

**Representing the Stations of
Civic Center – Encino – Panorama City – Sherman Oaks – Sun Valley – Tarzana – Van Nuys Main**

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NUMBER 9

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Contract Negotiations

Interest Arbitration will start on September 6, 2012, for a new contract between the NALC and the USPS. They have already scheduled hearing dates into January; hopefully we will have just as much success in this arbitration as we have had in past interest arbitrations. Some of the success stories we've had in the past are; in 1984 the NALC was awarded V-time or penalty overtime pay in arbitration. In 1998 all letter carriers went from getting Grade 5 pay to Grade 6 pay, and the T-6's continued to get pay differential that they have always received.

The grades were changed from Grade 5 to Grade 1 for regular carriers and Grade 6 to Grade 2 for T-6 carriers. So hopefully we will continue to have success in this year's interest arbitration. The question that comes to mind is who pays for all this? Of course, we the NALC members pay for this with our union dues. Arbitrations are very costly and could easily run into the high hundreds of thousands or higher.

The only reason we have success in arbitrations is because we spare no expense. So if you have any conversation with a non-member let them know how much it is costing you and the rest of the NALC members to try and get a decent contract for them. Also let them know how nice it would be if they joined the Union and helped with the success of arbitration, and not just reap the benefits at our expense.

Anti Letter Carrier/Anti Worker Agenda

The Republicans have issued their party platform in Tampa, where they nominated Mitt Romney for president and Paul Ryan for vice president. The platform spells out a radically anti-letter carrier and anti-worker agenda for the next four years. The platform issued as follows:

Misleads the public on the crisis facing the Postal Service and calls for its downsizing and partial privatization (code words for contracting out and deregulation) steps that would destroy our employer and threaten our jobs.

Targets the Affordable Care Act for repeal, which would raise Medicare costs and cut Medicare benefits (drugs and preventative care) for current seniors and raise letter carrier premiums by leaving 50 million Americans uninsured shifting their medical costs to us through rising premiums for uncompensated care.

Calls for ending Medicare as we know it, converting it from a defined-benefit plan to a defined-contribution plan for workers under the age of 55, who will be given inadequate vouchers to buy overpriced private insurance on their own.

Promises a national "Right to Work" law aimed at destroying private-sector unions and weakening the labor movement the nation's only counterweight to Wall Street and Big Business.

(Continued on Page 3)

BRANCH 2462 ENDORSES BRAD SHERMAN FOR 30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

IN A UNANIMOUS VOTE THE MEMBERSHIP PASSED A MOTION TO "FULLY AND WHOLE HEARTEDLY" ENDORSE BRAD SHERMAN FOR THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE 30TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA. CONGRESSMAN SHERMAN HAS BEEN A STEADFAST FRIEND TO BRANCH 2462 AND HAS STOOD SHOULDER TO SHOULDER WITH US IN OUR FIGHT TO PRESERVE 6 DAY DELIVERY AND TO SAVE THE POSTAL SERVICE FROM DISASTER BY CO-SPONSORING BOTH HR 137 & HR 1351. WE URGE ALL OUR MEMBERS WHO LIVE IN THE 30 DISTRICT TO VOTE FOR CONGRESSMAN BRAD SHERMAN AND ASK THEIR FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS TO DO LIKEWISE.

"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

Here are a few facts about the Postal Service you and your customers should know. The Postal Service is Self-Sufficient, that means we are our own business and are not subsidized by tax dollars. Customers pay less to mail a letter further than any other country. We provide high quality service 6 days a week to every address in this country. We are the only delivery service that does that. We are the last mile to many rural customers.

The Postal Service brings us together as a community. We have a voice in our neighborhoods and with our customers who rely, depend and appreciate us. We are the most trusted Government employees in the country. We earn our wages and benefits and have worked hard to get them. Don't sit back and let that hard work slip away. With this election growing closer every day, you must stand up and support those who support us. If you don't, then don't complain when your job starts slipping away, or your wages decrease and you start paying more for less benefits.

I urged you to call me and sign up for COLCPE, the fund letter carriers use to support non partisan politicians who support us and labor in this country. Not one of you called to do that. We are asking for only 5 dollars a pay period to help keep your job wages and benefits. That is not asking much. Thanks to those have signed up in the past but we are not nearly where we should be in those who have stepped up and done the right thing. Call me at [661 373-2224](tel:6613732224). All I will need is your postal ease pin for 1 minute and I will sign you up and destroy the pin and you will be in the system doing your part.

Thanks

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	2	2	3	2	3	2	3	8	4		
ENCINO	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	8	3		
CIVIC CENTER	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	3		
PANORAMA CITY	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1		
SHERMAN OAKS	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	9	5		
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0		
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	2		
RETIREE'S	4	5	5	5	6	4	5	3	4		
TOTAL	21	21	24	21	24	20	23	38	22		

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

NEXT MEETING

*****6:30 PM*****

OCTOBER

2nd

"2012"

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

Oct 2, 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 September 22nd & October 27, 2012 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank
You
Frank Brash

What's The Best Way To Protect Your Job



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

NO ON PROP 32

STOP THE SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS ACT

Proposition 32, a measure on November's ballot, is the most anti-worker measure we've ever seen. It threatens our jobs, wages, retirement, contracts and more. In short, it silences union members while giving even more power to corporate special interests and CEOs to attack our rights.

