

# THE MAIL CALL



Published by  
Branch 2462, NALC  
Van Nuys, CA

VOLUME 40

JULY 2003

NUMBER 7

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

I would like to thank the membership for having the confidence in me, and electing me by acclamation for a second term as your President. I would also like to congratulate those candidates who were successful in being elected to the office that they were nominated for.

I would like to urge all members of the branch to get involved, come to more union meeting and learn more about how this union works and how you could play a part in making it better for other letter carriers. As I write this article, elections for the shop steward positions at Encino, Panorama City, Van Nuys Main Office and Civic Center are taking place now, I would like to wish all shop steward candidates well in their run for the position that they seek. Congratulation in advance to the winners;

### Food Drive

The 11th annual NALC food drive is behind us now, the amount of food collected this year was down from last years total. However our food drive coordinator Janette Dalobson did another wonderful job as usual, I would like to thank her for all of the hard work that she put in to the job of food drive coordinator for the branch. When you see her please thank her for a job well done. I would also like to thank all of the food drive coordinators at each station I appreciate the job that you all did and I know Janette appreciates you as well. MEND asks me to send their sincere thanks to all of the letter carriers of branch 2462.

### Challenges

As we wait for the recommendations from the President's Commission on the U.S. Postal Service, we still have many challenges ahead of us, with the many changes throughout the USPS we faces an up hill battle because of the financial situation of the Postal Service. The volume of First class mail is continuing to drop, therefore, we need to look toward other revenue areas that we have available to us such as priority mail and express mail. You will also notice that management will start to serious look at how they can cut back on non personnel items, they will also look to control work-hours even more so. There will also be a more serious concern on safety and security, so don't be surprised by the extra attention by management. Speaking of security please make sure that you wear your ID badges when you enter onto postal property and be sure to secure your postal vehicle in the post office parking lot in evening after you have unloaded.

### In Unionism

## 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, Barbeque Chicken, Soft Tacos, Pasta Salad, Potato Salad, Barbeque 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**

**"COME AND ENJOY THE FUN"**

"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.

## By Art Bocek

### Elections

At this time I wish to thank all those who voted for me in bid for re-election for vice president. After reviewing the last elections voting results, I find it curious in the fact that less than 50% of our members took the time to vote "By Mail" in this last elections. When the elections were done at the stations, over 90% of members voted. This election showed 50% of our members could not be bothered to return their ballot by mail after putting a mark on the ballot and placing the ballot in an pre-addressed envelope and mail it back to the union office. This clearly shows that less than 50% of the members of this union are telling the over 50% majority group of non-voting members on how this branch is going to be governed. This just shows the power of voting and why it is ever more important for you to vote in any and all city, county national elections. It's not only a privilege but a right that has been given to you and to all of us and should used to ensure that both your voice and ours as letter carriers is being heard as to what needs to be done, and not be told by others as to what you will be done to us by others. I welcome your comments.

**Remember, like muscles "The only right's you have are the right's you exercise."**

## VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	20	4	5	4	2				
ENCINO	6	7	6	6	5	4				
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	1	1	1	1				
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	4	4	5	6				
SHERMAN OAKS	8	6	4	5	5	6				
SUN VALLEY	2	1	2	2	2	1				
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2				
RETIREEE'S	3	5	5	4	6	5				
TOTAL	27	47	28	29	30	27				

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

**NEXT MEETING  
6:30 PM**

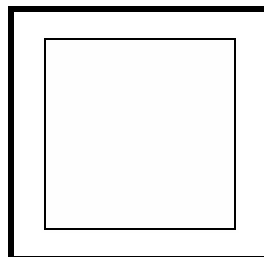
**JULY  
1 st  
"2003"**

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

**July 1, 2003**

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

**BRANCH 2462  
2003 OFFICIAL ELECTION  
RESULTS**



### "RETIREEE 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 26, August 23,2003 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Brash

## A BIT OF GRATITUDE

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of Branch 2462, who voted for us in this years Branch Election. This election was anew challenge for most nominees because of an interesting nomination that was presented at the Branch meeting in May. We look forward to continue to serve this Branch for another two years in good faith and honesty. All the candidates that you have elected are good and well knowledgeable in Union positions and activities. Together we will make our Union even stronger.

### In Unionism

**GLORIA HENRY**  
**VELMA McCLINTON**

## FOOD DRIVE UPDATE

Well another food drive is over and done with. This year was a bit disappointing. We collected 57,710 pounds of food this year. Last year we collected 81,000 pounds. Even though that is a significant drop from last year we still did a great job even getting that much. We anticipated a drop this year, with the economy and the unrest that the world has been in the past year, it was inevitable.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank some people that helped make this whole thing possible. First, thank you Calvin Brookins. Without you it would have been so much harder to pull this off. You went out of your way to make sure that everyone got enough cards to give to all residences, not just for our branch but for others as well. A special thanks to Velma McClinton and Bob Johnson who have to deal with separating the cards and getting them out to the stations on time. To my coordinators, thanks so much for all your hard work. You did a great job and I appreciate you for your dedication. Jeff Jackson, Velma McClinton, Rene Arambula, Irwin Schnyder, Tracy Mullinax and Linda Brookins, you are all awesome.

I would like to give thanks to Tarix Printing in Tarzana for donating printing and The Love Boutique, and Pozi's Grill for donating Gift Certificates for drawings in the Tarzana station. That station donated, themselves as carriers, over 200 pounds of food from their own homes.

