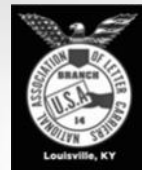


BR. 14 NEWSLETTER



VOL 54, NO. 07

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

JULY 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 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

Brother and Sisters, it is a tremendous honor to be appointed as the newest President of Branch 14. Since the Great Postal Strike of 1970, I became only the seventh President in the last fifty-five years. It is an extreme honor and privilege, and one that I don't take lightly.

I want to extend my congratulations to Tony Weddle on his retirement. We are very thankful for his service to this country as a Marine, his dedication to the public as a Letter Carrier, and his nearly two decades to the union as a steward and, most recently, Branch President for over a dozen years. Tony may be retired, but we will still lean on him for his knowledge.

Over the past few years in my roles at the branch, I have had the distinct honor of meeting and getting to know many of you. I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself briefly. I have been a letter carrier since 2005 and have carried all across the city. I currently work in the Camp Taylor Zone at Annshire. I have been a union steward for over a decade and have served on the Executive Board for the past five years. I have a beautiful wife and two great kids at home. Being a husband and father is the best job I have.

So, where do we go from here? I hope to provide you with a brief overview of what I envision Branch 14 will look like over the next several years. First, we build on all the successes we have already achieved. The branch is currently on solid footing in many areas. The men and women who came before us were financially wise and prudent as well as tenacious in the grievance process. My goal is to catapult the branch from that steady platform. Here is a brief outline of what I envision the branch will look like going forward.

Representation

The primary existence of the National Association of Letter Carriers is to represent its members. That will always be the number one priority of Branch 14. We want to make sure that

everyone is seen and that all voices are heard. We want to be stalwarts for the membership, fighting diligently to protect the contract and the city letter carrier. How do we do that?

It begins with the Executive Board, which the membership has elected. Our current E-board is a tremendous mix of seasoned and battle-tested veterans and ambitious and diligent younger members. The balance keeps us rooted to the past while striving for the future.

Next up are our stewards. We currently have a great batch of stewards representing our members across the Branch. The ultimate goal will be to have a steward in every unit and post office that we represent. The job of the Branch is to mentor and train stewards to protect the contract and our membership better. In that vein, the goal is to have quarterly steward trainings in addition to our steward training before membership meetings. Additionally, our stewards will attend training sessions, such as the Region 6 "School of Stewards" and our annual Kentucky-Indiana-Michigan training sessions, to continue to learn. We also hope to take advantage of some of the National Union's training in various locations. I want to express my appreciation for the hard work and dedication of our current stewards.

I want the Executive Board members to visit all the stations and post offices regularly. For Louisville, that is easy. I have been to every post office this year. I would like it not to always be in affiliation with a disciplinary interview. For the AOs, we have to make better strides to visit at least once a year. When you meet the people, you represent and they meet you, having essential conversations is much easier.

Participation

I have consistently encouraged the members of the branch to become more active in union activities, and I will continue to do so. I am a dues-paying member, just as you are. The union hall at 4815 Poplar Level Road is not my hall or the executive board's hall; it is OUR hall. When the building is full of activity, it comes to life.

On a positive note, the most recent election for fixed versus rotating off days had a decent turnout. Nearly one-third of all active Louisville

carriers participated, representing an increase from past elections. Thank you to all who turned out and had their voices heard. Very soon, we will have elections to send delegates to the 2026 National Convention in Los Angeles and the 2027 State Meeting here in Louisville. Please pay attention to the newsletter for election notices and make a concerted effort to vote. If you will be on annual leave, you can request an absentee ballot.

On a sour note, we had fewer than fifty people at our last union meeting. Most of those present were required to be there by obligation as a steward or an E-board member. In a 2022 study, on average, there were only nine active members, not obligated to attend, who attended union meetings on a monthly basis. That's less than 2 percent of our membership. I understand that many people may not be able to participate due to factors such as late mail deliveries and family obligations. The union meeting is the best place to address many of your concerns, hear about the latest developments within the union, and cast votes on branch functions.

To increase participation, we will be discussing a modified version of union meetings that can be held either in person or via a secure online link. This will take some studying and will need the membership to vote for its approval. The National Union, along with many of its large branches, initiated this process during the pandemic, and it has been highly successful. I will keep you posted.

Now to the fun stuff. The branch would love for all the members to also participate in our branch activities. We host consistent events, including the Bowl-a-Thon, two golf scrambles, and the retirees' dinner. Additionally, we have our annual Holiday party with Santa Claus. Those will always be on the calendar. They are a lot of fun and do a lot of good for MDA.

