

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

The National Convention has come and gone and NALC branch 2462 was well represented at the National Convention in Anaheim. Your delegates spent five busy days conducting the business of the union and attending much needed classes in order to better represent the membership of the branch. President Fred Rolando called to order and presided over his first National Convention and he did a very good job.

President Rolando stated that our union is 93 percent organized, which is the best open shop organized union in America, he further stated that the union's finances are very stable. He also reminded the delegation of some challenges that we as a union will have to face, such as: Finding the potential of our last mile interest. We also have two financial burdens to overcome one is the issue of the \$75 billion that the Postal Service overpaid into the Civil Service Retirement System and getting Congress to deal with OPM repaying some or all of the money. The second financial burden we have to overcome is the requirement to aggressively pre-fund future retiree health benefits to the tune of \$87 billion, something no other government agency or private business is required to do.

Another burden we will face is the Postal Service's bad idea of eliminating Saturday delivery. The Postal Service's proposal to cut costs by dropping a day of mail delivery would only worsen the prospects for the Postal Service. President Rolando stated; "The very idea of abandoning a day of service, harming customers, forcing them to alternative delivery systems, undercutting public reliance on postal deliveries it's all so wrong that it borders on the lunatic,"

This is not only something that could be detrimental to the Postal Service in regards to the service that we provide to the public, but would also cause about 80,000 letter carriers to lose their jobs. "We must also stop the Postal Service from making the biggest strategic blunder since it gave away the Express Mail market in 1978," Rolando said, "when it voluntarily loosened the private express statutes at the urging of a small, unknown company in Memphis called Federal Express. The rest is history."

President Rolando further stated to the delegation: That the union's two top legislative goals remain permanently reforming the retiree health pre-funding provisions of 2006

been made, thanks to H.R. 5746, a bill offered by Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA), which seeks to recover and transfer postal pension surplus to the postal retiree health fund to fully pre-fund all future retiree health benefits. The next step will be to repeal the \$5.5 billion pre-funding payments, which is likely to become more feasible once Congress sees that the retiree health fund is fully funded. President Rolando urged delegates to contact their congressional representatives to make sure they are co-sponsors of H.R. 5746.

The union is calling on each individual letter carrier to help save the United States Postal Service, even if it means saving it from postal management. You can start to do this by contacting your congressional representatives to make sure they are co-sponsors of H.R. 5746.

Our current National Agreement/Contract expires one year from this coming November that is about 14 months from now. Bearing that in mind, President Rolando gave us his four major goals for the next National Agreement;

- To extend and enforce the ban on outsourcing city carrier jobs.
- To win more work for letter carriers through the assignment of new deliveries.
- To develop a better, fairer system for evaluating and adjusting routes.
- To prepare for the next round of wage bargaining.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the next round of bargaining will be the most difficult in our history," Rolando said. "Let me be up front and unambiguous about one thing", Rolando said. NALC is 100 percent committed to fight to protect the job security and standard of living of letter carriers, no matter what economic conditions we face. We will not give it up.

"If the Postal Service approaches bargaining in good faith, and with creativity, it will have a willing partner. But, if the USPS approaches bargaining with a goal of gutting our pay and benefits, or tries to exploit the national economic crisis by making demands for sharp cuts and give backs," President Rolando declared, "it will have a fight on its hands".

Each day the delegates had several resolutions to debate and vote on. In this article I will give you the results of a couple of the key resolutions. National Agreement Resolutions are resolutions that the delegates at the

(Continued on Page 2)

postal reform law, and defeating the Service's proposal to eliminate Saturday mail delivery. Some process has already

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## 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	3	3		
ENCINO	5	3	4	5	5	3	3	2	3		
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2		
PANORAMA CITY	3	3	2	2	0	1	2	2	2		
SHERMAN OAKS	4	5	7	6	4	7	5	8	7		
SUN VALLEY	2	1	3	3	3	1	2	1	1		
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2		
RETIREE'S	5	5	3	4	6	6	5	5	5		
TOTAL	23	21	25	25	22	26	24	26	25		

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

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

OCTOBER  
5th  
"2010"

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

Oct 5, 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 October 23<sup>rd</sup> & November 27, 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)

convention are asking our NALC leaders to go back to USPS leaders and attempt to negotiate a particular item into the National Agreement/Contract.

### National Agreement Resolution 1 All TE's Given 473 Examination

This resolution is asking that each TE carrier that has worked for 180 days, be given the 473 Examination, upon their request to the local district office. The exam score will remain in their OPF. This resolution was approved by the Executive Council of the NALC.

### National Agreement Resolution 3 Unlimited Accrued Sick Leave for Dependent Care

There is language in the current National Agreement that allows letter carriers to use up to 80 hours of sick leave to care for a dependent. This resolution is asking that letter carriers be allowed to use any amount of accrued sick leave for dependent care in any leave year. This resolution was approved by the Executive Council of the NALC.

