

*The Official Newsletter of  
NJ Merged Branch 38, NALC*



# THE SENTINEL

Fall 2017

## *2016-2019 National Agreement Ratified*

*by Mike O'Neill*

NALC President Fred Rolando and our Executive Board have successfully negotiated a national agreement with the Postal Service. The membership has overwhelmingly ratified that agreement by a vote of 94%. NJ Merged Branch 38's Executive Board congratulates Fred and his team, and enthusiastically thanks our members who voted. Details of the 2016-2019 agreement can be found in the Postal Record, NALC Bulletin, and at [www.NALC.org](http://www.NALC.org). Here are a few of the major components of the agreement:

1. General wage increases/upgrade totaling 4.6% over the course of the 40 month agreement. Wage increases are retroactive for all carriers, including recent retirees.
2. Continuation of our current Cost of Living adjustment formula. These increases will also be retroactive for all carriers, including recent retirees.
3. Retention of sub-contracting and no layoff protections.
4. Change to Article 8 in which all overtime worked, including work on a carrier's own route, will count toward overtime equitability.
5. An agreement to establish a Joint Workplace Improvement

Process, in an effort to improve the culture on the workroom floor.

6. Wage increases for CCA's in addition to those received by career letter carriers. These include an additional 3.0% in wage increases and new Step Increases for CCA's.

7. Increased employer contributions to CCA health benefits for self plus one and self plus family plans.

8. Additional Step advancement for carriers who served as TE carriers for more than two years, prior to becoming CCA's.

9. Special conversion provisions for CCA's, in which many CCA's will be converted to full-time regular or part-time flexible letter carriers.

**Please review the Postal Record for additional provisions and MOU's included in the tentative agreement.** Active carriers should have already received a copy of the tentative agreement in the mail, along with your ballot.

**Details on issues such as back pay, CCA conversions, and local negotiations will become available shortly.** Again, we thank President Rolando and his team for their hard work over these past several months, and thank the members who took the time to support their efforts with their votes.

# NEW JERSEY MERGED BRANCH 38

**National Association of Letter Carriers**

**374 Morris Avenue  
Springfield, NJ 07081**

**Phone  
973-564-7244**

**e-mail  
NALC38@VERIZON.NET**

**FAX  
973-564-7673**

## Branch Officers

Michael O'Neill	President
Dan Szucs	Executive Vice President
Joseph Rutkoski	Treasurer
Mark McGrady	Director of City Delivery
John Sheridan	Financial Secretary
Charlie Connell	Director of Retirees/HBR
Pete Bednarz	Sergeant-At-Arms

### BRANCH 38 TRUSTEES

Keith Hemmings	Roy Jancio
Richard O'Connell Jr.	Christine Strasser
Dominic Walton	

### PART TIME AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Pete Bednarz	Clint Colie
Jeff Fezza	Roy Jancio
Joe Otero	Armando Pedreira
Christine Strasser	Dominic Walton

### NATIONAL BUSINESS AGENT

Larry Cirelli 212-868-0284

### BRANCH 38 ATTORNEY

Donald Millman, Esq. 973-669-9776

### MUTUAL BENEFIT REPRESENTATIVE

Christine Strasser 973-564-7244 (Ext.20)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### BRANCH MEETINGS

September 6, 2017  
October 4, 2017  
November 1, 2017

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Local Negotiations Training  
September 19, 2017

NJSALC Convention  
September 24-26, 2017

MDA Mudder Challenge  
October 8, 2017

Columbus Day Golf Outing  
October 9, 2017

Retiree Breakfast  
October 22, 2017

MDA Beefsteak  
October 28, 2017

Retirement Training  
October 29, 2017

**NJ Merged Branch 38  
Web Site**

<http://www.branch38nalc.com/>

# *Unilateral Route Adjustments*



## **Executive Vice President**

**by Dan Szucs**

**Management is currently in the process of conducting unilateral route inspections and making unilateral FSS route adjustments.** Unilateral means, "without the agreement of another party." These adjustments are made solely by postal management, without the union's input. Without a joint agreement, such as CDRAPP, Postal Service handbooks and manuals provide management with the ability to make unilateral adjustments without the input of the union. When management conducts route inspections, they are guided by the provisions of Handbook M-39, Management of Delivery Services, specifically Chapter 2. Those provisions outline the necessary procedures to follow for mail counts and route inspections. If management does not follow the language of the M-39, the Union has the right to file a grievance.

