

# BRANCH MEETING

BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

APRIL 11, 2024

## Summary of Branch Action

- MSC To pay the branch bills.
- MSC That Branch 343 host a John H. Haake Scholarship dinner for the scholarship committee and the national education board representatives that worked on the 2024 scholarship awards.
- MSC That the branch reimburse up to \$100 to each office in Branch 343 (not to exceed in total \$2,600) towards the purchase of food and non-alcoholic beverages for the workers at each site accompanied by a valid receipt (not from Sam's or Walmart).

## New Members

- Keshia Anthony..... Weathers..... 3/2/2024
- Robert Barnes..... Gaffney..... 3/9/2024
- Donovan Booker ..... Gaffney..... 3/2/2024
- Telly Brown..... Harriet Woods ..... 3/9/2024
- Terrina Brown ..... Olivette ..... 3/9/2024
- Amelia Burns..... Jennings..... 3/29/2024
- Shaun Carroll ..... Harriet Woods ..... 3/9/2024
- Pierre Coney Jr. .... North County ..... 3/23/2024
- Joshua Creamer ..... Fenton..... 3/9/2024
- Carlous Crump..... Sappington ..... 3/9/2024
- James Davis..... Gravois..... 3/9/2024
- Kortlan Davis ..... Kirkwood ..... 3/29/2024
- Alice Dixon..... Kirkwood ..... 3/23/2024
- Terrell Drummer ..... Normandy ..... 3/23/2024
- Brendan Dunlap..... Gravois..... 3/23/2024
- Bruce Dunn ..... Park Hills ..... 3/9/2024
- Donnell Evans ..... Gaffney..... 3/16/2024
- Robert Foushee..... Kirkwood ..... 3/9/2024
- Patrick Frost..... West County ..... 3/23/2024
- Ta'Juana Gillespie..... South County..... 3/23/2024
- Kayla Goodwin..... Clayton ..... 3/23/2024
- Zachi Grant..... Weathers..... 3/9/2024
- Bobbi Graves..... Mackenzie Pointe ..... 3/29/2024
- Laphonso Hall ..... Jennings..... 3/9/2024
- Anthony Henry ..... South County..... 3/9/2024
- Daniel Jansen..... Kirkwood ..... 3/23/2024
- Christopher Jones..... Coyle..... 3/23/2024
- Edwin Jones ..... Maryville Gardens ..... 3/23/2024
- Keon Jones ..... South County..... 3/29/2024

- Molly Kordonowy ..... St. Clair..... 3/9/2024
- William LaBrier ..... South County..... 3/23/2024
- Tonya Little ..... Normandy ..... 3/23/2024
- Jasmine Mason ..... Maryville Gardens ..... 3/16/2024
- Aryona May ..... Mackenzie Pointe ..... 3/23/2024
- Derrick McLarty ..... Southwest ..... 3/16/2024
- Kristen Modelski..... Sappington ..... 3/23/2024
- Giovani Oliver ..... Maryville Gardens ..... 3/29/2024
- Martina Primus..... Clayton ..... 3/16/2024
- Devonta Quinn..... Weathers..... 3/9/2024
- Andre Randle ..... Weathers..... 3/9/2024
- Akil Rice ..... Weathers..... 3/9/2024
- Stephanie Rozier..... Weathers..... 3/2/2024
- Brandy Ruff ..... Gaffney..... 3/9/2024
- Junior Scott..... Kirkwood ..... 3/2/2024
- Jacob Shanahan ..... Kirkwood ..... 3/23/2024
- Mekhai Slaughter ..... Maryville Gardens ..... 3/9/2024
- Joseph Swearengen..... Harriet Woods ..... 3/16/2024
- Theresa Swinson ..... Coyle..... 3/23/2024
- Brittany Taylor..... Jennings..... 3/9/2024
- Accardo Tolbert..... Ferguson..... 3/23/2024
- Monica Walters ..... Park Hills ..... 3/29/2024
- Taylor Ware..... Carrier Square ..... 3/9/2024
- Briasia Warren..... Weathers..... 3/23/2024
- Bryce Warren..... North County ..... 3/16/2024
- Charles Washington .... Weathers..... 3/23/2024
- Vamelah Washington .. Maryville Gardens ..... 3/22/2024
- Dameine Watson Jr. .... Normandy ..... 3/9/2024
- Cieria Watts ..... Jennings..... 3/2/2024

## Recently Retired Members

- Patrick Carnes ..... North County ..... 03/31/2024
- Pamela Stepney..... West County ..... 03/29/2024

## Deceased Members

- Jeffrey Brewer ..... Retired ..... 04/05/2024
- Michael J. Martise ..... 60 Year ..... 05/08/2023



# Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Pam Stepney and the minutes were read by Recording Secretary Richard Brown and accepted.

