

The Official Newsletter of NALC Branch 1439

The 1439'er



Save The Date!

Monday, September 17, 2007

NALC Branch 1439 sponsors a Rap Session

Featuring Special Guests:

Manny Peralta, NALC Region 1 Business Agent

John Beaumont, California State Association President

Etiwanda Room, Goldie Lewis Community Center

11200 Baseline Road in Rancho Cucamonga (corner Baseline and Milliken)

Same location as our monthly branch meetings

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Have a question about the tentative contract agreement? Want to know what is going on with legislation? You owe it to yourself to attend this special Rap Session. Brothers Peralta and Beaumont will show you where we have come from, where we are at now and what is in store for the future, Make your plans now to attend! All union letter carriers from Branch 1439 and any other local branches welcome!

The 1439'er

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NALC Branch 1439
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www.nalcbranch1439.org

Executive Officers

President Robert Ortiz
Vice President Harold Kelso
Secretary Mark Lesch
Treasurer Dale Jordan

Stewards

Alta Loma Carlos Jauregui
Rancho Cucamonga Richard Spears
Ontario Main Office Bob McLaughlin
Ontario Main Office Jose Aguilar
Ontario Downtown Station Alex Case
Ontario Plaza Station Jose Lopez

Trustees

Ontario DT Station Hector Meneses III
Rancho Cucamonga Dennis Martin
Ontario Main Office Long Nguyen

Branch Meetings

Branch meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month. The meeting location is the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Center, 11200 Baseline Road in Rancho Cucamonga, just west of Milliken Avenue on the grounds of Central Park. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. To submit items to the Branch meeting agenda prior to the meeting, please contact Secretary Mark Lesch at (760) 951-8201 or at the Ontario Main Office (909) 983-1873, or via email at branch1439@linkline.com

1439'er Information

The 1439'er is the official publication of the National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 1439, Ontario—Rancho Cucamonga, California. All members are invited to submit articles for publication. All articles must be typewritten and signed by the author, and must be submitted by the twentieth day of the month preceding publication. The editor reserves the right to edit, delete or reject an article for the good of the branch. To submit an article send it to the Branch post office box listed above, in care of Mark Lesch, Editor, or submit via email to mlesch@linkline.com

The 1439'er is produced by the Howard Quinn Company, San Francisco, CA. For more information, visit www.howardquinn.com.

Branch 1439 Affiliations

NALC Branch 1439 is affiliated with the Central Labor Council of San Bernardino—Riverside Counties, and the International Labor Communications Association (ILCA).

Useful World Wide Web Information

NALC National Web Site

<http://www.nalc.org/>

NALC Contract Administration Unit

<http://www.nalc.org/depart/cau/index.html>

NALC Health Benefit Plan

<http://www.nalc.org/depart/hbp/index.html>

Office Of Personnel Management

<http://www.opm.gov/>

OWCP San Francisco Region Office

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/esa/public/contacts/owcp/9sf.htm>

President's Report

By Robert Ortiz
President

On the eve of ratification of our new five year National Agreement, is there change in the air, or just more of the same? I urge every member to look at the tentative contract that was provided to you, especially the new MOU'S (memorandums of understanding) that have been reached for this contract. I believe all members are informed somewhat on the contract pay raises and lump sums. If you are not make sure you read the contract, read the pay charts listed elsewhere in this newsletter or visit the NALC website (www.nalc.org) for current information.

In my opinion the most important MOU is the subcontracting of city routes. We have been granted a reprieve it appears for the life of this contract. No existing city routes will be contracted out. There are three memoranda that address this issue in which guidelines have been set. Brother and Sisters, this doesn't mean contracting out is a dead issue, in fact, new deliveries can be contracted. For example, cities with rural delivery can still contract territory that would otherwise be rural but only within rural boundaries. This could be a big problem for rural routes in our cities. Our branch will be challenging any new growth we feel should be city.

This may be an opportunity to get some of our territory back. It will be a challenge.

We owe a lot of credit to our legislative brothers and sisters who worked this issue hard. I believe the legislative pressures put on the Postal Service on this issue pushed it over the top. All legislation is still moving forward. I suspect that the final resolution will probably come with legislation.

A big change in this contract is the way the Postal Service will use their supplemental work force. The MOU reached for this agreement has done away with casual employees in the letter carrier craft and will replace them with Transitional Employees (TE's). Upon ratification of the contract management will have approximately 6 months for this transition. Once in place the postal service can hire up to 8,000 transitional employees nation wide and use them wherever they want. Remember, the reason for the use of transitional employees is based upon the implementing of the FSS (Flat Sequencing System, or DPS Flats). National will do all the monitoring of the TE hires, which takes the burden off the local branches. In my opinion this is a plus. In addition, transitional employees can belong to our union, and are given limited bargaining units rights and benefits.

