



# B·Mike



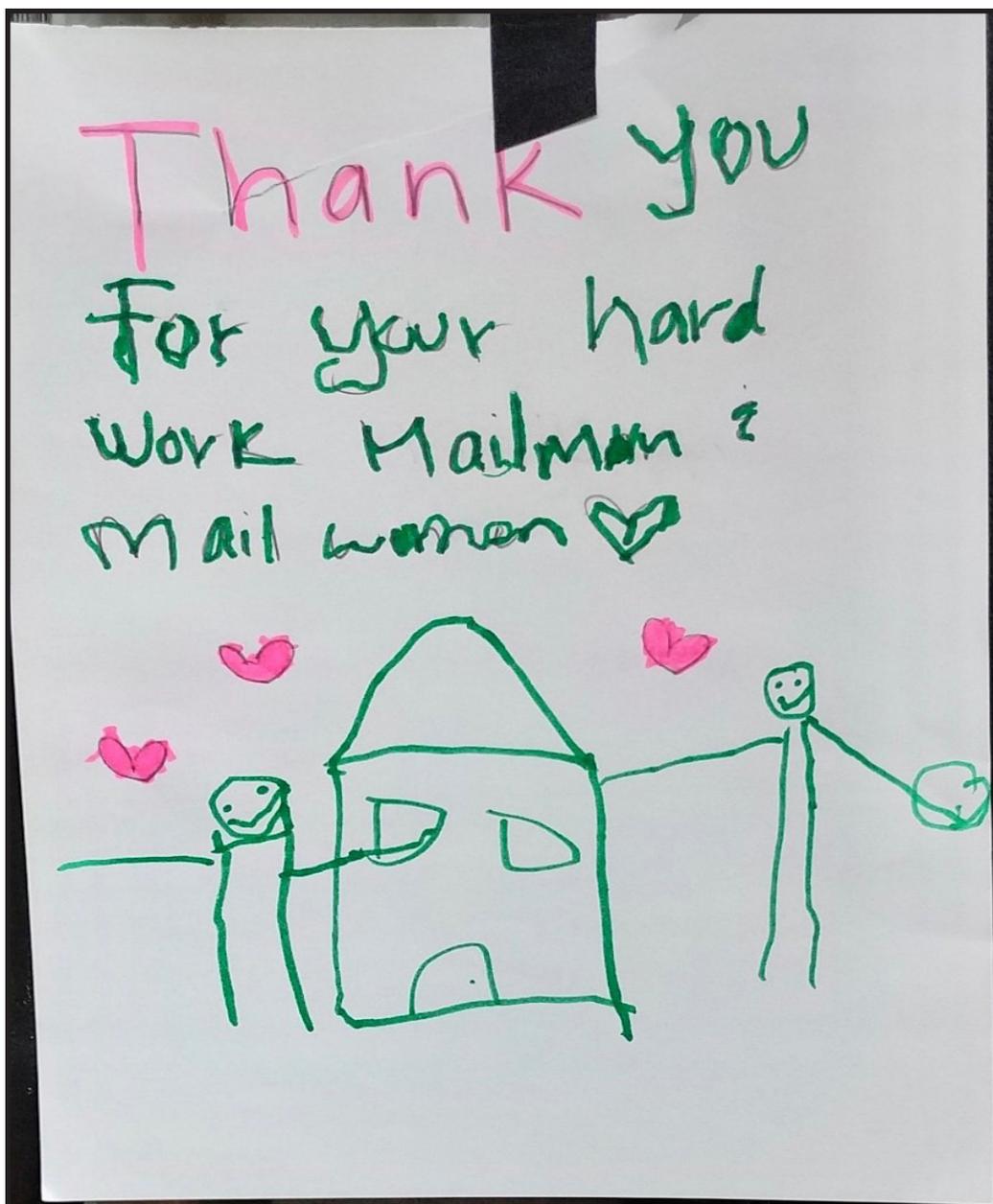
VOL 80  
ISSUE 04  
APR '20

*"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



## Branch 82 Non-Members

**Neville Chambers**, Beaverton  
**Steve Dean**, Beaverton  
**Steven Eldridge**, Beaverton  
**Robert Gardner**, Beaverton  
**Michael Porschien**, Beaverton  
**Richard Roberts**, Evergreen  
**Terry Spivey**, Evergreen  
**Wei Wu**, Evergreen  
**Kristyann Stafford**, Canby  
**Keith Wray**, Canby  
**Thomas Breadon**, Forest Grove  
**Emilia Brodeur**, Forest Grove  
**Daniel Ford**, Forest Grove  
**Sheila Root**, Forest Grove  
**Mary Bobnick**, Gresham  
**Marc Detweiler**, Gresham  
**Stephan Block**, Lake Oswego  
**De Bui**, Lake Grove  
**Connor Swift**, McMinnville  
**Elizabeth Krieger**, McMinnville  
**Benjamin Siefken**, Newberg  
**Robert Kahl**, Newberg  
**Jack Eskelin**, Oregon City  
**Mona Zirkle**, Oregon City  
**Rex Paschall**, East Portland  
**Marianne Belser**, Kenton  
**Patrick Dyche**, West Slope  
**Kenneth Boettcher**, Oak Grove  
**Jared White**, Oak Grove  
**Christian Strong**, Lents  
**Jeffrey Smith**, Lents  
**Ronnie Lewis**, Lents  
**Robert Hawkins**, West Linn  
**David Rheame**, West Linn

## INJURED AT WORK?

Call BRANCH 82 OWCP REP  
Mike O'Connor

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
503 493-5903

## MCKANNA, BISHOP, JOFFE

Attorneys

1635 NW Johnson Street

Portland, Oregon, 97209

Telephone: 503 226-6111

Fax: 503 226-5121

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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday, 7:00PM

Retiree Luncheon 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 11:30AM

Stewards Council 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, 7PM

Executive Board 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 6:30PM

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

5265 NE 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

Retiree Luncheons are held at

Izzy's EastPort Plaza, 3846 SE 82<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto: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.



