NALC Bulletin
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NALC election results announced

The National Election Committee, appointed at the 2014 NALC Biennial Convention in Philadelphia to conduct the election of national officers of the NALC for four-year terms, has announced the results of the election.

Here are the election results, listed in ballot order, with winners highlighted in *italics*. Note that voting for the regional national business agent offices was limited to NALC members in good standing from the respective regions:

President:
—*Fredric V. Rolando, Sarasota, FL Br. 2148: 48,937*
—David Noble, Washington, DC Br. 142: 12,841

Executive Vice President:
—*Timothy C. O'Malley, Philadelphia Br. 157: 44,906*
—Catherine Jones, Minneapolis Br. 9: 15,971

Vice President:
—Deidre Beal, South Florida Br. 1071: 21,331
—*Lew Drass, Huntsville, AL Br. 462: 38,644*

Assistant Secretary-Treasurer:
—*Judy Willoughby, Tallahassee Br. 1172: 48,121*
—Sharella Spikes, South Florida Br. 1071: 11,382

National Trustees:
—*Lawrence D. Brown Jr., Los Angeles Br. 24: 46,268*
—*Randall L. Keller, Mass. Northeast Mgd. Br. 25: 37,610*
—Eryca Bloom, South Florida Br. 1071: 24,368
—Brett Israel, Ft. Lauderdale, FL Br. 2550: 14,516
—*Mike Gill, South Florida Br. 1071: 44,293*

Region 3 National Business Agent:
—Tony Hutson, Springfield, IL Br. 80: 2,199
—*Michael Caref, Chicago Br. 11: 2,870*

Region 6 National Business Agent:
—Gary Smith, Grand Rapids, MI Br. 56: 1,491
—*Patrick C. Carroll, South Macomb, MI Br. 4374: 2,989*

Region 10 National Business Agent:
—*Kathy Baldwin, Beaumont, TX Br. 842: 2,204*
—David Pratt, Albuquerque, NM Br. 504: 1,047

The following nominees ran uncontested and were elected by acclamation at the convention on July 23:

Secretary-Treasurer: Nicole Rhine, Lincoln, NE Br. 8
Dir. of City Delivery: Brian Renfroe, Hattiesburg, MS Br. 938
Dir. of Life Insurance: Myra Warren, Dallas Br. 132
Dir., Health Benefit Plan: Brian Hellman, New York City Br. 36
Region 1 NBA: Christopher Jackson, Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100
Region 2 NBA: Paul L. Price, Portland, OR Br. 82
Region 4 NBA: Roger Bledsoe, Oklahoma City Br. 458
Region 5 NBA: Mike Birkett, Dubuque, IA Br. 257
Region 7 NBA: Chris Wittenburg, St. Paul, MN Br. 28
Region 8 NBA: Peter S. Moss, Gulf Coast Mgd., MS Br. 1374
Region 9 NBA: Kenneth Gibbs, Brunswick, GA Br. 313
Region 11 NBA: Dan Toth, Lorain, OH Br. 583
Region 12 NBA: William J. Lucini, Philadelphia Br. 157
Region 13 NBA: Timothy W. Dowdy, Virginia Beach, VA Br. 2819
Region 14 NBA: John J. Casciano, Boston Br. 34
Region 15 NBA: Lawrence D. Cirelli, New Jersey Mgd. Br. 38

Before the election got underway, the National Election Committee determined that three nominations did not meet the requirements for certification under the terms of the *NALC Constitution*, and committee members voted unanimously to disqualify all three. Those disqualified were director of retired members candidate Ken Ring of Minneapolis Branch 9, director of safety and health candidate Travis Lober of Arizona Merged Branch 1902 and national trustee candidate William Heller of West Coast Florida Branch 1477.

As a result of those disqualifications, the committee declared winners in two of the races for national office:

Dir. of Safety and Health: Manuel L. Peralta Jr., Garden Grove, CA Branch 1100
Dir. of Retired Members: Ron Watson, Corvallis, OR Branch 1274

The third disqualification left a field of five remaining nominees for the three national trustee offices.

The election was conducted by mail ballot and administered by an independent party, following the requirements of the *NALC Constitution* and the regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor and subject to oversight by the NALC National Election Committee.

