

# BR. 14 NEWSLETTER



VOL 54, NO. 03

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

MARCH 2025

# HELL NO!

***TO DISMANTLING THE POSTAL SERVICE***

# ***RALLY TO SAVE USPS***

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23@1PM**

**KY State Capitol  
700 Capitol Ave.  
Frankfort, Ky 40601**



**TONY WEDDLE**  
*President*

Spring is finally just around the corner and like most of you I'm glad winter is behind us. But as the weather turns for the better, so does activity for our union representatives and our community. It's also that time of the year when we begin taking necessary measures and preparations to ensure a successful Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive in May. A lot of planning must be completed and coordinated with our partners to conduct the food drive, so Missy Harris, our food drive coordinator, may need some help from our members as we get closer to the day of the food drive. I know folks get busy in the spring, especially with the Derby and several events in the community leading up to it, but the food drive is our opportunity to give back to our community and it promotes a positive image of letter carriers to the people we serve in our community. With all the negative news reports pertaining to the Louisville installation these past few months, we can all agree that we could use some positive coverage. Especially with all the cuts and reorgs being conducted in several federal agencies.

We're in our sixth zone for route inspections this week with just a few more to go and I can't wait to get them behind us. Both management and the union can agree that after conducting inspections for several weeks straight can take a toll on everyone involved. In the fall, it's hopeful that if we continue with the costly six-day count and inspections, management is a little less zealous in the number of zones they would like to inspect. But I wouldn't count on it. If you're in a zone that hasn't been inspected for a while, it's likely your zone will be inspected in September, October or November. So, you've got time to learn the inspection process and how to take measures to protect your assignment before then.

Hope to see many of you at the next union meeting.

***Next Union Meeting***  
***March 25th, 2025 at 7:30pm.***  
***United we bargain, Divided we beg!***

## 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*

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Executive Vice-President.....Jarett Sims  
Vice-President.....Lance Schwede  
Recording Secretary.....Steve Terry  
Treasurer.....Greg Ray  
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Retirement/HBP/MBA Rep.....Coutler 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.....Nick Schneider

### **Branch 14 Stewards**

40202.....Leroy Gutierrez  
40203/08/10.....Yodari Balcarcel  
40204.....Leroy Gutierrez  
40205.....Thomas Derringer  
40206.....Natalie Garnett  
40207.....Vacant  
40209/14/15.....Trevor Gay  
40209/14/15.....Mark Wright  
40211/12.....Damon Braxton  
40213.....Kyle Moert  
40216.....Jon Endelmann  
40217.....Vacant  
40218.....Jarett Sims  
40219.....Ron Bowman  
40220.....Rodgerick Streater  
40222.....Nick Schneider  
40228/91.....Tina Davis  
40229.....Brandon Reid  
40241/42.....Adriane Shanklin  
40243.....Vacant  
40258.....Chad Grosso  
40272.....Lance Schwede  
40299.....Vacant  
Bardstown.....Jessica Clark  
Campbellsville.....Ryan McCormick  
LaGrange.....Stephanie Diaz  
Lebanon.....Ryan McCormick  
Shelbyville.....Bailey Hendrix  
Springfield.....Ryan McCormick  
Fort Knox.....Vacant  
Radcliff.....Mike Watson  
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.*



**JARETT SIMS**  
*Executive Vice-President*

I often get asked about the grievance procedure, particularly in discipline cases. Many letter carriers are unaware of how it works. Here is a brief encapsulation of the process.

Article 15 of National Agreement describes a grievance as *“a dispute, difference, disagreement or complaint between the parties to wages, hours, and conditions of employment.”* Only the union can file a grievance.

There are time limits on grievances, specifically 14 days from when the union could have reasonably known of a violation. A city letter carrier is the union. If you believe there is a violation, request to see your steward to get the grievance investigation started. This is mostly for contractual matters.

In discipline cases, the moment that you receive any sort of charge letter in writing, the union has 14 days to file a grievance. Our local agreement in Louisville states that a steward must be present when a charge letter is issued. If you are not at work and receive discipline in the mail, contact your steward or the union hall immediately. (The only caveat for discipline in writing is emergency placement (EP). The clock begins the moment you are placed on EP.

