



B·Mike



VOL 80
ISSUE 08
AUG '20

"An Injury to One is an Injury to All"

The Official Publication of Branch 82 *Portland, OR*

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



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Meet The Steward
Big Last Punch Bunch

Hot Summer Updates

-David Norton, President

As you can see, it was the decision of Branch 82 to have an August edition of the B-Mike. Normally in our July Branch 82 General Membership Meeting, we usually vote to forgo having an August edition. We don't even budget for one. But in these strange COVID times we are living in, we have not had a meeting since March and have not had the opportunity to vote down the August edition. Being that it is the best way for us to get information out to the entire membership, I decided to go ahead with a B-Mike in August. My thanks to editor Suzanne Miller for her willingness to squeeze in another issue into all of the busyness that summer offers.

First, I would like to address some complaints that we have received because of what was printed in the July edition of the B-Mike concerning a resolution to defund the police and an article written by the CCA maker of the resolution supporting it. Several people thought that this was the Branch's opinion and was bringing it before the membership as some sort of new policy. Of course, this is not true. What was printed in the July edition of the B-Mike was simply a resolution that was put forth before the membership to be voted on. We print all resolutions that are submitted by members of good standing. These resolutions go before our Resolution Committee for a recommendation and then the membership votes on the recommendation during the General Membership meeting. The resolution to endorse a plan to defund the police that was submitted in the July B-Mike will eventually be voted on by the membership. I encourage everyone that has feelings on the resolution, either one way or another, to vote on this when it comes before the membership. We live in a time of strong opinions. I actually think that our B-Mike editor, Suzanne Miller, did a good job in finding an opinion piece (A Police Contract is Not a Shield to Police Brutality) that ran counter to the position of the resolution for a point/counter point on the issue. Remember, it is the members that ultimately control this union and its direction. Not myself as President, not the Executive Board nor the seven people that endorsed that one resolution. We have a diverse membership and people have strong opinions. If you are a member that means that you have a voice. I suggest that you take part in the resolution process and express your opinion by voting. I believe Secretary Treasurer Matt Pierce is writing his article for this issue on writing and passing resolutions. I recommend everyone read it to help understand how the process works.

A New Test

I said many times with the Consolidated Casing test at Kenton that even if the NALC is successful in getting rid of this management test, it would not be the last one. Well,

we have another "test" coming to three stations in Portland. Creston, Rose City Park, and Tigard will all take part in management's new plan called ESAS (Early to Street, Afternoon Sortation). What this is basically is carriers doing all of their office time in the afternoon. Carriers will be casing and pulling down their mail in the PM and in the morning, they will just be grabbing their parcels and the mail they pulled down the night before and hit the street. When they return to the office after completing their routes, they will case up and pull down the mail that is there. On the surface, it is not going to impact the carriers at those three stations too dramatically and next to the Consolidated Casing debacle, it seems downright sensical. There are, of course, some immediate problems that carriers will be dealing with, and some obvious contractual violations. The biggest one being that carriers will not be allowed to case their spurs. There will also be the problems that arise on a day to day level and the ongoing questions that come with any management "test." Are the ODLers going to be properly maximized? What about eight hour medicals? The violations that will be occurring due to the test itself will be grieved City wide by Branch 82. The problems that arise on a daily basis (i.e.: a work assignment carrier was not allowed to case their route) will be grieved by the local NALC shop stewards. Be sure to let them know if there are any problems, and be sure to give your input on this new test.

