



B·Mike



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"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"

The Official Publication of Branch 82 *Portland, OR*

Beaverton·Canby·Clackamas·Forest Grove·Gladstone·Happy Valley·Gresham·Hillsboro·Lake Oswego·McMinnville·Newberg·Oregon City·Portland·St. Helens·Troutdale·West Linn



Cover Design by Kevin Wrede. Thank you!

With the Mail

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UPCOMING EVENTS	
Pride Parade Work Party	July 14
Pride Parade	July 21
Branch 82 Picnic	July 28
National Convention	August 5-9
Labor Day Picnic	September 2
Retiree Banquet	September 7

Get Ready For a Hot, Sweaty Time

- David Norton, President

It's hot, the kind of heat that you remember, the kind of heat that penetrates you. It affects everything you do, even the most pleasurable of tasks.

Sweat rolls down your brow as you labor on. Your skin already glistens with perspiration, but you can't take off any more clothing.

Your heart quickens with the thought of completion. It is all you can think about. You can visualize it, you can smell it, you can taste it... It feels like it is lasting longer than at any time in the past.

You keep going and going and going.

After seemingly forever, you finally finish. Your breathing slows with your achievement when, just as you are starting to relax... the supervisor wants you to take out a section!

No, folks, this is not your summer romance novel; we are talking about summertime mail delivery. It is going to be hot and it is going to be sweaty, but just like in every other season, we letter carriers will endure it to get the mail delivered.

It isn't the most popular opinion to have, but I always really liked delivering mail in the summertime. In fact, that is when I really started to fall in love with the summer. Sure, it is great to be out of school as a kid, and BBQs and family outings are more prevalent that time of year, but it was never my favorite season. I guess it still isn't, but after delivering in the cold and rain, the summer was a nice change. Like every other season, you have to prepare. However, unlike other seasons, if you fail to prepare and take the necessary steps, delivering in the heat can be harmful to your health and even deadly in some cases. With temperatures rising here in the Portland area as well as the rest of the country, it is more important than ever to be ready for it. If this is your first summer delivering mail, get ready to take the steps necessary to make this summer safe and effective.

Water

First off, for me, summer delivery starts and ends with drinking copious amounts of water. Get used to drinking water all day, even if you don't feel like you are thirsty. Everyone has their system, I used to fill my big thermos half full of water then put it in the freezer overnight. Then in the morning, I would fill the rest with cold water. The ice would melt throughout the day and the water stayed kind of cold for a while. Whatever your system is, you have to keep drinking water, even if that water is warm. Your body is going to need it. If your supervisor is offering bottled water, great, or if you have a fill station in your office, great, but don't depend on those options. Be prepared with water every day for yourself. It can literally be the difference between life

and death. Don't skip on it, and if you run out during the day, go and get some more.

Dress Appropriately

If you are thinking that you can just strip down and deliver the mail bare-chested, wear a tank top, or some other skimpy outfit to try and beat the heat, think again. We are required to wear the uniform, even on the hottest of days. That doesn't mean that we can't dress appropriately. Wear loose-fitting uniform items and add a wide-brimmed hat to your wardrobe if possible, and don't forget your sunglasses. You need to protect both your head and your eyes.

Use Sunscreen

Skin cancer is a serious threat, and if you are anything like me and are prone to burning in the summer sun, you will need to wear sunscreen and keep reapplying throughout the day. You should consider reapplying at least every two hours especially if you are sweating profusely (which you probably will be).

Use Other Cooling Products

How about a cooling towel or bringing along a spray bottle or mister with you? I have even seen people wear portable fans. I definitely employed the cold, wet bandana technique during the summer. There are other methods to try and stay cool beyond camping out in front of the AC in your Promaster. Everyone has little things that help to deliver on a hot day. Try working in a wet neck wrap to get you through that next loop.

Shade

If you are able, park your vehicle in a shady spot whenever possible. Even if this means it is a little bit out of the way. It is going to be difficult, but keeping your vehicle as cool as possible is going to be important. Take your afternoon break in the shade. If you need a comfort stop to reapply sunscreen, have an extra drink of water, or rewet your cooling towel, try and do it in the shade. Try and do everything in the shade if you can. Sometimes this isn't possible and there are plenty of routes out there that are void of any shade trees at all. Do what you can, and scope out the shady spots on your route. They will come in handy when you desperately need a reprieve from the sun.

Comfort Stops

I mentioned earlier about taking comfort stops on your route to deal with heat related issues. A comfort stop is a contractually guaranteed time that you can take, while you are out on the street, that is for your own personal needs, like for using the bathroom. You are not required to use the restroom on your lunch or break. If you are practicing safe habits during summertime delivery, you are probably going to use some extra time to do it. Reapplying sunscreen, drinking extra water, misting off, wetting your cooling towel all takes a little extra time. You have the right to take that



extra time. Don't let anyone tell you otherwise. If your supervisor is telling you that you cannot take a comfort stop to deal with the summer heat, Branch 82 wants to know about it. It doesn't take a lot of extra time, but the time you spend can make a big difference in your day. Don't let management put you in an unsafe situation that could have devastating results to your health.

