

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

Safety

The new Jeffrey System is to be installed in Van Nuys and employees will be getting new ID badges. Pictures have already been taken in Van Nuys Main Office and some of the new badges have arrived. Once this system has been completely installed you will have to use your badge to enter the postal facility.

In the Van Nuys Installation we have had five (5) motor vehicle accidents so far this fiscal year, since the beginning of October 2010. We only had three (3) all of last fiscal year. Therefore, letter carriers in Van Nuys should expect more street observation by local management.

Here in Van Nuys we recently had a letter carrier who were involved an accident and the accident took place while the letter carrier were deviating from the line of travel of the route on the way back to the office from the street. Basically this carrier were trying to take a short cut that would have allowed to get back to the office faster than it would have taken if he had stayed with the line of travel.

My advice to all letter carriers that is represented by branch 2462, do not deviate from the line of travel that has been set by management unless you have received permission to do so. When you deviate from the line of travel and get into an accident you make it that much harder for the union to defend you in the case of disciplinary action. Management then would have a simple argument that goes something like this 'if the carrier had not deviated from the line of travel the accident very possibly would not have happened'.

The following is the general rules and driving regulations that must be followed by all postal personnel when driving postal vehicles;

Never finger mail or hold it in your hands while you drive. Move your vehicle only when you are absolutely certain that it is safe to do so, especially if children may be nearby. If necessary, get out, circle your vehicle, and check underneath it to make sure. In fact anytime you are driving a postal vehicle or your private vehicle make absolutely sure that all pedestrians are clear of your vehicle prior to moving that vehicle.

(Continued on Page 2)

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 5, 2011 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 7, 2011. 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 13, 2011. 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 June 1, 2011. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, June 2, 2011 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.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2										
ENCINO	3										
CIVIC CENTER	2										
PANORAMA CITY	2										
SHERMAN OAKS	5										
SUN VALLEY	1										
TARZANA	2										
RETIREE'S	6										
TOTAL	23										

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

February
1st
"2011"

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

February 1, 2011

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 February 26, & March 26, 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)

Yield the right of way and make any other concessions necessary to avoid an accident. Always maintain a safe stopping distance, being especially careful during inclement weather. When following another vehicle in clear weather, you can judge the necessary distance between it and your vehicle by using the 4-second rule. Choose a landmark. When the vehicle ahead of you passes it, begin to count, one thousand and one, one thousand and two, one thousand and three, one thousand and four. If you pass the landmark before you reach one thousand and four, you are following too closely. During inclement weather, stay farther behind the vehicle in front of you. If you are following larger trucks (1-ton or more), increase the time lapse to 6 seconds.

Use your turn signal before turning, changing lanes, or pulling to or away from the curb or shoulder of the road. Enter all unregulated or unprotected intersections slowly and cautiously. Slow down and do not enter the cross street until you are sure you can do so safely. Before entering any intersection, slow down and look left, then right, then left again. Remember that danger is always closer from the left when the roadway is two directional. Never wear headphones or headsets or any other device that can diminish your hearing while you are operating a motor vehicle.

Always drive at a safe speed. Never exceed the speed limit, but keep in mind that under certain conditions the posted speed limit may not be the safe one. Avoid backing up whenever possible. If you can, park where you will not have to back up to pull away from a parking place. If you must back up, first walk around your vehicle to make sure there are no pedestrians, children, obstructions, etc., in your way.

Whenever you park your vehicle, turn off the engine, remove the key, place the gear selector in park, and set the parking brake. If the vehicle will be out of your sight, lock the vehicle. When parking a vehicle uphill, turn the front wheels away from the curb. When parking downhill, turn them into the curb. Remember: uphill-out, and downhill-in.

FYI

Proposed federal pay freeze:

President Obama has announced a plan to freeze federal employees' pay for two years, calling the measure necessary to help reduce the federal deficit. Postal workers, however, are paid by the self-sustaining U.S. Postal Service, and so they are not included in this proposal.

Is the USPS America's 'best-run business'?

NALC President Fredric Rolando appeared on *The Skeptical Economist* weekly show on Fox News Radio Indianapolis Sunday morning to discuss Postal Service finances and business practices. The hour long program can be listened to online at wxnt.com.

In Unionism

BUDGET ESTIMATE JANUARY 2011 THRU DECEMBER 2011

ESTIMATED INCOME:

Regular Members	360 at \$ 652.86	(\$ 25.11 - ppp)	\$235,029.60
Retiree's	115 at \$ 18.00	(per year)	\$2,070.00
NALC Health Benefit Reimbursement			\$200.00
Interest			\$125.00
Other Income			\$350.00
TOTAL INCOME			\$237,774.60