We are now trying new things to encourage more members to visit their hall. Last year, we hosted our first-ever Trunk or Treat event, and it was a tremendous success. The costumes for both the children and the adults were amusing. We also had a "Pop-up Shop" which featured local vendors selling their wares. We have also hosted paint nights and trivia nights.

I'm incredibly excited to announce that on July 26th, we will host our first-ever Karaoke night at

the hall. It starts at 8, is open to the public, and is \$5 at the door. This will be an adult-only event, and all proceeds will benefit the MDA. If this is a success, we will plan a kid-friendly Karaoke event soon.

Additionally, on August 3rd, we will host a "Back to School Jam" from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. There will be games, snacks, school supplies, and even two bouncy houses! There will be giveaways as well. If you would like to attend, please visit our Facebook page and register so we can get an idea of the expected attendance. Both of these events will be at the hall.

Communication

Each month, the Branch distributes a newsletter (as you can see if you are reading this), and we also maintain a Facebook page. We are open to new ways to communicate with our membership. I'm not the hippest cat in the world, so new-fangled social media is not my forte. If you have any ideas or suggestions you'd like us to consider, please let us know. Our branch number is 502-964-3200.

Additionally, we are looking to update our phones in the hall to facilitate easier communication. Our system is outdated and in need of an overhaul.

We have also considered surveys you can access via a barcode scan to help us better represent the letter carriers. In every way we can hear from you, it is a net positive for all involved.

Dedication

I am incredibly proud to be a member of Branch 14. I believe that we have many of the best letter carriers around. Each of the active members of the Executive Board and all of our stewards have bid assignments. While I don't carry mail every day, I carry mail a majority of the time. This has always been the practice in the branch, and I believe it helps us become aware of all the positives and challenges that the city letter carrier faces on a daily basis.

I make this promise that as long as you wish me to continue representing you, I will give it my all. This is an easy promise, as I love my brothers and sisters. I am fortunate to have built many great friendships with many of you. I look forward to

creating more.

I also like to win. Last year, we were the number one branch in the country in MDA contributions for our size. I think we should be there every year.

The branch needs to increase its participation in the Letter Carrier Political Fund. It is my goal to have more conversations about this with all of you. Our current percentage of activity in the Fund is less than nine percent, and I think we can do better. This is NOT a conversation about either party or who you voted for in the last election. This is about having a seat at the table when the Congress and the Executive Branch threaten our rights. As we saw most recently in the "Big Beautiful Bill," many of our benefits were on the table. We must have allies in Congress who vote our way, and sometimes, in the cutthroat world of politics, money is the only viable option.

Lastly and most importantly, I hope to foster an environment where city letter carriers around the branch look out for and support one another. We encourage the new hires, look out for the veterans, and take care of those in need. We don't always have to agree with a fellow carrier, but we remember that we are a family and that we can achieve a lot more if we work together.

Thank you to all who read this. I appreciate you. If you have questions, contact me at the hall or email me at simsbranch14@yahoo.com. The next union meeting is on July 22, and I will not be there as I will be on annual leave. However, I look forward to seeing you behind the microphone at Karaoke night.



**Former Branch 14 President
Tom Webb
Installing New Branch 14 President
Jarett Sims**

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.....Cortne Niehaus
40209/14/15.....Trevor Gay
40209/14/15.....Mark Wright
40211/12.....Damon Braxton
40213.....Jarett Sims
40216.....Jon Endelmann
40217.....Lance Schwede
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.....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.



LANCE SCHUEDE
Executive Vice-President
LMOU Negotiations

Local negotiations are closed as of 6/26/25. Management failed to actual negotiate or bargain in good faith until the last day of negotiations. The LMOU will go to impasse/arbitration stage and we currently have 9 items at impasse. Management decided to impasse every item dealing with leave and percentages of carriers off. Management decided to disregard the LMOU impasse arbitration from 2008 that dealt with these items. It has been trying last 30 days. After dealing with the Postmaster and her negotiation team, I would rather put my head into a meat grinder. None of the items should have been impasse, nothing should have left Louisville. Management did not understand that items outside those 22 items can not be impasse but they chose to waste time and forward those items anyway.

We are currently waiting on a decision from DRT concerning escalating remedy due to non-ODL carriers. I am assuming that this grievance will either be declared an impasse and proceed to arbitration where the National Business Agent's office can intercept this case and pre-arb or we will just receive the same old 100% without consideration of increasing the escalating remedy. Either way, I will not lay down on this subject. I will continue to escalate this issue until I receive the remedy that the non-ODL carriers deserve. Until next month, stay safe and stay hydrated!



