

# 908 News

NALC Branch 908  
AFL-CIO  
PO Box 375  
Gloucester City,  
NJ 08030

# South Jersey Letter Carriers

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Newsletter Com: Powell, Lipski, Spence Ph: 906-2838 Fax: 227-0516 www.nalcbranch908.com December 2014

## Presidents Report

Each holiday season I try to keep my article on the upbeat side, since this is supposed to be a time of joy and happiness for most of us. We will be dealing with as we head into the new year, so that is when I will be focusing my energy many issues. As we head into our busiest time of the year, I would like to take this time to remind everyone to take extra caution in doing your job. This means to take your time and work in a safe manner, since we will probably see more packages that many of us have ever had to deal with. With the new scanners we all have, it is definitely an upgrade from the last ones, so that is a good thing. I just want everyone to be aware that these scanners have the capability of tracking your every move throughout your day, so be smart and keep to your route. We do not want any overzealous manager trying to sit at their computer and try figuring out what you might be doing off your route. Be professional and do your route as if you are on inspection every day and you will not have anything to be concerned with! Another item you may not be aware of is we have a new District Manager. There are many rumors flying as to why Mr. Anderson decided to move on, but I am not going to get involved in that nonsense, since it has no bearing on our lives. I hope that the new DM has a will be an asset to this district, and not a detriment. Speaking of changes, we also will be seeing a new Postmaster General as of February 1<sup>st</sup>. Megan Brennan will take over for Pat Donahoe, and hopefully will have a better vision when she takes over the reins of this growing company. One last thing that I mentioned in last month's article concerning the posting of the workhour workload report. It appears management may not be giving your route the proper parcel credit on a daily basis, so please keep an accurate count of your parcels each day. In addition, if management has someone delivering your parcels, either on Sunday or any day, outside of December, the time must be credited to your route and not put on any other function such as 731 or 737. This is very important as we begin the CDRAAP process, since this time will not be credited to your route if this situation occurs and will hurt your total route time. On behalf of the officers and myself, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy Holiday season and a great New Year. Hope to see you at the Christmas meeting!

Gary DiGiacomo - President

## Next Meeting

The next regular monthly meeting of the Branch will be held on **Wednesday, December 17th @ 8 p.m.**, at the American Legion Hall, 502 Colonial Ave., North Woodbury. The regular monthly meetings of the Branch are held on the Third Wednesday of each month @ 8 p.m., The Branch Board of Officers and Executive Board meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. The Board of Officers meet @ **7:30 p.m.**, and the Executive Board @ **8 p.m.** The next meeting of the Board of Officers and Executive Board will be on **Wednesday, December 10th 7:30 and 8pm** respectively.

## Guaranteed Winner December 17th

Had he attended the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on **Wednesday November 19, Denis Lazzizzera**, a member out of the Somerdale Office would have won the **\$250** attendance prize. The prize now stands at **\$250** and will be given away at

our general membership meeting on Wednesday, December 17th.

## Trustee Report

The trustees and I just conducted a full and complete audit of the branch finances on October 30<sup>th</sup>. We audited the main checking account, the sick and welfare fund as well as the death benefits fund. Our audit showed all accounts to be in compliance and in good order with no errors or discrepancies found. We will be voting on next year's budget at the December meeting. Just a reminder to keep the date of **April 18, 2015** open for our retirement and branch social from 7pm till 11pm at the Kellyann Ballroom in Gloucester City. We also have uniforms for all dues paying CCA's at our hall and also are asking any members who have any extra items to donate to our new carriers, since they don't get much of an allotment to start. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to take advantage of this offer. I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from me and my family. Please make it a safe one!

James Comuso, Chairman Board of Trustees

## Health Benefits

The NALC Health Benefit Plan offers FREE influenza pneumococcal, and seasonal flu (including H1N1 strain) vaccines to NALC Health Benefit Plan members and their eligible dependents at local participating network pharmacies when the NALC Health Benefit Plan is the primary payer for medical expenses. The NALC Health Benefit Plan has partnered with more than 52,000 local NALC Preferred and NALC CareSelect pharmacies (including more than 7000 CVS Pharmacies and Longs Drugs stores) to provide the following vaccines at no cost:

- Seasonal Flu Vaccine (H1N1 strain is incorporated)
- Intranasal Seasonal Flu Vaccine (FluMist®)\*
- Injectable Seasonal Flu High Dose (Fluzone® High Dose) Vaccine
- Adult Pneumococcal Vaccine
- Pediatric (13-Valent) Pneumococcal Vaccine
- Log onto <http://www.nalchbp.org/> for details

Optical Claims: Send receipt with Name, Address, and Phone number to

George Greenwood, HBR  
1083 Chews Landing Rd.  
Laurel Springs, NJ 08021

## Branch 908 Holiday Raffle

The Branch will hold its **Annual Holiday Raffle** at the Regular Membership Meeting on December 17. This year we will be raffling off a 50 inch RCA HDTV and a DVD Home Theater Plus as an added bonus a Prestige 7inch 8 GB Tablet. See your Steward for Tickets, which are \$2. Any questions contact **Trustee Shawn McBride** or **Recording Secretary Mike Powell**.

