

NALC CONVENTION CHRONICLE



MONDAY, JULY 30, COVERING THE FIFTH SESSION, FRIDAY, JULY 27



JULY 23-27
2012
MINNEAPOLIS



President Rolando picks the winners for the COLCPE contest.

PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Like a rich tapestry, threads of the week's themes came together on Friday, as delegates discussed the business of the Postal Service and ways that NALC could adapt to the changing business, where we've come from and where we're going, solidarity with other unions and within our own union, communication strategies, and ways of giving back to the communities we serve. By the afternoon, when delegates passed a motion to adjourn, the delegates to the NALC's 68th Biennial Convention had taken full opportunity of the chance to communicate their concerns to their leaders, who vowed to continue the work of the union until the next convention, to be held in Philadelphia in 2014.

ELECTION RESULTS

The final session of the 68th Biennial Convention opened with entertainment from the Pittsburgh letter carrier band. Mike Zagaros, president of Minneapolis Branch 9, opened the session by singing the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jerome Keating, grandson of the former NALC president of the same name. The Rev. Luisa Cabello Hansel, a pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, gave the invocation.

After some announcements, President Rolando asked military veterans in the hall to stand for recognition and applause. He asked for a moment of silence for letter carriers who had recently died, and announced a new custom of honoring those lost on the job or in military service at each convention by displaying the memorial wall, which will be mounted permanently in the lobby of NALC Headquarters. Delegates then enjoyed a video reviewing highlights of the week.

Election Commissioner Joe DeRossi of Brooklyn, NY Branch 41 then announced the results of the election for AFL-CIO delegates held the previous day, with the top seven vote winners elected:

Denise Brooks, Br. 1433, Medford, OR—10,223 votes
Stephen R. Hanna, Br. 509, York, PA—9,752 votes
Lloyd P. Doucet Jr., Br. 124, New Orleans, LA—9,748 votes
Anita Guzik, Br. 24, Los Angeles, CA—9,585 votes
Elise M. Foster, Br. 11, Chicago, IL—9,544 votes
Ingrid Armada, Br. 15, Providence, RI—9,501 votes
Charles P. Heege, Br. 36, New York, NY—9,176 votes
Scott A. Van Derven, Br. 2, Milwaukee, WI—1,711 votes
David Alan Hyman, Br. 2902, Tri-Valley, CA—1,479 votes
Richard Koritz, Br. 630, Greensboro, NC—1,307 votes
Don Hill, Br. 120, Paterson, NJ—1,231 votes
Joni E. Evans, Br. 426, Hamilton, OH—1,203 votes



Military veterans stand to be recognized.

UNION COMMUNICATORS

President Rolando then introduced Joe Conway, a member of the NALC Communications Department. Conway gave a presentation about NALC's use of social media techniques.

President Rolando then presented awards for best branch publications. The first-place winners in each category were:

Best Website

Branch 916, Eugene, OR, nalc916.com

Best Cartoon or Photo

Branch 2902, Tri-Valley, CA, cartoon by Paul Bogle, *The Mail Bag News*

Promoting Unionism

North Carolina State Association, "Freedom Isn't Free and Neither is Collective Bargaining," by Richard Thayer, *The North Carolina Letter Carrier*

Best Editorial or Column

Branch 214, San Francisco, CA, "Disaster if 5 day delivery happens," by Lili Beaumont, *The Voice*

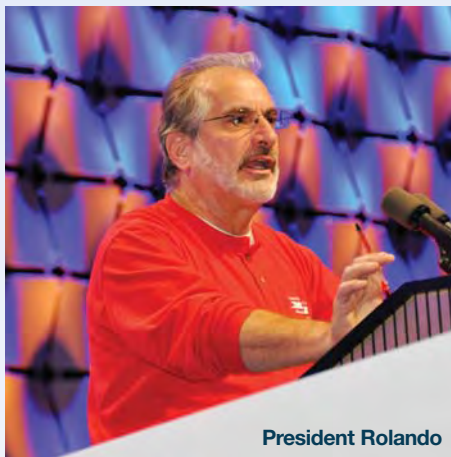
Best News or Feature Story

North Carolina State Association, "Rudy Tempesta: America's Senior Letter Carrier," by Richard Thayer, *The North Carolina Letter Carrier*

