

THE MAIL CALL



Published by
Branch 2462, NALC
Van Nuys, CA

VOLUME 40

MAY

2003

NUMBER 5

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

NALC FACES THE FUTURE

During a recent California state training session NALC National President William H. Young gave a complete outline regarding the Postal Service. The outline included four specific topics. I wish every member of the branch could have been there to hear it, because it was really an eye opening speech. I am going to attempt to reiterate it to you through my article this month because I believe it is something that every letter carrier should be aware of.

He started off by telling us how President Bush asked Jimmy Hoffa Jr. (President of the Teamster Union) to come to the White House then asked him to support privatizing the Postal Service. The Teamsters represents UPS. Mr. Hoffa told him "NO".

The year of 2003 is a year of change; we have a new Congress with new Committee Chairs. New President's Commission on the USPS. New Union Leadership. New NALC Approach.

(Continued on Page 3)

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS & ELECTION OF SHOP STEWARDS

This is official notice to members of Branch 2462 that nominations for Shop Steward will be posted and accepted at the individual Stations and Elections will be held at individual Stations. Deadline for nominations is May 29, 2003. The election will be held on June 5 & 6, 2003. Voting will take place on these dates between the hours of 4:30 pm -- 6:30 pm. The counting of the ballots will take place on Friday June 6, 2003 beginning at 6:30 pm at the Station where the voting occurred. All candidates and members may observe the counting. Members will vote for Shop Stewards at their stations only.

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

Absentee ballots may be obtained by writing to the Election Committee, Branch 2462, NALC, 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave, # 101, Van Nuys, CA, 91406 or by calling (818) 786-8505. Requests for absentee ballots must be received by the Election Committee no later than May 15, 2003 and must be returned to the Election Committee no later than June 5, 2003. Write in votes are not permitted.

2003 PICNIC EXTRAVAGANZA

SUNDAY, June 29th

11:00 am - 4:30 pm

RANCHO SAN ANTONIO BOYS TOWN
21000 Plummer St. (just West of Desoto)
In the West San Fernando Valley

DIRECTIONS: 118 FREEWAY - Take 118 Freeway to Desoto Exit. Go South 1.5 miles to Plummer St. Turn right.
101 FREEWAY - Take 101 Freeway to Desoto Exit. Go North to Plummer - Turn Left.

TICKETS

Member, spouse & children (living at home)
Single members (1 guest in lieu of spouse)
Guests: "Limited Supply"
Guest Children 7 to 17
Guest Children under 6

CARRIERS

Picnic sign-up sheets will be available at each carrier station. You **MUST** sign up to receive tickets. **Guests must be listed on sign-up sheet next to the member in order to receive tickets and be prepaid. Member must be in attendance in order for guest admission to picnic.**

Guest tickets are "First come - First served"
LAST DAY FOR SIGN UP IS 6-14--03

RETIREE'S

Contact Irwin Schynder (818) 882-6465 or Branch Office (818) 786-8505. Tickets will be picked up at the gate registration table the day of the picnic.

TICKETS MUST BE ORDERED BY 6-14-03

FOOD

All you can eat will be served from **12:00 pm- 2:30pm**
Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, Soft Tacos, Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, Barbecue Beans, Fresh Fruit, Ice Cream, condiments, and much, much more.

DRINKS

Beer, Wine and Soft Drinks will be served

PICNIC GAMES

Family Lawn Games
Strolling Balloonist + Face Painter + Carnival Games
Ponies rides + Moon Bounce
Bingo
Heated Olympic Pool

Salsa Tasting Contest

1st Prize \$100.00, 2nd \$50.00, 3rd \$25.00

**DOOR PRIZES FOR UNION MEMBERS ONLY,
MEMBER MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN**

"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'S REPORT

By Art Bocek

Timely Notices to OWCP

Once an employee completes a Form CA-1 or Form CA-2, and gives the completed form to a supervisor, management has the responsibility to submit the form to OWCP in a "timely manner." After receiving a completed form from an employee, under {20CFR 10.102(a)} the completed form must be submitted **within 10 working days** to OWCP. When a Form CA-7 is submitted by an employee to a supervisor, under {20 CFR 10.106} the completed form must be submitted to OWCP **no later than 5 working days** from the date of receipt.

