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# METRO LETTER CARRIER

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LONE STAR BRANCH #132, NALC

RITA WILDER, EDITOR

## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

**KIMETRA LEWIS**



### STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

Yes, it is that time again when we start our preparation for the nation's largest one-day food drive. On the second Saturday in May, May 9, 2025, letter carriers throughout the nation, including those in Branch 132, will head out to their routes with two goals in mind. One delivering the mail to their customers and two collecting non-perishable food items to be distributed to local food

pantries within our delivering communities.

Since 1993, letter carriers have participated in the "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive, with the exception of the Covid period. According to headquarters records, the food drive has generated a total collection of 1.9 billion pounds of food over the history of the food drive, which provided a blessed joy to the many families receiving the food. In the history records of Branch 132, we collected one year over 1,000,000,000 pounds of food. We can accomplish that goal again if we work together.

To ensure a successful food drive, it is now time for each office within Branch 132 to assign someone to serve as the Food Drive Coordinator. That individual would be responsible for educating the membership on the importance of the food drive and for making sure their office has a sufficient number of food drive cards and bags to be delivered to the customers. Their duties would

include facilitating the posting of the food drive banner outside of each respective post office, finding a local pantry to receive the collected food, having enough empty equipment at each office to hold the collected food, collecting money from carriers for food drive t-shirts ordered and submitting that money to the branch, and at the end of the drive, submitting to the branch the total amount of food collected. Their duties could be expanded to hosting a breakfast/lunch on the day of the food drive to thank the carriers for their participation or whatever means they chose to use to ignite participation from their fellow coworkers.

The need to help those in need is even greater this year. According to statistics, approximately 733 million people around the world are currently experiencing hunger, which equates to roughly 1 in 11 people globally. In North Texas, one in eight people, or 640,000 of our neighbors, face hunger. That figure includes one in five children. In fact, Dallas County has the fourth highest rate of food-insecure children in the nation. Due to their food insecurity, these people are at risk for hunger and possibly death.

At our national convention, branches are recognized for collecting the largest amount of food per similar sized offices. Let's roll up our sleeves and make a genuine effort to be amongst the branches who not only collect the largest amount of food but who also provide nourishment to a large number of families who would otherwise go without food. Please do not look at this food drive as extra work. Focus on the many families who will benefit from your efforts. I am hoping with anticipation that we receive the support we will need from all letter carriers and from the Postal Service. Let's have a successful food drive in 2025!

Serving Addison, Athens, Canton, Carrollton, Carthage, Center, Commerce, Corsicana, Dallas, Daingerfield, Denton, DeSoto, Duncanville, Ennis, Fairfield, Ferris, Gainesville, Gilmer, Gladewater, Grand Prairie, Grand Saline, Greenville, Henderson, Jacksonville, Jefferson, Kerens, Kaufman, Kilgore, Lancaster, Lewisville, 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

**OFFICERS**

President Emeritus – William P. York

Kimetra Lewis, President  
214-779-4758

Ron Stover, Executive Vice President  
469-438-7965  
email: RJStover132@gmail.com

Twasky Smith, Vice President  
318-243-9824

Danny Hilliard, Recording Secretary  
214-697-8704

Clubber Targton, Treasurer  
Cell: 469-438-7965

Janine Singleton, Financial Secretary  
469-438-0101

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

Robert Hinson, Sergeant-at-Arms  
469-503-7818

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

Eugene Johnson, Director, Retirees  
214-938-4278  
email: marvlight2016@gmail.com

Rita Wilder, Editor  
972-805-6798

**TRUSTEES**

Javier Carrizales 214-478-5535  
Sid Simmons 214-564-7128  
Helen Toliver 214-429-5847  
Rita Wilder 972-805-6798  
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

**EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Ron Stover**

**Safety Depends on You**

There have been numerous carriers being put off the clock for not wearing a seat belt, and for having ear buds in their ear. Management is pulling up on carriers, declaring their behavior an emergency and sending the carriers home in a non-duty without pay status. If this happens to you, make sure and contact your union steward as soon as possible.

You should strap on your seat belt before putting your vehicle in drive or reverse. This standard also applies to the Postal Parking lot. Letter carriers get paid by the minute. Take the time it takes to put your seat belt on or to take it off. There is no street standard we get paid to follow every rule and regulation while we are delivering the mail. We are allowed to listen to use headphones in one ear in the office. There is no rule stating we can use them on the street.