Delaying Mail

The plan to delay mail has become a national news story. I'm sure many of you have seen memos, supposedly written by the new Postmaster General, Louis Dejoy explaining his desire to delay mail if it is not ready. As of right now, Branch 82 hasn't seen the rampant delaying of mail. We have seen some (hopefully isolated) instances, however, and we have heard of many instances of willful delaying of mail in other places. What we have been told is that the USPS wants to cut down on second trucks sent out. They spend millions of dollars every year on double shipments and double trucks all for the same mail. I think it is a smart idea to improve this inefficiency and avoid spending needless dollars, but not at the expense of our service! Just fix the problem without degrading service! I thought that is why the new PMG was chosen, because of his expertise in logistics? The whole idea is maddening. This is extremely concerning as we have an election going on right now in the City of Portland and have an even larger election going on this November (maybe you have heard of it). Letter carriers, postal customers and citizens all over this country have a right to be concerned. The postal service has the right to delay mail in some instances. On a case by case basis I think that it may be fine. A good and timely example would be if there was a positive COVID-19 case at the

P&DC, and management shut down part of the plant and held back DPS for health concerns. That is a good reason to delay mail. Because the plant “just can’t get it together” is not a reason to hold mail back. Either way, management has a legal obligation to properly record when mail is being delayed. If you know that management is doing this at your station, we want you to contact your shop steward or contact Branch 82 so that we can investigate and record the matter.

Website

Now for a little good news. It is my pleasure to announce to everyone that Branch 82 finally, at long last, has an online presence. We have a website! Our address is nalbranch82.org and, in my opinion, it looks great. On the website we have some basic information about us, where we are located, upcoming events, and also helpful links to other sites. This is something that, as president, I wanted to achieve in my first term (there has been a lot going on), and as a steward and member, felt that we, as a branch, should have had a long time ago. I know that Branch 82 has been talking about this for some time, and I am happy to finally achieve this. I would like to give a huge thanks to Parkrose shop steward, Jon Cabral for working so hard on this. He really did take the reins on this project. Thanks for your help, Jon!

As always, Branch 82 is open and staffed and we are available for all of your questions and concerns. Don't hesitate to call. There is a lot going on right now, and these are some confusing times. We will try and do the best we can to update everyone as we go.



President David Norton presents retiree Ron Carver with his award for 60 years of membership.

In Memoriam
**Jerome Wagner
George Wood, Jr.**

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Estimate Time Does Not Have To Be Stressful

-Jim Baxter, Vice-President

True story, the 204-B comes to my case one morning and asks what my times are going to be. It was the first time I had to deal with this one, but I had dealt with so many it didn't concern me much. He said, "What's your times?" I gave him a good estimate, don't really remember what it was. He snorted and exasperatedly told me to give him a better time. He had the DOIS print out, so I asked him what DOIS had to say. He showed me the numbers. I smiled, sat down on my stool and said, "I have more mail still to case than you have me down for the day." He then tried to explain how DOIS worked. He said that it didn't matter how much mail I had, it wouldn't change the times. I then explained to him the basics of the paper he had in his hand. The genius laughed and told me that I was wrong. I replied that my job was to make him happy so he could just put down what would make him happy and I would try to do it. Who knows what he put down. So I get back to the office that evening and was discussing something with the manager. The 204-B struts in, all pumped up and told the manager that I had really fed him a line of BS today. To his credit he did repeat pretty closely what I had told him that morning. After all, he is a genius. The manager looked at him with disgust, shook his head and told him that what I had told him was exactly correct. Have you ever stuck a pin in a genius? It's kind of like sticking a pin in a balloon. To my manager's credit, that was the last day that guy worked in my office. Good news is that he was promoted to full supervisor. It is much better to have the guy screwing up the paperwork rather than the mail. Upper management helped him get a transfer. Now he is someone else's genius.

Your route is programmed in DOIS with base data. The number of letters, flats and parcels along with street time makes your eight hour day. Are they your numbers? Maybe. If you were on your route during a 6 day count and inspection then DOIS could be made up from your numbers. If not, then DOIS is just numbers. Your management cannot change the numbers that are in DOIS. Anymore. Years ago local managers were able to change the numbers but that access was taken away because you guessed it, a bunch of postal geniuses cheated. I had a manager tell me that he changed everyone's casing standard so he could pressure carriers to go faster. Basically they would change the numbers to make themselves look better on paper, not

to save the post office any money. Generally, it's for the better that they are locked out. However, if there is a lot of construction on your route or some other change that adds time, you can go from a postal champ to a postal dog in a single day.

