



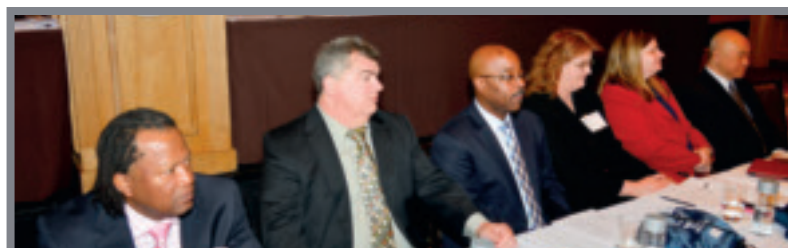
# NPMHU Leadership Convenes at Semi-Annual Meeting

Officers and representatives from nearly every NPMHU Local Union gathered in Hollywood, Florida in early April to participate in the latest Semi-Annual Meeting of the Local Unions (SAMLU). Also in attendance at this event were members of the National Executive Board, all NPMHU National Office department heads, and personnel from the National and Regional Contract Administration Department. Of special note, during his opening remarks, President Hegarty introduced thirteen newly installed Local Presidents and seven re-elected Local Presidents, resulting from elections or appointments occurring since the last SAMLU in August 2013. The new Local Presidents include: Chris Bentley (297); James Mills (298); Daryl Kila (299); Rene Morissette (301); James Bell (304); June Harris (306); Charles Charleston (311); Bryan Easley (315); Mark Bennett (319); Madelyn Puricelli (320); Cindy Hoehl-Rinker (321); Larry Burk (327); and Sheldon Adams (334). The list of recently re-elected Local Presidents include: Ernie Grijalva (302), John Gibson (308), Andy Badilishamwalimu (310), Anthony Davis (314), Nick Mosezar (318), Todd Larsen (328), and Randy Krueger (333).

After welcoming remarks from the SAMLU host city Local President Nick Mosezar, the meeting began with President Hegarty's comprehensive report to the assembly. The President's report focused on the activities of the National Union during the past seven months. A key objective of the NPMHU has been to help protect and preserve the institution of the United States Postal Service. Hegarty spoke about the historic agreement recently signed to unite all Postal Unions into an alliance formed to show solidarity for the purpose of enhancing and expanding service, and protecting good union jobs. "The idea is to show that we are united, to engage the public and to keep the conversation moving in the right direction," said President Hegarty. The National President discussed a refreshed cooperative spirit with the APWU's new leadership, especially on those topics where we can and should join forces because our interests coincide. In this spirit, President Hegarty reiterated the Union's wholehearted support for the APWU-initiated Stop Staples campaign. Hegarty discussed the planned April 24, 2014 day of action, and urged all Local Unions and members to get involved. Members can go online to [www.npmhu.org](http://www.npmhu.org) to learn more about



*(l-r) Local Presidents Earnest Wallace (325), and Andy Badilishamwalimu (310)*



*CAD representatives receive questions from SAMLU attendees*



*NEB Vice Presidents Lawrence Sapp (Southern Region) and Rudy Santos (Western Region) in discussions with Regional Director Don Gonzales*



*(l-r) CAD Manager Thomas (T.J.) Branch, Local 306 President June Harris, Vice President Gregory Newsome and Treasurer Kenneth Leftridge*



*National Secretary Treasurer Mark Gardner and Local 318 NDC Branch President Wayne Campbell*



*SAMLU Host Local 318 President Nick Mosezar welcomes attendees*



*(l-r) Local Presidents Sheldon Adams (334) and John (J.R.) Macon (329)*



*(l-r) Vice President, Central Region Jefferson C. Peppers III and Vice President, Eastern Region and Local 305 President Kevin L. Fletcher*



*Vice President, Northeastern Region and Local 300 President Paul Hogrogian*



*Vice President, Southern Region and Local 318 SEBM Lawrence Sapp*



*Vice President, Western Region Rudy Santos*



*Vice President, Central Region Jefferson C. Peppers III*

the Postal Union alliance and the Stop Staples campaign. President Hegarty spoke about the Fishgold Arbitration Award, specifically addressing the establishment of a subcontracting committee that has as its aim, the in-sourcing of some mail handler work that previously was outsourced. President



*National President John Hegarty delivers report to the attendees*

Hegarty reported that the committee is meeting regularly with a focus on Surface Transportation Centers (STC), Mail Transport Equipment Service Centers (MTEC), and on the bedloading project that was implemented a few years ago. The committee is faced with digesting vast amounts of

data detailing USPS operations, infrastructure and transportation logistics of several types of facilities intertwined across the country. Hegarty also spoke about the NMO initiative that recently started in Chicago, Des Moines and nearby facilities. The committee continues to meet and discuss these issues.

