**VOLUME 51 – NUMBER 2** 

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LONE STAR BRANCH #132, NALC RITA WILDER, EDITOR

ETRO LETTER CARRIER

# FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

**KIMETRA LEWIS** 



#### **KEEP IT MOVING**

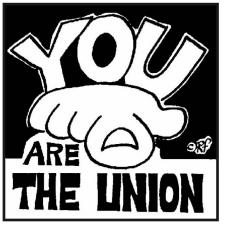
NALC is on the move. Congratulations go out to newly elected Shawn Boyd for his successful first training school as a National Business Agent. The school was held in Albuquerque, New Mexico over the President's Day holiday weekend. The attendance was great, and the training was phenomenal. A range

of subjects were discussed to enhance and encourage those in attendance in all aspects of NALC, such subjects as OWCP, legislative, contract provisions, and leadership opportunities. The training was an overall success. I invite all interested members to attend the Fall training school which will be held October 8-9, 2023 in South Padre Island.

Contract negotiations started on February 22, 2023, for our next contract. Our newly elected president Brian Renfroe's opening remarks expressed a need for the Postal Service to consider the Union's concerns regarding an increase in wages, inappropriate staffing, and the safety of letter carriers. He assured the Postal Service that by addressing those issues along with enforcing managerial contract compliance, letter carriers in turn can ensure that the Postal Service remains strong and competitive. He concluded his remarks by stating, "City letter carriers deserve a contract that will enable them to have a dignified, safe, and dependable job that provides a comfortable middleclass working life and retirement." We all should be thankful for the hard work put in by our national officers. Not many unions can say that their members received \$6,698 in cost-of-living adjustments throughout the life of their contract, but we can! President Renfroe has set the tone for the offset of the negotiations. I am looking forward to seeing the end results. I am sure that it will be promising for each and every one of us. Stay in tune!

Locally, every office affected by the ice storm on January

30, 2023 – February 2, 2023, should have filed an Act of God grievance requesting administrative leave due to the weather conditions. It is the obligation of the Postal Service to comply with the provisions of the ELM, Section 519.213; however, as we know, there are



**MARCH 2023** 

times when it becomes necessary for the Union to force that compliance. It is a gross injustice if letter carriers have to use their hard earn leave to cover an absence that they had no control over the conditions that led to the absence. Stewards do not let this happen. Do your part in ensuring that the rights of the carriers entrusted in your leadership receive their just reward by filing those grievances.

As President Renfroe stated the safety of the letter carrier is a concern. Carriers throughout the nation have increasingly become a target for thieves. Carriers have been accosted and (**President's Desk** cont. on pg.2)

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

Rita Wilder, Editor 972-805-6798

#### TRUSTEES

Javier Carrizales 214-478-5535 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 RitaWilder05@gmail.com

#### (**PRESIDENT'S DESK** cont. from pg.1)

assaulted by people they perceived to have been customers. Please be aware of your surroundings. If you or anyone youknow have been a victim of an assault by a customer, please contact the Union Hall so that we can report the incident to our national headquarters. The information we obtain will be useful in the negotiations for our next contract.

We are also keeping a record of mail that goes undelivered. Please contact the Union Hall to report any undelivered mail in your offices; whether it is a route or part of a route, we need to know. This information will also be helpful in our contract negotiations for the need for proper staffing.

As you can see, to keep things moving, we have to work together. It takes a collective effort on the part of each one of us to guarantee that our rights are protected. Let's not let anything fall through the cracks. Be proactive so we can address issues head on. Together we stand, divided we fall, you make the choice!

### **EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT** Sid Simmons

I know from years of experience, that the most accurate route evaluations and adjustments have resulted from a joint process - and so does the NALC at the national level. As a result, our union is aways looking for ways to negotiate a seat at the table. The current joint process came about, as a result of our last contract agreement. The parties at the national level created a task force to explore various methods, that took advantage of modern digital technologies.

The parties agreed to call their new process, "Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process" (TIAREAP). Tests would be conducted in selective cites around the country, using numerical data and time records generated by letter carriers, from the use of their scanners. In other words, letter carriers would simply do their job, to the best of their ability, and the adjustments would reflect their actual performances.

