

Representing the Stations of
Civic Center – Encino – Panorama City – Sherman Oaks – Sun Valley – Tarzana – Van Nuys Main

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

H. RES 173

We currently have 205 congressional representatives signed on as co-sponsors to H.RES 173. H.RES 173 was originally sponsored by Republican Sam Graves from Missouri, the resolution is titled:

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service.

There is a clear understanding of the heavy toll the current recession has had on both the Postal Service as well as our entire Nation. Routes are constantly being adjusted in response to the falling mail volume and we continue to see the struggles of our patrons and especially our small business customers who are trying to survive. But we also know that the unfair policies adopted in recent years to force the Postal Service to overpay for retiree health benefits and pensions have played a major role in the Postal Service's recent deficits.

With this in mind we as letter carriers need to take a stand to stop this ill advised plan to go forward attempting to reduce our deliveries from 6 days to 5 days a week, we need to get an overwhelming support from our congressional representatives to protect our future. We need to make every attempt to encourage co-sponsors on H.RES 173.

If you are a constituent of one of the 26 following representatives below please send them a letter, remind them that reducing mail delivery service to 5 days a week would cause delays in delivery of mail, as well as increase postal costs due to the many hours of possible additional overtime that the Postal Service would require in order to handle the resulting back-up of mail. Also our senior citizens rely heavily upon the steady delivery of mail service 6 days a week. Mail order prescription drugs could be at risk due to the possibility delayed delivery or failing to meet FDA regulations because of reduced processing delivery days. The following representatives are all from the state of California. Please ask them to co-sponsor H. RES 173.

Mike Thompson – CD 1
Dan Lungren – CD 3
Doris Matsui – CD 5

Wally Herger – CD 2
Tom McClintock – CD 4
George Miller – CD 7

Nancy Pelosi – CD 8

Pete Stark – CD 13

George Radanovich – CD 19
Kevin McCarthy – CD 23
Howard Mckee – CD 25
Henry Waxman – CD 30
Diane Watson – CD 33
Jerry Lewis – CD 41
Mary Bono – CD 40
46
John Campbell – CD 48
Brian Bilbray – CD 50

Devin Nunes – CD 21
Elton Gallegly – CD 24
David Dreier – CD 26
Xavier Becerra – CD 31
Ed Royce – CD 40
Gary Miller – CD 42
Dana Rohrabacher – CD 46
Darrell Issa – CD 49
Duncan Hunter – CD 52

NALC BLOG

The NALC has launched a legislative and political action blog: called the NALC Activist Alert. It is designed to keep the membership up to date in the legislative and political arenas with the most current information. NALC has set up a link to be used to visit the NALC Activist Alert blog: <http://nalcactivistalert.com>.

You have to be a member of the NALC e-Activist Network to get to the Blog, if you are not a member of the NALC e-Activist Network or you were once a member and your email has change you can sign up by going to the NALC website at <http://nalc.org/>

Postal Rate Commission (PRC)

The PRC is currently gathering comments to determine whether to recommend to Congress that it eliminate mail delivery service on Saturdays. The NALC need your help to make sure the PRC know what a mistake it would be by cutting Saturday delivery. The commission's recommendation will be very influential in Congress. We must stop the Postal Service from destroying itself. Please go to the commission's website and submit your comments. You can get directions on how you can submit your comments by going to <http://nalc.org/> and clicking on the (5-day is the wrong way link.

(Continued on Page 2)



"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.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

NALC statement on the PRC report on the postal pension surplus in CSRS

Fredric V. Rolando, President of the National Association of Letter Carriers, issued the following statement in response to a report issued by the Postal Regulatory Commission entitled "Civil Service Retirement System Cost and Benefit Allocation Principles" that was transmitted to the U.S. Postal Service on June 29, 2010:

"Today the PRC's report confirmed that the Postal Service has been overcharged by at least \$50-\$55 billion for pension costs related to service preformed by the taxpayer-supported Post Office Department before 1971. Congress now has all the evidence it needs to quickly correct this error in the accounting within the Civil Service Retirement System. The report supports a broadly shared conclusion in the postal industry that the Postal Service has massively over-funded its pension liabilities and that the surplus funds in the CSRS postal account could be used to meet its obligations to pre-fund its future retiree health benefits."

