

# BR. 14 NEWSLETTER



VOL 54, NO. 09

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

SEPTEMBER 2025

Louisville, Kentucky

This is the official notice for nominations and election of delegates to the 76th National Convention of the National Association of Letter Carriers. The date of the convention is August 3 through August 7, 2026. The site of the convention is Los Angeles, California.

Nominations will be accepted at the regular monthly meetings of Branch 14 on Tuesday, August 26 and Tuesday, September 23, 2025. Elections will be held on Wednesday, October 29 from 4:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. and on Thursday, October 30 from 5:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. All nominations and voting will be conducted at the Branch 14 union hall, 4815 Poplar Level Road, Louisville, KY, 40213.

The number of delegates to the convention will be determined in accordance with the Constitution of the National Association of Letter Carriers. In accordance with Branch 14 By-Laws, the President, Executive Vice-President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Assistant Recording/Financial Secretary and Treasurer will be automatic, paid delegates to the convention. The remaining number of paid delegates to the convention will be determined in accordance with Branch 14 By-Laws.

Voting for delegates will be by secret ballot and the results will be posted on the Branch 14 website at [www.nalcbr14.com](http://www.nalcbr14.com) and read at the regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 25, 2025.

Any member that will be unable to vote during the times that the polls are open may request an absentee ballot. The request must be made in writing, with name and address of the member requesting the absentee ballot. The request must have a legible signature by the member requesting the absentee ballot.

Requests for absentee ballots must be received by the Branch 14 Election Committee between the dates of September 24 and October 18, 2025. Requests should be sent to: NALC Branch 14 Election Committee, PO Box 34572, Louisville, KY, 40232-4572. Absentee ballots must be returned to the Election Committee by October 30, 2025. All requests for ballots received after October 18, 2025 and returned ballots that are received after October 30, 2025, will be void. These requests and ballots will be kept as a matter of record by the Election Committee.

All regular members in good standing shall have the right to nominate a candidate for any officer position or delegate to the National Convention. Self-nomination is permitted. All qualified regular members shall be eligible to be an officer, delegate or an alternate delegate to the National Convention except as provided for in accordance with Article 5, Section 2 of the Constitution of the National Association of Letter Carriers and Article 7, Section 2 of the Branch 14 By-laws.

Stephen A. Terry Sr.  
Branch 14 Secretary



**JARETT SIMS**  
*President*

If you have had the fortune (or misfortune, some would say) of working with me any time over the past two decades, you will know just how random and obscure some discussions with me can be daily. I believe that it is a good and fun thing on the outside, but from the perspective of writing a newsletter article, it presents quite a conundrum. As I have mentioned in these pages before, I sometimes wake up in the early hours of the day, thinking about the union and the support we must provide our members. Sometimes the perfect idea pops up for an article topic, and I'm raring to write. However, the official and vital work of the union supersedes, and the idea drifts off. This month, please indulge me as we take a voyage through my random mind.

1. *The Spanish Civil War was conducted from 1936 to 1939 between the Republicans and the Nationalists. In a nutshell, the Nationalists, led by Francisco Franco and supported by the Nazis, would ultimately win the war and wreak havoc on the people of Spain. In particular, Franco was tough on the men and women of the region of Catalonia. Through their impressive resistance, Catalonians developed a phrase to describe their true nature. That phrase is "seny y rauxa". It is a duality between the seny, which encompasses a sensible and rational approach, and the rauxa, which is more impulsive, spontaneous, and passionate.*

As a Branch, we want to find this particular balance—one where we are extremely rational in all choices, but fierce in the union struggle. We see the trees in the forest and ultimately see the forest as well. We are aggressively moving along and through the forest, but not hampering the cause by running headlong into a sycamore.

2. *At the inaugural Wrestlemania, Big John Studd challenged Andre the Giant to a "\$15,000 Body Slam Challenge," where if Andre could slam Studd, he would win the money. During the match, the Giant successfully slammed Studd. After the match, Andre began to throw money to the crowd when he won. Around that time, Bobby "the*

*Brain" Heenan stole the prize and rushed off.*

As a Branch, it is our job to ensure that any grievance successfully settled will be paid and in a prompt manner. We are aggressively moving toward non-compliance when grievances are not paid. We, as a branch, bargain in good faith, and we expect the same from our counterparts. Branch 14 will be the Giant in the future in any contractual grievance negotiations. We will be wise enough to know that in all the battles, we always have the upper hand and will show our inevitable muscle and fortitude.

