

NALCASTER

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

Pagoda Branch 258

READING, PA.

June 14, 2023



N.A.L.C. PAGODA BRANCH 258 READING PA OFFICERS 2021

<u>Officer</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
President	Fred Ranalli, Jr	610-406-1131
Vice President	Rich McDonough	484-955-4267
Treasurer	Jason Taylor	570-617-1124
Secretary	Paul Purcell	610-451-0244
Trustees:		
	Tammy Jones	610-960-7498
	Dominic Tumminello	610-775-4263
	Dave Dry	484-797-7906
HBR MBA OWCP	Brunilda Cheverez	347-247-0277
AFL-CIO	Sharon Unger	484-797-2220
Sergeant at Arms	Ed Gensemer	484-638-3067
NALCaster Editor	Andy Gelsinger	610-413-8158
Director of Archives	Andy Gelsinger	610-413-8158



SHOP STEWARDS

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Steward</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
19601	Brunilda Cheverez	347-247-0277
19604-05	Juan Munoz	610-373-8201
19606-02	Jon "Corky" Steiger	610-781-8651
19607	Mark Swarmer	610-856-1662
19608-09	John Pelker	484-332-1218
19610-11	Dave Dry	484-797-7906
19508	Rich McDonough	484-955-4267
19518	Russell Jackson	484-995-5874
19526		
19522	Steve Fenstermacher	484-201-0193
19530	Tim Fisher	610-207-0204
19540	Jessica Mountz	610-914-9843
19551	Hector Lozada, Jr.	610-507-3731
19555	Robert Oswald	610-451-5114
19560	Terry Stefansky	610-781-3221
19565	Kim Brunner	610-763-1674
19567	Robert Clark	610-589-1469

CONTACTING US

Visit us at: 1251 Front St. Reading, PA 19601
 Write us at: PO Box 12584 Reading, PA 19612
 View our website at www.nalc258.com
 Join our NALC Branch 258 Facebook page

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Step A designee	Jason Taylor	570-617-1124
Assoc. Off. Grievances		
	Rich McDonough	484-955-4267
Labor Management Team		
	Fred Ranalli Jr.	610-406-1131
	Rich McDonough	484-955-4267
Food Drive	Tammy Jones	610-960-7498
Legislative	Ed Gensemer	484 638-3067
HBR-MBA-OWCP		
	Brunilda Cheverez	347-247-0277
MDA	Jason Taylor	570-617-1124
CCA Rep	Juan Munoz	610-373-8201
Dir. of Retirees	Jerome Kern	484-256-4906
Leave Rep	Doug Garipoli	484-332-3486

Many thanks to Jerome Kern, Jason Taylor, Paul Purcell, Sharon Unger, breakthroughvisuals.com, and, as always, Branch President Fred Ranalli for contributing material for this issue. Please remember that this newsletter is for the Branch and by the Branch, and contributions can be submitted to the editor at any time.

Letter from the Editor

Hello all, and well wishes for a safe and pleasant two months as we reach the beautiful days of late spring and early summer.

In a departure from some of my recent letters, I want to simply report on a couple informational items that I wanted to make sure to cover in this issue of the Nalcaster.

First, a big congratulations to Branch 258, as our official food drive total poundage of food collected was 102,373 lbs. A huge thank you to everyone who participated in any capacity to make the 2023 NALC Stamp Out Hunger is blazing success!

Next, since there is no other space in this issue that I've devoted to safety, I wanted to just put out the word to stay healthy and prioritize safety in both your professional and personal activities. You should hear talks throughout the summer on a range of topics from hydration to heat awareness to children and pets outside to pedestrian/motorcycle/bicycle awareness. If you are not hearing talks on these subjects, please let your steward know, because you are the biggest stakeholder in your health.

Next, as President Ranalli reports, national contract negotiations are ongoing. As always,

negotiations will ensue shortly after ratification of a new National Agreement. As we prepare for this as early and completely as possible, know that this Union and our Branch belongs to all of us, and if there is something that you would like to see in our local, just let an officer know. We will look at suggestions for appropriateness (because only certain topics, by rule, can be addressed in the local), and try to negotiate those items which will help the body of our branch.

The Branch has also formed a committee to review our by-laws, and if recommended, to

make some small but important changes, as well as establish written policies for certain procedures that, we hope, will make our activities more transparent and protected from disputes. Again, if anyone has input for this committee, please feel free to contact chairman Paul Purcell.

Finally, I wanted to repeat a sentiment that I've mentioned several times over the past year. Lets continue to bring the new hires into our profession, and help them to both do their job well, and feel like they are a part of something that is better than the sum of it's individuals.