The first step of the grievance process is the Informal A step meeting. This takes place between the shop steward or designee and a supervisor.

If there is no resolution at the Informal A, it then goes to the Formal A step meeting. In the city of Louisville, I handle discipline cases and our vice president, Lance Schwed handles contract cases. The Postmaster of Louisville has designated a management counterpart for each of us.

If there is no resolution at the Formal A it can be appealed to the regional Step B team or Dispute Resolution Team. In these cases, Branch 14 sends the case file to Indianapolis. Unless there is a severe backlog of cases, the joint union and management team in Indianapolis will make one

of four decisions, including:

1. Agree with the union
2. Agree with management
3. Remand it to the previous step to settle
4. Impasse the case. An impasse is where there is no settlement between the parties.

If there is an impasse, it goes to the final step of the grievance procedure, which is Arbitration. In this situation, an arbitrator will have the final say on what happens in the case. There is an extreme log jam with the case load currently at arbitration. Sometimes it takes up to four months to get a case scheduled.

I hope this quick explanation is helpful. If you have any further questions, contact me at the union hall at (502) 964-3200.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting on March 25.



**KIM  
REGION**



**BRANCH**



**OFFICER**



**TRAINING**





**LANCE SCHWEDE**  
*Vice-President*

It seems that maybe the Louisville Post Office is waking up and starting to attempt to stop violating Article 8. After the recent training at the hall by our regional DRT team, it seems that grievance activity has gained some attention. Remember to continue to file every Article 8 that occurs, and for every improperly mandating grievance attach a non-compliance Article 15 issue. This secondary issue statement is to provide the vessel to increase the escalating remedy for improperly forcing here at the Louisville installation. If management is unwilling to completely stop violating, it's our job to file and file and file until they stop.

Management has begun the process of meeting at Formal A again. My counterpart has met twice this past week. Grievances are being settled or remanded back to be settled and paid at the lowest level. Management has been instructed to stop sending PTFs working over 11.5 hours, and overtime carriers working over 12/60 to formal A and to instead settle and pay those grievances at Informal A. They violated the contract so they should pay the grievance in a timely fashion.

The next stewards training, we believe, is going to be over Article 8. This seems to be a major subject and still confusing to some. We hope to announce the date and time for the training soon.

The Informal A process is the most important part of the grievance process. It is where the steward gets the most time to build the case file. Please take the necessary steps to ensure that your files are as completed as you can make them. The better the case file, the better the chances of success.

To the stewards, please make sure to get your unresolved case files to the hall as soon as possible after you meet at Informal A. The appeal must be made to the manager at Formal A within 7 days. The appeal date starts on the day you complete the Informal a meeting. Management is enforcing all timelines to eliminate as many

untimely grievances as they possibly can.

An installation wide settlement was reached that says management must provide information within 3 days from the date a manager signs the request, and that management must have a conversation with the steward when union time is requested. This conversation must take place within 3 days of the request and must tell the steward when the time is going to be made available. This was signed in hopes of beginning to eliminate the problems with stewards not getting information or time. This is a reoccurring problem that has been addressed at Formal A, and with Labor Relations. I am hoping to have more settlements to address other areas of concern soon. Until then, continue to be a professional letter carrier and stay safe as the weather begins to warm up.



Mail carriers in Hopkinsville in the early 20th century were often African American men. Being a mail carrier was a great job — the work was consistent and the pay was good. Mail carriers were required to pass a Civil Service Exam to secure the position. Pictured here from left to right are W. Henry Baker, Peter Boyd, Ben J. Quarles, and Henry C. Majors. If you have any information or stories about Hopkinsville or Christian County, I'm sure the museum would love to hear them. Please reach out to the museum at 270-887-4270.

Photo submitted by the Museums of Historic Hopkinsville





**ADRIANE SHANKLIN**  
*Sergeant at Arms/Scribe*

Springing forward into our next mission! We are all on edge for what's next for us at the Post Office. So, like many of our brothers and sisters, Branch 14 along with our neighboring branches coordinated to go to our Capitol to make sure our voice is heard. Even with that we all still need to reach out to our representatives for different issues going on in the house that still affect us. For example, H.R. 1065/S.463, H.R.70, and H.R. 1522. Go to our NALC app, hit the "Take Action" button, and stay informed.

