



BRANCH 193 Bulletin

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

Messages from the President

No. 7-04 July - August 2007

Danny Laffan

It has been very busy around the Union office lately. We are in the midst of moving our offices to the suites next door. Keeping the business of the Union moving forward can be a challenge in this disrupted state. My thanks to Vice President Stanley Halfacre on an outstanding job cleaning, painting and carpeting our old office. We have already rented that space. The disruption of moving will soon settle down and things will be back to normal. I am more concerned with the manner in which the Postal Service has disrupted our attempts to negotiate a contract. Management's position on contracting out city letter carrier work created an impasse in the negotiations. I do not understand why the Postal Service is willing to risk losing the confidence of the American public. There are many horror stories circulating about the poor quality of contracted services. We will continue to fight this attempt to take away our work. We have called on Congress to intervene in this matter and hearings have been held. Both the Senate (S 1457) and the House of Representatives (HR 282) have introduced actions to offset this attempt to contract out delivery services. We need to do our part also. Pay attention to the bulletins and messages that our National Officers are sending. Act when called upon; the job you save may be your own. Our contract will be settled through final and binding arbitration. The first hearings aren't scheduled until September with a decision expected sometime near the end of the year. The best way you can help at this time is to stay informed. Join the e-activist network by going to www.nalc.org and click on the e-activist link. Also consider donating to the Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education (COLCPE).

In Closing

I want to thank all the members who have taken the time to write, call or speak words of support and encouragement to me as I settle in to the job of President of this great Branch. It is an honor and privilege to represent the membership. I will continue to my best and I truly appreciate your support and encouragement. Thank you.

Stanley Halfacre Elected Vice President

Nominations and an election to fill the mid-term vacancy in the office of Vice President were conducted at the June 13th regular Branch Meeting. Over two hundred twenty members filled the Italian American Heritage Hall to listen to the candidates and then cast their ballots. Recording Secretary Patrick Mulligan chaired the Election Committee and handled the large turnout very well. When all the ballots were counted and the counts verified the result was that Stanley Halfacre was elected Vice President of Branch 193. The final results were as follows:

Stanley Halfacre.....96 votes
Pam West.....84 votes
Alfred Navarette.....36 votes
Leo Torres.....4 votes

PROPOSED BRANCH 193 BY-LAW CHANGES

May, 2007

New language= underline

Deleted language= ~~strikethrough~~

Article 3, Section 4. Delete language: by bulletin board posting

Article 3, Section 4 to read:

Notification of such meetings, stating the object of the call, shall be given the members by the Recording Secretary ~~by bulletin board posting~~ not less than three (3) days in advance of the meeting.

Article 5, Section 7. Delete language: with the concurrence of the Executive Board.

Article 5, Section 7 to read:

Shop stewards shall be elected at their respective stations by members in good standing. If none are elected, they will be appointed by the President ~~with the concurrence of the Executive Board.~~

Article 4, Section 1. Add: Second Vice President

Section 1. The elective officers of the Branch shall be the President, Vice-President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, MBA/NSB/Health Benefits Representative, five (5) Trustees, Shop Stewards, and a Collection Officer.

Article 6, Section 3. Vice President. Delete language: The Branch 193 Training and Education Program will be subject to review in one year from the date of approval. A report will be given and a vote conducted to determine the continuation of the program. The Vice-President shall also serve as Membership Chairman and shall be responsible for keeping track of the office location of all non-members working in Branch stations. He/She shall oversee and coordinate the sign-up of new members as non-members are located. He/She shall report semi-annually to the Executive Board the status of membership at each office. *continued on the back page*

OFFICERS

Danny Laffan President
Stanley Halfacre Vice President
Pat Mulligan Recording Secretary
Sharon Epp Financial Secretary
George Katai Treasurer
Gene Lorenzo Sgt at Arms.
Guillermo Martinez Legislative Liaison
Tom Stewart Trustee
Laurie Lykam-Halfacre Trustee
Jas Nijjar Trustee
Joe Rosa Trustee
Vacant Trustee

Branch 193 Bulletin

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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.

