

# THE MAIL CALL



Published by  
Branch 2462, NALC  
Van Nuys, CA

VOLUME 37

DECEMBER

2000

NUMBER 12

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By Roger Askew**

### **OPEN HOUSE**

The branch will be holding an open house on Friday, December 8th beginning at 5:00 PM. We will start serving dinner at 6:30 PM. I have once again asked Velma McClinton to coordinate this annual event. She always does a wonderful job. If you would like to stop by and have some food and enjoy the holiday season take the time and join us.

### **LOCAL NEGOTIATIONS**

We have just completed Local Negotiations within the Sun Valley, Tarzana and Van Nuys Installations. I would like to thank Vice-President Calvin Brookins, Robert Johnson, Robert Enz, Terry Hall, Art Bocek, Janette Dolabson and Mickey Martin. Each of these members took time out of their own lives to see that the negotiations were completed on time. Secretary Steve Seyfried is in the process of making booklets for each of the installations we represent. As soon as the printing is completed we will see that each union member receives a copy. Take the time to review your own respective local agreement. We were able to make some changes and I believe the membership will be pleased with the results.

### **OPEN SEASON**

Once a year the postal service has what is known as Open Season. During this period of time you can change your health benefit insurance plan. This year the open season is from November 13th through December 11th. I have personally held the NALC Health Benefit Plan since 1968. The plan has undergone some difficult times, but as of this moment I would give the plan an A+ in both benefits and convenience. You can change the insurance plan you have by contacting the personnel office (simply request a form 2809). You will not have this opportunity again until late next year.

### **NATIONAL ELECTIONS**

As I write this article the results are still not known as to who the next President of the United States is. I can only remind each of you the importance of your vote. It appears that the next President will be decided by less than 2,000 votes in the state of Florida. We are aware of some of the results in California. Our branch was able to help make the efforts of Senator Diane Feinstein, Congressmen Howard Berman and Congressman Brad Sherman a great victory. It was also great to see that Adam Schiff was successful in defeating the congressional representative in the Glendale-Pasadena area. It was especially nice to have Congressman Brad Sherman stop by for a short visit during our last branch meeting. The Congressman came by to say thanks to all of our members for their support during his campaign and to speak on some upcoming

matters in congress. Congressmen Sherman, Congressmen Berman and Senator Feinstein have given letter carriers tremendous support over the years with their voting record on our issues and we should expect nothing less from Congressmen elect Schiff. We should keep in mind that what we were able to obtain in 1970 with the enactment of the Postal Reorganization Act, congress could take away with some sort of misguided legislation. A thanks go to all of you for turning out at the ballot box and supporting those who support us.

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

By the time you read this the Thanksgiving Holiday will be upon us with the Hanukkah and Christmas season close at hand. On behalf of all of the members of the executive board, I would like to wish you and your families the best of holiday seasons and a great New Year.

## **SPECIAL NOTICE NO BRANCH MEETING IN DECEMBER**

**INSTEAD !!!!**



**BRANCH 2462  
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE  
FRIDAY EVENING  
DECEMBER 8, 2000  
BEGINS 4:30 P.M.  
DINNER AT 6:00 P.M.**

**FREE FOOD  
FREE DRINK  
LOTS OF FUN FOR ALL**

"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 THE 21ST DAY BEFORE 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 the goals of the NALC, permission is granted to copy and/or use any material in this publication with our best wishes.

**Vice President Report**  
**By**  
**Calvin D. Brookins**

**Grade 6 for all city letter carriers**

By the time you read this article all City letter carriers will have been upgraded to grade 6, as per the Fleichli Arbitration award in September of 1999. Effective November 18, 2000 all city carriers will receive a 1.2 percent general wage increase followed by an increase in their pay grade. This difference in pay will be on your December 8, 2000 paycheck.

After November 18, 2000 you as letter carriers will become City Carrier Grade 1 and City Carrier Grade 2 (Carrier Technician). City Carrier Grade 1 at Step O will now make a yearly salary of \$41,949.00, and City Carrier Grade 2 Step O will make a yearly salary of \$42,974.00. These are the salaries after the 1.2 percent general wage increase.

Carriers now in Grade 5 will be placed in the same step of the new City Carrier Grade 1 with full credit for waiting time accrued toward their next step increase. That means that letter carriers in Grade 5, Step A will be placed in City Carrier Grade 1 Step A with no change in the date of their next step increase. While carriers in Grade 5, Step O will be slotted into City Carrier Grade 1, Step O. Carriers in Grade 6 before November 18, 2000 will be placed in the same step of a new City Carrier Grade 2 again with no change in the date of their next step increase.

This is an increase in salary that hard working union letter carriers deserve. You have earned it and you continue to earn it everyday as you go out and do your job and try to give good service to the American public out there. "Keep up the good work."

