



# BRANCH 193

## Bulletin

Campbell ♦ Gilroy ♦ Los Gatos ♦ Milpitas ♦ Morgan Hill ♦ San Jose ♦ Saratoga

## Messages from the President

No. 1 - 14 November - December 2011

Laurie Duarte

### Help Save YOUR Future

What would 5 Day Delivery mean to you? How many jobs will be lost? Will this send mailers away to an alternative delivery carrier? Would the Post Office survive? Will we still work 40 hrs. a week? Will we still have a retirement? The answers to these questions are not known right now but if the Postal Service does go to 5 Day Delivery there will be a lot of changes possibly 1/6 of the carrier workforce would be eliminated. If the post office ends Mail Delivery to your door how many more carriers' jobs would be eliminated? Mailers might find another way of having their product delivered.

The contract is due to expire on November 20th at midnight will the new contract continue to guarantee a 40 hour work week for regular employees I don't know. The one thing I do know is that there is a bill H. R. 2309 and a Senate proposal S. 1789 that have been introduced that would hurt the postal service and may even end the postal service. You can read all about their proposals at [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org). So if the NALC asks you to get involved by getting petitions signed or showing up at a rally or giving to the Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education (COLCPE) this is because the NALC is trying to save your career, your retirement, your health benefits. This will not be done by the NALC alone EVERYONE has to get involved if it is

tackled together the better our chances will be to succeed. It is time that we Step-up together in solidarity.

### Happy Holidays

The holiday season is fast approaching I hope that everyone has a safe, healthy, and joyful holiday season. I'd like to ask you if there was one wish that you could give yourself at the work place what would that be? If I had one wish I would want management to realize that the carrier's job within the USPS is the most difficult and hardest position physically to do and is also mentally challenging due to negative and harassing words that management is saying to the carriers. My wish to all of you is that you don't let management get you upset or feeling down about yourself. Ask yourself a few questions: Are you doing the best you can do? Are you giving that honest effort? Are you proud of the job you are doing? Are you doing the job safely? If you can answer yes to these questions then don't let management drag you down take pride in knowing that you are doing your job the right way and if management tries to tell you that you could do better remember that they are only looking at the numbers and not that you are a human being.

Lauri Duarte



### BRANCH HOLIDAY PARTY

Ho, Ho, Ho. It's that time of year again to start thinking about our Annual Branch Holiday party. On December 14, 2011 @ 5:45pm at the Italian American Heritage Hall located at 425 N. 4th St. San Jose, CA 95112. Come join the fun, food, and good time. We will have face painting, balloon sculptures, prizes and Santa will be there. Don't forget to bring a gift for your child and your camera so that you can get a picture with Santa. The Holiday party is for your entire family. So, bring your family out and have a great time.

*The Branch 193 Bulletin is published by Branch 193, National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO. Opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of Branch 193. We invite all members to contribute articles for publication. The Editor retains the right to edit, delete, or reject any article for the good of the Branch.*

### Branch 193 Bulletin

1060 Minnesota Ave., Suite 9  
San Jose, CA 95125-2461  
(408) 288-8138  
[www.nalcbranch193.com](http://www.nalcbranch193.com)

Return Service Requested

San Jose, CA 95150-5721

P.O. Box 5721

Branch 193

National Association of Letter Carriers

Published by:

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
San Jose, CA  
Permit No. 5593



Check Out Our Website at  
[www.nalcbranch193.com](http://www.nalcbranch193.com)

# FILL THE SATCHEL

October 2, 2011 was the first annual fill the satchel for MDA. There were two tables set up at the Eastridge Mall in San Jose. Thanks to the following volunteers who help raise \$324.59 for MDA Bob and Vera Krauth, Pam West, Lewis Gueret, and, Laurie Halfacre. A special thanks goes to Bob Krauth who took on the challenging task of finding a location to host the fundraising event and believe me this was not an easy task. I hope that Branch 193 has more volunteers next year to make the event even more successful.



## ELECTIONS

Ballots were mailed out on November 16, 2011. If you did not receive a ballot please notify the branch office. Ballots must be returned to the Post Office Box by December 14, 2011 @ 4:00 pm. The results of the elections will be at the Regular Branch Meeting (Holiday Party) December 14, 2011. Thanks go to Gene Lorenzo, Tom Stewart, Patrick Mulligan, Bob and Vera Krauth, Moe Bedolla, Mike Herrera, Sharon Epp, Stanley Halfacre, Tom and Letty Cerna, Victoria Dove, and Bill Cunningham for volunteering their time to stuff the ballot envelopes.