3. *There is a story from the Old Testament where jealous satraps tricked Darius the Great into throwing Daniel, one of his leading advisors, into a lion's den. Darius was guilt-stricken and worried about Daniel all night. In the face of adversity, Daniel courageously faced the lions. The following morning, Darius went to the lion's den and found Daniel completely safe. Daniel's undying faith led him safely through the night.*

As a Branch, it is our job to stand up and fight for our members in all cases. This includes not only the easy ones, but also those that are more difficult. We must be a voice for all our members and always be available to ensure that everyone is heard. Our role is to walk simultaneously with our brothers and sisters in all situations, even if it is into the lion's den.

4. *On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the door of the Schlosskirche in Wittenberg, Germany. This is only relevant because this week, the branch is sending out over 70 cases to the DRT for failure to meet the deadline set in the grievance process. The receipt that shows all the appealed cases is taped to a door in the hall. It is so lengthy that one would have assumed that Luther was here to protest again.*

5. *Phillip Henry Sheridan was a career Army officer and, most famously, a general for the Union army during the Civil War. Sheridan was brass and cocky, and when he boasted, he always followed through. He fought in both the western theatre of Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as leading the cavalry at the end of the war in the east. As I said, he was brass and cocky, but when faced with a challenge, he succeeded. The flamboyant Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart had his way for several years, menacing and harassing, until Sheridan volunteered to track Stuart down.*

*Sheridan won their first battle, and Stuart ultimately passed on the battlefield that day. He would do the same to Jubal Early, who threatened Washington, D.C. Infamously, on his first battle as general at Petersburg, VA, he said, "I have never in my life taken a command into battle and had the slightest desire to come out alive unless I won."*

*He was once described by an enemy combatant this way: "Probably no living soldier was ever more terrible in battle than Sheridan. With the first smell of gunpowder, he became a blazing meteor, a pillar of fire to guide his own hosts. The rather small, short, heavily built man rose to surpassing stature in his stirrups, to the sublimity of heroism in action, and infused a like spirit in his troops. I think it no exaggeration to say that America never produced his equal, for inspiring an army with courage and leading them into battle. Absolutely fearless himself, with unwavering faith in his cause and his plans, he always raised the courage and faith of others to the level of his own; passed from rank to rank in action, flaming, fiery, omnipresent, and well-nigh omnipotent."*

As a Branch, may we always have the fighting spirit of Sheridan and also infuse the spirit amongst our stewards and members to engage in the struggle and stand on what is right.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting on September 23, 2025.



President Jarrett Sims with the NALC 55 year pin recipient at recent Union Meeting. Thank you for your service brother Charles Strawser

## 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  
40211/12.....Damon Braxton  
40213.....Jarett Sims  
40216.....Jon Endelmann  
40217.....Jon Endelmann  
40218.....Jarett Sims  
40219.....Ron Bowman  
40220.....Rodgerick Streater  
40222.....Nick Schneider  
40228/91.....Tina Davis  
40229.....Ron Bowman  
40241/42.....Adriane Shanklin  
40243.....Nick Schneider  
40258.....Chad Grosso  
40272.....Lance Schwede  
40299.....Adriane Shanklin  
Bardstown.....Jessica Clark  
Campbellsville.....Ryan McCormick  
LaGrange.....Stephanie Diaz  
Lebanon.....Ryan McCormick  
Shelbyville.....Vacant  
Springfield.....Ryan McCormick  
Fort Knox.....Vacant  
Radcliff.....Vacant  
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 it's officers.*



**LANCE SCHWEDE**  
*Executive Vice-President*

### **Formal A**

Formal A has begun to be the process it is supposed to be. Management has been meeting for the past 6 days with over 100 cases resolved. As we move forward, there will be no extensions for grievances at Formal A. Either Management will resolve cases, or the Union will move the cases through the process. The days of having grievances sit for months at formal A is over. The list of problems being grieved is numerous but here is the top few: improperly mandating non-ODLs (currently pending arbitration) but there are 100's a month it seems such as, crossing zones, crossing crafts, rural carriers delivering city mail, hold down violations, and overtime equitability.