There have been many carriers who have been assaulted, robbed, and some have lost their lives delivering the mail. Always check your surroundings and make sure you can hear what is going on around you. I know some of you take short cuts to go home sooner, unfortunately the short cuts can get you placed off the clock or injured. Take the time that it takes to do your job safely and to keep yourself safe. Safety comes first!

**BRANCH 132 WELCOMES  
OUR NEW MEMBERS!**

Omar McCaster	Lizbeth Sacedo	Anthony Miller, Jr.
Jonathan Whitehead	Franklin Williams	Lonnie Wyse
Jerrylee Calalang	Phyllis Washington	Martin Bermudez
Damion Davis	Jonathan Labay	Rokisha Blake
Racquel Demps	Eddie Garcia	Sentorie Bethany

**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides confidential education, referral and counseling to help employees through personal challenges of all types, including alcoholism and drug-abuse. If you find yourself in need of assistance

**Make the Call!**

**USPS EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**1-800-327-4968**

**(1-800-EAP-4-YOU) TTY: 1-877-492-7341**

**www.EAP4YOU.COM**

## **DECEMBER 2024**

### **BRANCH MEETING MINUTES**

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on December 2, 2024
- Invocation by Brother Eugene Johnson followed with the pledge led by President Lewis
- No Resolutions of Sympathy
- No Executive Board Recommendations
- Branch Election Committee reported the winners in the Branch Election for Trustees as Javier Carrizales, Sid Simmons, Helen Toliver, Chris Velasquez, and Rita Wilder
- The Branch Christmas party will be held December 14 at 8pm at the Union Hall
- The TSALC Convention will be held July 28-30, 2025 in Austin, Texas
- Retiree Luncheon will be held December 18 at the Golden Coral Restaurant
- Retiree Breakfast will be held December 21 at Circle Grille
- The Branch took up a collection of \$520.00 to donate to the Hoover Center Toy Drive and the Fil-a-Tundra Toy Drive
- The members heard from 2 guests on OWCP issues and how they could help in providing physical therapy
- The proposed by-law changes to change the Vice-President job from part-time to full-time was discussed, a vote taken, and the by-law was approved
- Branch financial reports will be in the next Metro Letter Carrier newsletter  
Respectfully submitted  
Danny Hillard, Recording Secretary

## **JANUARY 2025**

### **BRANCH MEETING MINUTES**

- A quorum of members of Lone Star Branch 132 met on January 6, 2025
- Invocation by Brother Eugene Johnson followed with the pledge led by President Lewis
- No Resolutions of Sympathy
- No Executive Board Recommendations
- Guest Mandy Hankins from NALC HQ talked to the membership about the new SD&C facility that the USPS is creating in Denton and addressed questions from the membership
- USPS has safety teams going around the district looking for carriers committing safety infractions. Carriers should take care and follow all safety rules while performing their daily duties.
- Voting for the Tentative Agreement has been extended until January 27, 2025.
- Officer Installation will be January 11, 2025 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Near the Galleria at 7 pm
- The Spring NBA Training will be February 14-17, 2025 in Spring, Texas
- The TSALC Convention will be held July 28-30, 2025 in Austin, Texas
- Retiree Luncheon will be held December 18 at the Golden Coral Restaurant
- Retiree Breakfast will be held December 21 at Circle Grille
- Route Inspections will be held at Caesar Clark and Greenville, January 25, 2025; University Zone 5, February 8, 2025; Northwest Zones 9 and 20, March 2025; and Brookhollow Zones 12, 35, and 47, April 16, 2025
- A motion to count Clubber Targton present at the meeting was passed
- Branch financial reports will be in the next Metro Letter Carrier newsletter  
Respectfully submitted  
Danny Hillard, Recording Secretary

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH SPOTLIGHTS THE CAREER OF RETIRED LETTER CARRIER MELVIN CLAY



My career as a U.S. Postal employee began September 21, 1957. I was appointed as a PTS-HPO clerk, at the Houston Terminal. I worked at the Railway Post Office where I was required to wear a pistol, badge and an ID, while distributing mail along the train route from Houston to Brownsville. Houston Post Office distribution was by the highway. There was a bus converted to simulate a post office. I worked there for about a year and then transferred to Ft. Worth.

