







President/ Editor Dave Barbuzzi Publisher Chris Bruno

#### Volume 45 Issue 7

July 2021

Acton, Amesbury, Andover, Bedford, Beverly, Billerica, Burlington, Chelmsford, Concord, Danvers, Dracut, Gloucester, Haverhill, Holliston, Ipswich, Lowell, Lynnfield, Manchester, Marblehead, Maynard, Merrimac, Newburyport, North Chelmsford, North Reading, Peabody, Reading, Rockport, Salem, South Hamilton, Sudbury, Tewksbury, Topsfield, Wakefield, Wayland, Wilmington, Winchester



Madison McKeon receives her \$1,000 scholarship check from President Barbuzzi as her father, Scott McKeon of the Lowell office proudly looks on.

#### **President's Message**

For the last couple years I have provided the information regarding the OSHA Heat Safety tool. It is available for download at the Google Play Store as well as the Apple App Store. It is free of charge, and it provides both the current temp and heat index, as well as the upcoming hourly temps and heat indexes and suggestions as what to do in order to stay safe under various conditions. We had 9 days in the 90's in June, with two heat waves. Please, be proactive with your health and safety. The postal service is sending messaging over the scanners to find shade "during your authorized breaks". If conditions warrant it, if your body tells you to, take additional breaks so that you can hydrate, get our of the weather temporarily and perhaps find air conditioning or at least shade. Do NOT wait until it's too late.

I have been notified that the NALC will be holding a Virtual Conference for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Members. This conference will be hosted by Director of Safety and Health Manny Peralta and Director of Retired Members Dan Toth. The conference will be held via Webex on Sunday, August 8 at 2:00PM Eastern Time. The conference will run approximately two hours. Registration for the conference will take place beginning July 12 and will run through the date of the meeting. Registration will be done via the NALC website. The website is www.NALC.org. Once you log onto the site you go to the "Members Only" portal. Once at the on "Meetings "Members Only" portal, click Registration" button which will display a list of upcoming meetings. From there select "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conference" and submit your registration.

There is another topic that I feel the need to address. Many of us are eligible, or will soon be eligible to retire. Hopefully, you have planned properly and contributed to the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) and you have accumulated a nest egg to contribute to your retirement in a substantial manner. If you have, that's great. What I would like to do now is to tell you to make sure it stays there, that someone doesn't "help you out" and take a chunk of your nest egg.

What am I talking about? Well, there are people that call themselves financial planners that contact postal employees when they are eligible to retire. They get their foot in the door by telling them that they will help them with their blue book. (The "Blue Book" is the book with all the forms that need to be completed when you're retiring from the postal service). Once they have their foot in the door, they may tell you that they have products that will benefit you. They might suggest that you sign your TSP account over to them. They might even say that their product is so good that you have to make up your mind by the end of the day! Consider this a great big red flag! The TSP maintenance fees range from 0.049% to 0.068%. That's 49 cents or 68 cents for ever \$1,000 you have invested. I don't think you will find a product out there that has administrative fees that low, or anywhere near that low. Over the last few years we have had carriers that have signed over their TSP accounts to someone that has come to their home to help them. A close look at the fine print revealed that there were to be thousands of dollars in fees and fortunately the carriers backed out before it was too late.

What makes me scratch my head even more is when our carriers refer their friends to these people that help them with the blue book. The postal service provides on the clock retirement counseling to assist you in completing the blue book. I'll be the first one to tell you there aren't many things the postal service does right, but without exception, everyone I have spoken to about the counseling process has said that the postal service does a great job with the blue book retirement counseling session. It makes no sense to go outside for assistance, especially when the person helping you could potentially be a snake oil salesman.

I am NOT offering financial advice. I am not qualified to do that. I am qualified to tell you to know what you are doing with your money, with your retirement. If you do decide to speak with someone about your retirement account(s), at least consider contacting a fiduciary. A fiduciary is bound legally and ethically to act in YOUR best interest.

This past weekend, there was a shelter in place order in Reading, Stoneham and Wakefield. This was the result of a 9-hour standoff between police and 11 heavily armed individuals wearing tactical gear. There were three AR-15's amongst the weapons seized. The postal service was in contact with the state police and the local police of the affected communities. I was in contact with the POOM on that morning and was apprised of the fact that some routes that were in the area were being held back in the office until such time that the police cleared the neighborhoods. Some of our carriers were late for work as well.