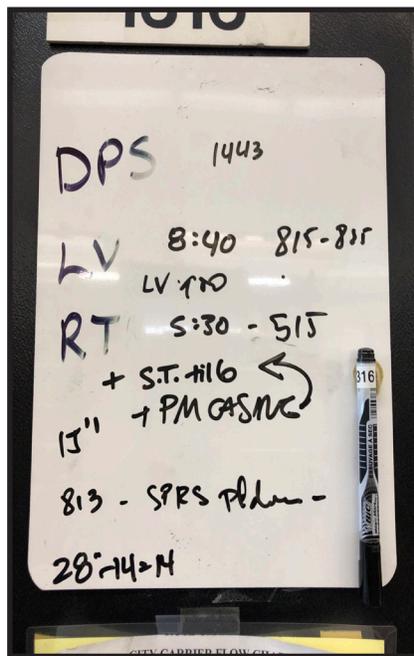
As you all know, currently parcels are a large part of our daily work load. Your route has a base parcel number. If you have a greater number of parcels than your base, time is automatically added to your street time; if you have less, then time is taken away. Until recently DOIS added 90 seconds for every parcel over your base. Some postal genius somewhere decided that 90 seconds was too much and arbitrarily changed the added time to 60 seconds. So when

the supervisor comes around for your times and has your "numbers," please understand they are not your numbers. That could make a difference of half an hour a day or more.

This is how it is supposed to work? Our handbook M-41 131.41 states,

It is your responsibility to verbally inform management when you are of the opinion that you will be unable to case all mail distributed to the route, perform other required duties, and leave on schedule or when you will be unable to complete delivery of all mail.

Our handbook, the M-41 states that we tell management when we think we need overtime. Not the other way around. And that opinion is not based on DOIS numbers. It is based on what we as a professional letter carrier think we are able to do on a particular day.



A carrier's whiteboard shows an argument over estimates.

So will there be conflicts over times? Sure. What should you do when this happens? So you believe that you are going to go overtime on your route. You tell the supervisor and fill out a 3996. They are then responsible for telling you what to do with the work. To leave it, to do it, to roll it, but what they are not allowed to say is, "I'm not approving any overtime, I expect you to make it," or something like that. Management cannot discipline you for not making their times. Please don't think you can be fired for not going fast enough. If they tell you that you are going to be given a section and you believe that it will put you into overtime, fill out a 3996. Management has to tell you what to do with the work. If you are on the street and believe you are going

to go into overtime, call in and tell the supervisor. Do that before you do the overtime. If, because they are a postal genius, they tell you to do the work but they are not going to approve the overtime, guess what? The second they tell you to do the work they have approved the overtime. Make sure when you get back you fill out a 3996. If you are given a form that says you worked unauthorized overtime, ask for steward time and give the form to your steward. I've been involved with the postal service for just short of forty years. Forty years ago there was conflict over times and forty years from now there will still be conflict over times. Management has set the system up to be adversarial. Please understand that you don't have to get mad, skip your lunch, or be overly frustrated. Remember to just fill out the 3996.

Oh, and if you didn't know, management must provide you with a copy of your 3996 if you request it.

Johnny Horton, an old country singer, did a song about a guy that was working in a car wash. He couldn't get a job anywhere else because when he applied he was always told that there were no openings for a genius. We need to expect to see a lot of changes in our jobs. I think we may have a new postal genius as the new PMG. Time will tell. Just expect change and roll with it the best you can. Remember, our routes are our routes and we still have an eight hour guarantee.

Good luck, Jim

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Hello Again From The Office Of Your Secretary-Treasurer.

-Matt Pierce, Secretary-Treasurer

I hope and trust this finds everyone well. We've heard from a lot of people in the office in the last month that were upset by the resolution and article in the July B-Mike about defunding and unaffiliating with the police. For those of you who may not know how our democratic union works, our bylaws state that any member(s) in good standing can submit a resolution to the branch. The resolution will then be printed in the next issue of the B-Mike for consideration, read aloud at the next branch meeting, and a vote will be held at the subsequent branch meeting to it being read. This allows members time to review upcoming resolutions and decide whether or not to attend the meeting or to formulate a response. It is in no way the position of the branch until it is voted upon by all the members present at the meeting.

