



METRO LETTER CARRIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LONE STAR BRANCH #132, NALC

LINDA BOROUGHS, EDITOR

OFFICIAL NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS OF LONE STAR BRANCH 132

Nominations for the election of officers of NALC Lone Star Branch 132 for 2022-2024 will be conducted at the branch meeting on Monday, October 4, 2021. The candidate for office or another member in good standing shall make the nomination from the floor. Every nominee must complete an Official NALC Lone Star Branch 132 Nomination Form, which will be available at the October branch meeting. After nominations have closed and every nominee has completed the official form, the list of candidates will be read into the record by the recording secretary. Candidates can only be nominated for one office, with the exception of the position of editor. Nominations will be held for the following positions: President, Executive Vice-President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Health Benefits, Sergeant-at-Arms, Director of Retirees, Trustees (5 positions), and Editor.

The election for officers will be conducted by a secret ballot mail-out to the home addresses of eligible Branch 132 members on October 25. Each envelope will contain instructions, a ballot, a secret ballot envelope, and a return envelope. If you do not receive the ballot, call the Election Chairperson, Clubber Targton, at 214-298-2704. The ballots must be returned by November 20. Newly elected officers will be sworn in at the January 2022 Branch Meeting.

OFFICIAL CALL FOR DELEGATES TO THE 2022 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Nominations for delegates to the 2022 National NALC Convention in Chicago will be conducted at the October Branch Meeting. The dates of the 2022 convention are August 8-12, 2022. Delegates must submit this form to the Recording Secretary no later than the October Branch Meeting.

Delegate Nomination Form

I desire to place my name in nomination as a delegate to the 2022 National NALC Convention in Chicago, Illinois. I affirm that I have not served or applied for a supervisory position with the United States Postal Service in the last 24 months.

PRINTED NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

This form must be received by the Recording Secretary no later than the October Branch Meeting on October 4, 2021. Confirmation of receipt will be provided. Please notify the branch office if you do not receive proof of submission.

Serving Addison, Athens, Canton, Carrollton, Carthage, Center, Commerce, Corsicana, Dallas, Daingerfield, DeSoto, Duncanville, Ennis, Fairfield, Ferris, Gainesville, Gilmer, Gladewater, Grand Prairie, Grand Saline, Greenville, Henderson, Jacksonville, Jefferson, Kerens, Kaufman, Kilgore, Lancaster, Lewisville, Longview, Marshall, Mesquite, Nacogdoches, Seagoville, Sherman, Sulphur Springs, Waxahachie, White Oak, Wills Point, Wilmer, Winnsboro

BRANCH 132 OFFICE

8451 Endicott
Dallas, Texas 75227
214-388-4349
Fax 214-388-4149

HOURS – 7:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.
MONDAY – FRIDAY

NALC Branch 132 Longview Office
201 East Methvin Street, Suite 201
Longview, Texas 75601
903-753-1255
Fax 903-757-6490

OFFICERS

President Emeritus – William P. York

Kimetra Lewis, President
214-779-4758

Sid Simmons, Executive Vice President
214-564-7128

Robert Hinson, Vice President
214-906-3201

Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary
214-697-8704

Steve Ellenberg, Treasurer
Cell: 214-783-6212

Janine Singleton, Financial Secretary
469-438-0101

Earl Hibbs, Health Benefits, OWCP
903-456-9136

HOURS – 7:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.
THURSDAYS

Mike Bell, Sergeant-at-Arms
214-695-8157

Bobbie Taylor, Director, Retirees
469-765-5259

Linda Boroughs, Editor
214-929-0421

TRUSTEES

Richard Inurrigaro 214-557-8193

Eugene Johnson 214-938-4278

Helen Toliver 214-429-5847

Thomas Vines 214-240-9821

Chris Velasquez 214-274-6984



Stewards meet 7:00 PM the first Thursday of each month in the Branch Office.

Executive Board meets 7:00 PM last Monday of each month.

AFL-CIO Council meets third Thursday of each month.

Branch meeting 7:30 PM first Monday of each month unless deferred by membership vote.