Proposition 32 pretends it's about "stopping special interests" but that's a lie. Its millionaire anti-union backers don't care about reform. They don't care about our jobs. They certainly don't care about us. They care about their profits, and they'll do anything to get us out of the way.

Prop 32 was carefully written to weaken unions and silence workers. While the anti-union millionaires backing it say it's balanced, it's actually full of special exemptions for all sorts of corporations, Wall Street firms, billionaire CEOs, and big insurance companies. Not surprisingly, the very same corporate interests behind the measure all have their own exemptions in Prop 32.

Don't be fooled by their lies. The fact is, the measure's backers intentionally designed it to confuse voters in order to **cover up their real agenda – to silence our voice and eliminate our union's ability to fight for things like jobs, good wages, workplace safety and retirement security.**

This measure is the first blow of a one-two punch. If anti-union CEOs behind Prop 32 eliminate our voice, they'll waste no time cutting our jobs, wages and retirement to boost their own profits.

Prop 32 is bad for our families, communities and the state's middle class. We must defeat this deceptive measure. We urge you to **vote NO on Prop 32** this November, and ask your friends, family and co-workers to do the same.

Out of Vehicle with Engine Running

In Region 1 we have had several cases where letter carriers have exited their vehicles with the engine running and are caught by management. I am writing this to inform you that if management catches a letter carrier getting out of their vehicles and leave the engine running, they may place the letter carrier on an **emergency suspension without pay.** Management will then discipline the letter carrier by issuing a **Notice of Removal.**

Management has not been willing to settle these grievances at any level of the grievance/arbitration procedure, so they get scheduled for arbitration. It could take up to six months for a case to get to arbitration, in the mean time the letter carrier goes all of this time without any pay. Can you afford to or want to go up to six month without pay? If your answer is no, then under no circumstances do you ever get out of your vehicle and leave the engine running.

I've asked all of the Shop Stewards to get this message out to letter carriers on the workroom floor; I do not know what else to do to get this message out to every letter carrier. If you see or know of a letter carrier that leaves the engine running when they get out of their vehicle, let them know what they are risking. **It doesn't matter why, never ever, get out of the vehicle and leave the engine running.**

In unionism

**TIRED OF NOT
KNOWING WHAT'S GOING ON ???
SICK OF LISTENING TO YOUR
CASE NEIGHBOR GOSSIP ABOUT
THE POSTAL SERVICE !!!!!**



Then what are you waiting 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 !**

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
You Heard 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

Steve Seyfried, Editor
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Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes September 4, 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 6:56.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—In Memory of ALL Active and Retired Members who have passed away during the year.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—JACKSON, WILSON

MOTION—SUSPEND BUSINESS FOR GUEST M/S/C

SPECIAL GUEST

JUSTIN TAYLOR Branch 2462's MDA poster child made a special trip to visit tonight to thank all the members for sending him to MDA Camp. He told everyone about camp and how much fun he had and all the exciting things that he did this summer. The Branch is honored to have been able to provide the funds for Justin to attend and we look forward to being able to send him again next summer.

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP-- NONE

BILLS READ NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES No Report

SAFETY & HEALTH Postal Service still putting carriers out on terminations for being out of their vehicles with the engine running. DO NOT GET OUT WITH THE ENGINE RUNNING UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

RETIREEES 4 retiree's present tonight. We had a good group in attendance at the Saturday breakfast. Retiree Luncheon will be October 28th at Encino Glen at 1 PM. Watch for further updates.

MBA--ENZ Any Carrier with a problem or question regarding Insurance can contact Bob Enz. Watch for my articles in the MailCall

HBR—L. DOLABSON No Report

MDA—ASKEW \$ 1270 currently in fund.

LEGISLATION—ASKEW Spoke with Congressman Sherman, he was very appreciative of the Branch's endorsement. The National has also endorsed him for Congress in the 30th District. We are urging all members to vote NO on Prop 32

collect money. Nov 4th will be MDA Bowl-a-Thon at Matador Bowl, get your team together and lets raise a lot of money for MDA Kids & families

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C
VICE-PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Spoke and explained the current Bill HR 1309 (Issa) which would totally dismantle the USPS. Members need to know who their Congressional Representatives are and contact them to tell them to vote no on 2309. Also you need to become an E-Activist to find out what is going on in a timely manner. Finally you need to sign up and donate to COLCPE. This will help elect members of Congress who will support Letter Carrier's and our concerns.

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 reserve 2 rooms with parking for the CSALC-NBA southern training classes at the Pasadena Hilton hotel. Cost not to exceed \$ 400.00 M/S/C

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Branch congratulated and sang HAPPY BIRTHDAY to Retired member FRANK BRASH who is turning a very young 90 years of age. CONGRATULATIONS FRANK !!!! We look forward to helping you celebrate many more.

MDA DRAWING

- \$ 2 PAUL JEFFRIES—ENCINO--DONATED
- \$ 3 BETTY LOW—MAIN OFFICE
- \$ 5 BOB ENZ--RETIREE

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:14 PM



MDA—ANGER-BARRETT Sept 9th will be the second annual Fill -the -Satchel day, we need volunteers to help