The joint agreement established multiple teams throughout the country, composed of one NALC representative and one USPS representative. The teams would be given the authority to jointly evaluate and adjust selected zones, for a period throughout all of 2023. One of the areas of the country that was selected was right here in Texas.

There are many cities that are being evaluated in Texas, of which three are from NALC Branch 132. They are Gainesville, Lewisville MPO and Sulphur Springs. I have heard some initial reports that those cities will gain at least eight full-time assignments.

I have presented a very simplistic overview of a very thorough and complicated joint process. However, the bottom line is, the union is involved in the route evaluations and adjustments, and we are gaining routes in the selected offices.

Hopefully, this will be the future process, that will determine the real value of a route.



JANINE SINGLETON Financial Secretary		
FINANCIAL SECRET	TARY <b>R</b> EPORT	
DECEMBER 2022		
National Dues OWCP Dues	\$71,080.50	
Miscellaneous	574.57	
Retiree Dues MBA Rebate		
TSALC Rebate	0.00	
HB Rebate	0.00	
Deposit Dividends	2.16	
TOTAL \$	\$71,657.23	
JANUARY 2023		
National Dues	\$111,197.94	
OWCP Dues	189.00	
Miscellaneous	868.20	
Retiree Dues	0.00	
MBA Rebate	0.00	
TSALC Rebate	535.20	
HB Rebate	0.00	
Deposit Dividends	1.37	
TOTAL \$	\$112,791.71	

### SICK & WELFARE REPORT

Addison – Jesse Garcia's brother is in rehab.

Caesar Clark – Michelle Hubbard; Reso Washington.

**Desoto** – Frankie Lee, Jr. lost his mother.

Highland Hills – Alfonzo Roberson.

Longview (Northwest) – Scott Eades.

Medrano – Lynetta Barnes' father passed away.

Parkdale – Louis McJoy's father passed away.

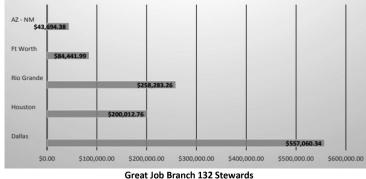
Prestonwood - Robert Reedy.

Waxahachie – Donovan Russell; Ronald Sutton.

**Office Staff** – President Lewis' cousin passed away; Vice President Hinson's cousin passed away.

#### (PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL SICK & WELFARE IS REPORTED TO BROTHER ROBERT HINSON)

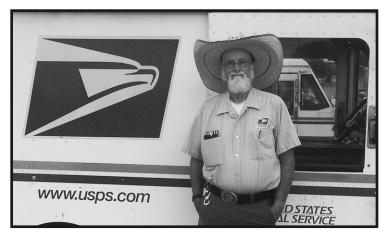
Step B/Pre-arbitration Statistics, Region 10 January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022 Approximate Lump Sum Monetary Remedies Awarded



### TREASURER REPORT

JANUARY 2023

JANUARI 2	2023
General Fund	\$206,026.39
Regular Shares	25.00
Money Market	511,981.78
Stewards Fund	153,530.00
Convention Fund	40,000.00
CPA/Legal Fund	10,000.00
Building Fund	10,000.00
Education Fund	44,000.00
Money Market	254,451.78
MDA Fund	27.78
CD 18 Month	107,604.79
CD 18 Month	105,529.20
CD 12 Month	104,429.11
TOTAL \$	\$1,035,624.05
FEBRUARY	2023
General Fund	\$158,093.47
Regular Shares	25.00
Money Market	
	512,025.26
Stewards Fund	512,025.26 146,345.56
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Stewards Fund	146,345.56
Stewards Fund Convention Fund	146,345.56 40,000.00
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund	146,345.56 40,000.00 8,750.00
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund Building Fund	146,345.56 40,000.00 8,750.00 10,000.00
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund Building Fund Education Fund	146,345.56 40,000.00 8,750.00 10,000.00 44,000.00
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund Building Fund Education Fund Money Market	146,345.5640,000.008,750.0010,000.0044,000.00262,929.70
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund Building Fund Education Fund Money Market MDA Fund	146,345.56 40,000.00 8,750.00 10,000.00 44,000.00 262,929.70 27.78
Stewards Fund Convention Fund CPA/Legal Fund Building Fund Education Fund Money Market MDA Fund CD 18 Month	146,345.56 40,000.00 8,750.00 10,000.00 44,000.00 262,929.70 27.78 107,668.78