Monitor Your Own Health

Be aware of the signs of a possible heat related illness. Those signs could include dizziness, weakness, nausea or confusion. If this is happening to you, then you need to stop delivering mail, and call and get help. Sometimes it could be that you just need to drink some water, or take a break in a cooler environment before you can go on, but it could also mean that you are feeling the effects of a heat related illness and you cannot proceed with mail delivery. It is OK. If you feel like you are too sick and cannot go on, seek help or take the mail back. Live to deliver another day.

Things to Remember

Delivering mail in the heat is all about safety. Summer mail delivery can be taxing on your body in even normal seasonal weather, but when temperatures start to soar like they have in the past, it can make a tough situation even more difficult. It wasn't even summer yet and much of the country was already experiencing heat dome conditions. We were spared those extreme temperatures in that instance, but we may have to experience them at some point this summer.

Temperatures are going to rise, and we are going to have to deal with it. Currently there are no heat standards for federal employees working outside in extreme temperatures. This is something that OSHA needs to change. It is ridiculous that there are standards for other workers who work outside but not letter carriers. Even the Army has defined standards when working outdoors. If it is a certain temperature and you are doing a certain type of strenuous work, then you are required to take so many breaks and drink so much water. It would be simple to have the same thing for letter carriers, and it would make the decision-making involved with working in the heat so much easier. As it is now, take precautions to avoid having a heat related illness. If it ends up happening to you, make the safe decision based on your health.

Where there are hot, dry conditions, there is also a potential for wild fires. There are already several forest fires out there making conditions difficult to work in. The OSHA requirements when working in poor air quality conditions are to deliver in an N-95 mask, and it is the Postal Service's responsibility to provide them. We have not had to deal with wildfires locally in the last couple of years, and we all have our fingers crossed that this year will be the same.

Summertime delivery can be difficult, and it can even be dangerous if the proper steps aren't taken, but staying vigilant and prepared can make the summertime heat just another season to experience. Like I said, I always enjoyed delivering mail in the summer. It may not be sexy- you usually look terrible by the end of the day all sweaty and dusty, but when the sun is out and the days are longer, it feels like your work hours don't take up the entire day. There is time to throw something on the grill when you get home, and you can still walk the dog in the daylight. People are out enjoying the sunshine, and often your customers are just a little bit happier. They are probably looking forward to a vacation as well.

Whether delivery in the warmer weather is for you, or you are planning on holding out these next few months until the rain and cold come back, let's all resolve to take the steps to stay safe this time of the year. We don't really have a choice so we may as well go out and get that vitamin D, and hopefully this season will be a positive one, summer romance or not.

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Ryan Mills		503-493-5903



Vice President's Report

- Betty Nash, Vice President

Safety, safety, safety. How many times does the morning standup begin with, "Safety first! Everyone be safe today," or "Drink plenty of water, it's going to be hot out there." Yet they have falsified heat related training records last year and this year. They have indicated on employees' training records that these issues have been covered and that the carriers have watched a 20-minute video about awareness of different types of heat related illness. It's a lie intended to appease the public if or when a carrier gets heat stroke or worse. The training records have been falsified to save a buck, which is usually their motivation for everything that they do.

Management just told us to drink lots of water and stay hydrated, but they can't get it into their tiny minds that when it's hot we might be moving a little slower. Taking water breaks takes time, we need to constantly wipe the sweat out of our faces, our vehicles are ovens and usually 10-15 degrees hotter inside than out. Of course, if someone has their sprinklers on then its mandatory to walk through it, sometimes twice, just to cool down. Strenuous work and the heat can be dangerous if carriers don't take care of themselves, and sometimes the heat wins, no matter how many precautions we take.

Everyone reacts differently to extreme heat. One carrier may be uncomfortable and use more time to take care of themselves but still be able to make it through the entire day. Another carrier may become overwhelmed with the intense heat and need to stop and cool down in an air-conditioned building before they can continue. Others may need to get out of the heat altogether before the heat wins and they have serious health issues. Remember, there is no wrong way to react; we are all different. Do not feel like you have let your fellow carriers down by bringing back your mail when you know you've reached your limit. You are not a failure when you hit your limit. You are being safe, just as instructed.

Letter carriers have a sense of responsibility to our customers and our fellow carriers. We don't want to be the one to bring mail back and have a new PTF out in the heat. Carriers don't view extreme heat as a "free pass" to not do their job. It's sometimes an agonizing decision to make: can I continue?

More importantly than work, carriers have an obligation to make it home to their families. Do not take chances with your heat related safety. What is the worst that management could do to you? Give you an Investigative Interview? A letter of warning? So what!?! At least you are alive to fight it.