When you file a Form CA-1 or Form CA-2, at the bottom of the form is an area whereby the receiving supervisor is to give back to the employee a signed and dated portion of the form. From the date of receipt, management's time limits start. You **"MUST"** get the signed receipt from the supervisor. Also, you need to photocopy the claim form in order to protect oneself from either misplaced, lost, or noncompliance of submission of your claim to OWCP by management.

If you do not receive a postcard receipt from OWCP indicating that they have received your claim for compensation within 30 days, you need to contact either your steward or the union office and ask for assistance in determining as to why you have not received a receipt of your claim by OWCP. Ten (10) days after submitting your claim to your supervisor, you should call the Injury Compensation Office and find out if your claim form was received from your supervisor and the date Injury Compensation Office sent your claim form to OWCP. If the Injury Compensation Specialist indicates to you that your claim form had not been received, call either the union office or request to see your steward for assistance as soon as possible.

If management for any reason fails to submit your claim or any claim form in a "timely manner," you need to stand up for your right's and file both a grievance, and an EEO Complaint. Management may have violated regulations contained within the Federal Employee Compensation Act (FECA) and the above cited federal regulations regarding the Postal Services requirements in the "timely submission" of OWCP forms.

What every employee needs to remember when dealing with management is: "Management's is only concerned with its "Almighty" budget, loss time hours, and bonuses, and **not your paycheck, or career** because of an incapacitation due to either an on the job injury or illness."

Remember, "The more you sweat and toil over learning rules and regulations, the less you will bleed from battle with management".

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	20	4	5						
ENCINO	6	7	6	6						
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	1	1						
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	4	4						
SHERMAN OAKS	8	6	4	5						
SUN VALLEY	2	1	2	2						
TARZANA	2	2	2	2						
RETIREE'S	3	5	5	4						
TOTAL	27	47	28	29						

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**MAY
6th**

"2003"

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

May 6, 2003

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 May 24th & June 28, 2003 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Brash

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

The Union's message is clear and direct, Postal reform is vital for job security. United States Postal Service has been a great success and is worth preserving for the benefit of the country. But technology is changing the postal industry and the USPS is not viable over the long run without legislative reform and a bold action to boost revenues.

WHERE WE ARE

The Postal Service is in trouble; mail volume is falling, the short-term results of why is the weak economy, the terrorist attacks of 9/11/01, and Anthrax. Long term, electronic alternatives to first class mail. More and more people are using computers to pay their bills and to correspond with each other through such avenues as e-mail and cc-mail. The USPS is slashing employment, 50,000 jobs cut since 1998, 14,000 of those were city carriers, and quality of service is in jeopardy. Financial crisis looming, The USPS is losing hundreds of millions of dollars despite rate hikes. The USPS is \$12 billion in debt nearing legal limit of \$15 billion. In the year of 2002 we experienced a triple whammy, an economic recession, September 11th, mail revenue off by \$1.5 billion in first quarter (10%), Anthrax attacks, mail security costs top \$1.25 billion. In fiscal year 2002 there was a mail volume meltdown, worst year since the great depression.

During the years of 2000, 2001, and 2002 there was financial fallout, mounting losses of \$200 million in the year of 2000, \$1.7 billion in 2001. \$0.7 billion in 2002. There were also three rate hikes in 18 months, January 2001 (4.6%), July 2001 (1.7%), July 2002 (7.7%). There was also cost cutting in the year 2002, there was a 5% cut in work hours and 23,000 jobs cut. In short the United States Postal Service liabilities exceeded its assets.

WHERE ARE WE HEADING

The rising cost of universal service, in 2002 the United States Postal Service provided daily service to 138 million households and businesses six days a week. Operated 38,000 post offices and stations, deployed 215,000 vehicles and trucks. Universal service is costly: \$29 billion. Overhead costs are growing; the USPS adds 1.8 million new delivery points to its network each year. Requiring the creation of 3,000 new routes and the hiring of 4,200 new carriers per year. There is also the construction of 80 new Post Offices each year at a cost of \$5 million each.

Rising retirement costs, FERS and CSRS pension costs will raise to \$11-14 billion in 2010, depending on reform of CSRS funding law. Retiree health benefit costs (FEHBP) soaring, \$858 million in 2001 to approximately \$2.0 billion in 2010, \$48 billion of unfunded liability and \$5 billion a year to the fund. The demand for letter mail is falling, letter mail is the core of our business the USPS depends on letter mail. First class and standard A mail amounts to 80% of the revenue. Mail mix is as important as the volume of mail. First class is the most important mail it pays a majority of overhead costs. Here is a breakdown of the revenue composition for FY-2002, first class amounted to 55% of revenue; standard mail mostly advertising amounted to 24%, priority 7%, package services 3%.