"Given that the \$5.5 billion annual cost of pre-funding retiree health costs – not the recession and not the Internet – is responsible for the Postal Service's recent financial losses, we call on Congress and the Obama administration to act this year on legislation to relieve the Postal Service of this unfair burden."

The PRC report, which was prepared by an actuarial consultant in response to a request from the USPS after the USPS Office of Inspector General (OIG) concluded in a January 2010 report that the Postal Service was overcharged for CSRS pensions by \$75 billion, also concluded that the "pure service-based allocation" method used by the OIG is "within the range of 'fair and equitable' options."

"This is great news for letter carriers and the Postal Service," President Rolando said, "we expect both Republicans and Democrats to work with the Obama administration to reward the Postal Service and its employees for all the hard work in recent years to fully fund all of its retirement obligations while providing the most affordable and high quality postal services in the world – despite the challenges of adapting to the most challenging economic times in generations."

The NALC statement on the PRC report on the postal pension surplus in CSRS directly from a press release on June 30, 2010, and is reprinted in the MailCall for your information. (FYI).

In Unionism.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	1	1	2	2	1	1	3				
ENCINO	5	3	4	5	5	3	3				
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	2	1	1	2	2				
PANORAMA CITY	3	3	2	2	0	1	2				
SHERMAN OAKS	4	5	7	6	4	7	5				
SUN VALLEY	2	1	3	3	3	1	2				
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2				
RETIREE'S	5	5	3	4	6	6	5				
TOTAL	23	21	25	25	22	26	24				

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

AUGUST
3rd
"2010"

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

August 3, 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 Aug 28th & Sept 25, 2010 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.

Thank
You

Frank Busch

Vice President's Report

by
Janette Dolabson

Good News

Oak Tree meet will be held at Santa Anita Park for at least one more year so our Picnic is going to be held as planned at Santa Anita Racetrack on Oct 10th. We will be sending out all the details within the next month or so and the sign ups and pricing will be out to all the stations. It might be our last one there so all of you who have attended in the past know what a great place it has been for us to hold our picnic there and for those of you who have not gone yet, I urge you to do so this year. It is a beautiful place and lot's of good food, fun games and tons of prizes to raffle off not to mention top notch horse racing.

JARAP

The hated route adjustments- Where do I begin? Declining mail volume have taken its toll on our routes and the Postal Service. No one likes to get an add too their route but a lot of routes are seeing additions. It is a difficult line to walk deciding what is a fair adjustment for routes. All the District Evaluation and Adjustment Teams (DEAT) consist of a Union member and a Manager member. Carriers need to understand that we both have to agree on an adjustment. I may want to take a time that a manager doesn't. At that point we need to come to an agreement and a compromise. We look at all available data, not just the evaluation period, the current 3999 and carriers input and route averages. We look at everything that has been done on the route during the last 2 processes, MIARAP and RERAP, we look at what volume the route had last adjustment and what volume they have now. We look at how many deliveries they had after the last adjustment and how many they have now. We see that nearly every route has less mail now then they did in the fall. Most routes were given their route averages in the fall with the higher mail volumes and adjusted accordingly.

What we are seeing now in many offices is even though there is less mail and often less deliveries on the routes we are not seeing a reduction in the time it is taking the carrier to do the route. Many carriers are over standard in the office and working the same or longer street times with the same or less deliveries. This puts the union side in a difficult position. We can not justify these longer times without a reason. If you have less mail, the same or less deliveries on your route, why would you be working the same or longer on the street? Carriers that come into our consultations and tell us that they are now working street functions on street time that they were doing on office time have been given a bump up in time for that if verified with the local office contacts (union and manager in office). If a carrier tells us they are over in the office because of ongoing office functions that take longer, we verify that and then give them additional office time. However, if a carrier comes in and tells us "I don't take my lunches and I don't take my breaks", my manager partner is not going to give you that time. I might be able to persuade him to give you back some of it but there is no way to verify that you are not doing these things and it is your responsibility to take your breaks and your lunches. You don't do that then you loose it. You have now lost that time and your office has lost that time.