As fellow human beings, supervisors should care about our safety, especially in the heat, but instead we get text messages to hurry up, you are not authorized an additional 20 minutes of street time, finish in eight and don't bring any mail back, and don't go into overtime. You knew how much mail you had this morning, what's changed? You're supposed to be a professional carrier..... They have their talking points, maybe they even have a video "how to intimidate carriers," although to some supervisors this bullying comes naturally, and they enjoy it.

I know we have all thought of certain supervisors; can they really be such a tyrant at work and live with themselves? The answer is yes. Yes, they can, and usually that means a promotion is in their future.

We can't change the supervisors that try to push carriers beyond their limits, the supervisors that put our safety and health at risk to have better numbers, the supervisors that lay awake at night trying to think of demeaning comments that they can make that will get carriers mad enough that they will rush to get out of the office to get away from them. If they can get 10 carriers to shave 10 minutes off of their day, then they have done their job. They don't care if those 10 minutes were the breaks that you didn't take or the lunch that you cut short, or the package that you threw on the porch instead of going to the door, or that we sacrifice customer service by rushing to meet unrealistic expectations.

All we can and should be doing is our job. We cannot control the made-up numbers or unrealistic expectations that management puts out. What we can and should be doing is our best each day. A fair day's work for a fair day's pay. Obey safety rules and regulations, follow the procedures in the M-41. Be professional and courteous to our customers.

When I was working in Evergreen, my friends Tom and Bud and I would refer to the flavor of the day as MSU. That stands for "Making Shit Up," which they often did. Making up new rules, making up new excuses or recycling old BS and trying it again. Lately it is the one-hour office time MSU, the 22-minute load time MSU, walk at a certain pace MSU, your demonstrated performance MSU. According to the numbers, you should be out in 40 minutes MSU. Whatever they try, just remain calm and do your job, don't let them get a rise out of you. That's what they want.

This summer is going to be a hot one; be prepared to take care of yourself. If you don't think that you can continue safely, then don't. There is only one you and there are people that love you and need you to come home safely.

Do not forget to take care of the new people in your office. They are especially vulnerable to the pressure to get it done, no matter what. Make sure that they know that an extra water bottle is not going to cut it, nor is a large frozen bottle of water. They need a Coleman/ice box/cooler, something that can hold ice and extra water. They really don't know what to expect. Encourage them to take extra water or cooling-off breaks as needed. Tell them not to be afraid to ask for help, even if it's from a veteran carrier or steward that can help advocate for them.

City letter carriers are the most important people in the post office. The next time your supervisor starts with the MSU, just say, "I will follow the rules and be safe. I will give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. If you see me doing something wrong, let me know. Otherwise leave me alone. I have work to do."



Branch 82 Summer Picnic

Sunday, July 28

11-4

Cook Park, Shelter 2

17005 SW 92nd Avenue,

Tigard, OR 97224

Yard Games Tournament

Cake Walk

Craft Table

Face Painting

**Letter Carrier Political Fund info table & sign-up
NWPCU info table and swag**

Picnic lunch provided by Branch 82

(All are welcome to bring a dish to share, but it certainly is not required.)

Join us at beautiful Cook Park for a Sunday afternoon picnic.

Cook Park is dog friendly with many walking trails,

and there's a new interactive playground for the kiddos.

**We will have loads of games (and prizes for the kids) and fun things to do
along with plenty of good food. And a cake walk!**

Mark your calendar, and bring the family!



B·Mike

Letter Carrier Political Fund: It Takes All of Us

- Ryan Mills, LCPF Representative

The Letter Carrier Political Fund is a non-partisan political action committee (PAC) established for the purpose of electing qualified candidates who support letter carriers and who are committed to maintaining a strong and innovative U.S. Postal Service. Union dues cannot be used to support or lobby politicians in Congress, so the NALC relies solely on members contributing to the LCPF out of their own pocket.

Maybe money can't buy you happiness, but these days it sure can buy you politicians. And although the NALC won't be dishing out millions of dollars for fancy motorhomes or fishing trips for supreme court justices, nor will we be leaving gold bars in the closets of senators' homes, our union does still need a financial presence on Capitol Hill. The saying "if you aren't playing, you're losing" is as true for money in politics as anything else, and so if the NALC does not have some skin in the game, letter carriers across the country will lose.

The Letter Carrier Political Fund has been successful. In recent years, thanks to the LCPF Congress passed Postal Reform, which repealed the mandate to pre-fund retiree health care benefits decades in advance and codified a minimum of six-day delivery of mail and packages into federal law.

Through the Inflation Reduction Act, the LCPF was able to secure \$3 billion for new postal vehicles, which are starting to be distributed in various places in the country. Currently, the LCPF is working to pass the Federal Retirement Fairness Act and the USPS Shipping Equity Act, among other legislative priorities.

When you contribute money to the LCPF, you can feel confident that that money is being put to work for causes that will protect and improve your job. If you would like to learn more about current legislative activities, go to NALC.org and scroll to the "Government Affairs" page.