I am very proud of the fact that our union is made up of such a diverse and varied group of individuals. Our branch includes people from very conservative to extremely liberal backgrounds with all manner of life experiences and varied opinions. This is not in any way a weakness of our union but is instead an incredible strength. Democracy works best when a large variety of personal opinions and experiences are brought to the table. So I am in no way bothered by people's anger in response to the resolution and opinions. However, I am bothered that some people said that they want to quit the union because of them.

Except for the election of officers, which is done by mail, everything your branch does is voted upon at branch meetings. Democracy is the bedrock of the NALC. Carriers vote on changes to our Local and National constitutions, wages hours and working conditions negotiated with the USPS in our contract as well as how all of our resources are dedicated on a local and national level. It's one member, one vote in every election. The lifeblood of a democratic union is the active participation of its members. You—the letter carrier—make union democracy work.

The union gives all letter carriers an equal democratic voice to determine the actions, positions and goals of the NALC. So if you don't like something about the NALC, the one thing you can't do and effect change is resign from it or fail to participate in its democracy. Non-members and those that don't vote have no voice. If there's something you don't like that is in our new contract or something that you really wish was in there but isn't, all members in good standing have the ability to influence the course of national negotiations and our union's national positions.

I often hear letter carriers complain about what they wanted in the National Agreement or don't want or the local union's

position on so and so, etc... What always surprises me is when I tell them that an individual has a right and the ability to change it, they claim they had no idea that was possible. It's like hearing someone complain about the President and Congress, then they're shocked to hear that they and everyone they know has the right to vote.

Resolutions voted upon and passed at our biennial national conventions help to set the national direction and priorities for the NALC. National officers will work to achieve an approved resolution's goal, whether through collective bargaining, legislation or other means. Most resolutions come from the local activists and local officers of our union. These are mostly working letter carriers. It makes sense that they generate many of the best ideas for changing union policy, since they are doing the job every day. Often a resolution starts with a single idea. That idea is discussed, voted on by the branch or state association and, if approved, forwarded to NALC Headquarters to be considered by the delegates attending the national convention.

Any member in good standing who is not a member of management can come to any regular branch meeting and submit a resolution to add or change anything in the national agreement. It will be read during the meeting and debated and voted on at the following meeting. If passed, it will be forwarded to the State and National conventions for debate. You must be present to submit and debate your resolution, but you are not required to attend the conventions once your motion has passed the branch. If you need help writing a resolution or understanding the rules or procedures, please feel free to contact the Branch 82 office.

In this completely democratic union there's a deeper purpose. By consciously building a union in which all members have equal voice, we draw upon the skills and ideals and thoughts of all fellow workers. All carriers represented by our branch should feel a sense of community and responsibility to the union and toward each other. We are truly all in this together to help the NALC's overall mission of improving the working lives of letter carriers and their families as well as making the United States Postal Service the best postal service in the world.

Obviously when our next branch meeting will be is up in the air. But I can't wait to be able to get back together with my Sisters and Brothers and respectfully disagree. It truly is the bedrock strength of our union. Until then I sincerely hope that you all stay healthy and safe.

In solidarity, Matt

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I have been a member of NALC for over fifty years. In that time the union has always to the best of its ability represented members in contract negotiations for pay, benefits, working conditions, and in disciplinary issues. In the latter a union steward is to administrative law like a lawyer in the criminal court. Police unions serve the same function for police officers. Yet, Chandler Hull would deny the same rights to workers in the police that they enjoy as an NALC member. Really? This is disparate treatment, and discrimination! It is wrong to blame, punish and or take away civil liberties of ALL people for the wrong behavior of a few. I am disappointed in the branch for printing Chandler Hull's letter. It gives an appearance of approval.

