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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF BRANCH 14, NALC
SERVING LOUISVILLE, FORT KNOX, BARDSTOWN, RADCLIFF, LAGRANGE,
LEBANON, EMINENCE, SHELBYVILLE, VINE GROVE, SPRINGFIELD, & CAMPBELLSVILLE

JANUARY 2026



2026 NALC CONTRACT ENFORCEMENT TEAM



JARETT SIMS President

Happy New Year! I hope that everyone enjoyed a happy and healthy holiday season.

Here is a list of resolutions for Branch 14 as we enter the new year.

1. Remain diligent in protecting the rights of letter carriers. This will always be the most crucial job of the branch. As we enter the new year here at Branch 14, many of the same issues we faced in 2025 will likely carry over. If you face a problem or believe you have a grievance, you must contact your steward in writing. If there is no steward at your office, contact the hall at 502-964-3200. We will continue to make a union presence known at each of our stations and associate offices. Last year, we missed Springfield and Eminence, so we hope to visit them very soon.
2. Find ways to get more participation with the union. This starts with attending union meetings. We consistently have between 50 and 60 members at a meeting. It would be great if we had over 100 at every meeting. I will even pledge that if we have 100 members at a meeting in 2026, I will do the Polar Plunge next year. We have also passed a by-law change that will allow members to attend meetings online. We are working on the details of when and how this happens.

We are also seeking additional ways to reach you. In addition to the newsletter, the webpage, and social media (Branch 14 on Facebook), we are considering a private

website that only members can access, with the approval of a webmaster, and a possible quick survey to represent you better.

3. Step up participation in the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF). We are currently less than 10 percent and need to double that. The game of politics is not fun or clean, but as a federal agency, we must participate. LCPF only allows letter carriers and their families to donate. Due to the Hatch Act, we are not allowed to discuss the fund on the workroom floor or while in uniform. The Postal Service faces a litany of challenges in Congress annually. LCPF helps establish a bulwark against those challenges. In the latest 2024 congress, the last time data was released, LCPF supported both parties because it supports candidates who support Letter Carriers.

Some of the ideas we are considering include raffles for members who donate to the LCPF at union meetings, using volunteer donations (attendance not mandatory), and hosting our great LCPF organizer, Matt Tanner, at an event to discuss the importance of the fund and how to join—having a phone bank to call members to discuss, and using directed mailings. No amount is too small to help the cause.

4. Increase our donations to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. In the last two years, we have raised over \$40,000 for the NALC's primary charity. That is great, but I think we can do much more. We already have a series of events throughout the year, including a bowl-a-thon, 50/50 raffles at each union meeting, Super Bowl Squares, golf scrambles, and other events. In 2026, we hope to add a trivia night that I will host and write all the questions, with a date to be determined. The branch is open to all ideas. Does the station with the most

donations win a prize? (To be based upon a percentage of members plus giving, it would be unfair for Annshire and Lagrange to count equally.

5. Promote unionism both in and outside of work. At work, again, be vigilant of your rights, but also of your brothers and your sisters. When we stand side by side and shoulder to shoulder, we are much more challenging to defeat. Also, take a more active role in our Letter Carrier Food Drive, which is an excellent opportunity to help your community.

Outside of work, attend union events. Last year, we had a karaoke night, a Trunk-or-Treat, and a Holiday Christmas Party. We always need volunteers for other events, such as our Retirees' Dinner. The Branch loves to see great use of the hall and to have it filled with our members.

I hope to see many of you at the next meeting on January 27, 2026. Let's go ahead and get 100 members so I can get dunked before it gets warm.



Thank you to Dee Duvall for representing Branch 14 with the Greater Louisville Central Labor Council! From the GLCLC. A huge thank you to all our affiliates and members for making Boxes of Love a big success.