The National Election Committee is made up of: Brooklyn, NY Br. 41's Joe DeRossi (chairman); Manhattan, KS Br. 1018's Rod Holub; Birmingham, AL Br. 530's Antonia Shields; Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100's Barbara Stickler; Jamaica, NY Br. 562's Andrew Wiener; Royal Oak, MI Br. 3126's Paul Roznowski; Van Nuys, CA Br. 2462's Calvin Brookins; Houston, TX Br. 283's Ethel Ford; Central Florida Br. 1091's Lynne Pendleton; and Silver Spring, MD Br. 2611's Delano Wilson.

Reminder: Installation of officers is Dec. 13

The installation of NALC's 28 elected national officers for four-year terms will take place in Washington, DC, on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 13, at the Marriott Washington Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Road NW.

Tickets for the event are available through NALC Secretary-Treasurer Jane Broendel's office at a cost of $80 per person. Full payment (payable to Secretary-Treasurer, NALC), along with the ticket order form, must be received by Broendel's office no later than Friday, Nov. 14.

The ticket order form is available at nalc.org.

Upon receipt of payment, tables will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis only for those who purchase a block of at least eight tickets. The maximum number of seats at each table is eight. Individuals or smaller parties purchasing tickets will be assigned to "open seating" tables.

The person authorized to pick up tickets must be listed on the order form, as only the officially designated person will be allowed to pick up tickets. Additional information on the location of and time for ticket pick-up will be included in the December *Postal Record*.

Installation dinner tickets include admission to the holiday party immediately following the installation. Attendance at the holiday party for all others is by invitation only. Branches that wish to attend the holiday party should contact Secretary-Treasurer Broendel's office by Nov. 14. No tickets for either function will be available after that date.

The NALC room rate at the Marriott Washington Wardman Park is $109 standard single/double, plus a tax rate of 14.5 percent. The rate is good for the nights of Dec. 12 and 13 only. All reservations must be made directly through the Marriott Washington Wardman Park, 2660 Woodley Road NW, Washington, DC 20008. Call 877-212-5752 and be sure to mention "Letter Carriers" to get the special NALC rate. The cut-off for the hotel rate is Nov. 17.

Parking is available at the hotel for the price of $20 for self-park and $32 for valet. For a parking discount, mention NALC. The nearest Metro station to the Marriott Washington Wardman Park is the Woodley Park-Zoo/Adams Morgan station on the Red Line. Visit wmata.com for fare information and service updates.

Sombrotto Post Office dedicated

NALC President Fredric Rolando spoke at the ceremony to rename a Manhattan post office in honor of Vincent Sombrotto, NALC president from 1978 to 2002.

The Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office in New York City was officially dedicated on Oct. 16 during a ceremony held at the Grand Central Station facility. Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), who sponsored the bill, led a group of speakers about Sombrotto's importance, not just for the Postal Service but for all working people.

"Having a post office named after you carries great meaning," NALC President Fredric Rolando told the gathered crowd of Sombrotto's family, NALC and USPS officials, and dozens of retired letter carriers. "Vince is not the most famous person to have a post office named for him, but for letter carriers and other public employees, he is by far the most important figure in the history of the Post Office.

"Vince made the American dream possible for hundreds of thousands of American families," Rolando said. "Just as important, Vince knew the real meaning of the American dream—to work hard and earn a decent wage, provide health insurance and a home to your family, save a bit for retirement and hopefully send your children to college so that their lives will be better than yours."

New York Branch 36 President Charlie Heege, New York State Association President George Mangold, New York Postmaster Elvin Mercado, USPS Vice President of Area Operations for the Northeast Area Richard Uluski and New York State Assemblymember Dan Quart also spoke at the event.

Many NALC retirees attended the event, remembering Sombrotto as the rank-and-file union member who led them on the wildcat walkout that became the Great Postal Strike of 1970.

Once he became president of the national union, serving from 1978 to 2002, Sombrotto engineered pay raises in each national agreement, something rare in the U.S. labor movement during the Reagan and subsequent White House administrations. He died on Jan. 10, 2013.

Vince's son Stephen, president of United Workers of America Local 621, said that his father wasn't one for big displays but would have appreciated the dedication. "My father would have never dreamed there would be such a day," he said after the ceremony. "He would truly be honored, but more so for his family, because he left behind a legacy."

Nov. 14 'Day of Action'

Postal unions to rally against new round of service cuts

On Friday, Nov. 14, members of the NALC will join with the three other postal unions for a national day of action to tell Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe and the USPS Board of Governors: "Stop delaying America's mail!"

