

BRANCH MEETING

BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
 JULY 9, 2020

City of St. Louis

Health Commissioner's Order #10

The revised guidance reflects the number allowable attendees in large venues.

The capacity limits for large venues are adjusted as follows:

July 6, 2020, 75% of permitted capacity

July 20, 2020, 100% of permitted capacity

These revised capacity limits shall be effective **provided** the number of new regional hospital admissions does not exceed 40 per day for three of four consecutive days, or a seven-day moving average of 35 new COVID-19 related admissions.

The official capacity of Branch 343 Letter Carriers Hall is 250. The regular branch meeting conducted on Thursday July 9, 2020, had an attendance of 26 with all wearing facial masks. Tables were separated 6 feet apart with chairs set at opposite ends. CDC guidelines were strictly adhered to with the Union Hall providing facial masks and hand sanitizer to all in attendance.

For future regular branch and shop steward meetings check: the branch343.org website, station bulletins and the Union Hall greeting phone number (314-241-4297)

Summary of Branch Action

MSC To pay the branch current expenses

MSC Br. 343 pay for the Labor Day ad of \$439 in the St. Louis Labor Tribune

New Members

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| William Crump..... | Affton | 06-05-20 |
| Destiny Evans..... | Jennings..... | 06-05-20 |
| Brian Gray | Southwest | 05-29-20 |
| Jada Jarrett..... | Weathers..... | 06-05-20 |
| Rachel Jurgesmeyer..... | Mexico | 06-09-20 |
| Matthew Larios | Coyle | 05-22-20 |
| Nathaniel Markovich..... | Southwest | 05-29-20 |
| Tiaura Wilson..... | Coyle | 05-22-20 |

Recently Retired Members

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Thomas Plasmeier..... | Olivette | 03-27-20 |
| James M. Peppers..... | Coyle | 06-16-20 |
| Deborah A. Bryan..... | South County..... | 06-28-20 |
| Walter W. Rutherford..... | Southwest | 06-30-20 |
| Gary J. Tillman | Carrier Square | 06-30-20 |
| Terence A. Marx..... | Creve Coeur | 06-30-20 |
| Kevin L. Cox..... | Gaffney..... | 06-30-20 |
| Gregory J. Wiegert..... | Creve Coeur | 07-03-20 |

Deceased Member

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Richard L. Champion | 60-Year Member | 06-30-20 |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------|

Highlights

President Robert Rapisardo called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance led by Diane Carter. The minutes were read and accepted by guest Recording Secretary Tina Hunt.

Retirees Report: Tom Schulte reported that the retirees had not met since March and that the yearly Ole Timers Day celebration in May has been postponed until further notice. Tom suggested that we may have to award this years Gold Cards and pins by mail and invite this years awardees to next years Ole Timers Day. Stay tuned.

Labor Council Report: Pamela Stepney reported that the Labor Day Parade has been postponed this year. Pam urged all letter carriers and their families to vote in the upcoming elections and you have until October 7 to register in the November 3 general election.

Mound City Carrier Report: Tom Schulte congratulated the winners of this years John H. Haake Scholarship and urged everyone to read the profiles of each of the winners in the May issue. Future plans are to bring the winners and their parents to an upcoming regular branch meeting. Information in the July MCC regarding the October Br. 343 Golf Tournament and how and when to register for the upcoming elections. Please go to the NALC website to send a letter to urge Congress to support the HEROES Act to provide financial assistance to the USPS.

Safety & Health Report: Richard Thurman urged everyone to continue social distancing. Encourage everyone at your station to please wear a facial mask. COVID-19 is serious and we must act responsibly.

