

# LETTER CARRIER

*Published by the  
Washington State Association of Letter Carriers*

VOLUME XXXIV

July 2017

NUMBER 3

*Let's talk about a little R & R:*

## REPEATED RESISTANCE

*President Brian Wiggins*

**A**n organizations' history is one of its greatest tools. Knowing what your activism is built upon and knowing why you are there is merely half of a special puzzle. One of many pieces to scrutinize is objective; where should we be focusing our attention and how do we get from the present to the future. Doing the homework will make certain that very few will invest time on issues that may be counterproductive to the groups' overall goal. *Resist and repeat*, our history is full of examples of our current state of the union. When I started paying attention to our politics the climate was not much different, that was the early 1990's. The only difference is it is now 2017.

There is no one party affiliation that wants to "Turn out the lights" on union activity. It's those that see us as a path to riches. Break the union and the path is clear to privatize a multi-trillion-dollar company. We are in the open ocean; the sharks are circling for their piece of the meal. *Resist and our history repeats*, fail to resist and a new chapter begins. Legislation is our lifeline AND our anchor. Depending on what the nation's view of a union's worth is determines how much we may have to resist in any given year. Labor friends in congress watch what we do and listen to the issues. When we decide that enough is enough, an organized "push back" is healthy and can be crucial to our existence, which spans from work to home life.

By the time this is published, we should know the outcome of our proposed national contract. In preparing at the national level I am sure our history played a key role in our course of action before talks began. Soon it will be our turn to do that same important work at the Local or LMOU level. Now is the time to be doing our homework. Resist and listen to what our people want.

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## JOHN SWEENEY SELECTED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

*OSA Committee Chair Robert James*

Retired Seattle Branch 79 member John Sweeney was our selection by the OSA Committee to receive this year's award at the WSALC State Convention. John is what I would call a quiet leader and a dedicated and capable NALC Activist. His qualifications for this award are numerous. John has always shown a concern to help fellow Letter Carrier's in his long career as a carrier.

John cares about people. That is one reason he has done retirement seminars for his Branch for a number of years. Giving accurate and good advice on one of the most impor-

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*John Sweeney accepts the Outstanding Service Award at the Convention banquet as OSA Committee Chair Bob James looks on.*

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## Outstanding Service Award from Page 1

tant decisions, retirement, a Letter Carrier and their family can make is one example of this. John also initiated and maintains the Branch 79 Scholarship Fund. His foresight in this endeavor has allowed Branch 79 member dependents to achieve their dream of college.

As his nominating letter stated, John is a good and kind man. A person who possesses a strong ethical compass. He is a devoted family person and has two sons.

These good traits have worked well for John and the NALC and others have benefitted from John's devotion to Letter Carriers. An example of his abilities is that John has been a spokesperson for his Branch in Local Negotiations. In a large Branch such as Seattle, this is a very large responsibility and shows the confidence that his Branch leadership had in him.

John, for many years, has presented to members of Congress our viewpoints on legislation that concerns Letter Carriers. Over the years this has meant an ability to present and convince Congress that our viewpoints on legislation that affects Letter Carriers and the USPS are correct and should be adopted.

His specialty is in finance. He served in various capacities in Branch 79 and probably the most important being chief financial officer. When you have a large Branch that has various revenues; membership dues, owns a building, has renters and the like, you need someone with the abilities to keep Branch funds safe and secure.

John has served on the Board of Directors for the Community 1st Credit Union. Its previous name was the Seattle Postal Employees Credit Union. John has brought his financial expertise and good judgment to help that institution thrive and help carriers with various types of financial instruments at a reasonable cost.

John has trained on behalf of the National Business Agent the responsibilities and duties of Branch finances. He has served as his Branch Director of Life Insurance and is the current Branch Director of Retirees.

John has always been useful to others. Served honorably in any task or capacity he has been called upon to work on or complete. Compassionate to other people. He has made a wholesome difference and impressive contribution to fellow Letter Carriers.

Photos this issue: Jack Hayes,  
Jo Ann Pyle, Brian Wiggins,  
Don Young, Teana Young

# IN SUPPORT OF OUR SISTER

Kerry Harris, Branch 3877  
Editor Brooks Bennett

**D**ebbie Munden has always been a strong union sister. Starting in Pasco, WA many years ago, she was vice president of "our" branch. She had a small boy, Tanner. A cute tow-headed boy. Debbie and her partner John Dewall packed Tanner up and headed to Puyallup, to be closer to the Seahawks, of all the lame reasons! Debbie has served as president of her branch there most years but always active. She served on the executive board of our state association for several years and was selected for the Outstanding Service Award by her peers in 2008.

Debbie has been a great friend to us all and we were all shaken by the death of Tanner, dad of three, by a negligent driver. Debbie and John have taken over the care of his two young sons. She is an inspiration to us all. Myself and many others "love her muchly."

I put together a raffle with a lot of help from Pasco carrier Kimmy Sundberg. Donations came from non-postal people, a retired manager who is our friend and many carriers. We had gift baskets with all sorts of neat stuff. My son donated a BBQ in memory of his friend Tanner. Basically it was so everyone could have a way to show support for Debbie. We were fortunate enough to raise \$1600 through the participation of people at convention. Thank you to everyone involved for your support of our sister.

We received a card from Sister Munden. Inside it says:

*To the Delegates of WSALC,*

*Thank you so much for your generosity. I am so grateful to have such great Union Brothers and Sisters. The generous gifts from each one of you touches my heart.*

*Special thanks to Kerry Harris for organizing the raffle. Thank you to everyone who donated items to the raffle. And most of all thank you all for thinking of us and supporting us at this terrible tragic time. We love you all. I can't wait to see everyone and tell you in person that I love and appreciate all you have done for us.*

*Love John, Debbie, Tyler and Ethan*

Tanner Munden passed away March 13, 2017. He was 38.

# WSALC 2017 Convention Minutes

## Pasco Red Lion Hotel

*Secretary/Treasurer Maleah Smitham*

Washington State Association of Letter Carriers convened at 9:08 am on Friday May 19, 2017, in Pasco Washington. The colors were posted by Richard Bussa (retired) and James Watkins Br 130 Letter Carriers and retired Air Force members. This was followed by the National Anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Bob Williams of Br 1528 Pasco. There was a prayer led by retired Mail Handler and Pastor Dave Hoff of Pasco. Welcome speeches by Mayor Matt Watkins, Kim Shugart, senior vice presided of Tri-Cities Convention and Visitors Bureau, and manger of Red Lion Hotel Pasco, Ron Anderson. Convention Announcements: The Retiree/Auxiliary Luncheon at Bin 20 and poolside lunch on Friday, Saturday poolside lunch with a steel drum band for entertainment. Please remember to get your list of deceased members turned in for the memorial service. Welcome our special guests: National Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Judy Willoughby; National Business Agent Paul Price; Regional Administrative Assistants Debbie Dixon and Nick Vafiades; National Auxiliary President Cynthia Lang, National Auxiliary Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Linda Davis; National Director of Education Jamie Lumm; Oregon State President Ricky Horton; Washington State Auxiliary President Rick Baird; Seattle EAP Representative Wendy Averett; Community 1<sup>st</sup> Representative Bobbie Skosky and Andi Pestana and Legislative Political Organizer/South Dakota State President Brent Fjerestad. Pasco Br 1528 President Mele Ball welcomed the delegates on behalf of the branch. Jo Ann Pyle, Br 79 Seattle thanked Branch 1528 for the wine tour and offered to share group picture.

