

# Branches must help track assignment of new deliveries

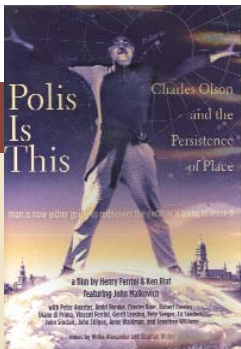
**P**resident Bill Young has sent a letter to all branches calling on local NALC leaders to help the national union assure compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding on the Assignment of City Delivery. The MOU, in the simplest terms, calls for all new growth to be assigned to the city delivery craft with very limited exceptions.

Tracking compliance with—or violation of—those few exceptions must be conducted locally. President Young's letter is accompanied by a worksheet that

each branch should reproduce and then complete when new deliveries are assigned in any delivery unit within the jurisdiction of the branch.

The completed forms are to be sent to the regional National Business Agents, who will maintain a compliance database.

Executive Vice President Fred Rolando discusses the extremely narrow exceptions laid out in the MOU and explains how the worksheets should be completed in his column on page 24. ☒



## ***Polis Is This: Charles Olson and the Persistence of Place, a documentary on the Gloucester, Massachusetts, poet, will air on PBS in April. With a father who was a letter carrier, as well as working during the summer as a carrier, Olson's understanding of the place where he lived and worked informed his poetry and helped contribute to the Beat Generation. For more information, go to [PolisIsThis.com](http://PolisIsThis.com) or check local listings for broadcasts in your area.*** ☒

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## Seeking host branch for 2014 convention

**N**ALC branches interested in hosting the 69th Biennial NALC Convention in 2014 should notify Secretary-Treasurer Jane E. Broendel in writing by March 16.

To host the convention, a city should have at least 4,200 hotel rooms within reasonable distance from a convention facility. The convention center must seat 8,500 delegates on one level and have appropriate meeting room space for workshops and offices. In choosing a host branch, the availability of unionized facilities is a top consideration.

In keeping with the rotation schedule set forth in the *NALC Constitution*, branches in the Southern, Eastern and Northeastern Regions whose cities

meet the above-stated requirements will be considered. A description of the regions appears on page 146 of the *Constitution* (green-cover edition) as amended through the 2008 Boston Convention. The *Constitution* also is available on the NALC website, [nalc.org](http://nalc.org).

Letters of interest should be directed to: Secretary-Treasurer Jane Broendel, NALC Headquarters, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. The NALC Executive Council chooses convention sites after hearing reports from the Convention Site Committee.

The next convention will be held August 9-13, 2010, in Anaheim, California. The 2012 Convention is set for Minneapolis, Minnesota. ☒

## Room details for Rap Session

**B**ranch presidents and others planning to attend the national training conference and Rap Session scheduled for April 25-26 in Las Vegas, Nevada, should book their rooms by March 30, according to Secretary-Treasurer Jane E. Broendel, who is handling arrangements for the event.

The sessions will be held at the Luxor Las Vegas hotel. Participants will be able to register for workshops to be held on Saturday, April 25, before the welcoming reception on the evening of April 24.

The workshops, conducted by NALC national officers and Headquarters staff, will cover the impact of the Interim Route Adjustment agreement, the economic crisis and its effect on the Postal Service, NALC's community service agenda, and a whole range of contract administration issues.

On Sunday morning, April 26, President Young will preside over the Rap Session and address the most important issues facing NALC, including the postal crisis, health care reform and the Employee Free Choice Act. It is

expected to conclude about noon.

Tower Deluxe room rates at the Luxor are \$130 per night (single/double), plus taxes and fees. A charge of \$30 will be added for each guest over double occupancy, with a maximum of four per room.

To make an online hotel reservation, go to <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/NALC09P>. You may also call toll free 877-848-2527 or, locally, 702-262-4450. Please be sure to mention the group code NALC09P to ensure you get the group rate. For more information, go to [luxor.com](http://luxor.com).

Check the NALC website, [nalc.org](http://nalc.org), for updates on the training program. ☒

## Statement of President William H. Young on compliance with National Agreement

### Letter carriers keep 'most trusted' title

**F**or the fifth consecutive year, letter carriers and other postal employees are the most trusted federal employees, a new survey by the Ponemon Institute found. As in every year since the survey started in 2004, the U.S. Postal Service ranked at the top among 74 federal agencies for protecting the privacy of citizens.

According to Delores Killette, Postal Service vice president and consumer advocate, letter carriers are the linchpin of customers' trust. A February 5 USPS press release said Killette "attributed the No. 1 ranking, in part, to the trusted relationship Americans have with letter carriers who deliver mail to every home and business across the country. Many know their



letter carriers by name and see them as welcome and trusted members of the local community."

The survey asked 7,000 randomly selected Americans to rank federal agencies based on their ability to handle and protect personal information. Questions ranged from defining the factors that create trust in an agency and how confident consumers are that the agency will protect their personal information, to limiting the amount of information collected. ✉

### RAA Lumm tapped for Education job

**N**ALC President William H. Young has appointed James Lumm, a Regional Administrative Assistant since 2004 for Region 2 (Pacific Northwest), to the staff position of Director of Education at NALC Headquarters in Washington.

Lumm, 55, succeeds Ralph Goldstein, who retired after 24 years of service to the NALC.

Before serving as an RAA, Lumm was a full-time Step B representative for the Dispute Resolution Process in Region 2 for six years. That followed 10 years as director of



James Lumm

education for the Washington State Association, and five years as president of Branch 2038 in Kent, Washington. He began his postal and

NALC careers in 1978 in Santa Barbara, California.

President Young also announced the appointment of Hugh McElroy of Rockville, Maryland Branch 3825 to serve as a Regional Administrative Assistant on Special Assignment to work at NALC Headquarters on a project involving city-rural carrier issues. McElroy had served as president of the Maryland/DC State Association. ✉

**L**et me make the following clear to one and all, including Postal Service management at headquarters and in the field, and all letter carriers, at every level in the union and in every post office: No one, at any level, has any authority to amend or violate the national contract, period.

I continue to receive calls from branch officers who inform me that local managers have approached them and attempted to secure agreements to violate the national contract. These same managers have the audacity to suggest that I am cooperating with the Postal Service and that they should, too!

The plain fact is that I encourage cooperation with the Postal Service because I realize the current financial crisis requires cooperation, where appropriate.

If any manager approaches you with a suggestion for creative cooperation, advise them to send their ideas to USPS headquarters, which will then make the determination whether to present such ideas to us. Some of the ideas floating around now are not grounded in common sense. For example, the idea of prohibiting all carriers from working their non-scheduled day off and then requiring non-ODL carriers to work overtime, is a clear violation of the contract—one we will stop through the grievance procedure, and one that will cost the USPS dearly in the end. We must be mindful of the critical difference between contract amendment/contract violation on the one hand, and creative, positive cooperation on the other.

*William H. Young*