In terms of Branch 82, I, Ryan Mills, am your LCPF representative. I would like more members to consider contributing to the fund. At the recent Labor Bowl event many fellow Branch 82 members decided to generously contribute. It is encouraging to see. I am available to sign you up at General Membership Meetings every second Wednesday of each month, and I will likely have a presence at other Branch 82 events, including our upcoming picnic on July 28. If you would like to speak to me personally, reach out through the hall and I would be happy to speak with you and sign you up!



PROPOSED RESOLUTION

A Balancing of Power in the Route Adjustment Process

Whereas past joint route adjustment MOUs have stretched language designed to institute fair, transparent, jointly administered route adjustments so that, in many cases, it becomes an instrument used by management to institute their own agenda,

Whereas past route adjustment processes have taken too long to reach completion because of prioritizing new additional zone adjustments instead of reviewing what has already been done. The overall effect being that data used to institute route adjustments is often out-of-date by the time the review/adjustment is complete,

Whereas, in many cases, an incomplete adjustment process has not prevented management from pressuring, harassing and/or disciplining carriers that exceed 8 hours on their routes,

And whereas, by signing off on clearly unfair adjustments, the whole route adjustment process has been permanently stained in the eyes of the workforce, Therefore, let it be resolved that the NALC will:

1- Force any future route adjustment process to follow the NALC Guide to Route Inspections when conducting route adjustments at a station.

2- The station's local office contact and the station manager/designee will be the main two parties approving the changes during the route adjustment process, using the live week data and the route's historical data, along with carrier input to make their decisions. Any route adjustment team will only act as an arbitrator facilitating the conversation between the two parties and provide the two parties with data and proposals. They will not have further say in the route changes.

3- If a new route map isn't agreed upon within 52 days of the 'live week', the 'live week' data, as well as all other data collected may be considered outdated, and a new 'live week' may be conducted for the route adjustments, unless a valid exception is given as to why the changes cannot be completed in that time, as outlined in national settlement M-01072 and M-39 section 211.3.

4- For any zone which has yet to receive a '90-day review' immediately following their adjustments, their adjustments may be deemed incomplete. Any 271G designated routes changed during the route adjustments will remain a 271G designated route until they have been properly reviewed by a 90-day review.

5- Any future route adjustment process and the terms therein shall be grievable and subject to the grievance/arbitration process as specified under Article 15 of the National Agreement.

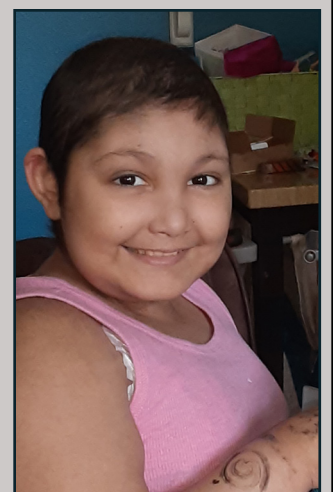
Endorsed by: Wyatt Gilderson, Eric Pottinger, Jeb Pearson, Janelle Lee, Miranda Layton, Randall Hoxie, Jillian Andreason, Zoe Freeman, Carl Forsman, DeMariece Caliman, Claudia Pimentel, Jason Loos, David Green, Mark Weddle, Addam Goard, Jon Cabral, Michael Magarro

Request for Donated Leave for:

Juan C. Guevara
LSP# 24-4E-970-0219
Tigard Station

Juan Guevara's nine year old daughter, Katia, has been fighting Leukemia for the past two years. She had a bone marrow transplant in January of this year and was cancer-free for a while. In mid June the cancer returned, and she is back in the hospital for two months, maybe longer, struggling to beat it again.

Any donated leave would be greatly appreciated to help Juan care for his family. If unable to donate leave, folks can also help out by using "Venmo AM-Guevara" or "Go Fund Me Katia Guevara."
Thank you for your consideration.



B·Mike

**Northwest Oregon Labor Council
Labor Day Picnic
Clackamas County Fairgrounds
Monday, September 2, 11 am to 4 pm**

Hey, union family! Are you crafty? Do you have an artsy side hustle? Are you a maker? Is your garden overflowing?

If so, we'd love to host you at our 2024 Labor Day Picnic! In addition to booths for entertaining children, we are soliciting booths featuring your artistry too. Anything you'd like to sell in our new experimental crafts/farmers market feature will be welcome, and this year only, we are offering a reduced-price booth fee incentive of just \$75.

We know that your union siblings would love to take home a memento of our festive annual gathering – and that's where you come in. If you are interested or know someone who may be, please pass the word and let us know. Call (503) 235-9444 for more information or to secure your booth.

As usual, we will be hosting a picnic lunch for \$15 (pre-ordering by August 1 is strongly encouraged) as well as live music and the introduction of all pro-labor public officials and candidates. We will even have bingo and at least one "bouncy house" to delight adults and kids alike.

Let's make this year's gathering one for the record books!

New Building Announcement

As many of you know, the executive board has been looking into the possibility of purchasing a new building.