#### Ring of Honor Ken Wardrum

I truly enjoyed my 42-year career with the USPS and the NALC Lone Star Branch 132. I served the branch as Vice President, Trustee and Editor. The most fun and satisfaction that I had was the honor and privilege to represent NALC members against individuals who tried to make their work lives miserable. Thanks to all my mentors who help make me a better (but never great) City Letter Carrier

## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS BRANCH 132 SCHOLARSHIP

1. Lone Star Branch 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers will award up to five \$1,000 Scholarships a year to applicants who are selected by the Scholarship Committee. The winners must meet all eligibility requirements as determined by the Branch and described below.

2. The Scholarship Committee will be formed of four volunteers selected from Branch 132 and Auxiliary 28, and a fifth member will be selected from the local Educational Community. These five volunteers will be appointed each year by the Branch President.

3. Eligibility Requirements:

A. Applicant must be a high school senior at the time of application.

B. Applicant must be accepted to an accredited college or university and be willing to provide documentation of acceptance.

C. Applicant must submit copy of high school transcript and SAT or ACT test scores at the time of application. Additional personal information, such as community activities, teacher recommendations, or special achievements, is welcome, but not required.

D. Applicant must be a son or daughter or grandson or granddaughter of an active, retired or deceased City Letter Carrier who is a member of NALC Branch 132. Branch member must be a member in good standing for at least one year. Children of deceased members are eligible provided the widow/ widower had not remarried. Legally adopted or verifiable dependents (income tax records, divorce records, etc.) are also eligible.

E. Relatives of members of the Scholarship Committee are ineligible to receive a Branch 132 Scholarship during the year that the family member serves on the Committee.

F. Applicant must enroll as a full-time student at an accredited college or university.

G. Scholarships are non-renewable and will only be given for the first year of enrollment.

H. If unusual conditions require a postponement of schooling, the recipient must state reason(s) in writing to the Scholarship Committee and request that the Scholarship be held in abeyance. Request(s) will be received by the Committee and a decision

rendered.

4. Checks for the NALC Branch 132 Scholarship will be written to the college/ university and will be applied toward tuition, fees, books, or room and board.

5. If the NALC Branch Member is suspended

by the Union, acted as a 204B within the previous 24 months, or enters supervision, the Scholarship will be cancelled.

6. Applications will be printed in the Branch Newsletter and will also be available through the Branch office. Winners **will be** announced in July.

### **Scholarship Notes**

The following information is presented in response to several requests from NALC Branch 132 members. You should contact the following addresses for eligibility information and applications:

#### Check out these websites:

www.fastweb.com

www.collegeanswer.com

www.collegeboard.com

www.scholarships.com

,,	
Branch 132 Scholarship Application Form	
Student's Name	
Home Address	
Social Security Number	
Home Phone Number	
High School Attended	
Relationship To Member	
Member's Name	
Member's Address	
Member's Social Security Number	
Member's Phone Number	
Student's Signature	
Member's Signature	
Applications Must Be Received by MAY 31, 2023	
Please mail completed application form, high school transcript, and test scores to:	

Scholarship Committee, Branch 132 8451 Endicott Dallas, Texas 75227

### **New Members**

Robert Brian Ethann Rodriguez Julian Chavez Tamika Hall Kevin Bogda Cairren Carter **Travis Woods** Avila Hugo Natasha Depriest Felix Benson Darmon Ewing Abdul Kannane Luis Molina Melanie White **Debbie Brooks** Ganiou Bawa Daryl Shaw **Ricardo Rodriquez** Nehemiah Bryant Matilda Gray-Waters Elijah Hurton Jacqueline Roussel Alexandra Schmidt Lester England Tamila Cosby Ernest Correa Vencente Sanchez Jeremy Green **Michael Figures** Jordan George John Bader Kevin Kaper Dewayne Dodson Laura Wright **Crystal Sanders** Glacie Barbine Joel McKay Danita Pate **Tonya Waston** Minho Lee **Quincy Royston** Martin Trevin **Dalton** Pearce

