

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

NRP – National Reassessment Process

The National Reassessment Process is a process developed by management with the intent to properly place employees who have been injured on the job into positions within their medical limitations. However, the Postal Service is attempting to change their policy on providing limited duty work to employees who have partially recovered from work related injuries or illnesses. Management is attempting to do this through the National Reassessment Process.

Over the last 10 months or so we have heard about management attempting to send carriers who have been injured on the job and can no longer carry mail to places like Wal-mart and other jobs outside of the postal service. Basically management has taken this "if you are hurt we don't want you" type attitude.

The union has filed a grievance at the national level regarding the implementation of the National Reassessment Process because of management's unilateral change in the definition of the Postal Service's obligation to provide limited duty work under Article 19 and Section 546.142 of the Employee Labor Relation Manual. The union contends that management implementation of the NRP is inconsistent and in conflict with Section 546.142 of the Employee Labor Relation Manual as well as provisions of the EL-307 and EL-505 handbooks and applicable laws and regulations. As soon as I have more information on the grievance filed at the national level I will past it on to you.

Section 546.142 of the Employee Labor Relation Manual specifically requires the Postal Service to "**make every effort**" toward assigning to limited duty consistent with the employee's medical limitations. Management for a long time now has accommodated limited duty employees. Management has gone so far as to create rehab assignments that consisted of clerk duties in an effort to fulfill their obligation under Article 19 and the ELM, Section 546.142 as well as the federal law.

(Continued on Page 3)

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS OF BRANCH OFFICERS & SHOP STEWARDS

This is official notice to members of Branch 2462 that nominations for the following offices will be held at the regular branch meeting April 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. at the Branch Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave # 101, Van Nuys California. The Offices are President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Sgt-at-Arms, Three (3) Trustee's, Health Benefits Representative, and Mutual Benefits Representative. No one may be nominated for more than one (1) office. Candidates must accept nomination at the time made or, if absent, in writing to be received by the Branch Secretary no later than April 3, 2008. The terms of Office shall be for a three year period. Candidates elected shall be delegates to the National and State Conventions as stated in the Branch By-Laws.

Shop Steward nominations and election will be held at the individual Stations.

ELECTION

The election shall be conducted by secret mailed ballot. All ballots will be mailed First Class to the home addresses of eligible members no later than May 5, 2008. 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. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee, P. O. Box 55481 Sherman Oaks, California 91413 and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 29, 2008. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, May 29, 2005 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101 Van Nuys, California. All candidates and members may observe the counting.

"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, 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 to the goals of the NALC, permission is granted to copy and/or use any material in this publication with our best wishes.

by
Janette Dolabson
Food Drive Coordinator

Well it's that time of year again. It's time to be thinking about the upcoming food drive in May. This year we have been challenged to collect at least 10% more food. We are in competition with the east coast. They have continually collected a lot more food than we have here on the west coast. We don't want this to happen again this year. One way we can achieve this is by giving our best effort and getting the word out to our customers that the food drive is coming. We will be sending out the t-shirt order forms and hope that all of you will purchase one to help in this effort. We will be hanging banners in front of the Post Offices that week to remind people that's it coming. We would like all of you to be conscientious and take the cards out and deliver them as instructed to your patrons. They are first class mail and I would hate for anyone to be disciplined for bringing them back to the station undelivered. You don't have to pick up the food if you don't want to. All you have to do is let your coordinator know that the food on your route needs to be picked up. I can't imagine anyone who isn't willing to help out with this very important effort but there are some of you that don't want to. However, you have to deliver the cards. There is no opting out of that. Let us pull together and work as the well oiled machine that I know we can be and put forth the best effort we ever have this year. I really do appreciate all your support and hard work.

Thanks.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	3	0	1								
ENCINO	4	5	5								
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	1								
PANORAMA CITY	3	3	3								
SHERMAN OAKS	4	3	9								
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1								
TARZANA	1	1	1								
RETIREE'S	6	6	5								
TOTAL	23	20	26								

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

NEXT MEETING
*****6:30 PM*****

APRIL
1st
"2008"

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

April 1, 2008

BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
 O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE....818-374-5600
 E-Mail.....NALCBRANCH2462@sbcglobal.net

"RETIREE CORNER"

Our Breakfast Meeting will be held at Denny's Restaurant, (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCielis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be April 26th & May 24, 2008 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank
 You

Frank Brash

ATTENTION RETIREE'S !!!

You may be familiar with the saying "There is no such thing as a Free Lunch" While this may be true, it does not pertain to Breakfast. The Branch holds a Retiree Breakfast meeting every 4th Saturday of the Month. No Voting, just a friendly get together to talk and eat. The best thing is

IT IS FREE !!!

That's right, if you are a retired member in good standing of Branch 2462 your Breakfast is provided at no charge, that's right **FREE !!!!**

So what are you waiting for meet with us this month.

When Saturday, April 26th
 Where Denny's Restaurant,
 (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCielis).
 Time 9:00 AM

If you have trouble with transportation contact **FRANK BRASH** and we will try and arrange for a ride. Come on out, you will have a great time, and the price is right !