BRANCH 14 NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by
Branch 14 National Association of Letter Carriers
4815 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, KY 40213

964-3200

964-3276

Officers & Staff

President.....	Jarett Sims
Executive Vice-President.....	Lance Schwede
Vice-President.....	Nick Schneider
Recording Secretary.....	Steve Terry
Treasurer.....	Greg Ray
Asst. Recording/Financial Secretary.....	Bill Davis
Retirement/HBP/MBA Rep.....	Coulter Marvel III
Sergeant-at-Arms/Scribe.....	Adriane Shanklin
Community Activities Coordinator.....	Missy Harris
Trustee.....	Tina Davis
Trustee.....	Stephanie Diaz
Trustee.....	Daria Duvall
Trustee.....	Jon Endelmann
Trustee.....	Damon Braxton

Branch 14 Stewards

40202.....	Leroy Gutierrez
40203/08/10.....	Yodari Balcarcel
40204.....	Leroy Gutierrez
40205.....	Thomas Derringer
40206.....	Whitney Brown
40207.....	Cortney Niehaus
40209/14/15.....	Mark Wright
40209/14/15.....	Dustin Jones
40211/12.....	Damon Braxton
40213.....	Jarett Sims
40216.....	Jon Endelmann
40217.....	Lance Schwede
40218.....	Rory O'Connell
40219.....	Ron Bowman
40220.....	Rogerick Streater
40222.....	Nick Schneider
40228/91.....	Tina Davis
40229.....	Ron Bowman
40241/42.....	Adriane Shanklin
40243.....	Nick Schneider
40258.....	Chad Gross
40272.....	Lance Schwede
40299.....	Adriane Shanklin
Bardstown.....	Jessica Clark
Campbellsville.....	Jon Endelmann
Fort Knox.....	Timothy Embry
LaGrange.....	Stephanie Diaz
Lebanon.....	Ryan McCormick
Radcliff.....	Timothy Embry
Shelbyville.....	Jon Endelmann
Springfield.....	Ryan McCormick
Vine Grove.....	Timothy Embry

All facts, opinions and statements appearing within this publication are those of the writers and editors themselves, and are in no way to be construed as statements, positions or endorsements by Branch 14 or its officers.



LANCE SCWEDE

Executive Vice-President

The Year in Review

The last year has been very challenging, with many ups and downs to navigate. This article is dedicated to praising those who have fought the fight and persevered.

Jarett Sims Beginning with Jarett Sims, your Branch President, he has battled with management an undue number of times. He has argued and fought to protect carriers and branch officers, often without the membership knowing the full backstory. As he settles into his role, he is transforming into a formidable leader for this branch. Jarett, thank you for all your hard work.

Nick Schneider Nick Schneider has stepped up as the Formal A discipline representative. This position is difficult, as it involves dealing with discipline that can affect a carrier's livelihood. Sometimes, the discipline issued is a removal, which is a heavy burden for a representative to carry. Nick has been doing an incredible job at Formal A, representing carriers with every bit of energy and tenacity he can muster. Every removal won is a career extended and a retirement saved. Nick, thank you for your dedication to the membership of Branch 14 and for the sacrifices you make.

Steve Terry Steve Terry, I am not sure where to start. You perform every task asked of you, whether it relates to your specific job duties or not. You are always willing to help resolve any situation. With decades of knowledge, you help those around you become better leaders. Your selflessness is inspiring; you are the glue that keeps this branch together. Thank you for your daily hard work and for your continued efforts to encourage new hires to join our Union.

Bill Davis New phones, branch calendars, Facebook, and vendor relations—none of this would be possible without Bill Davis. Bill, I do not know how you found the time to manage the phone situation while performing all your other duties. Your dedication does not go unnoticed. Thank you for the support you have shown to the new members of the Executive Board and the officers you interact with weekly. The Branch is lucky to

have such a dedicated officer.

Greg Ray Keeping track of the branch's finances and merging bank accounts is a task I am glad I didn't have to handle. Greg Ray, I appreciate the hard work you demonstrate. Thank you for keeping the officers out of financial trouble and for protecting the membership by maintaining our building—even stepping up to fix the parking lot lights when they went out. Your efforts do not go unnoticed.

Coulter Marvel Every Tuesday, I watch retirees visit Coulter Marvel's office. Coulter spends as much time as necessary helping them with healthcare issues or helping those near retirement navigate the process. Coulter, you are an unsung hero. Retirees are forgotten in some branches, but not in Branch 14. Thank you for your dedication to learning your position and sharing that knowledge.

Missy Harris It takes a special person to keep up with politics and inform the membership about which bills help or hurt carriers. Missy Harris has that talent. Missy, thank you for continuing to care about the membership and teaching us how to protect ourselves.

Adriane Shanklin To a special person that goes beyond her duties to help others and is always available to support the branch in raising funds. To all those articles in the Postal Record (*wink wink*), I look forward to seeing your articles. Please continue to grow as a Union leader and continue to grow as a steward. I want to say thank you for all you do in protecting the membership and supporting Branch 14.