Opinions expressed in this paper are those of the writers, and do not express the opinions of the editor or the Union. All articles for publication must be signed and received by the Editor no later than the 1st of each month. If you wish to run your personal or business ad, rates are available on request and must be received by the 10th of each month to be inserted in the next month's issue. The editor's email address is LABORoughs@gmail.com

Texas State Association of Letter Carriers - District 2 Report – Second Quarter

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

As we enter into the month of June 2021, so much has changed. The COVID-19 infection rate is on a downward spiral. Vaccinations and masks count for a large part of the decrease of COVID-19. Although the Texas State Association of Letter Carriers convention was cancelled, the process to elect the State Board Members is under way. Gilbert Ramos, Arlington Branch 2309, and Glendon (Glen) Waters, Lake Jackson Branch 2723, were appointed as election commissioners.



As the District 2 Board member, I look forward to working with all the Letter Carrier Congressional Liaisons (LCCLs) of our district. We must focus on all legislation related to letter carriers' issues. We must speak out against legislation that interferes with free and fair access to the ballot, polling place availability, and purges of voter lists as we head into the mid-term election of 2022.

A new piece of legislation, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, HR3076/S1720, was introduced in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. This is the first major postal reform legislation that addresses two of NALC's priorities: (1) repeal the Postal Service pre-funding mandate and (2) form the Federal Employee Health Benefit Program (FEHBP).

I was invited to attend another labor roundtable Zoom meeting with Representative Colin Allred, District 32. The labor meeting was very informative and dealt with various labor issues. During the round table discussion, I asked Congressman Allred if he would support HR3076; he stated that he was for anything that would benefit the Postal Service. After the round table discussion, I made calls to Representatives Eddie Bernice Johnson, District 30, Representative Colin Allred, District 32, and Representative Marc Veasey, District 33. LCCL Odell Dean also made a call to Representative Marc Veasey.

This pending postal legislation benefits letter carriers, whether they are active or retired, along with the Postal Service's customers. As letter carriers, we must spend time contacting our congressional representatives and encourage them to support issues related to postal reform.

By the time you read this, all state convention delegates should have received and returned their ballots. Ballots were sent out on July 26, 2021 and should have been mailed back and received no later than August 26, 2021. Ballots will be counted on August 27, 2021.

Wishing everyone a joyful and safe summer.

Rita Wilder

972-805-6798

ritawilder05@gmail.com

REGIONAL STEWARD TRAINING

September 26 – Union Hall – 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

The fall school will not be held this year, because of our coronavirus friend. In place of the fall school, training will be held at the union hall on September 26 from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. The training will be presented by the office of our Region 10 National Business Agent Javier Bernal. Stewards will learn about the new JCAM and be brought up to date on the latest COVID information. All members are welcome to attend, but the focus will be on teaching stewards.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

KIMETRA LEWIS



Greetings Brothers and Sisters,
As I was reading National Executive Vice President Brian Renfroe's article in the Postal Record entitled "*Reflections of a Pandemic that Brought Out the Best of Us*", I found myself thinking about how the pandemic brought out the best for the membership in Branch 132. At the start of the pandemic, at the advice of the CDC, the public was asked not to congregate in large groups.

Following the advice of the expert health authorities, the Executive Board decided to cancel our monthly branch and steward training meetings. From March 2020 through June 2020, there were no meetings held at the union hall. That was the first time in my career that the union hall was closed for meetings due to a situation other than bad weather.

In July 2020, the branch began to resume the monthly branch and steward meetings virtually, via Zoom, a online video conference call service. Invitations to attend the meetings were sent out via email to those members who had provided the hall with their email addresses and announced in the Branch's Facebook Groups: Branch 132 Steward's Corner and NALC Branch 132 Connection. The participation in the beginning was low but as time went by more and more members begin to adjust to the new way of conducting meetings. The Zoom meetings allowed the business of the branch to continue and presented an opportunity for members of the branch who normally would not attend the meetings to join in and be a part of the meetings. With each passing month, the attendance on the calls grew.

As the number of COVID-19 cases began to decrease, the CDC lifted the restrictions on gathering in large crowds. When that occurred, the Executive Board began discussions on the transition

back to in-person meetings. During those discussions, there were talks on finding ways to maintain the attendance that we had gained. That's when the Executive Board decided to invest in an audio/visual system that would allow in-person meetings and virtual Zoom meetings to be held simultaneously.

Over the years, prior to the pandemic, the branch had faced difficulties in its attempts to include the members in the associate offices outside of the metroplex as part of the branch and steward training meetings through simultaneous in-person and video meetings. The lines of communication through the methods used were unreliable and not as effective as desired.

