

# 908 News

NALC Branch 908  
AFL-CIO  
PO Box 375  
Gloucester City,  
NJ 08030

## South Jersey Letter Carriers

Atco, Barrington, Bellmawr, Berlin, Blackwood, Bridgeton, Clayton, Deptford, Egg Harbor City, Gibbsboro, Gibbstown, Glassboro, Glendora, Gloucester, Haddon Hts., Hammonton, Lawnside, Magnolia, Mantua, Maple Shade, Marlton, Mt. Ephraim, National Park, Palmyra, Paulsboro, Penns Grove, Pennsville, Pitman, Riverton, Runnemede, Salem, Sewell, Somerdale, Stratford, Swedesboro, Voorhees, Wenonah, Westville, Williamstown, Woodbury, Woodstown

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Newsletter Com: Powell, Lipski, Spence Ph: 906-2838 Fax: 227-0516 www.nalcbranch908.com November 2015

### Presidents Report

As we get ready for the holiday mailing season, it appears the district is already starting their nonsense with their intimidation and harassing of our carriers. They are starting to watch carriers for any time the scanners are idle for more than 30 minutes and are beginning their interrogation as to why that would be! They are starting their nonsense that parcels don't take any extra time. They are once again telling carriers that their 3996's are denied and they have no options in regards to needing assistance. All I can say to this type of management is "really?" How many more times do we have to deal with this type of managing? We have been down this road so many times it makes me sick. All we can do is be professional and do our jobs the proper way. Management cannot deny your request and then tell you that you are not to call. If that occurs, I suggest you come back when they say with the mail you have remaining and get further instructions on what they want you to do with the mail that you told them initially you weren't going to be able to deliver in their projected time. By playing their little childish game you will be protecting yourself from discipline because you are now following their instructions by coming back when they told you. I hope someone wises up and stops treating us like children and have a professional conversation when a carrier request additional time. If there is a disagreement with the numbers then I am sure we can come to a simple solution. I know they don't want to acknowledge the elephant in the room, but it is what it is! Another issue that seems to be surfacing has to deal with our CCA's working on Sundays in our Deptford installation. It seems many CCA's from other offices are being told by their sending offices to work a set amount of hours and when they get to Deptford they are being instructed to work more than that. This puts the CCA's in a bad situation in they are damned if they do and damned if they don't. Management should not be telling them they can only work a set amount of hours. This time of year is busy and only getting busier. The sending offices end up not being able to use their own CCA's as much as they would like, thus causing problems in the local offices. It just looks like one hand doesn't know what the other hand is doing. This incompetency has to stop. We are also investigating the treatment our CCA's have been receiving as well on Sunday by the managers who are working there. One last item I would like to mention is our Letter Carrier Political Fund (formerly COLCPE). The NALC is not partisan and neither is our fight. Our fund identifies and contributes to candidates who support issues important to letter carriers regardless of their political affiliation. We have elections next year and it is very important we get involved, since we will be electing a new President and every position in the House of Representatives. Please consider joining the 100 Branch 908 members who are contributing each pay. If you need information, please see our fund chairman, Ozzie Lecky. Hope to see you at this month's meeting.

Gary DiGiacomo- President

### Attendance Prize Now At \$225

Had he attended the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on **Wednesday, October 21, Paul Hajduk**, a member from our Blackwood Office, would have been the recipient of the \$200 attendance prize. The prize now increases to **\$225** and will increase \$25 per meeting, up to a maximum of **\$250**, until a member in attendance has their name drawn.

### Next Meeting

The next regular monthly meeting of the Branch will be held on **Wednesday, November 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 @ 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 meet @ **7:30 p.m.**, and the Shop Steward meeting @ **8 p.m.** The next meeting of the Board of Officers and Shop Stewards will be on **Wednesday, November 11th @ 7:30 and 8pm** respectively.