This is just two of the resolutions that were voted on by the delegates at the convention. If you would like to see the complete booklet of all of the resolutions and the results please see one of the convention delegates in your station and ask if you can review their resolution booklet, or see me when I am at your station. Remember the NALC still have to get management to agree to negotiate resolutions into the National Agreement.

MDA Bowl-a thon is set to take place on Sunday November 7, 2010, start planning now to attend and let's raise more money for MDA.

For those of you who do not know LiteBlue has expanded its sources for employees. You can now go on to LiteBlue and check your OPF or payroll by looking at your last 12 paychecks. You can log on to Liteblue with your Employee ID # and your USPS PIN # anytime. Liteblue is conveniently available 24/7 from any computer with Internet access by visiting: [liteblue.usps.gov](http://liteblue.usps.gov).

Remember not too long ago it was reported by the Office of the Inspector General that the Postal Service had overpaid \$75 billion into the Civil Service Retirement System.(CSRS) Well the Office of the Inspector General is now reporting that the U. S. Postal Service has overpaid roughly \$6.8 billion into the Federal Employees Retirement System.(FERS). I am sure we will hear more about this in the near future.

I want to now take this opportunity on behalf of this branch to congratulate our current National Business Agent Manny Peralta on his election by acclamation to Director of Safety and Health at NALC Headquarters and congratulation to Chris Jackson one of our current RAA's on his election by acclamation to the position of National Business Agent in Region 1 NALC. I know both of these gentlemen will do a tremendous job in their new positions and our branch will support them whole heartedly while they serve the membership in their new positions. Congratulation Guys!!!

## Vice President's Report

by

Janette Dolabson

Well you probably know by now that our picnic at Santa Anita had to be changed since the Oak Tree meet is not racing there this year. We had to scramble to find another place that was available the same day. I am happy to say we did find an excellent place to hold our annual picnic. Vasa Park in Agoura is the place. It is nestled in the canyons between Agoura and Malibu. There is plenty of shade and it is a beautiful park. I hope you have all taken this great opportunity to sign up and go this year. It promises to be one of the best ever. All you can eat Buffet- Beef, chicken, hot dog bar, coleslaw, potato salad, fruit, bread, ice cream, all you can drink including beer and wine. All the picnic games will be played, sack races, water balloon toss etc. There is a 750 foot tandem Zip line, an 250 foot water slide, junior Olympic size pool, Volleyball court, softball field, soccer field, tether ball, 4 carnival games with prizes, 4 in 1 Jungle bounce, bingo and tons of raffles and prizes. Pricing is a bit more than last year but we are getting a LOT more for your money. \$15.00 for members, 10 refunded at the door, 15 for all family members no matter the age. Guests will be 25 for adults and teens and 15 for kids 4-13. All kids under 4 are free. We are paying over 40 bucks a head so you can see that the branch is picking up a huge chunk of the cost. Remember these things- No Smoking No Pets and Drink Responsibly while you are participating at the picnic.

On July 15th 2010, Representative Stephen Lynch (D-MA) introduced H.R. 5746, the USPS's CSRS Obligation modification Act of 2010. Congressman Lynch is chairman of the House Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service and the District of Columbia, is the first member of Congress to attempt to introduce legislature that addresses the accounting error that led to OPM over charging the Postal Service, by billions of Dollars, for payment into the CRS retirement System. It calls for OPM to recalculate the USPS surplus in the CSRS using methodology that will allocate fairly the cost of pensions between the Post Office Department and the USPS. Once this is determined, OPM will have 90 days to write regulations that include directions for how and when the surplus will be transferred to the PSRHBf. This bill would transfer surplus CSRS assets to the PS's retirement health fund and it would have no effect on any current or future federal retiree's annuity. Urge your Congressman to support this Bill and become a co-signer.

I want to talk a bit about route adjustments and the review that will begin this month beginning Oct. 15th. The Postal Service has decided that we will be required to use the program COR to adjust routes. That means this will be used for the zones we will be revisiting and adjusting during the next few months. Trust me we are not happy about using COR. Your managers are not happy about using COR but we have to and we will do the best we can to make it work with the least impact as possible. That being said, this program does not care what your seniority is, what limitations you have or what type of deliveries you have. It will move whatever it sees as being the most efficient territory for the routes in that office with the parameters that have been entered. You could have only 1 original delivery and it would still be named your route.

Unless your local agreement states that your route can't change more than 50% and only 1 of our offices state that, then your route could be nearly completely different under this program. At least with the union sitting there learning and using this program, along with the managers, we can help minimize that from happening. We will look at seniority, limitations and types of deliveries you now have. You must help us know all these things about you and your routes in consultations. Let us know everything so nothing gets missed. Keep track of your volumes. Do street functions on street time. I believe all our union officers need to understand this program and how it is used and what it does to the routes. The more we use it the better we will understand it and be able to effectively utilize its tools to benefit the carriers and have less impact on the offices.