Here is a different breakdown for you, lets look at volume first class mail accounts for 50% of the volume and other mail accounts for the rest. Revenue, first class mail accounts for 54% of the revenue and other mail accounts for 46%. Contribution to overhead costs first class mail covers 66% of the costs and other mail covers 34% of the costs. As you can see first class mail carries the load. General Accounting Office has projected that the mail volume growth in the years of 2004-2008 will be a decline. Key factors explaining decline, elec-

tronic substitution such as electronic fund transfers, e-mail, and electronic bill paying. The Government leads the way in this area with IRS e-filings, Social Security direct deposits, congress post anthrax e-mail, and PRC electronic rate cases.

Obsolete Postal Law. Postal Reorganization Act (PRA) limits the USPS ability to respond to crisis, here is how (PRA) limits the USPS, it restricts volume discounts and service contracts. Prohibits joint ventures, no retained earnings for investments, it takes ten months to raise rates, and it lacks flexibility. There are no seasonal sales and there are no fuel surcharges. In other words cost cutting is favored over raising revenues, we have an outdated rate making system and there are limits on commercial freedom. The bottom line is the problem is structural, there are no easy answers, and reform is necessary.

WHAT IT MEANS FOR LETTER CARRIERS

Jobs: City carrier employment depends on the USPS
Wages: NALC success in collective bargaining depends on
Benefits: Any taxpayer bailout will threaten postal benefits.

When you look at falling volume, increasing overhead per piece of mail, rising postal rates, and continued falling volume, it becomes a postal death spiral.

What does all of this mean, simply put; we must deal with structural and operational problems. We need postal reform now.

WHAT NALC MUST DO

First lets look at the NALC's agenda in Congress. We must first secure CSRS funding legislation to provide stability for reform. Then we must advocate or oppose recommendation of the Presidential Commission on the USPS. We must also work with mailer and other Unions and new leaders on Capitol Hill to achieve bipartisan postal reform legislation.

Now lets look at the NALC's agenda at USPS headquarters. We must take advantage of stability through 2006 to work on important workplace issues. Such as joint route evaluations, system to identify, intervene and fix troubled work sites. Customers connect, (using carriers as sales agents and other revenue generation tests).

NALC's agenda in the workplace. Build on progress to create a new culture in the workplace. Such as joint letter on violence, JCAM, Dispute Resolution Process. The goal is to shift focus of NALC locals from grievance handling to grass roots organizing for postal reform and other aims.

NALC's agenda in the Branches. To preserve city carrier jobs in the long run, Branch Presidents must become experts on postal reform and the postal business. Branch activists must educate and mobilize members to press Congress for reform. Branches must educate the politicians and the public about the need to preserve the USPS.

The NALC has a reform checklist it is, commercial freedom for the USPS, new revenues/services to replace lost volume. Sensible rate setting process. Maintain universal service, and protect collective bargaining. It is hopeful that this article will help you to realize the state of the postal service and the NALC's role in preserving the USPS and our jobs.

In Unionism

ART BOCEK FOR VICE-PRESIDENT

I first became involved in union activities in 1986 as a shop steward. As time passed and the need to become more helpful to fellow letter carriers, I became the MBA representative for Branch 2462. In 1991, I was successful in becoming your Vice President and currently hold the position. Since that time, I have been attending workshops in OWCP regulations, EEO regulations, route inspections classes, and grievance and arbitration seminars in order to keep up with the ever changing rules and regulations. Continuous educational updating is necessary in order to provide the best representation to the letter carriers in Branch 2462. Some of my time is spent in preparing cases for OWCP claims examiners requesting adjudication in favor for benefits under FECA regulations for an injured letter carrier. This includes getting ready for an OWCP Hearing when a claim for benefits has been denied benefits. Also, currently and in the past, I have been helping letter carriers in the filing of EEO Complaints. My past track record of representation of letter carriers is my platform, and I will as in the past, always do my best in representing letter carriers. When you vote in any election, know your candidates and vote for knowledge, experience and dedication, and not popularity.