If you are over standard in the office you will loose that time. You won't be getting anything over standard without justification.

Casing your DPS, handling coverage's, and telescoping your flats are not going to be acceptable reasons for being over standard in the office. You have now lost that time, not only that time but the extra time it would have taken on the street to handle that mail. It's a double loss for you and the office. Please help us help you by doing everything you are supposed to be doing the way it's supposed to be done. Your suggestions are read. Everyone of them is read by the teams. If your suggestions work out we take them. If they don't we can't take them. You might want a street from the route next to you. Sometimes it works out fine, other times it won't. That route might not need to be adjusted.

One last thought- Please don't get angry with carriers in your office because their routes were not changed. I have seen this happen in a few places. It's simple. Your route was short theirs wasn't, or their route was in a place where there was no territory available to add and they were evaluated at 7:46 or above. They might have given input showing they had been doing functions they needed credit for and the local office verified that and we gave that time to them. What ever the reason its not personal to you and it wasn't their decision. Play nice. Do the best you can, follow instructions, take your breaks and lunches and take responsibility for yourself. We are all in this together. Its not fun but it is what it is, we just do the best we can and it certainly is not perfect.

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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Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes

July 6, 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 6:30.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of All our Passed Retired Members and our Troops

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—NONE

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFETY RAY MOLA has replaced BOB ENZ as the Safety rep at the Encino Station. Drive in a safe and defensive manner at all times.

TRUSTEES There will be an audit of the books on July 21, 2010, at 6:00 pm at the Union Office.

RETIREEES 5 retiree's present tonight. Remember all retirees are invited to Breakfast every 4th Sat. Details are posted in the Mailcall. Retiree Luncheon will be held on October 17, 2010 at 1:00 pm at Encino Glen Restaurant on Burbank Blvd. Cost is \$ 5.00 and all members are invited to attend. We have several Gold Cards to give out this year as well as honoring this years new Retiree's. Congratulations to the Branch's newest Retiree BOB ENZ

HBR—L. DOLABSON Looking forward to attending the classes and HBR breakfast training at the upcoming National Convention in Anaheim.

MDA--ANGER \$ 1593 currently in fund.

MBA—ENZ Due to my retirement I will no longer be serving as the MBA representative.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C
VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Branch Picnic will be held at Santa Anita Racetrack again this year. The date will be Sunday October 10, 2010, (the day before Columbus day holiday). Watch for further information concerning times and costs. Delegate Dinner for National Convention has been booked. Delegates will get specific times and place at the Delegate meeting following the August Regular Branch Meeting.

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 4 members, to be chosen By President BROOKINS, to the NBA Region 1 Leadership Conference in Sacramento on September 25 – 26 2010. Cost not to exceed \$ 3000.00
M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

OLD BUSINESS—NONE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 JOHN BURTON—MAIN OFFICE

\$ 5 JOHN GARY—SUN VALLEY

\$ 7 SANDY ANGER—TARZANA—DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 7:28 PM

THE FOLLOWING ARE BRANCH 2462's
DELEGATES TO THE N A L C
NATIONAL CONVENTION
TO BE HELD IN
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 9 – 13 2010

CALVIN BROOKINS **

STEVE SEYFRIED

MULLINAX

TIA WILSON

LARRY DOLABSON

FRANK BRASH

RAUL DOZAL

RAY MOLA

SANDY ANGER

JANET McKEIVER

KEVIN DONOHUE

RICHARD REIMER

GARCIA

JANETTE DOLABSON

BOB JOHNSON TRACY

JEFF JACKSON

ROGER ASKEW

BOB ENZ

JIM TUKESBREY

BETTY LOW

JOHN BURTON

JACK WINKEL

JOSE JIMENEZ

ART BOCEK

ANDY GOCHER ANALIA

**** = AUTOMATIC PAID DELEGATE**

UNDERLINED=AUTOMATIC DELEGATE