Consuelo Moslev Imani Harris **Russell Griffing** Carlos Escobar Amy Macedo Cydni Sanroman Caleb Barton Elvis Rosado Simona Thomas Ryan Gonzalez Chasity Cannada Gregory Campbell Tanisha Hartwell Annette Carter Lushawn Ware Angelica Castanon Charles Galloway Carincia Gilbert Jaylon Zamora Jasmine Roberts Chance Barker Janice Johnson Samuel Bonillas **Chandra** Perkins **Richard Springer Onassis** Pena Robert Garner Alante Williams Yolanda Wheatly Claudia Vasques Steven Guzman Anthony Taylor Corey Patterson Azurin Jandir Cadon Wright Ismail Karim Adrian Evans Myles Howell Felix Aguebor Brandon Martin Cristobal Umana Alexander Garcia

Kendra Carraway Gardner Theyah Christopher Wallace **Raazig Jones** Phil Parsons McKayla Jones Letitia Sharp Miguel Diaz Xavier Newborn Dorcie Ollie Myesha Collins Tena Johnson Aaron Howard Kevin Acosta Khalil Jackson Jose Guzman Ty' Anna Noel Melva McQueen Andrew Carrillo **Curtis Houston Clinton Flores Ouendrail Barefield** Moxceda Hampton S K Hassan **Tiesha Miller** Lorenz Handy Angel Saucedo Kevaland Moore Ashlee Adams Jhe Ferguson Brittney Patton Victor Valle Justen Bonner Letisha Cooks Javonte Sheppard Ivory Chapa Cory White Anthony Green Zachary Galbreath Carissa Caparas Soskice Nebolisa Llaine Davis

Jorge Correa Deshon Tennyson Patti Harris Tara Mims Tatiana Awe Tawona Collins Alexis Carter Ethan Hawkins Ericka Hyman Carlos Ramirez Arion Jones Christian Morris Lisa Newman Kamron Jones **Dial Harris** Garland Stevenson John Martinez Kisha Adkison Cordero Thomas Karisa Poe Laquanta Pouncy John Haley Gwendolyn Bell **Demarcus Whittaker** Samuel Clark Lila Jamshidi Clearthur Cook **Cierra Chambliss** Kia Clark Loera Leobardo Tadi Ansari Jamie Joshua **Ronny Phillips** Vanessa Escamilla Lena Todd Luis Gonzalez Prince Charles Lee Jason Jones David Whitlock Joshuel Ferguson Christopher Sipriono Wily Walter

## STEWARD'S CORNER

#### D. D. HURD



Let me introduce myself, my name is D. D. Hurd. I am a Letter Carrier at Northwest Station, hired in 2005. I became a Steward in 2014 and a Formal A representative 2 years later. In 2019, I successfully completed the Formal A and Beyond Training and received my certification. I made these choices after witnessing (firsthand) how Management officials overstepped their boundaries with letter carriers. After experiencing how those encounters affected me, I only imagined how others felt. I set a goal to combat Management using the National Agreement as my weapon of choice. When making the decision to serve, I relied on certain attributes. Those attributes included Wisdom, Understanding and Knowledge – in that order.

"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom" (James 3:13). Wisdom, or pure thought, guided me in given

situations. I listened to problems as if they were my own. **Understanding**, the antithesis of Wisdom, directed me in my approach. When operating with Understanding, I realized <u>ALL</u> people assume a distinct identity, so my challenge was to build trust and unify. If I failed to do this, I returned to Wisdom.

The third, and final, attribute relied on was **Knowledge** which only manifests itself when Wisdom and Understanding are combined. Proverbs 3:19-20 it reads, "*The LORD by wisdom hath founded the earth; By understanding hath He established the heavens. By His knowledge the depths are broken up. And the clouds drop down the dew.*" Knowledge helped me balance the pure thought of wisdom with the individuality of understanding, and as a result, genuine appreciation followed.