On another note, trying to stay positive and making sure our members are active in various events. In March we hosted our Annual Trivia Night, raising over \$250. Then in April we'll have our Retirees Dinner, and a Paint Nite (April 25<sup>th</sup>). Of course, May brings in those horses and sometimes rain, so we'll take another attempt at our Community Day Pop-up Shop (May 25<sup>th</sup>).

Branch14 stands strong when we stand together. Some stations aren't represented by, in house, stewards. We need to fix this so that all members are getting equal representation. When someone is in the station, its better to be able to speak with management to try to prevent a grievance. Just some food for thought! In any case, if you want to step up, please reach out to the branch.

Remember knowledge is power!



## **FORMER PRESIDENT ALLEN HARRIS**

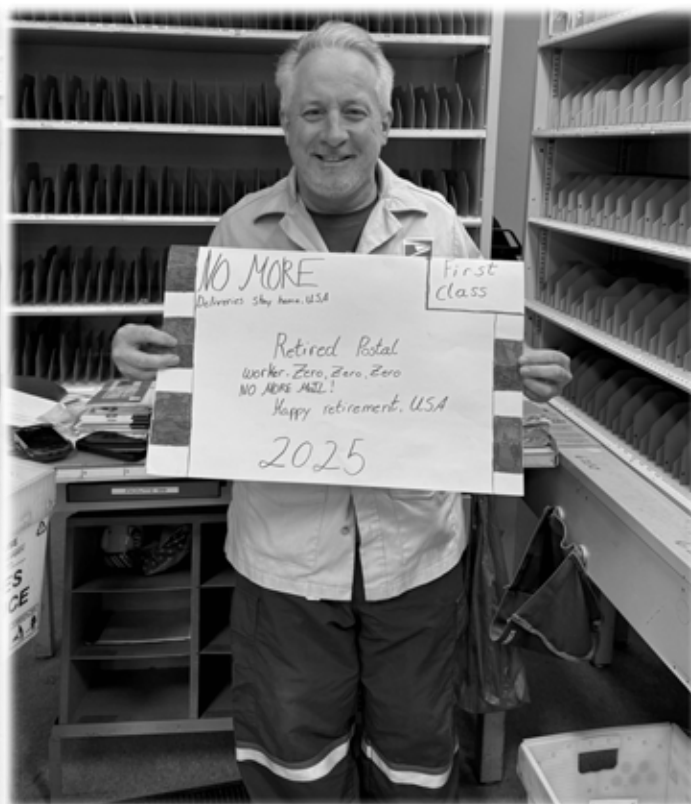
In attendance, representing, at a recent Morgan McGarvey town hall meeting







**Daniel McKiernan**



**Kevin Clenney**

**LAST PUNCH BUNCH**



**Marty Parsley**



**Jim Dusenberry**

# BRANCH 14 PRESENTS PAINT NITE



APRIL  
26TH  
@7

\$30 INCLUDES  
HANGER & PAINT

4815 POPLAR LEVEL RD.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT MISSY @ 502-759-2276

BRANCH 14 PRESENTS

## COMMUNITY POP UP SHOP

**MAY 25 11AM-6PM**

4815 POPLAR LEVEL RD

To Sign Up Contact Adriane Shanklin  
at ashank86@me.com or 502-438-8115

Deliver the Cure with MDA

Made with PosterMyWall.com



## ATTENTION



The Annual Retiree's Dinner will be on Sunday, April 13th, 2025.

This year's theme will be "HAWAIIAN"

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 31st, 2025.

Send to:

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



## ATTENTION



### Retiree's Dinner Reservation Form

Retiree Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be bringing a guest?

Yes

No



**COULTER MARVEL III**  
*Health Benefits/Retirement/MBA Rep*

**ATTENTION RETIREES**  
**Are you on Medicare part A and B?**

**DO YOU HAVE NALC HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN INSURANCE?**

**Did you sign up for Silver Script in 2024?**

If so, remember to file your claims for up to \$600 refund back to you on your Medicare part B premiums. You can file thru the end of 2025.