JANUARY 2011 THRU DECEMBER 2011

	ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2010	SPENT 2010	BUDGET 2011
	NALC Per Capita Tax:			
	Regular Members			
	360 at \$ 197.86	\$75,745.80	\$72,449.45	\$71,229.60
	Retiree's			
	115at \$ 7.00	\$770.00	\$791.86	\$805.00
	State Per capita Tax:			
	Regular Members			
	360 at \$ 10.14	\$3,954.60	\$3,786.26	\$3,650.40
	Retiree's			
	115 at \$.50	\$55.00	\$66.45	\$57.50
1	Contingency Fund (regular members) (360 @ 2.00 x 26 pay periods)	\$20,280.00	\$19,424.00	\$18,720.00
2	Contingency Fund (retired members) (115 @ .50 x 26 pay periods)	\$1,430.00	\$1,443.00	\$1,495.00
3	Branch Officers Salary	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
4	The Mail-Call	\$4,600.00	\$5,151.96	\$5,400.00
5	Mail-Permit (includes postage)	\$1,600.00	\$1,385.00	\$1,400.00
6	Postage Expense	\$500.00	\$435.02	\$500.00
9	Harry Brenneman Award	\$250.00	\$227.39	\$250.00
10	Office Expense	\$1,100.00	\$1,340.32	\$1,300.00
12	Retiree's Dinner	\$2,000.00	\$1,779.96	\$2,000.00
13	Installation of Officers	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
14	Branch Telephones	\$2,000.00	\$1,906.59	\$2,000.00
15	Bond for Officer's	\$300.00	\$240.00	\$300.00
16	Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$569.77	\$800.00
17	Labor-Management Meetings	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
18	Refreshments	\$800.00	\$672.86	\$700.00
19	Donations	\$1,000.00	\$550.00	\$700.00
20	Equipment Repairs	\$1,500.00	\$112.90	\$1,100.00
21	Equipment Purchase	\$3,000.00	\$1,603.35	\$2,000.00
22	Election Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
23	Miscellaneous Expense	\$300.00	\$25.00	\$150.00
24	Public Relations	\$500.00	\$105.59	\$150.00
25	Station Expense	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
26	Educational & Training	\$19,500.00	\$13,090.32	\$14,000.00
27	Publications	\$50.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
28	Local Negotiations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

29	Branch Picnic	\$10,000.00	\$14,820.26	\$12,000.00
30	Lost Time Account	\$19,500.00	\$17,200.00	\$16,000.00
31	Insurance cost	\$1,100.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,100.00
32	Office Rental	\$25,000.00	\$25,971.81	\$26,400.00
33	Gas Utility	\$300.00	\$273.54	\$300.00
34	Food Drive	\$1,300.00	\$2,428.67	\$1,500.00
35	Ray Kreyer Award	\$600.00	\$533.38	\$600.00
36	C.O.A. Mail Call	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$75.00
37	Death Benefit	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
38	Mileage (.58 per mile)	\$4,000.00	\$2,158.56	\$2,500.00
39	MBA Dues Reimbursement	\$650.00	\$640.92	\$660.00
40	Electric Utility	\$1,500.00	\$1,399.81	\$1,500.00
41	Dues & Membership Expense	\$850.00	\$671.65	\$750.00
42	Janitorial Expense	\$900.00	\$262.50	\$900.00
43	Photo's & Xeroxing	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
44	Membership Drawing	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
45	Bass Calendars	\$1,450.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
46	Christmas Open House	\$4,000.00	\$4,790.99	\$4,500.00
47	Independent Medical Exam	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
48	Organizing Expense	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
49	Cellular Phone	\$1,200.00	\$1,099.14	
	\$1,400.00			
50	Greeting Cards	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$15.00
51	On-Line Service	\$600.00	\$599.88	\$600.00
52	Time Reimbursement	\$1,500.00	\$230.00	\$750.00
53	NALC Store Expense	\$1,000.00	\$640.00	\$750.00
54	Deaf/Inter-Sign Language	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
55	General Taxes	\$500.00	\$326.77	
	\$400.00			
56	Cable Expense	\$850.00	\$865.34	\$900.00
57	Retiree Breakfast Expense	\$1,200.00	\$1,021.68	\$1,200.00
99	Non-Numbered Items	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTALS		\$252,460.40		\$240,447.50

JANUARY 2010 THRU DECEMBER 2010

BALANCE SHEET

INCOME	\$237,774.60
EXPENDITURES	\$240,447.50
BALANCE	-\$2,672.90

Vice President's Report

By

Janette Dolabson

Well another Year has come and gone and we are still standing. Happy New Year to one and all ! With every new year comes a sense of renewal and promise of things to come. This year is no exception. 2011 will be one of many challenges for us as letter carriers and employees of the USPS. Some of the challenges will begin right now as the year starts.

