

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **By Calvin Brookins**

#### **Contract Negotiations**

Contract talks with the USPS are ongoing; we are still in the mediation period. That mediation period will end soon. At that point a three party arbitration panel will be picked and we will head to binding arbitration.

However, the NALC will continue to negotiate in good faith and talks are ongoing as we speak. Because of the nature of the negotiations and the contentious issues involved neither side is saying much about the negotiations. You can follow all of the latest development of contract negotiation at NALC.org.

#### **Postmaster general supports 'practically everything' in draconian Issa-Ross bill**

During a recent hearing of the House Oversight & Government Reform Committee's Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe was asked by Rep. Justin Amash (R-MI) about Donahoe's support for elements of the service-destroying, job-killing Issa-Ross postal reform bill, H.R. 2309.

Question from Amash: Chairman Ross and Chairman Issa wrote a comprehensive postal reform bill last year that was passed by the subcommittee and the full Oversight Committee. It is full of cost-saving measures that will revitalize the Postal Service. What parts of H.R. 2309 does the Postal Service support?

Answer from Donahoe: We support the FERS refund. We support the ability to move and consolidate the network. We support the ability to move to consolidate from six-day to five-day delivery. Practically everything in the bill, we are in support.

Should we call H.R. 2309 the Issa-Ross (So-Called) Postal Reform Bill—or could we realistically call it the Issa-Donahoe (So-Called) Postal Reform Bill?

#### **What IF?**

What if the Postal Service is allowed to reduce delivery days from 6 days a week to 5 days a week? Well I've heard some carriers say that would be great because we would get Saturday and Sunday off. Well not necessarily, if the Postal Service goes to 5 days a week there is no guarantee that Saturday would be the day that is eliminated. It could very well be Tuesday, Wednesday or one of the other days during the week. I have also heard some carrier say that only the T-6 would be affected. Well, that's not true either; losing one day of delivery will have such a devastating impact on all carriers not just the T-6 carrier. Especially when you combine it with all of the other changes the Postal Service is going through. Keeping in mind the closing of post offices and plants and those in Congress who does not like union's or just don't like the Postal Service or those rich politicians who want to privatize the Postal Service and sell off portions of it to their rich buddies.

Remember, if a day of delivery is eliminated more than just the T-6 would be affected. If a day of delivery is eliminated, basically that would affectively abolish all T-6 positions and cause Article 41, Section 3.0. Of the National Agreement to be implemented. That mean that all assignments that are held by carriers who are junior to the T-6 who lost their position would have to go up for bid. The T-6 positions that would be eliminated would only affect 1/6 of our total workforce. Basically, this would trigger in house bidding everywhere all over the country. Those T-6 carriers that have high seniority will get a bid assignment which will leave a junior regular without a bid assignment making them an unassigned regular.

Another affect this will have is too many employees and not enough assignments and in almost every office this will trigger severe excessing. This means that the junior full-time regular could be excessed out of their post office and into other post offices.

**(Continued on Page 2)**

"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.

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## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	2	3	2							
ENCINO	3	4	3	3							
CIVIC CENTER	3	2	3	3							
PANORAMA CITY	1	1	2	1							
SHERMAN OAKS	4	4	5	4							
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1							
TARZANA	2	2	2	2							
RETIREE'S	4	5	5	5							
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>21</b>							

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

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

**MAY  
1st  
"2012"**

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

**May 3, 2012**

**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"

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 breakfasts will be on Apr 28<sup>th</sup> and May 26, 2012 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank  
You

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The excessing radius right now has been expanded up to 900 miles away from where you currently work. Now just think if the elimination of one of the delivery days triggers bidding and then excessing then every office will have the same problem and there will nowhere to excess any carrier because every post office will have more carriers than bid assignments. Guess what come next lay-offs, yes you read this right! After the in house bidding and the excessing have been done and we are still left with too many full-time carriers and not enough full-time regular positions then lay-off would probably happen.

The contract now provides that no carrier will get laid off if they have at least 6 years of service. Our contract has now come to an end and we are in the midst of negotiations and there is no guarantee that the no lay-off clause of our contract will remain the same. In fact, not too long ago Postmaster General Donohoe went to Congress asking them to lift the 6 year no lay-off clause from our contract. He was unsuccessfully at that time, but he has gone on record of supporting H.R. 2309 the Issa bill which would dismantle the Postal Service if passed.

So if you are one of those carriers that believe all of these changes are good and will not affect you and your family you better think again. If you know that your job and/or benefits are in danger of being lost forever, wouldn't you want to do something about it before it happened? Here are two things that you could do:

First, sign up for e-Activist keep yourself informed and educated about what's going on with the Postal Service and what the Union is doing to try and save our jobs. E-Activist is free, see your shop steward or branch officer or call the union office to get signed up. You can also sign up by going the NALC website at nalc.org. Once you become an e-Activist, you will receive regular e-mail messages informing you of what are going on with all the legislative issues affecting letter carriers and what the union is doing to protect your job and benefits and also how you can help.

Second, start giving to COLCPE (Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education) it is our Union's political fund, and it is made up of voluntary contributions from NALC members like you. This allows the NALC to advance our legislative and political agenda which is always about protecting our jobs and benefits. You can give by having the contribution come right out of your check each pay period. Giving \$5.00 per pay period is like giving 50 cents per day. That is a very small amount to protect and preserve your job and benefits. Look at just like you look at insurance for your job. Companies like FED Ex with their very rich owners only have to reach into their pockets and pull out millions and give it to politicians to support their cause which would be to take over that day of delivery that the Postal Service seem to be willing to give up.

