

**Representing the Stations of
Encino – Panorama City – Sherman Oaks – Sun Valley – Tarzana – Van Nuys Main**

VOLUME 54

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NUMBER 3

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Washington DC Lobby Trip

Chief Shop Steward, John Burton and I traveled to Washington DC in February to join with a total of 65 California Letter Carriers to lobby our California Congressperson's and Senators. The trip was very successful and many of those we spoke with committed to sign on to the House Resolutions below and to push for Postal Reform. Even Republican Congressman from District 25, Steve Knight signed on to H.Res. 28 to preserve door to door delivery. Thank you to John Burton for a great job speaking with Congressman Knights Aide and getting the Congressman to support this important bi-partisan Resolution.

NALC priorities for postal reform

Congress should free to free USPS to fully leverage its networks and lay the groundwork for long-term, sustainable success that serves the evolving needs of its business and residential customers. NALC calls on Congress to focus on a limited set of common-sense solutions that would strengthen the Postal Service and to avoid damaging its capacity to thrive in the 21st century.

Six-day delivery (H.Res. 15)

As it has for generations, the U.S. Postal Service provides affordable universal service as directed by the U.S. Constitution. In 1983, Congress first adopted an appropriations rider that required the Postal Service to deliver mail six days a week, a rider that has been included in every appropriations measure since. And for more than three decades, the Postal Service has been trying to find a way to eliminate that requirement.

Door delivery (H.Res. 28)

Six days a week, nearly 40 million residential and business customers throughout the country receive packages, letters,

(Continued on Page 3)

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS OF BRANCH OFFICERS

This is official notice to members of Branch 2462 that nominations for the following offices will be held at the regular branch meeting April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Branch Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave # 101, Van Nuys California. The Offices are President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt-at-Arms, Three (3) Trustee's, Health Benefits Representative, and Mutual Benefits Representative. No one may be nominated for more than one (1) office. Candidates must accept nomination at the time made or, if absent, in writing to be received by the Branch Secretary no later than April 6, 2017. The terms of Office shall be for a three year period. Candidates elected shall be delegates to the National and State Conventions as stated in the Branch By-Laws.

ELECTION

The election shall be conducted by secret mailed ballot. All ballots will be mailed First Class to the home addresses of eligible members no later than May 15, 2017. The Election shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Executive Board of Branch 2462, NALC, which shall not be in violation of the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Rules of the National Executive Council. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee, P. O. Box 56501 Sherman Oaks, California 91413 and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2017. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, June 1, 2017 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101 Van Nuys, California. All candidates and members may observe the counting.

"The MailCall" is published monthly by "Heart of the Valley Branch 2462, NALC, 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., Suite 101, Van Nuys, CA 91406 in the interest of and for the Letter Carriers of the Van Nuys Post Office and its Stations. **ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION MUST BE IN THE HANDS OF THE EDITOR ON NIGHT OF THE REGULAR BRANCH MEETING. ALL ARTICLES MUST BE TYPED OR ON COMPUTER DISK WITH SINGLE LINE SPACING.** The Editor reserves the right to delete any article he deems necessary, improper, or unfit. All opinions expressed are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the Editor or Branch 2462, NALC. The views expressed in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. Postal Service. In the hopes that any material contained herein may be of benefit to your Branch and to the goals of the NALC, permission is granted to copy and/or use any material in this publication with our best wishes.

Vice President's Report

By
Tracy Mullinax

2017 Heat Safety Injuries

The following is a memorandum from the desk of Manny Peralta, the Director of Safety and Health at NALC Headquarters in Washington, DC on March 7th, 2017.

During the 2016 calendar year, there were 101 heat safety events reported either to Manny's office or through the National business agent's office. Many of these notifications, however, were received well over 30 days after the date the injury occurred, resulting in possible forfeiture of the injured employee's entitlement to COP (Continuation of Pay) in the event that they were unable to work.

Section 542.112 of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM) provides that:

"...failure to give notice on Form CA-1 within 30 calendar days from the date the

Injury occurred will result in a loss of entitlement to COP..."

When a letter carrier suffers a traumatic disabling injury, he/she would only be entitled to Continuation of Pay (COP) if a form CA-1 was filed within 30 days of the date of injury. We recommend filling out form CA-1 as quickly as possible.

Of even greater concern to the NALC is the fact that early this year, we discovered an additional 203 heat safety events from last year that were not reported to the NALC at all.