NICK SCHNEIDER
Vice-President

When I moved into my new role within the branch, I first had a feeling of excitement and readiness to take the role head on. Once those initial feelings of excitement died down a bit, I thought "man I've got a lot to learn". This naturally made me somewhat nervous. But then I had numerous people reach out to me, congratulating me and telling me that I would be great in the role. So many people have already been a huge help but especially Jarett and Lance. They have spent valuable time with me, showing me things that will help me moving forward. Those initial nerves are still there but have definitely been tempered.

I shouldn't have been surprised with the outpouring of support; we are a union after all. Within the union we have people with varying personalities, diverse backgrounds, different experiences and perspectives. With all this diversity it creates a source of strength. But it can also create challenges. Most of the time you can see these challenges on the workroom floor when two individuals aren't exactly seeing eye to eye. It's okay to express your opinion in a constructive manner towards your union brother or sister. But remember we are on the same team.

This isn't always confined to the workroom floor. It can also be seen through the union in whole. To make this a strength and not a weakness, the leaders must work to ensure that all voices are heard, and that unity does not come at the expense of inclusion. Effective unions foster open dialogue and encourage democratic participation, ensuring that members feel represented and valued. With that being said, this can only come to fruition through participation. So, I hope to see you at the next meeting and if you feel that your voice needs to be heard – let it be heard.

**Visit the Branch at our website: NALCB14.com
and Like us on Facebook**

REQUEST FOR STEWARD TIME

TO: _____
USPS

FROM: _____
NALC BRANCH 14

DATE RECEIVED BY MANAGEMENT: _____

DELIVERED TO: _____

Under Article 17 of the National Agreement, I request that time be made available to me to investigate or process a grievance regarding: _____

I believe that the amount of time needed will be approximately: _____

Article 17.3 of the National Agreement provides:

“When it is necessary for a steward to leave his/her work area to investigate and adjust grievances or to investigate a specific problem to determine whether to file a grievance, the steward shall request permission from the immediate supervisor and such request shall not be unreasonably denied.”

JCAM Page 17-5

If management delays a steward from investigating a grievance, it should inform the steward of the reasons for the delay and also of when time will be available. Likewise, the steward has an obligation to request additional time and give the reasons why it is needed. (Step 4, NC-C16045, November 22, 1978, M-00127).

Thank you for your cooperation.

Shop Steward / Branch Officer

Time will be made available on ____/____/____ at _____ am/pm
DATE TIME

Supervisor's Signature _____



Deliver the Cure

& MDA



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



PLAYER NAMES:

Hole/Tee Sponsor +4 Players () \$380

Hole/Tee Sponsor () \$100

Players _____ x \$70 \$ _____

Sorry I cannot attend or sponsor.

Enclosed is my donation. \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
NALC BRANCH 14

Remit check and entry form to:

NALC BRANCH 14
Attn: Missy Harris
4815 Poplar Level Rd
Louisville, KY
40213



COULTER MARVEL III
Health Benefits/Retirement/MBA Rep

Money! Money!! Money!!!
Free Money!!
 Have you got yours???

Have you been to a Union Meeting Lately? A few months ago, I spoke about THE TASC DEBIT CARDS being sent out by NALC HEALTH PLANS. Remember??

Update! There's money on them their cards!! My wife and I have \$310. It's rumored another officer and their spouse have over \$600. How much do you have??

To check yours, get your old card out, or the new one if you've received it. Call 1-800-584-6713. Follow the prompts, enter the number off the back of your card and wait for your dollar amount. Your funds can be used in multiple ways.

Check it out!!

Are you getting enough sleep??

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) state adult need at least 7 hours of sleep each night. Getting enough sleep is essential for healthy sleep. Getting a better night's sleep can help you:

1. Get sick less often.
2. Stay at a healthy weight.
3. Reduce stress and improve your mood.
4. Improve your heart health and metabolism.
5. Lower your risk of motor vehicle crashes and related injury and death.
6. Improve your attention and memory to better perform daily activities.

Better sleep habits can help you accomplish this goal. Habits that can improve your sleep include:

1. Going to bed and getting up at the same time every day.
2. Keeping your bedroom quiet, relaxing, and at a cool temperature.
3. Turning off electronic devices at least 30 minutes before bedtime.
4. Avoiding large meals and alcohol before bedtime.
5. Avoiding caffeine in the afternoon or evening.
6. Exercising regularly and maintaining a healthy diet.

As always, if I can be of assistance. Call me at the Branch Office 502-964-3200 or my cell 502-386-0041 and leave a message. I am also in the office most every Tuesday afternoon. See you at the next meeting July 22nd !!



