



SEVEN NEWS ♦

Volume 26 Issue

April 2019

The President's Report by Frank Spathanas

Dawn of a new era. If you all haven't figured it all out yet, I'm sure you are all aware that we have a new Postmaster. When I met him for the brief time shortly after he arrived, he informed me that he is a numbers guy and he analyzes all the data that is available to him. He also informed me he has goals and he always meets his goals. And by looking at all the data at his disposal, he believes that there is under time that he thinks is available for capture (pivots) in the Lynn installation. The new Postmaster sees things in his mind as black and white. There is no gray area with him. When trying to explain West Lynn is already adjusted for 8 hours from the inspection a year and a half ago or the Main office has their route data with no globe directs factored in or the amount of parcels the routes get over base. The Saugus routes are all messed up because of a bogus co-op deal using data from 2008 instead of demonstrated ability. He still believes that there is time to capture. We as letter carriers have to show him that there isn't time to be had. As all can see, whether filling out 3996's, being counted or walked with, the Postmaster is trying to use fear and intimidation to get to his numbers to reach his goals. It may work on some and some it won't. All you have to do is your job professionally. If you do your route and a pivot in 8 hours, then he was right, and you can do a pivot. If you can't, you follow protocol and call the office before 3 and tell them you're going to be late and fill out a 3996 when you get back. This Postmaster is trying to make his mark and will be



Peep In @NEXT Union Meeting April 10, 2019 7 P.M. Sharp!!

holding his supervisors accountable which means more pressure on carriers. I have another meeting with the Postmaster before the next union meeting and I will give you an update at the meeting. On April 1st, Scot Terchiak will be taking the job of steward over in the Main office for Bill Burgess. Thank you Scot for stepping up. I personally want to thank Bill for his many years of service to Branch 7, for being steward, safety officer to Trustee, helping with the food drive, you name it and Bill dedicated himself to this branch. I can't thank him enough personally, for his support during my Presidency. Knowing that Bill had my back and lent me support when I set out to do this gave me some reassurance that I was going to be OK. I wish more people would step up and dedicate themselves like Bill did for THEIR Branch. Thank you, Mr. Burgess. Finally, at this month's meeting for those people thinking of retirement soon or in the next 5 years we are hosting a guest speaker, William Nichols who will talk about retirement and other financial planning. Come listen to what he has to say.



FOOD DRIVE

MAY 11

Shorthand

From the Secretary
by Frank Quartarone

SATURDAY MAY 11—
24TH ANNUAL BRANCH 7
“STAMP OUT HUNGER”
FOOD DRIVE DAY TO HELP
END HUNGER IN THE GREAT-
ER LYNN COMMUNITY !!!
Working with My Brother's Table
and the Lynn Hunger Network, as
all food is kept locally, Branch 7
Letter Carriers will again be col-
lecting food donations from our
patrons in the communities we de-
liver to. Last year, we collected
32,000 pounds/16 tons, up 4,000
pounds from 2017.
THE BASICS
It's voluntary to partake in
Drop-off points-Lynn Ladder-
Boston Street-Lynn or each office
platforms/docks
Reminder Food Drive Postcards-
MUST BE DELIVERED
Plastic Bags-they helped last year's
total
Vehicle Visors and Food Drive
Buttons
Thank You Cards-paid for by the
Branch
Stand-up Talks on the drive by
yours truly
VOLUNTEERS
To help make things a little easier,
We need volunteers-NS day carriers
or family members- to transport the
food from each office to Lynn Lad-
der-especially after 2 P.M. OR any
carrier that can take a load to Lynn
Ladder after work. GREATLY AP-
PRECIATE YOUR HELP !!! SEE
ME-during the stand-up talks or
(781) 289-0590.
THANK YOU
I THANK the Letter Carriers of
Branch 7 (continued on page 3)

Postal Mania

by
Dorothy Curtis

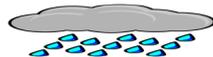
Have we all met the new Postmaster, “Dean, Dean the numbers machine”? He has single-handedly gone back in time to 2011 and brought back the Wiggle, the Pivot, or “Undertime”. I’ll leave my favorite term “half for you, half for me” for another time. For any newer carrier that has never heard any of these terms before, let me explain.

Let’s say for example that your normal leave time to the street in 9:00. If management requests that you case mail on another route as “undertime” you should be able to case mail on another route and still leave for the street by 9:00. If management requests that you deliver a half hour on another route on the street you should be able to leave the office by 8:20-8:30 to deliver that mail and still punch out at 4:30. Sometimes “undertime” is valid. But there are two scenarios involving this “undertime” that you need to inform your steward about.

1) If management tells you to cut mail on your own route thereby creating their own “undertime” that’s

usually a grievance so let your steward know. 2) If you think that doing this “undertime” that it will put you into overtime. What you need to do in this situation is fill out a 3996. As some of you have learned, the term “heavy DPS” is not a valid reason to put on a 3996. I know what it means when a carrier writes “heavy DPS”. Management knows exactly what a carrier means by “heavy DPS” but they are trying to scam, hoodwink, and bamboozle you into skipping your breaks so they split hairs about your wording.