## OPEN SEASON FOR HEALTH BENEFITS

The open season for health benefits for active carriers is November 14, 2011 – December 13, 2011 by 5 p.m. Central Time. Retired Carriers open season is November 14, 2011 – December 12, 2011. If you are looking to change your health care provider now is the time. Be sure to look to see if your current provider is still available for your area, some Health Care Programs have cancelled their local contract and/or not available in all areas. If your plan is not participating in 2012 you MUST choose another plan during Open Season or you will not have Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) coverage.

Your new enrollment or any changes that you make to your existing coverage will take effect on January 14, 2012 and the change in premium rate deductions will be seen on your February 3, 2012 check. It is your responsibility to make any changes to your coverage such as single to family or vice versa. For more information you can go to [www.opm.gov/insure/health](http://www.opm.gov/insure/health). To enroll or make changes Active Carriers can go to [www.liteblue.usps.gov](http://www.liteblue.usps.gov) and use PostalEASE or call HR at 1-877-477-3273, option 1. Retiree's can go to [www.opm.gov/retire/fehb](http://www.opm.gov/retire/fehb) or call 1-800-332-9798.

Buy Holiday Gifts,  
Pay Medical Bills,  
Home Improvement  
Pay Credit Card Bills,  
I Need a Vacation!

## Expenses on Your Mind? Relax...We Have a Solution

Rate as low as

*Fall Loan Special* **4.99%** <sup>APR\*</sup> Personal Loan

- Use up to **\$20,000** to spend as you wish
- **Pay only \$18<sup>8¢</sup>** per month for every \$1,000 you borrow
- Take up to **60 months** to pay
- Offer is good October 15 - January 15, 2012

**Apply at [www.ppcu.org](http://www.ppcu.org) or at any branch.**



\* APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Rates and offer are subject to change without notice. Actual rate offered is dependent on individual credit rating; your rate may be higher. Sample monthly payment is approximate and based on the terms given. Must apply for and fund same loan during promotional period, October 15, 2011 – January 15, 2012, to qualify for offer. Not valid with any other offers, discounts or current PPCU loans. Call for complete terms and conditions.

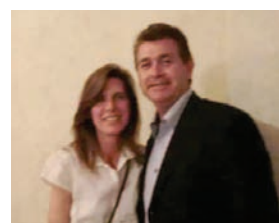
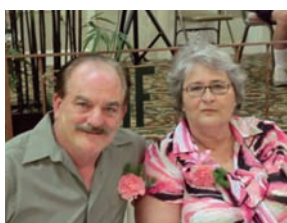
# MDA BOWLATHON

The 3rd annual MDA Bowlathon was held on November 6, 2011 at Cambrian Bowl. Over 40 bowlers had a great time and raised \$1,354.50 for MDA. There were lots of great raffle prizes and pizza to eat. I would like to thank Bob Krauth and Sharon Epp for once again taking on the task of getting the event together.



# RETIREMENT DINNER

The Annual Retirement Dinner was held on August 20, 2011 and over 150 people attended. Everyone had a great time and joining us as Honored Retiree's were Steve Mazman, Joe Lozano, Henry Kung, Vera and Bob Krauth, Rebecca Garcia, Pin Li, David Gibbons, Alan Cheung, Fred Beckman, Moe Bedolla, and Rajinder Hundal. A 50 year Membership Gold Card was also presented to Ben Burzota. Thanks to Moe Bedolla, Maria Marquez, Theresa and Andrea Hernandez, Stanley and Laurel Halfacre, Danny Laffan, Bob and Vera Krauth, Ernie Arrañaga, Victor Barrientos, Rosie La'auli, Bill and Ann Cunningham, Lin Zhou, Ray Gauthier, Mike Cisneros, and Sharon Epp for helping with set-up, bartending, food, and DJ-Vince Ramirez for helping make the evening a great success.



# COLCPE Contest

The National Association of Letter Carriers President Frederic Rolando has announced a new COLCPE contest to encourage maximum participation through the Gimme 5 program, which asks current and retired carriers to give \$5 or more each pay period through automatic deductions. The contest will continue through the end of November, 2011.

We have been matched up against three other branches of similar size. The Branch with the highest percentage of Gimme 5 will be declared the winner.

Below you will see the Branches we are up against and the standings as of November 1, 2011.

Your help is needed, so please join Branch 193 in making a strong impact towards this critical time in need. With your automatic deduction of \$5 dollars or more it can make a difference.