So get involved in some way. Don't wait for 5 day delivery to happen, or for lay-offs to come, or for your benefits to be reduced. If you wait for this to happen it will be too late.

## Vice President's Report

By  
**Janette Dolabson**

Hey all! Hope you are all ready for the food drive. We will be getting bags for all residential deliveries except apartments, NDCBU, or condo. (unless the carrier wants to take them for those deliveries.) These bags will have the G-10 permits on them so that means they are to be delivered as FIRST CLASS MAIL. You do not have the option of not delivering them. They are very important for the success of the food donations and we really do understand how much extra work it is for you all.

I am thanking you in advance knowing that you will do a great job delivering the bags and the food drive cards and leaving the thank you cards in the boxes on food drive day for the customers leave you food to pick up. If you know that you will get lots of food on your route make sure you tell your food drive coordinator in your stations to come out to your route during the day to take some of that food off of you. Also, if you have a heavy park and loop route please ask that they come pick that food up for you if they can if you think it will be too difficult to pick up. The food must be picked up if its left out. Please make sure that you do so or make sure someone comes and gets it.

Let us know if there is anyone out there taking the food that is not from the Post Office or from MEND, We will call the local police dept. to see if they can take a run out there and check. If you ordered a t-shirt please wear it on food drive Saturday May 12th. Thanks again for all your hard work!!

## BRANCH 2462 NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

The following members are the Elected Delegates to the 2012 N A L C National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota  
The Convention will be from July 23 – 27 2012.

- |                     |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1. CALVIN BROOKINS  | 2. JANETTE DOLABSON |
| 3. STEVE SEYFRIED   | 4. BOB JOHNSON      |
| 5. TRACY MULLINAX   | 6. JEFF JACKSON     |
| 7. TIA WILSON       | 8. ROGER ASKEW      |
| 9. LARRY DOLABSON   | 10. BOB ENZ         |
| 11. RAUL DOZAL      | 12. JACK WINKEL     |
| 13. RICK REIMER     | 14. JOHN BURTON     |
| 15. SANDY ANGER     | 16. ART BOCEK       |
| 17. JAMES TUKESBREY | 18. JANET McKEIVER  |
| 19. JOSE JIMENEZ    | 20. FRANK BRASH     |
| 21. ANDY GOACHER    | 21. ANALIA GARCIA   |

If you have any items, concerns or questions you would like addressed at the Convention, please feel free to talk with any of these members. We will be attending this convention to gather information and training to help better serve the membership.

## 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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 !!



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 !

**"THE MAIL CALL"  
BRANCH 2462, NALC  
Steve Seyfried, Editor  
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101  
Van Nuys, CA 91406**

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**Branch Meeting Minutes  
April 3, 2012**

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 6:40 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**-----In Memory of all Letter Carriers and Members who have passed.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

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

**ABSENT**—NONE

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL**

**CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**--NONE

**BILLS READ**--NONE

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**TRUSTEES** None  
**SAFETY & HEALTH** Always work in a safe manner and watch out while driving especially in the old LLV's.  
**RETIREES** 4 retiree's present tonight. We had 8 in attendance at the Saturday breakfast.

**MBA--ENZ** Received the DVD that the National sent. I will review the contents and we will have a small presentation at the next meeting. Any Carrier with a problem or question regarding Insurance can contact Bob Enz.  
**HBR--L. DOLABSON** We are submitting the paper work for the annual reimbursement from the National.

Anyone having problems with the NALC health plan, contact Larry.

**MDA--ASKEW** \$ 1880 currently in fund.  
**POLITICAL ACTION--ASKEW** Postal reform bills 1789 is in the Senate and will be coming up for a vote end of April. We need to keep up the pressure to pass those bills that are favorable to us. There is a major assault on Postal workers benefits, so you need to stay informed. Become an E-Activist, just ask your Shop Steward and they will be glad to help you register.

**MDA--ANGER** Shamrock Bracelets to help Stamp Out MDA for Saint Patrick's Day were a success, we raised \$ 160. Plan for a Bowl-a-thon in the near future has been put on hold for now, watch for further information updates. Thanks for all your support in the fight against Muscular Dystrophy.

**FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT--JOHNSON**

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

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VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Food Drive preparations are proceeding, We will have bags again this year provided by Ralph's market. T-shirt orders will be placed and should be in by the end of April. There will be a coordinator meeting the first week in May to give info and pass out all the materials. We will be sorting and distributing the bags on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of April, anyone who wishes to help please contact Janette at the Union office. Media event will be on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am at the Mend facility in Pacoima.

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**

**UNDERLINED = UNANOMOUS VOTE**

**MOTION**—Branch donate \$ 50.00 to the family of ANTHONY EARL DUNN the Letter Carrier who was run down and killed by an unlicensed driver in Boyle Heights last month

M/S/C

**MOTION**—Branch pa the unsecured property tax bill to the Los Angeles County

Cost	to	the	Branch	\$	193.72
<u>M/S/C</u>					

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

**MDA DRAWING**

- \$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED—SHERMAN OAKS
- \$ 4 SANDY ANGER--TARZANA—DONATED
- \$ 6 STEVE SEYFRIED—SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:50 PM