# Letter Carriers Stand in the Face of the Coronavirus Pandemic

By David Norton, President

As everyone knows, COVID-19 is dominating the news with cases spiking around the world as well as here in Oregon. People are panicking, stocking up on supplies for fear of a wide scale spread of the virus in our region. And while the Center for Disease Control urges diligence, preparation and social distancing while we all attempt to stop the spread of the coronavirus, people everywhere are legitimately scared and concerned. People are out of work, kids aren't in school, the economy is in a tailspin, and it seems like it's the end of every sense of normality in daily life. As I write this, restaurants and bars are closed, most other businesses as well, but the Post Office remains open, and letter carriers everywhere are diligently and bravely doing their jobs.

The Postal Service has been deemed critical to our nation's infrastructure, and mail delivery is an essential service to the United States public. It is easy to see why as shelter in place orders are being invoked. Letter carriers deliver medications, social security checks and are the leading delivery service for online purchases. We deliver the things that people need in times of economic prosperity and also in times of crisis. And this pandemic is certainly a crisis. I have always been proud of being a letter carrier, and seeing letter carriers everywhere perform their duties in the face of such fear makes me feel even more so. You may have to look past the regular advertisements that are still filling up your satchel, but we as letter carriers deliver the goods that keep this nation running.

Here at Branch 82 it has been very, very busy. Things are changing rapidly, and by the time you are reading this they have probably even changed further. As of right now, we have canceled the April General Membership Meeting and the April Stewards Council Meeting, and all meetings are up in the air for May. The Oregon State Convention has also been canceled. We are postponing new steward training, and are suspending work on this year's Starlight Parade float as all Rose Festival events have been put on hold. We don't know what the status is of any of our other events going forward. We aren't even sure that we are going to get this issue of the B-Mike out through our printer and mailer. We will try and get that information out as soon as we know.

There have been several new MOU's (Memorandum of Understanding) that have been signed off by the national parties. You can find them on the NALC website. They are all pertinent specifically to our current situation.

I have been trying to get around the area doing stand-up talks trying to gauge what and where carrier's needs are. If you need supplies at your office, please let us know.

Masks and gloves should be available to every carrier who wants one. Certain items have been hard to come by. Disinfectant wipes and hand sanitizer have been ordered, but there is currently a nationwide shortage. In Associate Offices, certain supplies are also hit and miss. I have been working with a local company to make us hand sanitizer. So far, the Postmaster of Portland is on board with purchasing some, and the hope is to try and get it out to stations soon. In the meantime, handwashing can be difficult under our current conditions. The places we stopped to use the restroom and wash our hands have, in large part, been closed. If you have to drive back to the station in order to use the bathroom and wash your hands, do it. If you have high risk deliveries like nursing homes, or medical facilities, we can modify those deliveries to make your job safer. Talk to your supervisor. If you have any problems, please let Branch 82 know.

Ultimately, the health and safety of letter carriers is what is most important. If you are sick, I want you to stay home. If you are showing symptoms of the coronavirus, stay home. Postal management has assured me that carriers will not be disciplined for staying home during this time. You must also think of your loved ones. If you live with, or are in constant contact with someone that is immunosuppressed, you must think about their safety as well. Do what is best for you and your family and follow the advice of your doctor.

Right now (as I write this), carriers are delivering the same sort of mail mix that we always do. Expect that to change. If things get worse, we may be delivering only first-class mail and parcels. Or maybe just parcels. Or maybe just medication. And maybe just test kits or vaccines. We don't really know. As things progress, we will try and get that information out to you.

In times of crisis, it is the American worker that consistently comes through for this country. We see it now. Of course, we see it in our first responders and our health care professionals, but it is also the grocery store employees checking out scores of hurried shoppers and the long-haul truck drivers who deliver the toilet paper that everyone so covets. And it is also you, fellow letter carrier. You work for an organization who has provided communication and commerce to the people since before we were a self-governing nation. This is not the first pandemic that letter carriers have faced and certainly not the only national crisis. You are vital to the growth and prosperity of this country and are essential when it seems like it is all unraveling.

Please be safe. As safe as we all can be. Thank you for your work. 3/21/2020

# I Don't Have The Answer.

By Jim Baxter, Vice-President

I would really like to vent my frustrations in this article about how the Service is handling our current crisis, but I'm sure we all share those same feelings. So I will try my best not to do that. Anyway, by the time you read this, the situation will have changed a multitude of times.

So you have a time perspective of when I wrote this, the Governor had already closed the schools and restaurants. Friday, the Portland mayor, the head of Metro and the Governor had just asked the community to stay at home. Hopefully, their plan works. I will try to do the best I can. However, I will be at work to the best of my ability just like the rest of you.

I have one neighbor that has been laid off. He works as a food handler at one of the restaurants at the Portland Airport. He sent me an email today and told me that his health insurance is paid up through the end of the month. He also told me that he believes that he and another member of his household has the COVID-19 virus. I pray that he is incorrect. He has been in contact with unknown thousands of people through his job at the airport.