BOB JOHNSON FOR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

I have been nominated for the office of Financial Secretary. I am asking for your support. I am dedicated to the National Association of Letter Carriers and to the members of Branch 2462. I have been the Financial Secretary for the past eighteen years and have helped to maintain our financial stability. I have over twenty years of bookkeeping experience which consists of general ledger through trial balance, overseeing account receivable and account payable, bank reconciliation's, payroll and quarterly payroll reports. I also have ten years of bank experience and five years on the board of the Van Nuys Postal Credit Union.

The Financial Secretary is to maintain prompt records of all properties, investment and funds of the branch and I feel that with my past experience as Financial Secretary and my bookkeeping background I am the best-qualified person for the job. I feel that with my financial background I can help maintain the branches financial stability into the next decade.

I have enjoyed serving you in the past and with your support, I would like to serve you in the future.

Thank you
Bob Johnson

KAMORI ENGLISH FOR

VICE-PRESIDENT

Hello everyone my Name is Kamori English and I'm running for the position of the Branch Vice President. I've realized that the only way we will change things for the better is to take an active role in our Branch. So I'm asking you to help me make a difference by voting me in as V.P. I can bring a new synergy to the position and hopefully some new insight to such things as the Branch Picnic to say the least. I'm a progressive and energetic person who wants to help. VOTE ME, Kamori English for your new BRANCH VICE PRESIDENT!

CARMEN ROMERO FOR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Hello my name is Carmen Romero and I'm running for the position of Branch Financial Secretary. I'd appreciate your vote for me as I believe we need new people in our Branch leadership to bring the energy back to what we are all about--the carriers. I want to help our Branch become the ideal example of what solidarity is all about----not about me, not about you, but all about us as a group. No one greater than any other and no one left behind. A vote for me is a vote for your future....CARMEN ROMERO for your Financial Secretary.

VELMA McCLINTON FOR TREASURER

CARRY FORWARD WITH EXPERIENCE

DURING THE YEARS I HAVE BEEN PROUD TO SERVE OUR BRANCH IN ANY CAPACITY, BY AIDING THE NEEDS OF MANY ACTIVE AND RETIRED LETTER CARRIERS.

AS TREASURER I CONTINUE TO FOCUS ON MAKING IT EASIER FOR UNION MEMBERS TO UNDERSTAND HOW OUR MONEY IS BEING SPENT. 25 NEW CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN ADDED TO OUR BUDGET SINCE I HAVE HELD THE OFFICE. THIS GIVES ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION TO OUR MEMBERSHIP.

COMING FROM AN ACCOUNTING BACKGROUND I AM STILL COMMITTED TO PROVIDING YOU WITH QUALITY AND EFFICIENT SERVICE OF OUR FUNDS. PLEASE PLAN TODAY FOR TOMORROW AND VOTE BY MAIL.

IN UNIONISM

Velma for treasurer

STEVEN TO FOR TREASURER

I'm a carrier at Van Nuys Main Office and I've decided I want to contribute to the good of all my fellow carriers and become your Branch Treasurer. I am running as I believe a Branch is only as good as the parts of which it is made. Like any machine the parts if left too long become worn and ineffective and I believe I'm the new part that's needed to rev up the branch machine. Vote for me and I'll give you honest and strong service. I can make a difference---VOTE STEVEN TO as your TREASURER!

GLORIA HENRY FOR TRUSTEE

Vote Gloria Henry For Trustee

As your current Trustee I have the accountability and commitment to sound rules and procedures that govern and hold our Union responsible for its performance.

As a Trustee, I shall along with two other Trustees examine and report to the Branch the condition of the books of the officers that are in charge of Branch finances once every six month. We shall compare the vouchers and records and see that they correspond with the collections and disbursement of Branch funds.

I have already gain experience along with two other trustees on how to Audit the books that deem necessary to keep our great union running.

As a union advocate I have an obligation to each member to representative Branch 2462 with dignity and respect.

I'm Trustworthy, Dedicated to Branch 2462, loyal to it's members and a Devoted Union member for 19 years.

In Unionism

VOTE GLORIA HENRY for TRUSTEE

MARTHA BURNS FOR SGT-AT-ARMS

I know I'm new but it seems to me we need to bring newer ideas into the branch and I believe I can contribute. As Sargent at Arms I can begin a long and productive activism in the local branch. Just give me the chance.