Trustees and Stewards To all the Trustees: you have a job no one wants. You enforce the by-laws and often catch grief from all sides. I hope you continue to make Branch 14 a better, safer, and more compliant place. Stewards also hold a special place in my heart. Every steward in Branch 14 deserves a thank you. You deal with pressure from management, carriers, and sometimes even from me. Quitting is not an option for you, and as time passes, your hard work builds the knowledge that is key to our success. I encourage each steward to continue striving for more knowledge to share with your units.

In Closing I want to wish every member of Branch 14 a Happy New Year. May the upcoming year bring peace and prosperity to us all.

**Visit the Branch at our website: NALCBr14.com
and Like us on Facebook**



Welcome to 2026

Update for New Retirees

Effective January 1, 2026, the Postal Service will require all optional retirement applications be submitted online through ORA (Online Retirement Application) platform, in accordance with OPM's mandate.

Accordingly, all newly received optional retirement applications will be processed through the ORA platform. This secure, fully digital system will be administered by the OPM and will allow applicants to complete retirement applications online, track the application status, and expedite processing time. Optional retirement applications submitted prior to January 1, 2026, regardless of the effective retirement date, will continue to be processed using the paper-based process and do not need to be resubmitted.

The Postal Service will be providing Frequently asked Questions and additional information in the Retirement Guide regarding this mandated application process in the coming weeks.

So, what does this mean? I will be in the learning curve with you. I can assist with computer time in the office to help fill out your application, upload documents for you and answer questions as we go through this new process together.

We hope this will speed up application processing time and eliminate human errors on OPM's side. As time goes on, I will determine how I can better help each of you in this new process.

Secondly, don't forget your NALC Health Benefit Plan Telehealth the next time you're sick.

1. Get Started
Download the NALCHBP Telehealth App or go to www.nalchbptelehealth.org.
2. Sign Up
Enter your health plan ID to see your visit cost.
3. Connect To a Doctor
Select "visit Now" under "Urgent Care Services" to see a doctor in minutes.

As a reminder, I am usually in the office each Tuesday afternoon. I can be reached at Office: 502-964-3200 or Cell: 502-386-0041 to answer questions or schedule an appointment.

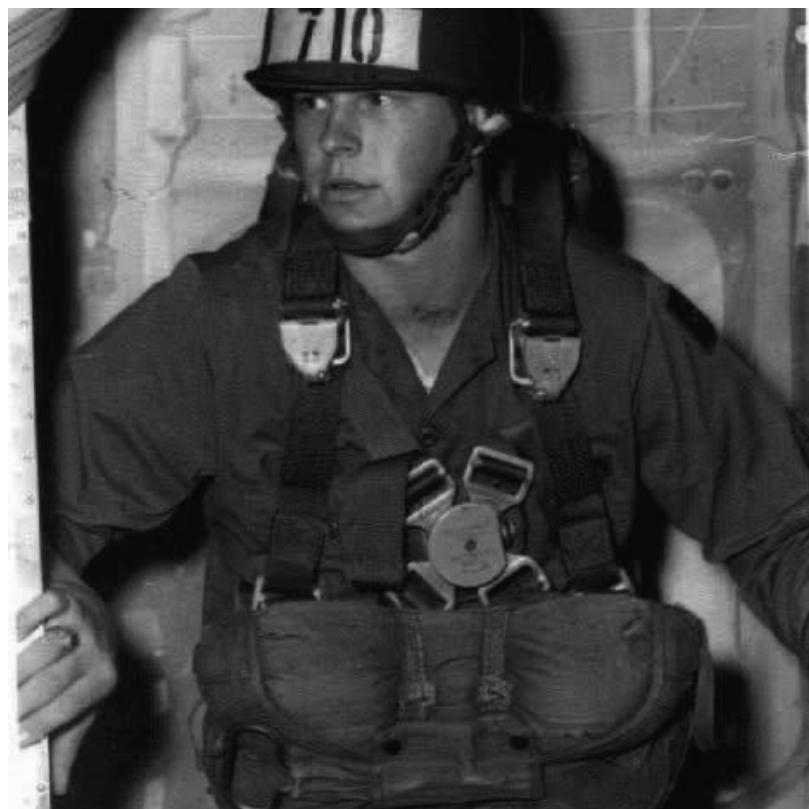
I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting January 27, 2026



**DELIVERING NALC'S
MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON.**



Justine Medley and Michael Langdon are letter carriers at the Annshire station. Justine has been a carrier since 2019 and Michael since 2020. They are both great people to work with and great people in general. Michael's headgear advertises a certain type of brown adult beverage (in case you wondered). Branch 14 is very fortunate to have these two as members.