Eighty of those injuries involved CCA's and many of those were within their first 120 days of employment. We request your assistance through your NBA's office to make contact with the injured employee to investigate what happened and to offer the NALC's assistance. We learned that some of the CCA's, who were injured during their first 120 days, were "separated" and were not assisted with the filing of an OSHA Whistleblower complaint, which must be filed within 30 days of the date of the action which we believe to be retaliatory.

In each office on the union bulletin board, you will find a copy of the "Initial Heat Injury Report" form, We ask that you fill out the form each time there is a heat related injury and immediately send it to NALC headquarters in Washington DC and to your National Business Agent's Office.

Remember that in the hot weather, carriers must stay hydrated all day and wear proper summer clothing. Keep plenty of water nearby and do your best to stay cool.

In Unionism

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	3	6	5								
ENCINO	4	4	3								
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	3								
SHERMAN OAKS	3	5	4								
SUN VALLEY	2	2	3								
TARZANA	4	3	1								
RETIREE'S	5	5	7								
TOTAL	24	29	26								

**MEETING PLACE OF BRANCH 2462, NALC
6910 HAYVENHURST AVE., SUITE 101
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA**

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**APRIL
4th
"2017"**

**DEADLINE DATE FOR THE NEXT
ISSUE OF "THE MAIL CALL" IS**

Apr 6, 2017

**WEB PAGE.... WWW.NALCBRANCH2462.ORG
BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE.....818-374-5600
E-Mail.....Branch2462nalc@gmail.com**

"RETIREE CORNER" ATTENTION: !!!!

Our next Breakfast Meeting will be held at Denny's Restaurant, (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be March 25th & April 22, 2017 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there. Thank You

Frank Brash

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

bills, medications, supplies and more through door delivery, where a letter carrier delivers the item straight to a customer's door. All of this is part of a unique universal delivery network that is attractive to businesses, evidenced by the fact that the Postal Service is actually operationally profitable.

USPS service standards (H.Res. 31)

Before July 1, 2012, the Postal Service's standard for First-Class Mail was overnight delivery in most metropolitan areas and rural communities. But since then, USPS has repeatedly degraded its service standards and embraced a doomed strategy of cutting its way to prosperity, which is why it is increasing the expected number of days it takes to deliver various types of mail.

Performance Engagement Tool (PET)

PET is the most recent computerized data generating program that is being used in offices. This is the new DOIS. It was developed by the Postal Service for Supervisors to use to project carriers daily workload. It attempts to compare daily workload then uses that information to determine how long the program thinks it should take the carrier to perform the duties on their route for the day.

The office time that it projects only considers how long it would take to case and pull down the volume of letters and flats using minimum standards. It does not consider fixed office time for functions like vehicle inspections, standup talks, retrieving mail from the throwback case, withdrawing mail, retrieving or signing for accountable mail etc. Some offices it does not even consider the office break into the projection.

The street time is also projected differently under PET in some offices. In these offices the supervisor will select one of four different street time options and apply that time to that days equation for the program to project the street time for the day. The four options are:

1. The average street time for the same day of the week for the previous 6 weeks.
2. The average street time for all delivery days during the previous 6 week period.
3. The most recent PS Form 3999.
4. The base street time.

In some parts of the country the only street time option is the 3999 time. While the Postal Service has instructed its supervisors to compare the mail volume for the previous days to the current day, when deciding which street time to select for PET, none of these projections take into account daily situations such as weather, parcels, traffic, constructions etc.

Regardless of what option management chooses, the street time projected in this program starts when the incorrect office time ends ensuring a misrepresentation of both the office and the street times.

Depending on how your office uses this program, it is possible that some relevant contractual provisions and/or settlements could be violated. Ask your steward to look into anything that does not seem right. Question your supervisor about where and how they are getting their projections and what they are using to determine it.

Food Drive Update

I was privileged to be able to work the AmeriStamp Expo in Reno Nevada the first weekend in March. The NALC had a 25th Anniversary Food Drive Booth there. We had letter carriers working the booth from branches in Reno, Sparks, Sacramento, Santa Clara and me from Van Nuys. It was really a nice display of letter carrier artifacts, lent to us from a retired letter carrier from branch 1100, Mark Halsaver and from the Postal Museum. We also had a current Promaster and an Old Mail vehicle from the 40's.