Vote for MARTHA BURNS for SARGENT at ARMS

TRACY MULLINAX

FOR TRUSTEE

I, Tracy Mullinax, am running for the office of Trustee of Branch 2462. I have been an active Union member of this Branch since 1985 and have been an elected Delegate to the prior 4 National and State Conventions. I, believe that going forward, it will be vitally important for our Branch Funds to be spent in a meaningful and productive manner. I would like to carry on the great tradition of this Branch's finances and increase our surplus. I received my Finance Degree from UCLA in 2002 and believe this will be beneficial not only now but in the future. I also have served as the Food Drive Coordinator of Encino for 8 years and Sherman Oaks for 2 years.

Please VOTE FOR TRACY MULLINAX FOR TRUSTEE

TEENAMARIE GALLEGOS FOR TRUSTEE

Hi everyone, It's Teenamarie.

It's time to vote again and it's time for you to vote for someone like me to represent you on the Executive Board as Trustee. I've served you before as Trustee and as Sargent at Arms. I've represented you at many Conventions and you know that I have no problem stating your case or any other one for that matter. The bottom line is we need a VOICE and you know my voice is heard loud and clear. I will question any expenditure as I always do at the Branch Meeting if I believe its definition needs to be clarified. As the Trustee I will be in the position whereby I examine the bills and oversee the payment to ensure your hard earned dues isn't just "spent" to further the financial health of already salaried officers. I am well experienced in the position and have shown true concern for your benefit. The voting process is changing in this election and you need to remember to vote and remembering to vote means vote and mail in your ballot ON TIME!

VOTE TEENAMARIE GALLEGOS FOR TRUSTEE!

JEFF JACKSON FOR TRUSTEE

22 year Letter Carrier
22 year NALC Member
Shop Steward 10 years Panorama City (100% Union)
Delegate to 4 National Conventions
Food Drive Coordinator for years at P.C.
E.I. Team Member
Regular at Union Meetings
Have attended many Union Training Sessions
I would be Proud to serve the Members of Branch 2462
Please Vote !!

ROGER ASKEW FOR SGT-AT-ARMS

To Members of Branch 2462

I am asking for your support for this position. I am the best-qualified candidate for this office. Below are just a few of my qualifications:

Union member since July of 1969
President of Branch 2462 for 8 Years
Treasurer of Branch 2462 of 18 years
Sgt-at-Arms for the past two years
Member of the Budget Committee for 18 years
Shop Steward at the Encino Station
Delegate to 15 consecutive National & State Conventions
Chairman of the Election Committee 1986 through 1992
Executive Board Member 28 years
Current Congressional Liaisons for Congressmen Brad Sherman

As the future unfolds for letter carriers, we must be prepared. The recent Postal Commission created by President George Bush ought to bring this to all our attention. The commission will make recommendations for changing of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1970. Included in this original legislation was the right for collective bargaining. We must continue to have this right or we will go back to "Collective Begging" from congress. We must also see to it that our Congressmen and Senators are aware of our interest in the area retaining the private express statue. All of these issues plus many more are in the immediate future for Letter Carriers.

As you vote for the officers of Branch 2462 for the next two years you should vote for Commitment, Experience, Leadership and Dedication to the membership of Branch 2462. Vote Roger Askew for the position of Sergeant at Arms.

RICHARD REIMER FOR SGT-AT-ARMS

I will oversee the allocation of our Union funds. I have been one of your Delegates over the years to the National Convention. I have been in the Postal Service 30 years, working at the Sherman Oaks Post Office.

I believe I can provide excellent service as a Union member in good standing. I will do my best to serve you. Vote for Richard Reimer for Sgt-at-Arms.

In Unionism

BOB ENZ

FOR MBA REPRESENTATIVE

A little history: I have been a member of M.B.A. since it was first offered and have used it. What a help when your off work and need the extra money. I have been a delegate to the last 7 State and National Conventions, a Steward for 14 years Safety Representative, Step 2 Designee, on the last 3 Local Negotiation teams, a member of the Contract Administration team.