By the time you read this message, all the grievances for this year will have been met on and resolved or sent to the dispute resolution team in Indianapolis. Management has continued to lie to the Union leaders of Branch 14 and have gone back on their word multiple times. It is long past time to hold management accountable for their lies and contractual violations.

Management has finally paid out the large overtime equitability out of PRP but has failed as of the writing of this article to hold that manager accountable for the falsification of the PS Form 8190 associated with that settlement. The falsification was an attempt by management to make the steward look like he was falsifying the 8190 in favor of the carriers at PRP. The steward involved is me and I will not stand by and allow anyone to question my integrity without a fight. A shout out to David Mudd, Region 6 NBA, for his help is forcing management to comply with the signed settlement.

Another topic of discussion at formal A is the failure of management to pay grievances in a timely manner. These failures by management are being grieved under Article 15 and the Union is asking for the affected carriers to be compensated on top of paying the original settlements.

For all members still carrying mail, management is now documenting unauthorized overtime on form 1017-B. To protect yourselves, please fill out PS Form 3996 when necessary. This form provides protection from discipline for unauthorized overtime. When requesting help or overtime, make sure to hand the form into a member of the management and get a copy of the request. These copies are a lifeline when management attempts to discipline a Union brother or sister. Until next month, please stay hydrated and safe while delivering the mail.



Executive Vice-President, Lance Schwede, happy to put in the time to represent the members of Branch 14, and doing it with a smile. We are lucky to have this brother on our team.



**DON'T BE THIS GUY**



**NICK SCHNEIDER**  
*Vice-President*

### **“WEINGARTEN RIGHTS”**

It has recently been brought to light that Management (at one station as of now) is not providing a union steward unless it is specifically requested. Our brothers and sisters need to know the importance of their Weingarten rights and when to invoke them.

Weingarten rights are a cornerstone of employee protections in the United States, ensuring that unionized workers are not left vulnerable during investigatory interviews (i.e., II's or PDI's) that might result in disciplinary action. Established by the 1975 Supreme Court case *NLRB v. J. Weingarten, Inc.*, these rights affirm that union members have legal entitlement to request the presence of a union representative during such meetings. This safeguard is vital for maintaining fairness, transparency, and balance in employer-employee relations.

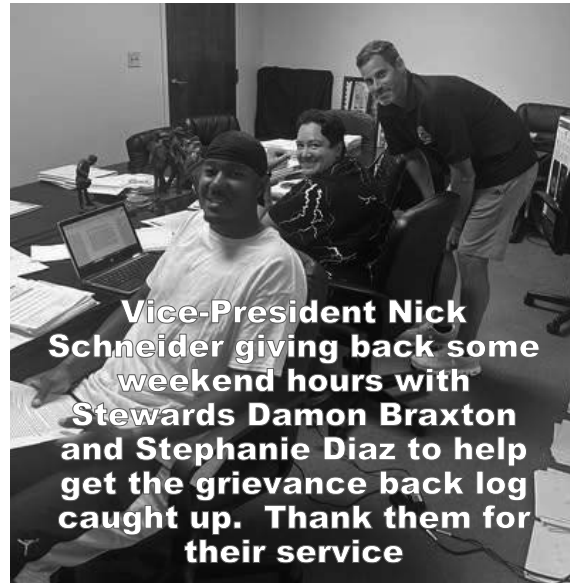
At their core, Weingarten rights serve to level the playing field between employees and management. Investigatory interviews can be intimidating and stressful, especially when workers are unsure of the nature or consequences of the conversation. A union representative acts as an advocate and witness, helping to clarify questions, ensure that the employee understands their rights, and intervene if the proceedings become coercive or unfair.

When employees are empowered to request representation without fear of retaliation, it should foster an environment of trust and accountability. This should encourage greater compliance with workplace rules and discourages arbitrary or discriminatory discipline. The union representative should also document the meeting, which could provide valuable context if needed in the future.