On July 12, 2021, the branch held its first In-person/Zoom meeting. This was the first branch meeting at the union hall in over fifteen months. The introduction of our new system has so far shown to provide the branch the ability to accomplish what we sought to achieve. The use of the Zoom on-line conference call has provided an effective means to promptly share pertinent information about our careers to each member instead of having to wait until the next branch or steward meeting. Using the Zoom on-line conference call, the branch has been able to schedule emergency meetings to better aid and equip our stewards instantly on upcoming issues. The Zoom on-line conference call has allowed the branch to schedule meetings outside of the usual monthly meetings with individual offices who have been experiencing problems unique to their office. It's an effective, beneficial tool made accessible to the branch thanks to the pandemic.

The capability to keep the membership aware of important issues regarding their careers when they present themselves is one of my visions for the branch. Please let this article serve as your personal invitation to attend the monthly branch and steward training meetings. The monthly branch meetings are held the first Monday of each month unless the Monday falls on a holiday. The steward training meetings are held the first Thursday of each month. If you are not already on the email list, contact the union hall at 214-388-4349 to get on the list. Get on board! Knowledge is power!

BRANCH 132 WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Avegail Alagon
Trister Bransom
Dilan Etheridge
Jamisha Johnson
Kedric Rhone
Taylor Spence
Yolanda White
Fredric Gaines
Dawn Samuel
Justin Hemphill
Samondra Julien
Jordan Griffin

Daveon Allen
Jose Cabrera
Demetris Garner
Keianna Moroney
Tony Rigsby
Drakkar Thompson
Latala Bailey
Trevor Johnson
Breanna Thomas
Emir Martinez
Eric Selle

Billy Anthony
Nicolas Copeland
Raul Gonzalez
Anton Nesbitt
Brittan Davis
Bonnie Thomas
April Davis
Charles McAllister
Jose-Roberto Torres
Darlene Clark
Ashley Taylor

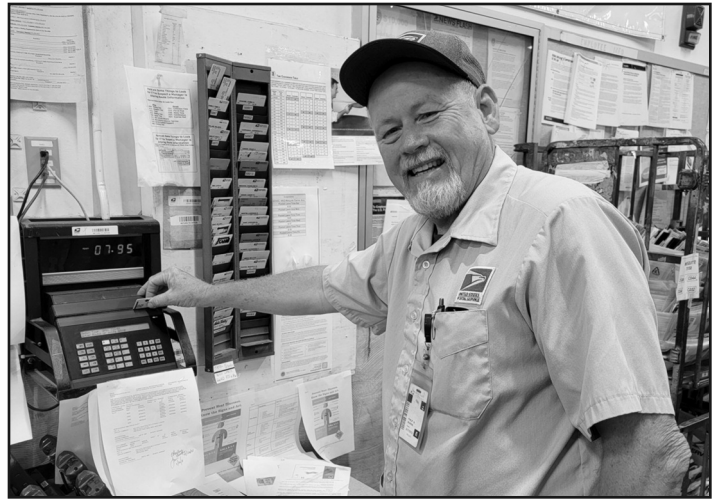
Durchane Bethea
Caleb Dickerson
Charles Harp
Amanda Payne
Terrell Russell
Robert Tolle
Barbara Felipe-Ramirez
Nasir Sadatya
Elijah Wilson
Brianna Sanchez
Bettina Hinton

LAST PUNCH BUNCH



RICK CASTANUELA
40 YEARS • CARROLLTON - MPO

Although Rick is retiring from the MPO, he spent 25 years at Rosemeade. He actually started working in Carrollton before the two Carrollton post offices were built. During one year in his career, he worked 800 hours of overtime! His 40 years also includes three years as a Marine, where he was assigned to Signals Intelligence in the Pacific Ocean. Now he plans to travel to Mexico, California, and the Marine reunion, and do some camping with the grandchildren. He tells the new carriers, "Give the best service you can." He believes our good service is what sets us apart.



