

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Veterans Day

Veterans Day is a special time that we get to thank all of the men and women who have served in the military and those who are currently serving in the military. Those men women put their lives on the line in order for us to enjoy the freedom that we have in this great country of our. I will tell you that most of us take that for granted, but I will also tell you that there are a lot of countries that does not have the freedom that we have. Therefore, on behalf of the membership of Branch 2462, I would like to thank our men and women who serve and have served in the greatest military in the world, for all of their sacrifices that they have given in order for us to have the freedom that we enjoy. Without our men and women in uniform without a doubt we would not have the freedom that we have. Thank you so much to the men and women of the Marines, Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard for serving this great country of our.

As we enter a time of year that we all should look at and humble ourselves and remember all of the things that we are thankful for, and all of the things and love ones that we are blessed with. With Thanksgiving and Christmas approaching let us all be very thankful for the families that we have and the jobs that we have. With that said I would like to wish all the membership and their families Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas and please enjoy the holidays and above all be safe.

Customer Connect

Management is attempting to ramp up Customer Connect again, there were a stand-up in Van Nuys Main Office recently and a stand-up in Encino recently. Management seems to have a renewed vigor about Customer Connect. They have made some changes to their marketing team and this current team seems to be very much on board with making sure that Customer Connect is a success. With that in mind I want all letter carriers to know that the NALC supports Customer Connect 100 percent because generating revenue gives us as craft employees the opportunity to take part in making a difference helping a company that we work for be stronger financially.

Since Customer Connect started we have hit the one billion dollar mark, this could not have been done without letter carriers like yourselves providing those leads that the marketing team could follow up on and eventually close those sales. I know we have had some concerns in the past with

management not following through on leads that we as carriers go out and get, or a company who starts to ship so many parcels and then are told that we cannot pick them up for whatever reason. This places the carrier in an embarrassing position because it is the carrier who has to see that customer again and again. Management and the marketing team have assured us that they will not drop the ball on Customer Connect this time around.

We have also been assured that carriers will get the time to pick-up parcels regardless of how many the customer has or they will get someone out there to pick them up if they cannot give the carrier time. With the holiday season approaching this is a great opportunity for us as letter carriers to pick up some leads and generate revenue for the Postal Service.

UPS, (what can brown do for you?) Let me tell you what they are doing for their customers they are raising their rates by 4.9 percent. Fed-Ex is also raising their rates by 3.9 percent. This is a great talking point when you approach customers on your business route. Just tell them that we can ship that same product for them at a cheaper rate. Your role as a carrier is to identify revenue opportunities for business customers utilizing the existing lead program. One of the ways you can do this is to look for businesses that are using UPS and Fed-Ex ask them if you can have someone from our marketing department come out and talk to them about how they can save money. In this economy everyone is looking to save money. Simply fill out the lead card or you could just get a business card from the customer with the name and number of a contact person and attaché it to the lead card and turn it in to your Customer Connect coordinator at your station.

There is Customer Connect goals for Sierra Coastal District in FY 2011;

Customer Connect revenue goal is: \$3,600,848

Customer Connect participation goal is: 35 percent

Sierra Coastal District year to date numbers are;

Customer Connect revenue: \$74,680 ranked 53rd out of 74 Districts nationwide.

Customer Connect participation: 6.98 percent ranked 30th out of 74 Districts nationwide.

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"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

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	4	3
ENCINO	5	3	4	5	5	3	3	2	3	3	3
CIVIC CENTER	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
PANORAMA CITY	3	3	2	2	0	1	2	2	2	2	1
SHERMAN OAKS	4	5	7	6	4	7	5	8	7	6	6
SUN VALLEY	2	1	3	3	3	1	2	1	1	1	1
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
RETIREE'S	5	5	3	4	6	6	5	5	5	7	7
TOTAL	23	21	25	22	26	24	26	25	27	25	

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

JANUARY
4th
"2011"

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

Jan 4, 2011

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

"RETIREE CORNER"

The Saturday Breakfast will not be held in November or December due to the proximity to the Holidays. We will resume our Breakfast on JANUARY 22ND 2011. (4th Saturday) at Denny's Restaurant, (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM.

