

BRANCH MEETING

BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Summary of Branch Action

- MSC To pay the branch bills.

- MSC That the branch designate all delegates who have properly accepted nomination and will qualify to be paid delegates to the National and State Convention be taken as paid delegates to the National Convention in 2026 and the State Convention in 2025.

- MSC The branch purchase two seats, not to exceed \$600, for half the St. Louis Billikens men's basketball 2024-2025 season (roughly 13 games) to be given away as attendance prizes at the branch general meeting.

- MSC That Branch 343 sponsor a hole for \$100 for the Kansas City Branch 30 MDA Golf Tournament.

- MSC That Branch 343 sponsor a hole for \$100 for the Jefferson City Branch 127 MDA Golf Tournament.

- MSC That the branch purchase three new laptops and the labor for installation and importing files and programs from current computers for the three full time officers at a cost of no more than \$8,200.

- MSC That the branch replace the cooler at a cost of no more than \$3,200.

- MSC That Branch 343 complete the development of a new grievance database and web portal at a cost not to exceed \$115,000.

New Members

- Nathaniel Fields..... Chouteau 8/24/2024
- Kenneth Francis Town & Country.....8/28/2024
- Jamesha Harris Town & Country.....8/28/2024
- Jeremiah Hodapp Sainte Genevieve..... 8/10/2024
- Raymond Moore..... Jennings 8/10/2024
- Todd Rundel Fenton8/2/2024
- Morgan Thurman Sikeston8/2/2024
- Jayla Weatherby..... Town & Country.....8/28/2024
- Whitney Williams..... Jennings 8/24/2024

Recently Retired Member

- Robert Joseph Gaffney08/30/2024


Deceased Members

- Richard Miriani..... 60-Year Member08/28/2024
- Joanne Holbrook Retired09/15/2024



BRANCH MEETING ATTENDANCE PRIZES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Cardinals vs Pittsburg Pirates	Sept 16	John Thomas, Affton
Cardinals vs Pittsburg Pirates	Sept 17	Shonna Randle, Carrier Square
Cardinals vs Pittsburg Pirates	Sept 18	Frank Enlow, U-City
Cardinals vs Pittsburg Pirates	Sept 19	Brian Litteken, Des Peres
Blues vs Dallas Stars	Oct 3	Marvin Booker, Union Hall
	\$57	David Crumley, Fenton

Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Chet Drain and the minutes were read by Recording Secretary Richard Brown and accepted.

NBAs Report, Dave Teegarden: The RAP Session to be held Jan. 31 - Feb. 2, 2025, and training thereto. There has been a lot of talk amongst branch presidents regarding route adjustments (only data from recent full inspections can be used). There is a significant backlog (300+) cases at DRT (four teams are active, and they process 80-90 cases a week, while receiving the same amount a week). 80% of the backlog is for Article 8. This is mainly because management won't settle cases, they deem punitive (increased monetary remedy).

Retirees Report, Tom Schulte: There were 32 members in attendance. Lunch was provided by Geno Iberg and his wife. Tom reminded us of the upcoming retirees picnic on Oct. 2 at Creve Coeur Park. The branch received a plaque from the National Convention for MDA fundraising (we were category 2 winners - \$26,250), he also advised that we only have two events now (Golf Tournament and Bass Tournament). President John McLaughlin presented a check to MDA on the MDA Telethon and was sure to acknowledge the late Gus Frank during his presentation.

Labor Council Report, The council spoke on Cori Bush and why she voted the way she did. Franklin County had their first Labor festival. He went door knocking last Saturday to speak to people about voting and will be doing it again this Saturday (9/14), there will also be phone banking soon. They spoke on all the cannabis shops that are opening and hiring union workers. Pam also reported on some of the things that are going to be on the ballot (i.e., abortion, labor)

Health Benefit Report, Barry Linan: Barry reported that participants will not be required to actively enroll in new PSHB plan, USPS will automatically "crosswalk" you into plan similar to what you had. He does not have faith in the process and advised us to look for a letter in the mail. If you allow them to do so, verify that you are in the correct plan.

Mound City Carrier Report, Tom Schulte: A 2025 rotating day calendar is in the September issue of the MCC. He reminded us that the shop steward banquet is Sunday, Oct. 13 and the Golf Tournament is Monday, Oct. 14.

Haake Scholarship Report, Pam Stepney: Pam reminded us to look in the September issue of the MCC for the John Haake and Charles Coyle Scholarship applications for 2025 for your high school seniors, which are due December 31, 2024. The committee went to dinner with Barbara Anderson, the scholarship essay judge. If a member is deceased (who was in good standing), their children or grandchildren can still apply for the scholarship.

OWCP Report, Barry Linan: Same violation by management, not providing the proper forms to injured carriers. They only have two choices to get claim filed (give you the forms or give you access to a computer to complete on ECOMP). File a grievance if this doesn't happen. Be sure to make a copy of any documents you give management.

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

Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report, Brian Litteken: Brian reminded us of the golf tournament which is Monday Oct. 14 at Rolling Hills Golf Course. Lunch will be provided by Homestyle Catering at their farm. We still need hole sponsors for the tournament, he also advised that players don't have to be an employee of the Postal Service. He referred to president Renfroe's Labor Day message regarding a tentative agreement ("coming soon"). Brian talked about a refrigeration company checking out our cooler, and they advised us to purchase a new one. Brian read attendance prizes.

Vice President/Financial Secretary Report, Marvin Booker: Booker spoke on the expiration of the contract, he advised that when they send out the tentative agreement, to please look at it closely when determining if you should vote for or against it.

President's Comments, John McLaughlin: We have three applicants so far, applying for Leadership Academy. We had a couple of leaders to retire: Dist. Mgr. Eddie Banner and Cheryl Benford, MPOO. The postmaster has designated one person to handle Step A's for the Installation (Ameca Moore). Management has tried to do "quick adjustments" headed by Jason Cunningham, Affton being the first office, offering to take only five routes. They are doing a full inspection at Affton starting Saturday, September 21 and there will be training offered Sunday, September 15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Brown, Recording Secretary