



REGION 5 NBA REPORT



April 2013

National Business Agent's Report

NALC Region 5

We have just finished the 2013 Regional Rap Session in Kansas City, Missouri. Without a doubt, this was the most attended Rap this Region has had. With President Rolando in attendance and with our theme of organizing the membership, it was a tremendous success and one that opened the eyes of everyone in attendance; I want to personally thank Fred for taking time out of his busy schedule. In order to prosper and grow the last mile advantage we have, we must convince the approximate 32,000 new CCA's who will be our future leaders of the NALC to join us in the fight to survive. We need their help in maintaining (6) day delivery and convincing Congress to do the right thing with the pre-funding issue that burdens the NALC and USPS. Our existence depends on what we do in the immediate future. We cannot sit idle and fail to act. To do nothing is to fail.

Putting on an event as the Rap Session requires numerous individuals who are always there and they volunteer without being asked. True friends are not found, they are always just there to do whatever is needed to make the event a success, which it was. I would be remiss if I did not mention those who freely gave up their time and energy. David and Jan Davis, Rod Holub, Kevin Boyer, Kevin Holmes, Anthony Mitchell, Dave Stewart, Gale Wade, Bill Hezel and Mark Godbee, Gary & Anita Franklin, Pat Flora, Chuck Walls, Jeremy Liebsack, Charlie Sexton, Tom Bolen, David Teegarden and Branch 30, Karen Tompkins, Ed Gorman, Mike Jarrett, Gerard Henke, Larissa Parde, Darrell Smith and the MDA staff, Michelle Jellison and Meredith Place our Regional Field Coordinator from Washington DC, the Hotel Staff of Kristen, Tabatha and Haley. The Regional RAA's, Mark Sims and Mike Birkett deserve special recognition for all of their hard work and patience with me during this extremely difficult time. I also appreciate someone very close to me, Ms. Silvia for assisting with everything we needed help on.

Organizing By the time you are reading this you will notice a number of new Letter Carriers in the workplace—the City Carrier Assistants (CCA). These new CCAs are your workmates, your brothers and sisters and they must become NALC members for it to truly be the case. President Rolando spoke recently at the Rap Session and eloquently voiced the need to recruit the CCAs into our NALC family. I couldn't have said it better but believe it just as strongly—we must recruit and organize every single CCA to join

NALC. The recent Das Award which is our new Contract will eliminate the current PTF position within the next four years. Remember, we all started our careers as PTFs. The CCAs are now going to be the equivalent of the PTF positions we've known for our careers and will eventually become the future leaders of the NALC and the future of the Postal Service as they migrate to Full-Time Career Letter Carriers—if we recruit them to the ranks of NALC membership.

It is more than vital we sign up each and every CCA. As current letter carriers we are moving increasingly closer to retirement and the CCAs will be taking our places. Can you imagine a postal service without the NALC? Can you imagine a weakened NALC and how it would negatively affect the profession we have worked so hard to create? Can you imagine a workplace without the protection and benefits a strong Union provides? How about; no *just cause* for discipline, no seniority, no right to file a grievance, less annual and sick leave...just some of the things we all take for granted.

You might say, *so what, I won't be there why should I care?* Let me be clear, your benefits and privileges as a retiree come from the negotiating power of NALC and the contributions of the employees who come behind us—in this case, the CCAs. You have a very vested interest in the continued health of the Postal Service and the NALC. So, keep in mind, the new CCAs need to be welcomed into our family. You need to take the time to show them the ropes and let them know they are valuable partners as we strive to integrate them into the workplace and NALC membership. Take the time to introduce yourself and invite and encourage the CCAs in your office to join with you. Make sure you reinforce the benefits of a strong Union and the need for their membership to advance their own careers—remember the NALC is responsible for the good pay and benefits you and your family enjoy.

I want to thank all of you who attended the 2013 Region 05 Rap Session in Kansas City, Missouri. You are the ones that made it a success.

This office sends out our hopes and prayers to Joni Clark of Branch 645, Ft. Dodge, Iowa on her medical situation.

Joni, we are thinking of you.

Dan Pittman
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