

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

Contract Negotiations

On August 18, 2011, the NALC and the USPS opened negotiations on a new collective bargaining agreement. Contract negotiations is ongoing we should get an update at the Rap Session later this month.

Day of Rally

On September 27, 2011, all four postal unions rallied outside of every Congressional office across the country to urge Congress to take action and pass HR 1351. We participated in rallies in front of Sherman's office and McKeon's office. Our two rallies were headed up by Steve and Janette. They both were very well attended. **I would like to thank Janette Dolabson and Steve Seyfried for coordinating the rallies at Congressman Howard 'Buck' McKeon and Congressman Brad Sherman offices. I would also like to thank all of the letter carriers who came out and gave their support to both of these informational rallies.**

SPECIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Article V of the NALC Constitution and Article V of the By-Laws of Branch 2462, NALC, notice is hereby given for the Nomination and Election of Delegates to the State and National Convention, Nominations will be held at the December Meeting on December 6, 2011. Election if needed, will be held in January 2012 and will be conducted by mail, as provided in Article IV of the By-Laws of Branch 2462 NALC. All members, in good standing, are eligible to be nominated. Any member, not in good standing or who has not attended at least eighteen (18) regular meetings during the twenty-four (24) months prior to their nomination as a Delegate shall not receive any expenses from *the Branch*. Any member who has less than one (1) year membership in this Branch who shall have attended at least three fourths (3/4) of those regular meetings, from his/her acceptance into membership, prior to their nomination as a Delegate or Alternate may receive expenses. All members of the Executive Board, by virtue of their office, shall be Delegates to all National and State Conventions. This Branch shall elect a Full Delegation to all National and State Conventions.

Fill the Satchel

On Sunday October 2, 2011, letter carriers across the country went out to the streets to fill their satchels with donations for Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). We all went out to street intersections, supermarkets and other places and asked our customers to help us to fill our satchels for this very worthy cause. We here in our branch had two teams of letter carriers out and we raised over \$452.00 for MDA. **I would like to thank Sandy Anger, John Burton, Tia Wilson, Tracy Mullinax, Steve Seyfried and Bob Johnson for taking time out of their Sunday to come out and help raise money for MDA.**

(Continued on Page 3)

BRANCH 2462 RETIREE "NITE" & OFFICER/STEWARDS INSTALLATION

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

OCTOBER 23, 2011

**ENCINO GLEN
RESTAURANT**

16821 Burbank Blvd. Encino, California

Doors Open 12:00 PM

Price is \$ 5.00

**Retiree's and Active Carriers are Welcome
For Further Information Contact**

**FRANK BRASH (818) 785-7336
or
Union Office**

"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

This is an email I received from our California State President, John Beaumont regarding HR 1351

"Two weeks ago we had the opportunity to meet with Democratic House Leader Pelosi's Chief of Staff, and Lead Counsel on the status of the Postal crisis and HR 1351. Last Monday we met for the second time this year with Leader Pelosi herself in California. At last weeks meeting Leader Pelosi again acknowledged her strong support for continuing 6 day delivery and support of Lynch's bill, HR 1351, but again stated the House Leadership's policy of not co-sponsoring bills. Representative Pelosi was very interested in our concern and at the conclusion of our conversation she agreed to at least look at the bill again before the end of last week.

This morning Leader Pelosi's Chief of Staff called to tell me that the Leader has agreed to co-sponsor HR 1351. She later sent an email to confirming the Leaders decision to co-sponsor our legislation.

To date now all 34 California House Democrats are on our bill. First time this has happened in over 10 years."

We will not give up 6 day delivery without a fight. Those of you who think it would be great having weekends off are assuming that the day of delivery being eliminated is going to be Saturday. That is not necessarily the case. The Postmaster General has stated it would be 5 day delivery. Not no Saturday delivery. It will probably be Wed, or Thursday that would be no delivery. Once the Postal Service is given the authority to decide on their own how many days to deliver mail don't think they will stop at 5 days. There would be nothing to stop them from going to 4 days soon after. Think about it. If we are only working 4 days what do you think that does to our full time status? We now would be part time employees. What would that do to your budget? Your benefits? Be smart and fight for 6 day delivery.