Kerry Harris of Br 3877 Richland raffling items to support Sister Debbie Munden, an active member and officer since 1977 during this difficult time in her life. MDA raffles are Br 442 Quilt made by Mrs. Henry Willis and Br 130 a 55" TV. Washington State Association rented sumo suits for some poolside fun wrestling for MDA. Rick Baird President State Auxiliary spoke of Auxiliary raffling 2 items a sports activity box and blanket. President Wiggins brought the association into business session. National Business Agent Paul Price presented Bronze Certificates of Appreciation for MDA to Tacoma Br 130, Snohomish Washington Br 791, Br 79 Seattle; Kitsap Peninsula Br 1414, Spokane Br 442, Anacortes Br 1527, Clark V Savage Br 351 Olympia, Puyallup/Sumner Merged Br 1484, Br 1104 Vancouver. President Wiggins took a moment to release the Auxiliary to conduct their business. Dan Fowler Br 130 made a motion to accept the late delegates to the convention floor, seconded by TJ Davis Br 852, and the motion passed. Late delegates were admitted into the convention. Paul Price continued with the Bronze

Certificates of Appreciation for MDA, to Richland Br 3877, Kent Br 2038, Yakima Br 852, North Sound Br 450, Longview Br 2214, and Pasco Br 1528. Congratulations to all the branches for their hard work in fundraising for such a great cause. Paul Price then spoke on the tentative contract that was agreed upon on May 12th, he spoke of the build-up to negotiations and how things went until we finally had a tentative contract. Sister Judy Willoughby, National Assistant Secretary Treasurer joined Paul on stage and spoke of the tentative agreement and most importantly of the National Rap session to share information on tentative contract update and details to be shared with our members at the branch level. Paul and Judy took questions from several members and answered the best they could, other questions are being taken back to President Rolando with intention to have answers at the National Rap. 11:00 am President Wiggins announced a break, return from break resulted in the following door prize winners, Chriss Daniels Br 79 BBQ tool, Sharon Short Br 1484 lantern, Gary Schleppebach Br 4573 scented

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*Wine tour participants, representing carriers in our favorite fashion!*

*Minutes from Page 6*

wax melter, Frances Smoone Br 2038 outdoor blanket, Jon Weinberg Br 1104 serving set, Bob McLean Br 79 director's chair.

Back in Session, Roll Call of officers, all officers were present.

11:16 nominations are open to for all elected positions – President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Director of Education, Director of Retirees, Editor, two Trustee Positions and Delegate at Large. Nominations will be closed at 3:00 pm; President Wiggins will make the announcement during classes this afternoon. Nominations Chair Teauna Young Br 130 announced that all members of the Nominations Committee, Ron Jilk Br 79 and Diana Engeseth Br 791 have nomination and acceptance forms. Minutes from 2016 convention were passed out, TJ Davis Br 852 moved to accept the minutes as printed, seconded by Kerry Harris Br 3877, motion passed.

Page 9 in the convention book, proposed standing rules. Steve Schultz Br 442 moved to accept proposed standing rules as printed, seconded by Kerry Harris Br 3877, motion passed. Page 10 in the convention book, committee appointments. President Wiggins announced the chair of each of the committees and had them stand. Bob Williams Br 1528 Credentials Committee Chair announced we had 127 Delegates, 9 State Officers, 3 National Officers, a and 4 guests signed into the convention.

The following changes to committees were made. Audit Committee, Nathan Martin Br 79 replaced Angie Shoemaker, Distribution/Tellers Dave Gehrman is not present and no replacement available. Rupert Paulson Br 351 no replacement on Memorial Service; MDA DeeAnn Johnstone Br 791 replaced Annette Buechler; Jo Ann Pyle Br 79 replaced Pat Deagen on Retirees Committee; Kevin Allen Br 852 replaced Paul Martinez on Escort/Greeting Committee, and Bill

Coberly on the Retirees Committee is not from Pasco Br 1528 but instead from North Sound Br 450 correction noted.

Trustees gave the first reading of the proposed by-laws, starting on page 73. Chair Tracy Cozad read Article 6, Section 1, by adding “director of media” and “all whom shall be elected on odd years” Article 6, section 1 will then read: The elective Officers of the Associational shall be President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, Director of Education, Editor Washington State Letter Carrier, Director of Retired Members, who shall be a retired member, Director of Media, all of whom shall be elected on odd years and the executive board of five (5), two (2) of whom shall be elected on odd ears and three (3) of whom shall be elected on even hears. These officers shall be elected biennially and hold office for two years or until their successors are duly elected and installed. Presented by the Washington State Association of Letter Carrier's Executive Council Assembled at a regular meeting on January 29, 2017 in SeaTac, Washington. Committee recommendation was for approval. Page 74, Article 8, By adding Section 10 and re-numbering sequential sections, Section 10 will ten read: Director of Media; Section 10: The Director of Media shall maintain and update the State website and all other electronic media approved by a majority of the Executive Council. The Director of Media shall receive twelve (12) hours pay per quarter, the hourly rate to be determined on July 1 of each year at the City Carrier Grade One (1) step O pay. Presented by the Washington State Association of Letter Carrier's Executive Council assembled at a regular meeting on January 29, 2017 in SeaTac Washington. Committee recommendation of approval was read by Tammy Gatlin.

Tracy Pardick read page 75 Article 8, Section 3: By adding as paragraph 5, The Secretary/Treasurer, at the begin-

ning of each fiscal year, July 1<sup>st</sup>, shall report to the National Association the amount of dues per pay period to be allocated to the state association in a fixed dollar amount. Presented by the Washington State Association of Letter Carrier's Executive Council assembled at a regular meeting on January 29, 2017 in SeaTac Washington, committee recommendation of approval. Page 76, Change Article 9 section 11, Article 9 Section 11 now reads: Webmaster. When approved by a majority of the Executive Council, the President shall appoint a member of the Washington State Association of Letter Carriers or the Washington State Auxiliary to serve as Webmaster. The Webmaster shall maintain/update the WSALC Website. The Webmaster shall receive 12 hours pay per quarter, the hourly rate to be determined on July 1 of each year at the City Carrier Grade 1, Step O pay. Change by deleting Article 9 Section 11 and re-numbering sequential sections. Presented by the Washington State Association of Letter Carrier's Executive Council Assembled at a regular meeting on January 29, 2017 in SeaTac Washington, Committee recommendation of approval was read by Chriss Daniels. Door prizes will be drawn and then lunch. Dan Fowler Br 130 Tacoma has extra banquet ticket. Bob James Chair of the Outstanding Service award, please submit nominations until noon tomorrow. Letters can be hand written and Bob gave examples of what should be written about. Steve Schultz Br 442 asked to clarify the closing of nominations because it was written to close at 2:00 pm; it was changed to 3:00 pm due to the Tentative Agreement update given by Paul Price and Judy Willoughby. Chris Larson Br 79, mentioned that the Credentials Committee noted that we only had 9 state officers sign in, but 11 state officers were present, she just wanted to make sure that the State Officers double checked where they had signed

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*Minutes from Page 5*

in because it's happened before where we have signed in the wrong location. Holly Curatolo Br 1104 Vancouver has an extra lunch ticket for today and tomorrow. BJ Hansen Br 79 presented \$2000 for Washington State Scholarship fund. Six more door prizes were given: Shelly Chatnick Br 130 baskets, Douglas Martindale Br 1414 set of glasses, Bob Williams Br 1528 mortar/pestle set, Jacob Burrill Br 1104 on the go cups, Jacob Kestner Br 3877 floaties, DeAntha Franklin Br 791 stone-ware mugs.