At this Expo, we were honored to have Family Circus Cartoonist Jeff Keane with us at the booth. He signed posters, stamp sheets and anything people asked him too. Jeff took over the cartoon when his father passed away and has been drawing it ever since. Many of you know that the Family Circus Cartoon is used in our Stamp Out Hunger artwork and is donated to us every year for our use in publicizing our annual food drive. It was so fun meeting and hanging out with Jeff. What a great, kind and caring human being. Sold at this expo was some limited edition photo sheets with the Stamp Out Hunger artwork. If you are interested in purchasing this collectable photo stamp sheet you can go online at www.stampouthungerstore.com and order it for \$25.00. There is a good chance that the photo sheet will be signed by Jeff Keane, since he sat there and signed 100 of them. The price is more than the postage on the sheets but the extra proceeds from the sale of these sheets will go to the Food Bank of Northern Nevada.

ATTENTION RETIREE'S !!!

You may be familiar with the saying "There is no such thing as a Free Lunch" While this may be true, it does not pertain to Breakfast. The Branch holds a Retiree Breakfast meeting every 4th Saturday of the Month. No Voting, just a friendly get together to talk and eat. The best thing is

IT IS FREE !!!

That's right, if you are a retired member in good standing of Branch 2462 your Breakfast is provided at no charge
You Heard Right !

FREE !!!!

So what are you waiting for, meet with us this month.

When 4th Saturday of Every Month
Where Denny's Restaurant,
(Corner of Sherman Way & DeCielis).
Time 9:00 AM

If you have trouble with transportation contact BOB JOHNSON and we will try and arrange for a ride. Come on out, you will have a great time, and the price is right !

Active Members are invited to attend also if it is your
Day Off !!

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2017

By

Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held at the Branch 2462 Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave, Van Nuys California. It was called to order by VICE PRESIDENT MULLINAX at 6:49 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Memory MICHAEL J. O'CONNOR, FORMER NATIONAL DIRECTOR OF LIFE INSURANCE AND ALL OTHERS WHO HAVE PASSED THIS YEAR.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--MULLINAX, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, WILSON, DOZAL, BURTON, JEFFREY, MACARAEG, L DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT—J DOLABSON

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MANUEL PRIETO, DANNELL MILHOUSE, ANTONIO TORTOLA, DANIEL SAENZ

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE No Report
HEALTH & SAFETY 2 ton trucks will be retrofitted with non-slip flooring material.

RETIREES 7 retiree's present tonight. 17 attended the breakfast last month. Hoping that Retiree TED DENT is feeling better soon, we are thinking of you TED.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$2500.00 in fund
HBR—L. DOLABSON Sending in reimbursement paperwork to National. Still offering free flu shots at selected CVS pharmacies.

MBA—ENZ Retirement benefit plan now paying a guaranteed 3.25%. Contact Bob for further information on this and many other plans available.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON M/S/C
Motion to accept report

SPECIAL REPORT JOHN BURTON gave a brief report on his activities during his Congressional Lobby Trip earlier this month to Washington, DC. Trip was very productive and John was able to meet with many Representatives and Senators, to promote those issues that are very important to our membership and the future and viability of the Postal Service.

ELECTION COMM—SEYFRIED Nominations for Branch Officers will take place at the April meeting. All Delegates who are planning on attending the State Convention, need to either sign up tonight after meeting or contact the Branch office before the April meeting to let us know you are going to attend.

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Nothing new on the Contract. Lot's of CCA's now in the stations, Shop Stewards should be watching to make sure that scheduled hours for these members are being properly administrated by management. Latest in the Manager "shuffle" Mr Ochoa, is now back at Encino and Art Stillwell has been moved to Sherman Oaks as Station Manager. Accidents still remain a major problem, please work and drive in a safe manner. We do not want to have to be grieving for an injury to you, or grieving to save your job, due to a removal. Take the time to do the job right and SAFELY!!! Also on Safety, once again Management talks a good game, but when it is time for action they fall woefully short. At last meeting, there were several Carrier representatives that were either denied the time to attend or simply not even notified of a meeting. Safety is a two-way street and management needs to step up and hold up their end of the obligation.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Report will appear in the Mailcall

OLD BUSINESS NONE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch purchase a preventative Maintenance plan for the newly installed heating and air conditioning system. Cost to the branch is \$ 488.00 for one year M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Wounded Warrior Project M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

MDA DRAWING

\$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED--RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 6 CALVIN BROOKINS—MAIN OFFICE
\$ 9 FRANCISCO VALENZUELA-PAN CITY-DONATED \$
4

Meeting Adjourned 8:08 PM