ Timothy Bowsher (R)
- ✓ Carl Brown

## National 2012 "Gimme 5" COLCPE Contest

NALC has put together another "Gimme 5" COLCPE contest for 2012. The details are as follows:

This year's COLCPE competition again encourages letter carriers to boost their branch's number of "Gimme 5" contributors. For the first time, all branches with 25 members or more have been divided by branch size into eight categories. The top branches in these eight different categories, that have either the highest total percentage of automatic Gimme 5 contributors or the largest percentage increase in Gimme 5 participation, will receive a number of \$100 American Express gift cards for them to use as raffle prizes. And, as a further incentive to become a contributor to the letter carriers' political action fund, all donors at the Gimme 5 level will be entered into a general raffle for ten \$100 gift cards.

Branch 2184 falls into the Category 2 bracket of 1,000 – 1,999 members. 1<sup>st</sup> place in our category gets 5 gift cards, 2<sup>nd</sup> place gets 4 gift cards, 3<sup>rd</sup> place gets 3 gift cards, 4<sup>th</sup> place gets 2 gift cards, 5<sup>th</sup> place gets 1 gift card and 6<sup>th</sup> place gets 1 gift card.

As the 2012 National COLCPE Contest gets going, keep in mind that Branch 2184 has already won the 2011 National COLCPE Contest and will be receiving four \$100 gift cards. Details will follow on our own COLCPE Contest within the branch to determine the winners of those gift cards.

Remember, with so much anti-letter carrier and anti-worker legislation currently pending in Congress, every single active and retired letter carrier needs to be contributing to COLCPE. With the National Election approaching in November, COLCPE funds will be hard at work supporting candidates for office that support letter carriers and a strong, viable Postal Service.

Thank you to all of our brothers and sisters that have signed up for COLCPE thus far. For those that have not, what are you waiting for? Your branch officers and stewards can't do it alone. We need "ALL HANDS ON DECK"!

*In unionism,*

-- *Walt McGregory*

*Vice-President*

*COLCPE Coordinator*

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!**

## **BRANCH 2184 TE NETS \$1,136,200.00 CUSTOMER CONNECT LEAD**



Paula Hall      Scott Watts      Laura Schaeffer  
\* \* \*

Laura Schaeffer, a transitional employee letter carrier in the Lincoln Park, Michigan post office and a member of NALC Branch 2184, noticed that packages from a company that used "Federal Express Smart Post" and were delivered by the USPS as part of a third party arrangement, could instead have been just processed and delivered entirely through the USPS. She notified the NALC Customer Connect coordinator in her office, Branch 2184 member Paula Hall, about this potential sale. This lead ultimately resulted in a \$1,136,000 sale for the USPS. TE Schaeffer noted that she "wanted to help the company, so that they can hire her as fulltime employee."

The Lincoln Park, Michigan post office is a fine example of what an atmosphere of cooperation can accomplish for the benefit of the Postal Service. There is excellent communication and teamwork from the union (NALC steward Scott Watts), management (Postmaster Joe Bodary), as well as the dedication of NALC Customer Connect Coordinator Paula Hall and other Lincoln Park employees. During the past three years, Customer Connect leads from office Coordinator Paula Hall alone have resulted in an additional \$536,748 in revenue

for the Postal Service. This cooperative joint approach is making the program a great success. Despite its relatively small size, (only 45 city letter carriers), Lincoln Park is the number one office for Customer Connect sales in the entire USPS Detroit District!

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### **Work Smart**

With route inspections around the corner carriers should be doing their duties by the book. For example:

- Taking a full 30 minute lunch
- Taking two ten minute breaks
- Doing vehicle inspection
- Picking up parcels for parcel pickup
- Write up parcel notices when customers aren't home
- Dropping off mail in collection run boxes before the one p.m. pickup
- Clearing your accountables

By taking the time to do these things you can save your route from any additions. Our mail volume has dropped a little. You have to do things right and under the right function. Doing office work using your street time will not get you any credit for your street time. "Work Smart!" Stay focused and calm and we will make it though this next round of route inspections. No one should know more about your route than you. So speak up during your consultations. Thank you everyone who has called their senators when you were asked to. Special thanks to everyone who attended the rally. There will be more rally's and calling of our senators in the near future. So stay connected, and informed of the news. "Get Involved."

-- Scott Watts  
*Lincoln Park*

**OUR ADVERTISERS ARE  
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## 60 MILES IN 3 DAYS!

No this has nothing to do with my route. It is much more important!