Another neighbor works for a company that delivers an essential service that none of us would want to be without. He told me that every time he goes into the building, someone takes his temperature and gives a quick exam. There are hand washing stations and sanitizing stations throughout the building. All the sensitive areas are now sealed off, and you have to have a special badge to enter.

I just read a news release from the Service. It states that we are an essential government service. And it also states that if the local or state governments lock things down, that we as letter carriers are not subject to those orders and are required to report to work. Let's face it. Letter carriers, clerks and anyone else that helps move the mail are essential employees. We are and will be delivering medical supplies and other household goods that will help keep everyone safe. I don't believe that the shortages we are seeing in the stores are permanent. The supply chain will catch up with demand soon. There are some employees that really aren't essential. Those who don't move the mail should stay home or put on a uniform and start really helping. We have lots of uniforms at the Union Office. I would be more than happy to loan them out.

A special thanks to our Branch Safety Officer, Don Cadwell. He designed the sanitation stations that are at many of our offices. Don spends many hours of his own time trying to make sure that the Post Office lives up to it's responsibility of providing a safe workplace for each of us. Most of the

time I know he feels like he is beating his head against a concrete wall. Let's face it, safety is not job one or two or even three at the Post Office. We all know budget is job one, and truth be told it always has been.

Please thank David when you see him in your office. He has been working literally seven days a week for us since this pandemic started. Not only is he working with postal management trying to get them to do the right thing, he is actively trying to find local suppliers to get the products we currently need to do our jobs safely. Hopefully, those efforts will be fruitful and by the time you read this, those products will be in your hands or more accurately on your hands. David doesn't toot his own horn so I'm gonna. David has an unbelievable view of what we as letter carriers need macroly. He really sees the big

picture. He also takes care of major issues for individual letter carriers that are going through tough times better than anyone I have ever worked with. If there is a way to fix a problem, David will find it.

I am sure you have all read the new memos concerning our leave during this time. One expands the right to use dependent care sick leave. This memo doesn't give us more leave, but expands our ability to use our sick leave. The other gives CCAs much needed leave to deal with illness related to this pandemic. Please read the memos on the NALC website.

I know the post office should be supplying more hand sanitizer. Also masks and gloves. Maybe by the time you read this there will be more in the offices. I can't know the future. We need to find solutions to the problems. We all know what they are. I got a call from a brother Friday with a problem and a solution. He told me about a distillery that was making hand sanitizer. It didn't work out but it was a possible solution, and like I wrote earlier, David is actively trying to find local supplies.

Good Luck,  
Jim



# I Went To The Doctor...

By John D Kunz, Chief Steward

Recently I went to the doctor because I was experiencing symptoms of a respiratory issue. I felt a little wheezing in my breathing, and my lungs kind of hurt when I breathed in and out. Also, I felt a lump in my throat when I swallowed. I called my doctor and made an appointment to be seen. When I arrived, the clinic was closed off, and a desk with gowned and masked staff was outside in front of the door.

I approached the desk, and they immediately asked if I had an appointment and what was I being seen for. I told them yes I had an appointment, and I was having wheezing and discomfort when I breathed. They asked me 4 questions:  
Are you running a fever?  
Are you coughing?  
Are you having respiratory issues, like having a hard time breathing?  
Have you been out of the country recently?

I said no to all questions except #3. They immediately gave me a mask and made me put it on and told me I could enter. As I walked down the corridor to the office, several medical staff were lined along the way. Each one asked me where I was going and if I knew where to go. I arrived at the office. The waiting room chairs were separated by 6 feet. I was taken into one of the rooms, and a gowned and masked nurse took my vitals which included my temperature (normal), blood pressure (a little high but normal), and my oxygen level (normal). The nurse told me the doctor would see me shortly. The doctor entered and asked me about my symptoms and looked in my ears, mouth, and listened to my breathing. She then asked me the same 4 questions, which I answered the same as previously. She informed me that if I had those symptoms, I would have been sent across the street to the hospital where they had a tent set up outside. I would then be tested for COVID-19. I did not have all of those symptoms and my lungs were clear, according to my doctor.

I was not tested for COVID-19. The reason I was not tested is because they do not have enough tests. They are only testing people who have the symptoms. This is my reality. Right now I have no idea whether I have the virus or not. I

am scared like everyone else; I don't want to be infected or infect anyone. I am paranoid too. Every cough, runny nose, or uncomfortable feeling I have is associated with this pandemic. All of this has created stress in my life and family. There is no cure, and we have no idea how long this has been in our communities or will be. **WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.**



We need certain people to work during this pandemic. They are called essential employees. They include doctors, nurses, hospital staff, pharmacists, firefighters, paramedics, police, military personnel, grocery food workers, truck drivers, farmers, banks, and you postal workers. Without any of these employees, the world would shut down. We are not there yet, and hopefully we never will be. Every day, I come to work and face the same fears and paranoia as probably everyone is experiencing. I am essential

to this country and my family and this is what keeps me going. I have a role in making things run that have to keep running. I am not sick right now and do not have symptoms of COVID-19. If I get the symptoms, I will see a doctor and follow their guidelines.

In the meantime I practice precautionary measures. I wash my hands 20-30 times a day, and I constantly disinfect everything in my house and office. I use hand sanitizer and practice safe distance from people.

I do not shake people's hands, and I try not to touch my face. I implore all carriers to do the same. Also gloves and masks are available to any carrier who wants one. Please do not hoard these items because they are in very short supply everywhere. When you get home from work, shower and wash your clothes. These are the tools we have to protect ourselves.