If you have Medicare part B for 2025, have NALC Health Benefit Plan Insurance, and have Silver Script, you're also eligible for a refund of up to \$600 this year. You can file monthly or in one lump sum. If you're not sure how, let me know and I'll assist you in getting your refund.

**Everyone with NALC Health Benefit Plan**  
**Remember your free benefits!**

Annual Physical.....no charge  
Broad Vaccine's administered in network  
(flu ,etc...).....no charge  
Wellness Rewards in Health Savings Rewards:  
Flu or Pneumococcal Vaccine.....\$10  
Health Assessment .....\$30  
Quitting Tobacco Use.....\$50  
Well Child Visits.....\$50  
Your Health First Disease Mgt.....\$50 in  
HINGE HEALTH Musculoskeletal MSK Program  
HELLO HEART, Cardiac Care Program.

**Don't Pass up Free Money and Saving!**

As always, if I can be of assistance, I'm in the office most Tuesday afternoons, by phone (leave a message) or email me!

Office: 502-964-3200  
Cell: 502-386-0041  
cmarveliii@aol.com



**NALC**  
Health Benefit Plan



**MISSY HARRIS**  
*Community Activities Coordinator*

Well, we are off to a great start raising money for MDA. So far we have raised \$1503. Our next fundraiser is a Paint night on April 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. The cost is 30 per person and we have a choice of 5 designs to choose from. In May we have our Pop Up Shop coming . Contact Adriane Shanklin for a booth or table.

We will be holding a fight like Hell rally on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1p.m. in Frankfort to speak out against dismantling the Postal Service and let Washington know we won't let this happen. Please plan to attend. If you need info, please reach out to me at 502-759-2276. This is the time for all you 5 year or less carriers to let your voice be heard. Stand up for your job! Fight like crazy to save it. You are the future of the branch, make it count and get involved. Please wear a red shirt in case we don't have enough shirts for the rally.

The Letter Carrier Golf Scramble is in June. All you golfers start practicing ! We raised \$19,080 for Muscular Dystrophy last year. I am aiming for 20K this year. If you have ideas for fundraisers please let me know. See you at the Union meeting!



**Shared Services** (National Human Resources)  
1-877-477-3273 <http://liteblue.usps.gov>  
You'll need your Employee ID# and USPS PIN.

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



**UNION MEETING**

Date: 2/25/2025

**Br 14 Union Meeting Attendance by Zone**

Annshire 40205	0
Annshire 40213	3
Annshire 40218	1
DTCU 40202	1
DTCU 40203	1
DTCU 40204	1
DTCU 40208	0
DTCU 40210	1
Fern Creek 40228	1
Fern Creek 40291	1
Hikes Point 40220	3
Iroquois 40209/14	1
Iroquois 40215	2
J-Town 40299	2
Lyndon 40222	2
Lyndon 40241/42	3
Middletown 40243	0
MLK 40211	2
MLK 40212	2
Okolona 40219	1
Okolona 40229	2
PRP 40258	1
PRP 40272	3
Shelby 40217	1
Shively 40216	4
St Matthews 40206	1
St Matthews 40207	2
Bardstown 40004	1
Campbellsville 42718	0
Eminence 40019	0
Ft Knox 40121	0
LaGrange 40031	1
Lebanon 40033	0
Radcliff 40160	0
Shelbyville 40065	0
Springfield 40069	0
Vine Grove 40175	1
Retired	16
Guests	1
Total	61

**Officers & Stewards Excused:** T. Davis,  
Derringer, Reid, McCormick, Hendrix, &  
Watson

**Officers and Stewards Absent:** None

**MDA 50/50 Drawing.....\$94 MDA**  
.....\$94 Rob Cosby

**\$50 Door Prize.....Allen Whitehouse**

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

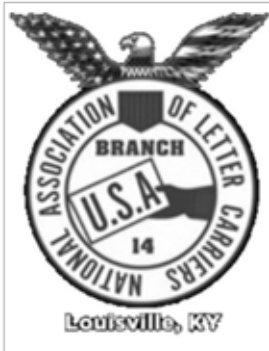
Please provide the branch with your updated address if/when you move to a new delivery address. Aside from the fees incurred by the branch for undeliverable mail pieces, we are required by the NALC national constitution to attempt to maintain an updated mailing list of all members. In addition, there are items in the monthly newsletter that we are constitutionally required to notify all members of, in writing. Our newsletter is the best method to accomplish this. Please contact Steve Terry or Bill Davis when you move....Thank you!