General Excellence (small branches) (tie) Branch 2902, Tri-Valley, CA, *The Mail Bag News* and Branch 916, Eugene, OR, *The Relay Box*

General Excellence (large branches) (tie) Branch 34, Boston, MA, *Branch 34's CLAN* and Branch 343, St. Louis, MO, *Mound City Carrier*

President Rolando then called to the podium Joseph Boyle of EAP Consultants, a company that contracts with the Postal Service to provide Employee Assistance Program services to postal employees. Boyle told the delegates that everyone has



President Rolando

stress in their lives and they should not hesitate to take advantage of the EAP. "We all have issues that impact our ability to do our jobs," he said. The EAP is a confidential, free service, said Boyle, adding: "We are a resource for you all."

GIMME 5 FOR COLCPE

Following Boyle's presentation, President Rolando announced that 757 new donors had signed up at the convention for Gimme 5 automatic paycheck deductions to COLCPE, the NALC's political action fund. He presented awards for participation in COLCPE between July 16, 2010, and July 9, 2012:

Highest participation, branch

Newport, RI Branch 57—89.43 percent

Highest participation, state association

North Dakota State Association—41.55 percent

Highest participation, region

Region 8—18.04 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 50-99 members

Bismarck, ND Br. 957—51.71 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 100-499 members (tie)

Newport, RI Br. 57—72 percent

Pawtucket, RI Br. 55—72 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 500-999 members

Honolulu, HI Br. 860—35.40 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 1,000-1,999 members

Minneapolis, MN Br. 9—12.13 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 2,000-3,999 members

San Diego, CA Br. 70—9.98 percent

Gimme 5 participation, branch with 4,000 or more members

Chicago, IL Br. 11—17.65 percent

Highest percentage of donors, state association

Hawaii State Association—32.04 percent

Highest percentage of donors, region

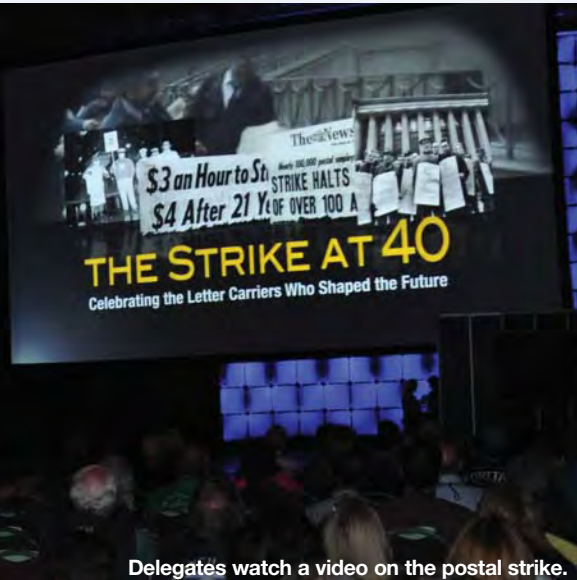
Region 8—13.39 percent

President Rolando then awarded seven prizes to COLCPE donors: Leonard House, Wheeling, IL Branch 4739 Kurt Schroeder, Hartford, CT Branch 86 Willis Franklin, Cleveland, OH Branch 40 David Ryerson, Springfield, MO Branch 203 Gordon Todd, Galesburg, IL Branch 88 Walter Balagia, Austin, TX Branch 181 William Szabados, Youngstown, OH Branch 385

APPEALS TO THE CONVENTION

Vice President George Mignosi, chairman of the Committee on Appeals, presented his committee's report. Two appeals of branch decisions were heard from a letter carrier at the convention, followed by the committee's response to each. The committee's decision in the first appeal was upheld by a teller vote, 1,670 to 978. The second was upheld by voice vote.

