

THE MAIL CALL

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11



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Doing your job by the book

We must do our jobs by the book day in and day out. When I say by the book I am referring to the M-41 Handbook and National Agreement. If you do your job by the book you should never find yourself in trouble regarding your performance. You should do your job everyday as if you are being inspected, that way if you do get inspected you will be prepared.

Management is trying to capture under-time. The problem is, if management thinks that your route has under-time and you say you don't, in some cases you may still be required to deliver mail from another route. If you are forced to work overtime in this situation then a violation of Article 8 has occurred.

If you are a non-OTDL carrier and are required to work overtime on your own assignment, all OTDL carriers and PTF's must work 10 hours. If you are a non-OTDL or on the Work Assignment List (WAL) and are forced to work overtime on an assignment other than yours, all OTDL, PTF and casual carriers must work 12 hours.

See your shop steward or call the union office if you believe a violation has occurred.

Automated Parcels

First it was letters, now they are working on automation flats now. By 2005 the Postal Service plans to automate parcels. The automated package processing system, approved by the Board of Governors on September 6, 2002, will move the Postal Service closer to a fully automated system. The new system will speed up processing, allow more pieces to be processed automatically and reduce the need for some jobs (most likely clerks or mail processors). The first test sorters will go on-line in January 2004, and the full implementation will take place between March 2004 and August 2005.

They will automatically unload the mail from containers and line up the parcels on the carousel in single file.

They will scan all six sides of the parcel for bar code and zip code information, eliminating the need to right packages.

If the zip code is missing they will continue to circulate the package on the carousel while a remote encoding system reads the address, finds the appropriate zip code and affixes it to the package before automatically sorting it to the proper bin.

This will not change anything that a letter carrier has to do with the parcels, that new automated system will not deliver those parcels for us.

In Unionism

IN MEMORY OF OUR FELLOW UNION MEMBERS

DAVID HEINKE
JIM DURANGO
TOM HOFF
JEFF ABBITT
CLARENCE DETTMAN

"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.

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	3	3	4	
ENCINO	6	6	6	5	3	5	5	5	6	6	
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	
PANORAMA CITY	1	1	3	2	3	4	2	1	4	4	
SHERMAN OAKS	6	6	5	5	5	6	14	9	20	6	
SUN VALLEY	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	2	2	
TARZANA	1	1	0	2	2	1	2	1	2	2	
RETIREE'S	4	4	7	5	4	6	4	5	5	4	
TOTAL	25	27	27	25	24	27	33	26	44	31	

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

NEXT MEETING

6:30 PM

NOVEMBER

5th

"2002"

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

November 5, 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 2 will be November 16, 2002 & December 21, 2002 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You
Frank Brash

VICE PRESIDENT ART BOCEK

Consequential and Intervening Injuries

The Office of Workers' Compensation Program (OWCP) defines a "recurrence of disability" as a spontaneous return of symptoms of a previous injury or occupational disease without intervening cause." OWCP's defines a "consequential injury" as an injury or medical condition sustained "off the job" which results from an employment-related injury or illness.

An employee with an OWCP-accepted knee injury may suffer another injury to a different part of his or her body because of a fall caused by the buckling of the weakening knee. This new injury sustained by the employee is considered as a consequential injury whether the affected part of the body is the same knee or some other part of the employee's body.

Below are some other examples of scenarios accepted by OWCP as consequential injuries. They are as follows:

1. An employee suffers an injury to the other knee through over use, because of the original injury of the other knee, the original accepted claim for benefits.

2. Consequential injuries also include injury while traveling to and from obtaining treatment or authorized examination for an OWCP-accepted claim.

3. If you are hospitalized for an OWCP-accepted claim and suffer a new injury or medical condition which occurs as results to the hospital care (i.e., if the medical care causes a secondary injury or condition, the resulting disability is compensable.)

The reasoning behind OWCP's acceptance of consequential injury involves the chain of causation theory. The causation theory means, "if a second injury or medical condition is a natural consequence of an OWCP-accepted injury, then the second one is compensable."

Form CA-2a, "Notice of Recurrence" is the proper form to be used in filing a "consequential injury" claim even though consequential injuries are basically different from the traditional definition of a recurrence.