If you have been to recent Branch 82 Membership Meetings, you may recall talking about several different buildings we have been considering.

During our July meeting, we will be discussing a new building which is located at 1515 NE 106th Avenue, Portland, OR, 97220.

Please come by and give your opinions on this important decision.



ARE YOU A **MEMBER** OF NW PRIORITY CREDIT UNION? IF YOU ARE NOT, **YOU SHOULD BE.**

NW Priority Credit Union has been serving Postal Workers for 95 years. We started with nine postal workers, \$5 each and a shoe box in 1928. Since that time we have been serving postal families along with other Select Employee Groups.

We are a full-service financial institution and we are ready to serve your financial needs. You can join online at www.nwprioritycu.org. You can click the "Become a Member" link at the very top of the homepage.



OUR #1 PRIORITY IS YOU!
503-760-5304 or 800-331-0968 | www.nwprioritycu.org



MILWAUKIE | SE PORTLAND | BEAVERTON | PORTLAND P&DC | VANCOUVER





Reminder: there are no meetings in August.
The general membership meeting, stewards council & retiree luncheon
will all return in September.

Save the date!

Retiree Banquet

September 7, 2024
Milwaukee Elks Lodge
13121 SE McLoughlin Blvd
Milwaukie, OR 97222

Retired Branch S2 members: gather with us to celebrate YOU!
We will enjoy a nice meal, share stories, and honor our retirees.
Look for more information in your mailbox,
or call the hall with any questions.

See you in September!



B-Mike

Independence

- Bruce Hall, Veterans Representative

We celebrate the independence of the United States of America on July 4th. Our independence was gained in 1776 at the cost of 25,324 lives. Our great country has gone through several wars and a great number of our military people have given their lives.

This year as we celebrate our nation's independence, I would like to mention some events of national importance for us to remember as we consider the sacrifices that were made so we can celebrate our freedom. Before I list these events, I would like to mention a very recent important event in our nation's history. Last year, President Joe Biden signed a bill creating a new federal holiday on June 19, known as Juneteenth. This stems from June 19, 1865. Even though the Emancipation Proclamation freed the slaves in the South in 1863, it could not be enforced in many places until after the end of the Civil War in 1865. It is the day that federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with the news that the enslaved were now free. Juneteenth has been celebrated by many people for years, and now we have a federal holiday to remember the sacrifices that were made by slaves in the United States. The federal holiday will be celebrated on June 19, the actual date when all the people and the entire country actually became free.

Now here is the list of other important events:

1. The 248th anniversary of our independence!!
2. The 212th anniversary of the War of 1812.
3. The 159th anniversary of the Civil War (1861-1865).
4. The 106th anniversary of World War I (1914-1918)
5. The 71st anniversary of the Korean War (June 25, 1950-July 27, 1953).
6. The 79th anniversary of World War II (1941-1945).
7. The 61st anniversary of the Vietnam War (1958-1973).
8. The 29th anniversary of Gulf Wars (1990-1995)
9. The 13th anniversary of Iraqi Freedom (2003-2011)
10. The 10th anniversary of Afghanistan War (2001-2014)

The Afghanistan War has the distinction of being America's longest war. It lasted 13 years. We still have troops in Iraq in training and support roles, and a significant military and paramilitary presence will remain in and around the war-torn nation of Afghanistan.

As we consider all the veterans involved in these wars and remember that "All Gave Some and Some Gave All," we see that the cost of freedom is high!

The cost doesn't stop with the soldiers that were killed. Many veterans were not killed but did sustain injuries and illnesses. Our country is committed to caring for these veterans. However, it seems to be a continual battle for many veterans to obtain the

care that they need. The VA is still in a critical condition but is improving. It's a big job, but hopefully, veterans will receive the care they need and deserve in a timely manner.

There are a couple of major bills affecting veterans' health care that have been passed by Congress in the last couple of years: the VA Mission Act of 2018 and the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019. The VA Mission Act of 2018 improves the care that veterans get through the VA by utilizing the capabilities of the private sector when needed. It helps recruit the best talent for the VA, which veterans deserve, and it also extends caregiver benefits to every veteran that needs it. The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 gives benefits to tens of thousands of Vietnam veterans and also expands benefits to military dependents, veterans of the Korean DMZ, and those exposed to toxic hazards in Southwest Asia.