As part of his comments, Hegarty provided a lengthy and detailed review of the various versions of pending postal reform legislation, including USPS finances; the preservation of USPS service standards and six-day delivery; the impact of the White House budget; the continual overfunding of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) and Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS); the unjustified obligation to pre-fund the Retiree Health Benefits Fund; and the NPMHU's support for proposals that would allow the Postal Service to offer additional postal services or various types of non-postal services. In addition, Hegarty highlighted the changes in the ▶



*Northeastern Regional Director Tom Ruther*



*Vice President, Eastern Region and Local 305 President Kevin L. Fletcher*



*(l-r) Oakland's Western Regional Director Don Gonzales and National CAD Representative Tim Dwyer*



*Local 301 President Rene Morissette*

USPS workforce and the USPS network that have occurred over the past decade, and contrasted such changes with the never-ending proposals for continued downsizing. President Hegarty also spoke about the activities of the Committee on the Future; Contract Administration Department arbitration advocacy training; and issues relative to Mail Handler Assistants (MHAs) and Union membership.

Following President Hegarty, National Secretary-Treasurer Gardner provided a detailed presentation and entertained questions and comments on a variety of topics, including the NPMHU financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2013; an updated presentation and analysis related to Mail Handler complement with particular emphasis placed on the importance of organizing our new MHAs; membership trends and revenue allocation among our Union's affiliated organizations; a review of cost-of living and wage adjustments provided under the 2011 National Agreement; the ongoing nationwide membership organizing campaign; and the status of this year's scholarship program.

The attendees also heard a report from NPMHU Legislative and Political Director Bob Losi on various legislative and political efforts, including but not limited to: An analysis of the White House budget and its impact on postal and federal workers; proposed changes in Postal Service standards; the importance of 6 day delivery; the proposal to phase out door-to-door delivery services; and counterproductive ramifications of re-amortizing the retiree health funding mandate. Brother Losi also spoke in specific detail outlining the Union's opposition to H.R. 2748 and S. 1486. Conversely, Brother Losi went on to highlight the key elements of H.R. 630 and S. 316 noting that both bills eliminate all pre-funding mandate and refunds overpayments made to the FERS retirement system. In addition, H.R. 630 and S. 316 re-establish overnight service standards and grant the USPS authority to develop new products and services. Bob also gave a comprehensive presentation on key upcoming House and Senate mid-term races across the country.

Aetna's Director of National Accounts, Brad Corban, gave a comprehensive report on the status of the Mail Handlers Benefit Plan (MHBP). Brad presented on all matters relative to the most recent open season, updating attendees on membership trends in the Value, Standard and Consumer Plans; the presentation also included updates on the status of our supplemental Dental and Vision products. Finally, Brad concluded with an overview on the strategic direction of the MHBP focusing on the benefits of the Plan's transition to the Aetna network, member retention, quality care, service levels, and future growth.

Contract Administration Department Manager T.J. Branch then provided a full report on the activities of that department since the last meeting of the Local Unions, addressing and taking questions on each of the following issues: National arbitrations and settlements; the continuous stream of subcontracting proposals; activities of the National Dispute Resolution Committee and jurisdictional issues arising under Regional Instruction No. 399; the two task forces focusing on MHAs and Article 12, and issues related to health insurance for MHAs. ▶



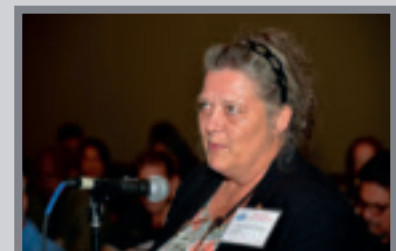
*UT SEBM James Smith*



*Local 306 Vice President Gregory Newsome*



*(l-r) National Secretary Treasurer Mark Gardner and National President John Hegarty*