Legislative Report: Mike Weir encouraged everyone to check out the political action page of the Mound City Carrier. Several bills introduced in Congress, H.R. 7120, the George Floyd police reform bill, bans choke holds, no knock warrants, and the withholding of military surplus to police. Bill passed. H.R. 6800, the HEROES Act,

Political Action Honor Roll

RICHARD RHYNER ★★★★★★★★

ART BUCK★★★ ROBERT RAPISARDO★★★ JOE POLITTE★★★

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| TED HEMPEN★★ | CHARLES SCANLON★★ | JOE FITZJARRELL★★ | GENE BRADFORD★★ |
| JOHN SCHULTZ ★★ | J. MARK SIMS★★ | JIM BRUGGEMAN★★ | CATHERINE CIARAMITARO★★ |
| TONY JASPER★★ | MIKE WEIR★★ | ROBERT EVERS★★ | LAWRENCE McHAYNES JR.★ |
| GENO IBERG★ | KEN MEYER★ | NICKI L. PRADO★ | DAN "BOGIE" BOGDAN★ |
| BILL LISTER★ | CHARLES SEXTON★ | DARLENE TATE★ | JOHN McLAUGHLIN★ |
| TOM HARMAN★ | JOHN H. HAAKE★ | MEAGHAN LAKEY★ | MICHAEL "THUMPER" THARP ★ |
| LAURA KEIM★ | ROBERT FLAHERTY★ | DICK LEONG★ | ROY HATCHARD JR.★ |
| TOM SCHULTE★ | MIKE CHENOT★ | LOREN LOERCH★ | DAN BRAUCHLE★ |
| DERRICK WILLIAMS★ | GARY COFFELT★ | MIKE BIRKETT★ | DON CHARTRAND★ |

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| GUS FRANK | MARION HARRIS | ROBERT RAPISARDO | LAWRENCE McHAYNES JR. |
| SAM GOODMAN | JAMES GOHEEN | MIKE CHENOT | SARONDA SUTHERLAND |
| MICHAEL JENNINGS | EVELYN PARK | LOREN LOERCH | ROBERT EVERS |

The above honor roll gives special recognition to those members who give \$50 or more. Each star represents \$100

Chet Drain Gary Robertson Raymond Schlereth

IS YOUR NAME LISTED? WHY NOT?
 SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS PAYABLE TO
 BRANCH 343, P.A.C.
MIKE WEIR
612 CHARLESTON OAKS DR.
BALLWIN, MO 63021-7387
(Donations are not tax deductible)

PLEASE BE ADVISED IN REGARDS TO ANY ARTICLE SOLICITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LETTER CARRIER FUND OR OUR OWN POLITICAL ACTION FUND

By making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Fund or our local Political Action Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues. You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal. The Letter Carrier Political Fund and Branch 343 Political Action Fund will use money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law. Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled. Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not tax deductible for federal income tax purposes. Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund and Branch 343 Political Action Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor.

addresses a relief package for the U.S. Postal Service. Passed in House. Not moving in Senate. We have a new postmaster and two new members have been added to the Postal Regulatory Commission. Support Jill Schupp in the 2nd District to unseat Ann Wagner.

Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report: John McLaughlin urged everyone to check the br343.org website, check bulletins or call the Union Hall greetings line for information on future regular branch and shop stewards meetings. No meetings planned, but we may do a ZOOM or WEBX meeting in the future. The outside water leak has been repaired and we are seeking a financial adjustment from MSD. Union Hall floor mud jacking will take place in the near future. Jennings will continue in the consolidated casing through the rest of this year.

Vice President/Financial Secretary Report: Brad Layton reported that the annual NALC Food Drive was cancelled this year, but you can go to the NALC website to make a financial donation to the food drive with local revenue going to the St. Louis Area Food Bank. Brad thanked all who showed up for the meeting injecting a little energy back into the hall. State and national conventions cancelled. Warsher tournament cancelled.

President's Comments: Robert Rapisardo thanked everyone for attending. Noted that carriers are working 12-hour days and 60-hour work weeks. Stay safe in the heat. We are on a pace to exceed 1,500 grievances this year. No cooperation with local management.

Respectfully Submitted, Guest Recording Secretary Tina Hunt