As stated in the beginning, Weingarten rights are not automatic; you must request the presence of a union steward. If you feel as if any questions asked of you could lead to discipline. Simply ask,

“Could this lead to discipline?” If management's answer is yes. Simply respond, “I request my union steward” or “I’m invoking my Weingarten rights.” Once invoked management must allow a reasonable period for the representative to arrive or must end questioning altogether.

Weingarten rights are essential for upholding due process and protecting employees from unjust treatment. They represent a critical line of defense for Letter Carriers, reinforcing the principles of dignity, fairness, and mutual respect in the workplace.



**BRANCH 14 MDA**

**BOWL A THON**

**NOVEMBER 9TH**

**Ken Bowl Lanes**

**7021 Southside Drive**

**Everyone Welcome**

**Donations \$25 per bowler**

**Take a collection at your station**

**Missy Harris**

**502-759-2276**

**Sign ups 12:30 p.m.**

**Bowl at 1 p.m.**

**50/50 POT**

**RAFFLES**

**Bring the Kids**

**Bumper bowling**

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO BRANCH 14 BYLAWS**

**Article 4, Section 4:** Each station steward will call a meeting at his/her respective station during the month of December, in odd numbered years, for the purpose of electing station steward(s). Candidates for the position will place their names on a roster that will be posted on the NALC bulletin board for ten (10) days at the discretion of the Branch 14 Executive Vice-President. The current steward will deliver the election results to the Executive Vice-President within three (3) working days. The two (2) year term of station stewards are effective on January 1 of the following year.

**Proposed change:** *Delete article 4, Section 4.*

**Article 4, Section 14:** Any person convicted of robbery, bribery, extortion, embezzlement, grand larceny, arson, violation of narcotics laws, murder, rape, assault with intent to kill, assault which inflicts grievous bodily injury, or a violation of Title II or III of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act is ineligible to run until 5 years following conviction or release from prison, whichever is later.

**Proposed change:** Any person convicted of robbery, bribery, extortion, embezzlement, grand larceny, arson, violation of narcotics laws, murder, rape, assault with intent to kill, assault which inflicts grievous bodily injury, or a violation of Title II or III of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act is ineligible to run **for 13 (thirteen)** years following conviction or release from prison, whichever is later.

**Article 7, Section 4:** Election of station stewards will be held in odd numbered years at each respective station in the month of December. Elections of stewards will be by secret ballot. The ballots will be counted by two (2) members of the unit that are not candidates for the position of steward. Any candidate may have an observer or observe the counting of the votes. The results of the election will be posted on the NALC bulletin board and will be sent to the Executive Vice-President of Branch 14 by the current steward within three (3) working days.

**Proposed change:** *Delete article 7, Section 4.*

**Article 7, Section 11:** If found guilty on any charges, the member will be expelled from Branch 14 for 1 year following, which he or she can only be reinstated after the manner of a new applicant.

**Proposed change:** Article 7, Section 4: If found guilty on any charges, ***Branch 14 will follow the guidelines set in Article 7, Section 10.***

**Proposed addition:** ***Article XII, Section 23: The President and or other officers may be authorized by the members of the branch to obtain and use credit cards in performing business of the branch. The members of the branch will determine the number of credit cards for use by branch officers. The credit limit of the cards will be in accordance with limits set by members of the branch. Any change in use or number of credit cards will be approved in advance by members of the branch.***

**Historical photos honoring an ICON from the DTCU. "Van" Gaskins" presented her "30 Years" of service award**





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

### **Maintaining NALC membership in Retirement**

National per capita dues for retirees are \$7 annually. Branch retiree dues, if any, are established in each Branch's by-laws. We pay \$1.25 per month.

To retain NALC membership, retiring members must sign FORM 1189 {Dues check-off Provision}

#### **What are the advantages of remaining a member of NALC in retirement?**

1. Free Insurance. Every retiree is covered by a free \$5000 accidental death policy through NALC's Mutual Benefit Association.
2. Assistance in solving problems with OPM.
3. The Postal Record, NALC's monthly magazine.
4. A voice on Capitol Hill, the NALC lobbies Congress on issues related to the Postal Service and retiree benefits.
5. Continued participation in NALC governance.
6. Cost is very low, in almost every case, when you're covered by the NALC Health Plan. Dues are less than the annual charge for non-members.