My works – *done in the meekness of wisdom* – are possible because of NALC leadership who trusted and invested in me. It has been a great honor to help as many people as I have. I want all to know the Union has room for you who possess the fire and passion to make a difference.



OUR NATIONAL OFFICERS HARD AT WORK AS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NBA SPRING SCHOOL (ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE NBA SPRING SCHOOL (ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO)

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**



**JAVIER & LILA BERNAL** 



Members celebrating NBA Javier Bernal's retirement:

Kevin Rape, Rita Wilder, President Kim Lewis, Clubber Targton, Rachel Anderson, Kennard Johnson, and Houston Branch 283 Member Gerald Hall.

### JANUARY 2023 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on January 9, 2023.
- Invocation by Brother Eugene Johnson. President Kim Lewis led the Pledge.
- Resolutions of Sympathy Sister Denise R. Ward.
- President Lewis presented a congratulatory wall plaque from Branch 132 to our new National Business Agent (NBA) for Region 10, Shawn Boyd.
- Brother Boyd addressed the membership after receiving the gift and thanked the everyone for their support through the years.
- The NBA Spring School will be in Albuquerque, NM. February 18-20, 2023.
- The State Convention will be held in Houston, TX July 23 28, 2023.
- Brother Twasky Smith is attending the Formal A and Beyond training and Brother Ron Stover is attending the NALC Leadership Academy.
- A motion was made to count Brothers Smith and Stover as present for the January meeting. (Motion passed)
- Sister Lewis asked members to bring more uniforms to the hall for the CCA's.
- USPS and the NALC are taking steps to address the security issues on PostalEase.
- Sulphur Springs Post Office has gained 3 new positions from the route count and inspection.
- Lewisville Post Office should be finishing their route adjustments soon.
- The branch financial reports will be posted in the Metro Letter Carrier.

Respectfully submitted,

Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary

### DECEMBER 2022 BRANCH MEETING MINUTES

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on December 5, 2022.
- Invocation by Brother Thomas Vines. President Kim Lewis led the Pledge.
- Resolutions of Sympathy Brothers Leonard R. Johnson and Daniel A. Wade.
- Applications for NALC National scholarships are being accepted until December 31, 2022.
- The NBA Spring School will be in Albuquerque, NM. February 18-20, 2023.
- The State Convention will be held in Houston, TX July 23 28, 2023.
- Open Season will be from November 14th through December 12, 2022.
- The retiree luncheon will be December 15th at the Golden Corral.
- A motion was made to install Kenneth Wardrum into the Ring of Honor. (Motion passed).
- Brother Louie Rodriguez and his wife took 6 children into their home in order to keep them from going into the Foster Care System. The membership took up a donation from members in attendance. The donation total was \$1,650.00.
- A motion was made that the branch match the donation. (Motion passed).
- The branch financial reports will be posted in the Metro Letter Carrier.

Respectfully submitted, Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary LONE STAR BRANCH 132, NALC 8451 Endicott Dallas, Texas 75227

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED** 

NON-PROFIT ORG. U.S. Postage Paid PERMIT No. 4377 Dallas, Texas



### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Currently, the branch meetings and steward training are being held at the union hall and 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 "*Lone Star Branch 132 of the National Association of Letter Carriers*" or check the website at: "*nalclonestarbranch132.org*".

March 2 – 7:00 pm – Steward training - Union Hall

March 6 – 7:30 pm – Monthly Branch meeting - Union Hall

- March 12 Daylight Saving Time begins Set clocks ahead one hour
- March 16 Retirees Luncheon Golden Corral at 1:00 pm
- March 20 First Day of Spring
- March 27 7:00 pm Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)
- April 3 7:30 pm Monthly Branch meeting Union Hall
- April 6 7:00 pm Steward training Union Hall

**Passover Begins** 

April 9 – Easter

April 24 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting (Members may address the board by making an appointment.)

#### Looking ahead.....

May - Retiree Banquet -- Look for more information in your May newsletter.