Thank
You

Frank D...L

For your information, in case you are not aware, if a manager is following you on the street they need to provide you with a 4584 form showing they performed a street observation. Even if they find nothing wrong you should be provided one. If you don't, have your steward file a grievance.

Thank you to those of you who went out and voted it makes a difference.

The next event on our calendar will be the Christmas party. I hope you will come out and be part of it. We will be serving tri-tip, chicken, and ham along with potatoes, mac and cheese, coleslaw, salad, rolls, and lots of deserts. It is a lot of fun and there will be gift bags for the kids that attend. It will probably be on Dec. 17th however we have not nailed down the exact date yet but we will get the information out to the stations.

The food drive will be held on May 14th not May 7th as it states on our calendars. It is always the second Saturday in May even if that is not Mother's Day weekend.

JARAPR is now in process. Do not know what stations we will be going into yet. We will find out soon. It doesn't look as if we will be going into any of the FSS zones since they will be going on line early next year.

There is a lot of rumors flying around out there about FSS and I hate to admit it but some of them are probably true. The program used to adjust routes will be COR - Carrier Optimum Routing and it will attempt to square off routes as much as it can. It will eliminate unnecessary relays and travel times. At least what it sees as unnecessary. During the FSS process, so far, the union will not be a part of. Managers will not be taking into consideration seniority of the carriers on the routes. At least that is what some have been told by national. We will be losing a lot of routes in the FSS sites this next year when we go online. It is going to be a challenge and it will be difficult for many carriers. We got through this kind of "automation" with DPS and we will get through this one too.

The zones scheduled for FSS from our branch are Encino, Sherman Oaks, Tarzana, and 2 zones in Main Office 91401 and 91411. The higher the office time the higher the loss of routes. FSS will essentially put nearly all your flats in delivery order. Since we spend most of our office time casing these flats you can understand the impact it will have on the office times. So far the word is that beginning January 3rd next year we go online with machine 1. The first zone of ours to go will be 91436 zone in Encino.

You can understand why I have been harping on you for the last 2 years to do street functions on street time. You will lose that time with FSS if you are doing it on office time. You will have close to an hour office time under FSS so you figure out how much your route might be changed in terms of time. If you have a 3 hour average office time your route will be getting about a 2 hour addition. It will, of course depend on your casable letter volume too but that is about the break down. 1 hour office 7 hour street. We are in this all together.

We will survive.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

Remember the NALC is totally committed to Customer Connect it is a viable way to generate revenue for the Postal Service. It is in all of our best interest to help the Postal Service to survive. Therefore, I am urging all letter carriers with Branch 2462 to participate and provide any leads you can and let's put the marketing department to task and provide more work for them than they can handle.

2011 Saxsenmeier Scholarship Program

California State Association of Letter Carriers (CSALC) is now accepting applications for the 2011 Saxsenmeier Scholarship program. All applications must be sent to the Scholarship Chair by January 7, 2011. The scholarships are available to the dependent children or grandchildren of members of NALC Branches within the State of California who have not served in a supervisory capacity in the previous two (2) years from the date of 2011 award announcement. Applicant's parent / grandparent must be a member in good standing of the NALC for at least one year prior to applying. Applicant must be a high school senior when applying. Saxsenmeier Scholarship awards are issued in the year of graduation and are not renewable.

Convention Video Clips

For your viewing enjoyment: The Anaheim Convention web page has been updated to include more video clips, such as "The Strike at 40," "Fighting to Save the Last Mile," plus United Mine Workers Association, President Cecil Roberts' speech. You can view the video clips at nalc.org.

19th annual! 2011 Food Drive is Sat., May 14

Although it's still months away, preparations have already begun for the 2011 NALC National Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on May 14 the second Saturday in May. Since it began in 1992, the drive has always been held on the second Saturday in May. That often places it on the day before Mother's Day but not always. Unfortunately, some calendars for 2011 have already been printed listing an incorrect date, on the assumption that the drive takes place on the day before Mother's Day. So over the next several months, when we ask you to "mark your calendars" for Saturday, May 14, it's an actual request, not just a suggestion!