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Political Memo

by Guillermo Martinez, Political Liason



The western lobbying trip took place in April in Washington D.C. The states that accompanied California included: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington and Wyoming. Members of these state associations educated and discussed contracting out city

carrier and rural carrier delivery duties with their congressional representative. When we left Washington D.C. sixty members of Congress signed on to House Resolution 282, which is non-binding but will place the Postal Service on notice that Congress will not allow this practice to continue. The message is especially for Jim Miller, Chairman of the Postal Board of Governors and Postmaster General Jack Potter. Contracting out would freeze all the work and effort that we have achieved through postal reform, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006. I was fortunate to witness the testimony of William H. Young before the sub committee on the Federal workforce, the USPS and the U.S. House of Representatives full Committee on oversight and government reform of the 110th congress. President Young began by thanking the Chairman Danny Davis of the House of Representatives for his leadership in the enactment of postal reform. Because of postal reform, the USPS has been taken off the list of financially endangered federal agencies. Young went to state that the legislation is not perfect, but it is a good start. Young then went on to say that on the seventeenth of April in the year two thousand and seven he would like to focus on a threat toward the future of the USPS. In order to sustain quality service the postal service must stop the policy of outsourcing the final delivery of mail to new delivery points whenever possible. The postal service is employing low wage part time workers with no benefits has hurt service more than it has helped. This would create a high level of contract employee turnover and would cost us the trust of the American people that the postal service has served with its dedicated career city carriers. It is because of these employees the postal service has been rated the most trusted federal agency based on a recent survey about privacy issues. Big mailers and investors also deserve that the USPS provide the service they need to get the information out to their customers. Hiring contractors is inconsistent with the postal services overall strategy. The policy is outlined in the nations postal law which requires the postal service to place particular emphasis for career advancement, to support its employees, and provide worthwhile and satisfying careers in the service of the United States.

Tony Cortese Food Drive

I would like to thank all of the Carriers, Management, Teamsters Union Drives, Fed Ex Employees and Laborers Union Local 270, who all supported the first annual Tony Cortese Food Drive. I would also like to give special thanks to Theresa Hernandez, Food Drive Coordinator, All the Office's Food Drive Coordinators, Evelyn Flaris, Management Coordinator, Steve Preminger, Logistics Coordinator, Stanley Halfacre and Danny Laffan, Food Drive Support Team and all volunteers who came in on their day off and those who stayed late making sure that everything was done.

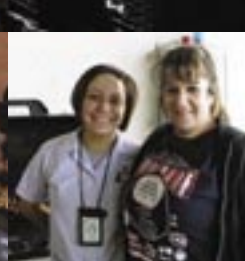
I hope all enjoyed their BBQ's or whatever your office decided to do with the \$2 per person that was given by the Branch and the drinks that were supplied by Management.

This year's Branch collection total is 146,361 pounds which is up 34,960 pounds from last year and shows a 31 percent improvement. GOOD JOB EVERYONE!! Nationwide the largest one day food drive collected 70,745,176 pounds which is up 252,026 pounds from last year. Since the food drive went National 15 years ago the Nation has collected over 836 million pounds of food, now that's a lot of FOOD and we should all be proud that we have helped in making this possible and thank Tony for the having the original vision of helping those people in need. Again I would like to thank everyone for all the extra work they did on May 12th and for making The Tony Cortese Food Drive a success.

Laurie Duarte
Food Drive Coordinator

NALC FOOD DRIVE 2007

STATIONS:	2006	2007	+	-	% + -
ALMADEN VALLEY STATION	6427	5262		1165	-18%
BAYSIDE STATION	4335	1990		2345	-54%
BERRYESSA STATION	5574	5935	361		+6%
BLOSSOM HILL STATION	8888	8738		150	-2%
CAMBRIAN PARK STATION	8564	8725	161		+2%
CAMPBELL POST OFFICE	7055	14585	7530		+107%
FOOTHILL STATION	4462	4343		119	-3%
GILROY POST OFFICE	4213	5251	1038		+25%
GMF	12	12			
HILLVIEW STATION	7891	9911	2020		+25%
LOS GATOS DELL	3493	6103	2610		+75%
LOS GATOS MAIN	3467	4828	1361		+39%
MILPITAS POST OFFICE	3819	5551	1732		+45%
MORGAN HILL POST OFFICE	4736	5850	1114		+24%
PARKMOOR STATION	6802	6751		51	-7%
ROBERTSVILLE STATION	6967	8041	1074		+15%
SARATOGA STATION	4839	7470	2631		+54%
ST. JAMES PARK STATION	1936	5381	3445		+178%
SEVEN TREES STATION	4447	5897	1450		+33%
STATION D	1650	3181	1531		+93%
WESTGATE STATION	6986	13230	6244		+89%
WILLOW GLEN STATION	4838	9326	4488		+93%
TOTALS:	111401	146361	38790	3830	+31%