The last thing I want to address is CCA'S being sent to Lawrence. Please notify the branch office if a CCA from your office is being sent to Lawrence. This is legal under certain conditions. A call to the office will confirm whether or not management is acting within their rights. There is also an agreement in place to allow regular carriers to work in Lawrence on their day off, regardless of whether they are on the list. Call the Union office for details if you might be interested.

Stay informed!

Dave Barbuzzi

#### **Executive Vice-President's Report**

It was great to have an in-person branch meeting in June at the Wilmington Knights of Columbus. We had a good turnout considering we hadn't met in 15 months, but I hope our next meeting in September will be better attended with the advance notice. At the June meeting, we awarded our 2 AFL-CIO branch scholarships. This is always a great night for the winners and their families. The Tuesday after Labor Day at 8pm will be our next meeting. As always, there will be food served before the meeting at 7:15pm. If any members that haven't been to a meeting before want to know, the meeting usually lasts about an hour or not much more, and some of the Branch officers give reports as well as the financial report of the Branch. We give as much information as possible and answer any questions the members may have. If we don't have an answer immediately, we will get one as soon as possible. If you are coming, try to bring another member with you.

After the ratification of our 2019-2023 National Agreement, the parties signed a Memorandum (MOU) Re: City delivery and Workplace Improvement Task Force that was established to improve the cultural and operational environment in city delivery offices. This would cover all of the Branch 25 stations. There is a commitment to modernize delivery methods, and to create an improved work environment for all employees. A subcommittee of the Task Force will be looking at the route evaluation and adjustment process and how to improve it. They are looking at past evaluation processes that were jointly conducted and how they could use these processes and improve on them by possibly using the technology currently available to evaluate routes in the future. This basically means the time punches and scans made each day would be looked at in order to potentially evaluate the routes, which we have done before. Generally, this is a better process than a 6-day inspection because it shows the routes over a greater period of time, not just 6 days. Your time punches should accurately reflect your route but that is up to the induvial carrier to ensure they are accurate. If the parties agree on an evaluation and adjustment process, it will be a joint process with the Union and individual carriers having input. We have many Branch officers that have been trained in the past evaluation processes, and I feel we would represent the Branch well. As far as improving the cultural environment, the Task Force will look at ways to establish a positive work environment where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. This will be easier said than done and has been a talking point with the parties for years, but time will tell. There is a great article in the current issue of the Postal Record that expands upon the work of the Task Force.

This Fall we will be having shop steward elections in all of our stations as is directed by the Branch by-laws. We still have some stations in the Branch currently without a shop steward, although we have appointed a few stewards recently after some training. The job is not for everyone, but if anyone is interested in running for shop steward but isn't sure of the responsibilities, please call the Union office, or set up an appointment to stop by the office and we will explain it to you. This Fall we also will be electing Branch officers and delegates to the National Convention next summer in Chicago. Nominations will be at the October Branch meeting and the election of delegates will be at the November meeting.

The NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive has been cancelled for this year and it is currently scheduled to take place in May of 2022. There was a thought that we would conduct an actual food drive in the Fall of 2021 but that can't be done because of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Some states are better off than others but the decision was made to wait until next Spring. The NALC has chosen to create a "donor drive" in order to get donations for the food pantries. Our food drive has traditionally been a huge lift for the food pantries for the There is information on the NALC past 30 years. website at nalc.org/food where anyone can find a food bank in their area to make an online donation. We did this in the past as a branch, but individuals can also help out if they chose to.

Keep your head up and see you in September!

Paul Desmond

#### **Calendar of Events**

- July 1 National Postal Worker Day
- July 4 Independence Day
- July 7 Global Forgiveness Day
- July 11 World Population Day
- July 18 National Ice Cream Day
- July 21 National Be Someone Day
- July 23 Summer Olympics Opening Ceremony
- July 24 Amelia Earhart Day
- July 30 International Day of Friendship

#### **Branch 25 Directory of Officers**

David J. Barbuzzi Paul G. Desmond Dan Wheeler Andy Coan James P. Nutter Kenneth Dusombre Jim Salvati Jack Lyman Ron Noviello Dan Raske Bruce Johnson John McNulty James Metilinos Anthony Bossi Chris Bruno **Bob** Cronin Steve Pickett **Richard Donlon** Ron Noviello

President Executive V.P. Vice President Secretary Treasurer Health Benefits Rep. Safety Officer Sergeant At Arms Chmn. Board of Trustees Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Assistant Secretary Wake-Up Publisher MBA-NSBA Rep Assistant Safety Officer Asst Health Benefits Rep Workers' Comp Rep.