This legislation sounds great, but many labor groups believe it is a step towards privatization that will result in more costly, less effective care and will bleed veterans' facilities of patients and resources. I attended a meeting concerning this topic on March 29, 2023. The main speakers were Steve Early and Suzan Gordon who authored a book along with Jasper Craven. The book is titled "Our Veterans." It is a good book recommended for your reading on this subject. The bills passed in 2018 and 2019 created a commission to look at closing VA facilities and gives the Secretary of Veterans Affairs the authority to close facilities without consulting congress. So, we need to monitor this bill closely. We need to continue to petition our legislators to provide the care to our veterans that they deserve for the price they have paid to fight in the wars that the legislators have authorized over the years. **THE COST IS HIGH, BUT IMMEDIATE CARE IS NEEDED!!!**

Our main concern is about the care of veterans; however, another great concern is for our great country, which is in a state of unrest and discord with protests and civil disturbances. Everyone is looking for answers. We need to review our history and not try to eliminate it, but learn from our mistakes and make changes under the auspices of our initial Declaration of Independence which says that all men are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. To secure these rights, governments were instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the people. We need to work together to come to a just and peaceful solution. We need to do unto others as we would have others do unto us. As another great man said, ask not what my country can do for me, but what can I do for my country.

REMEMBER the freedoms we have gained; RECALL the sacri-



MDA Report

- Abe RedCloud, MDA Rep

fices made in obtaining these freedoms; and RESTORE meaning to patriotism as we celebrate our Independence!!

As we move into summer, many of us will be taking vacations. If you travel along the highways in Oregon, you might note the signs that honor veterans. I'll list a few you might look for:

- WWI Veterans Memorial Highway: US Hwy 395
- WWII Veterans Memorial Highway: US Hwy 97/SR 126
- Korean War Veterans Memorial Hwy: I-5
- Purple Heart Trail: I-5
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway: I-84
- Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, Iraq Veterans Memorial Highway: US Hwy 101
- Sunset Highway: US 26 (Honors 41st Infantry Division)
- US Hwy 20 is being designated as the National Medal of Honor Highway going from Boston, Massachusetts, to Newport, Oregon, 3365 miles long

As we celebrate our INDEPENDENCE and travel on vacation, let's REMEMBER FREEDOM IS NOT FREE and honor those who have made these things possible!

Celebrate your independence by not being APATHETIC, rather be ACTIVE and show APPRECIATION.

ACTIVE DUTY

Darren Cruz, son of Gary Cruz (River District)

Army, Ft. Cavazos

Samuel Kunz, son of John Kunz (Parkrose),

Navy

Christopher Manivanh, son of Simang Manivanh (Hillsboro), Army, Iraq

Connor Sheehan, son of Pat Sheehan (retired)

Army, Ft. Houston

Corey Thompson, son of Georgina Thompson

(Rose City Park), Navy, Norfolk, VA

Matthew Underwood, son of Rick Underwood

(River District) Marines, Camp Pendleton

Happy Independence Day month!!! Hope you had a safe and fun 4th of July and are ready to keep your summer going with tons of fun!!! Speaking of fun, do you know what would be a TON OF FUN!?!?!? WINNING A PRIZE IN A RAFFLE!!!! That's right everyone, our yearly MDA Raffle is on!

BRANCH 82 MDA RAFFLE:

Tickets are available now at the branch office and all stewards will have tickets starting Thursday, July 18! Here's the info:

What: MDA Raffle

When: July 1 – Sept 11

Drawing: Sept 11 at the general meeting

Price: \$5 a ticket or 5 tickets for \$20

Prizes: IPAD 10th gen, Beats Headphones, Car Dash Cam, Smart wifi/Bluetooth projector, wireless meat thermometer, three portable chargers, two sets of heated gloves, one set of heated socks and one mini Pac-Man game.

Please buy some tickets to support MDA and hopefully win a cool prize!!! Maybe organize everyone at your office to pitch in \$5 each, buy a bunch of tickets, and then have better odds of bringing a prize back to your station to raffle off to those who bought a ticket!! Gets friends and family involved. My goal for us is to raise \$3,000 for MDA. I challenge you, Branch 82!

Oh yeah, as usual, there will be a prize for the top ticket-selling station and most likely the runner-up just like last year. Now get to selling and buying, everyone! Thank you to everyone who buys, sells, or helps with this raffle! I appreciate all of you.

In solidarity,
Abe RedCloud



B·Mike

Retirees Roundup

- Sammy Smith, Director of Retirees

I hope everyone had a happy Juneteenth. It has been said many times by many lovers of freedom, "None of us is free until all of us are free."

For as long as I have been the Director of Retirees, I have continued to invite active letter carriers to attend our monthly retiree luncheon at IHOP on 82nd Avenue the third Wednesday of each month. Well, you all showed up in a big way as we celebrated Juneteenth together. Your presence was surprising, much enjoyed, and greatly appreciated.

As a native-born Texan, Juneteenth was always celebrated in my home and my extended family. Now to be able to share that celebration of freedom gained is a triumphant accomplishment and the success belongs to us all. So let freedom ring!

The next retiree luncheon is July 17, and right now we are preparing to attend our NALC National Convention August 5-9, 2024 in Boston, Massachusetts. Branch 82 members have voted not to hold membership meetings in August, so we will also not have our August luncheon. We will resume our monthly luncheon on September 18, 2024.

We are also planning to once again host a Retiree Banquet scheduled for September 7, 2024, at the Milwaukee Elks Lodge. Look for more information to arrive in your mailbox.

