

# BRANCH MEETING

BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

APRIL 8, 2021

## Summary of Branch Action

- MSC To pay the branch bills.
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- MSC That Branch 343 pay the seven members who on Sunday, March 28 attended the three-hour LMOU training held at the hall and conducted by National via Zoom.
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- MSC That Branch 343 pay the 16 members who on Sunday, March 14 attended the three-hour OWCP training conducted by RWCA Larissa Parde via Zoom.

## Recently Retired Members

- Leonard Guinn ..... Affton ..... 03/31/21  
 Timothy Tayon ..... Gaffney ..... 02/28/21  
 James Wooliver ..... Mackenzie Pointe ..... 03/31/21

## Deceased Members

- Paul Kluempers ..... Sappington ..... Retired  
 Jabari Perkins ..... Clayton ..... Active

## Hand Surgery Associates

*Treating hand & wrist problems since 1986*

**Bruce Schlafly, M.D.**

*Board Certified Hand Surgeon*

**(314) 842-2200**

10004 Kennerly Rd., Suite 259B  
 St. Louis, MO 63128  
 (Mercy South)

## New Members

- Michara Bailey..... Jennings ..... 02/27/21  
 Carl Baskin III..... South County ..... 02/19/21  
 Joseph Benford ..... Gaffney ..... 03/05/21  
 Elijah Bent..... Chouteau ..... 02/13/21  
 Christopher Brooks... Maryville Gardens ..... 02/06/21  
 Keyanna Carraway ... Gravois..... 02/13/21  
 Ronald Chitty ..... Fredericktown ..... 03/16/21  
 Jeron Courtney ..... Maryville Gardens ..... 02/06/21  
 Tija Delancy ..... University City ..... 02/13/21  
 Kimberly Durham.... Kirkwood..... 02/06/21  
 Demonta Gary ..... Kirkwood..... 02/06/21  
 Jauelle Goshen ..... Southwest ..... 02/13/21  
 Jordan Jenkins ..... Kirkwood..... 02/19/21  
 Wan-Gil Joo..... Chesterfield ..... 02/26/21  
 Paul LaVigne..... Washington ..... 01/21/21  
 Gabriel Lima ..... Southwest ..... 02/13/21  
 Adnan Mahmutovic.. Affton ..... 02/27/21  
 Alex Moore ..... Kirkwood..... 02/27/21  
 Dalton Motley..... Park Hills..... 03/17/21  
 Antwan Murray..... Weathers..... 02/13/21  
 Juma Muya..... Veto Reid ..... 01/22/21  
 Vernon Porter ..... Sappington ..... 03/05/21  
 Carlos Rivera ..... Southwest ..... 01/22/21  
 Leonard Sharlet ..... Affton ..... 02/27/21  
 Terris Smith ..... North County ..... 02/06/21  
 Frederick Terrell Jr. ... Jennings ..... 02/26/21



## BRANCH MEETING ATTENDANCE PRIZES

APRIL 8, 2021

- |   |      |                              |
|---|------|------------------------------|
| 1. Ebay Gift Card   | \$25 | Barry Linan, Retired         |
| 2. Doordash Gift Card   | \$25 | Latece Litteken, Mac Pointe  |
| 3. Olive Garden Gift Card   | \$25 | Richard Schallert, Des Peres |
|  | \$25 | John McLaughlin, Des Peres   |

## Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m. The invocation and pledge of allegiance were led by Chet Drain and the minutes were read and accepted.

**NBA's Report:** No report

**Retirees' Report, Tom Schulte:** Greetings sent from the retirees. Since most retirees have had their second shot, Tom plans to resume retirees' meetings in June. Meeting will again be held on the first Wednesday of every month. A lunch will be provided for \$5 per person.

**Labor Council Report, Pam Stepney:** Reported that the St. Louis Labor Council interviewed the mayoral candidates to find out which supported labor. Winning candidate Tishaura Jones has plans to bring labor to the St. Louis area.

**MBA Report, Saronda Sutherland:** Saronda reported that she has information on the MBA's family retirement plan. More information can be found at [NALC.org](http://NALC.org).

**Health Benefit Report, Barry Linan:** Barry reported that the NALC health benefits plan has started a rewards program. Money will be deposited on a debit card provided by NALC HBP after members complete wellness incentives. Encouraged newly converted PTFs to consider enrolling in the health plan.

**Mound City Carrier Report, Tom Schulte:** Tom asked for a round of applause for Chet Drain who was celebrating his birthday with us. Tom reported that the April issue of the MCC featured a full-page ad for the NALC money only donation food drive. Monetary donations can be made online with all credit going to Branch 343.

**Haake Scholarship Report, Pam Stepney:** Pam reported there were no applications received for the trade school scholarship, so only three scholarships will be given.

**Safety and Health Report, Richard Thurman:** Richard reported that Jennings Station has finally made safety changes to their fleet of postal vehicles. Jennings now has new Pro-Master vehicles.

**OWCP Report, Barry Linan:** Barry asked that stewards get involved with OWCP claims making sure that claimants are being paid correctly and that claims are being processed.

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

**Legislative Report, Mike Weir:** Mike reported that the right to work bill has been updated with different language. The AFL-CIO has filed a lawsuit due to the confusing language. Mike reported that Branch 343 supported mayoral elect Tishaura Jones. Mike encouraged everyone to give to the PAC fund.

**Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report, Brian Litteken:** Brian reported that the Postal Service is waiting for OPM to publish official guidance on the new EFEL. CCAs with 24 months or more of relative standing will be converted to career status effective May 8. Pella casement windows should be installed at the hall by June 9. The new appraisal on the building came back at \$790,000 opposed to the \$1.3 million Travelers appraisal. A new copy machine will be purchased for the hall saving the branch \$170 a month.

**Vice President/Financial Secretary Report, Marvin Booker:** Marvin read the financial report for March. Reported that 621 COVID-19 vaccines were given in the two days that the branch offered the shots. There will be **no** collecting of food this year, only monetary donations for the food drive. Branch 343 has opted into the deferred dues payment plan offered by National. This plan will be in effect until the branch can implement a policy to collect back payment of dues.

**President's Comments, John McLaughlin:** John thanked the Urban League of St. Louis and the National Guard for offering the COVID-19 vaccine to the members. Letter carriers are having trouble getting paid for getting their vaccines. A class action grievance will be filed. Reported that the service must calculate pay raises and back pay for over 200,000 carriers. We should see those adjustments by summer. National has implemented a task force to track delayed and undelivered mail. Richard Thurman and Kelly Teegarden will be working on the task force. Thanked the stewards who took time out of their day to attend the LMOU training. John said he is always pleased by the members' eagerness to learn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Hunt, Recording Secretary