Retiree Ed & Kathy Perry
Millview Station



Retiree Ron & Eileen Ethers
Almaden Valley Station



David Fairbanks
Willow Glen Station



Retiree Eddie & Marietta Wong
Cambrian Park Station



Retiree Sanch & Vee Zabala
Almaden Valley Station



Retiree Carlos & Liz Cabico
Bayside Station



Retiree Paul Yamada & Hope Esquivel
Almaden Valley Station



Joe Coll
Blossom Hill Station



Recognition of Gold Card Members - Branch 193
Retirement Dinner May 5, 2007



Retiree Nichole "Christie" Ferrara
Morgan Hill



Manny Peraltz presenting "Gold Card" to George Kotzi



Retiree Tim Davies
Millview Station



Retiree Angelo & Dena Macias
Almaden Valley Station



Retiree Jim & Joan Hipskind
Los Gatos Dell

Recent Retirees Honored

On May 5th over one hundred seventy members and their guests attended our annual Retirement Dinner at the Italian American Heritage Hall. Twelve recent retirees and their guests filled the head table. Appetizers and cocktails were followed by an outstanding buffet dinner with plenty of good conversations. A short program followed dinner and our retirees were given a NALC retiree pin. National Business Agent addressed the gathering and presented a Gold Card to Treasurer George Katai recognizing him for his fifty years of membership in the NALC. Many thanks to all those who helped make this evening a great success.

Retirees To Be Honored At July Meeting

National President Bill Young has recognized eighteen Branch 193 retired members for their long time membership and support of the National Association of Letter Carriers. We received six Sixty Year Pins and twelve Fifty Year Gold Cards. We will honor these long time members at our regular Branch Meeting on July 11, 2007. Light refreshments will be served starting at 6:30. Mark the date and plan to attend to share the evening with those who have contributed so much in attaining the benefits we enjoy today. See you there!

Sixty Year Pins

Frederick Brayton
Danny Facciolla
Mike Lopez
Izumi Kawakami
Nick Secola

50 Year Gold Cards

Charles Asea
Silvestre Bado
Ralph Eustis
Tony Gonzales
Joseph Mannina
William Virga
Leroy Martella
Paul Molay
Frank Pontureri
Howard Sherman
Minoru Tanaka
Francis Walker

Millbrae Training

Submitted by Pam West

At the Northern California Training in Millbrae, I, along with Branch 193's significant delegation, attended some of the best classes that the NALC has to offer. But strangely enough, the most significant knowledge I came away with, was not the actual subject matter being taught, but rather the collaboration of ideas and information that had to have taken place in order to bring a curriculum of this magnitude to us. Let me explain what I mean. On Day 2 of the training, I reluctantly signed up for the legislation class. I had always known that eventually I would have to attend this class, but I had always put it off at previous trainings, for reasons I don't even remember now. So there I was, sitting in the fourth or fifth row, doodling on some scratch paper, waiting for class to begin. I recognized the two men at the

front as California State President John Beaumont and State Vice President Harold Kelso. Although I recognized them as Union leaders, I thought that they looked different, almost out of place. It took me a minute to realize they were dressed in suits, complete with tie and jacket. That was different. The class attendees were dressed in t-shirts and jeans. Then I realized they were dressed like that to show us how they presented themselves when lobbying our elected representatives on our behalf. I remember thinking back to the Ca. State Convention in Palm Springs when the delegates passed an amendment to the State Constitution which made the State President a full-time position. I was skeptical at the time. I mean why did we need a full-time State President? After all, I have spoken personally with John Beaumont. He's sharp. He's smart. He's a normal guy, so I thought....

Back to class, when John Beaumont took the stage, fired up his PowerPoint presentation, and rattled off statistics he knows off the top of his head about every Senator, Congressperson, and Governor from every state, he lit up the room. The passion that was so obviously fueling him. He was almost giggling at one point. I was awake and paying attention now. Wow, a whole different persona. No wonder he's the State President and full-time at that. It made me recognize that what I once viewed with skepticism, I now viewed as vitally necessary. I thought, "What a great example of what was once a difference of opinion, regarding making the State President full-time, is now regarded as a necessity." It reminds us: We should value our differences, because it is only through debate and collaboration of all of our ideas and views that we arrive at the best solution for all of us. We should encourage input from many, and not think in terms of us and them because after all....the them is us. Thank you.



**NALC Branch 193
Summer Picnic
Sunday, August 26, 2007
Park Hours
10:00AM -8:00PM**

- Includes -
Full all-day admission to Great America
All-day admission to Boomerang Bay Beach Club
An All-You-Can-Eat Picnic Lunch in the Paramount Pavilion

TICKETS

Members & Family \$28.00 per person

Guests \$35.00 per person

For tickets contact the Shop Steward

Deadline for tickets is August 17th!

