

THE



100 YEARS OF DELIVERING FOR AMERICA

# MAIL CALL

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Van Nuys, CA



11



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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT By CALVIN BROOKINS

### DOG AWARENESS

Recently I participated in a Dog Walk at Balboa park, there were about 250 letter carriers, clerks and management personnel along with their families. The purpose of this Dog Walk was to make the public aware of the danger that their dogs pose to letter carriers. Last year letter carriers from the Van Nuys cluster suffered 85 dog bites, the most of any district in the country. There were 3,138 letter carriers nationwide bitten by dogs last year. The dog walk received good local press coverage, I hope the customers that we deliver mail to got the message and will do more to restrain and keep their dogs under control. I would like to thank all of the employees of the Postal Service who came out to help us get this very important message out to the public. I would like to also thank Fernando Miranda and Nestor Rivera for helping me grill hamburgers and hotdogs.

### COLCPE

Committee On Letter Carriers Political Education (COLCPE). COLCPE is the most effective way to make your voice heard in Washington DC, the NALC does not use union dues to make contributions to political candidates. COLCPE is the way that we as letter carriers send our message to Congress through our Union. COLCPE is a way of telling certain politicians that we appreciate their support, and that we have the resources to help them get elected.

COLCPE contributions go to the candidates for U.S. Senate and House of Representatives who support our views and interests on certain issues. We donate COLCPE money to both Democrats and Republicans who have pledged their support for NALC positions on a wide range of issues from health care to social security. You as an everyday letter carrier can help support COLCPE, by sending your contribution by check or money order to:

COLCPE  
100 Indiana Ave. N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20001

In Unionism

### NOTIFICATION TO INCREASE UNION DUES

This is notification that the question of increasing the union dues of all active members will be before the membership and voted on at the September regular branch meeting to be held on Tuesday September 3, 2002.

A by-law change was passed at the July meeting, regarding increasing the union dues of all active letter carriers that are members of Branch 2462.

This by-law were submitted at the June meeting and voted upon at the July meeting as per Article XV of the Branch by-laws.

Article 7, Section 2 of the NALC Constitution states the following:

The rates of dues and initiation fees may be increased only by majority vote by secret ballot of the regular members in good standing at a special or regular meeting after reasonable notice has been given that this question will be before the meeting. Except that a branch may provide in its by-laws that such majority vote may be had by secret ballot referendum...

Therefore, the above is to be considered reasonable notification as per the NALC Constitution.

## IN MEMORY

**RAY MUSE**  
**RETIREE-BRANCH 2462**

"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 AT THE CONCLUSION 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 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 Art Bocek

### MSP Scans

Recently I have learned through various sources that a letter carrier in the valley has been placed on an "Emergency Suspension without Pay" under Art 16, Section 7. You ask, "What dastardly deed did this individual do? Well, this person believed they could have scan points on a personal piece of paper and scan them when it was time for the scan and not be at the scan point. As you can tell, management took a dim view of this and issued the "Emergency Suspension". Currently, this individual has been in a non-pay status for about 3 weeks while management gets all of their ducks in a row in order to determine whether or not to issue a "Notice of Removal". Well, I ask you, was running the route and be somewhere else worth it? You decide.

### Leave without Pay

An Employee may request unpaid time off ---leave without pay (LWOP) --- by submitting a Form 3971. If the requested LWOP is for more than 30 days, the applicant contain a written statement giving the reason for the requested LWOP absence (ELM Section 514.51).

A general rule, management may grant LWOP as a matter of administration discretion. There are certain exceptions concerning disabled veterans, military reservist, and members of the National Guard ( ELM Section 514.22). A national Memorandum of Understanding establishes that an employee need not exhaust annual leave and/ or sick leave before requesting LWOP (ELM Section 514.4d).

### OWCP/Fraud

It has come to my attention through various sources that carriers who have suffered an "On the Job Injuries" are aggressively being followed by your friends and mine, the "Postal Inspectors". What the Postal Inspection Service is currently doing is following you all day long watching and filming. The Postal Service has even gone so far as to send injured employees free tickets to local amusement parks in a covert manner, in order to get a great video background of the injured employee. This 10-12 hour film is then reduced to 30 minutes of prime time viewing in order to see if you are performing any acts in violation of your medical restrictions. The Postal Service then takes action to have you removed for fraud. So when your medical restrictions have changed for either the better or worse, you need to notify the Postal Service in order not to find yourself with this problem.

**Remember, "The more rights you know, the less you will bleed from management"**

## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	5	6	5	4	6	3	4				
ENCINO	6	6	6	5	3	5	5				
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	1	1	1	1	1				
PANORAMA CITY	1	1	3	2	3	4	2				
SHERMAN OAKS	6	6	5	5	5	6	14				
SUN VALLEY	1	0	0	1	0	1	1				
TARZANA	1	1	0	2	2	1	2				
RETIREE'S	4	4	7	5	4	6	4				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>33</b>				

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

**NEXT MEETING  
6:30 PM**

**AUGUST**

**6th**

**"2002"**

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

**August 6, 2002**

**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 3 will be Aug 24, Sept 28, & October 26,2002 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You  
Frank Brash

## Summertime Fun !! Play It Safe !!

Hi Brothers and Sisters,

By the time you receive this safety message summer will have already started. So this is just a reminder to play it safe this summer. There are some things to keep in mind during the summer months:

1. The use of sunscreen---Sunscreen is the quickest and easiest thing you can do to decrease your risk of skin cancer. Most Letter Carriers are out on the street between the hours of 10 am and 3 pm. This is when the sun's rays are the most intense.
2. Studies have been done which show that children are even more sensitive to the sun because they have thinner skin than adults. About 70 percent of skin damage occurs before the age of 18.