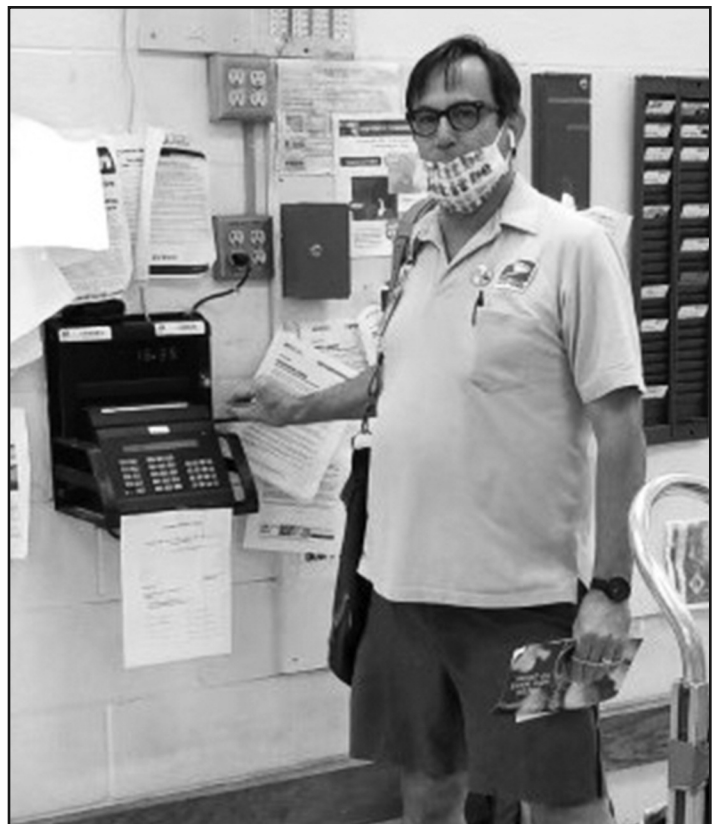
PHILIP MORRIS
36 YEARS • GARLAND - SOUTH GARLAND

Philip started as a clerk in Dallas, but after a year he transferred to Mesquite to carry mail. He moved to Garland around 2010. He is now retiring with one year and three months of sick leave to his credit! During his 36 years, he only knows of one time that the USPS didn't deliver mail – during the February 2021 snowstorm that we recently went through. Philip will miss his co-workers and his customers, but he is also glad that he will now get to travel, fish, and spend time with his grandchildren. He advises the new carriers to do as he did: Save your sick leave, and only use it when you have to.



LARRY MIDDLETON
36 YEARS • DALLAS - UNIVERSITY

Larry hired on as a PTF at Lake Highlands and stayed there for 28 years before moving to University. He won't miss the heat, but he will miss his co-workers and the camaraderie that develops between people from different backgrounds who work at the post office. Talking to his customers will also be missed, but he plans to fill that void by enjoying the things that he had to miss out on when he had to work those long hours that are required of carriers. He looks forward to setting his own schedule and doing what he wants to do. He tells the new carriers, "Be dependable. Do your very best."



JOE BARRETT
38 YEARS • DALLAS - SPRING VALLEY



JANINE SINGLETON
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT

MAY 2021

National Dues	\$67,097.07
OWCP Dues	3,166.48
Misc.	260.72
MBA Rebate	0.00
TSALC Rebate	0.00
HB Rebate	0.00
Deposit Dividends	1.55
TOTAL \$	\$70,525.82

JUNE 2021

National Dues	\$66,792.26
OWCP Dues	579.60
Misc.	2,737.47
Active Dues	0.00
MBA Rebate	0.00
TSALC Rebate	1,035.20
HB Rebate	0.00
Deposit Dividends	1.53
TOTAL \$	\$71,146.06

TREASURER REPORT

General Fund	\$230,411.55
Regular Shares	25.00
Money Market	511,255.73
<i>Stewards Fund</i>	128,725.29
<i>Convention Fund</i>	40,000.00
<i>CPA/Legal Fund</i>	7,200.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	0.00
<i>Education Fund</i>	0.00
<i>Money Market</i>	335,330.44
MDA Fund	99.81
CD 18 Month	106,541.13
CD 18 Month	103,827.49
CD 12 Month	102,864.50
TOTAL \$	\$992,124.29



SICK & WELFARE REPORT

Addison – Jesse Garcia had surgery; Sharon Hodge.
Caesar Clark – Michelle Hubbard; Reso Washington.
Dallas - Parkdale – Rachel Bell got married; Ray Bunch, Rhonda Carney, Bashira El-Amin, Tamecia Ford, Louis McJoy and Tyra Parker Wellington are out ill; Leatrice Miles is the proud grandmother of a baby girl; Tory Pyburn is the proud father of a baby boy; Addie Roblow is the proud great-grandmother of a baby boy; James Wheeler is the proud father of a baby girl; Maggie Santiago's husband passed away.