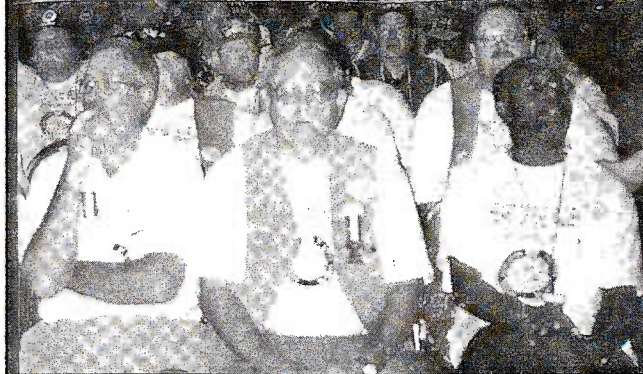
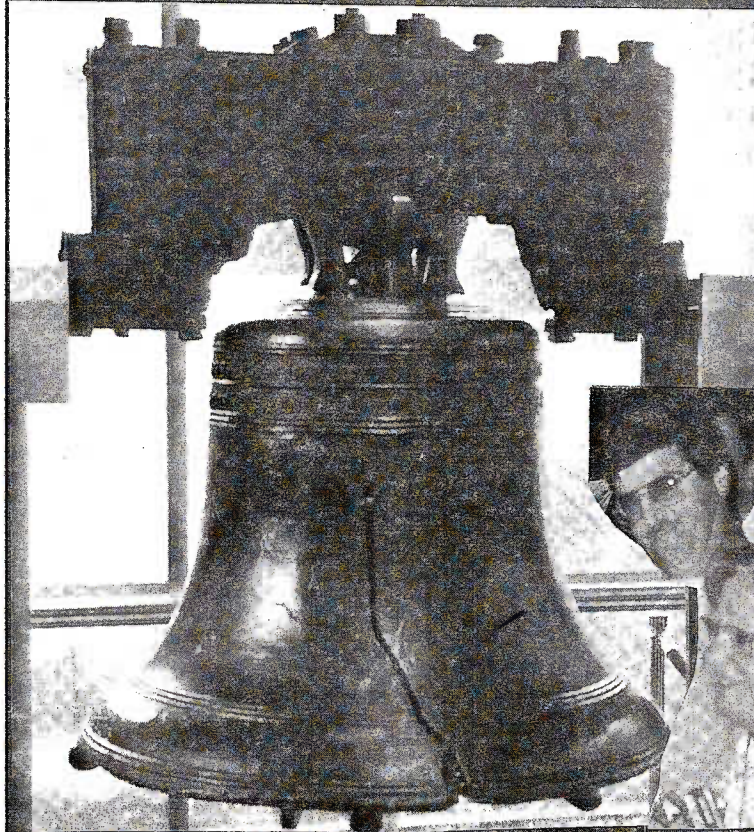
The employee claiming a consequential injury completes Part A. of form CA-2A. A narrative statement describing the consequential injury and its relationship to the OWCP-accepted injury needs to be attached to the Form CA-2a. This narrative needs to show the when, how and why the consequential injury occurred.

A narrative medical report is necessary from the injured employee's physician which shows supporting medical evidence (i.e., the physician's definitive medical opinion, with medical reasoning, showing how and in what manner the OWCP-accepted injury or illness caused the consequential injury).

Don't confuse a consequential injury with an "intervening injury"- the term used by OWCP to describe an "off the job" injury which was not caused by an OWCP-accepted injury or illness (i.e., an employee with an OWCP-accepted injury or illness sustains a new injury to the back in an automobile accident). OWCP must then determine if the effects of the employment-related injury or illness still contributes to the employee's disability.

In short, unless the new "off the job injury" breaks the chain of causation of the prior employment injury or illness & the disability claimed, the disability will be considered related to the employment-related injury or illness.

**2002 PHILADELPHIA CONVENTION DELEGATES
REPRESENT BRANCH 2462**



"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes October 1, 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 6:37 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt.-at-Arms ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Remembrance of Members who have recently passed away

DAVID HEINKE, JIM DURANGO, TOM HOFF, CLARENCE DETTMAN, JEFF ABBITT

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--BROOKINS, BOCEK, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, McCLINTON, RATHBONE, M. HALL, ASKEW, DONOHUE, T. HALL

ABSENT--HENRY

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

SONIA KIM, MARIA LICUP, STEVEN GREY, DAVID ESPINOZA, RONALD DELGADO, EDDIE O'HARA

BILLS READ MOTION TO PAY

M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT--TRUSTEES The audit was conducted and the books were found to be in balance and in good order.

RETIREES--BRASH 4 present tonight. Retiree Dinner will be held on October 20, 2002 at Encino Glen. There was a full informational ad in the October Mailcall. Hope to see everyone there for a good time.

MBA--T. HALL No Report

HBR--DONOHUE Open Season for Health Plan insurance will be from November 11th through December 9, 2002. Make sure that you check out the NALC Health Plan, the prices are very competitive and the benefits are some of the best around.

SAFETY & HEALTH--JOHNSON No Report

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT--JOHNSON

TREASURERS REPORT--JOHNSON

COLCPE \$ 905 currently in the fund

VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK Still working hard on grievances at Sherman Oaks. Picnic was enjoyed by all who attended. There are still outstanding bills to come in, there will be a full and complete report given at the next Regular meeting in November.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN's REPORT I will be attending the COP meeting in Los Angeles on October 27 & 28th. NALC

calendars have been ordered, they will be passed out as soon as they come into the office. Nominations for the RAY KREYER AWARD were discussed at the Executive Board meeting. The nominee's are ART BOCEK, DAN RATHBONE and KEVIN DONOHUE. The award will be presented to one of these members at the Retiree Dinner on October 20, 2002. The 1.8 % retroactive pay increase will be on the October 11th pay checks. NALC National Elections will be held between October 1st through October 22, 2002. You will be receiving an official ballot from National that will explain exactly what you must do to vote for the National Officers who are running. Muscular Dystrophy Association is holding a special 50/50 fund raiser to commemorate the 50th anniversary of their association with the NALC. We will be having a special speaker at the November meeting and refreshments to kick off this special fund raising promotion.

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ
NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--The regular meeting of Branch 2462, scheduled for Tuesday, December 3, 2002 be canceled and an Open House be held on Saturday December 14, 2002 at the Branch Office

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 200 to the re-election campaign for Congressmen Brad Sherman & Howard Berman

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch President or his designee attend the Committee of Presidents meeting in Los Angeles October 27 - 28. Cost not to exceed \$ 600.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch extend the current lease on the Union Hall for a period of 3 years.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch President be authorized to purchase Laptop computers. Cost not to exceed \$ 850.00

M/S/F

MOTION--Branch President be authorized to purchase a Laptop computer. Cost not to exceed \$ 1500.00

M/S/C

Underlined means unanimous vote

COLCPE DRAWING

\$ 4 FRANK BRASH--RETIREE
\$ 4 ROBERT JOHNSON--MAIN OFFICE
\$ 7 TIA WILSON--SUN VALLEY

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:32 PM