Until our next issue, in the melting hot days of summer, I remain yours in solidarity.

Andy Gelsinger,
Nalcaster Editor



Upcoming Events

June 14 – Regular branch meeting
June 15 – Retiree Breakfast @ Leesport
June 19 – Juneteenth Holiday
July 4 – Independence Day Holiday
July 5 – Executive Board Meeting
July 12 – Regular Branch Meeting
May 18 – Retiree Breakfast @ The Breakfast Hut
August 2 – Executive Board Meeting
August 6 – Branch 258 Picnic @ Penwyn Motor Assn, Mohnton



Our project to compile, and keep up to date, a master email and best phone list of the membership is ongoing. To add your information, please contact Andy Gelsinger at 610-413-8158 (text) or slice710@aol.com (email), Ed Gensemer at caddy1217@aol.com (email)), or pass the info through any shop steward or board member. You can also use the sample form in this issue to mail your information

Simple Form Which Can Be Used to Send in Your Contact Information

Name _____

Email _____

Best Phone# _____

LCPF Disclaimer

By Making a contribution to the Letter Carrier Political Fund, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or of employment by the Postal Service, nor is it part of union dues.

You have a right to refuse to contribute without any reprisal.

The Letter Carrier Political Fund will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office and undertake other political spending as permitted by law.

Your selection shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled.

Contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Federal law prohibits the Letter Carrier Political Fund from soliciting contributions from individuals who are not NALC members, executive and administrative staff or their families. Any contribution received from such an individual will be refunded to that contributor. Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 per calendar year.

Any guideline amount is merely a suggestion, and an individual is free to contribute more or less than the guideline suggests and the Union will not favor or disadvantage anyone by reason of the amount of their contribution or their decision not to contribute.

JUNETEENTH

President's Message

Hello everyone, April and May have been very busy months for members of NALC Branch 258. In April Tammy, Richie, Ed, and I went to Washington to meet with Congresswomen Houlihan and Congressman Meuser. We met with an aide from both of their offices. We spoke to them about HR 82, the Windfall Elimination and Pension offset bill that currently sits in congress. We also spoke to them concerning the Pension fairness act. They both seemed supportive of the NALC stance on all these issues. Congresswoman Houlihan has already signed on to HR 82, let us hope Meuser does as well. Please give both a call to encourage and thank them for their support on these issues.

In May we helped the hungry of Berks and Schuylkill counties by collecting food for Helping Harvest Food Bank. I would like to thank Tammy for leading this effort. I also would like to thank all the retired and active volunteers. But, most of all a big Thank You goes out to all of you who had to collect food as you delivered your daily mail. Your job is hard enough let alone adding collecting food also. May god bless all of you.

On May 20, our national contract expired. Our national leaders have informed us that they are continuing to work with management to try to settle issues that are still in dispute, while moving on to the mediation phase. I am hopeful a settlement can be made so that all of you can vote on a new contract. Our current contract will remain in place until a new one is completed.

With warm weather around the corner, I would like to remind everyone to make sure you recognize the need to take care of yourselves. Stay hydrated. Drink plenty of water all day. Review the symptoms of heat illnesses and monitor yourself and fellow carriers often. We have had brothers and sisters sent to the hospital with heat stroke. These illnesses could be very serious and can cause death. Please take care of yourself.

The board has decided to pursue having a branch picnic. Dominic Tumminello (Rocky) is spearheading the committee. The date is August 6, and the picnic will be at the Penwyn club. A caterer has been picked and we hope to see all of you and your families there. All the information is provided within this issue. The last several years have been tough. It is time to celebrate and get together as a union family.



In Solidarity!

Sincerely,
Fred Ranalli

34th Annual Golf Tournament

Brothers, sisters, and friends of labor,

The 34th Annual United Labor Council Golf Tournament is scheduled for Sunday, August 27th, 2023 at the Manor Golf Club, 153 Bran Rd., Reading, PA 19608. Shotgun start is at 1:30 PM this year. Everyone starts and finishes at the same time. No long wait to eat and draw prizes. For \$95 per person, your registration includes greens fees, golf cart, food, drinks, door prizes, a chance to win hole-in-one contests. Since this is a fundraiser for all of our upcoming events, your support is especially needed. Sponsorships for this event are now available on the registration form. Prizes will be awarded at the end.

We Have 25 foursome slots available and need at least that to keep the course closed for our members, so please register as soon as possible. Payment must accompany this request. Names are not necessary upon registration, but must be supplied at least two weeks prior to the tournament. If you are interested, please fill out the attached entry form and return it to the council office 1251 N Front St, Reading, PA 19601 by Monday, August 1st, 2023.

