

THE MAIL CALL



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT **By Calvin Brookins**

Vehicle Safety

We all are aware of the emphasis management is placing on safety, you see your supervisor on the street as well as your station manager or postmaster. I have tried to urge every letter carrier to follow all of the safety rules that management is applying to your working lives. Safety rules include coming to complete stops at stop signs or red lights, stopping behind the limit line or if there is no limit line then you should come to a complete stop before the stop sign. You should use turn signals when ever you are making a turn, when you are changing lanes, when you are pulling away from the curb or preparing to pull over to the curb. You should always drive within the posted speed limit and watch your following distance, use the two second rule. California law requires you to wear your seat anytime your vehicle is in motion and the postal service requires the exact same thing.

The list of safety rules is as long as your arm unless you have short arms, in that case the list is longer than your arm. You should always curb your wheel when parking your vehicle on the street, and set your hand brake anytime your vehicle is parked regardless of where you park it. If you drive an FFV management wants you to have the cargo door open while the vehicle is in motion and keep the cargo close when the vehicle is parked and you are away from it. While this may seem to be more of a security issue than a safety one management looks at it as being a safety issue so follow their instructions. When making a right turn onto a street that has two lanes going in the same direction you must turn into the right lane. You must also keep two hands on the steering wheel while driving your vehicle. Regardless of what you think or feel about these safety rules you are required to follow them.

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BRANCH 2462
"RETIREE NITE"
SUNDAY AFTERNOON
OCTOBER 19, 2003
ENCINO GLEN
RESTAURANT
16821 Burbank Blvd. Encino, California
Doors Open 12:30 PM
Price is \$ 5.00
Retiree's and Active Carriers are Welcome
For Further Information Contact the
FRANK BRASH (818) 785-7336
or
Union Office

SPECIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Article V of the NALC Constitution and Article V of the By-Laws of Branch 2462, NALC, notice is hereby given for the Nomination and Election of Delegates to the State and National Convention, Nominations will be held at the November Meeting on November 4, 2003. Election if needed, will be held in January 2004 and will be conducted by mail., as provided in Article IV of the By-Laws of Branch 2462 NALC. All members, in good standing, are eligible to be nominated. Any member, not in good standing or who has not attended at least eighteen (18) regular meetings during the twenty-four (24) months prior to their nomination as a Delegate shall not receive any expenses from *the Branch*. Any member who has less than one (1) year membership in this Branch who shall have attended at least three fourths (3/4) of those regular meetings, from his/her acceptance into membership, prior to their nomination as a Delegate or Alternate may receive expenses. All members of the Executive Board, by virtue of their office, shall be Delegates to all National and State Conventions. This Branch shall elect a Full Delegation to all National and State Conventions.

IN MEMORY OF **MOTTO MILLER**

LETTER CARRIER--SHERMAN OAKS
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 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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

If a carrier fails to follow these safety rules on a continual basis management will eventually watch you enough until they catch you time and time again and issue discipline in a progressive manner, starting with letters of warning and eventually getting to a suspension. This can continue until they reach a removal and believe me it can happen. So take my advice and follow all of the safety rules when you are driving your postal vehicle. Drive your postal vehicle as if someone from management is always with you.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	20	4	5	4	2	2	3	5		
ENCINO	6	7	6	6	5	4	6	5	6		
CIVIC CENTER	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	1		
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	4	4	5	6	5	5	4		
SHERMAN OAKS	8	6	4	5	5	6	4	6	6		
SUN VALLEY	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2		
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	2	2		
RETIREE'S	3	5	5	4	6	5	4	6	5		
TOTAL	27	47	28	29	30	27	27	31	31		

COLA

The second of eight regular cost-of-living adjustments under the 2001-2006 National Agreement will be \$312.00 annually, based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for July. This COLA of \$312.00 is equivalent to 15 cents per hour or \$12.00 per pay period.

The cost-of-living adjustment, effective the pay period beginning September 6 (pay date September 26), together with the first regular COLA of \$229.00 annually, brings the total regular COLA's under the contract to \$541.00.

The accumulation towards the 2004 retiree COLA stands at 1.7 percent based on the July CPI-W. The COLA for Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) beneficiaries in the year 2004 stands at 1.5 percent.