While working at the Ft. Worth Station, I experienced segregation in different ways. One way in particular was my breakroom experience. The colored employees' breakroom and restroom were in the same room. Inside the breakroom was a table to eat at, and a toilet with a urinal at the end of the room. I refused to eat and use the restroom in the same space, so I was suspended. I was separated from the Postal Service for about 1 to 2 years. While separated I was employed with the VA Hospital until 1970. I then rejoined the Postal Service, and began working at the Lancaster Kiest Station.

After being there for about 4 years, four letter carriers; William, Jim, Ronnie, and myself (Melvin) were transferred to the Pleasant Grove Station, which was an all-white station. We were the first black letter carriers at the Pleasant Grove Station. Some patrons couldn't believe what they saw. They referred to us as Porters and would ask who we were working for. Our station manager reminded us not to drink from the water hoses of our patrons because some of them were hooking the hoses to their septic tanks to deter us from drinking their water. We were not welcome in most eating places, but we survived without any major catastrophes. After several years in Pleasant Grove, we moved to Zone 41, a new building on Simpson Stuart where I retired in 2000.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOTE OF CONFIDENCE**



Dear Brothers and Sisters of Branch 132

I am deeply honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve as the Director of Retirees for Branch 132. I sincerely appreciate the trust and confidence you have in me.

It is a privilege to represent our retirees and I am committed to advocating for their needs, ensuring their voices are heard, and fostering a strong sense of community among our members. I look forward to working closely with all of you to uphold the values and mission of our branch and association. This is an incredible honor; I am excited to embark on this journey and have a meaningful impact.

Best regards,  
Eugene Johnson, Jr.  
Director of Retirees, Branch 132  
Marvlight2016@gmail.com





**JANINE SINGLETON**  
FINANCIAL SECRETARY

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**

DECEMBER 2024

National Dues	\$79,638.71
Retiree Dues	24.00
Tax Refund	0.00
Miscellaneous	75.00
Active Dues	206.22
Annuity Withholding	599.01
HB Rebate	0.00
Deposit Dividends	0.00
TOTAL \$	\$80,542.94

JANUARY 2025

National Dues	\$78,826.11
Retiree Dues	12.00
Installation	951.00
Miscellaneous Reimbursements	1,387.79
OWCP Dues	560.53
Lost Time	2,299.96
TSALC Rebate	535.20
Deposit Dividends	0.00
TOTAL \$	\$84,572.59



**CLUBBER TARGTON**  
TREASURER

**TREASURER REPORT**

JANUARY 2025

General Fund	\$267,231.80
Business Savings	25.67
High Yield Savings	296,295.69
<i>Stewards Fund</i>	131,062.92
<i>Convention Fund</i>	85,000.00
<i>CPA/Legal Fund</i>	8,300.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	5,897.20
<i>Education Fund</i>	38,234.03
MDA Fund	413.458
CD 18 Month	679,227.60
TOTAL \$	\$1,243,194.21

FEBRUARY 2025

General Fund	\$222,698.83
Business Savings	25.67
High Yield Savings	297,040.57
<i>Stewards Fund</i>	140,155.35
<i>Convention Fund</i>	45,000.00
<i>CPA/Legal Fund</i>	8,650.00
<i>Building Fund</i>	7,000.00
<i>Education Fund</i>	42,853.35
MDA Fund	413.49
CD 18 Month	682,048.42
TOTAL \$	\$1,202,226.98

