

908 News

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Newsletter Com: Powell, Comuso, Lipski Ph: 906-2838 Fax: 227-0516 www.nalcbranch908.com January 2012

Presidents Report

Happy New Year Everyone, I hope everyone had a safe and healthy holiday season. As we head into the New Year we are waiting to hear about our negotiations for a new contract, as the parties agreed to another extension until January 20th. Hopefully, we will be able to vote on a contract that is good for all involved. Time will tell. I would like to take this time to welcome the new officers that were elected by the branch to serve for the next two years. Welcome back Norm Spence, who was elected as your new assistant recording secretary, George Greenwood, who was elected as the new Health Benefits Officer, and Jim Boyle as Trustee. The membership has chosen good people for these positions and I look forward to working with them. On another note, I would like to thank former assistant recording secretary, Ed Friel for his longstanding dedication to this Branch and the Union. Ed did a terrific job for the Branch for the last 40 years and was a huge asset to me for my first two years as President. Everyone who attends meetings knows who Eddie is and what he meant to this Union. Thanks, again Ed. On another front, I have just been informed the district is taking applications for new TE positions at \$21.66 an hour! The posting expires January 15th and can only be applied for over the internet, which seems strange! I guess we are not as broke as they are portraying us! It appears they are looking to hire more TE's, for what reason I am not sure, but there must be something coming down that they believe they will be needing more temporary help! I don't want to speculate, but you can use your imagination to come up with a reason. Stay tuned. Another situation occurred over the past month that I must address. Labor Relations along with our Business Agent held Article 15 training for managers and stewards, which was supposed to be mandatory in attendance for all offices. Once again, we had a few offices that refused to comply with this directive. Those offices were Glassboro, Williamstown, and Paulsboro. It amazes me how all other offices were able to meet this much needed training, but these three offices couldn't get there! I heard the excuse that there was a problem getting people off because the office was short! The problem is everyone knew well in advance the date of the training so there really was no excuse. It is just typical of some of these managers. Once again, management is the problem when it comes to getting grievances resolved since one of the main problems we see is their lack of knowledge on how the process works. By not participating shows their utter disdain for the process. I hope someone takes a look at these offices who continue to disrespect the rest of us who want to be able to work with each other! Hope to see everyone at the installation of the officers at the regular monthly meeting.

Gary DiGiacomo- President

Next Meeting

The next regular monthly meeting of the Branch will be held on **Wednesday, January 18th , 8 p.m.**, at the American Legion Hall, 502 Colonial Ave., North Woodbury. The regular monthly meetings of the Branch are held on the **Third Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m.**, **The Branch Board of Officers and Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.** The Board of Officers at **7:30 p.m.**, and the Executive Board at **8 p.m.** The next meeting of the Board of Officers and Executive Board will be on **Wednesday, January 11th, 7:30 and 8 p.m.** respectively

Installation Of Branch Officers & Shop Stewards

The installation of Branch Officers and Shop Stewards for the term 2012 thru 2013 will be held at the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on **Wednesday, January 18th**. Our National Business Agent, **Bill Lucini**, has been invited to install the newly elected Officers and Shop Stewards of the Branch.

Branch Election Results

Assistant Recording Secretary

(vote for one)

*Norm Spence (168)
Ed Friel (159)

Health Benefits Officer

(vote for one)

*George Greenwood (171)
Vince Castagna (45)
Bill Gore (103)

Housing Chairman

(vote for one)

*Joe Walder (218)
Dawn Cain (101)

Sgt. At Arms

(vote for one)

Phil Haas (155)
*Jim Livingston (168)

Trustees

(vote for 4)

Frank Ingemi (153)
*Donna Vilec (258)
*Mike DiGiacomo (277)
*Shawn McBride (264)
*Jim Boyle (261)

Shop Steward Magnolia

*Michael Dorisio (4)
Al Disipio (1)

* Denotes Winner

Convention Delegates

*Gary DiGiacomo - 285	* George Greenwood - 214
*Steve Lipski - 280	* Jim Comuso - 214
*Mike Powell - 257	* Bill Gore - 211
*Donna Vilec - 252	*Jim Livingston - 201
*Shawn McBride - 251	*Phil Haas - 200
*Steve Rutkowski - 250	Norm Task - 190
*Joe Walder - 247	April Litty - 152
*Norm Spence - 247	Frank Ingemi - 150
*Tom Barnett - 246	Vince Castgna - 149
*Tom Walsh - 237	Jim Hiltwine - 70
*Jim Boyle - 234	

* Denotes Compensated Delegates (16)

Shop Steward Appointments

President Gary DiGiacomo has made the following appointments :

- Clayton-** Frank Ingemi
- Gibbstown/Paulsboro** until January 27-2012 then it becomes
- Gibbstown-**Loretta Morris
- Lawnside-** Jim Boyle
- Maple Shade-** Fred Simpkins
- Haddon Heights-** Jim Boyle
- Pennsville-** Leanna Boschetto
- Salem-** Pat McCarthy- tentative- in house carrier
- Wenonah-** Mike Powell
- Woodstown-** Loretta Morris

All newly elected /appointed Stewards are to attend the Executive Board Meeting on Wednesday January 11th

Branch Election Committee

This is to publicly express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the following members of the Branch Election Committee who did an outstanding job of prepping for, mailing and tabulating the Branch 2012-13 election ballots. Deborah Amaranto (chairperson) Joe Forman, Ann Freshcolon, Steve Elias, and John Ebinger

Mike Powell Recording Secretary

Children's Christmas Party

The annual Children's Christmas Party was held on **December 11th, from 1pm- 3pm** at the Union Hall. It was a great time as usual. A big thank you goes out to Trustee Donna Villec, chairperson of the event, all of her helpers, and Santa.