President Wiggins reminded everyone of the closing of nominations at 3:00 and the list of nominated individuals will be posted in the back. Steering committees can post schedules at the back so nominees can sign up. Maleah Smitham Br 130 read a thank you card from Sister Debbie Munden Br 1484 for the cards, kind words and thoughts and prayers during the tragic time in the loss of her son. Dan Fowler Br 130 Tacoma asked for the training sessions for this afternoon. Nick Vafiades Br 2214 announced that there were no nominations for the Robert Morley Award. Mele Ball Br 1528, Family Feud games will start around 7:00, there will be a no-host bar in the room, you will have time to attend steering committees and get some dinner. Austin Cooper Br 79 reminded everyone that lists of deceased members need to be submitted to either Maleah Smitham or himself. Eric Pardick Br 442 announced that small branch steering committee would be in room 2111. Marcy Sturgeon Br 852 Yakima presented \$450 to Washington State Association Scholarship. Dan Fowler Br 130 presented \$1300 to Washington State Association Scholarship Fund. Sharlene Bowes Br 1350 presented \$500 for Washington State Association Scholarship Fund. Nancy Seffernick Br 130 heard cell phone and reminded the body that standing rules state \$10 donation to LCPF if your cell phone rings.



*A wonderful local high school Mariachi band played for us at lunch on Friday.*

Sharee Eschenbacher, Director of Education thanked the State Trainers Brian Wiggins Br 79, Ray Johnson Br 2038, Brooks Bennett Br 79, Chriss Daniels Br 79, Mats Julin Br 79, Tracy Cozad Br 2214, Camille Knutsen Br 450. She thanked Jo Ann Pyle for all her work in the past as an activist and trainer. Thank you to Mike Meredith for all his assistance in the training on safety. Thank you to Paul Price, Debbie & Nick for all your assistance in our training. Upcoming training was announced, Sept 10 – 14 Activist Centered Training in Gold Bar, Regional Rap in Sun River Nov 5 to 10, Basic Steward College Feb 11 – 15 at Gold Bar, March 16 – 18 Statewide Training, Regional Year 4 April 8 – 12. Thirty-two students attended the Basic Shop Steward College in February this year; those in attendance were presented certificates. Afternoon training will be Mike Meredith – Repetitive Motion in one room and Nick Vafiades – Management PET program at 1:45, then at 3:00 pm will be Sharlene Bowes – Stay Active In Life (SAIL) and Judy Willoughby – Secretary/Treasurer Training. BJ Hansen Br 79 all delegates 15 minutes after training will caucus in Room 1303 this is also their hospitality room and will be open after Family Feud. Also, Tracy Holsworth from Kirkland installation attended the National CCA Training; she is headed home and is excited about the training she received. John Sweeney Br 79 asked if there would be any sessions after the training, reminded nominees that Steering committee times would be posted at

the back of the room, don't forget to sign up.

Brent Fjerstad, Legislative Political Organizer and South Dakota State Chair spoke on how awesome it was to be invited to our Convention and the Change of our legislative committee. 217 Republicans and 193 Democrats in the House on 2 year terms but basically only govern for about 18 months and in the Senate 52 Republicans and 46 Democrats and 2 independents that caucus with the Democrats. We are currently under a one-party government. Supporting our legislative body that supports the Postal Service is important, 35 cents a day will help save our job; giving to the political fund is very important. Finally, he spoke of downloading the NALC App on your phone or tablet and how it will help keep us informed on the legislative front. It was just awesome. John Beaumont is the Legislative Political Organizer assigned to our area and if you need more information he can be contacted at 415-297-9527.

Sharee Eschenbacher wanted to take a moment to thank Jamie Lumm for all he did and continues to do in the education process. Sharlene Bowes Br 1350 gave a brief description of where the Auxiliary and Retiree Lunch would be.

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*Sumo suits in the hot sun for MDA; Chriss Daniels vs Heather Pardick. Go girls!*

**Minutes from Page 6**

1218 President Wiggins declared session recessed until tomorrow morning. After lunch there will be classes as noted earlier.

**Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Session began with singing of the National Anthem by Libby. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Becky Elzinga of Br 1528 and prayer was led by Father Tuckerman.

Eric Pardick Br 442 we have a plan for Sumo Wrestling after session at the pool, grudge match teams, branch-sponsored wrestlers, get some teams and raise some money for MDA.

Kerry Harris Br 3877, still selling tickets for Debbie Munden.

Nominations Committee Report – Ron Jilk Br 79: President - Brian Wiggins, Vice President - Ray Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer - Maleah Smitham, Director of Education – Sharee Eschenbacher and Tracy Cozad, Editor – Brooks Bennett. Then Teauna Young Br 130 announced the remaining nominations, Director of Retired Members– Sharlene Bowes, Executive Board – Floyd David Dugan, Chriss Daniels, Buddy Matthias, Delegate At Large – DeeAnn Johnstone, Lori Baldwin and Convention City 2021 Snohomish County Br 791. Nominations Committee report accepted.

Ballots are printed and ready to distribute, send your Branch President or designee to the table in the rear of the meeting room to pick up your ballots. Janice Bauer Br 130 Chair of the Elections committee will be in the meeting room at 8:00 am on Sunday to accept the ballots until 9:00 am; the elections committee will be counting ballots during the memorial service.

Credential Committee Report by Bob Williams Br 1528 as of this morning 128 Delegates, 11 State Officers, 5 National Officers, and 6 Guests. Accepted the report of the Credential Committee.

Jamie Lumm Br 2038 based on the report of the nominations commit-

tee, made a motion to declare all those who ran unopposed be declared elected by acclamation. Seconded by Dan Fowler Br 130, motion passed. By-Law Page 73 was read 2<sup>nd</sup> time with Committee recommendation of approval. Jo Ann Pyle Br 79 began the discussion to correct the grammar/punctuation errors noted, Motion to accept amendment by Jo Ann Pyle Br 79, Second by Dan Fowler Br 130, amendments passed. Jo Ann Pyle Br 79 motion to accept By-Law as amended, seconded by Kerry Harris Br 3877. By-law passed.

By-Law Page 74 Amend for capitalization and punctuation again noted from the committee. With these amendments, Committee recommendation was for approval. Motion to accept amendments to by-laws by Jo Ann Pyle, seconded by Kerry Harris Br 3877, passed. Discussion from Jon Weinberg Br 1104, concern on level and type of media to be used and if the amount of time/pay was sufficient. Dan Fowler Br 130, asked if pay in the budget or would we need a new budget. Maleah Smitham Br 130, the money is in the budget because it would come from the Webmaster pay, which would be no longer. John Sweeney Br 79 asked if the contract is ratified and the Grade 1 goes away what will that do for the Director of Media pay? Tracy Cozad Br 2214 answered that if contract is ratified, all pay issues in the by-laws will have to be addressed next year. Emily Treese Br 130, clarified placement of this by-law, answered. Bob Granger Br 852 asked when this position would be elected. President Wiggins answered that if approved and Committee of Laws approves position would be appointed by President until elections in 2019. Proposed by-law passed. Nick Vafiades Br 2214 noted that on good authority punctuation and capitalization errors could be corrected without amending the current by-law on the floor, if it doesn't change the intent of the by-law.

