



SEVEN NEWS ♦

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September 2018

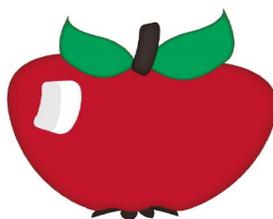
The President's Report by Frank Spathanas

. Greetings everyone. Hope everyone enjoyed their summer and their vacations. I would like to thank all letter carriers for all their hard work this summer and working in the extreme heat we had and the long days you had to put in due to managements staffing. (Or should I say lack of staffing). With all the shit you all had to endure, I want to make sure all this shit does not repeat itself going forward. I have set up a date for a labor/management meeting with the Postmaster to address all these problems on September 11. I have also requested all stewards compile a list of questions, gripes or any concerns any member has which I can present to management at that meeting. Please reach out to your steward to have any of your questions or concerns brought forth to be addressed at this meeting. Take advantage of this opportunity. I will give a report on the result of this meeting the next night at the union meeting. With the September meeting starting, I would like to see more members (all members, CCA's included) to start attending meetings where you can learn what's going on



**Fall Back to
Union Business
Summer Review
@NEXT
Union Meeting
September 12, 2018
7 P.M. Sharp!!**

and give your input. Like I've always said, this is your Union.



BRANCH 7 E-MAIL ADDRESS IS
nalcbranch 7@ gmail.com

ONLY a click away to ANSWER
your CONCERNS/VOICE your
OPINIONS/OFFER your IDEAS

Future Meeting Dates
October 10, 2018
November 14, 2018
December 12, 2018

ELECTION NOTICE

This is official notice to the members of Branch 7-Lynn, Massachusetts of the nomination and election of Branch officers and Delegates to the 2019 State Convention. Eligibility of candidates will be in accordance with Article 5 of the NALC Constitution, which disqualifies any member who holds, accepts or applies for a supervisory position for any period of time, either acting, probationary or permanently. Any member, who has left a supervisory position, is ineligible for a period of (2) years after termination of supervisory status. Per Branch-By-Laws, self-nomination is permissible and nominees have (3) days to accept or decline their nomination.

The following Branch officer positions, serving a (2) year term (2019-2020) will be up for election: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sargent-At-Arms and (3) Trustees. As for Delegates to the 2019 State Convention, nominees must have attended (8) of the last (10) meetings to be eligible for branch funding. The President, by nature of the office, is automatically a delegate to the State Convention.

Election of Branch Officers and Delegates to the 2019 State Convention will be by secret mail ballot, with ballots mailed to the last known address of eligible members. Ballots will be mailed out the week of October 15-20, with a due date of FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9, 2018. Nomination of candidates will take place at the October Branch Meeting to be held on Wednesday October 10, 2018. The Election Committee will announce the results at the November Branch Meeting to be held on Wednesday November 14, 2018. Branch Meetings are held at the Hibernian Hall-AOH Building-105 Federal Street in Lynn, with a 7 P.M. start time.

Frank H. Quartarone
Secretary-Branch 7, NALC

Postal Mania

by
Dorothy Curtis

My last article before the summer break was regarding that management wanted to play games with our right to repost prime time vacation weeks that carriers gave up. Through the grievance procedure management was educated that weeks that carriers give back with a least 14 days' notice were to be posted for another carrier to bid on no matter what. Step B even cautioned managers to cease and desist this violation and similar ones regarding this provision. In other words, Step B told management to cut that sh&% out!

A few weeks after the decision came back about our prime time vacation picks local management let it be known that they were thinking about challenging that provision again and were looking for any footholds in the decision to do just that. You see, management blames our vacation time for a lot of their woes this summer. I blame their lack of planning, but I'm just a letter carrier so what do I know.

I want to remind everyone that as soon as they know they are giving up a week to let management and the union know. I have never known a week to go up for bid to go unbid. If you don't want the week somebody else does.

Management decided to give us a kick to the teeth and move our start time from 7:30 to 7:45-8:00. One of the options for carriers to combat that was to take a "no lunch" and try to still get out at a decent hour. It was a nice option to have but now management has decided to challenge that. Which is odd, because the only person it seems to bother that carriers take a "no lunch" is someone who doesn't even work in the Lynn installation. I don't know if we will grieve it successfully but I want to thank all the carriers I spoke with and who wrote statements regarding this.