"The Postal Service is set to make severe cuts in mail delivery service that, if implemented, would cause hardships for customers, drive away business, and cause incalculable harm to its reputation," NALC President Fredric Rolando said.

This January, USPS plans to close or consolidate operations at 82 mail processing and distribution centers throughout the country. Such a move would practically eliminate overnight mail delivery—even from one address to another within the same city or town.

"This plan would sacrifice service while failing to address the real causes of the Postal Service's financial problems," Rolando said.

The agency's reported "losses" actually are the result of a 2006 congressional mandate that forces it to set aside each year billions of dollars to pre-fund the health benefits of future retirees. No other government agency or private enterprise is required to pre-fund such benefits. The USPS, which funds itself solely by the sale of stamps and postal products, not taxes, has an operating profit of more than $1 billion so far in 2014.

Absent pre-funding, the USPS has earned more than $1 billion in profit from operations in 2014.

Rolando is encouraging active and retired letter carriers to work with and support their sisters and brothers in the American Postal Workers Union, National Postal Mail Handlers Union and National Rural Letter Carriers' Association on Nov. 14.

Why Nov. 14? That's the date of the Board of Governors' final public meeting of 2014. Postal workers all across America will use this day of action to send a message to the Board of Governors and to Congress that these proposed service cuts are unwise and unnecessary.

Visit nalc.org to read a letter signed by Rolando and the presidents of the other three unions.

CFC offers opportunity to donate

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is underway, giving federal and postal employees the opportunity to make a charitable donation to one—or several—charities through payroll deduction. The campaign runs through the fall, meaning that letter carriers still have time to research and decide which charities to donate to.

NALC President Fredric Rolando asks letter carriers to consider three charities in particular: the Postal Employees' Relief Fund (PERF), the Muscular Dystrophy Association and United Way Worldwide.

"I know the times continue to challenge us on many fronts," Rolando said. "But I also know that when we take action to make a difference and join our individual efforts, we improve lives and create better communities."

PERF is run by the four postal unions and three management organizations, along with the Postal Service, solely for the benefit of postal employees. PERF puts needed funds into postal employees' hands after a natural disaster destroys or damages their homes or residences. Visit postalrelief.org.

MDA is NALC's official charity and is the world's leading nonprofit health organization sponsoring research seeking the causes of, and effective treatments for, neuromuscular diseases. MDA research grants currently support more than 250 projects worldwide, as well as camps and activities for children who have one of these diseases. Visit mda.org.

United Way is the leadership and support organization for the network of nearly 1,800 community-based United Ways in 45 countries and territories. The United Way's mission is to bring about a world where all individuals and families achieve their human potential through education, income stability and healthy lives. Visit unitedway.org.

NALC upgrades web presence

In early October, NALC completed the first site-wide overhaul of nalc.org in more than a decade, and the early feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

"We know we've been serving our longtime advocates well, with in-depth news and workplace resources, including the *JCAM* and MRS," NALC President Fredric Rolando said. "But for new letter carriers and members of the public, who are struggling to understand our fight to save the Postal Service, our old website could be a maze. So we set out to try to make some improvements."

NALC wanted to make the new nalc.org easy to navigate and to help the visitors who come to the union's site quickly find what they are looking for, and the new front page is designed to give users access to just about anything they might be seeking. For example, on the three mid-page tabs, users can access the latest headlines, workplace resources and new-member tools.

As NALC was redesigning the site, the union's leaders wanted to reorganize the site in ways that made intuitive sense, rather than simply doing things the way they've always been done. So, the new menu bar is laid out in ways that make more sense for what NALC does as a union.

"As you can see," Rolando said, "we've been working hard to create a brand-new, simplified experience for members and others who are interested in the NALC and letter carrier issues."

NALC also committed, straight from the start of the redesign process, to making website navigation a simple process for mobile use, allowing users on smartphones and tablets to easily take advantage of the new site.

You can view the site at nalc.org.

The NALC's website redesign followed consultations with letter carriers and web design professionals.

MBA interest rates extended

The United States Letter Carriers Mutual Benefit Association (MBA) is the life insurance division of the NALC. Insurance plans offered by the MBA are designed to give NALC members and their families the best possible protection for the lowest cost.

Note that the MBA has extended its current interest rates through Dec. 31, 2014. The current interest rate for Maturity Income plans is 4.5 percent.

Visit the MBA's web page on nalc.org under "Member Benefits."

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