A long awaited Task Force on the route adjustment process has
Continues on Page 7

Average Wage Increases and Estimated COLAs

Date	Type of Increase	Average Amount**	Average Per Pay Period
11/25/2006	General Wage Increase: 1.4%	\$664	\$25.54
To be announced	Cash Payment	\$686	N/A
9/2007	COLA (5-7, 2007)	\$114	\$4.38
11/24/2007	General Wage Increase: 1.8%	\$854	\$32.85
March 2008	COLA	\$347	\$13.35
Sept. 2008	COLA	\$349	\$13.42
11/22/2008	General Wage Increase: 1.9%	\$902	\$34.69
March 2009	COLA	\$354	\$13.62
Sept. 2009	COLA	\$358	\$13.77
11/21/2009	General Wage Increase: 1.9%	\$902	\$34.69
March 2010	COLA	\$362	\$13.92
Sept. 2010	COLA	\$366	\$14.08
11/20/2010	General Wage Increase: 1.85%	\$878	\$33.77
March 2011	COLA	\$370	\$14.23
Sept 2011	COLA	\$372	\$14.31
Total during contract (excluding cash payment)		\$7,192	\$276.62
Value of COLAa depend on changed in the level of the Consumer Price Index, these figures are based on CPI increases of 2.2% annually			

2006-2011 National Agreement General Wage Increases

CITY CARRIER GRADE 1

Step	Salary as of 11/20/06	11/25/06 1.4% Inc	11/24/07 1.8% Inc	11/22/08 1.9% Inc	11/21/09 1.9%Inc	11/21/10 1.85%Inc	Total Increase
A	\$37,995	\$532	\$684	\$722	\$722	\$703	\$3,363
B	\$41,445	\$580	\$746	\$787	\$787	\$787	\$3,667
C	\$42,782	\$599	\$770	\$813	\$813	\$791	\$3,786
D	\$45,344	\$635	\$816	\$862	\$862	\$839	\$4,014
E	\$45,698	\$640	\$823	\$868	\$868	\$845	\$4,044
F	\$46,052	\$645	\$829	\$875	\$875	\$852	\$4,076
G	\$46,400	\$650	\$835	\$882	\$882	\$858	\$4,107
H	\$46,753	\$655	\$842	\$888	\$888	\$865	\$4,138
I	\$47,107	\$659	\$848	\$895	\$895	\$871	\$4,168
J*	\$47,455	\$664	\$854	\$902	\$902	\$878	\$4,200
K	\$47,809	\$669	\$861	\$908	\$908	\$884	\$4,230
L	\$48,160	\$674	\$867	\$915	\$915	\$891	\$4,262
M	\$48,514	\$679	\$873	\$922	\$922	\$898	\$4,294
N	\$48,868	\$684	\$880	\$928	\$928	\$904	\$4,324
O	\$49,218	\$689	\$886	\$935	\$935	\$911	\$4,356

*Step J used to represent "Average Letter Carrier"

*Following past practice, general wage increases are calculated as percentage of salaries at end of prior contract

CITY CARRIER GRADE 2

Step	Salary as of 11/20/06	11/25/06 1.4% Inc	11/24/07 1.8% Inc	11/22/08 1.9% Inc	11/21/09 1.9%Inc	11/21/10 1.85%Inc	Total Increase
A	\$39,758	\$557	\$716	\$755	\$755	\$736	\$3,519
B	\$43,426	\$608	\$782	\$825	\$825	\$803	\$3,843
C	\$43,510	\$609	\$783	\$827	\$827	\$805	\$3,851
D	\$46,134	\$646	\$830	\$877	\$877	\$853	\$4,083
E	\$46,515	\$651	\$837	\$884	\$884	\$861	\$4,117
F	\$46,898	\$657	\$844	\$891	\$891	\$868	\$4,151
G	\$47,275	\$662	\$851	\$898	\$898	\$875	\$4,184
H	\$47,654	\$667	\$858	\$905	\$905	\$882	\$4,217
I	\$48,037	\$673	\$865	\$913	\$913	\$889	\$4,253
J	\$48,408	\$678	\$871	\$920	\$920	\$896	\$4,285
K	\$48,792	\$683	\$878	\$927	\$927	\$903	\$4,318
L	\$49,174	\$688	\$885	\$934	\$934	\$910	\$4,351
M	\$49,550	\$694	\$892	\$941	\$941	\$917	\$4,385
N	\$49,939	\$699	\$899	\$949	\$949	\$924	\$4,420
O	\$50,317	\$704	\$906	\$956	\$956	\$931	\$4,453