In addition to golfers, we also need door prize donations, as well as hole sponsors. If you are unable to compete in the tournament but still wish to support the labor council by donating door prizes or sponsoring a hole, please return the enclosed form or contact the Labor Council office at 610-374-2725.

Thank you in advance for participating in this important fundraiser. As you know, the costs associated with hosting our future events increase every year. We hope you'll agree that the benefits to the community are well worth it by joining us at Manor Golf Club on August 27th.

In solidarity,

Robert Hoffmaster, President
United Labor Council

Editor's note: questions regarding this or any other United Labor Council activity can be directed to our Labor Council Rep, Sharon Unger, at 484-797-2220.

Pamela Heyman, MS, LPC

EAP District Consultant

Tel (610) 688-2180

pheyman@ndbh.com

1-800-EAP4YOU (1-800-327-4968)

TTY: 1-877-492-7341

www.EAP4YOU.com

You can call the EAP or go to the website
24 hours a day for information and help.

Nalcaster Now Available Via Email

In order to compensate for service delays which have occasionally caused late delivery of your Nalcaster, I am making PDF copies available via email to anyone that requests it. Simply let me know your desire for me to email it to you, and the email address where you wish to receive it. Your paper copy will continue to be mailed as always. In addition, Nalcasters will be posted on the Branch website, www.nalc258.com.

*COMPLETE, DETACH & RETURN WITH FEE TO
UNITED LABOR COUNCIL, 1251 N FRONT ST. STE 1, READING PA 19601*

REGISTRATION FORM

34th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER GOLF TOURNAMENT – Sunday August 27th 2023

- Event Sponsor \$2500 – 2 4somes, 6 hole signs, verbal recognition, name on all business materials and banner display
- Event Supporter \$1500 – 1 4some, 3 hole signs, verbal recognition, name on all business materials and banner display
- Beer Sponsor \$500 – verbal recognition, name at “bar” and banner display
- Hole Sponsor \$75 – name at hole on golf course
- Door Prize Sponsor - bring in your door prize or make a monetary donation of \$_____

Please contact _____ at _____.

Please register _____ foursomes @ \$380 per foursome (\$95 per golfer)

Shotgun start at 1:30 PM, registration no later than 45 minutes before start

Union/Organization Name: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Contact person: _____ Phone: _____

Deadline to register golfers by Tuesday August 1st 2023

GOLFER REGISTRATION FORM

34th ANNUAL FUNDRAISER GOLF TOURNAMENT – Sunday, August 27th 2023

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Contact: _____ Day Time Phone: _____

Golfer _____ Golfer: _____

Golfer _____ Golfer: _____

Union/Organization Name: _____

Shotgun Start at 1:30 PM, please register no later than 12:45 PM at golf course
It will be this person's responsibility to contact all other members of this team with all
information regarding this tournament

Message From the Secretary

On Saturday, May 6th, the Reading/Berks Labor Council held an appreciation picnic, where local labor activists were honored, Branch 258 President Fred Ranalli was honored for his commitment to the labor council and the labor movement in Reading and Berks county. Fred is well deserving to be recognized for his work in the labor movement, He has not only served Branch 258 admirably, but has also stood with other unions in fighting for union members, no matter to which union they belong. Fred has always believed a harm to one union person is a harm to all and his tireless work in the labor movement as shown he "walks the walk."

Fred has served this branch for over 37 years in various capacities, and no matter what position he has held, he has always put the members of this branch first and foremost in his work. We are all very lucky to have Fred as our president, as he never had his own agenda for how things should be done, and has never said that things must be his way. Fred ensures the members are heard and has never ignored what the membership would like. In an organization like the NALC, it's not just 1 person or even 12 running it, but it's every single person in this union. Yes, a president will have to make a decision on issues but Fred has never made decisions without consulting others. It is important for the members to understand that we all have our wishes or opinions on how things should be done, but when things are decided on how to approach a problem, Fred does it within the framework of how it will help all the members not, just a few. Congratulations Fred on your award, it is well deserved brother!

In Solidarity,

Paul Purcell

Branch 258 Nomination Notice

This is official notice for all NALC Branch 258 members that branch nominations will take place at the October 11, 2023 monthly union meeting @ 1251 N. Front St. Reading Pa 19601.

Nominations for the following positions will be held: (1) Branch Trustee- 3 year term, and nominations for delegates to the 2024 NALC National Convention.

All members nominated must be present to accept the nomination or forward a letter accepting the nomination to NALC Branch 258 Secretary prior to the October 11, 2023 meeting.

In the event an election is necessary such election will take place at the November 8, 2023 union meeting @ 1251 N Front St Reading Pa 19601

Fraternally,

Paul Purcell
NALC Br. 258 Secretary

A decorative border of various tropical leaves, including monstera and palm fronds, surrounds the central text area.