I promise to make available all M.B.A. plans offered at each station, Help explain all plans, Help file claims, and help solve any problems a member is having with their individual plan. It is time for a change. Elect me, Bob Enz, for M.B.A. Representative for our Branch

In Unionism

TERRY HALL FOR MBA REPRESENTATIVE

I'm currently your MBA Representative and the senior Shop Steward at Van Nuys Main Office. I have served you as Convention Delegate for three National Conventions, served as the Editor of the Mail Call, and fought for you as a Shop Steward since 1993. As MBA Representative I act as the liaison between you and the Union Mutual Benefit Association, but more importantly if I'm your MBA Rep then I am also a voice on the Executive Board for you. A Voice that can speak for you just as I do as Shop Steward. As MBA Rep I will also be an automatic voice for you as a Convention Delegate as is all Executive Board positions.

I'm College educated and hold a Bachelor of Arts Degree. I've worked as a stock clerk and all the way up to a manager in Retail, so I've seen it from the bottom up and from the top down. I'm a Shop Steward which means I see it from the middle (sometimes caught there). Keep me as MBA and you keep my persistence at representing you. Vote me down and I believe you'll loose a valuable assest on the Executive Board, at Conventions, and on the Workroom Floor. The Union is a collection of many to promote the common good; the Executive Board is the collection you choose to speak for you at the Local level. Make a vote for yourself elect Terry Hall MBA Representative and Executive Board Member.

MBA stands for Mutual Benefit Association and You know I'll work for your mutual benefit and not just my own. Don't sell yourself short, get the best for your money VOTE FOR ME.

TERRY HALL as the MBA REPRESENTATIVE!

BRANCH MINUTES

(Continued from Page 8)

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch purchase 30 T-Shirts to be given to new incoming officers & stewards. Cost not to exceed \$ 300.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to the Easter basket program sponsored by the L A County Federation of Labor

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

PRESIDENT HECTOR CHOTO
 CALVIN BROOKINS
 VICE PRESIDENT ART BOCEK
 KAMORI ENGLISH
 RECORDING SECRETARY ELIZABETH
 BOCANEGRA
 FINANCIAL SECREATRY STEVE SEYFRIED
 CARMEN ROMERO
 BOB JOHNSON
 TREASURER VELMA McCLINTON
 STEVEN TO
 TEENAMARIE
 TRUSTEE
 GALLEGOS

SGT-AT-ARMS

HEALTH BENEFITS REP
 MUTUAL BENEFITS REP

UNDERLINED DENOTES ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION

COLCPE DRAWING
 \$ 4 KAREN AGUILAR--PANORAMA CITY--DONATED
 \$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED--SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED
 \$ 4 KAREN AGUILAR--PANORAMA CITY--DONATED

BRANCH 2462 CANDIDATES FOR 2003

PRESIDENT
 CALVIN BROOKINS--ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION
 VICE PRESIDENT
 ART BOCEK & KAMORI ENGLISH
 RECORDING SECRETARY
 STEVE SEYFRIED--ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY
 BOB JOHNSON & CARMEN ROMERO
 TREASURER
 VELMA McCLINTON & STEVE TO
 TRUSTEE (3 to be Elected)
 GLORIA HENRY--TEENAMARIE GALLEGOS
 JEFF JACKSON--TRACY MULLINAX
 SGT-AT-ARMS
 ROGER ASKEW-RICHARD REIMER-MARTHA
 BURNS
 HEALTH BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE
 JANETTE DOLABSON--ELECTED BY
 ACCLAMATION
 MUTUAL BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE
 TEDDY HALL & BOB ENZ

\$ 8 PETER ORTIZ--ENCINO
 MEETING ADJOURNED 8:35 PM

OPEN SEASON HEALTH BENEFITS by KEVIN DONOHUE

The service's system is simply antiquated and that results in delays in receiving Open Season changes which, in turn, creates a delay in sending ID cards to our new members. Of course, most active employee memberships became effective on January 11, 2003 and their copy of the 2809 should serve as proof of coverage. However, there is nothing like having that little card in hand when going to the doctor or filling out a prescription. We are pushing to get the cards out as soon as the 2809's are transmitted to us. Thank you Union Brothers and Sisters for your patience.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR by LEE FENSTERMACHER

HOW DO YOU VOTE FOR THE OFFICERS OF YOUR BRANCH ?

There are occasions when in the course of the progression of any organization competition for some offices is a "healthy" situation. With this in mind let me discuss with you the question of how do you come to the conclusion in your voting. Do you cast your vote when there is more than one nominee.