A Great Day at the Picnic



Branch 1439 and both the Ontario and Rancho Cucamonga Post Offices sponsored a picnic last month at Red Hill Park in Rancho, and it was a huge success, with over 300 employees and their families



attending. There was plenty of food and drink, lots of games and activities for both adults and children, and a plethora of prizes given away. We would like to thank all that attended, everyone that volunteered, and a special thank you to branch members Sue Silva and Carlos Jauregui, whose tireless efforts insured that this event was enjoyed by all. ♦

Bunches of Last Punches



The Spring and Summer of 2007 marks the start of the retirement of the “baby boomer” generation of letter carriers from our offices. (LEFT) Leonard Sampson, surrounded by a bevy of well-wishers, enjoys his last day at the Rancho post office. (BELOW) Raul Valverde, long-time ISS man in Ontario, receives a NALC retirement watch from Branch President



Robert Ortiz. (BOTTOM LEFT) Joe Janecek, veteran Ontario carrier and long-suffering LA Kings fan, receives a watch from Robert Ortiz. Other retirees unfortunately not pictured include Gloria Mata, Lydia Prosser, Flora Sanders and Bob McLaughlin. We wish all of these good brothers and sisters the best in whatever they choose to do. You have earned your retirement, now enjoy it!

“DOIS is an estimate indicator, not an under time activator.”

Continued from Page 3

been agreed upon. This task force will explore new ways to adjust routes. I personally look forward to a new process. Much more information will follow as the task force works through issues.

Another MOU deals with the third bundle issue for sequenced mail. There are now guidelines on the casing of sequenced mailings. Don't get too excited, not much changed. On driving routes nothing at all changed. You can take

100 bundles if they want you to. For park and loop routes there are now guidelines but I think they fall short of any change. A task force will meet to explore the restrictions. I honestly can't make heads or tails out of them at this point.

DOIS: I like this one. Everyone should read this in your contract book on pages 133-134. Basically DOIS is an estimate indicator, not an under time activator. Remember these are agreed upon

decisions so when management comes to your case and says you have under time fire back with the language in this MOU.

The last contract issue I will address in this article is the Memorandum on Bereavement Leave. Basically, city letter carriers may use a total of up to three workdays of annual leave, sick leave, or LWOP to make arrangements necessitated by the death of a family member or attend the funeral of a family member. Family members are also defined in this MOU. I am optimistic this MOU will take the fight out of this issue.

On September 17 our branch is hosting a Rap Session on the new contract and related issues. I'm sure everyone has a question or thought about the contract, and this is the place to ask it. Everyone is invited; we have also invited surrounding branches to attend. Guest speakers will include Region 1 Business Agent Manny Peralta and California State Association President John Beaumont. Come join us, the location is the same as our monthly union meetings; the session will run from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Solidarity.

Robert Ortiz ♦



Rancho Cucamonga carrier and former Branch 1439 Vice President Dennis Kersee (Right) receives his Million Mile Driving Jacket and certificate from Rancho Postmaster Roy Pardon.

Election Notice

NALC Branch 1439 Ontario — Rancho Cucamonga, California

In accordance with the provisions of Article 5, Section 4 of NALC's National Constitution, this serves as official notice of the election of officers for NALC Branch 1439 for the 2008-2009 term.

Nominations for the election of officers of Branch 1439 will be held at the regular Branch meeting on **November 13, 2007** at 7:00 p.m. at the Rancho Cucamonga Senior Center, 11200 Baseline Road, in Rancho Cucamonga.

Candidates must accept nominations at the time made or, if absent, in writing. Nominations may also be made in writing, with the nomination to be received by the Secretary no later than 3:00 p.m. on **November 17, 2007**.

Nominations will be held for the following Branch offices; President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Alta Loma Steward, Cucamonga Steward, Ontario Main Office Stewards (2), Ontario Downtown Station Steward, Ontario Plaza Station Steward, Board of Trustees (3), and alternate delegates for the National Convention (4). The term of office will be two (2) years, beginning **January 8, 2008**.

Those holding the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall also be delegates to any State or National Convention. The State Convention will be held in April, 2008 at Los Angeles, CA. The National Convention will be held in July, 2008 at Boston, MA.

All regular members shall be eligible to hold any office or position in the Branch, except that a member who accepts a supervisory position in the Postal Career service for any period of time, whether one (1) day or fraction thereof, either detailed, acting, probationary, or permanently, shall immediately vacate any office held, and shall be ineligible to run for any office or position for a period of two years after termination of such supervisory status.

Upon nomination, the candidate must certify that he or she has not served in a supervisory capacity for the 24 months prior to the nomination.

The election will be conducted by secret mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to the home addresses of eligible members no later than **November 22, 2007**. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee at the designated P.O. Box and received by 5:00 p.m. on **December 11, 2007**. At this time the Election Committee will collect the ballots, bring them to the site of the regular Branch meeting and begin the tally.

Write in votes will not be counted.

Mark Lesch, Secretary

NALC Branch 1439