Penalty Overtime Exclusion for 2010

During a four-week period (two consecutive pay periods) in December, the application of penalty overtime is suspended (*Article 8, Sections 4 and 5*). By correspondence dated October 5, 2010, the Postal Service has designated the Penalty Overtime Exclusion period for 2010. The dates for the exclusionary period are December 4-31, 2010 (Pay Period 26-10, Week 1 through Pay Period 01-11, Week 2).

Remember we all have so much to be thankful for! 'Happy Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas to all'

HERE ARE TWO OF THE PLANS OFFERED BY M.B.A. M.B.A. PAID UP AT 90 WHOLE LIFE AND M.B.A. PAID UP AT 65 WHOLE LIFE

BOTH PLANS ARE AVAILABLE IN THESE AMOUNTS 19K, 15K, 25K, 50K, 100K. PREMIUMS ARE BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF THE POLICY AND AGE AT TIME OF PURCHASE. THERE ARE 3 TYPES OF PAYMENTS, ONCE EVERY 12 MOUNTHS, 12 TIMES A YEAR, OR BI-WEEKLEY WITH PAYROLL DEDUCTION. YOU MAY BORROW AGAINST THE CASH BUILDUP OR TRADE IN FOR CASH (LUMP SUM). IF YOU BORROW AGAINST YOUR POLICY THE INTEREST RATE IS 8%. MORE NEXT MONTH

ANNUAL BRANCH PICNIC FUN FOR ALL

Members and Guest had a great time this year at the annual Picnic as pictured below. Sack race and Egg toss were only a few of the many fun events. If you did not attend plan on making it out for next years event

Photos provided by JASON COLELLO

MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION REPORT

By
BOB ENZ, MBA Representative

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"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes

November , 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 6:320.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of Retired Member FRED CAULFIELD and our Troops

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP—NONE

BILLS READ—MOTION TO PAY M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFETY No Report
TRUSTEES Budget meeting will be on Wed, Jan 5, 2011 and the Audit will be on Thurs, Jan 20, 2011. Both will be at the Union office and will begin at 6:30 pm

RETIREES 7 retiree's present tonight.

HBR—L. DOLABSON Look for article in MailCall

MDA—ANGER \$ 1275 currently in fund.

MBA—ENZ Look for article in Mailcall

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Final cost of the Picnic was \$ 14,820.25. \$ 4,820.25 over budget.

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 donate \$ 100.00 to the Labor Services Turkeys & Tots campaign M/S/C

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 50.00 to the Van Nuys Salvation Army for Thanksgiving M/S/C

MOTION— Branch donate \$ 50.00 to the Van Nuys Salvation Army for Christmas

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch empower the Executive Board to conduct any and all business of the Branch from November 3, 2010 through January 4, 2011

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

OLD BUSINESS—NONE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

A NALC watch was presented to JOAN STALBOERGER to commemorate her Retirement from the USPS. MDA Video was presented.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 ANALIA GARCIA—MAIN OFFICE
\$ 5 ROGER ASKEW--RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 6 ROGER ASKEW--RETIREE

Meeting Adjourned 7:32 PM

HEALTH BENEFIT'S Report

by
Larry Dolabson

Open Season began November 8th and goes through December 14th. The prices are now for self only \$51.56 and for family \$100.57. You will find that the cost of all the plans have gone up. For annuitants self will be \$160.64 and family will be \$327.32. Coverage Extension for Dependents up to Age 26 Requirements. On March 23, 2010 the Affordable Care Act, Public Law 111-148 was signed into law. As a result of this law, children will be eligible for health coverage under their parent's Self and Family enrollment up to age 26. This law allows married children to be covered, removes dependency requirements, removes residency requirements, and does not require a child to be a student or have prior or current insurance coverage to be placed on their parent's Self and Family enrollment. For the FEHB Program, this provision is effective January 1, 2011.

IN MEMORY OF

FRED CAULFIELD
RETIREE—BRANCH 2462