If you get sick, stay home and see your doctor. Follow the guidelines. Nobody wants COVID-19, and I hope and pray none of you get it. **WE ARE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.**

Until next month.....  
John D Kunz



# Perseverance Despite Danger

By Matt Pierce, Secretary/ Treasurer

Hello again from the office of your Secretary-Treasurer. I truly hope that this finds you and yours happy and healthy. The work of a letter carrier has never and will never be completely safe. We work in a chaotic and uncontrolled environment, surrounded by traffic, stuck out in weather and exposed to everything in every environment and neighborhood in this vast country. The current pandemic is not the 1st, nor will it be the last threat letter carriers face to complete their appointed rounds. That's why I have so many times been impressed and humbled by the willingness of the vast majority of letter carriers to show up every day and do a job they believe in and know needs to be done.

I started in the Post Office in March of 1999, which means I was still a relatively new employee and still a PTF when the events of September 11th, 2001 transpired. While the history of COVID-19 and the country's recovery from it are still being written, I think it's a good time to look back on the last time letter carriers responded to a severe biological threat.

In the week following September 11, 2001, the country was still in a state of shock, both for those who died in the attacks and for the nation's sense of security, when the anthrax attacks first took their toll. Five people died from anthrax infection after exposure to letters containing spores, including two postal clerks at the Brentwood postal facility in Washington, DC. Letters containing anthrax were found in, or passed through, postal facilities in New York, New Jersey and Florida. The distribution of deadly anthrax spores using the U.S. mail set off a wave of fear in post offices across the country. I was just 24 years old then, and honestly I was a little scared. Everyone who's ever carried DPS knows that just because a letter is addressed to New York or Florida doesn't mean it can't end up in your DPS. At the time I was making about \$15.50 an hour. I remember thinking, is this worth it? I and carriers across the nation confronted the fear that the mail in our cases and satchels could now threaten our lives or the lives of our families and customers.

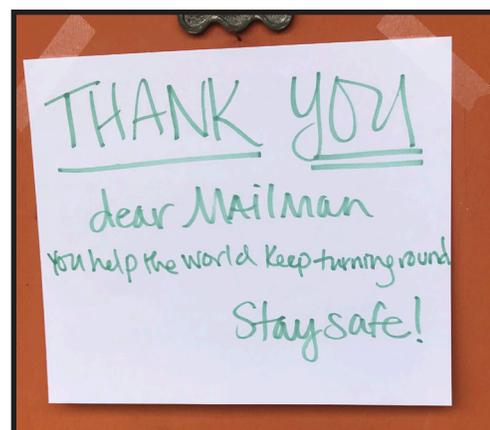
What was so impressive and inspiring was this fear was quickly followed by fierce determination on the part of letter carriers not to let fear stop us from doing our jobs. I remember seeing that at the offices in Trenton, NJ and Brentwood and other postal facilities which were shut down until they could be scrubbed of anthrax contamination, a process that ended up taking years to complete, the letter carriers still showed up to work. Letter carriers at these facilities labored under the strain of working in tents in the parking lots of their post offices. Tony DiStefano, then-president of Trenton Branch 380, told the Senate, "we're not going to alter our lifestyles because of terrorists." And we didn't.

Before any comprehensive process for screening the mail for bioterror agents was in place, letter carriers at my station and everywhere continued to show up to work. We were rewarded with the gratitude of the USPS and the Nation. The USPS ran a television ad- "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night, nor the winds of change, nor a nation challenged, will stay us from the swift completion of our appointed rounds. Ever." Sen. Joseph Lieberman during a senate hearing stated, "The bottom line here is the Postal Service is at the heart of this nation's critical infrastructure and is one of the foundations of our quality of life." I remember distinctly the gratitude of my customers and the positive response of the public.

In the aftermath of the attack, the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Health and Human Services recognized that the universal delivery network offered by letter carriers and the USPS is the only way to rapidly reach all Americans in the event of a biological attack. This evolved into the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI). A program to have letter carriers on a voluntary basis to deliver antibiotics and other supplies to areas effected by biological attacks or terrorism. When it was rolled out, President Fred Rolando said, "With the Cities Readiness Initiative, letter carriers are volunteering to do an important and possibly hazardous mission for the public. Of course, that's part of what we do every day. It's gratifying that we've turned from being victims of terrorism 10 years ago to being part of the fight against terrorist attacks and epidemics."

From what I know about letter carriers, that is as true then as it is today, and I couldn't be more proud to be a member of the one government organization that reaches every American every day and truly binds this country together.

Until next time please take care of yourselves and each other. Matt



# Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive Postponed



The 28th annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive, scheduled for May 9, 2020, has been postponed. The NALC, as well as our national partners, are fully committed to rescheduling the food drive later in 2020. A new date has not yet been scheduled.

The annual success of the food drive is largely due to the efforts of letter carriers, other postal employees, postal customers, community volunteers and many more. Their safety is of paramount importance. Much of the United States is currently under shelter in place or similar advisories due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and public health authorities such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have issued guidelines that include social distancing. While it is unknown how long these guidelines will remain in place, it is highly unlikely that those involved in the food drive will be able to safely participate just six weeks from now.

NALC and our national partners recognize that food assistance is a critical need for many during this difficult time, and we remain committed to helping those in need in the

communities we serve across America. We look forward to once again holding the largest one-day food drive in America when it is safe to do so.

Millions of Americans donate food on the second Saturday in May every year to help fight hunger in their communities. While we may not be able to safely conduct the food drive on its traditional date, we encourage those that would participate to consider donations that may be safely made to food banks in the form of food or financial assistance. Letter carriers, our national partners, community supporters and volunteers will be prepared to Stamp Out Hunger® once again when it is safe to do so.