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

The language **"make every effort"** is strong language, which has stood the test of time. Management must make more than some effort, or a lot of effort they must **"make every effort"**! We have already had some situations in one of the Van Nuys station where management has chosen to send two different carriers home who have an on the job injury, just because their restrictions did not allow them to do work that management wanted them to do. This little escapade only cost management in excess of \$18,000.00. I want go into the other \$20,000.00 plus that local management have paid out to letter carrier because someone made a decision that they did not need to provide light duty work several other individuals, that is a subject for another article at a later time.

That being said, if any carrier who have an on the job injury is sent home by management claiming that they no longer have work for them you need to immediately request to see your shop steward or call the union office.

Contracting out Moratorium

On Friday February 21 it was announced that the moratorium on contracting out letter carrier work called for by the Article 32 Committee Memorandum of Understanding in the National Agreement will be extended until July 31, 2008.

The moratorium applies to city carrier offices not covered by the National Agreement's life of the contract ban on CDS routes in offices that employ only city carriers (as determine at the time the contract was negotiated).

The NALC and the postal service have agreed to update the list of city carrier offices covered by the MOU on contracting out. The new list will be posted on the NALC website as soon as possible.

COLA

The next regular cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) under the 2006-2011 National Agreement will be \$458.00 annually based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) for January.

The cost of living adjustment, effective the pay period beginning March 15 (pay date April 4) is the second of eight COLA's included in this current contract.

The new COLA of \$458.00 annually is equivalent to 22 cents per hour, or \$17.60 per pay period. This COLA of \$458.00 raised the total annual pay for top rate carriers to \$51,251.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

As most of you know by now, Vice President Art Bocek has retired from the Postal Service, I have also received a resignation letter from Vice President Bocek, resigning his

Vice President position. He has decided to pursue some other interest in his life, while Art will not serve as Vice President he is available just in case I need his services for something like assigning him to deal with some issues at Encino, that would be fun to watch. Well I wish Art well in his retirement I know he will enjoy it and we will miss him being around all of the time.

I have asked Janette Dolabson to move over to the Vice President position and she has gracefully accepted. Janette will do a great job at that position she is very knowledgeable and will serve the membership well.

I have also received a presidential ruling from President Young that allows me to appoint Larry Dolabson as HBR and he has also accepted that position, Larry will be an asset to the membership while servicing in this position.

I am very happy to announce that Tia Wilson from Sun Valley will fill the Trustee position left vacant by Larry Dolabson. This is the first time that I know of that we now have every one of the stations within Branch 2462 represented on the Executive Board.

I would like to take this time to congratulate all of the above mentioned individuals who have been appointed to their new positions, I know they will serve the membership of Branch 2462 well. When you see them around please congratulate them and thank them for being willing to serve as a branch representative.

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

"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

Branch Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2008

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 BROOKINS at 6:35 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of All who have passed.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—NONE

VICE PRESIDENT'S POSITION VACANT

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

WITH CORRECTION—RETIREE BREAKFAST IS MEETING AT DENNY'S RESTURANT (CORNER OF SHERMAN WAY AND DeCELIS)

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ROCIO RODRIGUEZ, LUIS RAMOS, JULIUS AUSTRIA, JOSE PALACIO

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES Audit was on January 15th, at the Union hall. The books balanced and were found to be in good order.

SAFETY & HEALTH Be careful crossing streets, do not Jay walk. Always report any accidents immediately. Flu is running rampant in all Van Nuys Stations, with many sick. Wash your hands frequently and drink plenty of liquids to stay healthy.

RETIREES 5 retiree's present tonight. Please note that Retiree Breakfast is being held on the 4th Saturday each month at DENNY'S RESTAURANT, corner of Sherman Way and DeCelis.

MBA--ENZ No new plans at this time, still updating system, but everything is available.

HBR--J DOLABSON Anyone having problems with the NALC health plan, especially getting membership cards, contact Janette.

MDA \$ 500 currently in the fund
FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept the Financial reports as read by Brother Johnson

M/S/C

PRESIDENT BROOKIN Gave his report on latest important items which he will cover in his article in the MailCall. Also announced that JANETTE DOLABSON has been appointed to fill the Vice President's office, vacated by ART BOCEK who has resigned. LARRY DOLABSON has been appointed as the new Health Benefits Representative, and TIA WILSON has been appointed to replace Larry as TRUSTEE. Congratulations to these officers and we appreciate your stepping up to represent the members of the Branch.

OLD BUSINESS—Nominations for Branch Officer election will be held at the April regular meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch sponsor 1 table at the Casino Night at the State Convention. Cost to the Branch \$ 100.00

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch purchase 10 tickets for MEND raffle to Hawaii. Cost to the Branch \$ 45.00

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the L. A. Community Services Easter Baskets For Needy Children

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch send any Executive Board member, Shop Steward or Alternate Shop Steward to the State Convention Training Class on April 10, 2008. Those attending the full day of classes will receive \$ 200.00 for all expenses.

M/S/C

UNDERLINED = UNANOMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

A short pictorial presentation on the 2008 Primary Election Made by Secretary Seyfried was shown.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 RAY MOLA—ENCINO--DONATED
\$ 5 RICHARD MORENO—SHERMAN OAKS
\$ 8 RICHARD REIMER—SHERMAN OAKS

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:48 PM