It is recommended that you use a sunscreen with an SPF (sun protection factor) of 15 or higher. It should provide both UVA and UVB protection.

### Water Safety

1. Never leave a child alone, especially around water. A child can drown in less than an inch of water.
2. Never take our eyes off a child around water. Even a trip to answer the phone, or turn down the stove, etc., can be disastrous.
3. Drain and store plastic wading pools on their sides after each use.
4. Enclose permanent pools with a fence that is at least 4 feet high, and keep the gates locked.

Every parent should learn and become proficient at infant and child CPR.

**Remember!!!! Safety is first.....**

In Unionism

**Gloria Henry**

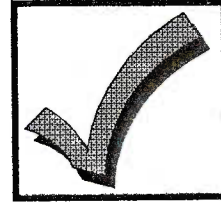
## LEGISLATIVE NEWS !!!

by

**VELMA McCLINTON**

Members---

Please support SB 1736 (Senate Bill). This pro-active labor bill would assist union members of the United Farm Workers (UFW) in their fight to achieve basic bargaining rights to include binding arbitration to settle disputes. These agricultural employees now receive unfair labor practices. SB 1736 would have a written petition with an arbitrator being assigned to issue a remedy existing of a collective bargaining agreement. This bill will stipulate a process that can keep labor from breaking apart in this industry. With your held SB 1736 can have a considerable victory for farm worker rights. contact your local State Senator by phone, fax, or postcard. These addresses can be located in the front of your local telephone book. Please let them know that you uphold and support this legislative action.



## ATTENTION MEMBERS & FAMILY

**To All Members or Branch 2462**

**Please invite your spouse to join  
the Auxiliary.**

**We are trying to get moving again  
to help out the Branch.**

**We meet on the 4th Saturday of the  
Month at Coco's on Roscoe by the  
405 Frwy at 9 AM  
for breakfast (buy your own).**

**Nadine Cano  
President, NALC Auxiliary 1389**

## BRANCH 2462

2002

## CONVENTION DELEGATES

Karen Aguilar-Pan city	Roger Askew-Encino
Jeff Auslander S Oaks	Art Bocek Encino
Frank Brash Ret	Harry Breneman-Ret
Calvin BrookinsCivic	Ed Carlin-S Oaks
Jason Colello-Encino	Janette Dolabson-Tarz
Larry Dolabson-Encino	Kevin Donohue-Encino
Robert Enz-Encino	Lee Fenstermacher-Ret
TeenaMarie Gallegos-Main	Michelle Hall-Main
Terry Hall-Main	Gloria Henry-S Oaks
Jeff Jackson-Pan City	Robert Johnson-Main
Velma McClinton-Main	Tracy Mullinax-Encino
Dan Rathbone-Ret	Rich Reimer-S Oaks
Willie Scarborough-Encino	Irwin Schnyder-S Oaks
Steve Seyfried-S Oaks	Jim Tukesbrey-Ret
Tia Wilson-Sun Valley	

**"THE MAIL CALL"  
BRANCH 2462, NALC  
Steve Seyfried, Editor  
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101  
Van Nuys, CA 91406**



**Address Service Requested**

**Branch Meeting  
Minutes**

**July 2, 2002**

**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 CALVIN BROOKINS at 6:38 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt.-at-Arms ASKEW

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

**PRESENT**--BROOKINS, BOCEK, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, RATHBONE, HENRY, M. HALL, ASKEW, T. HALL

**ABSENT**--McCLINTON, DONOHUE

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL**

**CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--NONE**

**BILLS READ MOTION TO PAY** M/S/C

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT--TRUSTEES** There will be an audit soon. Exact date will be posted

**RETIREES** 4 present tonight.

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

**HBR--DONOHUE** No Report

**SAFETY & HEALTH--JOHNSON** No Report

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT---JOHNSON**

**TREASURERS REPORT--McCLINTON**

**COLCPE** \$ 585 currently in the fund

**VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK** Picnic will be held at Big Rock Ranch on September 8, 2002, from 11 am till 4 pm.

**PRESIDENT BROOKIN's REPORT** NALC and the Postal Service signed new five year agreement on June 26th. Still no word on when the 1.8 % retro checks will be recieved, the COLA will be on the September 27th pay check. Cola now stands at \$ 275.60. Postal Reform Legislation has been delayed, in spite of this action, the legislation should soon be moving again. Final food drive totals are in. 62.7 million pounds of food nationwide. The best food dirve to date. Sherman Oaks, Main Office, and Encino now have phone bidding for routes. The confirmations for the National Convention Hotel have come in, we will be staying at the Windham Hotel. Thift saving open season is from 5/15 through 7/13. The Committee of Presidents meetng will be held in Los Angeles on Sunday October 27th and Monday October 28th. I plan on attending this meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS--NONE**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGES**

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article III, Section 1. M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article IV, Section 6. M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article IV, Section 10. M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article VI M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article XII M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article XIII M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article XIV M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article XV M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed addition of Article XVI M/S/C

MOTION--Accept proposed ammendment to Article IX, Section 1 M/S/C

DIVISION CALLED--YES-----21, NO---7 MOTION PASSES

MOTION--Branch send the President, or 2 members, to the EEO Seminar in Los Angeles on August 8, 2002. Cost not to exceed \$ 1100.00 M/S/C

DIVISION CALLED--YES-----11, NO---7 MOTION PASSES

Underlined means unanimous vote

**COLCPE DRAWING**

- \$ 5 CLIFF KELLEY--TARZANA--DONATED
- \$ 5 BETTY SARKDAVISARAK--SHERMAN OAKS
- \$ 10 BOB ENZ--ENCINO

**MEETING ADJOURNED 9:00 PM**