**NBA's Report, Patrick Baker (RGA)** reported that regarding the HIPP grievances, they are trying to decide if there will be an interpretive case.

- The NBA office is still pushing for branches to file grievances for falsification of training, as the Postal Service is willing to falsify training and then discipline you for violating a policy that they falsified you had training on. Step B is about 500 cases behind in KS-MO, mainly because they are not just settling anymore, they are asking for remedies. They are going to try to bundle cases that are the same issue to cut the case load down. Dave is bringing someone in from headquarters to assist with processing the grievances that are pending arbitration at Step B.
- A Steward College has been created, the first session to be held at Branch 343 (20-30 people). It will move around throughout the region. It will be a 3-day training (Sunday-Tuesday) and the branch will pay the members' wages.

**Retirees Report, Tom Schulte:** Greetings from the retirees, 36 members were present at last meeting. 95th Annual Ole Timers Day (May 4), catering is being set up. Please turn in sign-up sheet if planning to attend. Can't NALC file a class action grievance through DOL for the Postal Service failing to comply with provisions of the contract.

**Labor Council Report, Pam Stepney:** People need to get out and vote. Discussion about Wastewater System bill that passed. A Mother Jones Festival is coming up. Labor leader Mary Harris was an organizer of mine workers. Stamps going up to 73 cents in July.

**Health Benefit Report, Barry Linan:** Postal Service still providing benefits training to PTFs as if they are CCAs. Most that are supposed to show up at training, are not. Be sure to inform PTFs to sign up for benefits within 60 days. You can only get life insurance after the 60-day deadline if you have a life changing event (childbirth, marriage).

**Mound City Carrier Report, Tom Schulte:** Reminded everyone that food drive is coming up May 11. Get T-shirts ordered by April 19. You can go on NALC website to sign up to receive legislative information. Bills on the table are listed and you can click on the bill to send an email to show support for the bill. Page 18 of MCC explains how to navigate the NALC legislative website.

**Haake Scholarship Report, Pam Stepney:** Was going to announce scholarships today but the committee has not completed the selection process. Winners will be announced next month.

**OWCP Report, Barry Linan:** Still having problems with people getting COP (code 071). First three calendar days after injury use own leave and COP starts day four. If someone has problems, have them call the hall.

**Trustees Report, La'Tecse Litteken:** Books audited and found in good standing.

**Reading of the Bills, Recording Secretary Richard Brown.**

**Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report, Brian Litteken:** Talked about National Convention and the hotel that has been confirmed, also the letter mailed by President McLaughlin regarding cancellation and deadlines; First one is May 1 — if you cancel afterwards delegate will pay \$30, if you cancel after July 15 delegate will pay one night's stay \$248. Inform the branch before these dates so you don't have to pay the penalties. Delegate may go to hotel website on/after July 18 to confirm reservation days (set up to arrive Sat. and leave Sat., but branch only paying for six nights). EVERY DELEGATE NEEDS TO GO ON SITE OR CALL HOTEL TO CONFIRM DAYS YOU WILL BE THERE.

Spoke on heat illness training on HERO, and what it tells you to do if you experience heat illness. Have management verify if HVAC system is working properly, prior to it getting hot.

Cardinal tickets for sale tonight (\$135 pair)

**Vice President/Financial Secretary Report, Marvin Booker:** Gave financial report for March. Marvin and the prior postmaster had plans to visit stations to talk about the food drive, but she is no longer with us. He has not corresponded with new postmaster, although he emailed her. He displayed the new T-shirt on the podium and the deadline for T-shirt orders is April 19. Some food drive posters are available today. All food drive postcards are going to Maryville Gardens, they will be taken to foodbank for folding with bags, depending on when they arrive. Try to get the other employees on board with doing their part on food drive day. Get to know your fellow co-workers.

**New members** – 58 (one present at meeting)

**Newly retired members** – Two

**Unfinished Business** – Mo from Gaffney spoke on carriers not being allowed to work on non-scheduled day and mail being left until the next day.

**President's Report, John McLaughlin:** Route inspections have been completed at Mackenzie Pointe but not sure if the review has been done, which is required. Affton is starting their route inspections on April 27. National officer James Henry (vice president) will be attending Ole Timers Day. Based on branch bylaws, only 21 paid delegates will be able to go to the National Convention. A letter has been sent to delegates. If you believe you should qualify and have not received a letter, contact John McLaughlin.

**Prizes:** Four sets of Cardinal tickets      **50/50:** \$54 Brian Gray

**Benediction, Pam Stepney**      **Attendance:** 42

*Respectfully Submitted, Richard Brown, Recording Secretary*