In closing, I know that we at Branch 82 have over 500 retired letter carriers out there, yet that number is not reflected at IHOP. It is called the retiree luncheon, and we, myself and the faithful, would love to see you and break bread together. Our active carriers have accepted the challenge and responded in a big way. Now where are my retired letter carriers at???

CORRECTION:

In last month's issue (June '24), Nancy Scudder wrote an article headlined **Oregon Tax Break for Some Retirees**. I mistakenly published the wrong draft, but Nancy has been very understanding. (Thank you!) The article should have included the following information:

2016 Publication OR-17, ORS Section 316.680(1)(e) worksheet is the form to use to get the Oregon tax break.



Active letter carriers really delivered for the Juneteenth edition of the Retiree Luncheon. It was wonderful to have a packed table at our monthly IHOP date.

Retiree Luncheon

July 17,
September 18

There is no luncheon in August.

IHOP
4931 SE 82nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97266
NOON

(third Wednesday of each month)

Retired and active letter carriers are welcome!





Last Punch Bunch

Murray Biddulph, Parkrose

William Hofstede, St. Johns

Eduardo Iniguez Jr, Lake Oswego

Scott Simonds, St. Johns



Murray!



Bill!



Scott!

Congratulations!





We have Branch 82 window clings
for sale at the hall!
Two clings for \$5.
Great for your auto or any window
to show off your union solidarity!

INJURED AT WORK?

Call BRANCH 82 OWCP REP

Mike O'Connor

Wednesdays and Thursdays

503 493-5903

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Portland, Oregon, 97209

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John S. Bishop Elizabeth A. Joffe

Elizabeth A. McKanna

Legal Assistant

Marla R. Menkins

Representing Oregon Unions

And Employees in

Matters of Collective Bargaining

And Civil Rights

(Law Firm retained by NALC Branch 82)

Branch 82 Monthly Meetings

General Membership second Wednesday, 7:00PM

Retiree Luncheon third Wednesday, noon

Stewards Council third Wednesday, 7:00PM

Executive Board fourth Wednesday, 6:30PM

All members are welcome, unless otherwise noted.

All meetings are held at the NALC Branch 82 Office,

5265 NE 42nd Avenue, 97213.

Retiree Luncheons are held at

IHOP, 4931 SE 82nd Avenue, 97266.

The B-Mike is the official publication of Charles N. Coyle Branch 82 National Association of Letter Carriers, affiliated with Oregon AFL-CIO and Northwest Oregon Labor Council (OLC), 5265 NE 42nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97218. Phone 503-493-5903. Office hours: M-F 8:00am-5pm, Sat 8:00-11:00am.

The B-Mike is published monthly and mailed to the Branch 82 mailing list. The B-Mike is published to promote the objectives of this Branch and to provide better communication with our members. Individual opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Branch Officers or Branch 82, unless identified as such. The editorial committee reserves the right to edit or refuse publication of any article. Articles for publication must be in Word or PDF form and received by the 15th of the month. E-mail articles to: smiller.eightytwo@gmail.com. If you have questions or to request a deadline extension, call the editor in advance. The advertising deadline is also the 15th of the month. All ads must be in PDF form or have prior approval of the editor. Mail to the B-Mike, c/o Branch 82. For rates and further information, call 503-493-5903.



NALC Branch 82 Membership Meeting, June 12, 2024

Call to Order: 7:11

Pledge of Alliance: Chuck Solomon

Roll Call of Officers:

Officers Absent: Bruce Hall, Matt Pierce

First Time Members: Ian Adams- Lents; Jim Blatt – Creston; Susan Grandjean- St. Johns; Michael Noblin- Creston; Frances Rinker- Kenton; Nolan Roger- East Portland; Brad Serum- Parkrose; Anthony Woodyard- Multnomah; Winn Wright- Creston

Reading of the Minutes:

Casey English made a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and accept them as printed in the B-Mike. Seconded, Wyatt Gilderson. Carried.

Communications

Membership Report:

Regular: 1216, PTF: 191, CCA: 66, Retiree: 516, Gold Card: 83, Management & Other Crafts: 50, New Members: CCA-15, PTF- 7. Total Membership: 2122. Non-Members: 41, Organized: 97.22%

Retired: Eduardo Iniguez Jr, Lake

Oswego Canceled: Tym Otto, Clackamas-craft transfer; Jonathan Neuhoff, Lake Grove- management **Separated:**

Eric Chang, Lake Oswego

Patrick Frymire, Aloha

Celene Gomez Filoteo, Tigard

Alfred Hilliker, Tigard

Secretary-Treasurer's Report:

President Norton went over the financial report, and mentioned that Matt was not in attendance because he and his wife welcomed a new baby, Bennett Lee Pierce. Cody Harris made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded, English. Carried.

Unfinished Business: Norton announced a recommendation from the Executive Board to move forward with the purchase of the 102nd and Halsey property. Motion: Jon Cabral made a motion to table the recommendation until the next meeting. He added that there is a new property at 106th and Halsey that we are interested in. Seconded: Don Cadwell. Discussion. Carried.