**Check [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org) or visit the NALC app for statements from President Fred Rolando, MOUs and other updates regarding COVID-19.**



## Otto Jones- Gresham

### *Last Punch Bunch*



## Brookfield® Uniforms

**EXPERIENCE THE BEST IN POSTAL UNIFORM QUALITY AND SERVICE**

- Union Preferred Supplier of Union Made and Made in the USA products
- Free Hem – Free Waist Alterations – Free Shipping
- Spend the Full Allowance and Receive a Pair of 5 oz. Slacks or Shorts
- Or Full Allotment Bonus of \$45

**Buy Union It Matters**

**Call Your Experienced Representative**

**Donna Halvorson 503-781-0624 or Fax: 503-786-6120**

**Covering the Greater Portland Area**

**World Class Service**

**Brookfield Customer Service at 1-800-527-0606**

**Monday-Friday 7am-6pm & Saturday 8am-1pm, CST**

**[www.brookfielduniforms.com](http://www.brookfielduniforms.com)**



**B-Mike**

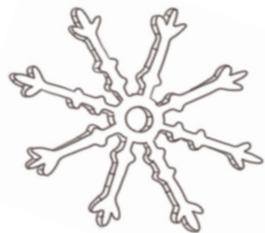
# MARCH



Eric Wathen, Kenton



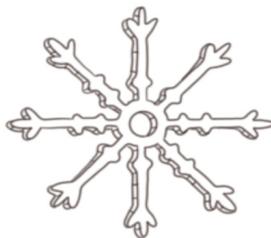
Kimberly Steffey, Rose City Park



Thomas Desmond, Parkrose



Abe RedCloud, Kenton

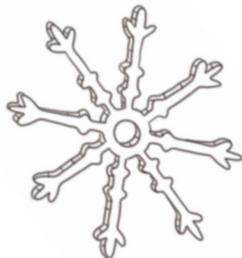


Don Cadwell, Sellwood

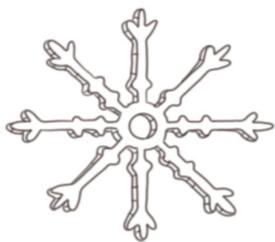
# S N O W !



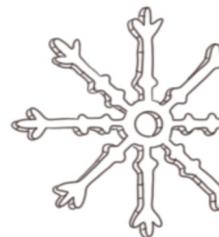
Hans Schroeder, Piedmont



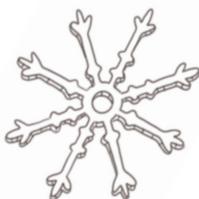
Peter Veunnasack, Midway



Amber Pettitt, Beaverton



Adam Tuttle, Rose City Park



Josh Chambers, Tigard



# Veterans In Action

by Bruce Hall, Veterans Rep

Last month I wrote an article about "Spring Into Action," so this month's article is sort of a continuation. We need to be active continually.

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's 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, please send your Name, Email, and Zip Code to Bruce Hall, 8017 N. Washburne Ave., Portland, Or, 97217, or email to [vwbruce@gmail.com](mailto:vwbruce@gmail.com). I can get you signed up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. It is available to anyone who desires it. By receiving this information, you can then appropriately contact your legislators about legislation affecting veterans.

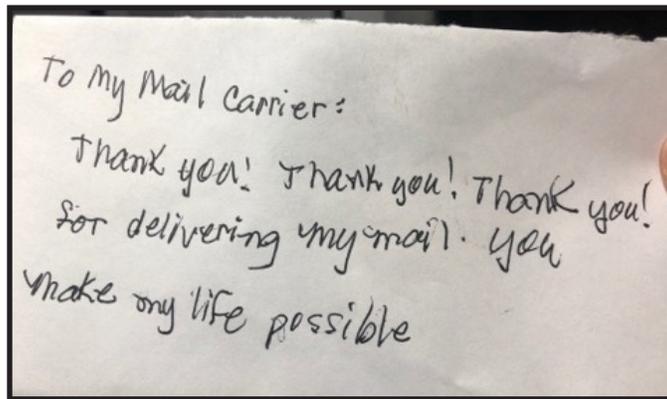
One of the biggest issues that affects the Department of Defense and the Veterans Administration is proper funding. Congress needs to ensure that the funding appropriated is sufficient to take care of our uniformed and civilian personnel, maintain our readiness at the highest possible level, and sustain our technological advantages. Plus, we need to take care of those who have served and need assistance. So, contact your congressperson and request that they work together to provide funds to modify sequestration and maintain a good National Security, and also take care of those who provide our National Security through their

service and sacrifice. Please contact your congressperson as soon as possible.

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

- 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 [vwbruce@gmail.com](mailto:vwbruce@gmail.com).



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.

We want to thank all our veterans for their service. Then we would like to encourage everyone to be active in our quest for the proper care of our veterans.

One way the VFW is active in this quest is by having over 500 VFW and VFW Auxiliary members attend a Legislative Conference in the nation's capital the first week of March. They will be there to urge their respective members of congress to continue improving the programs and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs. You can be active in this quest by contacting your Congressional members via phone, US mail, or email. Your voice is important. Let's ALL work together to accomplish the mission of caring for veterans.





