

THE MAIL CALL



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Route Inspections

Grievances have been filed in regards to route inspections in Encino, Panorama City and Sherman Oaks, we have more grievances to file in Sherman Oaks as of the writing of this article. Some of the issues that are being addressed are management arbitrarily using the lower of the two times (1840B vs. week of inspection) times in almost all cases. We are also looking into management using the Saturday delivery times as part of the average when the carrier do not deliver the businesses on Saturday. We are also addressing the time it took each carrier to fill out a 3996 during the week of inspection. The NALC takes the position that any time used by the letter carrier during the week of inspection to fill out a PS Form 3996 should be on line 21 instead of line 22. For those of you who don't know line 21 items are built into your route.

In Sherman Oaks there was an issue of waiting for mail; during the week of inspection management had the letter carriers place themselves on line 22 while waiting for the clerks to finish sorting the flats by routes. Prior to the week of inspection management allowed and instructed carriers to go over to that area and pull and record the flats that were available. We take the position that management should have allowed the same practice during the week of inspection.

Postal Reform HR-22

On July 26, The House of Representatives rejected a few anti-worker amendments, and then passed by an overwhelming 410-20 vote bipartisan legislation to reform U.S. Postal Service operations in the 21st century while maintaining universal six day delivery service.

Contacts by the NALC e-Activists were critical in blocking these anti-worker amendments. Prior to the vote on this bill, the House also voted on three detrimental amendments. Which are listed below;

Pence (R-IN) Amendment – This amendment would disallow the provision in the bill to have a rotating member from each of the Postal Unions to sit on the Postal Board of Governors.

Flake (R-AZ) Amendment – This amendment would establish a privatization pilot program that would ease the current restrictions on the USPS first class monopoly as well as its exclusive use of mail boxes.

Hensarling (R-TX) Amendment – This amendment would require the USPS to pay the full cost associated with

employees' military service retirement instead of reverting them back to the Treasury Department as in previous years. All three amendments were defeated prior to the vote on the overall bill.

Congressman Pence (R-IN) also tried to introduce an amendment that would reduce worker compensation benefits for Postal Employees. The NALC launched an e-Activist action alert on this amendment. This amendment was withdrawn prior to the debate on Postal Reform.

Passage of Postal Reform in the House is just the start to bringing meaningful reform to the Postal Service that will protect our workforce well in to the future. We must now focus our attention on S.662 (Postal Reform) that will be debated in the United States Senate. This is a similar, but slightly different, bill sponsored by Senator Susan Collins (R-ME) and Senator Tom Carper (D-DE).

President Young said the NALC has some issues with the Senate bill relating to the banking resolution, price cap among other things. Senator Collins has offered the NALC the opportunity to discuss these issues and President Young has stated that he is confident that a resolution can be reached that is fair to all.

(Continued on Page 3)

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 October Meeting on October 4, 2005. Election if needed, will be held in December 2005 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.

"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 NIGHT 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, improve, 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 to 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	1	2	1	3	3	2	2	1			
ENCINO	3	7	6	6	6	4	6	5			
CIVIC CENTER	4	5	3	3	2	3	3	2			
PANORAMA CITY	1	3	2	3	2	2	1	3			
SHERMAN OAKS	4	5	6	8	4	3	4	3			
SUN VALLEY	1	1	2	1	1	2	3	1			
TARZANA	1	2	1	1	1	2	2	1			
RETIREE'S	4	5	4	6	4	4	4	4			
TOTAL	19	30	25	31	23	22	25	20			

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**SEPTEMBER
6th
"2005"**

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

September 6, 2005

**BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE....818-374-5600
RETIREMENT PERSONNEL....661-775-7030**

"RETIREE CORNER"

Our Breakfast Meeting will be held at Hart's Restaurant, (Corner of Satcoy and Balboa). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The date for the next 2 will be September 24th and October 22, 2005 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You

Frank Brash

THANKS

I would like to Thank all of those Carriers at the Encino Station who took the time to cast their vote for me. During my second term, over the next three years, I will try to the best of my abilities to have management follow the contract as it is written. I will also continue to strive to see that all employees are treated with dignity and respect.

In Unionism

**JULIUS RIBAS
ENCINO SHOP STEWARD**

DON'T LET TIME RUN OUT !!!



SEND A CHECK TO

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**

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

(Continued from Page 1)

AFL-CIO

The two biggest Unions within the AFL-CIO have decided to disaffiliate themselves from the AFL-CIO, those unions being the Teamsters and the Service Employees (SEIU). These two Unions accounted for 3.2 million of the AFL-CIO membership. Several others including the United Food and Commercial Workers, Unite-Here, and the Farm Workers boycotted the AFL-CIO convention, but did not immediately sever their membership in the AFL-CIO.

The dispute basically came down to whether the federation's focus should be limited primarily to organizing or whether it should continue to also have a major financial and resource impacting the political and legislative arena.

COLA

The projected accumulation for the sixth of eight regular cost-of-living adjustments under the 2001-2006 National agreement stood at \$588.00 following the release July 14 of the Consumer Price Index for CPI-W for February. This equates to 28 1/4 cents per hour or \$22.60 per pay period.

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Health Benefits Update

by

Janette Dolabson

Health Benefits Representative

Well, summer is ending but the weather is still steamy. Here is some helpful information for you to think about. Keep your water handy: During a day of normal activity, the body needs 2 quarts of liquid to replace body fluid losses. Eight glasses of this should come from drinking water and other beverages. The remainder, about 2 cups, come from solid foods.

Doctors at the University of Florida College of Health and Human Performance say fruits and vegetables are 84 to 95 percent water. Steak is 50 percent. When exercising, 1/2 to 1 quart of fluids per hour is required to replace sweat loss during moderate physical activity.