I reject the Defund the Police proposal in its entirety.

Gary Weis
Dallas, Oregon

I have been in the postal union since 1979. I am now getting out of the union. The article in the B Mike about defunding the police was sickening. The police "show no restraint in attacking protesters, often instigating violence" is a blatant lie. They are attacked, killed and even paralyzed by the hands of these "peaceful protesters."

It is so easy to say defund the police when you live in a safe neighborhood. Black leaders in Chicago and New York are saying we need more police. Poor neighborhoods are hurt the most by defunding. The seven that put their name to this article "pretend" to care about black lives but say nothing about the record setting number of blacks murdered in Chicago and other crime riddled cities. Black leaders and parents in these cities are asking "why do our black lives not matter?" A father of one of the children that was murdered was asked by a reporter, "Do you think your child's life matters to these protesters?" His answer was "no." By their silence, he is right. The rhetoric of defund the police is sickening.

WHEREAS I refuse to be an accomplice to defunding the police, which leads to more violence, more deaths to police, more deaths to black adults and black children, I am withdrawing from this union I was once so proud of.

Dave Gaston
Evergreen

I received this resolution proposal in July's B-Mike!

I find it to be an attack on our police force, and I strongly support our police! The majority of police, letter carriers, doctors, nurses, fireman, grocery workers, etc, are good people, I hope this absurd resolution does not represent the feelings of our union as I want no part of it.

I'm having lunch tomorrow with Frankie Miller and have taken a photo of said resolution and intend to share with some others. You have my permission to post this in the B-Mike .

Kermit Schneider
University Station

I was both shocked and disappointed by what was in the current B-Mike on page 15 advocating the defunding of Police. The actions of a few bad (criminal) cops do not represent the entirety of the Police force. Just as a few bad carriers do not represent the entirety of Letter Carriers.

The position you are advocating for is currently resulting in numerous attacks against police officers. Over 120 cops have died in the line of duty this year so far. Crime is exploding in the inner cities of our country. Young children and teenagers are being gunned down by criminals and drug dealers in their neighborhoods. These are the communities that need a strong police presence the most. There is a mass exodus of police officers resigning and retiring as they are being demonized and even assassinated. Who can blame them.

I support peaceful protesting. I was at one of the protests. Numerous signs read "F**k the Police," "Kill the Cops," and "All Cops are Bastards." Is that what we want to align our union with. Portland has turned into a national embarrassment with "mostly peaceful" rioters, "mostly peaceful" arsonists, and "mostly peaceful" looters and destroyers of public property.

I stand with the policemen and women in our community and around our great nation. I am choosing to defund my union dues to Branch 82 and redirect them to the Wounded Officers Initiative to support our brave men and women injured in the line of duty.

Jeff Maloney
Evergreen
10 yr Marine Corps Veteran
29 yr Letter Carrier





Connie McVey from Parkrose performs the last swipe with style.



Dean Borth of Oak Grove is presented his retirement packet by Vice President Jim Baxter.



Dan Gomes from Sellwood wears a smile on his face for his last punch.



Lee Baker will be missed from her Canby office.



Last Punch Bunch

Lee Baker - Canby

Mike Bixel - Rose City

Dean Borth - Oak Grove

Donald Dorr - Kenton

Dan Gomes - Sellwood

Dan Howe - Waterfront

Robert Kirkendall - Oak Grove

Connie McVey - Parkrose

Blue Eagle Rides

-Billy Brink, Rose City Park

Salutes from humble 97213! The nation's post has been delivered by myriad methods: shanks mare (walking), horse, motorcycle, bicycle (see Tati's Jour De Fete for hilarious take on this noble theme), streetcar, and the quite familiar to any pair of retinas taking this in- four wheels with a blue eagle logo!

When the narrator commenced his polyester arc, Jimmy Carter was prez, and the massive challenge for a termite in the mound was to groove the ride with steering more hip to the other side of the Atlantic (the glove box domain- where a poorly folded Texaco Star map slept, raw from Kerouac hijinks of the long ago).