We had a few CCA conversions and it looks like some soon to be. Congrats to Matt P, Steve B, Jesse K, and Lenny A. The donut tradition continues, thanks guys.

One last things regarding vacations. If you carry an annual leave balance of over 440 hours into the new postal year, you lose it. Start thinking about your next vacation now. I'm looking at you, Mo!

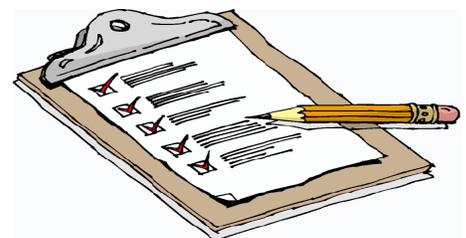
WEATHERCHECK

Okay, let's start off by quoting Modesto, on route 12 WL. "it ain't easy"!!!!!!! No this summer has not been. Short handed as, the CCA's were walking out the door. Carriers out hurt, and of course that vacation list. Also, heat and humidity! Put all these things together and it was a big mess! Management did come out "once" to offer me a bottle of water. I had my suspicions though that they were just checking up on us. Thank you though for keeping the refrigerator well stocked with water, and freeze pops! Also those comical scanner messages every morning, telling me how to survive the heat. My favorite, "when it gets hot in the vehicle turn on the fan" (no shit!) They are telling us that the next round of CCAs are being trained and hired. They should be here soon, just in time for the holiday season, hoping that they don't walk out too! There are still carriers working off the clock..... WHY? lets say you give a half hour of your time each day, off the clock. To keep it simple math, lets say \$15 a half hour.... \$75 a week..... at 52 weeks..... is \$3900. That is just a 40 week. Not to mention... all that street time you are losing off of your route! Free time is bad..... wasting office time is bad..... street time is good!!! That's where they want you, on the street. West Lynn wants to welcome back..... Scot Terchiak, to route 19, that he created. Welcome back, after a long hiatus, to Frank Spathanos, route 2. Don't become to overwhelmed out on the Lynnway! Thank you all for all that you do, for your customers! They appreciate you! Please attend a meeting, we would all love to see your smiling face. Be careful out there!!

The Saugus Scribe™

(Welcome Back!)

Management has no heart edition
o Hello Hello Hello! Well the Scribe is feeling great to be back in the game after a long layoff like we've had this summer, no meetings, primetime, 4 or 5 guys out every week, CCA's getting sent downtown, LLV's gone for days at a time to replace blinker switches, beaters out hurt freeing up plenty of OT for people on or off the list at all, and all the regular 'help me outs' we could count on padding our tax stats going into the Fall. Like Biggie said, 'it's so hard'....we all hope you loved your golf or concerts. To all of my brothers and sisters in Saugus, you are ALL heroes, I'm not talking regulars or CCA's here, but every damn person that worked at 437 Lincoln Ave from the time it got hot out to the time it stopped getting hot out (still hot as of the time of this writing). Very tough season to get through and I'm eternally grateful to y'all that contributed. 9 out of 10 days it was hot as hell or pouring out, very hard to be out there on the street, I'll forever wonder how management made it through our summer with sweaters on and the AC half cranked. Some supervisors just showed up at 10 or 11am to make sure routes got enough help so that they could leave by 3 or 4pm, that's the life for those folks I guess! Now that the Fall is upon us and our office should be fully stocked to take care of business I'd like to tell y'all that it's once again go time. There really is no layoff, vacations are winding down but Suzy, Johnny, and Joan are on the computer ordering shizz to make sure Santa Claus delivers proper. Here we go; who's with me?! Take a report Fitz⁰⁸!



Shorthand

From the Secretary
by Frank Quartarone

WORST SUMMER EVER ??? TOO MANY 3H days-TOO MANY 10-12 hour days-TOO MUCH understaffing-TOO MANY No days off
KUDOS AND THANKS to ALL for stepping up, delivering for our patrons and exemplifying what Professional Letter Carriers you are !!!
No News is Good News for NOW. President Trump's report to "fix" the PO, due by August 10, hasn't been announced yet. Rumors abounds on its "recommendations" from privatizing the PO to cutting days of delivery to slashing costs. Based on his anti union/worker agenda so far, not expecting any support of the NALC's agenda in the report. Also, PMG Brennen DID-N'T give a resounding NO to OPM's suggestion to privatize the PO in July. WHATEVER, another good reason to give the LCPF- Gimme 5-\$5 per pay period- to protect your jobs and benefits.