### Trustee Report

Brothers and Sisters, Its time for our 8th Annual Jack Bittner turkey drawing. On November 18, everyone present at the regular meeting will receive a ticket for a chance at winning a free turkey for the holidays. A few reminders. The Branch still maintains new and used uniforms at the hall free. Anyone that has or wants to donate or look for uniforms can call me at 609-932-9913. The Branch Social and Retiree Banquet will be held on April 26, 2016. Here is a list of Branch Benefits, the Sick and Welfare Fund provides \$10.00 a week for up to 5 weeks per year when a member is out sick, also if a member's family member passes away we provide a spray of flowers or a donation of their choice. The Death Benefit Fund provides \$200.00 to the deceased member's family. The Optical Fund provides a reimbursement of 20.00 dollars per family per year towards eyeglasses or contacts. The Branch Scholarship Fund provides a total of \$2000.00 for 4 years towards college to the winner of the drawing in May. The Branch also has a kids Christmas Party in December of each year and a picnic held at Clementon Lake Park in September. The Branch investments and cds are doing well and are all accounted for. The Branch has two attorneys under retainer, Hal Crass in Woodbury 856-845-7900. Hal handles a large range of affairs and we have Tom and Carol Uliase that handle OWCP/ Dept. of Labor matters, they can be contacted at 856-310-9002. As a branch member, your consultations are free.

James Comuso, Chairman Board of Trustees

### Mailing and Return Of Branch Election Ballots

Branch election ballots were prepared and mailed out by the Branch Election Committee on **Tuesday, November 3** for completion and return to the Election Committee by **Wednesday, December 9**. The Election Committee at the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on Wednesday, December 16 will announce the results of the election. **Any eligible member who has not received an election ballot, or received the wrong ballot, should contact Election Chairman Chuck Patel @ (609) 790-9432.** The Election Committee will start counting the ballots on **Thursday, December 10**, at 7pm at the Union Hall. Candidates may observe the tabulations.

### Save The Date Children's Christmas Party

The annual Children's Christmas Party will be held on **December 6th, from 1pm- 3pm** at the Union Hall. Anyone interested in helping or has any questions can contact **Trustee Pete DeSimone @ 609-680-3129**

### Health Benefits

OK folks Open Season is upon us from Monday November 9<sup>th</sup> through Monday December 14<sup>th</sup>. The annual Health Fair will be held at the District building Tuesday November 5<sup>th</sup> from 2-830 PM. So now's your chance to become a part of the best Health Insurance Plan offered. The NALC Health Benefit Plan. Quality + Affordability + Over 60 years of service = The NALC Health Benefit Plan. As an added benefit, The NALC HBP has teamed up with CVS Pharmacies offering you Minute Clinic. Open 7 days a week, including evenings and weekends. Check local store for hours.

- No appointment necessary
- Located in select CVS/pharmacy® stores nationwide
- All Target Stores pharmacies will soon be CVS Pharmacies
- Adding new clinics and services all the time.

Do not miss your chance to sign up, or switch to The NALC HBP during this open season. Questions? Give me a call 856-346-1177, or see you at the regular branch meeting. I will have a few shirts, and other items to be included in The Letter Carrier Political Fund Drawing. Hope to see you there.

Optical claims-Send your receipt for your one per year per family \$20.00 reimbursement for optical expenses. Mail to me at: George Greenwood, HBR 1083 Chews Landing Rd. Laurel Springs, NJ 08021. Please include your office, or retired. Thank You. Be safe. Be Healthy.

