



Leadership Academy grads to take learning to branches

NALC Director of Life Insurance Myra Warren presided over the graduation ceremony for the 16th Leadership Academy class on Dec. 13 at the Maritime Center in Linthicum Heights, MD, a few miles south of Baltimore. The longtime NALC officer told the graduating students that the knowledge they've received is power.

"Not the power to rule," she said, "but the power to succeed; the power to survive."

She stressed the importance of this new generation to take up the leadership reins to help transform the Postal Service for their generations and ones that will follow them.

"Our brothers and sisters in the 1970s had to fight for the benefits we have now," she said. "What are we doing? Are we fighting? What are we fighting for?"

"Things get lost when we become too comfortable. You're here to continue on the cause."

She called on the students to go back to their branches and regions and help mentor other NALC members there.

"Don't hold onto your training," she said. "You come here to get filled up. Take it back and share it."

The commencement event capped several months of intensive training on the skills necessary for union members to become effective leaders. Under the tutelage of their mentors—established NALC leaders such as branch presidents or national business agents—the students combined three separate weeks of classroom learning at the Maritime Center with take-home assignments and special projects.

The 29 participants, two from each of the NALC's 15 regions (one couldn't complete the training for health reasons), now add their names to an ever-lengthening list of graduates of the Academy, which was created in 2005.



The Leadership Academy

Region 1

David Hoffman
Branch 70
San Diego, CA

David Jones
Branch 1100
Garden Grove, CA

Region 2

Debra Dixon
Branch 351
Olympia, WA

Timothy Sanders Jr.
Branch 959
Albany, OR

Region 3

Ronald Morgan
Branch 11
Chicago, IL

Lisa Roberts
Branch 671
Champaign, IL

Region 4

Lisa Childs
Branch 204
Colorado Springs, CO

Tim Moses
Branch 1491
Norman, OK

Region 5

Michelle Jellison
Branch 10
Topeka, KS

Eddie Lofland
Branch 69
Sioux City, IA

Region 6

Mandy Parkinson-Hanks
Branch 320
Pontiac, MI

Matt Tanner
Branch 122
Lansing, MI

Region 7

Richard Gimbi
Branch 102
Sheboygan, WI

Patrick Johnson
Branch 2
Milwaukee, WI

Region 8

Crystal Lawton
Branch 530
Birmingham, AL

Felicia Warmath
Branch 27
Memphis, TN

Region 9

Eileen Ford
Branch 4862
Roswell, GA

Jerrel Kinloch
Branch 2550
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

Region 10

Yolanda Poullard
Branch 842
Beaumont, TX

Jim Ruetze
Branch 1259
Corpus Christi, TX



Retired NALC Executive Vice President Jim Williams and former NALC Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Jim Korolowicz coordinate a well-rounded and effective curriculum. They tap a number of NALC officers and Headquarters staff members and experts to teach classes on a wide variety of topics.

During their classes, students took part in often lively discussions on such subjects as the National Agreement and the union's legislative agenda to save America's Postal Service. They also learned more about the Dispute Resolution Process, strategic planning, branch financial responsibilities, retirement issues, DOIS and route protection, workers' compensation, ef-

fective negotiation techniques, getting the NALC's message out and dealing with the media.

Each week of the Academy also included an ongoing emphasis on effective written and oral communication skills in such forums as membership meetings, awards ceremonies and dinners, as well as written reports and oral presentations about their take-home projects.

President Fredric Rolando has announced the names of those selected to attend the 18th Leadership Academy (*see list below*), which will begin this month. He also has announced that there will be a Class 19 held this summer. **PR**

Opposite page (top): Leadership Academy coordinator Jim Williams congratulates the participants.

Opposite page (bottom): Director of Life Insurance Myra Warren challenges the Academy graduates to pay their knowledge forward.

Above: The entire graduating class

Below: Steven Bilzing of Belleville, IL Branch 155 receives his completion certificate.

Class of winter/spring 2014

Region 11

Douglas Lape
Branch 43
Cincinnati, OH

Michael Masters
Branch 210
Rochester, NY

Region 12

Robert Curry
Branch 5801
Willingboro, NJ

Marcos Santiago
Branch 273
Lancaster, PA

Region 13

Karen Nance
Branch 142
Washington, DC

Mark Nembhard
Branch 2819
Virginia Beach, VA

Region 14

Jonathan Brackett
Branch 144
Sanford, ME

Michael Murray
Branch 34
Boston, MA

Region 15

Roy Jancio
Branch 38
New Jersey Merged

Tony Paolillo
Branch 294
Flushing, NY