Reasons to put on a 3996: Above average DPS. Way above average for an 8 hour day DPS. Full coverage in DPS. Old mailing list coverage in DPS. Thin mail in DPS. Reasons not involving DPS: Above average service talk (anything over 7 minutes). Deviate for an express. New to Route. Carrying mail cased by another. Inclement weather. Above average casing volume. Above average flats. Above base parcels. Route not ad-



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WILLOW STREET WHINE

by John D’Amato

The Boston district is going old school to create revenue. As we have been told over and over again, the Post Office is losing money. So what better idea but to bring back a great revenue stream. This idea could generate thousands if not millions of dollars the PO desperately needs. This genius thought might just create some jobs. It uses modern technologies, will be used by all carriers, and will even be moderated by upper management. It will create reports that some managers can understand. This MENSA idea is MSP scans. To use an old school phrase, it is a time wasted practice. With the technology we have in our scanners, do we really need an extra 17 bar codes on mailboxes to fill up our already busy day. So instead of worrying if the bar code gets scanned at 140 Union St, how about sending a district rep down and getting Social Security signed up with some of our Postal programs. My idea for extra revenue has been to use our technology to target customer connect leads. UPS and FedEx use the PO for the last mile. Why can’t we solicit the mailers directly, cutting out UPS and FEDEX? As the customer connect Coordinator, I’ve asked the district for years for a local business directory to solicit their business and also the last mile mailers. The response has always been, good idea, and it ends there. Shouldn’t the PO be an active member in the local Chamber of Commerce? Unfortunately, we don’t have the funds for that since we spent our budget on white labels for MSP scan points.

Word (phrase) of the month. Time wasted practice: frivolous, petty, trivial.

WEATHERCHECK

West Lynn Weathercheck, is going to stay to a positive note this month, and stay away from any, negativity! Here goes..... Spring is upon us, enjoy it! That’s about it! Be careful & safe until next month!

SHORTHAND from Page 1

for their support/help over the years in making the Food Drive a success. I KNOW, it's a tough day of double duty, BUT My Brother's Table and the Lynn Hunger Network appreciate our efforts to help them feed those experiencing hunger issues. In advance, MY GRATITUDE for your commitment to making the Food Drive a successful one. IT'S A GOOD THING-LET'S TOP 32,000 POUNDS !!!

LASTLY-APRIL UNION MEETING

At the meeting, Mr. William Nickles, who worked in the finance office at the Boston PO facility, will be talking about postal retirement and answering your questions.

ALSO, Prez Frank will give a report on Committee of President's Meeting, that he attended recently. Get the latest NALC News/updates from National President Rolando and top NALC Officers on all things NALC, especially contract negotiations
REVIEW OF O'MARCH UNION MEETING

Prez Frank spoke on Labor-Management Meeting with acting Postmaster-Taking leave for National Day of Mourning-Amazon Package status/Working safely-Guest Speaker-Tony Perconte-National LCPF person for the Northeast area-spoke on the LCPF and the importance of giving-Senior Trustee Suzanne Titus gave the semi-annual Branch Audit Report-Retiree Stan Penkul was given his 50 year Gold Membership Card and 50 year Lapel Pin by Prez Frank-\$100 donation approved for CCA Marissa Titus-American Lung Association Climb-50/50 winner was Dave Crowley-\$50 Meeting Jackpot was won by Jahn Castillo-FOOD-Fauci's Pizza.

PREVIEW OF APRIL UNION MEETING (WEDNESDAY

APRIL 10)
Prez Frank's COP Report-Guest Speaker to talk about Postal Retirement-Food Drive Report-Safety Committee Report-Latest Workroom Floor and Grievance Updates-50/50-\$50 Meeting Jackpot-MDA Raffle-FOOD
SEE U THERE ON WEDNESDAY APRIL 10TH AT THE HIBERNIAN HALL-105 FEDERAL STREET IN LYNN-7 P.M. START !!!

Future Meeting Date
May 8, 2019
June 12, 2019
September 11, 2019



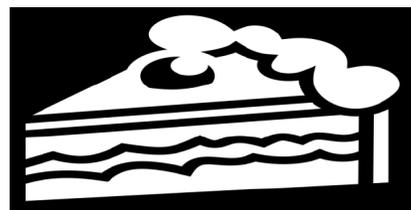
O'March Meeting Raffle raised \$125 (THANKS), bringing the 2019 total from them to \$325 (THANKS). Jahn Castillo and Doug Mishel won the bottles of Irish Cheer. April Meeting Raffle-2-\$20 Gift Certificates to the Tides Restaurant in Nahant.
THANKS to the Leprechauns and Lassies of Branch 7 for raising \$207, our highest amount, by purchasing a MDA St. Patty's' Day Shamrock. THANKS to the MDA Reps/ Leprechauns-Bill Burgess-Main Office/ Paul Nielsen-West Lynn/ Doug Mishel-Swampscott and Brian Corbin-Saugus for their help in making it happen.

RETIREE NEWS

THANKS AND A LONG RETIREMENT to MARK POTO for remaining a Branch 7/NALC member in retirement.
CALLING ALL RETIREES-1 LAST JAG
If any retirees would like to help our Food Drive on May 11, by transporting the food to Lynn Ladder on Boston Street in Lynn from any of the offices-GREATLY APPRECIATE IT - SEE ME- (781) 289-0590.

\$50 WINNER

The name of Brother Jahn Castillo was drawn as the winner of the \$50 monthly raffle at the March 2019 union meeting. \$50 will be given to the lucky winner at the April meeting. You must sign in to the meeting prior to 7:30pm to be eligible to *win*, **Good Luck!**



V Sick of Little Whyte Lies,
E Talking in Kerlyn Circles
N or Running Curwin Circle ?
T With Casey at the Bat,
Who Says Isn't It Good to be the King ? Well We Already had a Cook., Now a Baker. Why is Everyone Starving ?

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branch7srt@comcast.net
\$50 Give Away, Weathercheck and VENT
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President's Report, Shorthand, Willow Street Whine,

Inside This Issue

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