

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

Flat Sorting System (FSS)

FSS is here, it was implemented in Tarzana on January 25, 2011, on that day the carriers cased the FSS flats for quality purposes. On January 26, 2011, the carriers took the FSS mail directly to the street without casing it. To this point the carriers has had very few flats to case and this saves on office times and most carriers if not all have some amount of under time. In other words FSS does have an impact on office time. What has to be determined is the exact impact FSS will have on each route. We do know that there will be an impact on the letter carrier craft because of FSS, and that we will lose routes as a result of FSS. However, FSS is going to be a learning experience for us all.

The Step 4 decision gives two different scenarios on how letter carriers can handle the residual cased mail on coverage days on park and loop routes or portions thereof. The Step 4 decision reads as follows;

In order to maintain three bundles on pre-sequenced mail days, letter carriers serving park and loop or foot deliveries may only be assigned to either:

Case residual mail, then collate with FSS mail while in the office... or, case residual mail, then collate with the pre-sequenced addressed mail (coverage) during pull down while in office. There is no change to current work methods for other types of deliveries.

At this time management has agreed that on park and loop routes or those portions of park and loop deliveries on a route on a coverage day the carrier will be allowed to case residual mail and pull it down and collate it into the FSS mail while in the office.

We are currently still trying to get management to allow carriers to collate residual mail into FSS flats on all routes and on all days regardless of type of delivery. What management needs to understand is that they will get their savings when they are able to adjust routes and eliminate routes. They will not get a true realization of their savings from whether or not a carrier is allowed to collate their mail on any route everyday regardless of type of delivery.

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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.

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	2	2									
ENCINO	3	2									
CIVIC CENTER	2	2									
PANORAMA CITY	2	1									
SHERMAN OAKS	5	9									
SUN VALLEY	1	1									
TARZANA	2	2									
RETIREE'S	6	6									
TOTAL	23	25									

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

MARCH
1st
"2011"

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

March 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 & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be March 26th & April 23, 2011 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.

Thank
You

Frank D... ..

Our National Food Drive is coming up within the next couple months. The T-shirt order forms will be given to the shop Stewards in your stations soon. The shirts this year will be red with pockets and will all cost \$14.00. I haven't yet heard from Ralph's about getting bags again this year. I hope we do since it helped us double our food donations. We had a meeting with KTLA and they are going to do a Public Service Announcement this year and we are working on doing another event with them the week of the Food Drive. Perhaps with one or more of their on air personalities. We are also going to attempt another kick off media event at the MEND food bank on May 10th.

By the time you read this many of you will be on FSS and route adjustments will be eminent. These adjustments will be difficult and most of your routes will be very different then they were. Make sure that the line of travel is the way it should be before it is finalized. Management does not have to ask you so you ask them to let you check the line of travel. If they are smart they will ask you the best way to deliver it. If this doesn't happen and your line of travel is messed up it will take a long time to get it fixed. There will be a lot of lost routes and we may have carriers excessed. Come to the next branch meeting where we will be talking about excessing and FSS and COR adjustments. You need to be coming to the meetings the first Tuesday of the month. The time is now for you to get involved in the future of the Postal Service and your place in it. We all have to work together in a professional way to make this all work.

Unfortunately, there are offices where the relationship between the managers and the craft has become difficult and disrespectful. This will make this process of change much more difficult and stressful. We will try and make sure it goes as smooth as we can. I know I have said this all before but it needs to sink in. Managers are the ones freaking out and unsure what to do. Carriers, no matter what, come in and get the mail delivered no matter with the new process is or system implemented. Collate- don't collate- collate schmollate who cares? They don't let us do it in the office we don't do it in the office, but be sure of this, it will take longer on the street if we don't.

Kerry Wolny, our District Manager has said he believes we should be collating our residual flats into our FSS but he won't make his Postmasters and MPO's implement that policy. He should step up and enforce the same policy in all zones of collating on all routes everyday and stick too it.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

An agreement was reached between the USPS and the NALC back in 2007, allowing management to determine the methods to be used to estimate the impact in a delivery unit and make route adjustments accordingly. The Memorandum of Understanding reads in relevant part;

Once FSS is fully implemented in a delivery unit, management will determine the methods to estimate impact in a delivery unit and make route adjustments accordingly.

Sixty days after implementing route adjustments for FSS, the local parties will review the adjustments to ensure that routes are as near 8 hours as possible... If either parties determines that the route(s) is not properly adjusted, then the route(s) will be adjusted in accordance with the provisions of Handbook M-39 or, if applicable, a locally agreed upon adjustment formula.