Your "Wake-Up!" is produced in-house at the Branch 25 Union office each and every month.



It was good to meet in person again in June. The Branch Officers are looking forward to September! See you soon!

BRANCH 25 RETIREE GRATUITY VOUCHER	Ì
Name:(as it will appear on plaque)	
P.O. Retiring from:	I
Phone number:	
Retirement date:	Ī
Please note: Retiree must be a member is good standing at date of retirement. Retiree has 4 months from retirement date to remit this voucher to the branch office. Please mail to:NALC Branch 25 2500 Main St, Suite 201, Tewksbury Ma, 01876	

#### **Election Notices**

This is official notice that nominations for Branch Officers will be held at the regular October 5, 2021 branch meeting at 8.00PM at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Wilmington Ma. The election of officers will be conducted by mail-out ballot to the last known address of each member. All terms of office will be for 3 years. All candidates for office must be present at the October meeting and give their assent for nomination. Any nominee not present at the meeting will have 5 days to notify the Secretary in writing of their assent or must have submitted a letter to the Secretary prior to the October meeting giving his/her assent to be a candidate. All candidates must be certified in good standing by the Secretary. The Offices are: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer. Treasurer. Assistant MBA/NSBA Representative, Assistant MBA/NSBA Representative, Sergeant at Arms, Health Benefits Representative, Assistant Health Benefits Representative, Safety Director, Assistant Safety Director, Wake-Up Publisher, Assistant Wake-Up Publisher, and 5 Trustees. The President and Executive Vice President, by virtue of their offices, shall automatically be delegates to all National and State Conventions, and to any meeting called by the National Association of Letter Carriers, COP Meeting, or affiliates. The Election Committee will be appointed by the Chair at the nomination meeting. The Election Committee shall prepare ballots, instructions, ballot envelopes, and mail them by the first Wednesday in November with a return date for ballots postmarked by the fourth Wednesday in November (November 24, 2021). Results will be announced at the regular December meeting and installation will take place at the December meeting or at the wish of the Branch at an installation banquet. All elected officers will take office on January 1, 2022.

Notice is hereby given to each member of Branch 25 that nominations for delegates to the 73<sup>rd</sup> national convention shall be held at the October 5, 2021 regular branch meeting at 8.00PM at the Knights of Columbus in Wilmington. Elections of Delegate for the 73<sup>rd</sup> National convention will be held at the regular November 2, 2021 at regular branch meeting at 8.00PM at the Knights of Columbus in Wilmington. Expenses for delegates shall be voted on at the November meeting. All delegates must have attended 60 percent of regular monthly meetings held between elections to be an expense-paid delegate to conventions. Any member who has not been a member for the prior 2 years will have their attendance prorated from the date of their membership. In addition to the provisions of Article 5 of the Branch 25 bylaws, which designates the Branch President and Executive Vice President as automatic delegates to the National Convention, Article 5 of the NALC Constitution shall prevail.

#### Andrew P. Coan, Secretary

## EAP Coaching Can Help During Times of Change

Partner with a coach to sharpen your focus and achieve your personal and professional goals.

The USPS Employee Assistance Program provides life coaching for employees and their family members. Coaching sharpens the focus and increases the pace of learning so that you can achieve your defined personal and professional goals.

Coaching is a partnership between the coach and the client which is designed to facilitate growth and change. Coaching will help you clarify what you want, identify challenges that could get in the way and develop actions for achieving successful outcomes.

Coaching promotes self-awareness, clarification of visions, values, intentions and goals, and enhances skills in areas such as communication, time management, goal achievement and improving work/life balance.



EAP coaching is available to all USPS employees and their immediate family members who voluntarily elect coaching services. Appointments are conducted in person, over the phone or through a video call.

Prior to the first appointment your EAP coach will send you information on coaching to help you prepare for the session so you can make the most of your time together. Reach out today to be partnered with a professional coach.

Your Employee Assistance Program is here for you around the clock. Reach out to us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Visit EAP4YOU.com to find a wealth of information, tools and resources and feel free to give us a call at 800-327-4968 (800-EAP-4YOU) or TTY: 877-492-7341.