I have taken on an incredible challenge. On Aug. 17-19, 2012, I'll be walking 60 miles over the course of three days, camping out at night with thousands of other women and men taking this journey with me.

It's for an event called the Susan G. Komen 3-Day™. One hundred percent of the net proceeds from the 3-Day® benefit Susan G. Komen™ and fund innovative global breast cancer research and local community programs supporting education, screening and treatment.

No breast cancer organization provides more support and care than Komen. Virtually every major advance in the fight against breast cancer in the last 30 years has been impacted by a Komen grant, and millions of women rely on Komen every day. These women need our help more than ever to safeguard Komen's great work in our local communities for another 30 years.

Boots Crossey, my rock, my mom, was a cancer survivor. Sadly this terrible disease came back several years later in the form of a brain tumor. and she was dead a few months later. I miss my "mum." I HATE this disease.

I've also lost several friends and other family members to cancer as I am sure that you have also. Last year the 3-Day walkers passed my route in Plymouth on Saturday.

Then on Sunday they walked by my home in Livonia in a driving rainstorm. I was brought to tears by their bravery and dedication. I thought about Boots and her brave fight and I vowed to participate in this year's event if I had that weekend off. I found out that in 2012 it was my long weekend and I am walking.....but I need your help.

I have committed myself to walk and have agreed to raise a minimum of \$2,300 to help fight cancer. I do so to honor those who have perished as well as those who are survivors, such as my sister-in-law, Betty.

Every 19 seconds, somewhere in the world, someone is diagnosed with breast cancer. That's why I'm walking in the 3-Day. Because everyone deserves a lifetime.®

To make a donation, go to [The3Day.org](http://The3Day.org). Click on Donate and search for my personal fundraising page. If you don't want to donate online, please fill out the mail in donation form and mail it to the address on the form. Or you can call 800-996-3DAY to donate over the phone.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and thank you for your support.

*Sincerely,*

-- Jim Crossey (*Plymouth Carrier*)

ID #6479130

Michigan Event

[jimcarl72@aol.com](mailto:jimcarl72@aol.com)

734-674-6272



Branch President Mark Judd marches at the "Save America's Postal Service" demonstration held on April 12th outside of Senator Debbie Stabenow's office in Detroit.

(See more photos on Page 11)

## Cuda Uniform Inc.

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**24559 Van Born Road  
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(313) 292-7422**

## Customer Connect

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

Lynn Taylor (Belleville) \$12,000.00

Donald Gutowski (Plymouth) \$25,000.00

Wayne Swan (Westland) \$30,000.00

Felicia Bryant (Westland) \$5,000.00

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](http://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

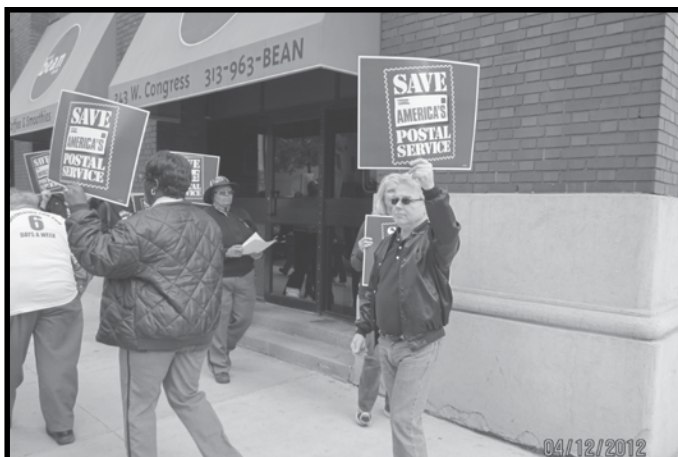
Grievance Guidelines

National Agreement

Defenses to Discipline

JCAM, MRS, M-39, M-41

2184 Memo of Understanding



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# Annual Branch Picnic Sunday June 24th

On Sunday, June 24, 2012, from Noon – 6 p.m. Branch 2184 will once again host a picnic for our members and their families.

There are activities planned for children of all ages, including a dunk tank, inflatables and pony rides. The picnic will be held on the grounds of the Branch 2184 Office at 6969 Monroe Street in Taylor (just north of Ecorse Road). This day of family fun is free to all members and their families.



Watch for further information as it becomes available, including information that will be posted on Union Bulletin Boards in each station.

**Circle Sunday, June 24th on your calendars and make plans to attend!**



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

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