**SICK & WELFARE  
REPORT**

**Addison** – Alex Gonzalez.

**Collection** – Latresha Clayton-Webb; Wencheng Wang; Gasha Dessesauere.

**Farmers Branch** – Joseph Johnson’s uncle passed away.

**Lewisville** – Cyndi Jefferson passed away.

**Parkdale** – Rhonda Carney.

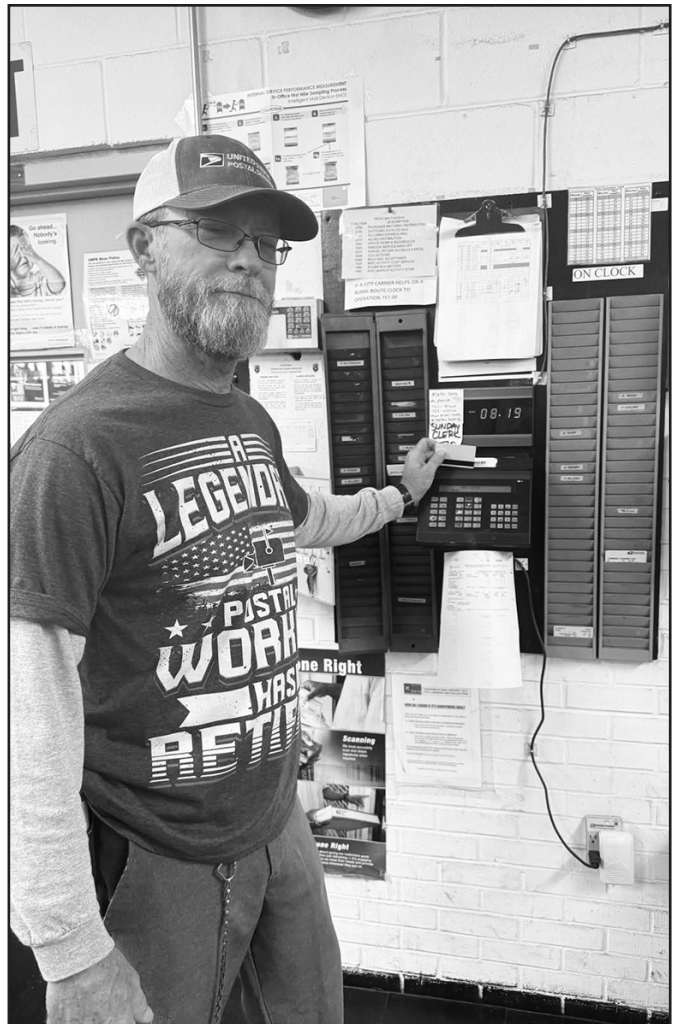
**Sulphur Springs** – Kevin Rape retired with 28 years.

**Waxahachie** – Donovan Russell; Ronald Sutton.

**Retirees** – George Bryant passed away; Penny Smith’s son passed away.

**National Assistant Secretary-Treasurer** – Mack I. Julion’s wife, Veronica Julion, passed away.

**LAST PUNCH BUNCH**



**MICHAEL ANTHONY**  
**SULPHUR SPRINGS**  
**30 YEARS**

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS' FOOD DRIVE T-SHIRTS



AVAILABLE COLORS SHORT SLEEVE – COST \$12.00  
CAMOUFLAGE COST \$15.00

COLORS	Small	Medium	Large	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
BLACK							
RED							
ELECTRIC GREEN							
NEON BLUE							
ORANGE							
TWEED							
PINK CAMOUFLAGE							
GREEN CAMOUFLAGE							
TOTAL							

AVAILABLE COLORS LONG SLEEVE – COST \$15.00

COLORS	Small	Medium	Large	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL
BLACK							
RED							
ORANGE							
ROYAL BLUE							
TOTAL							

Office \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Contact # \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Shirts \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit all order forms and monies collected to the Union Hall  
@ 8451 Endicott Lane, Dallas, TX 75227  
no later than **April 7, 2025.**

# 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.

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## 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](http://www.fastweb.com)

[www.collegeanswer.com](http://www.collegeanswer.com)

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

[www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com)

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### 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, 2025**

Please mail completed application form, high school transcript, and test scores to:

**Scholarship Committee, Branch 132  
8451 Endicott  
Dallas, Texas 75227**

**LONE STAR BRANCH 132, NALC**  
**8451 Endicott**  
**Dallas, Texas 75227**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.**

**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**PERMIT No. 4377**  
**Dallas, Texas**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



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## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The branch meetings and steward training are being held at the union hall and being simultaneously broadcast over Zoom. Beginning in September 2023 for stewards to receive compensation for attendance at the monthly branch and steward meetings, the steward will be required to attend the meetings in person if you live or work within a 50-mile radius of the union Hall. 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 1-31 – Women's History Month

March 3 – 7:30 pm - Monthly Branch Meeting – Union Hall

**Food Drive T-Shirts Application is Available**

March 6 – 7:00 pm - Steward Training – Union Hall

March 9 – Daylight Saving Time starts

March 17 – St. Patrick's Day

March 20 – 1:15 pm – Retirees' Luncheon – Golden Corral

1902 Towne Centre Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150

March 31 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting

April 3 – 7:00 pm - Steward Training – Union Hall

April 7 – 7:30 pm - Monthly Branch Meeting – Union Hall

**Deadline to Submit all Food Drive T-Shirts Applications**

April 13 – Passover

April 27 – Easter

April 28 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting

May 1 – 7:00 pm - Steward Training – Union Hall

May 5 – 7:30 pm - Monthly Branch Meeting – Union Hall

May 10 – **Annual Food Drive**

May 26 – 7:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting