

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

In last month "Mail Call" I wrote an article about carriers working off the clock, I will continue to periodically place this article in the "Mail Call" in the future. Because it appears that there are some carriers who need a constant reminder of this. So if you are one of those carriers that need a reminder here it is again along with the contract regulations regarding you not being permitted to work off the clock.

WORKING OFF THE CLOCK

As I go from station to station I continue to find carriers working off the clock, either prior to begin tour in the morning or after ending tour in the afternoon. It is alarmingly shocking to me as to why anyone would work off the clock, basically working for free. For all of you who are working off the clock let me remind you of something. The way that your route is being adjusted these days is all based on the mail volume you get and the time you use performing your letter carrier duties. When ever you decide to show up at work 30 minutes early and case mail, pull redis, sort your parcels and load your coverage's in your vehicle and then walk over to the time clock and clock in you have just reduced the time that could have been used to properly adjust your route. You at that point have successfully taken time away time from your route that cannot be accounted for.

The Collective Bargaining Agreement has language in it that states management should not allow employees to work off the clock; this includes allowing employees to work through their 10 minute breaks. The National Agreement states in relevant part;

Article 41.3.K. Supervisors shall not require, nor permit, employees to work off the clock.

Rest Breaks. National Arbitrator Britton ruled that the Postal Service must ensure that all employees stop working during an office break. Contractual breaks must be observed and cannot be waived by employees.

(H4N-3D-C 9419, December 22, 1988, C-08555)

This language is not negotiable on a day to day basis, and your supervisor should not look the other way when

you are working off the clock, believe me they see you while you are working off the clock but guess what that help them accomplish what they need to with using less time for it.

So please stop working off the clock because you are placing me and the shop stewards in a position as to where we will have to force your supervisors to follow the National Agreement by filing grievances for them to stop carriers from working off the clock. Then if you do not stop working off the clock after your supervisor has instructed you to, then they will attempt to issue discipline. Please do not force us to go that far with this. When you work off the clock you are basically working for free. Why work for free when you can work and get paid for it.

IN OTHER NEWS

President Obama recently released his FY 2011 Budget and in that budget he supports the continued six day delivery. He also went on record and stated that he does not support privatization of the Postal Service. However, it was reported in the news on Tuesdays March 2, 2010, that Postmaster General Potter is going before Congress again asking that the Postal Service be allowed to go five day delivery. I believe this is a bad idea for the USPS because once we lose that service we will never get it back, I also believe a move such as this would be counterproductive. Let's just hope President Obama has some influence in this issue.

The NALC has gone on record opposing the elimination of 6 day delivery; President Fredric V. Rolando issued a press release shortly after the report came out, I am placing it here in the "Mail Call" for your convenience.

Letter carriers union opposes cutback in mail service; urges Congress to give USPS financial breathing room.

The president of the 300,000-member National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) today opposed the proposal by Postmaster General John E. Potter to eliminate Saturday delivery to American homes and businesses, and urged Congress instead to take steps that would provide financial breathing room while a better plan can be developed.

(Continued on Page 3)

"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.

Vice President's Report

by

Janette Dolabson

The Picnic is set for Sunday Oct. 10th, 2010 at Santa Anita Race track. Details to follow in a few months.

The NALC/USPS Letter Carrier Food Drive will be Saturday May 8th. You should have T-shirt order forms in your stations. Pricing will be as follows- \$12.00 for S-XL \$13.00 for XXL and \$14.00 for XXXL. The shirts will be denim blue and have pockets with full color cartoon on the back. They may be worn from the Saturday prior to the food drive thru the day of the food drive. Contact your food drive coordinators in your station for ordering your shirts. In Van Nuys Mail office your coordinators are John Burton and Analia Garica. In Sherman Oaks they are Sonia Ruiz and Adriana Gonzales. In Encino your coordinator is Tracy Mullinax. In Panorama City it is Andy Goacher and in Sun Valley it will be Tia Wilson. Tarzana you may order from Sandy Anger or myself.

May 4th there will be a kick off media event at the MEND food bank. CBS/KCAL news will be broadcasting from that location. If you are off that day please attend this even in uniform for the cameras. MEND is located in Pacoima on San Fernando road.

MIARAP will have concluded and hopefully most of the problems on your routes have been alleviated.

GPS is here and being used in some offices to track carriers out on the routes. Right now there are no offices in our branch with these devices on their vehicles. If they decide to use them in your office you will be notified. Not all the routes will have the vehicles with the devices. They plan on targeting only the routes that the carriers are working substantially over their base times or routes that have unexplained mileage beyond with the route should have. The vehicles with these devices will be moved into those stations and on the routes that they are going to target. If you are not doing anything to draw suspicion to you then there is nothing to worry about. If your route has delivery issues that need to be fixed please have those issues addressed now so you will not be one of the "lucky" carriers that will be using one of these vehicles.

Notify your Congressman and your Senators and that you want to continue to deliver mail 6 days a week. Ask them not to support a 5 day work week. If the Postal Service succeeds in getting this to pass Congress it will cost us over 25,000 jobs and severely hurt customer service. If we don't deliver on Saturdays someone else will.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	1	1	2								
ENCINO	5	3	4								
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	2								
PANORAMA CITY	3	3	2								
SHERMAN OAKS	4	5	7								
SUN VALLEY	2	1	3								
TARZANA	2	2	2								
RETIREE'S	5	5	3								
TOTAL	23	21	25								

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

NEXT MEETING

6:30 PM

APRIL
6th
"2010"

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

April 6, 2010

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 24th and May 22, 2010 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.

Thank
You

Frank Busch



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

union. Start now contacting your Congress person and encouraging them to vote to preserve six day delivery.

We also received word from California State Association of Letter Carriers President John Beaumont; he stated that while they were in Washington D.C. they were able to mount an attack on Postmaster General Potter's ill advised plan to push five day delivery. He stated that they were able to meet with 20 representatives from the California Delegation and every one of them pledged to sign on to H Res 173, which states that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service.

So we need to be ready to fight for 6 day delivery, one way we can fight against Postmaster General Potter's actions is to contact our Congressional Representative and encourage each of them to support the continuation of 6 day delivery. We can only do this with the help of all members of the branch. There is currently a House Resolution bill called H-Res 173. It is a bi-partisan bill that was introduced by Republican Sam Graves of Missouri. That bill states as follows; "That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its six-day mail delivery service".

A vital step in the process of eliminating PMG Potter's actions toward five-day delivery is to get co-sponsors for this bill H-Res 173. All letter carriers need to write a letter to their Congressional Representative encouraging them to be a co-sponsor on H-Res 173.

Food For Thought!!! OK Statistics for Thought!!!

Did you know that the highest paid Postal Employees has actually increased and the employees who actually play a role in moving the mail, maintaining the facilities and equipment in support of moving the mail have decreased? The following is a USPS employee statistics from 2000 to 2010 that show increases and decreases by percentage points.

	2000	2010	-/+ %
USPS Headquarters	2279	2924	+28%
Inspector General	664	1151	+73%
USPS Headquarters Totals	2943	4075	38.46%
USPS/FieldSupport/ Inspection Service (Field)	9756	7173	-26%
USPS Field Totals	9756	7173	-26.47%
Postmasters (Installation Heads)	26121	23324	-11%
Supervisors/Managers	38797	27848	-28%
USPS Supervisors Totals	64918	51172	-21.17%
Tech Personnel	9959	5907	-41%
Clerks/Nurses	282147	161607	-43%
Mail Handlers	60851	49674	-18%
City Carriers	241079	197105	-18%

2000 2010 -/+ %

Motor Vehicle	9347	7614	-19%
Rural Carriers	57111	67434	+18%
Maintenance	42284	37513	-11%
Vehicle Maintenance	5546	4977	-12%
USPS Craft Employees Totals	708324	531831	-24.91%

Maybe the Postmaster General is so dead set on reducing service days from six to five in order to pay those higher salaries that he has added to the Headquarters staff. When the Postal Service has been in the financial state that it is in for the last several years, why have personnel been increased at Postal Headquarters level? Just food for...I mean statistics for thought!!!

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 4th Saturday of Every Month
Where Denny's Restaurant,
(Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis).
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 !

Active Members are invited to attend also if it is your Day Off !!



"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

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6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2010

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 6:36.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of KEN PENDERGAST, RETIRED MEMBER of the Branch

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ANTHONY SAGER

BILLS READ

MOTION TO PAY M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES

No Report

RETIREEES

3 retiree's present tonight.

Remember all retirees are invited to Breakfast every 4th Sat. Details are posted in the Mailcall.

HBR—L. DOLABSON

Care Select stores are still

giving free flu shots. Current statistics show that 95 Branch members are enrolled in the Health Plan.

MDA—ANGER

\$ 1748 currently in fund.

Working on possibly having another Bowl-a-thon, since everyone enjoyed the last one so much. Looking at sometime in June, watch the MailCall for further information. We are now selling Shamrocks for Dystrophy wrist bands to raise money, be sure that you are not left out, buy one !!!! They are on sale at the individual Stations for \$ 3.00 so be sure to get one and support MDA.

MBA—ENZ

Info available, contact me

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read

M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Food Drive coordinators have been chosen and will be published in my article in the MailCall. Miarap still being fine tuned, if you still are having a problem with your adjustment let your Shop Steward know or call the Union office. Remember Picnic will be at Santa Anita Racetrack on October 10, 2010. The next day is a holiday so it should be easy to attend. It is great fun and we guarantee that you will have a good time.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN

Gave his report on latest

important items which he will cover in his article in the MailCall.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch send the President to the

Committee of Presidents meeting in Phoenix, Az on April 11 & 12th. Cost not to exceed \$ 1500.00

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the United Way, Easter Baskets for Needy Children.

M/S/C

MOTION—Any Paid Delegate who attends the 2010 National Convention will receive \$ 1875.00 for all expenses.

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE OLD BUSINESS—NONE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following members donated to COLCPE in 2009

KAREN AGUILAR

SANDY ANGER

ROGER ASKEW

ARTHUR BOCEK

ELAINE BOYD

FRANK BRASH

CALVIN BROOKINS

DEBBIE BURRUEL

JOHN BURTON, JR.

EDWARD CARLIN

JANETTE DOLABSON

LARRY DOLABSON

KEVIN DONOHUE

RAUL DOZEL

ROBERT ENZ

ANALIA GARCIA

JOHN GARY

GLENFORD HAYLOCK

JEFFERY JACKSON

JOSE JIMENEZ

ROBERT JOHNSON

BETTY LOW

GUILLERMO MARISCAL VELMA McCLINTON

JANET McKEIVER

ROMON MOLA

TRACY MULLINAX

RAFAEL PEREZ

SANDRA PADILLA-ARTERO

DANIEL RATHBONE

JULIUS RIBAS

JOHN SANCHEZ

IRWIN SCHNYDER

STEPHEN SEYFRIED

JAMES TUKESBREY

ROBERT WAFLE

GREG WEEKS

TIA WILSON

JACK WINKEL

CRAIG WOOD

JOHN MIKAN

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 BOB ENZ--ENCINO

\$ 7 SANDY ANGER—TARZANA--DONATED

\$ 10 TIA WILSON—SUN VALLEY

Meeting Adjourned 8:11 PM

IN MEMORY OF

KEN PENDERGAST

RETIREE

BRANCH 2462