# ACTIVE DUTY

- ROBERTO JIMENEZ, (Creston) Army, Qatar
- CASEY JAMES, (Waterfront) Army, Jordan
- NOAH DUARTE, son of Ricardo Duarte (St. Helens) Army, South Korea
- 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
- JARED SZAROLETA, son of Donna Szaroleta (Oak Grove) Marines, Camp Pendleton
- DEAN SCHUCHARDT, son of Patricia Schuchardt (Multnomah) Army
- TOM TOTTEN, 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



# MDA Report

By Abe RedCloud, MDA Rep

Hello everyone, I hope this finds all of you healthy and safe during the epidemic we are all going through! Be smart and safe out there, active letter carriers and retirees. Due to the virus, there have been changes to our current and upcoming events for MDA. Here are the updates:

## CURRENT MDA EVENT:

Last month I told you that the raffle would end and be drawn at the April 8th general meeting. Well, that has changed not only because we will not be having a general meeting in April, but most stewards were not able to get raffle tickets as the stewards council was canceled as well. Because of this we are extending the raffle and will draw the winners at the Branch Picnic on Sunday July 12th. We are currently selling raffle tickets. At least 10 stewards have raffle tickets to sell, and also the union hall has tickets available. Here is an update of the raffle info:

### Ticket Prices:

\$5 a ticket or for \$20 you get 5 tickets.

### Prizes:

1st Place = Go Pro Hero 7

2nd Place = Ipad mini 4

3rd Place = \$50 Visa card



This is the most inexpensive event that we have for MDA as it costs only \$5 to make a difference. Let's think about this- if every member puts in only \$5, then we would raise roughly \$9,750!!! But this will only happen if everyone spreads the word. That means I NEED YOU! Yes you, the one reading this article. MDA needs your help. Try to get every person you know (family, friends, coworkers, businesses, etc) to put in \$5 for MDA, and they get a chance to win one of those awesome prizes! Get inspired to make a difference and change someone's life! Even if the prizes aren't interesting to them, let them know it's about helping kids with Muscular Dystrophy have a better life and even be cured in some cases!!! Already have a Go Pro? The prizes also make great gifts or donations! So please, get out there and collect some money for MDA. You can contact me or the branch, and we can get you tickets to sell or even send them to you if you would prefer to not go to the union hall. We appreciate your help.

## NEXT MDA EVENT:

The next event is BRANCH 82'S ANNUAL LABOR BOWL! We have decided to postpone this event as May 17 was a little too close to when things might get lifted, and we were worried that participation would be low. So the new date for the Labor Bowl will be between late July and early August. Next month I should have the new date for this event, and at that time I will also give you all the info.



## BRANCH 82 SCAVENGER HUNT 2020:

Unfortunately, this event will be canceled this year due to the Pandemic pushing back the Labor Bowl and Raffle. But we will bring this back in 2021!!!!

## RHYME TIME:

"In 2020, we made the most money. For MDA, let's all say Hooray! Raffle came first, along with this verse. Aiming super high, higher than the sky. Fingers are crossed tight, hopefully this soars to a new height! Tickets are being sold, and everyone has been told."

New Verse "COVID-19 has hit us, getting TP is a big fuss! Self quarantine is in effect, stay 6 feet away to not infect."

Want to help me with next month's rhyme addition? Give me a call or text! All for now my fellow Brothers and Sisters.

In Solidarity,  
Abe RedCloud



# Protest rally and Postal Forum draw 97217 neighbors

Jamie Partridge, retired

Communities and Postal Workers United (CPWU) has been busy organizing against the Consolidated Casing "experiment" at the Kenton Post Office. Close to fifty residents of North Portland's 97217 zip code area rallied outside the Kenton Post Office on November 30 to protest their erratic, unreliable and haphazard mail delivery. Mary Beverage, representing the Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association, urged her neighbors to complain to Congressman Earl Blumenauer, who has agreed to collect their mail stories and deliver them directly to Kevin McAdams, VP of Delivery and Retail Operations in Washington, DC. KOIN-TV and Street Roots newspaper got the word out to Portlanders.

Two months later, after hundreds had signed petitions and written letters (including the Kenton Business Association plus the Arbor Lodge and Humboldt Neighborhood Associations), Blumenauer hosted a CPWU-sponsored Postal Forum at the Celebration Tabernacle, just down the street from the Kenton P.O. on January 25.

The forum was packed. KATU filmed. Pastor E.D. Mondaine, president of the local NAACP, welcomed the crowd. Community leaders, business owners, residents, and letter carriers stepped up to the microphone and shared their stories. Since late September, North Portland's mail delivery has been a mess. Mail is arriving days late, in the dark, to the wrong address, and with constantly changing letter carriers.

A "pilot" project, called "Consolidated Casing", has been forced on residents and businesses in the 97217 zip code. The US Postal Service leadership in Washington, DC is trying to speed up mail carriers, eliminate the number of mail routes and break-up (deskill) their job into two – the "caser carriers" and the "street carriers".

"None of this is the fault of anybody that is working here in Portland, from managers to clerks to letter carriers", said Willie Groshell, Oregon president of the letter carriers union (OSALC). "They are all trying their best to make this experiment work and they have no choice or say in how this whole process is being done to them and their customers. The national postal service should have notified the customers in the 97217 zip code that they were to be used as a test site so that this experiment wouldn't have caught everyone so off guard.