1. Because you think he/she has the ability, do you think he/she will fulfill the obligations of the office for the betterment of the organization.
2. If you think he/she has the ability, do you think he/she WILL fulfill the obligations. (There is a difference, you know)
3. Do you just think he/she is a nice guy and you will vote for him/her.
4. Do you blindfold your eyes and play "Pin the Tail on the Donkey" ?
5. If you know none of the nominees do you vote for the first person on the ballot, or,
6. He is a good friend of mine.

There may be many more reasons I could suggest in the way to cast your vote, but I will leave that up to your imagination. I am sure most of you are doing the best for the betterment of the organization

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

Address Service Requested



TREASURERS REPORT--McCLINTON

Branch Meeting Minutes April 1, 2003

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 6:35 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ASKEW
MOMENT OF SILENCE--In memory of all military personnel who have lost their lives since our last meeting.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT--NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL

WITH FOLLOWING CORRECTION--The donation to the Dorerty Scholarship fund in the name of S.D. GARDNER was incorrectly printed as \$ 50, it should have read \$ 25.

SPECIAL GUESTS--GINA & JOE MIRABELLA from MEND gave a brief update on their food bank and thanked the Branch for again donating all of our Food Drive collections to their organization. They emphasized the extra need this year for food donations.

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--NONE

BILLS READ MOTION TO PAY M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT--TRUSTEES No Report

SAFETY & HEALTH Another Dog Bite Awareness Walk will be held sometime in May. Date to be announced.

RETIREES 4 present tonight. Retiree luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 19th. at Encino Glen beginning at 12:30 pm. Congratulations to Retiree ODIL SABBE who celebrates his 80th Birthday on April 2nd.

FOOD DRIVE--DOLABSON T-Shirt money was due at tonight's meeting. They will be order and should be here in plenty of time for the Food Drive on May 10th. Looking forward to having our most successful Drive to date.

MBA--T. HALL No Report

HBR--DONOHUE No Report

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

ELECTION COMM--SEYFRIED There will be a new committee appointed after tonight's meeting by PRESIDENT BROOKINS. The chairman wishes to thank all those who served over the passed 2 years for their time and help.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT---JOHNSON

COLCPE \$ 645 currently in the fund
DISTRICT 5--McCLINTON As is evident by the new number the districts have been reorganized. New coalition established to address the wage gap between men and women. New program now available to aid union members to buy a home.

VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK Handling many EEO's at Santa Clarita. New safety program being instituted by District Mgr and Postmaster. They will now have management out on the street upto 3 times a week "visiting" repeat (VIP's) accident offenders. Picnic into will be in Mail Call, note that the date on the Picnic has been changed due to availability. New this year will be a Salsa Contest. Each station is encouraged to make some salsa and enter the contest.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN's REPORT The 11th annual Food Drive will be held on May 10, 2003. The first of eight cost of living increases negotiated in the last contract appeared on our last pay check. It amounted to \$ 229 a year, or \$ 11 per pay period. The second adjustment currently stands at \$ 250 as of March 21st. National Rap Session to be held in Minneapolis-St. Paul in September will have 4 workshops, USPS Finances, Intervention in Trouble Sites, President's Commission on the U S Postal Service and a Task Force on Route Inspections. No decision has been made on whether to attend this session as yet. We still seem to be having some problems with understanding Phone Bidding. There should be instruction posted at each Station effected by this method of bidding. Also remember that all time for bidding are Central Standard Time. If you desire to make any changes to your W-4 form, you must go through POSTAL EASE. This also applies to any changes you wish to make to your Thift Savings Plan, Flexible Spending Account, Allotments/Net to Bank, Annual Leave Exchange. You must have a USPS PIN # to access these programs through Postal Ease. Legislative Alert has again reminded us of the importance of writing to our Representatives in Washington, DC regarding Bills S-380 and HR-735. These bills have a direct effect on Postal business and our jobs. Take time out today and write a quick note telling them of your support for these bills. If we dont take the time to help protect our jobs then who will ? NALC in Washington is currently trying to complete a system with the Postal Service to allow you to make a deduction to COLCPE directly from your pay check. In the meantime, take a minute and write out a check and send it to National with a COLCPE donation. These funds go to support our friends in Congress, who have a direct influence on our jobs.

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

(Continued on Page 7)