Trustee Report

Happy New Year Brothers and Sisters. Hope you all had a good one. Well with a New Year brings new things. The elections for the branch are over and we will have some new officers. The trustees will be reorganizing some of their duties at the trustee meeting the last Thursday of January. I will let everyone know which trustee has which duty in the February newsletter. Also, retiree banquet tickets are on sale now, April 14th. Please come and support our present and past retirees they deserve our support. Tickets are \$20.00 per person, and include everything all night. I want to remind everyone that we will be having the branch picnic at Clementon Lake Park this year. It will be a Sunday in early September, keep the dates open. Any PTE's or TE's that need any uniforms, please come to the hall. We do have some outerwear and some shoes please contact me if you are interested. Any brother or sister that has an on the job injury, please make sure you involve your steward, and if necessary please use the branch OWCP attorneys Uliase & Uliase they are the best, everyone needs to protect his/her rights. One more thing, please help us help all of you. Please come to branch meetings and voice any concerns, remember knowledge is power. And it helps everyone when you inform all of us.

James Comuso, Sr. Trustee Chairman

Attendance Prize Now Stands At \$25

We had a winner at the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on **Wednesday December 21st Deborah Amaranto**, a member out of the Atco Office won the **\$250** attendance prize. The prize now increases to **\$25** and will increase **\$25** per meeting, up to a maximum of **\$250**, until a member in attendance has his/her name drawn.

Proposed 2012 Branch Budget Passed

Those in attendance and eligible to vote at the regular monthly meeting of the Branch held on **December 21st** unanimously approved the Branch 2012 Budget. The budget estimates the receipt and expenditures of the Branch at **\$266,867.29** for 2012.

Dates to Remember 2012

- February 27-28** – Region 12 Annual Training Seminar
- March 27-March 29** – NJ State Congressional Breakfast
- April 14** – Branch Retiree Banquet
- May 20-22**– NJ State Seminar
- July 23-27** – National Convention

5th Annual Branch Banquet- April 14th, 2012

The **5th Annual Branch 908 Banquet** will be held on **April 14, 2012** from **7:00 – 11:00pm** at **Kelly Ann Ballroom Highland Blvd. & Sylvan Ave. Gloucester City N.J.** This is a great night to eat, drink, dance, and socialize with good friends and especially to honor those carriers who have retired in the past year as well as those who have been selected to receive Branch Awards. If you have retired since the last banquet or you will retire before **April 14, 2012** contact Branch Recording Secretary Mike Powell at 908Recordingsec@comcast.net. Those being honored will receive one free ticket to the banquet. All other Branch Members, family and friends are encouraged to attend at a cost of **\$20 pp. The cost for current Branch retirees is \$10.** Tickets may be picked up from Branch Recording Secretary **Mike Powell** at any Branch meeting, or by mailing the form below with checks made out to NALC Branch 908, to PO Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030.

Name: _____		
(Please print)		
Check One: Honoree () Retiree () Other ()		
Total	Number	Attending:
Amount of remittance enclosed:		

Send to PO Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 by March 31, 2012. Members of the Branch who have retired since our last Banquet will be honored and presented with tokens of our appreciation. **If you have retired since the last Banquet or you will retire before April 14, 2012, please contact the Branch Recording Secretary, Mike Powell 856-287-8768 or 908recordingsec@comcast.net.**

Nominations for Shop Steward of the Year

The Shop Steward of the Year Award will be awarded at the Branch Retiree's Banquet. There is a nomination form below or simply write on a piece of paper the following information: Name of Steward being nominated, Office, Person making nomination (must be from Steward's office), and statement including accomplishments, knowledge of contract, ability to deal with co- workers and management, and dedication to the NALC and 908. All submissions must be received by March 28, 2012. The winner will be selected by the Awards Committee and kept confidential until the presentation at the Banquet.

Branch 908 Steward Of The Year Nomination Form

Name of Steward being Nominated: _____

Office: _____ Person Making Nomination: _____

Please write a brief statement as to why you feel this person should be the Branch 908 Steward of the Year for 2012, including accomplishments, knowledge of the contract, ability to deal with co-workers, management, communication skills, and dedication to the NALC and 908. In other words, what makes this person special? (Use additional pages if necessary.)

I believe _____ should be the 2012 NALC Branch 908 Steward of the Year because _____

**Branch 908 Steward of the Year PO Box 375
Gloucester City NJ, 08030**

PROUD TO BE UNION!