

BRANCH MEETING

**BRANCH 343, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI
FEBRUARY 13, 2025**

Summary of Branch Action

- MSC To pay the branch bills.
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- MSC That Branch 343 donates a set of Cardinal Baseball Tickets to the 2026 MDA 30th annual Reel in the Cure, Buddy Bass Tournament on April 11-12.
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- MSC That Branch 343 purchase a 1/8th page add at a cost of \$439 for the 2026 Workers Memorial Job Safety Issue of the Labor Tribune

New Members

- Sean Barton..... Fenton 1/23/2026
 Justin Bise Mexico..... 1/23/2026
 Carly Bloethner..... Fenton 1/9/2026
 Ryan Casey..... Harriet Woods..... 1/9/2026
 Angela Cauthen..... Carrier Square 1/9/2026
 Torre Dilworth..... Carrier Square 1/28/2026
 Demarcus Favell..... Carrier Square 1/9/2026
 Lidaniz Figueroa Kirkwood..... 1/16/2026
 Karen Greer..... Fenton 1/23/2026
 Tamisha Griffin Maryville Gardens 1/23/2026
 Melody Griggs..... Jennings..... 1/9/2026
 Jordon Hamilton..... Kirkwood..... 1/9/2026
 Isaac Haynes Harriet Woods..... 1/9/2026
 Joshua Hollman..... O'Fallon..... 1/10/2026
 Sheryl Holly-Taylor..... O'Fallon..... 1/23/2026
 Micah Johnson..... Oldham..... 1/9/2026
 Sarah Lendor Affton 1/9/2026
 Canton McCallum Fenton 1/9/2026
 Glennon McDarby Affton 1/9/2026
 Byron McElroy..... Mackenzie Pointe 1/9/2026
 Alyshia Moore..... O'Fallon..... 1/9/2026
 Jeffrey Summers Union..... 1/23/2026
 Julia Trower..... Mexico..... 1/9/2026
 Cortnie Valtierra Salem 1/26/2026
 Michael Ventimiglia Arnold..... 1/9/2026
 Kecley Walker O'Fallon..... 1/23/2026
 Joshua Washington..... Normandy..... 1/23/2026

Recently Retired Members

- Johnetta Martin.....Normandy..... 1/2/2026
 Charles SextonSouth County 1/31/2026

Deceased Member

- Ronald HoffRetired 1/23/2026



Branch Meeting Attendance Prizes

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| 1. Blues vs. NY Islanders | March 10 | Nathaniel Markovich, Southwest |
| 2. Blues vs. Edmonton Oilers | March 13 | Tom Schulte, Retired |
| 3. Target Gift Card | \$25 | Michael Goheen, Creve Coeur |
| 4. Home Depot Gift Card | \$25 | Jyron Johnson, Weathers |
|  | \$72 | John McLaughlin, Des Peres |

Highlights

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 p.m. The invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were led by Chet Drain and the minutes were read and accepted.

NBA Report, Pat Baker: The entire installation in Kansas City is being inspected, and the NBA office just finished training for the stewards. The area has received more interpretive disputes, mostly due to non-compliance issues. Article 8.5.F violations are a big issue again; management thinks only penalty overtime should be paid. Keep filing the non-compliance grievances and ask for escalated remedies.

Retirees Report, Tom Schulte: Greetings from the 35 retirees in attendance. The 97th Ole' Timers Day will be May 2.

Labor Council Report, Pam Stepney: The council is looking for volunteers to help with the Labor Celebration Parade in August. Twelve meetings are planned prior to the parade. They will be interviewing candidates for labor council president.

Health Benefit Report, Barry Linan: Please read the MCC, lots of helpful information inside. Self+1 insurance coverage costs more than self and family, think about that when enrolling or if you have a life changing event.

OWCP Report, Barry Linan: You have two calendar days to file a claim if injured. Be sure to check COP on the CA-1. Management charged the carrier who was attacked at Creve Coeur, sick leave, which is wrong.

Mound City Carrier Report, Tom Schulte: National Day of Action is February 22 starting at 1 p.m. in front of the Main Post Office. Several union branches from Illinois will join us. Cardinal tickets will be on sale after March meeting. The 30th annual Buddy Bass Tournament is April 10-11, see ad in the MCC. Also, congressional contact information is in the February issue.

Haake Scholarship Report, Pam Stepney: Your dues must be paid in full to apply for the Haake Scholarship. We have 17 applications. All information must be returned by March 1.

Safety and Health Report, Richard Thurman: Thurman spoke on crimes against letter carriers (5,500 assaults have occurred across the country. Countless articles have been printed in the MCC about being safe. Tell carriers to safeguard themselves. Devices are being installed in vehicles to measure when you don't have your seatbelt on. Carriers have been thrown from the vehicle due to not having seatbelt on. Dog bites are up, don't put yourself in an unsafe situation.

Trustees Report, La'Tecse Litteken: Books were audited and found in good order.

Political Action Committee Report, Mike Weir: Mike read the names of contributors.

Legislative Report, Mike Weir: Mike asked us to call our representatives and senators about Protect our Letter Carriers Act (contact info in February MCC). The Save Act is big, government trying to make you prove citizenship to vote (by birth certificate, passport) could be a problem for many. Barry Linan advised it is also an attempt to stop women from voting. If you changed your last name via marriage, you will be required to show marriage certificate. Partial government shut down due at midnight February 13. Governor Kehoe wants to eliminate state income tax and increase property and sales tax. Contribute to LCPF and PAC funds.

Executive Vice President/Treasurer Report, Brian Litteken: Contract negotiations start February 25. If interested in making your items of importance known, go to NALC.org and take branch collective bargaining survey. There was a mandatory stand-up talk due in January regarding safety and what to do in case of incident. There is pilot testing going on regarding taking photos of packages at time of delivery. There are only roughly 1,100 workers in labor relations (government) overseeing collective bargaining compared to the 1,545 workers in 2016. Cardinal tickets on sale after March meeting.

Vice President/Financial Secretary Report, Marvin Booker: Read report for January. This "interpretive issue" regarding escalated remedies will put hold on the cases being resolved. Management won't comply with the contract and is now seeking protection through interpretive issues. Contacted upper management regarding hold-downs, have not received response.

President's Comments, John McLaughlin: Spoke on the carrier assaulted at Creve Coeur and how they are messing with his pay. Carrier route reinspected and is now longer than before.

The carrier stopped showing up for work. Southwest has about 12 routes reinspected. Carrier fell during December 27 snowstorm, was told to finish route then come back. Management recommended that she not report accident, because she would be fired. After asking for CA-1 management, they said the union doesn't run the post office. The Radar report shows when they violate the NEEMRP program. National Day of Action February 22, expecting Ballwin and Hazelwood to join us.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Brown, Recording Secretary