CALL US TODAY: 800-327-4968 800-EAP-4YOU | TTY: 877-492-7341 WWW.EAP4YOU.COM

I wanted to touch on a couple of union related stories you may have heard of recently. While not related directly to the NALC they are interesting snapshots of where the organized labor movement is and where it may be heading in 2021 and beyond. The first story involves Amazon, and we all know Amazon. The online bookselling website, founded in 1994 by Jeff Bezos, has grown by mammoth proportions in the last 27 years. Amazon turned a profit of \$26.9 billion from March 2020 to March 2021, greater than the profit it turned from 2017-2019. Amazon earnings reports show they now employ 1.3 million people worldwide, which does not include temporary or seasonal workers. They added 500,000 positions alone in 2020. By comparison, the USPS employs just under 500,000 career another roughly 200.000 employees and non-career employees.

The town of Bessemer Alabama is about 16 miles from Birmingham where more than a quarter of residents fall under the poverty level. Amazon has one of its more than 100 US fulfillment centers there. This center employs 5000 workers. Workers there complained about poor conditions including excessive heat, pandemic safety precautions not being followed, getting only two-bathroom breaks during 10 hour shifts and the excessive micromanaging of times during their shifts among other concerns. Some employees said, due to the size of the warehouse, they were not able to get to and return from the bathroom in their allotted time. These issues started a push to unionize, led by some employees who had previous union involvement. There was enough interest that the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) determined there would be a mail-in vote starting in February of 2021 to see if employees would join the 100,000-member Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU).

Not surprisingly, Amazon was not excited by this news and got to work immediately to stop the worker's push to organize. Amazon set up an anti-union website and texted workers messages telling them joining a union was "giving up the right to speak for yourself" and "the union will be taking your money for nothing". Amazon was successful in getting the Postal Service to put up a special CBU box at the facility to collect votes (in view of company security cameras) and urged employees to cast their votes using this box. The NLRB had previously denied Amazon's request to hold in-person voting on the premises. Union leaders called this intimidation and a clear violation of NLRB laws. The CBU box was removed after the election. Amazon also conducted captive audience meetings. These meetings are held on company time where employees listened to consultants who gave anti-union messaging. There is currently no provision for the union to get equal time. This was lost in the 1960s during the Johnson administration. Due to the pandemic and lack of an equal time provision the employer has the ability to get its message out to a captive audience and the organizers have almost no ability to get their message out in any kind of a group setting.

While there are clear laws about employers threatening employees regarding their vote there are no laws against veiling these threats as economic predictions or other messaging. Workers initially gained the right to organize in Section 7A of the National Industrial Recovery Act in the 1930s. This act gave the broad "right to organize". Over the years the National Labor Relations Act provided penalties for employee violations but many of these laws are still weak. As it turned out, voter turn-out was only 55% and the push to organize at the Bessemer facility failed by a margin of 1798 votes against and 738 votes for organizing. The result was a resounding win for Amazon and a defeat for labor but also a win for the fact that it got to that point at all. In the end, half of a percentage point of Amazon's 1.3 million employees took a stand for themselves and brought attention to their fight. It is unclear what this means for the labor movement within the world's third largest employer or the greater labor movement in this country but as the old saying goes "The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step".

The second story is from closer to home and looks to have a better outcome for the workers than the first. On June 1, workers at Pavement Coffeehouse, a Boston and Cambridge chain that operates eight locations sent a letter to Pavement Coffee Roasters owner Larry Margulies, informing him of their intent to form a union and asking that he voluntarily recognize the union, avoid engaging in any union-busting activities, and participate in good-faith contract negotiations. Margulies said he has "no intention of working to stop our staff members from organizing. If they have an established union to present to us, we will work with them from there." Marguiles said in a letter to employees, "I want you to know that I hear you and am with you," and that he and the rest of the executive team "are committed to supporting your desire to form a union." "So, we will work together on this," Margulies continued. "While the unionization process is something that is new to us, and obviously there will be much news to share in the coming days, I believe that together we will make Pavement Coffeehouse a better and more just place to work."

The move to organize has gained public support from Boston City Councilor and mayoral candidate Michelle Wu as well as Senator Ed Markey. Most of the 80 Pavement employees are expected to sign union cards. Since management has already agreed to recognize the union, the organizing committee will not have to file a petition with the NLRB and no vote will have to be conducted as in the case of the Bessemer Amazon warehouse. The organizing at Pavement is important because according to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, workers in the food service industry have the lowest rate of union representation in the country.

These two labor stories are vastly different. The first is a David vs. Goliath story where Goliath has so far proved victorious and the second a victory without an actual fight. Hopefully, both are a beginning of greater things to come. Time will tell the tale as it always does.

In Solidarity, Dan Wheeler

#### Safety

#### "It Could Be Worse"

Thanks to Secretary Andy Coan for providing the idea for this month's safety article. Andy found a great article on how Amazon determines their delivery routes. And it ain't pretty.

We've all seen Amazon drivers park on one side of the street and deliver to the other and wondered what was going on. If you see a fellow USPS carrier you assume they missed a parcel on the way out. So what is the deal?

The deal is a routing algorithm designed for its Flex app by Amazon's research scientists. The app often makes crossing the street unavoidable. In North America and Europe, roughly 85,000 contracted delivery drivers rely on this algorithm to do their jobs. While crossing the street in a quiet suburban neighborhood is probably safe, doing so on a 50 mph highway can be deadly.

This app determines delivery routes for both Amazon's contracted delivery drivers, who drive Amazon-branded vans, and members of its independent contractor workforce, known as Amazon Flex drivers, who drive their own cars. When a driver has to make deliveries to several addresses that are clustered together, the Flex app combines them into a single stop, rather than make a stop at each address. Drivers call these "group stops," while Amazon research scientists and engineers refer to it as "stop consolidation."

These stops often include addresses on both sides of a street—or highway! Rather than directing drivers to make a U-turn and deliver packages on one side of the street and then the other, the app instructs drivers to cross the street on foot. Depending on the size and number of packages, the driver might have to walk across the street multiple times (or run!) in order to meet Amazon's delivery quotas.

The Flex app does allow Amazon drivers to make Uturns, park in center turn lanes, or drive the wrong way down the street, but doing so sets them back on precious time to complete their routes and, breaking traffic laws can result in discipline that can lead to termination. And there is no Steward to help. And because Amazon's delivery drivers are technically not employed by Amazon but by third-party contractors it removes Amazon's responsibility for accidents.

An Amazon delivery driver in Grand Rapids, Michigan who quit in May summed it up like this, "It's f\*\*\*ing horrendous, honestly," To read the whole article go to www.vice.com and search Amazon's cost saving. Stay Safe,

Jim Salvati

Lyrics Trivia Clowns to the left of me, jokers to the right. Name the song ,artist, and 1992 movie it appeared in. Just For The Health Of It

Hoping not to belabor the obvious, letter carriers have been under a tremendous amount of stress during the last eighteen months or so. COVID-19, the chaos in America's politics, managing home and child-care responsibilities and, to a very large extent, the very nature of a letter carrier's job these days are among those at the top of the list of contributing factors to this reality. I recently came across a very interesting article containing stress-reducing suggestions which may prove helpful to you. First, <u>get active</u>. "Yeah right", you're thinking. "My job keeps me active eight to twelve hours a day and this numbskull wants me to get active!" "But wait," I say? It's the kind of activity that is key.

Here are some powerful suggestions, some obvious, some not so obvious as put forth by the Mayo Clinic.

- 1. Eat healthy. As <u>always</u>, an important part of taking care of yourself.
- 2. Meditate. Absolutely find time to put troubling thoughts and cares aside for awhile. Thought by some to be frivolous and "hippie-ish" in the past, medical science is increasingly recognizing the health benefit of meditation.
- 3. Laugh more. The now-defunct Reader's Digest Magazine had a section within entitled "Laughter is the Best Medicine". There is a great deal of truth to this. When possible, put yourself in humorous situations. Boys' night out/Girls' night out maybe?
- 4. Get enough sleep. Remember, sleep is the time when both body and mind recharge.
- 5. Finally, consider counseling. Reminder it's OK not to be OK. Help is available on many levels and through many avenues, including the NALC Health Benefit's Plan.

As usual, in my articles, the list is not all-inclusive. If you're interested in learning more, go online to mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle.

Hooray it's summertime! That's great but don't forget - lotsa sunscreen and lotsa water.

Keep on truckin'

Rich Donlon

#### Legislative Political Organizer Message



Legislative Political Organizer (LPO) is a new full time position created by the NALC to serve the membership in a variety of ways, including educating members on the current state of legislation, training & assisting state associations & branches to help carry out our plan, meeting with members of congress & educating members on the importance of the LCPF.

Marc T. Ashmon has been a letter carrier for 25 years & is a Leadership Academy graduate of class 16. Prior to his appointment as LPO he held various positions in the NALC- branch president for 9 yrs., route inspection team, NALC observer & NJ State Food Drive Coordinator. Marc's territory as LPO includes 10 states, 4 Regions (11,12,14,15) and the Caribbean (Puerto Rico & Virgin Islands)



Marc T. Ashmon Asst. to the President For Legislative & Political Organizing

#### It's About US

As a Legislative Political Organizer (LPO) I interact with our membership from the Executive Council members to CCAs just over their 90 days. Regardless of where they land in the pecking order of the NALC, I consider all letter carriers family. As I talk with my brothers and sisters, I realize we are a very diverse workforce. Some are deeply entrenched in politics, while others couldn't care less. Regardless of how you feel about politics, my message to letter carriers is- it's not about party affiliation or whether you lean left or right, it's about US.

When I was a chief steward I met with management on grievances, and I had a method to find common ground. First, I would listen to better understand their point of view. Once I was able to identify their reasoning, I often noticed they had a blind spot for some and a bias toward others which is human nature. Second, I would redirect and ask them to remove the individual's name and just look at the facts hoping this would take the emotion out of their decision. This technique was usually successful.

As I transitioned to Legislative Affairs, I carried this method with me. When talking to letter carriers about the importance of legislation and contributing to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF), I often run into the same issue of strong emotion regarding party affiliation. I always listen to the letter carrier, then proceed to ask them to look at the facts without names.

The NALC does not endorse a candidate based on a particular political party. We support those from both sides of the aisle who support our issues. On one side, a majority is supportive of letter carriers being able to collectively bargain for wages, benefits, and working conditions. On the other side, the majority does not give us overwhelming support, but without the ones that do, we will not have enough bipartisan support to push our agenda. This particular party had 147 members vote to overturn the election results, however, approximately 15 of those members support HR 695 (the bill to repeal prefunding mandate). This repeal bill (HR 695) is early in its introduction to the new 117<sup>th</sup> congress.

Some letter carriers are upset with the NALC for endorsing a presidential candidate who supports us. While others are angry that we support members of congress who voted to overturn the election. If you have disdain for either party, working for USPS may be a difficult career path because when it comes to good legislation or Postal Reform, we must have a good relationship with both sides of the isle. The 535 members of congress have a lot of control over letter carriers' wages, benefits, and our future. Whether you like politics or not, unfortunately it comes with the territory for us. But in the grand scheme of things, it's not about politics– it's about US.

In Unionism and Solidarity,



## SIGN ME UP!

How to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund using PostalEASE — ONLINE Enrollment

Through PostalEASE, active letter carriers can contribute directly from their USPS paychecks to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) by designating the Political Fund as one of the three payroll "allotments."

### **Online Enrollment**

- Login to USPS's Postal Ease website at <u>https://ewss.usps.gov</u> You may also get to the Postal Ease website through the USPS LiteBlue website See the instructions below
- 2. Click "I agree"
- Enter your Employee ID number and Password and click "Submit" If you have not yet set up a password click the link provided on the page or go to:

https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/welcome.xhtml

If you forgot your password click the link provided on the page or go to:

https://ssp.usps.gov/ssp-web/einVerification.xhtml

- 4. Under Payroll click "Allotments / Payroll Net To Bank"
- 5. Click "Continue"
- 6. Click "Allotments"
- 7. Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number: 0 6 4 0 0 0 0 1 7
- 8. Enter your 17-digit Account Number \_ \_ \_ \_ 0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5 See instructions in step D at right
- 9. Enter Account type as "checking"
- 10. Enter amount of your Allotment: \$ \_
  - The maximum yearly amount is \$5,000
- 11. Click VALIDATE
- 12. Click SUBMIT
- 13. Print or write down your confirmation number for your records

To get to Postal Ease through Lite Blue:

- Got to <u>www.liteblue.usps.gov</u>
- Enter you employee ID and Password and click "Log On"
- Click "My HR"
- Click "Employee Apps"
- Click "PoastalEASE"
- Begin at step 1 above

#### BEFORE YOU START, YOU'LL NEED:

- A. Your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paystub)
- B. Your USPS password
- C. Your Postal Record Number (Located on the back cover of your Postal Record magazine, above your name. Or call 202.393.4695 to get your Postal Record Number). See the example below.