*Local 321 President Cindy Hoehl-Rinker*



*Local 303 President Eddie Cowan*



*National Secretary Treasurer Mark Gardner*



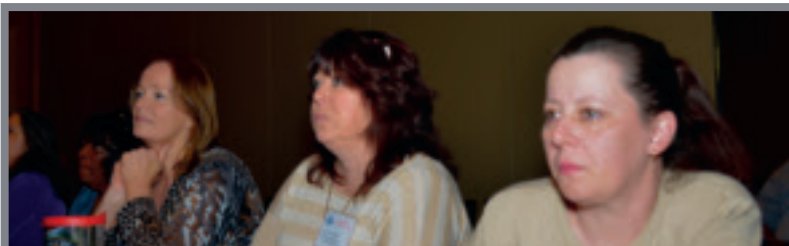
*CAD Manager Thomas (T.J.) Branch*



*Legislative and Political Director Bob Losi*



*Local 316 President Don Sneesby*



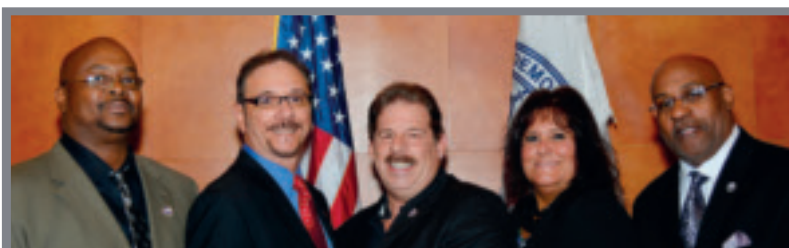
*(l-r) Local 328 BP Patricia Smedsrud, Local 322 Recording Secretary Amy Lockhart and Local 322 BP Kelly Dickey*



*Director-National Accounts MHBP Brad Corban delivers report to SAMLU attendees*



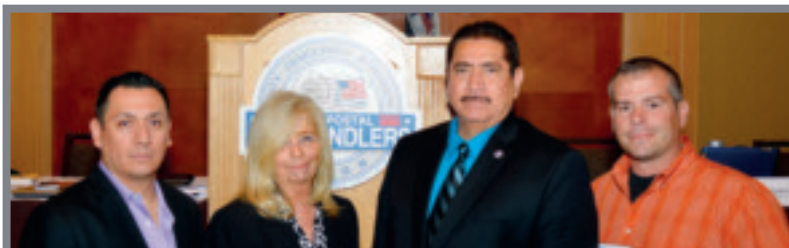
*Local 308 President John Gibson*



*(l-r) Local 318 Recording Secretary Lynden Clarke, President Nick Mosezar, Vice President Ira Edelstein, Treasurer Joyce Weber and Vice President, Southern Region and SEBM Lawrence Sapp*



*(l-r) Western Regional Director Don Gonzales, Local 327 BP Tim Grilz, Vice President, Western Region Rudy Santos and Local 327 President Larry Burk*



*(l-r) Local 320 Chief Steward Bernie Gonzales, President Madelyn Puricelli, Vice President, Western Region Rudy Santos, and Vice President Shawn Garey*



*Local 305 members (l-r) Southern Region Director Charles Manago, Vice President, Eastern Region and Local 305 President Kevin L. Fletcher, CAD Manager Thomas (T.J.) Branch and National CAD Representative Teresa Harmon*





*(l-r) National Secretary Treasurer Mark Gardner, Local 306 Vice President Gregory Newsome, President June Harris, Treasurer Kenneth Leftridge, Vice President, Central Region Jefferson C. Peppers III and National President John Hegarty*



*Local 305 Treasurer D. Yam Cardin*

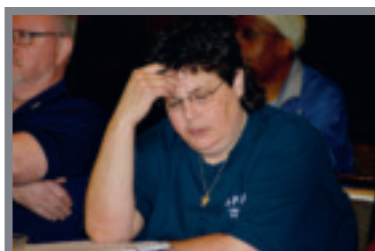


*Local 320 President Madelyn Puricelli*

Finally, Northeastern Regional Vice President, Local 300 President, and National Trainer Paul Hogrogian and National CAD Representative Tim Dwyer led discussions on several important issues related to MHAs. Their presentation focused on topics like MHA conversion (to career positions), retention of MHAs at the time of reappointment, and matters of just cause. Brother Hogrogian commented that the next edition of our shop steward publication Union Time will focus largely on matters specific to MHAs. This publication is in production and should be mailed to all shop stewards in mid-2014.