Next, President Rolando invited to the microphone NALC Secretary-Treasurer Jane Broendel, the chairwoman of the Convention Site Committee, to introduce



Delegates watch a video on the postal strike.

the members of the committee: Howard Komine, Honolulu Br. 860; Jim Korolowicz, South Macomb, MI Br. 4374; Glen Norton, Las Vegas Br. 2502. The committee again noted that the 69th Biennial NALC Convention in 2014 will be held in Philadelphia. Broendel also called out for special recognition NALC Meeting Planner Kim Akoto.

Next at the podium was NALC Director of Life Insurance Myra Warren, chairwoman of the Uniform Committee. Warren introduced the other members of the committee: Tom Gavin, Scranton, PA Br. 17, and Stafford Price Jr., Chicago Br. 11. Warren presented the committee's report, noting in particular that she understood the complaints about the Type 1 uniform



Joseph Boyle of EAP Consultants shows that if you have a pulse, you have stress.

shirt, but that it had been changed because its material was no longer manufactured in the United States.

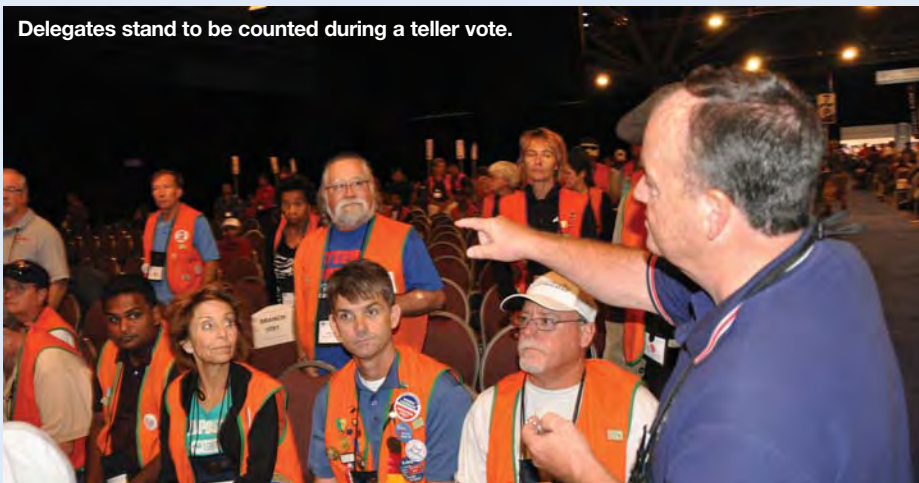
Following the Uniform Committee's report, President Rolando came to the podium and reminded delegates that a resolution passed during the Anaheim convention in 2010 called for showing at all future conventions the video "The Strike at 40," a look back at the Great Postal Strike of 1970 as told by President Emeritus Vincent Sombrotto and other letter carriers who took part. As the 25-minute video rolled, delegates also saw numerous news clips from that time period covering the historic nationwide wildcat strike.

Next on stage, the members of the Scholarship Committee presented its report: Jacqueline White, Los Angeles Br. 24 (chairperson); Sandra Laemmel, Detroit Br. 1; Art Muoio, Rochester, NY Br. 210. White also read thank-you letters from recent scholarship winners.

The members of the Health Benefits Committee presented its report: Mike David, St. Louis Br. 343 (chairman); Robert Murphy, Cleveland Br. 40; Yolanda Gibson, Chicago Br. 11. The committee reported that no proposed Health Benefit Plan resolutions had been offered at the convention.

Next on stage were the members of the Mutual Benefits Association Committee to present a report: Cathy King, Harrisburg, PA Br. 500 (chairwoman); Geraldo Pompa, Los Angeles Br. 24; Belinda Williams, Memphis, TN Br. 27. In its report, the committee noted that

Delegates stand to be counted during a teller vote.



it had received one MBA resolution, which was withdrawn earlier in the week.

FOOD DRIVE AWARDS

NALC Assistant to the President for Community Services Pam Donato took the stage alongside former Community Services Coordinator Linda Giordano, and the two thanked NALC members for another successful "Stamp Out Hunger" national food drive—noting that more than 1,400 participating branches had collected 70.2 million pounds, bringing the grand total to more than 1.2 billion pounds collected since the annual nationwide drive began in 1993. They then showed delegates a video review of this year's drive. Katherine Lyons, a representative of national food drive partner Feeding America, introduced a special video greeting from outgoing Feeding America President Vicki Escarra.