**Managed Service Points**

The Postal Service has informed the NALC at the national level that it intends to implement a new bar code scanning system for tracking street delivery. The new system will involve the placing of bar coded labels in various places to track carriers times along the route. The labels will be affixed to selected mailboxes along the route and carriers will use their scanners to scan the bar codes during street delivery. These labels may be placed at the hot case, the first delivery stop, the last stop before lunch, the first stop after lunch, and the last stop of the day.

Management's implementation plans call for local managers to conduct training for craft employees prior to implementation. Local managers are also directed to discuss service points for affixing the labels with the carriers before final selection. (Do not take this to mean that you will have input on where the labels will be placed). Carriers should expect to see the MSP program soon. Management has informed the NALC that it plans to implement it nationwide by the end of this year. NALC will continue to monitor this development and will keep NALC members informed.

Please do not be fooled into going out and running your route just to make the scan time. Remember if you run your route and scan this bar coded label in a certain time frame, management will expect you do scan this label in that same time frame everyday.

Do your job in a professional manner and follow all of those safety rules everyday.

**In Unionism**

**ATTENDANCE CHART**  
**BRANCH MEETINGS**

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	7	8	8	13	5	7	7	2	7	6
ENCINO	8	8	8	5	8	6	8	6	7	10
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
PANORAMA CITY	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	3	2	3
SHERMAN OAKS	7	6	5	4	5	5	6	5	5	5
SUN VALLEY	2	2	1	2	0	2	1	1	2	1
TARZANA	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
RETIREE'S	5	7	5	7	7	7	6	7	5	7
TOTAL	32	35	31	35	30	31	32	26	30	34

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

**NEXT MEETING**  
**6:00 PM**

**JANUARY**  
**2nd**  
**"2001"**

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

**January 9, 2001**

**BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505**

**"RETIREE CORNER"**

Our December 16th, 2000 (3rd Saturday) Breakfast Meeting will be held at Cocos Restaurant , 15701 Roscoe Blvd. (Just west of the 405 Freeway, across from Anheuser-Busch). It will begin at 09:00 AM. This will be our Annual Before Christmas get-together. Retiree & Wife/friend/or single. Please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Rimkus

**RETIREE'S CORNER**  
**by**  
**FRANK RIMUS**

Our Annual "Retirees Nite Dinner" this year 2000 was held on a Sunday afternoon from 1:30 pm to 5 pm, October 1, 2000, at the Encino Glen Restaurant on Burbank Blvd. Located next to the Encino-Balboa Golf Course. A total of 72 persons came.

The group included 26 Retirees, 21 Retiree wives/guests, 4 (2 widows and 2 guests) Mrs. Vincent (Betty) Cozzolino came from Canyon Country, and Mrs. John (Phyllis) McNamara from Van Nuys with 2 guests., 3 NALC officials...Manuel Peralta, Regional Administrative Assistant, Jackie White and McDowell Frazier Jr. of Branch 24. There were also 18 non-retirees and guests present.

The Retirees attending were: Joe Adams, (Palm-dale), Tom Beckwith, Frank Brash, Karyn Cummings, Jim Durando, Lee Fenstermacher, John Haynes (Crossett, AZ..farthest traveled) Harry Hurst, Raleigh Johnston, Walt Kowalick, Larry Kneitel (Las Vegas), Stewart Knutson, Roderick Leftwich, John Mikan, Dick Milfs, Keith Mower, Dan Rathbone, Frank Rimkus, Dennis Rukstalis, Odil Sabbe, Ralph Santman, Charles Shelton, Jim Tukesbrey, Manuel Venegas and George Woytowich.

Among the non-retirees and their guests were the active letter carriers: Karen Aguilar, Roger Askew, Terry Beauvais, Larry Dolabson, Janette Dolabson, Bob Enz, Teenamarie Gallegos, Robert Johnson, Velma McClinton, Jess Pasillas, and Irwin Schnyder.

After a fine dinner of breast of Chicken, Brisket of Beef or Salmon the program got under-way. Mrs. Keith Mower (Mary Loo) NALC Auxiliary 1389 member was presented with a 50 year membership pin.

The final highlight of the afternoon...Branch 2462 President Roger Askew presented Janette Dolabson, active carrier at Tarzana Station, the Annual "Ray Kreyer" award for outstanding service to the Branch. This year 2000 Janette successfully chaired the Annual NALC "Food Drive" during the month of May. Also present were 7 past winners of the Kreyer Award...Roger Askew, Frank Brash, Lee Fenstermacher, Bob Johnson, Velma McClinton, Frank Rimkus and Jim Tukesbrey.

The closing portion of the afternoon was the drawing of door prizes. Enjoy the up-coming holidays.

As you may have noticed...this year 2000 we decided to hold our Annual Retirees Dinner the first Sunday afternoon in October. We chose this time because previously the evening hours became a hazard to drive home at night. Just too many vehicles on the streets. Therefore the afternoon hours gave us more daylight for safer driving home. Also the change enables more retirees and active carriers to enjoy our fellowship.

