

# BRANCH MEETING

BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

MARCH 11, 2021

## Summary of Branch Action

- MSC To pay the branch bills.

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- MSC That Branch 343 donate \$250 to Project 2000, which is the Political Action Fund for the Greater St. Louis Labor Council.

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- MSC That Branch 343 pay the other seven officers and stewards who were in attendance at the steward training which was held February 28.

## Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m. Chet Drain led the invocation and pledge of allegiance and the minutes were read and accepted.

**NBA's Report.** No report

**Retirees Report, Tom Schulte:** Greetings sent from the retirees who are still not having meetings because of COVID-19. Reported that CVS Pharmacy will soon be giving the COVID-19 vaccine and encouraged everyone to get our older family members signed up at as many places as possible. Tom hopes to be able to schedule Ole' Timers Day in September or October 2021.

**Labor Council Report, Pam Stepney:** Reported that the St. Louis Labor Council has jobs listed on their website.

**MBA Report, Saronda Sutherland:** No Report

**Health Benefit Report, Barry Linan:** Asked members to please encourage newly converted CCA carriers to consider joining the NALC Health Benefit Plan.

**Mound City Carrier Report, Tom Schulte:** The Buddy Bass Tournament for MDA will be held April 10 & 11. Mike Weir will hold a virtual retirement seminar on April 11. The March centerfold of the MCC featured USPS quarterly performance reports for single piece and periodical mail.

**Haake Scholarship Report, Pam Stepney:** Seventeen applications for the John H. Haake Scholarship were received. To date, 10 completed packets have been returned.

**Safety and Health Report, Richard Thurman:** Accidents in the Gateway District were reduced in part because of the hard work of the Safety Task Force. Asked that if there is a safety violation in your office, identify the issue and document. Asked that CCAs please use their clothing allowance. A letter carrier not being in uniform poses a safety hazard.

**OWCP Report, Barry Linan:** The NALC will work with The Department of Labor to secure extra benefits for postal workers that may be available in the American Rescue Plan.

**Trustees Report, Frank Enlow:** The books were audited and found to be in good order.

**Legislative Report, Mike Weir:** H.R. 1319 the American Rescue Plan has been signed into law. This law will provide additional relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. H.R. 1, the For the People Act, will allow more Americans more access to the voting polls. H.R. 695 and S-145 will repeal the

## New Members

- Demetria Clark..... Veto Reid ..... 1-29-21
- Quinn Faerder ..... Affton ..... 1-30-21
- Demuntheo Smith..... Mackenzie Pointe..... 1-29-21
- Charles Stark..... Park Hills..... 1-30-21
- De'Anna Sutherlin..... South County ..... 1-30-21
- Alexandra Stokes..... Weathers ..... 1-29-21
- Jayne Swinford..... Park Hills.....3-02-21
- Sherry Traeger ..... Union ..... 1-30-21
- Randy Watson ..... Mackenzie Pointe..... 1-28-21

## Recently Retired Members

- Robert Rapisardo..... Clayton ..... 1-31-21
- Eric Holliday..... Mackenzie Point ..... 1-31-21
- Leonard Guinn..... Affton ..... 3-31-21
- Richard Thornton ..... Wheeler .....2-28-21

prefunding requirements for the Postal Service. Mike encouraged all to contact their representatives as these are all good bills for the Postal Service.

**Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report, Brian Litteken:** Reported that Tom Schulte was celebrating his birthday with us this evening and asked for a round of applause for Tom. A pre-arbitration settlement was obtained in Jefferson City in which the USPS paid \$94,000 to affected letter carriers. Brian recently met with the branch accountant to ensure that branch accounts complied with Form LM-2. The Next Generation Postal Vehicle contract was awarded to Oshkosh and the first vehicles are expected by 2023. President Biden signed an executive order directing federal officials to devise a plan for converting all federal vehicles fleets to clean and zero emission vehicles. Three members of the House of Representatives want to freeze the USPS contract to investigate possible political influence and determine whether the award is consistent with the federal obligations.

**Vice President/Financial Secretary Report, Marvin Booker:** Read financial report for February. Through the Urban League, and the National Guard, Branch 343 has secured COVID-19 shots for letter carriers. Informed the membership that people selling insurance at postal facilities is not proper and members should not buy from these individuals. Union buttons for 2021 are now available.

**President’s Comments, John McLaughlin:** The NALC national contract has been ratified. Negotiations will soon begin concerning local LMOUs. Reminded letter carriers to continue working efficiently as soon the Postal Service will have the ability to see real time data of service points.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tina M Hunt, Recording Secretary

**MOVED OR MOVING?  
KEEP US INFORMED**

To all members of Branch 343. Please keep us informed of your current address. Address correction services are expensive and cost the branch money that can be better spent. Failure to have an updated mailing list could also result in delayed communication to you and if you are a shop steward, a delay in getting paid. Don't assume that the Postal Service keeps the Union Hall advised of your address change, they don't.

You can call the Letter Carrier's Union Hall at 314-241-4297 or mail us your new address at:

Letter Carrier's Hall  
1600 S. Broadway  
St. Louis, MO 63104



*“That’s the problem with email — no one to bite.”*