**The carrier on any route that proves to be over eight hours, following a formal route inspection and adjustment, has the right to request a special route inspection under the provisions of Section 271 of the M-39.** If such request is made in accordance with those procedures, and is denied by management, we have the right to file a grievance.

**For FSS implementation, the language of (M-01643) is used.** That agreement reads in part: "In the interest of working jointly on this technology the parties agree to the following: "Once FSS is fully implemented in a delivery unit, management will determine the methods to estimate impact in a delivery unit and make route adjustments accordingly." In short, management has the right to estimate the impact that FSS implementation will have on our routes, and to adjust those routes based upon that estimate, unilaterally.

**That same MOU provides, "Sixty days after implementing route adjustments for FSS, the local parties will review the adjustments to ensure that routes are as near to 8 hours as possible."** The MOU further provides, "If either party determines that the route(s) is not properly adjusted, then the route(s) will be adjusted in accordance with the provision of Handbook M-39 or, if applicable, a locally agreed upon ad-

justment formula." To date, management has not agreed to a locally agreed upon adjustment formula with Branch 38. Our only recourse in offices in which the FSS adjustments are proven to be inaccurate, therefore, is to insist upon formal route inspections.

**Those are the rights provided to management and the union regarding route adjustments and subsequent reviews.** Keep in mind, management will use similar data for the reviews that was used to make the adjustments in the first place. That data is largely based upon each carrier's demonstrated performance.

**So, what can each individual carrier do to ensure an eight hour route?** You can work in a safe and professional manner. Take no short cuts that endanger your safety. You are entitled to two ten minute breaks, and one half hour lunch. Take them. You are entitled to a reasonable wash-up time and comfort breaks when necessary. Take them. You are not permitted to work off the clock. Don't.

**It is your responsibility to inform management whenever you are not going to complete your assignment within eight hours.** You are required to fill out a 3996. Your requests for assistance and/or overtime are often denied. Don't be intimidated into working unsafe or skipping your breaks. Contact management for further instructions when you can't finish in the approved time.

**To sum up, if your route is longer than eight hours, it's up to you to show it.** Do your job safely and professionally, and we'll help you get the adjustment you are entitled to.

## **Retirement Training Seminar**

**Sunday, October 29, 2017  
10:00 AM**

**ELKS BPO LODGE #2116  
665 RAHWAY AVENUE  
WOODBIDGE, NJ 07095**

**All you need to know about preparing  
for retirement.**

## **MDA - Day at the Races**

Branch 38 held its annual Day at the Races at Monmouth Park on Sunday, May 21, 2017. The event was an unqualified success. We raised over \$2,400 for MDA, and a good time was had by all. You might want to make a note in your 2018 calendar for next years Day at the Races on May 20, 2018. We would like to thank the following sponsors for their support of this very enjoyable fund raiser:

**Progressive Spine & Orthopaedics**

**J & J Aquatics, Shrewsbury, NJ**

**Anthony Dellipaoli Family - Lyndhurst**

**Mahon Landscaping - Christopher Mahon**

**Marty Fras Bar & grill - Lyndhurst**

**Garden State Merged Branch 444, NALC**

**Millman & Millman, Attorneys at Law**

**Sons of the American Legion, Squadron 139**

**Caesars Entertainment, Atlantic City**

**Chandelier Catering, Belleville, NJ**

**Lynch & Murray - Certified Public Accountants**

**K & R Branding Solutions**

**Trenton Printing**

## **Columbus Day Golf Outing**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2017**

**BUNKER HILL GOLF COURSE - GRIGGSTOWN, NJ**

**FEE - \$110 per Golfer - Price Includes:**

**Golf, Cart, Continental Breakfast, Steak Dinner, Beer, Soda, Hot Dogs & Prizes**

**To reserve a spot for your foursome, or to make a donation, call:**

**Mike O'Neill (973-564-7244 Ext. 18) or Charlie Connell (732-634-6104)**

**or**

**Mail a check with the names of the golfers in your foursome(s) to the Branch Office**

***All Proceeds Go To MDA***

# Pay Attention & Just Drive!



## **Director of City Delivery**

by *Mark McGrady*

**We now have at our fingertips the most advanced technology at any point in history.** The Postal Service has real time scanners, MSP scans, satellite imagery, and we have our own cell phones. Simply put, the Postal Service knows where we are most of the time. Among all of the duties and responsibilities required of a letter carrier outline in the M-41 and M-39, perhaps the most important is to operate a Postal Vehicle and deliver the mail safely. This is certainly a complex and often stressful aspect of our job.

**We are, at times, so consumed with all of the various duties and responsibilities we have as carriers, that we forget the single most important responsibility.** That is to work in a safe manner. Distracted driving has become one of the most common causes of motor vehicle accidents, and it is something we must avoid at all times.

**National studies have revealed a serious spike in motor vehicle accidents caused by distracted drivers.** Such distractions include texting, talking on the cell phone, eating, drinking, and adjusting a GPS device or radio. During the period of 2010 thru 2014, the State of New Jersey reported 817,000 motor vehicle accidents in which distracted driving was a contributing factor. Nationwide there were 3,179 people killed as a direct result of distracted drivers.

**One of the most distracting habits while driving is the use of a handheld device.** New Jersey State law prohibits the use of handheld devices while driving. This includes answering a phone call, reading a text message, or sending text messages or e-mails. As letter carriers, we are required to obey all New Jersey Motor Vehicle regulations. Postal Regulations also prohibit the use of headphones, ear buds and the use of blue tooth devices while operating a Postal Vehicle.

**A first time offense has a penalty from \$200.00 to \$400.00.** A second offense will cost you \$400.00 to \$600.00. A subsequent third offense carries a fine of \$600.00 to \$800.00, three motor vehicle points on your license, a possible 90 day suspension of driving privileges and court costs. The financial penalties are severe, but the pain and suffering that a person endures knowing that they killed or injured someone lasts a lifetime. The billboards on our state highways have some catch phrases, "Put it Down, Just Drive," "U Drive U Text U Pay," "Better unread than Dead."

**Letter carriers must adhere to these same safety practices while delivering the mail.** Keep it safe, do not text while driving. Do not finger mail while driving. Do not stack parcels or mail too high on the front tray of the LLV, obstructing the view of the side mirrors. Do not text or use the cell phone while delivering the mail house to house. Avoid working out of the back of the truck in unsafe locations; check your park points. Remember you are the single most important person when it comes to safety.

## **Health Benefit Plan**

### **Open Season**

**November 13 - December 11**

Please take the time this open season to consider changing to the NALC union owned and operated Health Benefit Plan. You will be pleasantly surprised to see how good the benefits are, how extensive the network is, and how much money you stand to save.