"Congressman Blumenauer wants customer stories and statements to ensure that he can keep USPS leadership fully informed of what is happening on the ground, so that together we can ensure great reliable postal service for

all customers going forward." Postal patrons can email [Blumenauer.casework@mail.house.gov](mailto:Blumenauer.casework@mail.house.gov) or call the office at 202-225-4811

What's been the result of this "experiment" over five months? Numerous customer service failings during the test, including entire routes not receiving delivery, pre-sequenced mailings curtailed beyond requested delivery dates, and carriers instructed to disregard the address when delivering walk sequence and/ or marriage mail. Other issues include hold mail that is temporarily misplaced or not processed/resumed in a timely fashion, changes of address that are not being recorded, mail that does not get forwarded and businesses that are closed by the time the carrier arrives. AND exhausted mail carriers, working 10-12 hour days, mandated overtime, exposure to a wide variety of safety issues, and delivering on routes that are too long, that they are not familiar with.

Any readers living in the 97217 zip code can sign the petition "Fix North Portland's Mail" at <http://chn.g.it/29PJFQ5w> and get involved in the struggle by emailing [cpwunited1@gmail.com](mailto:cpwunited1@gmail.com).



# RESOLUTION: Check-in on Frail and Elderly

Whereas: Unions across the nation have begun to include their community's needs when bargaining collective agreements, and

Whereas: Many letter carriers currently take time to check in on frail and elderly customers, despite management pressure to skip such contact, and

Whereas: In a time of declining mail volume and job cuts, the French postal workers union negotiated a program in 2017 - "Watch Over My Parents" - to have letter carriers check in on isolated frail and elderly patrons, for a modest fee paid by patrons, the state or their family, with training on how to spot problems, thus serving the community and preserving and expanding letter carrier jobs, therefore be it

Resolved: That NALC Branch 82 urge our national leaders to study the French system and seek to negotiate a similar expansion of postal service, and be it finally

Resolved: That this resolution be forwarded to the Oregon State Association of Letter Carriers convention and the national NALC convention for concurrence.

Submitted by Jamie Partridge, Alexandra Hysmith, Jason Haire, Stephen Schmidt, Mark Flegal

## Branch 82 Officers

President	David Norton	503.493.5903
Vice President	Jim Baxter	503.493.5903
Sec/ Treasurer	Matt Pierce	503.493.5903
Rec. Secretary	Ken Wilson	503.493.5903
Editor	Suzanne Miller	503.493.5903
Dir. of Retirees	Sam Smith	503.493.5903
Health Benefits	Eric Matras	503.706.8717
Chief Steward	John Kunz	503.493.5903
Sergeant At Arms	Chuck Solomon	503.493.5903
Safety Officer	Don Cadwell	503.493.5903
LCPF Rep	Joe Fruichantie	503.493.5903
Veterans Rep	Bruce Hall	503.285.8468
MDA Rep	Abe RedCloud	503.493.5903

### EXECUTIVE BOARD AT LARGE

John Kunz	503.493.5903
Betty Nash	503.493.5903
Jamie Partridge	503.493.5903
Abe Redcloud	503.493.5903

### TRUSTEES

Lois Brumfield	503.493.5903
Casey English	503.493.5903
Julius Fildes	503.493.5903
Sallie Green	503.493.5903
Ted Lulich	503.493.5903

**REFINANCE** your current vehicle from another financial institution to NWPCU. *Or...* **PURCHASE** a new or used vehicle and finance with us.

**NO PAYMENT!  
90 DAYS**

**ON NEW, USED AND REFINANCED VEHICLES!**

When you purchase through **AUTO SOLUTION**, our Auto Broker, you'll receive an additional .25% off of our already **LOW** rate. **Call Peter (503-913-3721)** and he will find your dream new or used vehicle.

You may have **EQUITY** in your vehicle! If you do, talk to one of our loan officers about the best way to use it.

If you are out-and-about and stop into a new car dealership, tell them you are a member of NW Priority Credit Union. We participate in the **CUDL** program. You can purchase your vehicle and have it financed with us without coming into our office. The dealership will get all your financing paperwork completed and your auto loan will be at **YOUR** credit union.

For those with less than perfect credit, we have a loan for you; our **DECLINING AUTO LOAN**. When you pay your loan on time for 12 months, we will **LOWER** your rate by .25%. This will happen yearly until the loan is paid off. This is a great loan to rebuild your credit.



**AUTO SOLUTION**

**OUR #1 PRIORITY IS YOU!**

503-760-5304 or 800-331-0968 | [www.nwprioritycu.org](http://www.nwprioritycu.org)



Federally Insured By NCUA



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

\*First payment may be deferred up to 90-days and is dependent upon when your loan closes. Interest continues to accrue during the deferred payment period. The actual Annual Percentage Rate (APR) is based on your credit history and other credit qualifications. All rates are subject to change at any time without notice. All credit is subject to approval. Current NWPCU auto loans may refinance with a minimum advance of \$5,000. \*\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate. Promotion effective January 1 through March 31, 2020. Contact us for details.



# NALC Branch 82 Membership Meeting March 11, 2020

**Call to Order:** 7:06 PM

**Officers Absent:** Brumfield, Fildes and Lulich.

**First Time Members:** Isaac Hoffer-Creston, Ian Johnson-Lents and Ryan Mills-Holladay Park.

LC Hansen presented an amendment to the motion. Amendment: The full minutes of the Feb. meeting be preserved and submitted to the Executive Board for inclusion in any future appeal. The editor's summary of the minutes is accepted by the Branch for publication in the B-Mike. The amendment was accepted by the original maker of the motion.

MSC (Motion, Second, Carried).

Norton stated the B-Mike has not been received at the office yet. He said it was sent in early. The printers had it for a week. We don't know what happened.

## **Membership Report:**

Active: Regular- 1115, CCA- 204, Management or other crafts- 40, Retired- 518, Gold Card- 72, Total- 1949. 97.3% Organized. New Members: 12 CCAs. Newly Retired: Otto Jones-Gresham. Canceled: Andrew Gledhill-Forest Park. Separated: Chelsea Apito-Forest Park  
Norton noted Gledhill became a 204b.