By-law page 75 Committee recommendation of approval, passed.

By-law page 76 Committee recommendation of approval, passed.

10 minute break

Janice Bauer Br 130 Chair Elections Committee announced branches that had not picked up their ballots.

Tracy Cozad Br 2214 called for Audit and Mileage & Per Diem Committees to go and do their audits.

Bob James Br 791 Outstanding Service Award Committee along with Jack Hayes Br 79 and Rick Baird Br 130/Auxiliary, please get your nominations in to one of these individuals by noon today.

Bill Bauder Br 442 presented check \$500 to Washington State Scholarship Fund.

Sharee Eschenbacher Br 442 acknowledged Kevin Gotlieb as a State Trainer, she missed him yesterday and wanted to correct that.

Doug Martindale Br 1414 Kitsap Peninsula presented checks to NALC Auxiliary for \$50.00 and NALC Band for \$50.00.

Bob James Br 791 presented check to Washington State Scholarship Fund for \$1000.

Kevin Ernest Br 450 presented check to Washington State Scholarship Fund for \$100.

Gary Schleppenbach Br 4573 presented check to Washington State Scholarship Fund for \$500.

Door prizes: Chris Kelly Br 791 wind catcher, Rich Enright Br 442 Melamine dish set, Jack Hayes Br 79 LED lantern, Kevin Walley Br 1582 set of bowls.

Commendations and Resolutions Committee, started with the Resolu-

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*Doorprizes!*

*Minutes from Page 7*

tions.

Resolutions with Committee recommendation of disapproval – Longer Cardigan Sweaters, reason is ELM requirements basically don't allow for longer cardigan sweater; 5 Minute Lunch Leeway, reason is congestion at clock is specifically for line at clock and because we don't clock in an out for lunch; Dignity and Respect in the Workplace, reason due to Joint Process in the tentative Contract.

Committee recommendation of approval on MDD Communications opened for discussion – reasons for the Resolution is it stops the 'he said she said' issues with management, we have written record of what was said, no longer must speak to management, no more use of personal phones, no longer being pressured to do more with our personal cell phones. Reasons against – we don't have enough scanners, allows management to use written against us, use of texting wears on battery and battery doesn't last full day as is. Recommended that we strike the "extreme" and possibly make it a friendlier resolution. Maker accepted recommendation to remove "extreme" from be it resolved line.

Question called for by Mele Ball Br 1528, vote was close, on standing vote Aye's had it. Voting on committee recommendation of approval, convention body agreed.

Returned to Committee recommendation of disapproved resolutions, tabled until maker of motion could get printed amendments to the body.

Committee recommendation of disapproval on 5-minute Leeway for Lunch, discussion against the committee recommendation we aren't asking for more than we have just expanding the language; for the committee recommendation, you have a 30-minute lunch bring your lunch if needed, driving to and from lunch must be on the clock. Art Car Br 4573 called for question, passed. Convention body agreed with Committee disapproval.

Committee recommendation of disapproval for Dignity and Respect in the Workplace discussion against the committee recommendation this motion passed Branch on March 9 prior to tentative contract. For the committee recommendation although agree with the intent, this has been addressed even if we have no contract, this resolution gives no avenue for correction of issue. Rick Enright Br 442 called for question, passed. Convention body agreed with committee disapproval. Washington State Food Drive Coordinator Chris Kelly thanks to all the branches for signing up and participating in the 25<sup>th</sup> annual NALC Food Drive. She would like to be emailed to ChrisD.Kelly@frontier.net your branch food drive numbers as she is writing article for national/state publications.

Commendations were read. Patty Murray's was read with committee recommendation for approval, convention body approved.

Mele Ball Br 1528 moved to read the so be it resolved for those not present on commendations, seconded by Bob Grange Br 852, motion passed.

Dan Fowler Br 130 moved to approve committee recommendations of approval for those not present, JoAnn Pyle Br 79 seconded, motion passed.

A short break from business to welcome the Harada family, Danielle introduced her father Michael and mother Linda. Their family has been involved with MDA since her diagnosis at the age of 3. She also spoke of the wonderful things our fundraising does to assist in the research of Muscular Dystrophy and how the WA State money stays in the area. She got a chance to show us a preview of the artwork she had prepared for the anticipated MDA Art Auction at the banquet tonight and thanked us for the continued invitation.

TJ Davis Br 852 thanked Danielle for the painting she did that was raffled off at National Convention Last year. Brooks Bennett won that raffle. And



*BramBata steel drum band entertained us at lunch poolside on Saturday. Tropical!*

the national staff would like to see something at each convention.

BJ Hansen Br 79 requested to lift the Cardigan Sweater motion from the table, seconded by Dan Fowler, approved.

Revised new language was passed out and committee got to review the changes by the maker, and continue to recommend disapproval. Discussion against the committee recommendation, not all sweaters need to be longer just an offering to those taller/larger individuals, several agreed we should overturn the recommendation of disapproval. For the committee recommendation, instead of longer sweaters let's focus on USA made sweaters instead. Vote to accept the committee recommendation two votes taken too close.

Art Carr Br 4573 called for teller vote, seconded by Shelly Chatnick Br 130. In favor of committee recommendation 62, against 56, committee recommendation of disapproval stands. Community 1<sup>st</sup> Credit Union representatives come in and presented winners of the Golf Tournament. 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team receiving \$50.00 per person: B. Elzinga, M. Mowery, Jr. Candelaria, D. Davis donated \$20.00 each back to MDA, 2<sup>nd</sup> place team for \$25.00 each to C. Edwards, E. Pardick, S. Shultz, W. Summer – donated winnings back to MDA. Longest Drive Men \$50 to V. Ortiz and, Women \$50.00 to Mary Martinez, all money donated to MDA. Closest to Pin winning Putters: Men - Steve Schultz, Women – Chris Larsen. Finally - \$819 raised for MDA the TV & X-Box raffle winner 502284 -

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Monte Waite.

Becky Elzinga Br 1528, golf tournament raised \$1300 to be donated to MDA.

Vince Corsi Br 351 presented \$250 to Washington State Scholarship Fund and \$250 to WA State Band.

Lunch until 1:30.

Return from Lunch Door Prizes went to Vince Corsi Br 351 tumblers, Richard Johnson Br 2038 serving set, Marcy Sturgeon Br 852 BBQ tools, Debbie Dixon Br 351 tumblers, and Brian Wiggins Br 79 directors chair. Mele Ball and Br 1528 distributed coloring books and colors for a contest to be judged by Danielle Harada, winner to be announced on Sunday morning. Seattle EAP Representative Wendy Averette gave short presentation on Stress, how to relax and how this affects our daily life.

Judy Willoughby, National Assistant Secretary Treasurer gave update on Tentative Contract, upcoming Rap, and updated on Legislative Postal Reform bills.

Paul Price took a few more minutes to give us a bit more updates on contract and Regional Rap session. Then he thanked everyone for all they do and for attending the Convention to handle the state business.

Break 335 to 345

Final round of door prizes went to James Watkins Br 130 candle, James DuBose Br 1484 blanket, Sam Brandt Br 1350 Tupperware, Holly Curatolo Br 1104 chair, Bob Granger Br 852 carafes.

