Thanks for helping to deliver the cure

Recently, we lost a great humanitarian, baseball player and sage. Yogi Berra was 90 years old when he died on Sept. 15. I'm old enough to remember him playing baseball and he was a guy often quoted, many times for the wrong reasons. One of my favorites attributed to him was, “It ain’t the heat, it’s the humidity.” He unknowingly mentioned one of his greatest traits.

Humility is defined as “the quality or condition of being humble; a modest opinion or estimate of one’s own importance, rank, etc.” Yogi lived that definition.

As I look back on my NALC career, many things come to mind. The first character trait that defines the way they lived their lives. These are the people I have respected the most. They have been my models as I tried to lead the best way I know how. At the same time, I met some who were so concerned with their own agenda that they were largely ineffective. History will little remember them, and rightly so.

This is my last article as NALC’s liaison to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. At the same time, I step down as an instructor at NALC’s Leadership Academy. It is time for others to take over in these roles and make each better. I know they will. I thank President Rolando for allowing me to continue to serve the membership in these capacities.

Lastly, in consultation with our national president, we have established an additional way to honor branches that have raised funds for MDA. In the past few months, we’ve designated branches that raised more than $25 per member as “gold,” and branches that contributed between $10 and $25 per member as “silver.” All branches that contributed any money are being designated as “bronze.” The list below shows those branches with the amounts per capita they raised.

As Yogi also said, “When you come to a fork in the road, take it.” It’s time for me to take his advice. See you down the road, and thanks for all those who helped me in the fight the last nine years to make the lives of those with muscle disease a little better. Deliver the cure!

2014 MDA Bronze Level Branches

Branch 43  Cincinnati, OH $4.99
Branch 11  Chicago, IL $4.78
Branch 39  Indianapolis, IN $4.87
Branch 1495  State College, PA $4.60
Branch 14  Louisville, KY $4.58
Branch 849  Fort Collins, CO $4.52
Branch 86  Hartford, CT $4.28
Branch 25967  Texas $4.21
Branch 25  Waco, TX $4.13
Branch 421  San Antonio, TX $4.19
Branch 386  Lansing, MI $4.01
Branch 2130  McAllen, TX $0.10
Branch 142  Washington, DC $0.41
Branch 396  Plainfield, NJ $2.75
Branch 578  Savannah, GA $2.80
Branch 396  Plainfield, NJ $2.75
Branch 4319  Anchorage, AK $2.28
Branch 294  Flushing, NY $1.96
Branch 8426  Springfield, MO $1.65
Branch 367  Madison, WI $1.69
Branch 409  Newport, KY $1.68
Branch 4427  Glen Burnie, MD $1.67
Branch 78  Columbus, OH $1.65
Branch 2462  Van Nuys, CA $1.58
Branch 25  Mass, NE $1.52
Branch 120  Patterson, NJ $1.45
Branch 361  Lexington, KY $1.40
Branch 10  Topeka, KS $1.38
Branch 42  Kansas City, MO $1.36
Branch 902  Tri-Valley, CA $1.35
Branch 232  Jackson, MI $1.35
Branch 2810  Arlington Heights, IL $1.33
Branch 331  Boise, ID $1.31
Branch 4319  Anchorage, AK $1.28
Branch 84  Pittsburgh, PA $1.20
Branch 458  Oklahoma City, OK $1.23
Branch 270  Macon, GA $1.09
Branch 1  Detroit, MI $1.06
Branch 356  Jamaica, NY $1.06
Branch 111  Salt Lake City, UT $1.04
Branch 294  Las Vegas, NV $1.04
Branch 214  San Francisco, CA $1.04
Branch 700  Neenah, WI $1.02
Branch 100  Toledo, OH $1.01
Branch 29  Albany, NY $1.01
Branch 47  Denver, CO $1.01
Branch 4317  Great Valley Mgd., PA $1.27
Branch 1111  Richmond, CA $1.27
Branch 193  San Jose, CA $1.23
Branch 1071  South Florida $1.23
Branch 203  Springfield, MO $1.21
Branch 436  Racine, WI $1.21
Branch 142  Anchorage, AK $1.21
Branch 496  Richmond, VA $1.21
Branch 456  Norfolk, VA $1.21
Branch 31  Peoria, IL $1.20
Branch 357  Long Island City, NY $1.19
Branch 908  South Jersey $1.18
Branch 1427  Santa Clara, CA $1.18
Branch 286  Seattle, WA $1.18
Branch 29  Fort Myers, FL $1.18
Branch 50  Williamsburg, VA $1.18
Branch 182  Dayton, OH $1.18
Branch 1100  Garden Grove, CA $1.17
Branch 2130  McAllen, TX $1.17
Branch 421  San Antonio, TX $1.17
Branch 411  San Bernardino, CA $1.17
Branch 137  Hudson Valley, NY $1.17
Branch 12  Worcester, MA $1.17
Branch 2550  Fort Lauderdale, FL $1.17
Branch 916  Eugene, OR $1.17
Branch 574  Roanoke, VA $1.07
Branch 201  Wichita, KS $1.07
Branch 5921  Woodbridge, VA $1.07
Branch 176  Baltimore, MD $1.07
Branch 53  Northeast Florida $0.90
Branch 1091  Central Florida $0.84
Branch 132  Dallas, TX $0.83
Branch 217  Jackson, MS $0.83
Branch 24  Los Angeles, CA $0.80
Branch 129  Baton Rouge, LA $0.76
Branch 28  St. Paul, MN $0.64
Branch 485  Hutchinson, KS $0.63
Branch 439  Greenville, SC $0.58
Branch 567  Alexandria, VA $0.51
Branch 380  Trenton, NJ $0.51
Branch 444  South Amboy, NJ $0.41
Branch 709  Reno, NV $0.41
Branch 248  Asheville, NC $0.38
Branch 469  Mobile, AL $0.37
Branch 6156  Sun City, AZ $0.36
Branch 2290  Pasaden, CA $0.30
Branch 321  Pensacola, FL $0.20
Branch 142  Washington, DC $0.26
Branch 1280  San Mateo, CA $0.20
Branch 92  Scarborough, NY $0.07