Dallas - Preston – Darryl Targton's grandfather, uncle and aunt passed away.

Desoto – A Redic had a stroke; Jamal Russell's grandmother passed away.

Duncanville – Mariana Henry's cousin and grandmother passed away.

Longview (Northwest) – Scott Eades.

Retirees – Armando Castilleja's son Augustine is in the hospital; Clyde Martin's father passed away; Donnell Reese passed away.

Auxiliary #28 – Margaret Castilleja's son Augustine is in the hospital.

MONTHLY INCOME REPORT

	Active	Paying	Gross	Net
PP-22	1945	1750	52260	33473
PP-23	1934	1742	51923	33088
PP-24	1927	1746	52164	33274
PP-25	1972	1758	53143	34040
PP-26	1989	1772	53690	34364
PP-01	1991	1773	53834	34368
PP-02	1998	1784	54058	34628
PP-03	1999	1786	54102	34710
PP-04	1996	1787	54081	34717
PP-05	1987	1769	53568	34305
PP-06	1982	1770	53472	34312
PP-07	1971	1757	53115	34001
PP-08	1962	1752	52910	33880
PP-09	1968	1755	53024	33632
PP-10	1958	1746	52720	33465
PP-11	1946	1738	52385	33142
PP-12	1961	1750	52887	33650
PP-13	1959	1748	52773	33537
PP-14	1968	1759	52836	33638

SIXTY YEARS OF UNION MEMBERSHIP!

Lee "Doc" Baker was presented with his 60-year pin at the August Branch Meeting by President Kim Lewis. Doc worked at Northaven Station when he was carrying, and has been a union member since 1961! He is thankful for the NALC, and believes that it makes a difference. He advised everyone at the meeting, "Don't be sad and pine for what's gone. Smile that it happened."

JUNE BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on June 7, 2021.

President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

President Lewis gave the invocation and President Lewis led the pledge.

There were two Resolutions of Sympathy for Brothers Ricky Bambico and Jesse Jiminez.

There were no Executive Board Recommendations.

- The retiree banquet was well-attended, and everyone had a good time.
- Local negotiations are finished. Four locals will be sent to impasse.
- COVID update: Dallas District has reported no new cases. COVID MOUs have been extended until August 6, 2021.
- NALC headquarters sent a breakdown of Branch 132 ratification votes for the new contract. NALC sent 1,738 ballots for active carriers of the branch. 506 voted for approval and 13 voted to reject. Only 28% of the active members voted.
- Candidates for office in the TSALC election addressed the membership: Carlos Rodriguez, Homer Hernandez, and Rita Wilder.
- A motion to donate \$200.00 to AMVETS. (passed)
- A motion to include the financial reports in the newsletter. (passed)
- On July 12, 2021, the union meeting will be held at the union hall for the first time since March 2019.

JULY BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on July 12, 2021

President Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:52 PM. Tommy Vines gave the invocation and President Lewis led the Pledge.

There was one Resolutions of Sympathy for Brother Michael Chabolla.

No Executive Board Recommendations.

Guest Speakers were RAA Shawn Boyd, TSALC Pres. Carlos Rodriguez, NALC Assoc. for Political Organizing Brent Fjerestad, and Janie Chabolla.

Announcements:

- John Bamford's transfer of membership to branch 132 was approved by membership.
- The new Zoom Meeting policy was read to membership.
- Stewards at offices that have not complied with Act of God pre-arb should contact the branch.
- The city-wide bid sheet for the City of Dallas was not posted on July 7. All stewards are advised to file a grievance.
- Dallas Accident Prevention Team will reconvene on July 13, 2021.
- USPS Connect pilot test will begin July 19th at Juanita Craft, Joe Pool, and Beverly Hills.
- Committees for NALC food drive, MDA, and Veterans Day Parade are being established.
- All members should check their emails for part-time flexible carriers questions & answers.
- Delegates to State Convention must vote to share in allocated funds. Ballots must be returned no later than August 26, 2021.
- A motion for the branch to pay \$200.00 to purchase the remaining dinners for the Michael Chabolla fundraiser. (motion passed)

Branch financial reports read by Financial Secretary Janine Singleton.