Commendations were read for those present and copies were presented to the attendees at Convention. Paul Price, Nick Vafiades, Debbie Dixon, Jim Burk, Kevin Gotlieb, Mats Julin, Michael Keels, and Jo Ann Pyle. Scholarship Committee Report, 15 Applications received, many were missing essential parts. Committee recommended that 3 scholarships be drawn for and wanted to recommend that in the future the Grade Transcript



*Larry Hass (above) and Don Young (below) show Vancouver Br 1104 Food Drive donations.*



be a signed copy. Bob James Br 791 moved to accept the committee report, seconded by Dan Fowler Br 130, passed. Winners of the Scholarships are Emma Martin daughter of Amanda Martin Br 130, Justin Kwon son of Sung Kwon Br 130, and Rebecca Phillips daughter of David Phillips Br 1104.

James Watkins, Chair of the Mileage and Per Diem Committee reported expense for the Convention was as follows: Ray Johnson \$458.96, Brooks Bennett \$451.31, Brian Wiggins \$470.73, Sharee Eschenbacher \$378.18, Sharlene Bowes \$354.10, Tracy Pardick \$407.76, Tammy Gatlin \$228.00, Maleah Smitham \$490.15, Tracy Cozad \$514.76, Mike Poff \$366.03, Chriss Daniels \$228.00 total of \$4347.98. Everything added up correctly. Jo Ann Pyle moved to accept report, Al Floyd seconded, motion passed.

Robert Symonds chair of the Audit Committee reported the books were in order although they recommend that electronic transfers have some sort of verification added to the voucher, and

closer attention be paid by the treasurer as some vouchers were missing signatures and/or receipts. TJ Davis Br 852 made a motion to accept the Audit Committee report, Al Floyd Br 351 seconded, motion passed. Chris Kelly Br 791 State Food Drive Coordinator, please get her your station totals by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Debbie Dixon at the Regional Office and Pam Donato at the national level for all they do to help make the food drive successful.

Nick Vafiades Br 2214 reminded OSA recipients that OSA breakfast would be at 7:00 in Bin 20.

Brother Ricky Horton President Oregon State Association, thank you for the invite, congratulations to all those elected by acclamation and good luck to those running.

Two minutes allowed for each Candidate running for office to give a speech to the body.

Reminder notices were given on Silent Auction, Sumo Wrestling, Memorial Service Walkers line up by 8:30, raffle tickets still for sale for Br 130 TV and Br 442 Quilt

Kelly Boyd Br 450 presented check for \$100 to MDA.

Kerry Harris Br 3877 drawing for Debbie Munden raffle items, BJ Hansen, Nate Sturgeon winners. We raised \$1600 to be presented to Sister Munden.

Wendy Averett did the drawing for the hammock; won by BJ Hansen Br 79. 4:36 pm recessed until tomorrow. Memorial service is at 9 am.

### **Sunday May 21, 2017**

9:00 am we had a memorial service to remember those who have passed away since our last meeting. Thank you to Jack Hayes, Austin Cooper and Orville Arnold for a touching service. Break and back to session at 9:47. Brian Lindgren Br 130 thank you to all who have bought tickets for the various raffles, and the auction at the Banquet was outstanding. Washington

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*Minutes from Page 9*

State Deserves a big round of applause for all that is done on behalf of MDA. Kerry Harris Br 3877 – Thank you from Debbie Munden, she owes everyone a hug.

Tammy Gatlin Br 238 presented a check for \$500 donation to MDA. Chriss Daniels Br 79 reported on the proceeds for MDA from the festivities Saturday evening \$4425, Sumo Wrestling, 50/50 for end of banquet, and of course the lovely pictures from Danielle Harada.

Jim Reid Br 791 Golfing Pictures raised \$290 in donations to MDA.

President Wiggins took a moment to welcome Brandon Wilson Br 1528 and Jim Munns Br 852 as new CDLs for District 4 to be working with Rep. Newhouse. A new CDL for District 1 is Brad Robinson Branch 450. These three individuals and Garrett Scott Br 79 were new to the DC Lobby Trip and did an outstanding job on behalf of the Washington State Association. Host Branch Updates:

Walla Walla hosted by Frank P. McClenny Br 736, June 1 - 3, 2018, May 31 will be the Golf Tournament at Wine Valley Golf Course. Convention hotel will be Marcus Whitman Hotel and Conference Center 509-525-2200. Any issues with making reservations call Toby Swank 509-520-5782 or email at [tobyswank@windemere.com](mailto:tobyswank@windemere.com). He spoke of the hotel and plans for next year.

Yakima hosted by Br 852. Jim Munns gave the update, May 17 – 19, 2019 is the planned weekend at the Red Lion Hotel in Yakima. JO Shelton Tournament will be at Appletree Golf Course on May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Bellingham hosted by North Sound Br 450, dates will be May 14 – 17, 2020 update by Ron Lister, hotel has been narrowed down but not finalized, so many golf courses to choose from, but his has been narrowed down to 3 courses.

BJ Hansen Br 79 reported donations of \$77 for MDA from Branch Hospitality

Room.

Eric Pardick Br 442 Sumo Wrestling was a hit, \$223 raised from all the fun. Nancy Seffernick Br 130 and WA State Band, we had an enjoyable time in Pasco and visiting the retirement homes while performing.

Bob Williams Br 1528 On behalf of the Branch thanked everyone for coming. We would like to donate the Traveling Mailman to each convention.

John Weinberg Br 1104 had a question on the scholarship. He was informed that his daughter's application was not included due to unsigned letters of recommendation. He stated that nowhere in the by-laws does it say they must be signed. It was pointed out that the Scholarship is not part of the by-laws just included in the book. Because it is not specific that letters must be signed so therefore the committee decision cannot be considered final. Chris Larsen Br 79 moved to add the word 'signed' to the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet of the scholarship so it will read "2 Signed Letters of Recommendation" Brooks Bennett Br 79 seconded.

This brought on a lot of discussion; the scholarship belongs to the Body and therefore we have final decision. It was discussed about tweaking the rules, giving better definitions for future applicants, if we are going to have a level of scrutiny then it must be included in the application process, ensuring that the more defined "rules" are out to branch presidents so they have the information to share with their bodies, Endorsement insinuates a signature such as on a check. Electronic documents do not have actual signature, concern that applicants get reason for non-acceptance so they can correct if applying in the future. Official and copy of transcript are different and a decision needs to be made. We need to clarify and possibly add wording to make it so. Question as to why this is an issue because the commendation is not a reason for winning the scholarship as winners are drawn from "complete" applications.



*MDA ambassador Danielle Harada with one of her recent artworks acquired by Ric Wolf at the auction.*

Mele Ball Br 1528 called for question, Bill Bauder Br 442 seconded, passed. Motion to include the word signed into the 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet point, motion failed. Motion to redraw from the remaining applicants by Bob McLean Br 79. Seconded by Debbie Dixon Br 351, lead to even more discussion of who should be included in the re-draw. The question was called by Bob McLean Br 79 and seconded by Ron Church Br 442, motion failed, we continued discussion. Nick Vafiades Br 2214 called for the question, seconded by Jo Ann Pyle Br 79, motion failed. Mele Ball Br 1528 made a friendly amendment to all "All who did not receive scholarship" to the motion to redraw. Bob McLean accepted. Kerry Harris Br 3877 called for the question and seconded by Dan Fowler Br 130, question passed. Vote on the motion with friendly amendment to redraw from the remaining applicants who did not receive scholarship. Motion passed. Mele Ball Br 1528 announced the winners of the coloring contest as judged by Danielle Harada, 2<sup>nd</sup> place was Michelle Decker Br 791 won a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Stamp Out Hunger T-Shirt, 1<sup>st</sup> place was Debbie Dixon winner of electronic dart board. Break from 1130 to 1145 to allow

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*Minutes from Page 10*

delegates to check out of rooms. Holly Curatolo Br 1104 announced that Jay Burrill was not present during the remaining of the scholarship discussion due to a death in the family he had to leave.