# Branch 14 36th Annual Jim Clark Memorial Golf Scramble



**When? June 1st at 8:00am**  
**Where? My Old KY Home Golf Course**



**Entry Fee: \$60 per Branch 14 member**  
**Prizes: \$500 in prizes for places 1st through 5th, PLUS, \$500 in door prizes**



***Food served.***

***Deadline for Entries is May 23rd, 2025***



***Make all checks payable to:***  
***“NALC Branch 14” and send to:***

**Attn: Steve Terry**  
**Branch 14 Union Hall**  
**4815 Poplar Level Rd**  
**Louisville, KY 40213**

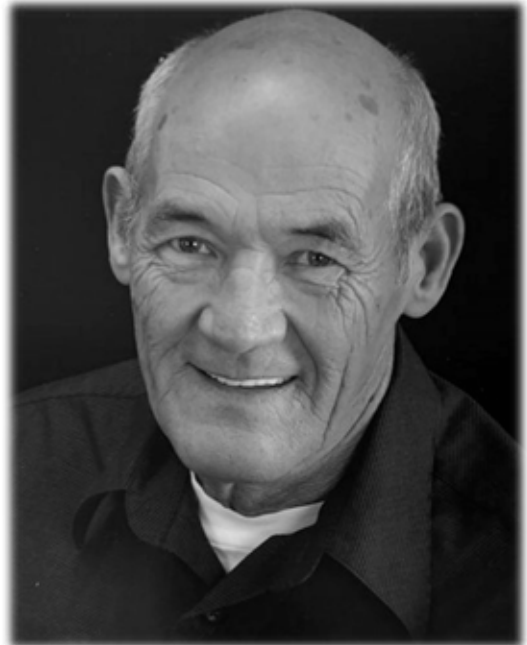




## LARRY EUGENE EMBRY

Larry Eugene Embry, aged 81, of Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. A proud veteran, Larry served our country honorably in the United States Air Force. Following his military service, he dedicated 30 years to the U.S. Post Office, exemplifying his strong work ethic and commitment to providing for his family.

Even after retiring, Larry continued to work for another 15 years at Greenwood Elementary School in Louisville, displaying the same dedication he had shown throughout his career.



## STEVE THOMAS

Steve Thomas, age 76, of Shepherdsville, returned to his Heavenly Father on Sunday, March 2, 2025. He was born on August 27, 1948, in Louisville, Kentucky to the late Carl Thomas and Frances Fields. Steve was a proud veteran of the United States Army and retired from the United States Postal Service after 30 years. He was a previous bus driver, driving for 10 years, for Bullitt County Public Schools. He enjoyed the ocean, the woods and motorcycles. He loved to travel; taking trips to Florida, California, Red River Gorge and Lake Cumberland. Steve loved tennis and was well known for his love of dogs. His direct manner and generosity will be remembered by those who knew him. Steve believed in hard work and believed everyone should know the value of hard work as well.



National Association of Letter Carriers  
Falls City Branch 14  
4815 Poplar Level Road  
Louisville, KY 40213  
03/25

Address Service Requested

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Contact Us:

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 33303

Louisville, KY 40232-3303

Email: lfou@louisvillefcu.com

Main Branch:

1420 Gardiner Ln. Room 66

Louisville, KY 40231

P: 502-458-2681

F: 502-458-2682

Downtown Branch:

600 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Place

Room 166

Louisville, KY 40202

P/F: 502-584-3579

We're putting the "US"  
back in TRUST!

Talk to a Member Service Rep today &  
start seeing your money grow.



DON'T GET PLAYED,  
BEAT YOUR RATE!

We strive to have the lowest rates for  
our members. If we can't beat your  
auto rate, we'll match it!\*

\*Restrictions Apply