To Gina Mirabella, thank you, thank you, thank you for making the transition so easy between MEND and the offices. You are such a wonderful and dedicated person. I am honored to know. Your volunteers are fabulous.

Most of all I want to thank all you carriers in the stations that year after year come in and shlep the food from your routes. You should be proud to be part of something so important. Bless you.

### In Unionism

**JANETTE DOLABSON**  
**Branch Food Drive Coordinator**

## BRANCH 2462 2003 SHOP STEWARD RESULTS

### ENCINO

BOB  
ENZ.....22.....ALTERNATE  
KEVIN O'NEAL.....27.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
PETER ORTIZ.....20  
JULIUS RIBAS.....26.....SHOP  
STEWARD

### CIVIC CENTER

NICK AKERBOON.....7  
DEBRA QUINN.....17.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
JEFFREY THOMAS.....9.....ALTERNATE

### PANORAMA CITY

DAVID INMAN.....7  
JEFF JACKSON.....18.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
SANDRA VELASCO.....7

### MAIN OFFICE

ELAINE BOYD.....45.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
SANDRA GALEANA.....35.....ALTERNATE  
TERRY HALL.....42.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
BOB JOHNSON.....37.....SHOP  
STEWARD  
ULISES OROZCO.....16

## SAFETY IS A NECESSITY

Safety means protection, security, and is also a safeguard for self-safekeeping. Being conscientious about safety preserves ones own health and allows you to continuously live a fulfilling life style. Safety allows us to perform our work assignment in a more productive and mature manner. Safety must also be carried into our daily lives and it must be practiced continuously. Whether at work or at home, when we are safe it spells SUCCESS !! When we feel safe it stands to reason that we are happiest, satisfied and complete. We are also able to achieve our daily assignment that we are blessed with. Working safely allows us to carry on and to continue to share with others, as well as family. Incorporating safety in our daily lives is having accomplished a good thing. It enables us to establish ourselves and become more proficient, ingenious and creative. I urge you to exercise safety at all time, make in an everyday routine.

--SAFETY--

AN INSURANCE POLICY FREE OF CHARGE

### In Unionism

**GLORIA HENRY**  
**Sherman Oaks Station**

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

NONPROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 VAN NUYS, CA  
 PERMIT No. 314

**Address Service Requested**

JANETTE DALOBSON for being the food drive Coordinator,

**Branch Meeting Minutes**  
**June 3, 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 6:40 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ASKEW  
 MOMENT OF SILENCE--In memory of KEVIN CHAN Carrier at Encino Station.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

**PRESENT**--BROOKINS, BOCEK, SEYFRIED, McCLINTON, BRASH, HENRY, ASKEW, DONOHUE,

**ABSENT**--JOHNSON, RATHBONE, HALL

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**AUDIT--TRUSTEES** There will be an audit after the results of the Election are announced. Date will be posted.

**SAFETY & HEALTH** Dog Bite Awareness Walk will be held on May 18, 2003 was a success. Not as big a turnout as last year but media coverage was great, with several TV stations there to cover the event.

**RETIREES** 5 present tonight. Retiree luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 19th. at Encino Glen beginning at 12:30 pm.

**FOOD DRIVE--DOLABSON** Food drive was a success, look for article in Julys Mailcall.

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

**HBR--DONOHUE** No Report, but President Brookins did thank Kevin for his service this last term.

**EDITOR--SEYFRIED** No Report

**ELECTION COMM-DOLABSON** Branch Election is over, ballots were counted Thursday, May 29th. The Committee did not receive any appeals within the allotted time span. The official results will be posted in the July Mail Call.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT--McCLINTON**

**TREASURERS REPORT--McCLINTON**

**COLCPE** \$ 719 currently in the fund

**DISTRICT 6--McCLINTON** No Report

**VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK** Thank you for electing me for another term as your Vice President. All is ready for the Picnic. Sign up sheets are in all the Stations and we hope that all Members and their families attend.

**PRESIDENT BROOKIN's** The 11th annual NALC Food Drive took place on May 10, 2003. The final numbers will be reported in the July Mail Call. I would like to thank

and for doing such a fine job. I would also like to thank all of those who served as food drive coordinators at each Station.

There will be a National Rap Session held in Minneapolis/St Paul on September 5-7, 2003. This is a mandated session under the national constitution held on non convention years. I believe the branch should consider sending representatives to this and there will be a motion on this later under new business. the projected accumulation for the 2nd of eight regular cost-of-living adjustments under the 2001-2006 National Agreement stands at \$ 343.20. This is based on the May 16th release of the consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical workers for April.

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

BY-LAWS--NONE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

MOTION--Branch pay the L A County Tax Bill.

Cost	to	the	Branch	is	\$	101.89
M/S/C						

MOTION--Branch send the President and one other Member to the National Rap Session in Minneapolis/St Paul on September 5-7, 2003.

Cost	not	exceed	\$	2400.00
M/S/C				

UNDERLINE= UNANIMOUS

**GOOD OF ASSOCIATION** It was brought to the attention of the Branch that the Sears/Roebuck Co. is paying their employees on active duty overseas, full pay during the entire time of their deployment. Good Going Sears !!!!!

COLCPE DRAWING

\$ 5	JANETTE DALOBSON--TARZANA--DONATED
\$ 5	ART BOCEK--ENCINO--DONATED
\$ 8	JEFF JACKSON--PANORAMA CITY

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:15 p.m.

**IN MEMORY OF**  
**KEVIN CHAN**

**LETTER CARRIER--ENCINO**  
**BRANCH 2462**