As an added note remember to add your CSA number (identifier assigned by OPM to each specific retirement application) when filling out Form 1189 to join. Then simply submit the form to a local Branch Officer.

I hope this information is helpful! See you at the next Union Meeting September 23, 2025

Feel free to contact me at the office on Tuesday's or call 502-386-0041 and leave a message for a call back.



**NALC**  
Health Benefit Plan

**MISSY HARRIS***Community Activities Coordinator*

Well, fall is upon us. I know the cooler temps are a welcome sight for Carriers. I hope you are all taking the time it takes to be safe and accurate on your routes. We have lots of events coming up. By the time you receive this newsletter we will have completed the Gaslight Festival fundraiser.

Next up will be the MDA golf scramble on October 5<sup>th</sup> at My old Kentucky Home golf course. See the attached flyer if you want to participate. On October 8<sup>th</sup> anyone who eats at Shack in the Back in Fairdale will help us raise money for MDA. On that day 10% of the day's sales will go to MDA. So come out eat some good food and take a chance on some Raffles and 50/50 pot while we raise the dollars for the kiddos! On October 26<sup>th</sup>, we will have our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual "Trunk or Treat" at the union hall. See the flyer for details. Anyone who would like to volunteer for this event or put in a car please reach out to myself or Adriane Shanklin for details.

November 9<sup>th</sup> is the Bowl-A-Thon. It will be held at Ken Bowl Lanes. Sign-ups at 12:30 and bowling is at 1p.m. We will have Raffles and a 50/50 drawing. All we ask is you get donations from friends and family to raise money for MDA. This event is open to anyone, so bring your friends and family and have a good time. Bumper Bowling is available for the kiddos.

I hope to see everyone at the next union meeting.