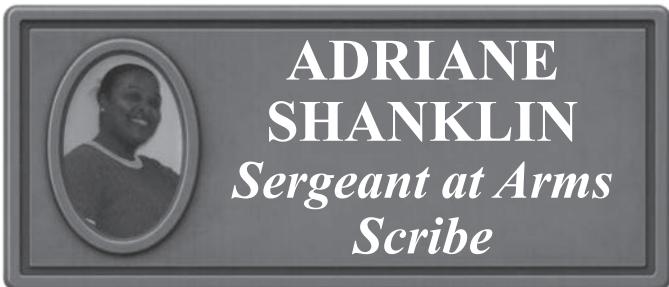
If you are fortunate enough to know Bill Davis, you are a lucky person indeed. Bill's title with Branch 14 is assistant secretary -financial secretary, but he is so much more than that. Bill is always ready to pitch in and help whenever help is needed. He is always thinking of ways to help the city letter carrier, even in retirement.



Thank you to Missy Harris for her support of a union candidate on a terribly cold day. She canvassed with Gary Clemons and also had the chance to meet Governor Andy Beshear and Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman.



Very soon we will have brand new lights at the hall throughout the building. Good news: The light is magnificent, we will see a rebate from LG&E and our over electric bill. Bad news: You can actually see the Branch President at Union meetings (shudder). Great job by Greg Ray on this project!



Greetings Branch 14,

Welcome into the new year! New goals and new experiences! I'm looking forward to everyone coming out for our first meeting of the year, January 27th. I encourage you to bring another carrier with you. Knowledge is power, so the more of us that know our rights the better off we are.

I cannot stress enough how important it is for you to be safe. I don't know about your station, but mine emphasized how we're going back to the rules. *"You must be on time for work, be prepared with your necessary supplies, and not take part in time wasting practices. Seat belts are not a question, but a requirement and carriers will be taken off the street for this. Watch for dogs, and do not engage improperly with customers (check recent news outlets).* Hilarious! I asked when this would take place, and when are we going to repeat this for the carriers who were missing from the plan five. The answer, *"they should already know, these are the rules!"* So, if anything, we know that this year will be a heavy repeat from our previous years, at least at the Post Office.

A little house keeping. We have a lot of new PTFs and CCAs so if you have any gently used uniforms that you can donate, please do. We're also still looking for carriers that would like to be a part of our new carrier mentor program.



Thank you to Brother J.J. DiUbaldi, a PTF carrier from the Downtown Carrier Unit for agreeing, actually insisting; to a brief Question and Answer session regarding the New Employee Retention Program.



Thank you to Missy Harris and Dee Duvall for delivering our check to our great partner in supporting the hungry in Louisville, Dare to Care. With our donation and the match from the NALC, it will help provide over 6,000 meals. Dare to Care is located at 5803 Fern Valley Road, 40228 for anyone you know in need or for donations.



Happy birthday (1/3) to our Executive Vice President Lance Schwede! Branch 14 appreciates your tireless efforts in protecting the rights of letter carriers!



The last class of 2025 to complete the carrier academy. Welcome to these new members of the NALC. Left to Right Sara Finley, Bernard Barnes, Kevin Brown, Cody Brentlinger, Anthony Harvell, Anthony Preston, Clayton Blair, Katie King



Jon and Holly Endelmann. Jon is the shop steward at Shively, a trustee, the Formal A representative for many of our associate offices and our route inspection lead for Branch 14. Jon will also tell you he is a proud husband and father to three. Thank you Jon.