Kerry Harris Br 3877 spoke of the request to speak clearly and slowly, shows we have a need for a recording secretary in the future, President Wiggins clarified that even though we had asked for assistant secretary we had no one willing to do the job.

BJ Hansen Br 79 spoke on behalf of Bob McLean who had a family member killed in an accident recently. The deceased person was sober but was not wearing a seatbelt; the driver was intoxicated only person to be killed was the sober non-seat belted person. Please keep in mind and remind your loved ones how important it is to wear your seatbelt and never get into a car with someone who has been drinking. Kerry Harris Br 3877 was hoping that speaking at the mic of the missing assistant secretary might help pull people from the woodwork.

Rick Baird State Auxiliary President spoke of the major fundraiser for the State Auxiliary, a Sports Fun Box and throw blanket. Tammy Gatlin Br 2038 won the Fun Box and Julie Flann won the throw blanket. The Branch 442 Quilt drawing was won by Jack Hayes Br 79. \$394 raised for MDA

Election Committee report was given:

Delegate At Large:  
DeeAnn Johnstone 159  
Lori Baldwin 463\*

Director of Education:  
Sharee Eschenbacher 341\*  
Tracy Cozad 283

Executive Board:  
Buddy Matthias 518\*  
Floyd David Dugan 416\*  
Chriss Daniels 156

Steve Schultz Br 442 moved to accept the Elections Committee report, Dan Fowler Br 130 seconded. Motion



*Famous folks at the convention.*

*From right: Bob Muntz, who we all hope to see next year, 60-year Auxiliary member Jean Bock, Frank Farnese and Teauana Young, all of Branch 130.*

passed.

Bob Williams Br 1528 Chair of Credentials Committee gave final report 128 delegates, 3 National Officers, 11 State Officers and 6 guests. Dan Fowler Br 130 moved to accept Credentials Report, seconded by Brooks Bennett Br 79, passed.

Another drawing was held including all applications that had only missing signatures and the ones not previously drawn, making a 4<sup>th</sup> recipient. Winner of the 4<sup>th</sup> scholarship was Shelby Kassman, daughter of Jeff Kassman Br 130.

Budget, Chris Warren Br 442 motion to accept 2017-2018 Budget as printed, Dan Fowler Br 130 seconded. Passed

Dan Fowler Br 130 wanted to clarify that the formula for figuring the dues is correct. Mark Myers Br 79, Maleah Smitham Secretary Treasurer WA State, and Ray Johnson Vice President WA State got together to go over numbers. If people have questions on how it was figured, feel free to contact one of them.

President Wiggins released all the committees except the standing committees. He reminded everyone that if you haven't been on a committee your day is coming and please, get out and run for offices that you would like to

hold.

Brian Lindgren Br 130, drawing for TV. Raffle tickets alone was over \$1500 including the hospitality room Br 130 raised \$1763 for MDA. Winner was Kevin Cregeen Br 2038. Officers for 2017-2019 were sworn in by Regional Administrative Assistant Debbie Dixon.

The 2017 Outstanding Service Award winner John Sweeney Br 79 was presented and addressed the body. He started with a golf joke but ended with reminding us that we should never let management speak down to us, as we are all outstanding.

Kerry Harris Br 3877 thank-you to Br 1528 for all the hard work and a great convention. Also thank you to Robby Scherr for all the help with the Munden baskets.

Dick Bussa Br 130 thanked the Scholarship Committee.

Dan Fowler Br 130 announced that Bob Muntz Br 130, Outstanding Service Awardee (from 1967) says that after 56 conventions this may be his last. With that Bob Muntz Br 130 moved that this convention be adjourned, sine die, till we meet again in 2018 in Walla Walla, WA, God bless you all. Seconded by Kerry Harris Br 3877. Convention adjourned 12:45 pm.

# WSALC Officers' Meeting Minutes

## Pasco Red Lion Hotel

Secretary/Treasurer Maleah Smitham

### Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Called to order by President Wiggins at 5:08 pm. Roll call of officers found all present. Previous meeting minutes were read and a motion to accept as printed in the newsletter was passed.

Officer Reports since the last meeting January 27 – 29, 2017:

**Brian Wiggins:** 2/12 – 2/13 Basic steward college. Gold Bar, WA; 2/26 – 3/3 Western states lobby trip. Washington, DC; 3/20 new hire orientation. Seattle P & D; 3/23 – 3/26 Statewide training. Wenatchee, WA; 4/4 new hire orientation. Seattle P& D; 4/20 – 4/22 Oregon state convention. Bend, OR; 4/30 attended Washington State Labor Council mural unveiling. Seattle, WA; 5/4 Meeting with Rep. Larsen District Two Community Liaison Courtney Webb; w/ B. James and R. Horner. Everett, WA; 5/13 NALC food drive. Mill Creek, WA

**Ray Johnson:** 2/26 lobby trip; 3/23-3/26 state wide training; 4/12 Covington town hall; March to present Carrier Academy.

**Brooks Bennett:** Produced February and April newsletters. Made political calls as encouraged by NALC, including to Rep Reichert's office. Brooks discussed differences between NALC and NARFE positions on HR 756 concerning effect on requirement for retirees to enroll in Medicare Part B. Taught at BSSC and SWT. Participated in career conversion classes. Worked on Food Drive for branch.

**Michael Poff:** In January on the 14<sup>th</sup> I was reinstated as the recording secretary for Branch 442. Also on the 17<sup>th</sup> I made an office visit to Pullman. On the 21<sup>st</sup> I went to Walla Walla for

the installation of their officers. On Feb 8, I went to Walla Walla for an office visit. Then on the 26<sup>th</sup> held the branch Bowl-a-thon. It was very rewarding to put together a great event to raise money for MDA. We raised a total of \$2000.00. April 12<sup>th</sup> did an office visit to Walla Walla on the 18<sup>th</sup> Sharee Eschenbacher, Steve Thrift and myself meet with MDA to discuss more ideas on raising money. MDA scheduled the meeting to thank us for what we do for them. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> I became an ad-hoc Driver Safety Instruction for the Seattle District. On the 13<sup>th</sup> was the food drive and early numbers have the branch over 105,000.

**Chris Daniels:** In Feb 2017 attended BSSC Monday night till Wednesday morning. Attended Statewide training and taught OWCP Class; helped on Food Drive Day at Renton Highlands.

**Tracy Cozad:** Since January's officer meeting: I helped teach at Basic Steward College and at State Wide Training and made office visits to Kelso and Vancouver and worked to have a successful Food Drive.

**Maleah Smitham:** I was busy working as President of Branch 130, and on the projects for State convention. I went to SeaTac to conduct a new hire in February. Participated in the Bowl-a-thon at Branch 130. Attended Statewide training and Branch 130 hosted Retirement Seminar given by Sharlene Bowes in March. Attended several meetings with Puyallup. Assisted with Food drive for the branch.

