



REGION 5 NBA REPORT



August 2014

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

“Shrink to survive strategy”. The USPS has a new buzz word, Network Rationalization, which means that they plan to continue this program with its mail processing operations in 2015. Eighty two facilities will be consolidated beginning next year and concluding in the fall. This strategy as my friend in Wichita, Kansas, Pat Hill wrote about is costing the USPS millions in lost customer shipping. They are estimating this will impact approximately 15, 000 employees and change our delivery standards. This will give our enemies in Congress more to write negative articles about the survival of the USPS.

In our Region, there are only five mail processing facilities that will be affected; they are Salina, KS, Cape Girardeau, MO, Springfield, MO, Grand Island, and Norfolk, NE.

Also included in the news release, the USPS is putting new vehicle purchases on hold pending Legislative help. This is problematic and will not provide any relief to our aging, gas consuming fleet of vehicles which will give rise to numerous negative articles about the Postal Service being able to survive. If they continue to await Legislative help, then we might as well look forward to having parcels being delivered by drones. With our current Legislative situation our future cannot depend on help from Congress that may not be coming.

The only good news from Washington is that the Postal Service is offering buyouts and early retirement options to more than 3,000 postmasters before it proceeds with a reduction-in-force in early 2015. In my own personal opinion, we have twice the amount of supervisors/managers than we need. They are not helping the USPS accomplish its mission of providing a vital service to the American public. Harassment, intimidation and threats should not be the goal of any agency.

I would like to express my gratitude to the latest Leadership Academy Graduates who just completed their four weeks of arduous training; Michelle Jellison from Branch 10, Topeka, Kansas and Eddie Lofland, Branch 69, Sioux City, Iowa.

The training consisted of three weeks in Washington, DC trained by NALC Officers and staff, and then one week here in the Regional office. Michelle, Eddie and all those who successfully completed this course have made a personal commitment of time and energy to the NALC and we applaud them for that. (Fall 2014 participants will be Brian Greunke, Branch 89, Fremont, Nebraska and Christopher Fayard, Branch 5521, Shawnee, Mission, Kansas).

Applications for the 2015 Leadership Academy are now available for any interested member on the [NALC website](#). Applications must be received by August 31st, 2014.

Congratulations go out to our Hero of the Month, Brian Novotny of Branch 8, Lincoln, Nebraska. Brian is credited with helping a patron who had fallen out of his wheelchair in twenty degree temperatures and could not get up. With his assistance the patron avoided further injury or possible death.

Missouri State Scholarship winner; Tatyanna Alexander is the daughter of Wilbert Jenkins. Wilbert is a carrier out of the St. Louis, Missouri Branch #343.

Most of you know that I will be retiring from the NALC at the end of the year. Presently I am 65 years of age and have over 38 years of service. I carried mail and was an officer in Branch 30, Kansas City, Missouri for 18 years and have been in your regional office for 20 years. In my last four articles I will be thanking numerous individuals and preparing this office for the future. Along with my personal family the NALC has been my second family. In 2015 I will start dedicating my life to my personal family while enjoying my life as an NALC retiree. I am not going away; I am just going on vacation with Mrs. Pittman.

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