President Rolando then presented awards to the top food-collecting branches in 2012:

Category 1 (2,000 or more members)
Garden Grove, CA Br. 1100, 1,168,833 lbs.

Category 2 (1,500 to 1,999 members)
Buffalo-Western NY Br. 3, 1,393,100 lbs.

Category 3 (1,000 to 1,499 members)
West Coast FL Br. 1477, 1,421,635 lbs.

Category 4 (700 to 900 members)
Tucson, AZ Br. 704, 1,078,940 lbs.

Category 5 (500 to 699 members)
Clearwater, FL Br. 2008, 954,580 lbs.

Category 6 (350 to 499 members)
Fort Wayne, IN Br. 116, 743,481 lbs.

Category 7 (200 to 349 members)
Roanoke, VA Br. 524, 411,330 lbs.

Category 8 (100 to 199 members)
Billings, MT Br. 815, 250,000 lbs.

Category 9 (50 to 99 members)
Ocala, FL Br. 1103, 212,000 lbs.

Category 10 (26-49 members)
Beaufort, SC Br. 3262, 47,350 lbs.

Category 11 (1 to 25 members)
Inverness, FL Br. 6013, 63,500 lbs.

Rolando also presented the Food Drive Regional Championship Belt to NALC Region 9, which covers Florida, Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina.

Executive Vice President Timothy O'Malley led a discussion of a floor resolution from Portland, OR Br. 82 to investigate the establishment of a postal banking system. Following a brief discussion, the convention upheld the Executive Committee's recommendation of approval for the resolution.

Volunteers show off some of the collections for the military care packages.





Hundreds of delegates protested outside a Verizon store to show their support for CWA workers on Thursday afternoon.



Minneapolis to work on the convention as well. He gave special recognition to his assistant, Cheryl Harrod, and to NALC Chief of Staff Jim Sauber. Additionally, Rolando called to the stage the members of the Distribution and Tellers committees.