**Let's Win This!!!**

Branch	City	State	Gimme 5 Contr	Gimme 5 Pct.
2550	FT Lauderdale	FL	48	4.09
193	San Jose	CA	56	3.98
2902	Tri Valley	CA	64	3.9
1091	Orlando	FL	52	3.25

## I would also like to give thanks to the following members for continuing their contribution and support to COLCPE.

Manny Aguilar, Paul Allen, Ernie Arrañaga, Joel Baclig, Victor Barrientos, Moe Bedolla, Frederick Brayton, Thomas Cabunac, Tomas Cerna III, Bill Cunningham, Ian Davies, Julio Deleon, Daniel Degan, Albert Denison, Laurie Duarte, Jack Dustimer, Florestine English, Clistie Epp, Barbara Estrada, Danny Facciolla, Davis Fairbank, Marla Forsgren, Robert Foster, Ray Gauthier, Gian Giang, Lewis Gueret, Laurel Halfacre, Stanley Halfacre, Michael Harding, Theresa Hernandez, Ronnie Hodges, Kevin Janton, David Judd, Kelvin Kamachi, Robert Krauth, Rosie Laauli, Danny Laffan, Eugene Lorenzo, David Martinez, Guillermo Martinez, Amparo Martinez Krauth, Debra Matsen, Donald Melrose, James Miller, Steven Miller, Angel Montelongo Jr., Patrick Mulligan, Steven Munyon, Lorie Nikitin, Christopher North, Victor Ostini, Arthur Parrilla, Elaine Preston, David Ransom, Thomas Rivera, Peter Rondero, Jasbir Saggi, Harvey Schonauer, Henry Semillano, Thomas Tan, Manoj Sarad, Daniel Taormino, Lawrence Wenceslao, Pamela West, Lin Zhou, Daniel Chavez, Josefino Escoto, Alfonso Montano, Anthony Ciak, Chris Nakasaki, Victoria Dove, Michael Sablad, Brian Schermerhorn, Gabe Cruz, Jin Shin.

Thank you and Keep a Smile,

In Solidarity,  
Ernie Arrañaga, COLCPE Coordinator

# OFFICERS

Laurie Duarte ..... *President*  
 Stanley Halfacre ..... *Vice President*  
 Bill Cunningham ..... *Second Vice President*  
 Pat Mulligan ..... *Recording Secretary*  
 Sharon Epp ..... *Financial Secretary*  
 Laurel Halfacre ..... *Treasurer*  
 Guillermo Martinez ..... *Sgt at Arms*  
 Robert Krauth ..... *HBP/MBA Rep*  
 Lin Zhou ..... *Trustee*  
 Jim Miller ..... *Trustee*  
 Joe Rosa ..... *Trustee*  
 Kelvin Kamachi ..... *Trustee*  
 Vacant ..... *Trustee*  
 Guillermo Martinez ..... *Legislative Liaison*

## Branch 193 Shop Stewards

Almaden Valley ..... Pam West  
 Bayside ..... Ernie Arrańaga & Bob Foster  
 Berryessa ..... Henry Semillano & Collie Turner  
 Blossom Hill ..... Steve Miller & Tom Cerna  
 Cambrian Park ..... Ray Gauthier & David Martinez  
 Campbell ..... Rosie La'auli  
 Cortese ..... Tommy Rivera & JoAnn Francisco  
 Foothill ..... Art Parrilla & Al Lopez  
 Gilroy ..... Debra Masten  
 Hillview ..... Manny Aguilar & Victor Barrientos  
 Los Gatos ..... Kevin Janton  
 Los Gatos Dell ..... Ian Davies  
 Milpitas ..... Fred Barreto  
 Morgan Hill ..... Angel Montelongo  
 Robertsville ..... Theresa Hernandez & Mike Cisneros  
 St. James Park ..... Chris North & Maria Marquez  
 Saratoga ..... Robert Vanderpool  
 Seven Trees ..... Jason Davalos & Ronnie Hodges  
 Willow Glen ..... Jack Dusthimer,  
 ..... Sean McArthur & Gabriel Cruz

## Important Dates

Nov. 24 ..... **Thanksgiving Day Holiday**  
 Nov. 30 ..... Executive Board Meeting  
 Dec. 14 ..... Regular Branch Meeting-Holiday Party  
 Dec. 26 ..... **Christmas Holiday Observed**  
 Dec. 28 ..... Executive Board Meeting  
 Jan. 2 ..... **New Year Holiday Observed**  
 Jan. 11 ..... Regular Branch Meeting  
 Jan. 16 ..... **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday**  
 Jan. 25 ..... Executive Board Meeting  
 Feb. 8 ..... Regular Branch Meeting  
 Feb. 29 ..... Executive Board Meeting  
 Mar. 14 ..... Regular Branch Meeting