There were three beasts to tame, and I'll choose the easiest first – the glamorous Ford Pinto! Good luck shoe-horning today's parcel volumes into that tainted back hatch! That Detroit lid would accumulate rain on a precipitation equation, and like a cistern to those parched amongst a desert interlude, would utterly drench the innocent postal bundles benignly awaiting delivery. Devout carriers would cover these vulnerable communications with tarps- valiant efforts on their own dime/time. Others didn't bother, surrendering to absurdity of situation. Sans tape deck, or radio, many of us coped with the lull via transistor radio! Take a few moments to imagine that world, beyond the vapid Internet! But the sad Pinto, beyond Ralph Nader alarms, sufficed in the end!

But let us segue to Jeeps! Our versions were shy of four-wheel drive and top heavy, but cute beyond narrative! Once took just such a ride into thriving rush hour on Banfield at about forty mph and literally witnessed nuts slowly unwinding off bolts! Still, to this day, spy a surplus example, and shake my head in lamentation of a vibe embraced, yet utterly nixed!

Thus comes the half-ton, the heavy-duty rig to cover business routes. Sort of a milk-wagon, for those who remember that gig beyond vintage film. Took a spell to get that massive space toasty come winter, as sans door on the rounds! But superb visibility, just enough horsepower, my fave rig so far for certain! Then I score a gig at Piedmont. A string, all depressing at some juncture. From neglected dogs, to urban blight, before dubious enlightenment of flush \$ folks, and drums organic before electronic manipulation! Food stamps briefly arrived via the post – certified, some routes needing triple-digit signatures, and folks leaning on you to dish out the goods way before the section. Vehicles getting shattered

glass due to scores just beyond, then skulls above and beyond settle on strong-boxes for Jeeps, Pintos. This phase played out as I'd split back to Rose City.

Before b., there were three-wheel Cushmans (more a parking meter rig), woefully underpowered, efforts to get the cardboard and paper delivered on a budget!

So today, I champion & applaud any endeavor towards electricity! Short jaunts for vast majority of gigs reek need for some mojo beyond vulgar fossil fuel. May our iconic gig thrive far beyond my arc! Stay strong, chat it up amongst yourselves, be kind to ignorant customers! Stay safe, sisters & brothers! Cheers from the realm of the Buffaloes. – b



B-Mike | NALC Branch 82 x +

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NALC AFL-CIO Charles N. Coyle
 President David H. Norton

BRANCH 82

HOME EVENTS **B-MIKE** RESOURCES LEADERSHIP NEWS

THE 2020 B-Mike

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Veterans In Action

-Bruce Hall, Veterans Representative

Veterans have served our great nation in so many ways. We have a saying, "Freedom is not free, and all veterans have given some and some veterans have given all." We also say that we need to take care of our veterans. Most people agree, but there is great difference of opinion on how this is accomplished, and to what extent. We live in a democracy, so we are involved in a political and social system. Most decisions are made in the interest of certain individuals or groups rather than all mankind. Greed and self-interest seem to govern many of these decisions. We would love to live in a world with freedom, peace, cooperation, goodwill, equality, consideration of others, and good quality of life. This can only be achieved if we work together, inform others, and constantly convince our congress to do what is right when considering how to take proper care of our veterans.

We as veterans need to be active and vigilant in actions involving veterans. We need to constantly be in touch with our representatives and senators. There is a great deal of legislation being considered all the time concerning veterans. If you would like to get a weekly legislative newsletter updating legislative actions, you can sign up at VFW action corps weekly. By receiving this information, you can then appropriately contact your congresspeople about legislation affecting veterans.

One way we can be active and support one another as veterans is to join a veteran's organization. Some that you might consider are the following:

- American Legion
- National Association of Black Veterans
- Disabled American Veterans
- Military Order of the Purple Heart
- Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Vietnam Veterans of America
- Veterans of Foreign Wars
- Veterans of Underage Military Service

Besides these, most of the military services have associations that you can join. There is strength in unity. We need to join together to ensure that everything possible is done to take proper care of our veterans. If you would like to become involved in any of these organizations or in programs that help veterans, please give me a call at 503-285-8468 or email me at vfwbruce@gmail.com.