Hope those of you who came to the picnic had a good time. It may be the last one we have in a while. It is getting too expensive to put on, especially when so few members even go to it. We will be deciding the fate of the annual picnic at upcoming meetings. Perhaps we will only have one every other year. We shall see

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	2	5	3	2	1	2	2			6
ENCINO	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	3		3	
CIVIC CENTER	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	1			2
PANORAMA CITY	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1			4
SHERMAN OAKS	5	9	9	10	7	6	4	4			7
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2		1	
TARZANA	2	2	3	2	2	1	2	2			2
RETIREE'S	6	6	4	6	4	6	6	5			6
TOTAL	23	25	26	28	22	21	21	20			31

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

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

NOVEMBER
1ST
"2011"

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

Nov 1, 2011

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

"RETIREE CORNER"

THERE WILL BE NO RETIREE BREAKFASTS FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE YEAR, SINCE THEY FALL ON HOLIDAY WEEKENDS. HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE ON THE 4TH SATURDAY ON JANUARY 28, 2012

Thank
You
Frank Brash



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

Obama's Proposal

President Obama sent a deficit-reduction package Sept. 19 to the special joint committee of Congress established by the debt limit law to find ways to reduce the federal budget deficit. The package included a number of reforms to address the financial crisis at USPS. We are both encouraged and disappointed.

We are encouraged that President Obama is attempting to creatively address the USPS cash crisis through the deficit reduction process and welcome his proposal to return the \$6.9 billion postal pension surplus in FERS to the Postal Service as proposed in Rep. Stephen Lynch's [H.R. 1351](#).

But we are very disappointed that the administration opted for a deferral of the next two pre-funding payments (\$5.5 billion each) instead of embracing a permanent reform based on the Lynch bill's recovery of the even larger CSRS surplus. And we deeply regret that the administration has given into pressure from the postmaster general and has proposed to eliminate Saturday mail delivery.

The NALC has carefully examined the various elements of the White House plan. It is important to remember that these are just proposals; they cannot become law unless Congress adopts them. We want to assure our members and all those who are interested in preserving the U.S. Postal Service that we will work with everyone involved, including members of the joint congressional committee, to build a strong Postal Service that will continue to provide exceptional service to the public six days a week.

HRSSC

Human Resources Shared Services Center (HRSSC) has begun processing all Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) requests for all employees this started on September 10, 2011. FMLA requests will continue to be handled in accordance with the policy outlined in the Employee Labor Relations Manual (ELM).

The FMLA packet will be updated to reflect a return address and fax option change to that of the HRSSC. An HRSSC Processing Specialist will now be the point of contact rather than an FMLA Coordinator.

The HRSSC staff will be available for case specific questions, Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. until 8:30 p.m. EST.

More information can be found at:
<http://blue.usps.gov/uspslaw/general/FMLACentral>

Restructured Routes or...

On September 15, 2011, NALC President Fred V. Rolando was sent a letter from Alan S. Moore Manager Labor Relations Policy and Programs the letter stated the following;

The Postal Service plans to test restructured city letter carrier assignments by separating a delivery unit's office casing and associated duties from street duties.

For the test we will evaluate the value of existing assignments and then, to the extent practicable, create full-time street assignments and full time office assignments. Depending on mail volume and operational requirements, office assignments may include some associated street duties.

During the test, casing configurations in some units may be reduced by combining casing equipment or by creating carrier cases that dictate horizontal casing by block face rather than by separate addresses.

We intend to test this concept in more than one phase. The first phase will include existing Flats Sequencing System (FSS) units that have not had initial FSS adjustments. We expect to later test in non FSS sites with different levels of mail volume.