## **Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

Budget Report: Motion: To pay the bills. MSC

**Unfinished Business:** Partridge appealed the decision at last month's General Membership meeting to nat'l. Norton read section 21.42 from the elections guidelines to the members describing the appeal process. He suggested we read the table of contents for the appeal and Partridge's appeal letter to the members and make the rest of the documents available for any members to read them. There were 68 pages to the document.

**New Business:** Norton read a letter to the members from President Rolando about the recent postponements and cancelations due to the impact of the coronavirus. Norton reported that at the last meeting, a member's concealed handgun fell out of their holster onto the floor during the meeting. The executive board discussed this and decided to rule that weapons are not allowed during meetings at the union hall. We will get signage to put up on the doors. Hansen proposed a motion: Motion: That the branch request the Election Committee to formulate one-time experimental rules for the Fall 2021 Branch 82 elections. All candidates for contested Branch positions will be invited to address the Steward's Council following nominations. Distribution of election materials will be permitted at that designated Steward's Council based on reasonable methods determined by the Election Committee. Additional rules, such as bulletin board postings, may be developed by the Election Committee for approval by the Branch. MSC

## **Resolutions and Bylaws:**

Nash reported there was one resolution to vote on and one to read. She read the resolution about an all electric fleet for the postal service. They recommended approval of the resolution. The members agreed. Nash read a second resolution concerning the union's support of HR 2158, the Easy Access to Mail Act. Norton stated the Executive Board voted to support endorsement of the Oregon Green New Deal Earth Day Mobilization. Dave Medford spoke about the subject. MSC

**Labor-Management Report:** We currently have two removals before the branch, and possibly more coming. We also have multiple 16.7s. Norton said we have a lot of discipline right now, and attendance is definitely big on their list. Staffing is terrible and adds to this problem. We don't have enough CCAs. They are trying to hire, but are having problems. Kunz spoke about the bid sheets. We are back to the LMOU language of 28 days and have to unwind the whole bid process.

## **Health and Safety Report:**

Cadwell discussed the coronavirus with the members and the use of hand sanitizer and masks. He said we haven't gotten much direction Cadwell urged the members to stay home if they were sick.

**Retiree's Report:** We will be meeting the second Tuesday of the month at Izzy's. Jim Cook may come this month and make a history presentation. Eldon Ashmore celebrated 40 years of retirement with us at the last meeting.

**Labor Solidarity Report:** The ATU is in a fight with Trimet for a contract. The local 757 is fighting over their apprenticeship program. Motion: To stand in solidarity with the ATU in their fight for a contract. MSC

Partridge reported the APWU got their contract today. He said they held their own, receiving 3.4% wage increases over the next four years. They have also decreased the wage gap between temporary and career employees. He spoke about the details of the contract.

Motion: To endorse all candidates and measures the AFL/CIO has endorsed. Hansen said she was not in favor of rubber stamping our endorsements. She doesn't want our endorsement to be a broad endorsement of other unions. Failed:

## **Hospitality Committee Report:**

Norton thanked the hospitality committee and Cody Harris for cooking tonight's meal.

## **Good of the Association:**

Norton reported there would be a passport fair this Sunday. This would be a good time for carriers to do this.

## **For the Betterment of the Service:**

Kitty Award: Casey English won \$90.00.  
Jackpot: \$550.00 was unclaimed by Larry Schuh.  
Treasure Chest: \$320.00 was unclaimed by Richard Thomson

**Adjourned:** 9:07 PM.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS  
 Branch 82  
 5265 NE 42nd Ave  
 Portland, Oregon 97218



Non-Profit  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Portland , Oregon  
 Permit No. 4  
 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**ALL APRIL MEETINGS  
 ARE CANCELED  
 May meetings to be detemined**

**WHAT IS YOUR POSTAL SOCIAL CREDIT SCORE?**

On the heels of the success of the Consolidated Casing project, rumor has it our overlords intend to roll out our very own social credit system to inspire correct thought and behavior

**EXAMPLES OF ACTIVITIES AFFECTING PSCS**

- Buzzed driving -100
  - Texting at case -25
  - Skipping break +30
  - Sassing the boss -50
  - Using deodorant +10
  - Wasting good UBBM -500
  - Not casing third bundle +25
  - Volunteering on undertime +60
  - Pocketing postage due coins -50
  - Tracking dog leavings into vehicle -40
  - Participating in informational picket -300
  - Complimenting supervisor on new tie +20
  - Moving faster than usual on test day +200
  - Encouraging new peeps to join union -1000
  - Making insincere apology for being late -75
  - Praising management on social media +300
  - Turning Christmas gifts over to supervisor +50
- (extra points for relinquishing booze and money)

**Check out  
 the 'Carrot/  
 Stick' chart  
 below!**



BY KERRY WAITE & TERRY KNOTT  
 © 2020 ILOVETHEPOSTOFFICE.COM

**FORWARD, FOR A MORE HARMONIOUS POST OFFICE! (Points to be assessed per pay period)**

>2000	Timely paycheck	0 to -500	No donuts for you
1500 to 2000	Discounted postage stamps	-500 to -1000	Public shaming on bulletin board
1000 to 1500	Help on day after holiday	-1000 to -1500	Drafting on non-scheduled day
500 to 1000	Donuts	-1500 to -2000	Dropping four spots in vacation sign-up
0 to 500	Atta-boy/girl	<2000	Compulsory promotion to 204b