AUTOMATIC COLCPE

Voluntary withholding for COLCPE is now available using PostalEASE System; information is enroute to all active members. The first of several efforts to inform and mobilize NALC members in the union's fight to save letter carrier jobs and the Postal Service has begun. A letter from NALC President William H. Young has been mailed to all active members with information on how they can contribute to NALC's Committee on Letter Carriers Political Education (COLCPE) through payroll deductions. Easy to follow instructions appear on the reverse of the letter, advising NALC members to use PostalEASE to initiate voluntary withholding of COLCPE contributions. The mailing will soon be followed by a separate letter to non members enclosing Form 1187 (the dues authorization form) and urging them to join the NALC to help defend their wages, benefits and job security.

In Unionism

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**OCTOBER
7th
"2003"**

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

October 7, 2003

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

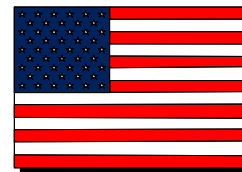
"RETIREE CORNER"

Our Breakfast Meeting will be held at Coco's (Located at 16835 Sherman Way, Corner of Sherman Way & Balboa). Please note that this is a new meeting place!

It will begin at 09:00 AM. The date for the next 2 Breakfasts will be October 25th and November 22, 2003 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Brash



**REMEMBER THOSE WHO SERVE
THAT WE MIGHT BE FREE**

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Art Bocek

Responsibilities of Records Custodian 313.2

According to Section 313.21 of the ELM indicates that the "**Records Custodian**" is responsible for the ensuring compliance with all the laws and Postal Service regulations and instructions pertaining to such records maintenance. Section 313.222 states: "Records containing information about individual must be burned or shredded when their retention or other disposition is not appropriate. Employees governed by Section 313.223 of the ELM, who have access to records containing information about individual must be instructed in the local procedures for safeguarding such information and advised of the penalties provided by the Privacy Act.. Then answer this question please, What in the F #&^%^^#@#% are restricted information documents being placed in the trash, wrapped in plastic baggies (so they are impervious to the elements and last longer) then placed in the trash bins and taken to the dump? Management screams safety, but what about our safety from management in regards to "Identity Theft" because of either arrogance or plain stupidity or both?

Court Leave, Section 516 ELM

Court leave is the authorized absence from work status (without loss or reduction in pay, leave to which otherwise entitled, credit for time or service, or performance ratings) of an employee who is summoned in connection with a judicial proceedings, by a court or authority responsible for the conduct of that proceeding, to serve as a juror or to serve as a witness in a nonofficial capacity on the behalf of a state or local government, or witness in a nonofficial capacity on behalf of a private party in a judicial proceeding to which the Postal Service is a party or the real party in interest.

Court leave is granted to all full-time and part-time employees. Certain part-time flexible employees are granted jury duty leave as provided and governed by applicable collective-bargaining agreements. All other employees are ineligible for court leave and must use either annual or LWOP to cover the period of absence from postal duties for court services but retain any fees or compensation received incident to such court service.

If an employee reports to court service and is excused by the court for the balance of the day, or performs court service for only part of the day, the employee is entitled to full compensation for the day in question. The employee is required to report to the postal installation for the balance of the postal tour of duty provided: (1) an appreciable time of tour is enveloped and (2) it is feasible to report to work and complete the tour. **The combined court service and postal duty may not exceed 8 hours.**

Employees who are eligible for court leave and who have a conflict with court duty and work schedules have the following options:

(1) Work their postal tour of duty in addition to performing court service.

(2) Have their work schedules change temporarily to conform to hours of court services. (Employees who do not

NALC Can Count On Me!

Please fill out this form to be included in the NALC's Activist Database

Name: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Home # _____ Cell # _____

Email _____

Congressional District _____ Branch _____

This form builds the Legislative and Political Department's activist database. It is not used for any other purpose. The database is comprised of letter carriers the NALC can count on to take action on legislative and political alerts. Communication is often via email. Regular mail is used when it is necessary to send pertinent materials and phone calls are made when time is of the essence. Therefore, all information is necessary to lay the foundation for a strong grassroots operation.

Please Mail to:

**National Association of Letter Carriers
Legislative and Political Department
100 Indiana Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20001-2144**

choose this option may not have their work schedule changed and are expected to report for Postal duty upon completion of their court service.)