In this district management look at the FFS volume during the first week of FSS or the first two weeks of FSS and then determine the impact of FSS and then adjust accordingly, then the adjustments will be reviewed in 60 days.

In short we have some challenges ahead with FSS and the adjustment of routes which will no doubt be under the COR process, which we are likely to lose routes and after that possible excessing of letter carriers to withheld positions in other offices.

On Monday February 7, 2011, FSS will be implemented in Encino 91316 zone.

On Wednesday February 16, 2011, FSS will be implemented in Encino 91436 zone.

On Tuesday February 15, 2011, FSS will be implemented in Sherman Oaks 91423 zone.

On Thursday March 24, 2011, FSS will be implemented in Sherman Oaks 91403 zone.

The following is only to give you an example of how an office could be impacted because of FSS and the adjustments of routes.

Union Chief Blasts New Postal Delivery Scheme Used in Brookline, Mass.

"The president of the union representing Brookline, Mass. letter carriers criticized the cutting of Post Office routes as part of a new automated mail-sorting effort that has led to complaints about late mail delivery. Robert A. Lind, president of Branch 34 of the National Association of Letter Carriers, said the implementation of the new flat-sized mail sorting process - and a cut of a dozen mail routes in town - was a purely budget-based decision, and letter carriers are struggling to keep up."

THINGS TO COME

Keep in mind we will lose routes because of FSS prepare yourself for that now, and it will trigger other things

such as Article 41, Section 3.0 under the National Agreement as well as possible excising under Article 12 of the National Agreement.

Do You Just Belong?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed?

Or are you just contented that your name is on the list?

Do you attend the meetings, and mingle with the flock?

Or do you stay at home, and criticize and knock?

Do you ever go and visit a member who is sick?

Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the clique?

Come to the meetings often and help with hand and heart;

Don't just be a member-but take an active part.

Think this over member; and you know right from wrong.

Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

Author Unknown

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

February 1, 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 6:37 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of THOMAS NAPOLI Retired member of Branch 2462.

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—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HEALTH & SAFETY No Report.
TRUSTEES Audit was held on Thurs, Jan 20, 2011 at the Union office. The books balanced and were found to be in good order.

RETIREES 6 retiree's present tonight. 16 were present for the Saturday breakfast on Jan 22nd.

MDA FUND-ASKEW There is currently \$1511.00 in the fund.

HBR—L. DOLABSON Latest info is that 1047 new members were signed up into the plan during the past open season. Watch for further info.

MDA--ANGER We will be selling shamrocks for MDA at the next Union meeting or you can get them from your Shop Steward, donate quickly, you do not want to be left out. We are attempting to arrange another Bowl-a-thon in April, Watch for further updates.

MBA—ENZ Any Union member or Retired Union member who is killed in an accident is entitled to a \$ 5000.00 payment. Contact Bob Enz for further information.

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. The final cost of the evening was \$ 4790.99. 2011 Picnic tentatively set at VASA Park. Will have a firm date later.

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS—NONE
NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Accept the Budget as printed in the Mail Call, with the exception of Item 29

M/S/C

MOTION—Accept Item 29 as printed in the MailCall M/S/C

MOTION—Branch raise the Mileage Rate from \$.50 to \$.51 per mile, in accordance with current IRS recommendations M/S/C

MOTION—Branch renew the L A County Federation of Labor membership for 101 members for one year. Cost to the Branch \$ 666.60

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch renew the USPS Mailing Permit for the MailCall for one year. Cost to \$ 185.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Any Member who is authorized to Attend the CSALC Training Class in San Diego on Thursday April 28th will be provided 1 (one) nights lodging & \$ 250.00 to cover all expenses. One (1) nights self parking will also be provided. M/S/C

MOTION—Any paid Delegate who attends the CSALC State Convention in San Diego on Fri-Sat April 29 & 30th will be provided 2 (two) nights Lodging and \$ 300.00 to cover all expenses.

2 (two) nights self parking will also be provided. M/S/C

MOTION—Branch purchase a ¼ page ad in the CSALC Convention Booklet. Cost \$ 100.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Branch send President Brookins to the Committee of Presidents meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio on March 27-28th. Cost not to exceed \$ 2000.00

M/S/C

MOTION—Branch hold the 2011 Branch Picnic at VASA PARK. Date to be announced.

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 JIM TUKESBREY—RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 5 RAUL DOZEL—SHERMAN OAKS
\$ 8 BETTY LOW—MAIN OFFICE—DONATED \$ 5.00

Meeting Adjourned 8:51 PM

IN MEMORY OF

THOMAS NAPOLI
RETIREE—BRANCH 2462