**BARBECUE Shack IN THE BACK**  
Fairdale, KY



**Deliver the Cure with MDA**

**Raffles**

**Door Prizes**

**50/50 pot**

**10706 W. Manslick Rd.**

**MDA Fundraiser day!**

**October 8th**

**11am-8pm**

**10% of sales go to MDA.**

# BRANCH 14

## Retirement Seminar

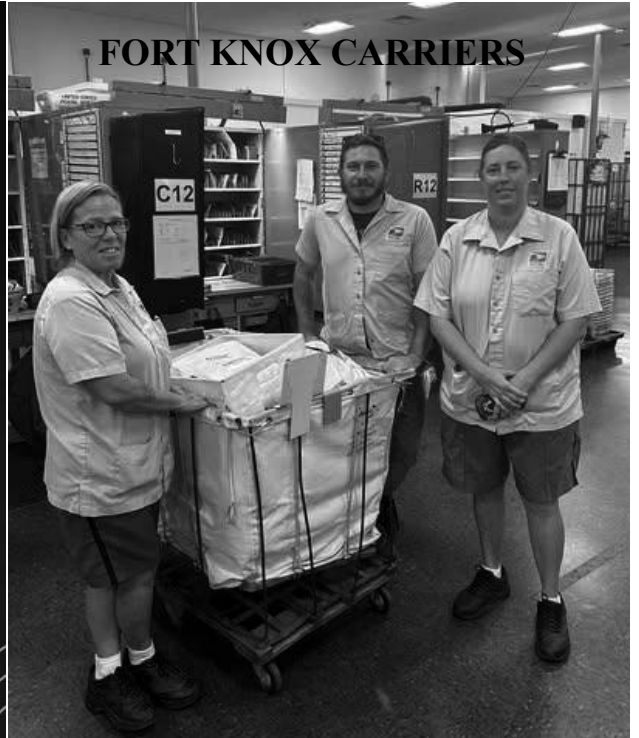
w/ Robbie Gardiner

Nov.2, 2025

4815 Poplar Level Rd.

1pm-3pm

### FORT KNOX CARRIERS



### Lisa Proctor



### Lamont Butler and Tim Embrey Vine Grove PO



### Shelbyville Carriers



**Carrier Academy,  
where it all begins**



**UNION MEETING****Date: July 22nd, 2025**

<b>Br 14 Union Meeting Attendance by Zone</b>	
Annshire 40205	1
Annshire 40213	3
Annshire 40218	0
DTCU 40202	1
DTCU 40203	1
DTCU 40204	0
DTCU 40208	1
DTCU 40210	1
Fern Creek 40228	2
Fern Creek 40291	1
Hikes Point 40220	2
Iroquois 40209/14	1
Iroquois 40215	0
J-Town 40299	2
Lyndon 40222	2
Lyndon 40241/42	1
Middletown 40243	0
MLK 40211	3
MLK 40212	0
Okolona 40219	1
Okolona 40229	2
PRP 40258	1
PRP 40272	1
Shelby 40217	1
Shively 40216	1
St Matthews 40206	3
St Matthews 40207	3
Bardstown 40004	0
Campbellsville 42718	0
Eminence 40019	0
Ft Knox 40121	0
LaGrange 40031	1
Lebanon 40033	1
Radcliff 40160	0
Shelbyville 40065	1
Springfield 40069	0
Vine Grove 40175	1
Retired	15
Guests	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>

**Officers & Stewards Excused: Clark****Officers and Stewards Absent:  
None****MDA 50/50 Drawing.....\$109 MDA  
.....\$109 Carl Hulsewede****\$50 Door Prize.....Ryan McCormick****Labor Day Picnic Tickets.....  
.....Shannon Devine & Nick Schneider****NEW MEMBERS**

TRAVIS LAWRENCE  
 GEORGE KERTZ MITCHELL  
 TIMOTHY SANS  
 CRYSTAL WHITE  
 CHARMAINE ROBBINS  
 JOHN SCHLOEMER JR  
 DEVIN SCHROERLUCKE  
 NATHAN WARREN  
 SUREKA FLAKES  
 SAMANTHA MOONEY  
 KWAMAINE CARTER  
 KRISTEN COFFEY  
 JONATHAN DiUBALDI  
 BRANDEN GREENE  
 MICHAEL MOLINARI JR  
 ZACHARY SHAW  
 BRIAN WALLACE

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Personal Private Professional

**Shared Services (National Human Resources)**1-877-477-3273 <http://liteblue.usps.gov>

You'll need your Employee ID# and USPS PIN.

***Next Union Meeting******September 23rd, 2025 at 7:30pm******United we bargain, Divided we beg***



When: Sunday, October 5, 2025

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Tee Off: 8:30 a.m.

Where: My Old Kentucky Home Golf Course  
668 Loretto Rd  
Bardstown, KY 40004

Entry Fee: \$70 per player

\$280 per team

(Includes Green Fees, Cart, Lunch and Team Prizes)

Deadline to enter: **September 26, 2025**

For more information contact:

Missy Harris

(502)759-2276

All Proceeds to benefit the KY/CINN  
Muscular Dystrophy Association



<b>PLAYER NAMES:</b> _____ _____ _____ _____	<b>Hole/Tee Sponsor +4 Players</b> ( ) \$380 <b>Hole/Tee Sponsor</b> ( ) \$100 <b># Players</b> _____ <b>x \$70</b> \$ _____ <b>Sorry I cannot attend or sponsor.</b> <b>Enclosed is my donation.</b> \$ _____ <b>Total Amount Enclosed</b> \$ _____
<b>NAME:</b> _____ <b>COMPANY:</b> _____ <b>ADDRESS:</b> _____ <b>CITY:</b> _____ <b>STATE:</b> _____ <b>ZIP:</b> _____ <b>PHONE:</b> _____	<b>PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO</b> <b>NALC BRANCH 14</b>  <b>Remit check and entry form to:</b>  <b>NALC BRANCH 14</b> <b>Attn: Missy Harris</b> <b>4815 Poplar Level Rd</b> <b>Louisville, KY</b> <b>40213</b>



# NALC 2nd ANNUAL



National Association of Letter Carriers  
Falls City Branch 14  
4815 Poplar Level Road  
Louisville, KY 40213  
09/25

Address Service Requested



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Permit No. 804



**Contact Us:**

**Mailing Address:**

P.O. Box 33303

Louisville, KY 40232-3303

**Email:** lfou@louisvillefou.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