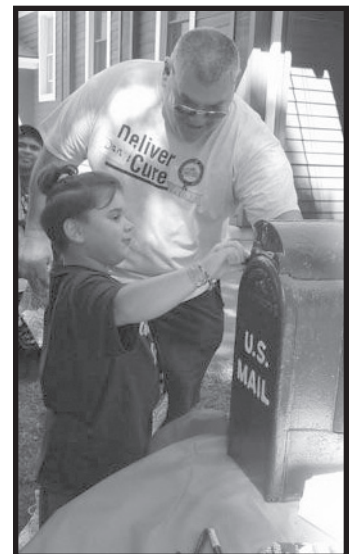
# Branch 38 & MDA

## We're Number 1!



Thanks to the membership of NJ Merged Branch 38, we were recently acknowledged as the Grand Prize Winner in the annual NALC Honor Roll, which recognizes branches for their fundraising efforts for MDA. Branch President Mike O'Neill and Christine Strasser had the pleasure of representing Branch 38 at the annual Honor Roll event,

held this year in Minnesota. They were joined by representatives from ten categories, which are based upon the membership size of each branch. The highlight of the event was our visit to the local MDA Summer Camp. The joy in the faces of all of the campers is a wonderful reminder of the importance of our fundraising efforts. The dedication of the camp councilors and staff is an inspiration. Some of the Branch 38 officers were also able to visit an MDA Camp in Oakhurst, NJ. The atmosphere of carefree happiness, despite the challenges faced by these children, was evident in both camps. We have several fundraising events scheduled for the Fall, and we ask your participation and support for all of them. The monies we raise is well spent, and provides hope and relief for the children and families faced with this dreaded disease. Thank you.



# *1st Annual Branch 38*

## *Tough Mudder Run*

Branch 38 is entering a team into the Tri State Half Tough Mudder, scheduled for October 8, 2017 at Raceway Park in Englishtown, NJ. **All proceeds will be donated to MDA.** The course is five miles long, has 13 obstacles, and lots of mud. We already have over twenty team members, but it's not too late to join. Detailed information regarding the event and the course can be found at [toughmudder.com](http://toughmudder.com).

There are a number of ways everyone can get involved to make this fundraiser a success. You can join the team, and solicit sponsorship donations from family and friends. If you would like to take on the challenge and be part of the fun and comradery, please contact Roy Jancio at 973-564-7244 (Ext.24) or [jancio38@verizon.net](mailto:jancio38@verizon.net).

All of our participants will be looking for sponsors. Any amount will be accepted and appreciated. If you would like to show your support for our mudder lovers, and the NALC's official charity, MDA, contact Roy, and he will let you know how to contribute.

Thanks go out to Roy for organizing what promises to be a fun filled and successful event.

# *The Branch 38*

## *Beefsteak Returns*

Not only is the Branch 38 Beefsteak returning after the 2016 event proved to be such a wonderful event, we've expanded, and will be hosting two dinners in 2017. The donation for each event is \$45 per person, and includes, all you can eat beef tenderloin on french bread, beer, wine, pasta salad, french fries, ice cream, coffee & tea. Raffle prizes and a 50/50 will also be available. **All proceeds will be donated to MDA.**

If you've never had the opportunity to attend a beefsteak before, this is your chance. The food is great, and the company is better. We all had a terrific time last year, and raised a nice piece of change for MDA. Join us this year, and bring some friends and neighbors. To purchase tickets, see your area representative, or call Clint Colie (Ext. 14) or Armando Pedreira (Ext. 19) at 973-564-7244. Here is the information for both dates:

Saturday - October 28, 2017 - 7:00 PM  
 VFW Post 133  
 485 Cranbury Road  
 East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Saturday - November 18, 2017 - 7:00 PM  
 Lyndhurst American Legion  
 217 Webster Avenue  
 Lyndhurst, NJ 07071

# Temporary Light Duty



## Financial Secretary

by John Sheridan

Many carriers, during the course of their employment, will become ill or injured off the job, and may have the need to request temporary light duty. The term light duty is often confused with limited duty. Limited duty is associated with an on the job injury. Light duty involves an injury or illness that did not occur as a result of one's employment. Any full-time regular or part-time flexible carrier recovering from a serious illness or injury, and temporarily unable to perform all of their duties, can voluntarily request a temporary light duty assignment.

