

THE MAIL CALL



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Roger Askew

FOOD DRIVE

Another year has gone by and another food drive is behind us. As of Saturday evening (May 12th) the branch collected over 64,000 pounds of food for the local food pantries. Thanks to Janette Dolabson for the tremendous job she did in coordinating this effort. In addition, each office had an individual food drive coordinator and they deserve a special thanks for their efforts. They are, Janette Dolabson - Tarzana, Mickey Martin - Sun Valley, Tracy Mullinax - Encino, Robert Johnson - Main Office, David Ochoa & Calvin Brookins - Civic Center, Jeff Jackson - Panorama City and Irwin Schnyder - Sherman Oaks.

The food that is given to the MEND organization is greatly needed. The food will last MEND and the other organizations well into the summer months. Thanks to all of you who picked the food up. I realize that in some cases this requires additional effort but if you could see all the good it does for those less fortunate people who need the food you would realize that the effort is well worth it. As Letter Carriers we have received national recognition for our annual Food Drive and it is a tremendous task to visit each household in the country and collect food. Each of us had a part in this effort and we should all feel proud of our efforts.

ELECTIONS

The election for branch officers will be held on May 29th, 30th, 31st and June 1st. Please take the time to review the ballot and vote for those who you feel will do the best job for the next two years. The retirees ballots and those who requested an absentee ballot were mailed out the week of May 7th. If you do not receive your ballot please contact the union office. Elections for shop stewards will take place at each carrier unit. An announcement will be posted at each unit with regard to the elections of shop stewards. The position of shop steward can not be over emphasized. The hours for all branch officers and stewards are long but the rewards are great. Whoever is your choice, please take the time to vote. The ballots will be counted by the election committee on Tuesday June 5th after the regular branch meeting has been concluded. If you would like to stop by the branch office and view the results please do so. The counting of the ballots has been well attended in the past and hopefully a few more will attend this year.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION DAY

At last months regular branch meeting, a motion was passed that the annual picnic be changed from the Los Angeles Equestrian Center to the Big Rock Park in Calabasas. The park is located on Topanga Canyon Blvd. just over the top of the hill towards the ocean. The change was necessitated by the fact that the equestrian center was booked until the end of August. We will be having James Productions do the same types of activities as last year. It should be a great day to spend with fellow members who attend this annual event. The event will be held on Sunday July 15th, 2001. We will be placing flyers for you to review in each office and an adjacent sign up sheet so that we can make arrangements for the food. In addition, the editor will be placing an announcement in the next couple of issues of the mail call so that you will be aware of the ticket prices.

INSTALLATION

The installation of branch officers will take place in conjunction with the Membership Appreciation Day on July 15th, 2001. The NALC constitution requires that the installation of officers take place within two months of the election. By having the event in conjunction with the membership appreciation day we believe that more members will be able to see who the new officers are for the next two years. Plan on attending the event.

CALIFORNIA STATE TRAINING

On Friday April 27th and Saturday April 28th, the branch sent fifteen stewards and officers to the annual training conducted by the California State Association. Classes were held in arbitration preparation, dispute resolution, OWCP, legislation and other seminars of interest. The session concluded on Sunday in a Rap Session with the National Business Agent Dale Hart and his staff. Each time this type of training is conducted by our leaders I feel it is important to avail ourselves of this educational opportunity.

In closing I recently heard a story about one of our beloved managers that went something like this. Reminiscing about their past, this manager stated that their high school grades would have been a lot better if she hadn't been caught cheating so many times.

Enough....

"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.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	5	7	5	7	5	6				
ENCINO	5	10	7	8	7	7				
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	0	1	2	2				
PANORAMA CITY	2	3	3	6	2	3				
SHERMAN OAKS	5	5	6	6	5	3				
SUN VALLEY	0	1	2	2	2	2				
TARZANA	1	1	1	1	1	1				
RETIREE'S	4	6	6	4	7	5				
TOTAL	23	35	30	35	31	29				

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**JULY
10th
"2001"**

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

July 10, 2001

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

"RETIREE CORNER"

Our 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. The date for the next 2 will be July 28, and August 25, 2001 (4th Saturday) Please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Rimkus

FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

by
JANETTE DOLABSON

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those people who made this years Food drive a success. First I would like to say thanks to all you carriers that picked up the food and delivered it to the stations. I know how much extra effort you must give to do this along with your regular duties. I would like to thank my office coordinators, MICKEY MARTIN & TIA WILSON from Sun Valley, JEFF JACKSON from Panorama City, BOB JOHNSON from Main Office, CALVIN BROOKINS & DAVID OCHOA from Civic Center, TRACY MULLINAX from Encino & IRWIN SCHNYDER from Sherman Oaks. Without your hard work and dedication it would have been impossible to be successful in getting this food collected and sorted and distributed in the time it had to be done in. Thanks goes to ROGER ASKEW who always helps when asked, to RAY BRYANT who did an outstanding job keeping his promises with the USPS side of things, also to TONY PLANT & PHIL SHEFFLING who gave up days off to help with the Food drive, when they didn't have to. A special thank you to all the volunteers sent to us by MEND who worked their tails off without any complaints, and to GINA MIRABELLA who is always there coordinating the Food Bank's resources to us without any hitches. I received a nice thank you not from MEND stating that they estimated that the food received was about 95,000 pounds and that they will be able to help 18,000 more people this year above the already 26,000 they usually can serve through the summer months. Thank you all so much, and bless you all for your efforts.

BRANCH 2462 OFFICIAL 2001 ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT

CALVIN BROOKINS-----ACCLAMATION

VICE PRESIDENT

ART BOCEK-----ACCLAMATION

RECORDING SECRETARY

STEVE SEYFRIED-----ACCLAMATION

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

ROBERT JOHNSON-----ACCLAMATION

TREASURER

VELMA McCLINTON-----ACCLAMATION

SGT-AT-ARMS

TEENAMARIE GALLEGOS----- 137

ROGER ASKEW-----WINNER----- 246

TRUSTEE

DAN RATHBONE-----WINNER----- 208

GLORIA HENRY-----WINNER----- 293

RICHARD REIMER----- 180

MICHELLE HALL-----WINNER----- 246

HEALTH BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE

KEVIN DONOHUE-----ACCLAMATION

MUTUAL BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE

TERRY HALL-----WINNER----- 195

BOB ENZ----- 179

EDITOR

STEVE SEYFRIED-----ACCLAMATION

Vice President Report:

By

Calvin D. Brookins

Discussions

In past issues of the MailCall I have written articles about what to do when you are call into the office for an official discussion. I am going to write about this again because I have notice that most carriers are not doing what I am suggesting even though it is for your on good.

Remember discussions are between the supervisor and the employee there should not be anyone else present and it should be done in private. If the supervisor or manager does not tell you this is an official discussion do not be afraid to ask, I would highly suggest that you ask, so there is no confusion about whether it is an official discussion or not.

You should always make a note about what the discussion was about with the date and time written on it, and what supervisor had the discussion with you. This will help you remember when you were given a discussion and what was said during this discussion. Article 16 section 2 of the national agreement states that after the discussion there is no prohibition against the supervisor and/or the employee making a personal notation of the date and subject matter for their own personal records. It is up to you to protect yourself as far as a discussion is concern.

Weingarten Rights

Past decisions of the National Labor Relations board and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit established that:

(1) When an employee being interviewed by an employer is confronted by a reasonable risk that discipline would be imposed, the employee has a right to the assistance of - not mere presence - of a union representative.

(2) That an employer violates the Act when it refuses to permit the representative to speak, and relegates him to the role of a passive observer.

The parties have agreed that under the Weingarten rule, the employer must provide a union representative to the employee during the course of its investigatory meeting where the employee requests such representation and the employee has a reasonable belief that discussions during the meeting might lead to discipline (against the employee himself).

Keep in mind that during an official discussion you are not entitle to union representation, but at the same time there should not be questions asked at during an official discussion. During an official discussion management is suppose to make you aware of what you are doing wrong and give you the opportunity to correct what you are doing wrong.

If management start to ask you questions about what you have allegedly done wrong then you should asked one question, (can my answering of these questions lead to discipline)?

If management answers yes, maybe, or I don't know then you should request union representation.

If you have any questions regarding discussions or Weingarten rights ask to see your shop steward or call the union office.

Picnic

I recently sent out information announcing that the picnic would be held at the L.A. Equestrian center in Burbank, I regret to tell you that we will have to change the location of the picnic to Big Rock Ranch which is located in Calabasas. This is due to the L.A. Equestrian center not being available on a Sunday until October. The picnic will be held on July 15, 2001.