**Sharlene Bowes:** I have been busy taking phone calls from potential future retirees, on March 17<sup>th</sup> I con-

ducted a retirement class in Tacoma and on the 24<sup>th</sup> of March I taught class at Statewide Training.

**Sharee Eschenbacher:** I spent the last few months preparing for and attending steward colleges and Statewide Training. We had a huge turnout for Basic...32 students. It was awesome. The Region training was also well attended and we hosted two students from Alaska. Statewide training was fun and we have a lot of ideas for next year. I installed the Pasco branch officers in February and visited with the carriers in Richland the next morning. I attended the Spokane branch Bowl-a-thon February 26<sup>th</sup> and attended a meeting with our local MDA representatives to discuss future fundraising events.

**Tammy Gatlin:** 2-9-17 2038 Branch Meeting; 2-26-17 MDA Bowl-a-thon Branch 130; 3-9-17 2038 Branch Meeting; 3-23-17 to 3-26-17 Statewide Training; 3-6-17 Branch 2038 Meeting; 4-11-17 2038 Branch meeting; 4-11-17 shopping for Food Drive for Branch; 4-13-17 Food Drive; 5-17-17 to 5-21-17 State Convention.

**Tracy Pardick:** Did the Installation Dinner for January for Branch 442. Participated at Branch 442 Bowl-a-thon on Feb 26<sup>th</sup>. Statewide Training March 23 – 26, OJI for station. Made all steward and main meeting for Branch 442.

State Officers will be wearing their officer shirts on Saturday. Mileage and per diem needs to be completed tonight, or tomorrow morning, so the Audit Committee can accurately complete their audit.

**Unfinished business** – Brooks Bennett on the mailing list/newslet-

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**Officers Minutes from Page 12**  
 ter: We need to figure out how to get the mailing list and membership list straightened out. Because of the sensitive data and our rules, the Secretary/Treasurer must oversee this process. Discussion; with all of the duties currently assigned adding more seems a bit over burdening for the Secretary/Treasurer. There may be a possibility that we need more time from an assistant secretary.

Motion to raise from the table the discussion about the State Association paying part of the Secretary/Treasurer training that S/T Maleah Smitham attended. After much discussion on the quality of training and which funds would cover the training it was determined that the AWARE category is for training. Motion: To have the State Association cover \$675.00 for the training that she (Smitham) attended. Amount to be paid to Branch 130. M/C

**New business:**

**Convention:** Brian reviewed the meeting with the hotel department heads. Talked about our wants and needs, things seem to be in order. We have the following training set up: Nick Vafiades will be training on PET Program, Sharlene Bowes will be conducting S.A.I.L. (Stay Active In Life) training for retirees, Judy Willoughby will train on Secretary/Treasurer and Mike Meredith will train on Repetitive Motion Injury.

**Assigning committees:** President Wiggins assigned the following State Officers to assist the following committees during convention: Tracy Cozad – Audit and Mileage & Per Diem; Tracy Pardick – Sgt at Arms; Maleah Smitham – Memorial; Tammy Gatlin – LCPF; Chriss Daniels – Credentials; Mike Poff – Nominations & Elections; Sharlene Bowes – Scholarship; Sharee Eschenbacher – Distribution & Tellers; Ray Johnson – Resolutions; Brooks Bennett – OSA.

At 7:05 pm meeting was recessed until 8 am Thursday morning.

**Thursday, May 18, 2017**

The meeting was again called to order 8:00 am on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>, by President Brian Wiggins. All officers are present again.

Continuing new business:

**Legislative** – HR 28 and HR 31- we need to keep contacting our representatives to get signed on. Rep. Adam Smith still isn't signed on. President Wiggins spoke of the support that we currently have and the goals of getting something thru committee and possibly finalized. Let us focus on these two pieces of legislation for now when we are doing our visitations.

**E-activist** – We are turning our focus to the NALC App. Encourage members to activate the push notifications when they set up the program.

**Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF)** – Our other big push from our legislation dept. The LCPF Disclaimer was passed out to the officers. Discussion about why we need to cover this and ways to get more members contributing as LCPF members. We discussed having “stickers” on badges to help engage and encourage folks to have discussion about the importance of giving. This will be a purely voluntary thing, and Tammy Gatlin along with Brent Fjerestad will distribute the stickers while having conversations with our brothers and sisters, at a separate table from the registration.

During convention, there will be three new Congressional District Liaisons (CDLs) appointed. Brad Robinson, Br 450 North sound for District One, Brandon Wilson, Br 1528 Pasco and James Munns, Br 852 Yakima will work together in District Four. Garrett Scott, Branch 79 was appointed earlier in the year to replace BJ Hansen in District Seven. Let's make sure we welcome them and thank them for their work.

**Convention Host Branch update**  
 / Convention Chair Bobby Scherr - Wine tour will be using a 21 passenger van. Pick up in front of the hotel at 12 and drop off around 5 pm. J.O. Shelton Golf Tournament has 46 golfers. State Officers are sponsoring a hole, closest to the pin -Men's and Women's prizes will be awarded. MDA fundraisers will be at one hole. There are other sponsored holes with recognition signage at each hole. Opening ceremony - We have several speakers lined up, Mayor of Pasco, Chamber of Tourism and the Director of the Red Lion hotel. Family Feud is happening on Friday Evening, teams highly encouraged. Luncheon on Friday inside at Bin #20. Tables will be set up for over flow poolside. Local Mariachi band will be playing poolside. Saturday lunch will again be poolside for those who signed up. Saturday evening will be the banquet and the OSA award. Memorial Service- We will need final numbers for flowers to be purchased.

We are ready for convention to begin, hope everyone enjoys it.

**Regional Office Update - NBA**  
 Paul Price gave update on contract talks. He discussed possible issues and the ratification process. It should take about 60 days to have all of the information out. Talked about getting out and conducting LMOU training. Regional staff and select others will be in the field ensuring that branches get help as needed. CCAs should be added in all LMOUs and re-adding PTFs, as needed. More information will be shared during convention.

**Budget:** A few errors were noted in the proposed budget. We corrected the items and printed a new budget. Copies will be placed in the convention books. It was noted that the 3-year budget had to be corrected. The year stated on the reverse side was incorrect; no reprint will be done.

**By-laws** – There was discussion

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*Officers Minutes from Page 9* on the proposed Bylaws. Discussion about procedure; Day one we will have a reading of the bylaws as printed. On Day 2 would be the second reading of the bylaws as printed w/ committee recommendation. Following they will be open for discussion.

**Trustees report.** After going over the books the trustees found that we are missing some receipts. Proof of mileage driven must be submitted for verification with each request for mileage reimbursement. Receipts must be submitted as soon as possible for those that have and use State Association cards to conduct state business. Bills paid without receipts for card usage may be considered a loan. There was discussion on paying Steward College LWOP. Why did the DOE get paid LWOP in addition to salary hours? Why did some trainers get paid and others were not. All LWOP hours being requested should include proof of step/level of pay to ensure that carriers are being compensated correctly. Items missing will delay this process.

Meeting adjourned at 11:26 am.

## Sunday, May 21, 2017

President Wiggins called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm. All officers were present. The council welcomed our two new Executive Board Members Floyd David Dugan and Buddy Matthias both from Br 130 and Delegate-at-Large Lori Baldwin, Br 442.

President Wiggins started the meeting off with a welcome to the new officers and Delegate-at-Large. Lori asked for a brief overview of the duties for the Delegate-at-Large. Upon completion of discussion she was excused.