At the conclusion of the final day, President Hegarty asked the attendees to join him in congratulating Western Region Director Richard Siu in his forthcoming retirement. President Hegarty, CAD Manager T.J. Branch, Regional Director David Ross and others spoke to honor Richard's 35 years of dedicated service to his fellow Union members. Brother Siu was presented with the Union's Gold Lifetime Membership card. The presentation highlighted Richard's contributions to the operations of Oakland's Western Region office, Quality of Working Life program and the California Postal Legislative Coalition to highlight a few. Many attendees took the floor to share memories and to convey best wishes to Brother Siu.

The meeting was well-received and successful, and resulted in a lively exchange of opinions and ideas. The next Semi-Annual Meeting of the Local Unions is scheduled for August 2014 in Washington, DC.



*Local 305 WV SEMB and Charleston BP Amber Slater*



*(l-r) Local Presidents Larry Burk (327), and Bob Griffith (330)*



*Local 309 President Dave Wilkin*



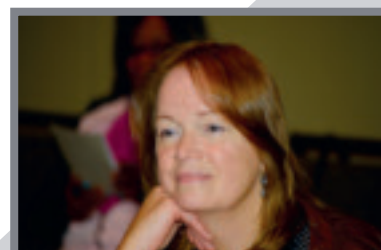
*Retired Local 315 President David Jarvis*



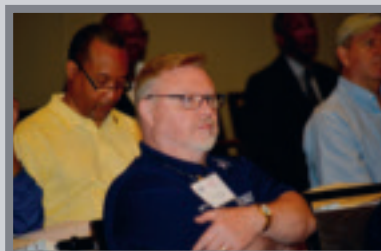
*Local 304 Representatives (l-r) BP Gregory Hill, President James Bell, Recording Secretary Timothy Manning, Vice President William "Bip" McLemore III and advocate Darvis Wanton*



*Local 302 BP Melinda Simental*



*Local 328 BP Patricia Smedsrud*



*Local 305 MD SEBM Ed Evans*



*Local 307 President Jim Haggarty*



*Local 324 BP Ted Curry*



*Local 300 CT SEBM Don Utz*



*Local 302 Vice President  
Juanita Contreras*



*Local 310 Vice President Lisa Greer*



*Representative Joe Garcia (FL-D 26th) discusses Postal Issues with Union representatives*



*Local 310 Recording Secretary and  
BP Charwanda Parson*



*Vice President, Northeastern Region and  
Local 300 President Paul Hogrogian*



*(l-r) Local Presidents Zeke Moreno  
(331), and Mike McIntyre (322)*



*Local 303 NV SEBM Eric Schneider*



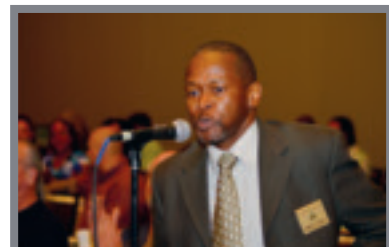
*Attendees discuss session activities  
during break*



*(l-r) Local 305 Treasurer  
D. Yam Cardin and Local 303 Treasurer  
Van Cunningham*



*National Secretary Treasurer  
Mark Gardner*



*Local 304 President James Bell*



*Local 298 President James Mills*



*Local 334 President Sheldon Adams*



*Local 310 President  
Pervous (Andy) Badilishamwalimu*



*Local 319 President Mark Bennett*

## **Western Region Director Richard Siu Retires**



*National President John Hegarty  
presents retiring Western Region  
Director Richard Siu with  
NPMHU gold membership card*



*Western Region Director  
Richard Siu bids farewell to  
Union brothers and sisters*



*Regional Director and CAD Field  
Office Manager David Ross remarks  
on Siu's years of dedicated service*



*Local 302 President Ernie Grijalva  
speaks about Brother Siu's work to  
improve the working conditions for  
all mail handlers*