When Amazon gets a heavy workload and can't handle it



UNION MEETING

Date: November 25th, 2025

Br 14 Union Meeting Attendance by Zone

Annshire 40205	2
Annshire 40213	1
Annshire 40218	2
DTCU 40202	2
DTCU 40203	2
DTCU 40204	2
DTCU 40208	1
DTCU 40210	3
Fern Creek 40228	1
Fern Creek 40291	1
Hikes Point 40220	1
Iroquois 40209/14	2
Iroquois 40215	0
J-Town 40299	0
Lyndon 40222	2
Lyndon 40241/42	1
Middletown 40243	0
MLK 40211	3
MLK 40212	1
Okolona 40219	1
Okolona 40229	1
PRP 40258	1
PRP 40272	1
Shelby 40217	0
Shively 40216	1
St Matthews 40206	2
St Matthews 40207	1
Bardstown 40004	0
Campbellsville 42718	0
Eminence 40019	1
Ft Knox 40121	0
LaGrange 40031	0
Lebanon 40033	0
Radcliff 40160	0
Shelbyville 40065	0
Springfield 40069	0
Vine Grove 40175	1
Retired	14
Guests	1
Total	52

Officers & Stewards Excused: Gutierrez and McCormick**Officers and Stewards Absent:**

MDA 50/50 Drawing.....\$135 MDA
.....\$135 Jon Endelmann
.....Jon Endelmann donated \$135 back

\$50 Door Prize.....Ted First

**NEW MEMBERS SINCE NOVEMBER 2025
UNION MEETING**

LEIGHTON JAMESON	EDSEL LOAIZA
MACY MORRIS	CAMERON O'GORMAN
MARC FIRMIN	DAVID HOPPER
RYAN HUYNH	BRIAN LOVINGOOD
VANESSA PATTERSON	CHRISTOPHER SIPES
JAMES SIPES	WHITNEY WIMSATT
LARRY SWEAZY	BERNARD BARNES
CLAYTON BLAIR	CODY BRENTLINGER
SARA FINLEY	ANTHONY HARVEL
ANTHONY PRESTON	LOSHEIAH BROWN
ADAM LAMB	ANTHONY LANGLEY
MATTHEW McCLAIN	LATOYA N. WILSON

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Next Union Meeting
January 27th, 2026 at 7:30pm
United we bargain, Divided we beg



ATTENTION ALL OKOLONA P.O. RETIREES

We will be meeting at the Cheddars on Outer Loop on January 27th at 12pm for our first 2026 luncheon. We will try to gather every quarter. I will need help from everyone in making this possible. If you have a restaurant in mind that will accommodate 30/50 people or have any questions/comments, please send to my email at Woodsb1777@gmail.com, or call me at (502) 492-9236. Spread the word the luncheons are open to all Okolona craft retirees. Looking forward to seeing you at the luncheon and catching up with a few war stories. Bruce Woods.

ATTENTION

ATTENTION

**The Annual Retiree's Dinner will be on Sunday, April 19th, 2026
Doors open at 1p.m. and food will be served at 2 p.m.**

**Retired members of Branch 14 are invited and may bring a guest.
Please return the bottom portion of this form to the Union Hall by March
30th, 2026.**

Send to:

**Adriane Shanklin
NALC Branch 14
4815 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, KY 40213**



Retiree's Dinner Reservation Form

Retiree Name :

(Please Print)

Will you be bringing a guest?

Yes

No

If you have questions please contact Adrian Shanklin at 502-438-8115



William "Tony" McGrath, Jr., 84, of Cox's Creek, passed away on December 16, 2025. He was born September 21, 1941. Tony graduated from St. Xavier High School in 1960. He worked for a short time at the Louisville School for the Blind before working for the United States Postal Service for 33 years. After retiring from the USPS, he worked for Pepperidge Farm and delivered prescriptions for Hurst Discount Drugs in Bardstown, KY, for 13 years.



NALC
Health Benefit Plan



USPS

View Message

Welcome to the
'LAST PUNCH BUNCH'
Congratulations on
your Retirement and
Best Wishes for
your Future!
Your route ends here,
but your legacy delivers on

Q W E R T Y U I P
A S D F G H K L
ESC Z X C V B N M ←
123 SYM — ENT →
◀ ○ ○

Paul Bigelow has been a regular carrier since 2020. He also served in the Navy and has 17 years of great and credible service to the post office. Paul began as a CCA at Jeffersontown Post Office prior to COVID and worked many tough days. He has always been a vigilant and dedicated carrier. Since becoming a regular Congratulations on your retirement.

Louisville, KY

National Association of Letter Carriers
Falls City Branch 14
4815 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, KY 40213
01/26

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