D. To create your personal account number, insert the seven digits of your Postal Record Number to the spaces below:

\_\_\_\_0034952535

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. Any guideline amounts are merely suggestions, and you may contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest and the union will not favor or disadvantage you by reason of the amount of your contribution or your decision not to contribute. The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, name of employer and occupation of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.



# SIGN ME UP!

How to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund using your retirement ANNUITY

Using your **Annuity**, retired NALC members can contribute directly from their CSRS or FERS annuities to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) on a monthly basis. This is a convenient way to make regular donations to the political action fund similar to the payroll system available to active carriers.

## Enroll by Phone

Call the NALC Retirement Office at 202.662.2877 anytime or toll-free at 1.800.424.5186 Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to noon or 2 to 4 p.m. (ET). (Note: you will need your CSA retirement Claim number.)

## Enroll Online

- 1. Go to www.servicesonline.opm.gov
- 2. Enter your CSA number, beginning with the letter A and ending with a zero. SAMPLE: A22222220
- 3. Enter your PIN (Personal Identification Number). If you don't know it, click Using Services Online for help with one.
- 4. Once you've entered your CSA number and PIN, click Log In.
- 5. On the next page, click ALLOTMENTS TO ORGANIZATIONS.
- 6. Click START
- 7. Select the Letter Carrier Political Fund (Formerly COLCPE)
- 8. Enter the amount of your monthly contribution. (Maximum yearly amount is \$5,000)
- 9. Click SAVE
- 10. On the next page click YES (if correct), then print the next page for your records.

## Enroll by Mail

Complete this form and send to:

	•					
	C Retirement Department,	A* I		4001 1. 4	N IN A 7 NA 7 1 * .	
ΝΔΓ	( Retirement Lenartment	Attention. Letter	( arrier Political Fund	$100$ Indiana $\Delta v e$	NIVV Washington	
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I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (your name) wish to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund. I authorize the Office of Personnel Management to withhold the amount below from my *monthly* annuity payments: \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 \$5 Other: \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Maximum amount per year is \$5,000) and forward that amount to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC). I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the Letter Carrier Political Fund in writing.

Signature:	Date:
Full Name (please print):	Branch:
CSA or Social Security Number:	Phone:

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. Any guideline amounts are merely suggestions, and you may contribute more or less than the guidelines suggest and the union will not favor or disadvantage you by reason of the amount of your contribution or your decision not to contribute. The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, name of employer and occupation of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year.



## SIGN ME UP!

How to contribute to the Letter Carrier Political Fund using ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

Through a **MONTHLY** Electonic Fund Transfer, NALC members can contribute directly from their bank account to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC). On the 1st of every month, the Political Fund will automatically (and without a fee) deduct from your bank account the amount you choose to contribute (ex: \$5 donation each month for twelve months, totaling \$60 for the year).

### **Electronic Fund Transfer Authorization**

Fill out and return this form with a voided check to the address below

I, account the <b>MONTHLY</b> sum of:	_ (your name) hereby authorize m	y bank to deduct from my checking					
□ \$25 □ \$20 □ \$15 □ \$10 □ \$5 □ Other: \$ PER MONTH and forward that amount to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (NALC's PAC) (Maximum amount per year is \$5,000). I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the Letter Carrier Political Fund in writing.							
Signature:		Date:					
Full Name (please print):							
Social Security Number: OR Postal Record number:							
Address:							
City:	State:	Zip Code:					
ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK	HERE.	our Postal Record Number (circled):					
Please send this completed form and your void <b>The Letter Carrier Political Fund</b> 100 Indiana Ave NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144	ed check to:	******** AUTO** 5- DIGIT 54321 XXXXXXX89 LC 9876 W 13 08 Letter Carrier 1234 Main Street Anywhere, US 54321-9999					

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2500 Main Street Suite # 201 Tewksbury, MA 01876 Phone: (978) 658-5820 Fax: (978) 658-0888 Web: www.nalcbranch25.com First Class Mail U.S. POSTAGE **PAID** Permit No. 409 TEWKSBURY, MA



at the next meeting September 7 At the K of C Wilmington!



Julia Stearns receives her \$1,000 scholarship check as her proud father, Joe of Marblehead looks on.