NALC BRANCH 258 SUMMER PICNIC

8.6.23, 12 - ?

Penwyn Motor Association

798 Mohnton Blvd, Mohnton, PA 19540

All members of Branch 258, and their families, are cordially invited. The Branch will provide the following food and drink items: hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, ribs, baked beans, potato salad, ring bologna & cheese, red beet eggs, pickles, chips, pretzels, rolls, soda, water
Games for children and adults, bingo,
50/50 drawing for MDA

Members are invited to bring
any unlisted food or
beverages for themselves or
the children, if so desired

Signup sheets will be
posted in the offices.
Retirees, please call
Jerome Kern at 484-256-
4906 to sign up.

THE WILLIAM BECK AND ROBERT BEAR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Local 258 National Association of Letter Carriers has established two scholarship awards, \$500.00 each, payable for students attending a college, university, or trade school.

Term of Award: Each scholarship shall be awarded for one academic year and will not be renewed.

The intent of this award is to help a son or daughter of a member of Local 258 NALC with a trade school or college education.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility is to a son or daughter of any DUES-paying member that is in good standing in Local 258 NALC. Applying students must have graduated from high school in 2023.

All applicants are required to be freshman or first year student.

All applicants are required to have a letter of acceptance from the college or trade school that they plan on attending.

METHOD OF SELECTION

Applications will be reviewed, then put into a drawing box and selected by pulling a name from the drawing box at the union meeting of Local 258 NALC during the August 2023 union meeting.

The selected winners will be notified by mail.

We will pick an alternate if the first one picked does not meet all of the qualifications.

The Local 258 NALC Scholarship Awards will be presented at the September 2023 Union meeting.

The Beck and Bear Scholarship Award Committee must receive your completed application and acceptance letter by August 9, 2023. Please mail to:

**William Beck & Robert Bear Scholarship Award Committee
NALC BRANCH 258
P.O. Box 12584
Reading, PA 19612**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Date: _____

I am the son/daughter of active/retired member of Local 258 Reading, PA.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Signature of NALC Parent: _____

Signature of Branch Officer: _____

About Our Members



Congratulations to Charlie Miller and Paul Purcell, who have finished their last tours and punched their last clock after many years of service to the Postal Service and to the Branch. Luckily for our



members, Paul will continue to serve the branch in his capacities as an officer and committee member; otherwise, both gentleman will embark on their next, well deserved retirement adventures. Way to go!

In Memorium

Sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Bill Laudeman, who passed away since our last Nalcaster. Bill worked primarily in the 19601 zone, and will be remembered and missed by many.



The following carriers have completed years on the seniority list* since the publication date of our last newsletter:

Robert Oswald – 38 years; Christopher Fiest – 29 years; Christian Kulpcavage – 29 years; Robert Bruno – 29 years; Joseph Gagliardi – 27 years; Jolyn Oxenreider – 27 years; John Pelker – 23 years; Erik Roshong – 17 years; Russ Baver – 13 years; Randy Yoder – 9 years; Anthony Laboy – 9 years; Ethan Bennicoff – 9 years; Benjamin Neubauer – 9 years; Alison Riley – 9 years; Eric Krotee – 7 years; Katherine Nieves – 7 years; Carlos Ng – 7 years; Jason White – 7 years; Angel Garcia – 5 years; Jessica Perez-Padilla – 5 years; Jason Vargas Vargas – 5 years; Marc Tanis – 5 years; Fredy Chacon – 5 years; Sandra Speakman – 5 years; Tara Moyer – 5 years; Corey Mohler – 3 years; Katrina Callender – 3 years; Ryan Foux – 2 years; David Krall – 2 years; Rurico Rivera – 2 years; Alexa Althouse – 2 years; Jeff Grant – 1 year

*list is taken directly from the Reading installation seniority report, and reflects time since entered into full time carrier appointment in the Reading area, and from lists supplied to me of carrier seniority in Branch 258 AO's; it does not reflect time before transferring or before career carrier appointment; any errors that of inclusion or omission can be given to the editor at any time and will gladly be corrected

NALC-BRANCH 258
NALCASTER
PO BOX 12584
READING, PA 19612-2584
TIME VALUE-PLEASE DO NOT DELAY



The NALCASTER is a publication of, by, and for the members of Pagoda Branch #258, NALC, Reading, PA. The opinions expressed herein, may but do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or Branch #258. All contributions are welcome. Members of NALC may use any items in this newsletter, just inform your readers of the source.



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Over 55 Years!

Janice Ranalli
610-678-2512 Home/Fax
610-914-8436