Branch Meetings begin promptly at **7:00 PM:**  
**Italian American Heritage Foundation**  
 425 North 4th Street San Jose, CA 95112  
 Board Meetings begin promptly at **7:00 PM:**  
**Union Office**  
 1060 Minnesota Avenue, Suite 9, San Jose, CA 95125

## Deadline

The Deadline for the **January/February 2012** issue of the Branch 193 Bulletin is **Friday, December 23, 2011.** News stories, articles, letters to the editor, drawings, cartoons, business cards, and/or photographs should be submitted to:

**Editor • Branch 193 Bulletin •**  
**P.O. Box 5721 • San Jose, CA 95150**

## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW RETIREES

Evelyn Barbadillo ..... Berryessa	Conrad Lai ..... Saratoga
David Bertao ..... Campbell	Mona Mannina ..... Willow Glen
Ernesto Bustos Jr ..... Bayside	Glynis McDonald ..... Blossom Hill
Bruce Carey ..... Willow Glen	James Miller ..... Hillview
Armando Davalos ..... Hillview	Younghee Rha ..... Los Gatos Dell
Sharon Del Rey ..... Blossom Hill	Michael Rockets ..... Robertsville
Julio De Leon ..... Robertsville	Lamarcus Shamburger ..... Seven Trees
Sukhwinder Dhillon ..... Cortese	Siu Tang ..... St. James Park
Mary Doll ..... Los Gatos Main	Abby Townsend ..... Blossom Hill
Bhagwant Grewal ..... Hillview	Vien Tran ..... Cortese
Martin Hernandez ..... Bayside	Shun Wu Wang ..... Los Gatos Main
Deirdre Higgins ..... Almaden Valley	Lamar Williams ..... Robertsville
Stela Ibasan ..... Blossom Hill	Bonifacio Yabut ..... Cortese
David Judd ..... Willow Glen	

## HOLIDAY GIFT CARD

The \$40.00 Safeway gift cards were mailed out on November 4, 2011. No Gift Card will be reissued unless the Union receives it returned in the mail undeliverable. Thanks go to Gene Lorenzo, Tom Stewart, Patrick Mulligan, Bob and Vera Krauth, Moe Bedolla, Mike Herrera, Sharon Epp, Stanley Halfacre, Tom and Letty Cerna, Victoria Dove, and Bill Cunningham for volunteering their time to stuff the envelopes. Thanks also go to Victoria Dove, Sharon Epp and Vera Krauth for their excellent food dishes.

## CARL J. SAXSENMEIER SCHOLARSHIP

The application for the 2012 Carl J. Saxsenmeier Scholarship (CSALC) is available on line at [www.csalc.org](http://www.csalc.org) or at the Union Office. Applicants must be a high school senior and the application must be signed by a branch officer. The scholarship application is due by **January 6, 2012.**

## DOHERTY AND DONELON NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP

The application for the 2012 Doherty and Donelon National Scholarship (NALC) was in the July Postal Record Magazine it is also available on line at [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org) or at the Union Office. Applicants must be a high school senior and the application must be signed by a branch officer. The scholarship application is due by **December 31, 2011.**

## Help put a smile on countless faces this holiday season

The South Bay Labor Council's Holiday Party will be celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. This is an event that brings the community together to offer a sense of hope to struggling families and provides joy to their kids. And because of the economy affecting the lives of so many families in need they are expecting an enormous increase in demand. Thousands of kids rely on this event for their holiday toy and Branch 193 is asking for your help in making this holiday party the most successful one yet.

### Here is how you can help make a difference:

Make a financial contribution to "UCR - Holiday Party" or donate unwrapped toy(s). Contributions can be sent to: **Union Community Resources**  
**2102 Almaden Road, Suite 107**  
**San Jose, CA 95125**



## In Memoriam

Deepest Sympathy to the families & friends of our departed brothers and sisters.

Earl Bidy	Talosia Laapui
Michael Cogliandro	Thomas O'Neal
Mario Ed	Tony Spano
Annie Hebert	

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Winnie Ho

## COLOR CODED CALENDARS

The color coded calendars for 2012 are in. For only \$5.00 (the same price as last year.) you can see what days you have off. See the Holidays, and all the events of the year. See yours Shop Steward and get yours today, before they are all gone.

## JACKPOT

**Minh Bui** from Willow Glen was not at the August Branch Meeting, **Susan Anderson** from Willow Glen was not at the September Branch Meeting, **Herbert Muya** from Foothill was not at the October Branch Meeting, and Retiree **Loren Bishop** was not at the November Branch meeting to collect the \$549.00 when their names were called for the jackpot