The responsibilities of both the Postal Service and the carrier regarding requests for temporary light duty are governed by Article 13, Sections 2.A & 2.C

### Section 2. Employee's Request for Reassignment A. Temporary Reassignment

Any full-time or part-time flexible employee recuperating from a serious illness or injury and temporarily unable to perform the assigned duties may voluntarily submit a written request to the installation head for temporary assignment to a light duty or other assignment. The request shall be supported by a medical statement from a licensed physician or by a written statement from a licensed chiropractor stating, when possible, the anticipated duration of the convalescence period. Such employee agrees to submit to a further examination by a physician designated by the installation head, if that official so requests.

C. Installation heads shall show the greatest consideration for full-time regular or part-time flexible employees requiring light duty or other assignments, giving each request careful attention, and reassign such employees to the extent possible in the employee's office. When a request is refused, the installation head shall notify the concerned employee in writing, stating the reasons for the inability to reassign the employee.

One of the common errors we see with light duty requests occurs when the carrier fails to make the request in writing to the installation head, and/or fails to provide an accurate medical note from their health care provider outlining their medical restrictions. Many carriers mistakenly submit only the note from their doctor, and assume that to be considered a request for light duty. You must submit a letter addressed to your Postmaster, and signed by you, requesting that you be provided light duty in accordance with the restrictions prescribed by your physician. Your doctor should be specific as to what your limitations are. Explain to your doctor what your job entails, and suggest to your doctor what your condition may limit you to doing.

Make sure you keep a copy of the request to the Postmaster, along with the medical note, for your records. A carrier's core physical duties require lifting up to 70 lbs and 35 lbs continuously with a carrier satchel. They also require operating a vehicle, sitting, standing, walking, climbing, kneeling, bending, twisting, reaching above the shoulder, continuously for up to eight hours per day. Any subsequent medical restriction that the employee has should be addressed by the health care provider.

Article 13.2.C requires the Postmaster to make a bona fide effort to identify and provide light duty work, to a degree that emphasizes "the greatest consideration" and "careful attention." The responsibility to find light duty work is great. Should the postmaster deny such request he is required by regulation to state the reasons in writing. It is at this time a grievance concerning the denial to provide light duty can be addressed in the grievance arbitration procedure. Remember Article 15 requires that a grievance be filed within 14 days of receipt of the denial letter.

Article 13.3 along with Article 30.B15,16 and 17 allow the local parties an opportunity to address and identify light duty assignments in every delivery unit. Most Local Memorandum of Understanding identify light duty assignments in the delivery unit, and should be included in the case file when any grievance is filed.

Local Negotiations will begin shortly, a tentative date of October 16, 2017 has been scheduled. It is an excellent time to form a local negotiation committee and review the current language regarding light duty assignments in Article 30, along with any of the 22 items noted.

If you have any additional questions contact your area representative, or visit our web site at NJ Merged Branch 38.



# Honoring our Veterans



**Michael Dowens is a disabled Navy veteran, who suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD. Michael joined the Navy in 2002, was twice deployed, and honorably discharged in 2006. Although he suffered from the symptoms of PTSD almost immediately upon leaving the service, he did not realize what caused those symptoms until receiving treatment in recent years.**

**Michael now serves as a police officer in Holmdel, NJ, but has also taken on the cause of his fellow veterans in their battle with PTSD. He has formed a non-profit organization named "Unbroken Warriors," to raise money to assist veterans who suffer from PTSD pay for their treatment.**

**To raise funds, last year Michael walked from the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Holmdel to Washington DC, a three-day, nonstop journey. He repeated the trip in reverse this year, beginning in DC and ending at the East Brunswick, NJ VFW Post 133.**

**Michael has come to know many East Brunswick letter carriers, who frequent that VFW Post. It's just down the street from the Post Office, and the carriers hold their meetings and local get togethers there. They've become friends.**

**On his walk from DC, Michael carried fifty pounds of supplies and an American flag. He walked straight through, night and day. His service dog, Emery, walked by his side. As he neared the end of the walk, the East Brunswick letter carriers lined up their vehicles in front of the Post Office and greeted him with signs and good wishes.**