**George Greenwood, HBO**

### Nominated Without Opposition & Declared Elected

The following Branch Officers and Shop Stewards were nominated without opposition and declared Elected to their respective positions for the 2016 – 2017 year term of Office:

#### **Branch Officers**

<b>President</b>	<b>Gary DiGiacomo</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Mike Powell</b>
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Norm Spence</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Tom Barnett</b>
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	<b>Steve Lipski</b>
<b>Asst. Recording Secretary</b>	<b>Shawn McBride</b>
<b>Trustee Chairman</b>	<b>Jim Comuso</b>

#### **Shop Stewards**

<b>Atco</b>	<b>Jason Dempster</b>
<b>Blackwood</b>	<b>Gary DiGiacomo</b>
<b>Bridgeton</b>	<b>Andrew Marcoionni</b>
<b>Camden</b>	<b>Mike Powell</b>
<b>Annex</b>	
<b>Deptford</b>	<b>Shawn McBride and Jim Comuso</b>
<b>Hammonton</b>	<b>Frank Ingemi</b>
<b>Marlton</b>	<b>Pete DeSimone</b>
<b>Pennsville</b>	<b>Norm Spence</b>
<b>Riverton</b>	<b>Shari Owens</b>
<b>Somerdale</b>	<b>Jim Boyle</b>
<b>Swedesboro</b>	<b>David Jacobs</b>
<b>Williamstown</b>	<b>Jeff Ferry</b>

### Convention Delegates (18 to be compensated)

<b>Steve Lipski</b>	<b>Ozzie Lecky</b>
<b>Mike Powell</b>	<b>Steve Rutkowski</b>
<b>Gary DiGiacomo</b>	<b>Jim Comuso</b>
<b>Shawn McBride</b>	<b>Tom Barnett</b>
<b>Tom Walsh</b>	<b>James Serock</b>
<b>Norm Spence</b>	<b>Paul Poniatowski</b>
<b>Shari Owens</b>	<b>George Greenwood</b>
<b>Phil Haas</b>	
<b>Jim Boyle</b>	
<b>Jim Livingston</b>	
<b>April Litty</b>	

**There will be an election for four Trustee positions and the Shop Steward positions in Gibbstown and Sewell**

### Ozzie's Corner

The Letter Carrier Political Fund had six new contributors this month: Kenny Boursiquot, Eric Dare, Walter Grossmick, Carolyn Lloyd, Kristin Pizzuti and Edward Rieger. In addition, I want to thank Gibbstown's Loretta Morris for arranging a meet and greet with the carriers out of her office, the meeting on the LCPF went successful, and therefore I will be contacting all stewards in our union to set up individual office visits. My email address is [opleckyjr@gmail.com](mailto:opleckyjr@gmail.com) if you need to contact me about the LCPF. I would like to wish all our Branch members a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Ozzie Lecky, Letter Carrier Political Fund Chairman**

### Scholarships

NALC members have access to a number of scholarship funds to assist them financially in pursuing higher education for themselves or their children:

1. The [William C. Doherty Scholarship Fund](#), which awards five renewable grants of \$4,000 each to children of NALC members. The fund is supported by contributions, which may be sent to Doherty Scholarship Fund, c/o NALC, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. Deadline: December 31.
2. The [John T. Donelon Scholarship Fund](#), which each year awards one \$1,000 scholarship, renewable for three consecutive years. Deadline: December 31.
3. The [Costas G. Lemonopoulos Scholarship Trust](#), which awards scholarships to children of NALC members attending Florida state-supported four-year colleges and universities or St. Petersburg Junior College. Deadline: June 1.
4. The [Union Plus Scholarship Program](#), available to members, spouses and children of NALC and other unions that participate in the AFL-CIO's Union Privilege program.

*The Branch Officers and Stewards wish all the Members and their families a*  
**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!**

### \*Attention\*

Please remember to give any changes of address to your **Steward** so that you can continue to receive the Branch Newsletter and other important information. Alternatively, send changes to Mike Powell, Recording Secretary at P.O. Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 or [908Recordingsec@comcast.net](mailto:908Recordingsec@comcast.net)

<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Current Address:</b> _____
<b>New Address:</b> _____
<b>Phone Number:</b> _____
<b>E-mail:</b> _____
<b>Post Office:</b> _____