**RAY KREYER AWARD WINNERS ASSEMBLE AT RETIREE DINNER**

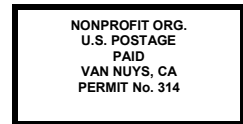


Pictured L to R  
FRANK RIMKUS (1994), JAMES TUKESBREY (in front, 1998), MANNY PERALTA (behind James, NALC Regional Administrative Assistant National Business Agents Office),  
VELMA McCLINTON (1999), JANETTE DOLABSON (CURRENT AWARD WINNER, 2000),  
ROGER ASKEW (1990), ROBERT JOHNSON (behind, 1996), LEE FENSTERMACHER (1991),  
FRANK BRASH (1989)

# "THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

**Address Correction Requested**



## Branch Meeting Minutes November 8, 2000 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 PRESIDENT ROGER ASKEW at 6:06 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Acting Sgt.-at-Arms ROBERT ENZ  
ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

**PRESENT**--ASKEW, BROOKINS, SEYFRIED, McCLINTON JOHNSON, BRASH, RATHBONE, BOCEK, TUKESBREY, T HALL

**ABSENT**--GALLEGOS

**SPECIAL GUEST**---Newly elected CONGRESSMAN BRAD SHERMAN gave a brief talk and Thank you to all members of the Branch for supporting him in his successful bid for reelection

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

JAMES DANG, RENE ARAMBULA, MA TERESA DELA CRUZ, ROBERT MELCON, RAZMIK SHAHNAZARIAN, MARIO AGUIRRE.

BILLS READ MOTION TO PAY M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**AUDIT--TRUSTEES** There will be an audit of the books sometime the beginning of January.

**RETIREES** There were 7 retirees present at tonight's meeting. On the Sick List we have Dave Larivier. We wish them a speedy recovery.

**MBA--T. HALL** No Report

**HBR--TUKESBREY** There will be a Health Benefits Seminar held at our Branch office on Friday, November 17th, beginning at 6 pm.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT**---JOHNSON

**TREASURERS REPORT**--McClinton

**EDITOR--SEYFRIED** Expect to be sending copies of new by laws to all members in January Mailcall.

**VICE-PRESIDENT BROOKINS** One bundle system has received OK for implementation in Van Nuys. It will start with the Encino and Sherman Oaks stations and spread to all others soon. Paper suspension program has also been put into place in the Van Nuys Stations.

**PRESIDENT ASKEW's REPORT** Local negotiations have been completed. Thanks go out to CALVIN BROOKINS, ROBERT JOHNSON, ROBERT ENZ, ART BOCEK & TERRY HALL, JANETTE DOLABSON and MICKEY MARTIN for their

participation in the negotiations with management. Booklets are being assembled and will be passed out to every member.

VELMA McCLINTON will be coordinating the Open House on December 8, 2000. Congratulations to CONNIE CHANG for being selected a winner of the CARL SAXSENMEIER Scholarship for 2000. Connie is the daughter of YOUNG CHANG from the Encino Station. Shop Steward Training class will be held at our office on December 10th from 10 am to 2 pm, JOAN HURST will be conducting the class. Branch NALC Health Benefits Fair will be held at the Union office on Friday November 17th, beginning at 6 pm. Dates for the 2002 and 2004 National Conventions have been announced, 2002 in Philadelphia will be from August 19 - 23, and 2004 in Hawaii will be from July 19 - 23. Open Season for Health Benefits is November 13th through December 11th. This is the only time you can change you Health Coverage. Word has been received that the Postal Service is implementing a new system (MSP) Managed Service Points. These will be bar codes placed at various places on your route and you would scan in when you arrived at these points.

**OLD BUSINESS**--NONE

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION**--Branch purchase 15 copies of the 1998-2001 National Agreement, 15 copies of the NALC Constitution & 15 copies of the Joint Cam. Cost not to exceed \$ 325  
M/S/C

**MOTION**--Branch donate \$ 50 to the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving and \$ 50 for Christmas M/S/C

**MOTION**--Branch purchase 2 Federal Employees Almanac's. Cost not to exceed \$ 35 M/S/C

**MOTION**--Executive Board be empowered to conduct the business of the Branch from 11/9/2000 through 1/4/2001. All bills written to be reported to the membership at the January 2001 Meeting M/S/C

**MOTION**--Branch extend the sign-in period for tonight's meeting only, for 15 minutes M/S

**MOTION TO TABLE**

**M/S/C**

**DIVISION CALLED**---YES---16, NO---12 MOTION CARRIES

**MOTION**--Branch be allowed to vote for TERRY HALL to be the new Branch Scribe M/S

**MOTION IS RULED OUT OF ORDER BY PRESIDENT**

Underlined means unanimous vote

COLCPE DRAWING  
\$ 5 STEVE SEYFRIED--SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 5 ED CARLIN--SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 5 CALVIN BROOKINS

\$ 5 RICK REIMER--SHERMAN OAKS

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:05 PM

SPECIAL THANKS to JANETTE DOLABSON for providing refreshments at tonight's meeting.