## Phone Numbers to Remember

President- Gary DiGiacomo - 856-906-2838

Vice- President- Steve Rutkowski- 856-906-2026

### 8th Annual Branch Banquet-April 18th

The 8th Annual Branch 908 Banquet will be held on April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 7:00 – 11:00pm at Kelly Ann Ballroom Highland Blvd. & Sylvan Ave. Gloucester City N.J. This is a great night to eat, drink, dance, and socialize with good friends and especially to honor those members who have retired in the past year as well as those who have been selected to receive Branch Awards. If you have retired since the last banquet or you will retire before April 18th contact Branch Recording Secretary, Mike Powell at [908recordingsec@comcast.net](mailto:908recordingsec@comcast.net). All Branch Members, family and friends are encouraged to attend at a cost of \$20pp. The cost for current Branch retirees is \$10. Tickets may be picked up from Branch Recording Secretary Mike Powell at any Branch Meeting, or by mailing the form below with checks made out to NALC Branch 908, to PO Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030.

### Camden Annex Formal Step A

Westville- 7-Day Suspension for attendance will be rescinded.

Westville- Grievant will be made whole for all lost wages and benefits from 11/6 thru 11/14 because of being improperly put on Emergency Placement.

### Turkey Drawing Winner

At the regular monthly meeting of the Branch on Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, April Litty, a carrier out of our Deptford Office was the winner of the Annual Jack Bittner Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway. Thanks to Branch Trustee Chairman Jim Comuso for donating this year's turkey.

### Annual Christmas Meeting December 19th

As is our tradition, we will have shrimp and wings. Come out and enjoy!

### Penalty Overtime Exclusion

As referenced in Article 8, Sections 4 and 5 of the National Agreement between the NALC and the USPS, the December period during which penalty overtime regulations are not applicable consists of four consecutive service weeks. This year, the December period begins Pay Period 26-14-Week 2 (Dec. 6, 2014) and ends Pay Period 02-15-Week 1 (Jan. 2, 2015).

### \*Attention\*

Please remember to give any changes of address to your Steward so that you can continue to receive the Branch Newsletter and other important information. Alternatively, send changes to Mike Powell, Recording Secretary P.O. Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030, or [908recordingsec@comcast.net](mailto:908recordingsec@comcast.net)

Name: _____ Print
Check One: Honoree ( ) Retiree ( ) Other ( )
Total number attending _____
Total remittance \$ _____

Send to PO Box 375, Gloucester City, NJ 08030 by April 10th, 2015. Members of the Branch who have retired since our last Banquet will be honored and presented with tokens of our appreciation. **If you have retired since the last Banquet or you will retire before April 18th, 2015, please contact the Branch Recording Secretary, Mike Powell @ 856-287-8768 or [908recordingsec@comcast.net](mailto:908recordingsec@comcast.net).**

### Nominations for Shop Steward of the Year

The Shop Steward of the Year Award will be awarded at the Branch Retiree's Banquet. Simply write on a piece of paper the following information: Name of Steward being nominated, Office, Person making nomination (must be from Steward Office), and statement including accomplishments, knowledge of contract, ability to deal with co-workers and management, and dedication to the NALC and 908. All submissions must be received by March 31st, 2015. The winner will be selected by the Awards Committee and kept confidential until the presentation at the Banquet.

### NARFE-(National Active and retired Federal Employees Association)

On behalf of the Officers and Membership of Chapter 631 in Woodbury, we extend an invitation to all active and retired members to attend one of our meetings which meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month (excluding July and August) from 1:00pm till 3:00pm, at the Johnson Library on Ward Ave right off highland Ave in Deptford. For those not familiar with NARFE, we are the only organization that fights for your earned benefits and keeps you informed as to what Congress is doing in Washington in regards to our promised and earned benefits. We also hear what is going on in Trenton as well, in regards to our benefits. As of now we have 194 members in the Woodbury chapter with 20 members still working. We are looking to expand our membership and invite you to attend our meeting to find out what NARFE can do for you. If you need more information, please feel free to contact me directly. Thank you all,

Eugene Pappert, President  
(856) 468-3195

### A Note From The Recording Secretary

I would like to take this time to thank all of our members for their support during my past year as your Recording Secretary. I look forward to serving our members in the coming New Year. I would like to wish all our members a **Happy and Healthy Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.** I can be reached at 856-287-8768 or [908recordingsec@comcast.net](mailto:908recordingsec@comcast.net).

Mike Powell-Recording Secretary

Name: _____
Current Address: _____
New Address: _____
Phone Number: _____
E-mail: _____
Post Office: _____

*The Officers and Shop Stewards of the Branch would like to take this opportunity to personally wish You and Yours a Happy Holiday Season and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!*