The Executive Board was excused to select their Chair. Upon their return to the meeting, it was announced that Tracy Cozad would remain as the Chair of the Executive Board.

President Wiggins described how our business is conducted for the newest Executive Board members. Discussion covered the following; all business is conducted at meetings and we follow an agenda; for a council member to get an item scheduled in the agenda they must submit it prior to the next meeting; all information outside of council meetings is handled via email. Please "reply to all" members of the Executive Council even if it does not pertain directly to them. When responding, "reply all."

Editor Brooks Bennett solicited articles from the newest Board members as a way for them to say thank you and hello to the members across the state. Articles should be submitted to the newsletter editor by the 4<sup>th</sup> of June. Publishing of the next newsletter is slated for the end of June.

President Wiggins stated that revised officer branch assignments would be completed in 2 weeks. Make visits to your assigned branch and keep them informed.

Motion: To donate \$250.00 to Branch 130 MDA to be used for Summer Camp Sponsor Day on June 29<sup>th</sup> in Gig Harbor. Motion passed.

MDA Liaison representing the State is needed. We have two volunteers. President Wiggins will make an appointment.

It was discussed that the State Auxiliary felt left out when the walk thru was completed at this years' convention. We have committed to ensure that the Auxiliary is kept in the loop for future meetings and keep the lines of communication open.

Motion: To send President Wiggins to the National Rap Session. Approved. No cost can be associated with the motion because location of the Rap session is currently unknown.

Motion: To send two individuals to the Washington State Labor Council Convention in Vancouver, WA July 18 – 20, 2017. Motion passed. Maleah



# HELLO!

*Executive Board Member  
Floyd David Dugan*

I would like to thank Branch 1528 for hosting the 2017 NALC State Convention in Pasco, WA. It was great to be with my Brothers and Sisters from Washington State. I would like to thank you all for your support and votes to allow me to serve on the Executive Board as a State Officer.

I currently serve as a Trustee for Tacoma Branch 130, as well a Trustee for the Pierce County Labor Council and Safety Captain for my station in Fife.

I am looking forward to my visits to various stations, developing great relationships and your ability to guide me to wherever the greatest need is.

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Smitham will attend as the Secretary/Treasurer and Tracy Cozad would attend as proxy for the President.

Date and time of next meeting was scheduled. Executive Board will meet on Friday, 20 October at 12:00 (noon). Executive Council meeting will start at 6:00 pm on Friday, 20 October and continue Saturday, 21 October 2017. (If a 3<sup>rd</sup> day is necessary we will continue into Sunday.)

Meeting adjourned at 1:52 pm.



*Letter carrier delegates attending the recent Washington State Labor Council Convention in Vancouver.*

*From left: Sharee Eschenbacher, Bill Bauder, Maleah Smitham, Mike Rapp, Tracy Cozad, Don Bennett, Rick Horner, Ric Wolf, Mark Myers, Garrett Scott, BJ Hansen, Brian Wiggins, Floyd David Dugan. Not pictured: Kevin Ernest.*

## *President Wiggins from Page 1*

I just returned from attending the Washington State Labor Council convention in Vancouver, WA. The theme of the event was something we all do “Resist and Persist. They persist, we resist,” until our message is heard and respected. The activists in our state are the definition of the labor council’s convention theme. All of our Legislative Liaisons are hungry for a good debate on the truth of what we do and why. Support them, ask questions about our work. They are important to keeping that Congressional representative informed, no state can be as effective without them. Persistence comes in many forms.

### **Legislation to watch:**

**House Resolution (H.R.) 1293** - would require that the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) submit an annual report to Congress that includes the total amount of official time (steward duty or other representational activities) granted to employees, the average amount of official time expended per bargaining unit employee, the specific types of activities or purposes for which official time was granted, the impact of granting official time had on agency operations, the total number of employees to whom official time was granted, the total amount of benefits and compensation for those granted official time, and a description of designated spaced used for official time activities.

**Senate Bill (S) 873 - Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Modernization Act of 2017** if enacted it would eliminate restrictions on age-based withdrawals. Allowing active federal employees older than 59-1/2 to make multiple age-based withdrawals while still working and for retirees to make multiple, partial post-separation withdrawals. It would also allow participants to stop quarterly or annual payments, permit periodic withdrawals to be changed at any point during the year and save the option to purchase an annuity while recovering monthly benefits.

*The content above is from our national website, [nalc.org](http://nalc.org) under the Legislative Affairs tab.*

## *DOE from Back Page*

bie Dixon is our other) shed light on management’s most recent data generating program. Performance Engagement Tool (PET) is “designed” to project the daily workload of letter carriers. NALC has put out a grievance guide to combat misuse of PET and I encourage all stewards to read it. I will ask that it be placed on our state website, WSALC.org. Our Business Agent, Paul Price, gave a contract ratification update. The National Rap is coming up and I’m quite interested to see all the memorandums that have been negotiated.

### **Important dates for calendars:**

Basic Shop Steward College  
September 10 - 14, 2017  
Regional Assembly

November 5 - 10, 2017

Basic Shop Steward College  
February 11 - 15, 2018

Statewide Training  
March 16 - 18, 2018

Regional Shop Steward College  
(Year 4, Arbitration Advocacy)  
April 8 - 12, 2018

Regrettably, we don’t have enough students registered for the Activist Centered Training (ACT) we intended for September. I’m currently contacting Branch presidents to find the level of interest is a basic shop steward college during that time. Registration will be through our website.

We held an election at the convention and I was re-elected to another two-year term. I thank the delegates for their trust in me and the program we hold so dear.



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## MDA from State Convention...

*Brian Lindgren, Branch 130*

**D**uring our Washington State Convention Branch 130 held our MDA Raffle. We raffled off a Samsung 55" TV and raised \$1723 for MDA. The winner of the raffle was Kevin Cregeen of Branch 2038, Kent WA. I want to thank my Branch for all your help during the convention with our raffle. Also we could not have raised all that money with out all your support, my brothers and sister of Washington State Association of Letter Carriers. Thank You!

## EDUCATION CORNER

*Director of Education  
 Sharee Eschenbacher*

**O**ur 2017 State Convention is behind us and now in the books. Pasco branch did a fantastic job of keeping us entertained from morning until lights out. I thank the committee for their innovative ideas that kept all of us engaged with each other while not in session. Business sessions were professional and ran smoothly. We have a President and Vice President that were well prepared for this convention and showed respect for our traditions and procedures. Every state convention is assigned a National officer. We were lucky to have Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Judy Willoughby as our guest this year. She taught a Secretary-Treasurer class on Friday afternoon. National Director of Education Jamie Lumm assisted Judy during this class. Mike Meredith, once again, amazed us with his knowledge of safety issues as he taught on repetitive motion injuries. Sharlene Bowes, our Director of Retired Members, led a very interesting class about strength, balance and fitness for adults 65 and older. Nick Vafiades, one of our two Regional Administrative Assistants, (Deb-

*Continued on Page 15*

## Important NALC Dates

Basic Shop Steward College, Gold Bar ..... September 10-14, 2017  
 Regional Assembly, Bend, OR ..... November 6-10, 2017  
 Basic Shop Steward College, Gold Bar ..... February 11-15, 2018  
 State Wide Training, Wenatchee ..... March 16-18, 2018  
 Regional Steward College, Year 4, Gold Bar ..... April 8-12, 2018  
 WA State Convention, Walla Walla ..... May 30-June 3, 2018

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