I visited Big Rock Ranch three years ago to check out their set up and their food and I found it to be a very nice place. They have lots of shady area a swimming pool, a small pond for fishing for the kids and all of the sports set up and necessary items for a traditional picnic.

I am sure you will enjoy this place as much as you enjoyed the L.A. Equestrian center last year. A sign-up sheet will be posted at all of the carrier stations soon and flyer with all of the necessary information on it will be given to all active union members.

Retirees who wish to attend the picnic please call the union office for more information. I would like to encourage all members active and retired to attend this year's picnic, as we will be holding our picnic in conjunction with the installing of our union officers for the next two years. Twenty-two points, plus triple-word-score, plus fifty points for using all my letters. Game's over. I'm outta here.

I hope to see all of you there.

In Unionism

BRANCH 2462 2001 ELECTION COMMITTEE

The following members of Branch 2462 will serve on the Election Committee for the the Branch Officer's election.

STEVE	
SEYFRIED.....	CHAIRMAN
JANETTE	
DOLABSON.....	TARZANA
JEFF JACKSON.....	PANORAMA
CITY	
TIA WILSON.....	SUN
VALLEY	
VELMA	McCLINTON.....MAIN
OFFICE	
CALVIN	BROOKINS.....CIVIC
CENTER	
LARRY	
DOLABSON.....	ENCINO
IRWIN SCHNYDER.....	SHERMAN
OAKS	

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes

June 5, 2001

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 6:35 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by ROBERT ENZ

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--ASKEW, BROOKINS, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, GALLEGOS, RATHBONE, BOCEK, T. HALL, TUKESBREY
ABSENT--McCLINTON, BRASH

CALL FOR ELECTION VOTING ANNOUNCED
MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MARIA HERRERA, CARMEN ESPINOZA, M/S/C
BILLS READ MOTION TO PAY
COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT--TRUSTEES	None
RETIREES	None.
MBA--T. HALL	No Report
HBR--TUKESBREY	No Report
FOOD DRIVE--DOLABSON	Total amount 95,000 lbs
FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT---JOHNSON	
TREASURERS REPORT--JOHNSON	
COLCPE	\$ 219 currently in the fund
VICE-PRESIDENT BROOKINS	Picnic is ready to go sign

up sheets are in the stations. Estimated cost will be \$ 16,995
PRESIDENT ASKEW's REPORT Audit of the books will be on Thursday July 12, 2001. Newly elected Trustee's should plan to attend. Installation of Officers will take place in conjunction with Branch Picnic on July 15th. Moneys budgeted for installation will be combined with the Picnic fund. Selection of the RAY KREYER AWARD will take place at the Executive Board meeting to be held in September. Suggestions should be submitted prior to 9/27/01. Retirees Dinner will be held on Sunday October 21, 2001. Petition circulated at Sherman Oaks regarding treatment of employees and moral has been submitted to Postmaster and Station Manager. Labor-Management Meeting has been scheduled to discuss these matters.

OLD BUSINESS--No word on Bylaw's
EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch renew the yearly subscription to the Federal Times. Cost \$ 52.
M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase a NALC logo watch for any union member who retires from the Postal Service M/S
AMEND--any newly retired member
M/S/C

MOTION--Branch move the July Regular Meeting from July 3rd. to July 10th.
M/S/C

SPECIAL THANKS--To FRANK BRASH, JIM TUKESBREY & ROGER ASKEW for their many years of service to BRANCH 2462. Also thanks from the Secretary to JANETTE DOLABSON for taking minutes at the June meeting.

COLCPE DRAWING

\$ 3	KEVIN DONOHUE--ENCINO
\$ 3	ANN SCARBOROUGH--ENCINO
\$ 3	STEVE SEYFRIED--SHERMAN OAKS
\$ 3	BOB ENZ--ENCINO
\$ 3	GLORIA HENRY--SHERMAN OAKS

LAST CALL FOR ELECTION VOTING CALLED

ELECTION VOTING CLOSED

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:48 PM

IMPORTANT REMINDER

**THE REGULAR BRANCH MEETING IN
THE MONTH OF JULY.**

WILL BE HELD ON

*****TUESDAY*****

JULY 10, 2001