Employees who choose to have their work schedules change temporarily to conform to court services hours submit Form 3189, Request for Temporary Schedule Change for Personal Reasons, as soon as possible, together with Form 3971, requesting such schedule change to appropriate postal official. Employees who exercise this option receive full compensation for period of court service including any night differential.

No overtime is allowed for court service performed while an employee is on court leave or for a combination of postal work and court service.

Employee Discipline Records, Article 16, Section 10 of the National Agreement

The records of a disciplinary action against an employee shall not be considered in any subsequent disciplinary action if there has been no disciplinary action initiated against the employee for a period of 2 years. Upon the employee's written request, any disciplinary notice or decision letter will be removed from the employee's official personnel file (OPF) after 2 years if there has been no disciplinary action initiated against the employee in that 2 year period

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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



Address Service Requested

VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK New rules regard-
ing the use of satchels have been given. There will be stand-

Branch Meeting Minutes September 2, 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 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW
MOMENT OF SILENCE--In memory of MOTTO MILLER Active member Branch 2462.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--BROOKINS, BOCEK, SEYFRIED, McCLINTON, JOHNSON, HENRY, MULLINAX, ASKEW, DOLABSON
ABSENT--JACKSON, HALL

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL
CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

RICARDO VIZCARRA JR.----BRENDA HERNANDEZ

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES New inventory is being taken in the office and a new sign up sheet is now posted for Members who wish to borrow Branch equipment.

SAFETY & HEALTH Management is taking an aggressive stand on Safety with numerous street patrols on a daily basis. You need to take the time to be safe on your routes at all times and always make sure to lock your vehicles, curb your wheels and turn off your engines when exiting. Remember the Postal Service is giving you the time to be safe, TAKE IT !!!

RETIREES 5 present tonight. Retiree luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 19th. at Encino Glen beginning at 12:30 pm. On the Sick list we have MONTE MOORMAN and JAN ANDERSON.

MBA--T. HALL No Report
HBR--DOLABSON Looking forward to attending the HBR Seminar this Oct. in Las Vegas.

COLCPE \$ 304 currently in the fund.

EDITOR--SEYFRIED Due to an oversight the nominations for State and National Convention Delegates will not be held at the October regular meeting, but will be held at the November regular meeting. (See notice on Front page of October MailCall)

DISTRICT 6--McCLINTON Labor Day festivities were well attended. Last day to register to Vote is October 7, 2003.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT---JOHNSON

TREASURERS REPORT--McCLINTON

ups at all stations to explain these new rules.
PRESIDENT BROOKIN's Projected COLA now stands a \$ 312.00. Nominations for the RAY KREYER AWARD were accepted at the last Executive Board meeting. The nominees are JEFF JACKSON & GLORIA HENRY. The Bo
gratulation to the following members for perfect attendance at Branch meetings over the past 2 years.....JIM TUKESBREY, STEVE SEYFRIED, and CALVIN BROOKINS. New property sheets have been made and are posted in the Branch Office. If you wish to borrow any Branch property you must sign out for it and have one of the Trustees approve, before you take the item. We hope that all members will comply.
OLD BUSINESS--MOTION TO RECONSIDER
Motion to reconsider moving \$ 25,000.00 from the contingency fund to a CD account M/S/C
Motion--Money in the contingency fund be placed in an interest bearing account, at an insured facility at the discretion of the Financial Secretary, Treasurer and Trustees
M/S/C EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ
MOTION--Branch renew the membership in the L A County Federation of Labor. Cost is \$ 448.44 for two memberships
M/S/C MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Saxsenmeier Scholarship fund
M/S/C
MOTION--Branch raise the amount for the purchase of file cabinets by \$ 100.00 M/S/C
MOTION--Branch purchase a new paper shredder
Cost not to exceed \$ 300.00
M/S/C
MOTION--Branch continue to have STEVE SEYFRIED be the Editor of the MailCall M/S/C
MOTION--Branch send 2 members to the Immigration Freedom Ride Fund Raiser
Total cost \$ 50.00
M/S/C
UNDERLINE= UNANIMOUS

COLCPE DRAWING

\$ 4 BOB JOHNSON--MAIN OFFICE
\$ 5 JOANN LOBERG--PANORAMA CITY
\$ 5 GLORIA HENRY--SHERMAN OAKS
\$ 10 JEANETTE DOLABSON--TARZANA

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:22 p.m.