**Michael has raised more than \$100,000 for his fellow veterans. If you would like to help, please send a check or money order to Unbroken Warriors, PO Box 141, Holmdel, NJ 07733. This would be a wonderful way to honor our veterans and to thank them for their service and sacrifice. It would be greatly appreciated.**

**Sign Up for Letter Carriers  
Political Fund Now!!!**

**Go to: <http://nalc.org/>**

**Sign Up as an e-Activist  
Now!!!**

**Go to: <http://nalc.org/>**

# Are You Fully Protected?



## Trustee

**by Christine Strasser**

**Regular letter carriers are compensated every two weeks.** We have health benefits. We are covered under a retirement system, and we are able to contribute to the thrift savings plan to enrich our retirement. We enjoy these benefits provided to us without considering if we could be planning for a better retirement, and if our families are financially prepared in the event of our death?

**As I assist retiring letter carriers with their exiting paperwork,** I find that many are realizing that they had no idea how important it was to begin planning sooner in their careers. They are often not aware of the options that were available to them. As NALC members, we have additional options available to us through the Mutual Benefits Association (MBA). These options offer additional financial protection throughout our career and into retirement.

**The MBA offers annuity products, hospital confinement benefits, and life insurance policies to each member.** The MBA portfolio of products include:

**MBA Retirement Savings Plan--designed to supplement your pension**

**MBA Family Retirement Saving Plan--designed to allow family members of letter carriers plan for a financial future**

**NALC CCA Retirement Savings Plan--designed for CCA's to supplement their retirement, with the option to transfer their funds into the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) when they become career employees**

**Hospital Plus--designed to meet financial burdens while hospitalized during an accident or an illness**

**MBA Whole Life Insurance--provides a way to give your family financial security both during your life time and beyond**

**MBA Whole Life Insurance Paid Up in 20 Years--plan pays the survivors the full amount of the policy in the event of the**

**insured's death and sets aside part of the premiums for the future**

**MBA Whole Life Insurance Paid Up at Age 65--provides advantages of a traditional Whole Life policy while only paying premiums during their income-earning years**

**Independence Single Premium Whole Life--once in a lifetime payment with the financial security of Whole life insurance**

**MBA term life Insurance 10 Year Renewable and Convertible--coverage of insurance for a period of time with the option to convert to a MBA Whole Life policy.**

**When you began your career, retirement was so far away,** you figured why should I contribute now? Perhaps you were busy raising a family and attempting to cover the weekly expenses. Like many, you figured that you had plenty of time to save for retirement. A small percentage of Americans are prepared for their golden days and will be financially secure. Most of us aren't.

**It is statistically proven that most Americans do not** have enough life insurance. There are several reasons why people put off purchasing adequate life insurance. They range from cost to the fact that the process is complicated. Many of us find it difficult to face the fact that death is an inevitable part of our future.

**Whether it is planning for retirement or selecting life insurance,** as a member of New Jersey Merged Branch 38, you have someone to provide you with information and guidance. Several months ago, every Shop Steward was provided a brochure to post on your union board. The brochure listed the MBA products, along with a business card to call for further information.

**The MBA products will be changing beginning September 2017,** and a new brochure will be posted in your office. The business card is mine. I am the Mutual Benefits Representative, and will be happy to assist you. If you need to contact me, I can be reached by email at 38strasser@verizon.net or by phone at (973) 564-7244 ext. 20. Please do not put this on your "to do list," and forget to get the information. It is important to start planning for the future today.

## Register to Vote

Every election is important. The Congressional election in 2018 is critical to the Postal Service and our jobs. Please register to vote now. You can find the necessary form at [www.branch38nalc.com](http://www.branch38nalc.com). If you have moved, or if you have not voted in the past couple of years, you may not be registered. We need all of our members to have their voices heard.