Most of these organizations have had a difficult time operating normally because of the COVID-19 pandemic. They need more members so they can accomplish the mission of serving veterans and their communities. Our VFW Post

planned on supporting the VA 2020 National Wheelchair Games that were scheduled to be held in Portland on July 3-7. However, the games were cancelled so we ended up donating \$1000 to the NALC Food Drive for the Oregon Food Bank. We had to award Scout of the Year Award via home delivery; we had to make ROTC Awards by delivering them to the University of Portland and shipping them to the cadets. The biggest thing that has affected our post is the inability to have our Annual "Buddy" Poppy Campaign to raise funds for our Relief Fund. Hopefully, we can still schedule one between now and Veterans Day and possibly receive donations via mail. We are ready with "Buddy" Poppies whenever stores allow us to have doorway sales. This pandemic causes us to be flexible and creative in order to serve veterans and our communities.

We would like to help our own members and family members who are on active duty. If you are in the military or have family members on active duty, please let me know if you have any special needs or if there is any way that we can help you. We appreciate your service and would like to do all we can to support you. Call me at 503-285-8468. Also keep me updated on your status and where you are serving.

ACTIVE DUTY

ROBERTO JIMENEZ, (Creston) Army, Qatar

CASEY JAMES, (Waterfront) Army, Jordan

NOAH DUARTE, son of Ricardo Duarte (St. Helens) Army, Ft Hood, Texas

DARREN CRUZ, son of Gary Cruz (River District) Army, Ft. Lewis

BILL QUIGLEY JR, grandson of Ken Quigley (Gold Card Member) Army, Iraq

CHRISTOPHER MANIVANH, son of Simang Manivanh (Hillsboro) Army, Iraq

GREG GERARD, son of George Gerard (Beaverton) Navy, Virginia Beach

ZACHARY PADACA, son of Eleanor Padaca (River District)) Navy

DEAN SCHUCHARDT, son of Patricia Schuchardt (Multnomah) Army

TOM TOTTON, son in law of Lee Travis (retired) Army, S. Korea DMZ

CONNOR SHEEHAN, son of Pat Sheehan (retired) Army, Ft. Houston

MATTHEW UNDERWOOD, son of Rick Underwood (River District) Marines, Camp Pendleton





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INJURED AT WORK?

Call BRANCH 82 OWCP REP
Mike O'Connor

Wednesdays and Thursdays
503 493-5903

Branch 82 Monthly Meetings

General Membership 2nd Wednesday, 7:00PM

Retiree Luncheon 2nd Tuesday, 11:30AM

Stewards Council 3rd Wednesday, 7PM

Executive Board 4th Wednesday, 6:30PM

All members are welcome, unless otherwise noted.
All meetings are held at the NALC Branch 82 Office,

5265 NE 42nd Avenue.

Retiree Luncheons are held at

Izzy's EastPort Plaza, 3846 SE 82nd Avenue

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.



Meet The Steward: Abe RedCloud, Kenton steward

Hey there, Abe RedCloud here. Nice to meet yah..... well most likely I've met most of you, but if not (HAND SHAKE with a big grin). I guess I'll start with my history with the USPS. I have worked here for 22 years now and have always been a member of the NALC. I started my career in Santa Cruz, CA and unfortunately the union hall there was too far away to make meetings and I never heard of state conventions or anything like that, so my involvement with the NALC was nothing and I didn't know what being in a union was really about.

I moved up to Portland in 2012 and immediately noticed that Branch 82 was much more active and I could make the meetings. I started going to every general membership meeting. In 2013 I went to the Starlight Parade and started helping to make the float in 2014. Around this time my steward at Kenton (Tom Richardson) asked me if I wanted to learn how to be the alt steward at Kenton. So I was alt steward for about a year and a half and then became steward of the Kenton office when Tom stepped down and have been the steward at Kenton since.