Respectfully submitted

Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary

BRANCH 132 ELECTION ADS

Candidates for branch office are invited to advertise in the November Metro Letter Carrier. Each candidate gets a free business card sized ad. For larger ads, the rates are:

Quarter Page - \$50 Half Page - \$100 Full Page - \$200

Candidates are required to develop their own ads, and should submit their ad in the form of a pdf file to the editor at LABoroughs@gmail.com . Photos can be attached separately to the email. The editor will respond to the email to confirm submission. The ad must be emailed before October 9, 2021.

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sid Simmons

Over the many years that NALC Branch 132 has been in existence, there have been numerous exceptional leaders that our more recent members never had the opportunity to know. Two of them were Ken Wardrum and David Ramsay, both of whom served as vice president of our branch in the late 80s and early 90s respectively. I had the pleasure and opportunity to see both of these union brothers in action, when they were active letter carriers and union leaders.

Ken Wardrum was the youngest full-time officer to serve our membership to date. He also had some big shoes to fill, when he followed Brother Louis Davis as vice president. However, he was very fortunate to have had an opportunity to serve alongside his mentor, President Jack Walker. Brother Wardrum did an excellent job and was tireless in his efforts to represent our membership 24/7. He served one term and then decided to return to the craft and continue his union career as a steward. In my opinion, Ken Wardrum was one the best stewards this branch ever had.

David Ramsay was a steward at the old Casa View Station when he was elected vice president. He replaced Earl Hibbs, who was elected president. I remember that very well, because I was one of three other candidates who lost that election. Brother Ramsay had a unique style. He was aggressive and fearless. He was also very knowledgeable. You put those three traits together, and watch out! To this day, I still can't believe he got away with some of the things he said and did. Brother Ramsay also returned to the craft, after serving as vice president for four years. Like Brother Wardrum, he continued to serve many years as steward, with that same aggressive style.

It is important to let our more recent members know some history regarding our leaders from days gone by. They blazed a path for us all, and we wish them many healthy years in retirement.

BRANCH 132 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

At the August Branch Meeting, the scholarship winners for 2021 were announced. The branch gave five scholarships of \$1000 each, and the auxiliary gave a \$1000 scholarship to Tara Tran. Steve Ellenberg coordinated the Scholarship Committee. After the announcement, the grads and their families gathered for a group picture with Steve and Branch President Kim Lewis.



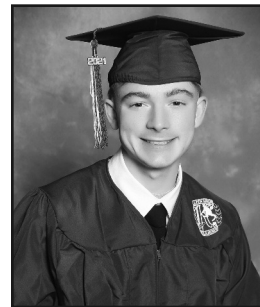
Mia Baker is the granddaughter of Lee "Doc" Baker who is retired from Northhaven Station in Dallas. Mia will attend Texas A&M University.



Reeba Biji is the daughter of Biji Baby who works at Carrollton Rosemeade. Reeba will attend the University of Texas at Dallas.



Janea Bottinelli is the daughter of Jeneno Bottinelli who works at University Station in Dallas. Janea will attend Centre College in Kentucky.



Nicholas Dawson is the grandson of David Bryan Pruitt who is retired from White Rock Station. Nicholas will attend Texas A&M University.



Kinley Haas is the daughter of Trevor Haas who works at the Jacksonville MPO. Kinley will attend Texas A&M University.



Tara Tran is the daughter of Dac Tran who works at the Lewisville MPO. Tara will attend Austin College.



LONE STAR BRANCH 132, NALC
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Currently, the branch meetings and steward training are being held at the union hall and also being simultaneously broadcast over Zoom. With new developments, these plans could change, so be sure to keep up with the latest information on the branch's Facebook page at "NALC Branch 132 Connection" or check the website at "nalclonestarbranch132.org".

September 2 - 7:00 pm - Steward training

September 6 - Postal holiday - Labor Day

September 13 - 7:30 pm - Monthly branch meeting

September 22 - First day of Autumn – finally!

September 26 - 8:00 am - 1:00 pm - At the union hall - Steward training presented by the office of Region 10 National Business Agent Javier Bernal

September 27 - Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)

October 4 - 7:30 pm - Monthly branch meeting - **DEADLINE FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS AND DELEGATE NOMINATIONS**

October 7 - 7:00 pm - Steward training

October 11 - Postal holiday - Columbus Day

October 25 - Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)