We have enclosed a list of delivery units that will participate in phase one. We anticipate that assignments will be created and assigned on or about October 1, 2011. The test is tentatively scheduled to continue for a period of six months.

Since we work in the Pacific Area I am going to only list the test sites in this area.

Los Angeles (Mar Vista) 90066----San Diego (Poway) 92064

San Diego (Scripps Ranch Station) 92131

San Francisco (Pacifica) 94044----Santa Ana (Norco) 92860

...the UPS Theory

PICTURED BELOW ARE (Top L to R) CALVIN BROOKINS, BOB JOHNSON, JOHN BURTON, STEVE SEYFRIED (Bottom L to R) TIA WILSON, SANDY ANGER participating in NALC FILL THE SATCHEL FOR MDA. They raised \$ 450 for Muscular Dystrophy. Not pictured is TRACY MULLINAX

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor

**6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406**

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT No. 314

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes

October 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 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of all Military & those who lost their lives this year

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT---JOHNSON

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

JOSE GUEVARA

BILLS READ--NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RETIREES Retiree Luncheon will be on Sunday Oct. 23rd. at Encino Glen Restaurant.

SAFETY & HEALTH Meeting held last week, Mgrs. are out looking for carriers to write up for unsafe practices. Also remember you should always have a satchel when working on the street.

MDA FUND-ASKEW Currently \$670.00 in fund
LEGISLATION UPDATE-ASKEW Remember HR 1351 we are in support of, HR 2309 we are opposed.

HBR--L. DOLABSON Looking forward to HBR Seminar in Las Vegas next month. Watch for further info.

MDA--ANGER Fill the Satchel Day was great success \$ 450.00 collected. Bowl-a-thon will be November 6th at Matador Bowl starts at 10:30 am.

MBA--ENZ Still helping members with paper work. Contact me if you need any help.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT-JOHNSON--NO REPORT

VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Picnic ready to go, tickets will be passed out by Shop Stewards at stations.

PRESIDENT BROOKINS 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 purchase 6 men's and 3 women's NALC watches. Cost to the Branch \$ 720.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch endorse the Executive Board Recommendation to reappointed STEVE SEYFRIED as Editor of the Branch publication The MailCall M/S/C

OLD BUSINESS

BY-LAWS

MOTION--Accept the recommendation of the

By-law committee on By-law # 1, as printed in the MailCall, which is one of approval M/S/F

DIVISION YES-12, NO-18 **RULING OF CHAIR IS UPHELD**

MOTION---WITHDRAW By-law # 2, as printed in the MailCall No Vote Needed

MOTION--- Accept the recommendation of the By-law committee on By-law # 3, as printed in the MailCall, which is one of approval M/S/F

MOTION--- Accept the recommendation of the By-law committee on By-law # 4 as printed in the MailCall, which is one of approval M/S/F

MOTION--- Accept the recommendation of the By-law committee on By-law # 1 as printed in the MailCall, which is one of approval M/S/

QUESTION WAS CALLED FOR M/S/C

DIVISION YES-23, NO-1 **RULING OF CHAIR IS UPHELD**

MOTION COMES UP FOR VOTE MOTION CARRIES

DIVISION YES 22, NO-3 **RULING OF CHAIR IS UPHELD**

MOTION--- Accept the recommendation of the By-law committee on By-law # 6, as printed in the MailCall, which is one of Dis-approval M/S/C

Underlined denotes unanimous vote

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 JOHN BURTON---CIVIC CENTER
\$ 5 JOHN BURTON---CIVIC CENTER--DONATED
\$ 7 FRANK BRASH--RETIREE

Meeting Adjourned 8:36 PM

PICTURED BELOW 60 LETTER CARRIERS FROM OUR BRANCH & OTHERS GATHERED AT CONGRESSMAN BRAD SHERMAN's (D-27) OFFICE TO RALLY TO SAVE THE POSTAL SERVICE. THANKS TO ALL WHO SHOWED UP AND MADE THIS A GREAT SUCCESS