Over the summer, we've seen 5 CCAs converted to regular and more to come in the upcoming months. Also, we've seen, due to retirements, junior carriers moving up to better routes and floats-THANKS to Seniority. CONGRATS TO ALL-CCAs and Junior Carriers. BUT, NOW is time to be heard on the workroom floor, become involved with the union and set the tone for the future. IT'S your PO of the future-time to step up and make a difference !!!

It's FALL-TIME for some secretarial reminders- LET your steward or me know, if you've moved-for Branch Records and I will notify National-If you're not receiving 7 NEWS-Notify your station steward-Want a NALC Membership Card-SEE ME-Branch 7 gives out memoriums to deceased members and immediate family members-Mother/Father, Husband/Wife, Son/Daughter and Brother/Sister-Notify your station steward and retirees-contact me (781) 289-0590. If you prefer that it be private-It will be respected.

LASTLY, \$654-latest contractual COLA (THANKS NALC)
REVIEW OF JUNE MEETING- Prez Frank spoke on successful OT grievances-Food Drive-filing out 3996's-changes to the progressive jackpot-Secretary Quartarone gave a MDA and Retiree Report- NALC Membership

Pins were given to Prez Emeritus Pat Byrne (40 years) and Doug Mishel (30 years)-Bill Burgess won the NE Pats Tix Raffle- the Saugus streak is broken-50/50 winner was Brian Corbin and \$150 jackpot was won by Mohamed Juana, who wasn't there to collect-MDA raffle raised \$140-Per Tradition of last meeting 'fore the summer break, Food (Calzones, Pizza) and Refreshments were enjoyed by All.

PREVIEW OF SEPTEMBER MEETING-WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 12- ALL you want to know about what happened over the summer in Branch 7, the NALC and Postal World -Prez Frank's Powerpoint Report-Committee Reports (MDA/Retirees/Labor Council/Safety) Trustee's semi-annual Branch Audit Report-50/50-jackpot is at \$175-FOOD-SEE U at the 1st meeting since the summer break on WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 12 at the HIBERNIAN HALL (lower level) in AOH Building-105 Federal Street in Lynn-7 P.M. START -BE THERE !!!

MDA REPORT

June Meeting/Summertime raffle raised \$140 (THANKS), bringing the yearly total from them to \$610 (THANK YOU)
Our annual Cool 'N Casual T-Shirt Day for MDA, dedicated this year to Danny Angel, with a memorium patch, raised a little over a \$1,000, with 100 sold. THANKS to those that purchased one and SPECIAL THANKS to the MDA Station Reps-Bill Burgess-MO, Brian Corbin-Su, Doug Mishel-SWP and Paul Nielsen-WL.

RETIREE NEWS

CONGRATS to Branch 7's newest retirees-Ron Linnane, Dave Perreault and Cris Miner-ENJOY your "deserved" retirement

THANKS to Ron Linnane for remaining a union member in retirement

We lost 3 retirees over the summer-2 -50 plus year retirees

Nick Francullo-Branch 7's oldest retiree- WWII Vet -63 year NALC member

Tom Reddy-Good olde Mr. Reddy -54 year NALC member

Bob Coleman-Vet- 30-year NALC member

REST IN PEACE-BROTHERS

Jackpot Winner

The name of Brother Mohamed Juana was drawn as the winner of the \$150 progressive jackpot raffle at the June 2018 union meeting. Unfortunately, Mohamed was not in attendance. Therefore, \$175 will be given to the lucky winner at the September meeting. You must sign in to the meeting prior to 7:30pm to be eligible to *win*, **Good Luck!**



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SUMMER 2018—Most Worked Hard, While Some Hardly Worked,, Except Trying to Steal Your Rights Away

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\$175 JACKPOT



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Seven News will be published ten times annually for the members of Branch 7, NALC. The opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Branch 7, but of the writers. Any comments, suggestions, news about coworkers, retiree news, story ideas or anecdotes are welcome and should be in by the 15th to be in next month's issue. The editor retains the right to edit, delete or reject an article for the good of the Branch. We look forward to your contributions. In the interest of solidarity, permission is granted to other labor publications to reprint material in this publication. Suzanne Titus, Editor

branch7str@comcast.net

President's Report, Shorthand, Saugus Scribe,
Retiree News, MDA Report, Postal Mania,
\$175 Jackpot, Weathercheck and VENT

Inside This Issue

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