Picnic Highlights

Picnic Hours 11:00AM-4:00PM

Soft Drinks & Ice Cream Service

11:30AM-3:30PM

Meal Service 12:30PM - 2:00 PM

Our All-You-Can-Eat-Menu

Tangy ¼ BBQ Chicken, All Beef

**Jumbo Hot Dogs, Western Style Chili
Beans, Macaroni Salad**

**Ice Cream Favorites and Assorted Sodas
(Vegetarian meals available upon request)**

**Six Flags
DISCOVERY
KINGDOM
VALLEJO**

**NALC BRANCH 193
SUMMER
FUNDAYS**

CHOOSE YOUR OWN DATE!

Friday, June 22	Friday, July 13
Saturday, June 23	Saturday, July 14
Sunday, June 24	Sunday, July 15

(Offer valid any single admission day)

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SIX FLAGS DISCOVERY KINGDOM:**

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To Purchase Tickets, Contact:
YOUR SHOP STEWARD

**ASK ABOUT SPECIAL NALC
\$10 PARKING!**

DEADLINE!

The Deadline for copy of the September/October 2007 issue of the Branch 193 Bulletin is Friday, August 10, 2007. 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**

He/She shall also perform other duties as assigned by the Branch President.

New Article 6, Section 4
Second Vice President. The Second Vice President shall be available to assist with the Branch 193 Training and Education Program. He/She shall also serve as Membership Chairman and shall be responsible for keeping track of the office location of all non-members working in Branch stations. He/She shall oversee and coordinate the sign-up of new members as non-members are located. He/She shall report semi-annually to the Executive Board the status of membership at each office. When the Vice President is filling a vacancy created by the President's absence, the Second Vice President shall assume the position of Vice President. He/She shall also perform other duties as assigned by the Branch President.

Article 14, Section 3. Add: Second Vice President

Section 3. The Second Vice President and Recording Secretary shall receive \$1800 per year as expenses.

Change Article 6, Section 4 to 5, 5 to 6, 6 to 7, 7 to 8, 8 to 9, 9 to 10, 10 to 11.

Submitted by: Stan Halfacre, Bill Cunningham, Laurie Duarte, Theresa Hernandez, Tom Stewart, Gene Lorenzo, and Patrick Mulligan

First Reading: May 9, 2007

NOTICES - NOTICES

FAMILY PICNIC

The date for the Family Picnic at Great America Theme Park has been changed to August 26, 2007. The water park facilities would not have been available on the original date.

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY ASSOCIATION
Fundraisers for the MDA are being planned. We hope to be able to raise money for this important work. The NALC was the first national sponsor for Jerry's Kids and we would like to increase our contribution. We have a Day at the Races planned for September 30th and hope to have a Golf Tournament on October 14th. More information will follow.

Important Dates

June 27	Executive Board Meeting
July 11	Branch Meeting
July 25	Executive Board Meeting
August 8	Branch Meeting
*August 26	Family Picnic
August 29	Executive Board Meeting
Sept 30	Day at the Races

Branch Meetings begin promptly at 7:30 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

JACKPOT!!

L.O. Oliloquit, Jr from Berryessa Station was not at the May Branch Meeting and R. Dhillon from Seven Trees Station was not at the June Branch Meeting to collect the \$1,000 when their names were called for the jackpot.

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Proposed By-Law Change

Article 5

Nominations and Elections

Add

Temporary mid-term vacancies for Branch Office shall be filled by Presidential appointment until the incumbent Officer either returns to or vacates the position.

Submitted by: Pam West, Daniel Degn, Armando Bautista, Ariston Paz, Chris North

First reading June 13, 2007

By Law Changes *continued from front page*

Article 6, Section 3. Vice President. Add: He/She shall also perform other duties as assigned by the Branch President.

Article 6, Section 3. Vice President to read: The Vice-President shall be a part-time employee of Branch 193. He/She shall be available to the Organization and its members for all purposes up to sixteen (16) of the week and evenings as needed. The Vice-President shall visit stations on an ongoing basis. He/She shall coordinate the planning, design, development, administration and maintenance of a Branch 193 Training and Education Program. The purpose of this program will be to provide ongoing educational opportunities for the membership of Branch 193. He/She shall prepare agendas and attend all Branch 193 labor-management meetings. ~~The Branch 193 Training and Education Program will be subject to review in one year from the date of approval. A report will be given and a vote conducted to determine the continuation of the program.~~

The Vice-President by virtue of his/her office shall be a delegate to the State and National Conventions. ~~The Vice-President shall also serve as Membership Chairman and shall be responsible for keeping track of the office location of all non-members working in Branch stations. He/She shall oversee and coordinate the sign-up of new members as non-members are located. He/She shall report semi-annually to the Executive Board the status of membership at each office.~~