## **NJ Merged Branch 38** **Retiree Breakfast South**

**On Thursday, September 7, 2017, at 9:30 AM, NJ Merged Branch 38 will be holding our first annual Retiree Breakfast in the Southern end of New Jersey. The Breakfast will be held at the Toms River Elks Lodge 1875 at 600 Washington Street, Toms River, NJ. To reserve a spot, and to get directions, call Director of Retirees, Charlie Connell at 973-564-7244 (Ext. 21). All Branch 38 retirees are welcome to attend. There is no charge to retired members and guests.**

**Your Branch Officers will all be in attendance. This is an excellent opportunity for retirees who have relocated to the southern end of New Jersey to come together to exchange old stories, renew old friendships, and hear what's going on in Branch 38. This is planned to be a less formal event, so casual attire is encouraged.**

**The NALC and Branch 38 values the participation and support of our retirees. This is another opportunity to get together and stay in touch. We're hoping for a good turn out. We would like very much for this to become an annual event on the Branch 38 calendar. Hope to see you there.**

## **NJ Merged Branch 38** **Retiree Breakfast North**

**On Sunday, October 22, 2017, at 9:00 AM, NJ Merged Branch 38 will be holding our annual Retiree Breakfast. The Breakfast will be held at the Chandelier Restaurant located at 340 Franklin Avenue, Belleville, NJ 07109. To reserve a spot, and to get directions, call Director of Retirees, Charlie Connell at 973-564-7244 (Ext. 21). All Branch 38 retirees are welcome to attend. There is no charge to retired members and guests.**

**Invited guest speakers include NALC President Fred Rolando, NBA Larry Cirelli, RAA Bruce Didrikson, and NJSALC President Rich O'Connell. All NJ Merged Branch 38 officers and staff will be in attendance as well. This is an excellent opportunity for retirees to come together to exchange old stories, renew old friendships, and hear the latest news from Washington affecting letter carriers and retirees.**

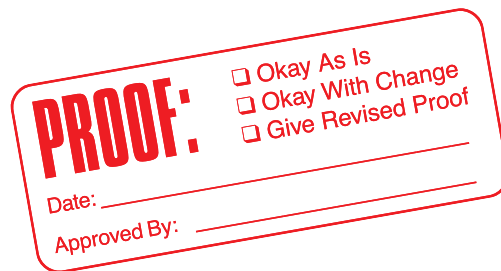
**All of New Jersey's Congressional Representatives have also been invited and, based on years past, some will be sure to attend. This is a critical time in our nation's history, and for the Postal Service as well. The Retiree Breakfast will be an excellent opportunity to hear first hand from our friends in Washington, find out where our country is headed, what they are doing to protect the interests of letter carriers and retirees, and what we need to do to get involved in this most critical of elections. Please join us.**

# THE SENTINEL

NJ Merged Branch 38, NALC  
374 Morris Avenue  
Springfield, NJ 07081

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #398  
TRENTON, NJ

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## Branch Meeting Information & Directions

Meetings are held at 7:30 PM on the first Wednesday of each month, except July & August.

The Branch Meetings are held at:

**ELKS BPO LODGE #2116**  
**665 RAHWAY AVENUE**  
**WOODBIDGE, NJ 07095**  
**732-634-2116**

**Directions:**

**SOUTH** on Garden State Parkway. Take Exit #129 to Route 9 North to Woodbridge Exit (Just after the Forge Restaurant on your right). At the end of the Exit Ramp, turn right onto Main Street (Route 514) and proceed until you reach a monument at City Hall. Bear left onto Rahway Avenue. The Elks is @1/2 mile down the road on your left.

**NORTH** on Garden State Parkway. Take Exit #127 to Route 9 North and follow directions above.

**NJ Turnpike.** Take Exit 12 (Carteret). Bear right after toll booth and turn left at light after overpass. Proceed through industrial park to Rahway Avenue and turn left. The Elks is 1 mile ahead on your right.