Norton said we have decided to move forward with buying our phone system, postage machine, copier, and printers through Pacific Automation.

Trustee's Financial Report

Resolutions and Bylaws: Resolutions and Bylaws Committee Chairperson Jim Falvey read the resolution Fair Route Adjustments submitted by Wyatt Gilderson.

Judith Hyde Scholarship Report:

Suzanne Miller announced that the winner of the 2024 scholarship is Owen McNary-Sprague (Molly McNary, Creston). Motion: Expenditure Recommendation from the E-Board to award a one-time second place prize of \$2,000 to another applicant. Discussion. Carried. Miller announced that the second place winner is Nicholas Betters, (Thomas Betters, Waterfront). She thanked everyone on the committee as well as Brad Melland for their help throughout the process.

Health Benefits and MBA Report:

Eric Matras discussed the special enrollment period for retired letter carriers to sign up for Medicare Part B.

Parade Report: Harris spoke about how the Starlight Parade went and thanked everyone who helped and attended. He announced the work party to get the float ready for the Pride Parade and encouraged everyone to attend. The work party is July 14 and the Pride Parade is July 21.

Labor Management Report: Norton said there are currently no removals in the branch. He said we are hiring a lot of PTFs which might cause it to take longer for the new employees to be promoted to full-time. He also detailed some recent movement in management and said that the the TIAREAP process is supposedly wrapping up.

Health and Safety Report: Cadwell said he and Norton went to the drivers training facility in Wilsonville to inspect it, and they discovered we may be getting some of the new vehicles there which could necessitate an entirely new drivers training program.

Legislation Report:

Norton explained we are still pushing for the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act.

MDA Report:

Abe RedCloud reported that the Labor Bowl went really well, we filled up 28 lanes, and we raised just over \$5,400 for MDA.

Retirees Report:

Sam Smith announced the retiree luncheon on the third Wednesday of each month at IHOP, 4931 SE 82nd. Anyone who has the day off should come, especially on Juneteenth!

Veterans Report:

Falvey reminded the membership that there is a drop box at the St. Johns Ace Hardware to dispose of any retired flags, or they can be sent to Darcy Nolan at Parkrose.

Labor Solidarity Report:

Norton discussed how UAW lost at the Mercedes plant. He said the Providence nurses are going to be going out on strike, a strike of about 3,000 workers at many Providence locations. Jamie Partridge added there are 12 city council seats up for grabs. Ryan Mills said a small group of workers at the Portland Japanese Garden have unionized. Norton mentioned if anyone is interested in going to LERC, let Branch 82 know.

Good of the Association:

Norton thanked Wiley Rummel, Britany Thomas, and Taylor Yocum for cooking.

Ted Lulich, River District, thanked everyone for the card and flowers sent by Branch 82 when his wife passed. He added that it is so important to be a part of a family like this and the support we can provide each other.

Kitty Award:

Sammy Smith, retiree, won \$70.50.

Jackpot: \$595 went unclaimed by Paul Mannhalter Jr., retiree.

Treasure Chest: \$190 went unclaimed by Sarah Mattson, River District.

Adjourned: 8:29

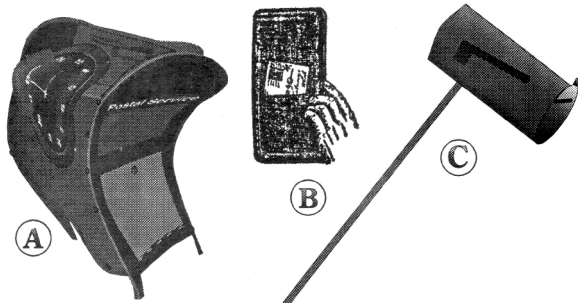


The next General Membership meetings will be held
 Wednesday, July 10 and Wednesday, September 11, both at 7 pm.
 Dinner will be served prior to each meeting.
There is no meeting in August.

PUSHING THE ENVELOPE

by Kerry Waite and Terry Knott

Match the Celebrity to the Mailbox!



1. Oprah
2. Clyde Drexler
3. Billy (Family Circus)
4. Ed Sullivan
5. Thing (Addams Family)
6. Salvador Dali

Keys: 1/11, 2/10, 3/10, 4/13, 5/11, 6/14

(Actual authentic reproduction of real first piece!)

THIRTY YEARS AGO, July 1994 saw the debut of this alleged humor feature in the venerable pages of Branch 82's B-Mike. Many thanks to our former prez, L.C. Hansen, for encouraging Kerry and Terry to go down this path of merriment and derangement oh so long ago. May the envelope always be pushed!

Match the Celebrity Mailbox Redux!



1. Lance Armstrong, 2. Marlboro Man,
3. Jay Leno, 4. Thing, 5. Ringo Starr

Answers: A - 2, B - 3, C - 1, D - 5, E - 4