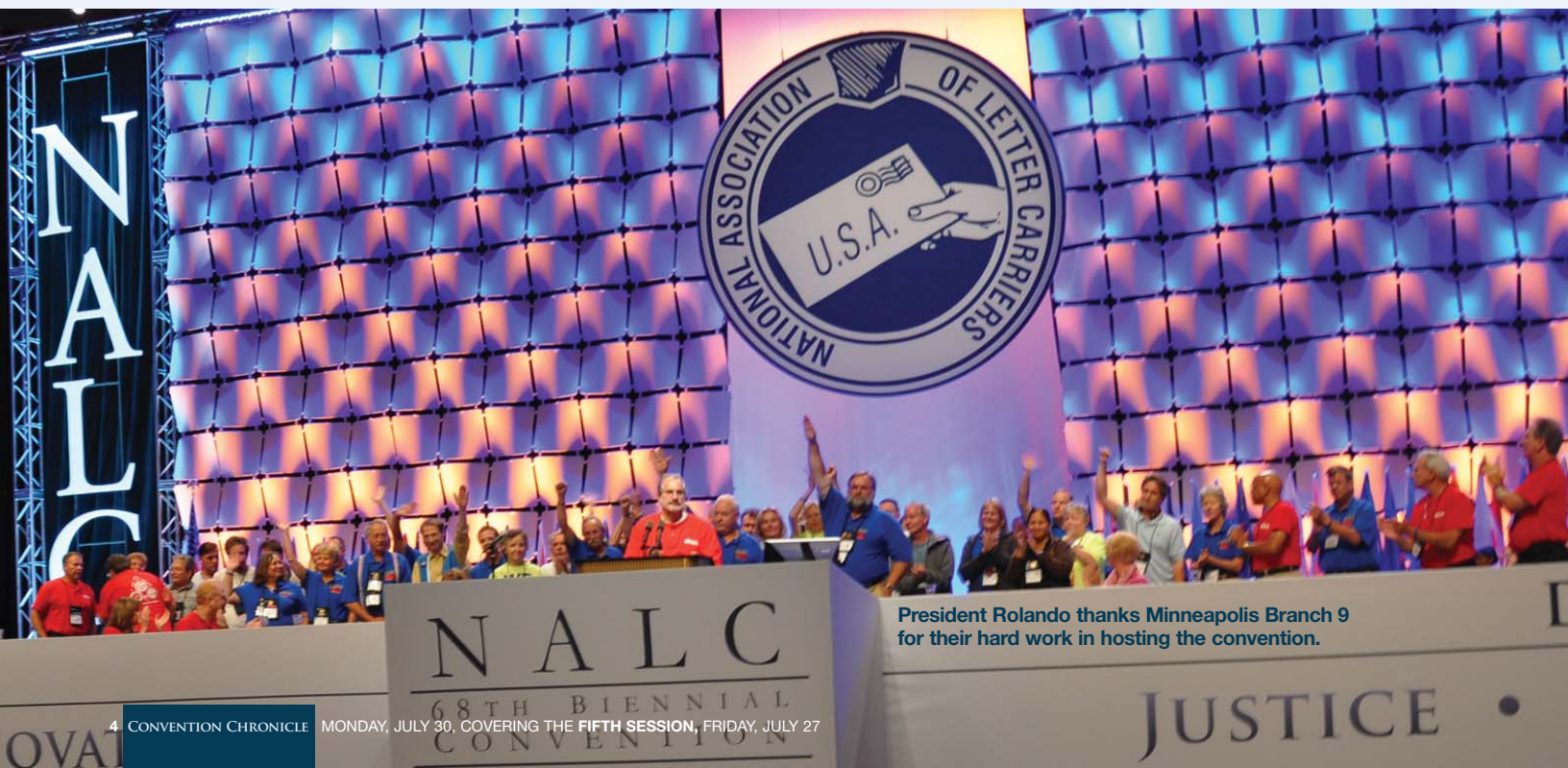
Fox, Br. 425, Bergen Co. Mgd., NJ; Yolanda Gipson, Br. 11, Chicago, IL; Kevin Hevelone, Br. 8, Lincoln, NE; Darryl Johnson, Br. 24, Los Angeles, CA; Jim Langlois, Br. 55, Pawtucket, RI; Alvin Matsumura, Br. 860, Honolulu, HI; Vicki Pottter, Br. 916, Eugene, OR; Michael Powell, Br. 908, South Jersey; William Price, Br. 1172, Tallahassee, FL; Melody Roberts, Br. 27, Memphis, TN; George Sarvis, Br. 137, Hudson Valley Mgd., NY; Timothy Sheehan, Br. 358, Northeastern NY; Mike Smith, Br. 68, Ogden, UT; Tammy Sneed, Br. 62, Chattanooga, TN; Dan Szucs, Br. 38, New Jersey Mgd.; Brian Thompson, Br. 2, Milwaukee, WI; Tim Turner, Br. 533, Kokomo, IN; Darrell Walker, Br. 404, Waco, TX; Charles Walls, Br. 5, Omaha, NE; James Williams, Br. 11, Chicago, IL; Scott Williams, Br. 42, Jersey City, NJ; Lorna Wooding, Br. 545, Charlotte, NC.

GIVING THANKS

President Rolando then thanked convention host Minneapolis Branch 9 for its outstanding work in putting together the national convention, and also thanked NALC Headquarters staff members who had traveled to

Distribution Committee: Jill Lemons, Br. 4006, Canoga Park, CA (chairperson); Kimberly Arnhold, Br. 3867, Pasadena, TX; Ronald Blank, Br. 84, Pittsburgh, PA; Scott Boehm, Br. 957, Bismarck, ND; Caroleann Connelly, Br. 84, Pittsburgh, PA; Lance Darland, Br. 491, Sioux Falls, SD; Rene Eberhardt, Br. 1681, Casper, WY; Kevin Flaherty, Br. 34, Boston, MA; Jeffrey

Then, at 2:08 p.m., the convention passed a motion to adjourn the convention *sine die*.



President Rolando thanks Minneapolis Branch 9 for their hard work in hosting the convention.