MISSY HARRIS
Community Activities Coordinator

Hey everybody, I hope you are taking the time it takes to be safe in this heat. Check the OSHA heat guidelines and defend your rights if management questions you. If you are injured on the job, contact your supervisor as soon as possible as well as your union steward. Write a statement the day of so you keep all the facts straight, and seek medical attention if necessary. You will need to go to ecomp.dol.gov and make a profile and then you can file your CA-1 claim for the OWCP injury. If you are to be off work you will need documentation to give management and also to upload to your OWCP claim. If you have trouble with any of this, reach out to your steward or to the union hall and someone will walk you through it.

July 26th we are having a Karaoke night for \$5 per person. Friends, family are all welcome. We will have snacks and raffles. All proceeds go to Muscular Dystrophy.

On August 3rd we will have a Back to School Bash. There will be bouncy houses and snacks for the kiddos, school supplies. We wanted to take a little stress off the back to school rush for everyone working so many hours.

Now to the not so fun talk. NALC and all the members of the Letter Carrier Political fund were able to help make all the necessary calls and emails to stop the attack on the letter carriers FERS contributions hikes. The bill would have raised the contribution rate to 15.6% and raised the High 3 to a High five for retirement computation. So if you were on the fence about joining the political fund, this should be an easy decision now to join.

The political fund helps put the right people, no matter what side of the aisle they are on, in place to protect our jobs. The younger carriers should definitely get involved and contribute to the fund. These jobs are yours to fight for. This is a good job with a good retirement.

I also encourage all new carriers to start contributing to their TSP as soon as you are eligible. Always try to pay yourself first by contributing as much as you can afford to the fund to get ready for retirement. I hope to see you all on the 22nd at the union meeting. Stay tuned for more fun nights to come.

UNION MEETING**Date: June 24th, 2025****Br 14 Union Meeting Attendance by Zone**

Annshire 40205	1
Annshire 40213	2
Annshire 40218	0
DTCU 40202	1
DTCU 40203	2
DTCU 40204	0
DTCU 40208	0
DTCU 40210	0
Fern Creek 40228	1
Fern Creek 40291	1
Hikes Point 40220	1
Iroquois 40209/14	2
Iroquois 40215	0
J-Town 40299	1
Lyndon 40222	1
Lyndon 40241/42	1
Middletown 40243	0
MLK 40211	3
MLK 40212	1
Okolona 40219	1
Okolona 40229	0
PRP 40258	2
PRP 40272	1
Shelby 40217	1
Shively 40216	1
St Matthews 40206	1
St Matthews 40207	1
Bardstown 40004	0
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	0
Retired	15
Guests	0
Total	42

**Officers & Stewards Excused: T. Davis,
Clark, McCormick, & Embry**

**Officers and Stewards Absent: Wright
None**

**MDA 50/50 Drawing.....\$51 MDA
.....\$51 Shannon Devine**

\$50 Door Prize.....Bill Davis

**\$25 Texas Roadhouse Gift Card.....
.....Nick Schneider**

LAST PUNCH JEFF DECKER



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
July 22nd, 2025 at 7:30pm
United we bargain, Divided we beg**



**Michelle Boyd
&
Ron Bowman**



**Stella Beam receives
her 25 year pin**



**Anthony Mason
Camp Taylor**



**Andrew Ridgley
Converting soon**



NEW MEMBERS

BRYAN BIVENS
JULES NEELY JR
BENJAMIN THOMAS
KAYLE CARTE'
LEMAR MONTGOMERY
NAZIR AHMAD
KEITH MATTINGLY

LYNDON
J-TOWN
MLK
IROQUOIS
MLK
PRP
OKOLONA

WAYNE MASSEY
GARRETT MILES
SEAN BARNELL
JACOB EMBRY
JOHN SNEED JR
ROBERT CARTER
TRAVIS REECE

OKOLONA
HIKES POINT
MIDDLETOWN
OKOLONA
FERN CREEK
SHELBY
DTCU

OPEN TO ALL



SNACKS

BRING YOUR
SINGING VOICE

JULY 26TH @ 8PM
4815 POPLAR LEVEL RD.

ADULTS ONLY

BYOB

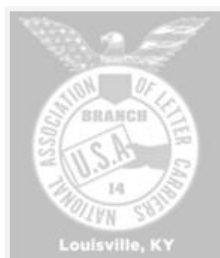
\$5 ENTRY FEE (ALL PROCEEDS GO TO MDA)

National Association of Letter Carriers
Falls City Branch 14
4815 Poplar Level Road
Louisville, KY 40213
07/25

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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