In hot weather, the liquid requirement during exercise is higher, depending on the temperature and acidity. In addition, drink water before beginning outdoor activities such as

gardening, and to us who carry mail, lots of water is needed during the hot months to keep us hydrated properly.

Be smart and drink plenty of water.

VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT

Art Bocek

Supervisor Discussion Notes

Under Article 16 of the National Agreement a supervisor's discussion with an employee is not considered discipline and is not grievable and "no notation or other information pertaining to such discussion shall be included in an employee's personnel folder. The Postal Service acknowledges that the spirit and intent of Article 16 is to provide a mechanism for a supervisor to discuss perceived work deficiencies with an employee without such discussion taking on the formality or significance of disciplinary action. Accordingly, although Article 16 permits a supervisor to make a personal notation of the date and subject matter of such discussions for his own personal record(s), those notations are not to be made part of a central record system nor should they be passed from one supervisor to another.

The Postal Service acknowledges that a supervisor making personal notations of discussions which he has had with employees within the meaning of Article 16 must do so in a manner reasonably calculated to maintain the privacy of such discussions and he is not to leave such notations where they can be seen by other employees to include other supervisors.

Destruction of Discussion Notes

The proper length of time for supervisors to retain personal notes concerning employees as defined in 314.52c of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual are to be destroyed when the supervisor/employee relationship ceases.

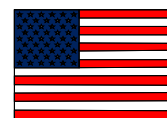
DOIS Estimates

Dois provides the supervisor with an estimate of a letter carrier's normal daily workload and may be one of the factors considered by a supervisor when discussing a letter carrier's work performance. This does not mean that such a discussion will be of the type referred to in Article 16, Section 2, 1981 National Agreement. It can be merely a work-related exchange between the supervisor and the carrier with the DOIS evaluation as a focus.

DOIS evaluations should not be the basis for a discussion concerning the letter carrier's efficiency held pursuant to Article 16, Section 2., since the efficiency of a letter carrier can more appropriately be determined by a mail count pursuant to 141.2, M-39 Handbook.

"g" Hour Work Guarantee

Management may not solicit employees to work less than their call in guarantee, nor may employees be scheduled to work if they are not available to work the entire guarantee. However, an employee may waive a guarantee in case of illness or personal emergency. This procedure is addressed in the F22, Section 22.14 and the ELM, Section 432.63.



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BRANCH 2462, NALC
Steve Seyfried, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406

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a similar, but slightly different bill is now awaiting action in the

Branch Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2005

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 6:39 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT. AT ARMS ASKEW
 MOMENT OF SILENCE--All of our Military men and women who have sacrificed their lives in the Service of our Country.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--BROOKINS, BOCEK, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, MULLINAX, JACKSON, L. DOLABSON, ASKEW, J. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT--McCLINTON

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAILCALL WITH CORRECTION--LARRY DOLABSON also served on the Election Committee.

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

GREG MOTOLA--DANNY KAYE

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES The audit went well and the books balanced and are in good order.

SAFETY & HEALTH Safety is still # 1 priority, always work in a safe and professional manner.

RETIREEES 4 present tonight. On the Sick List we have JIM TUKESBREY, we wish him a speedy recovery. Remember date for Retiree Luncheon is Oct 23rd.

MBA--ENZ Waiting for National to certify the new rep. Plan on having forms at every station.

HBR--DOLABSON Article will be in Mailcall

COLCPE \$ 505.00 in the fund

FINANCIAL SECRETARY REPORT--JOHNSON

TREASURERS REPORT--JOHNSON

VICE-PRESIDENT BOCEK Picnic came in \$ 1100.00 over budget. This was due to members signing up for tickets and not showing up for the Picnic.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN'S Grievances have been filed in Panorama City, Encino and Sherman Oaks regarding the Route Inspections held there. Thanks to BOB JOHNSON and JANETTE DOLABSON for their help in this process. It is lengthy and tedious but we feel that there are many problems with the way the inspections and adjustments have been implemented. Postal Reform bill passed the House on July 26th by an over whelming vote of 410 to 20. Contacts by NALC E Activists were instrumental in getting this legislation passed.

Senate, so we must remain on the alert. Two of the largest unions in the AFL-CIO have dropped out. Teamsters and SEIU have withdrawn their 3.2 million members. Dispute is over whether the federation should continue major financial to political and legislative arena or focus more on organizing new members. I would like to thank ROGER ASKEW for putting together the list to determine who receives membership pins. The list has been completed and forwarded to National. When the pins come in we will have a special ceremony to honor those members with more than 25 years in the Union.

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch renew the Branch insurance policy. Cost to the Branch \$ 889.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch have pizza at the October meeting and submarine sandwiches at the November meeting

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch discontinue the membership drawing after the September meeting.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 13 Shop Steward briefcases. Cost not to exceed \$ 350.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 475 Bass Calendars Cost not to exceed \$ 1600.00

M/S/C

UNDERLINED DENOTES UNANIMOUS VOTE

MEMBERSHIP DRAWING-- \$ 300
 MAGDA LARA--MAIN OFFICE

Sister LARA was not present at the meeting therefore the money will be rolled over to the SEPTEMBER meeting. September's membership drawing will be for \$ 300.00. All members are eligible to win, but you must be present at the meeting to win.

COLCPE DRAWING

- \$ 5 JEFF JACKSON--PANORAMA CITY
- \$ 7 TIA WILSON--SUN VALLEY
- \$ 12 JEFF JACKSON--PANORAMA CITY

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:45 P.M.