By the time you read this in the Feb. news letter Encino, Sherman Oaks, and Tarzana will be in the middle of being FSS'd. We will be losing a significant number of routes and regular carrier positions. Hopefully we will come out of this saving those positions through attrition and withheld positions. Some carriers may need to be excessed to other installations. February 5th Encino 91316 will be having 6 day counts and then Going through COR adjustments beginning the 12th. Tarzana's 6 day count begins Feb. 12th and COR adjustments on Feb. 19th. Encino 91436 has their 6 day count beginning Feb. 12th and COR adjustment on Feb. 19th also. Sherman Oaks 91423 6 day count begins March 5th and COR adjustment March 12th and finally Sherman Oaks 91403's 6 day count starts on March 26th and COR adjustment on April 2nd. Each COR adjustment takes about 3 weeks to complete and is followed by a 60 day review. So that means that around 3 weeks after the 6 day count the new routes will be implemented in those offices. Trust me there will be lots of changes and your routes will be very different than the are now for most of you. This is what it is. We will be making sure that the COR techs in charge of those adjustments follow all the correct steps and correct all the errors. What you need to understand is, this is not a process under the same umbrella as any of the RAP's we have done. There will be no consultations or input from the carriers unless it is requested by the COR tech. Seniority will not be a consideration in this process unless the COR Tech decides to consider it. There are ways to use this COR program to move territory back to routes if necessary or to make the route more carrier friendly if they have limitations or things like that if the COR tech is made aware of them and is willing to do those changes. It will depend on that COR tech. My opinion is they will work very closely with each office and make sure that the outcome is the best they can do under these conditions for the carriers and the Postal Service. Most of them I know and know that they will try and do as good a job as possible. I know no one really likes changes. No one wants to loose large sections of their routes and their customers and definitely, no one wants their routes abolished and their positions eliminated. This will happen. It is inevitable. We are all in this together. We will all survive together. Those offices not on FSS will be COR'd eventually also. This the wave of the future. This is how all routes will be adjusted from now on. Some of those office have had COR adjustments during JARAPR already. All I can advise is, do your jobs to the best of your ability the way you are supposed to. Follow all the rules, be safe and be professional. A positive attitude goes a long way. Make the best of the changes you can. You are not alone. If there is a problem, contact us at the branch office or talk to your shop stewards.

The Christmas party was a great Success. We had around 130 people there. The food was great and everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to Steve Seyfried, who, without his help we never could pull this off. I want to thank also, John Burton and Bob Enz for coming early and helping Steve and I set up the place. You are the best! Thanks to all my little elves who helped serve and collect MDA donations and hand out gifts to the kids. Sandy Anger, Bob Johnson, Larry Dolabson, Calvin Brookins, Jeff Jackson, Tracy Mullinax, and Judi Winkle. You all rock. I would especially like to thank John and Tia Wilson who were the cutest Mr. and Mrs. Claus ever! The only things that were a problem were the parking, the weather and people bringing in their own "refreshments". All those will be addressed and fixed for next year. Hope to see you there.

This years picnic will be Sept. 11 at Vasa park. Great place and good times for you and your family. Mark your calendars. The food drive will be in May and we will hopefully we will get bags donated for that again this year.

Heads up-shoulders back- and march forward with confidence and purpose with a strong will for survival. We are in for a bumpy ride. All prayers are welcome!!

Love you people!

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 & 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 !

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

"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

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Branch Meeting Minutes January 4, 2011

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 Miami Branch 1071 member BRUCE PARTON, who was shot and killed on his route.

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

JEFFREY THOMAS

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFETY New I D badges are being implemented in Van Nuys offices. Vehicle accidents are up. Already have been 5 this year, we only had 3 in 2010. Stay on your line of travel and drive defensively.

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

RETIREEES 6 retiree's present tonight.
HBR—L. DOLABSON Open season has ended, will have new update at next meeting.

MDA—ANGER Bowl-a-thon was big success, we raised \$ 1247.00, which was forwarded to National. Collected \$ 229.00 at the Christmas party, \$ 1504.00 currently in fund. Watch for more fund raising info soon !!!!!!!

MBA—ENZ New pamphlets are in and will be going out to the stations. Watch for further info in Mailcall.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C
VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Christmas party was huge success, Thanks for all who helped. 2011 Picnic tentatively set for Sept. at VASA Park. Will have a firm date later. Deet teams have disbanded, FSS starting in Encino early Feb. Sherman Oaks to follow around April.

PRESIDENT BROOKIN Gave his report on latest important items which he will cover in his article in the MailCall.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

The following actions were taken by the Executive Board since the last Regular Branch Meeting.

- #1 Donated \$ 100.00 to the Saxsenmeier Scholarship Fund.
- #2 Renewed Branch copy of the Postal Record. Cost to the Branch \$ 20.00
- #3 Purchased 15 copies of the new NALC Constitution. Cost to the Branch \$ 30.00

NEW BUSINESS—NONE

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Branch wishes to let CESAR SILVA and his entire family that they are in our thoughts during this time. We wish you the very best for the New Year.

MDA DRAWING

- \$ 5 RICHARD REIMER—SHERMAN OAKS
- \$ 5 ART BOCEK--RETIREE--DONATED
- \$ 12 BETTY LOW—MAIN OFFICE

Meeting Adjourned 9:13 PM



Want to keep up on what's going on ? Become an NALC E-ACTIVIST. It is simple go to the NALC website at <http://nalc.org/> and Click on the Logo you see above on the page. Fill out the easy form and you will get updates on a regular basis and then you won't be left in the dark when new information comes in. DON'T WAIT—DO IT TODAY !



OLD BUSINESS