## HEALTH BENEFIT'S Report

by

Larry Dolabson

Open Season will be November 8th, 2010 - December 14th 2010.

One of the biggest, most important new benefits for all Health Plans now, due to President Obama's Health Care Reform will be that all plans will now be covering all Dependents up to the Age of 26. Most covered them until the age of 23. Children between 22-26 are eligible for coverage under their parent's self and family enrollment until 26. Married children are eligible for coverage (not their spouses) even if the child is currently under 22. Children who are eligible for or have their own employer provided health insurance are eligible for coverage up to age of 26. Step children do not need to life with the enrollee in a parent-child relationship to be eligible for coverage up to age 26. Birthday rule will always apply. Children who are incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical disability that began before age 26 are eligible to continue coverage after age 26. Beginning January 1, 2011, to add a foster child to a Self and Family enrollment by an authorized placement agency or by judgment, decree or other of any court of competent jurisdiction. NALC Health Benefit Plan will be notifying current enrollees by way of a letter included in our Open Season materials.

Anyone that is currently enrolled in a Self and Family policy will need to send their request to the Plan by completing the form on the reverse side of the letter they will receive in their kit. If the dependent was never listed on the enrollment, a copy of the birth certificate must be included with the form. If a member is currently enrolled in a Self Only policy, they must change to a Self and Family policy through their human resources of retirement system. Or call PostalEASE at 1 877-477-3273 option 1. This is considered a change in family status qualifying life event.

# "THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

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## Branch Meeting Minutes

Sept 7, 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 6:34.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by MBA Rep. BOB ENZ

**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, L. DOLABSON, ENZ

**ABSENT**—ASKEW

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP—NONE**

**BILLS READ—NONE**

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**HEALTH & SAFETY**

Drive safe and defensive

**TRUSTEES**

No Report

**RETIREEES**

5 retiree's present tonight.

Remember all retirees are invited to Breakfast every 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. Details are posted in the Mailcall. We had 13 present at the Aug breakfast, so it is turning out to be a success. 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. Gold Cards will be given out this year as well as honoring this years new Retiree's

**HBR—L. DOLABSON**

Please read article in October Mailcall for important information.

**MDA—ANGER**

\$ 605 currently in fund.

**MBA—ENZ**

Watch for Article

**FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON**

**MOTION**—Accept Financial reports as read

M/S/C

**VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON** Branch Picnic has been moved to VASA PARK in Agora Hills. Santa Anita Racetrack closed and refunded our deposit. Watch for sign up sheets in your office or ask your Shop Steward The date will be the same, Sunday October 10, 2010, (the day before Columbus day holiday). Park is very nice, better than Calimigos Ranch was so plan on attending, you do not want to be left out!!!

**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 2 people to be chosen by the President, to the Washington DC Lobby trip in March 13-18,2011. Cost not to exceed \$5500.00

M/S/C

**MOTION**—Branch purchase 400 Bass Calendars.

Cost to the Branch \$ 1500.00  
M/S/C

### UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

**OLD BUSINESS—NONE**

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

A video show was presented by TIA WILSON (Co-produced by her husband JOHN) highlighting the Anaheim Convention and the Jobs Rally that followed.

### **MDA DRAWING**

\$ 5 JAMES TUKESBREY--RETIREE--DONATED

\$ 5 CALVIN BROOKINS—CIVIC CENTER

\$ 10 STEVE SEYFRIED—SHERMAN OAKS

Meeting Adjourned 7:50 PM

## SATURDAY DELIVERY TO BE OR NOT TO BE by Tia Wilson

The main focus of the convention was about the financial stability of the USPS, saving Saturday delivery and the 80,000 jobs that would be eliminated. We extended our session twice so we could wrap up business early on Friday and attend a job rally that was held at city hall in Los Angeles. There were many different unions present and many of their members have been laid off and are experiencing furlough days.

We are headed down the same path if the Postal Service is successful in eliminating Saturday delivery and passing the bill, HR 5919 which would allow them to implement 12 furlough days a year. Passing bills that will help stabilize their finances by fixing the overpayments to the retiree pension funds and health benefits fund is the better solution.

I encourage everyone to help in the fight to maintain six day delivery, prevent furlough days, and fix these overpayments by donating to COLCPE, and signing up to be an e-activist. Log on to nalc.org for more info on signing up.

COLCPE is the NALC political action fund that helps elect candidates who support letter carriers. By strengthening NALC's voice in Congress, COLCPE protects our rights and the future of the Postal Service.

The E-activist network is a way for the NALC to communicate with its members and get responses from them quickly regarding important issues affecting Letters Carriers and the future of the Postal Service.