I have completed Stewards College and have taken the following positions in the past 5 years in the order written: Branch 82 MDA coordinator, Starlight Parade coordinator, Oregon State Food Drive Coordinator, a position on the Oregon State Association executive board, and a position on the Branch 82 executive board. I still hold all of these positions today.

Ever since I was in first grade, where I would every once in a while bring my toys wrapped in comics and hand them out during show and tell as gifts to all my classmates, I have lived my life to help others in need. So it doesn't surprise me that I have taken on so many tasks to help others. I am also a father of 2 kids (12 year old boy and 9 year old girl) and have a beautiful wife of 13 years.....she's not 13!!! lol. We have been married for 13 years.... Anyhoo that's my story of my career within the USPS and the NALC. Looking forward to helping my fellow brothers and sisters in the future any way I can!

In Solidarity,
Abe RedCloud



A Word From Your Director of Retirees

-Sammy Smith, Director of Retirees

Letter carriers and postal workers are frontline service providers. Daily physical contact with the public is almost unavoidable. The government is spending billions of dollars to fund all types of businesses including cruise ships. However, this administration shows no appetite for helping essential workers such as postal workers who work for one of the largest employers in the country.

Retirees can advocate for the Postal Service in ways that active letter carriers are not able to participate. We must support legislation that supports the wellbeing of the Postal Service. We can and should write letters and postcards to elected officials at their local (not DC) address. All this during a global pandemic that continues to threaten lives.

Our retiree luncheon is held on the second Tuesday of each month at Izzy's Eastport Plaza, 3846 SE 82nd at 11:30 am. All members are welcome. Although scientists predict that COVID-19 will be around for some time to come, I look forward to when we can all gather together again. No matter what, we will get through this tough time together.

Your Brother,
Sammy Smith

Check
www.nalc.org
or visit
the NALC app
for statements from
President Fred
Rolando, MOUs
and other updates
regarding COVID-19.



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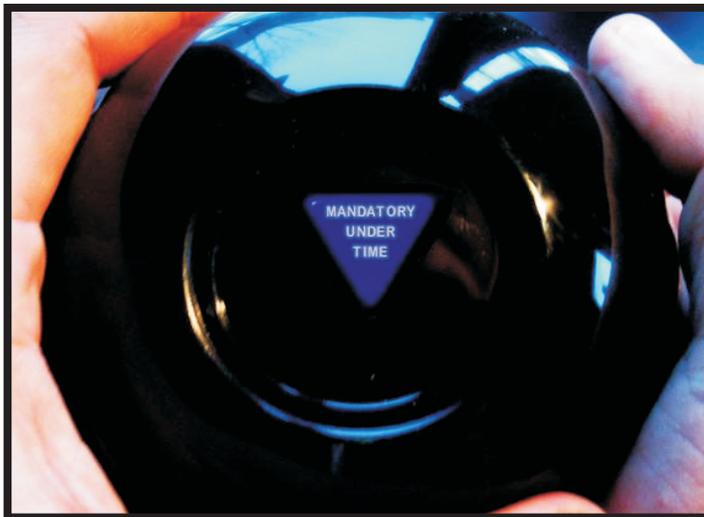
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**August & September
General Membership
meetings are canceled.**

October meeting to be determined

IT'S HARD TO KNOW WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS
(UNLESS YOU HAVE A BIT OF MAGIC!)



**SURPRISE!
YOU GET
99'd**

**BEEPING
CARD IN
DPS**

**THROW IT
LIKE YOU
KNOW
IT**

**NOT SAFE
TO PULL
YET**

**JUST CLOSE
YOUR EYES
AND CASE**

**ROLL IT
ROLL IT
ROLL IT**

**OK TO BE
A SLUG
TODAY**

**EIGHT
HOUR**

**YOU WILL
BE 001
LATE**

**SUBSTITUTE
BOSS
TODAY**

**YOU CASE
AND I'LL
PULL**

