

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By Calvin Brookins

Contract Negotiations

Interest Arbitration started 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. Keith Secular is the attorney that serves as the NALC Advocate for these arbitration proceedings. The NALC opened Interest Arbitration acknowledging that the Postal Service is in trouble financially. Mr. Secular further stated that the NALC understands the impact that electronic diversion of the mail has had on First Class mail volumes. However, a distinction must be made between that and the cause of the Postal Service's more immediate financial crisis. This is the congressional mandate to pre-fund the future retiree health benefits within a 10 year period, at a cost of 5.5 billion a year.

While we agree with the Postal Service that it is in great trouble, we strongly disagree with the Service about how to deal with that trouble. And that difference is at the heart of this arbitration. NALC, however, believes that future postal growth is not only possible, but likely, thanks to the explosive expansion of Internet commerce. The NALC is using Ron Bloom and Lazard consulting firm to get that message across in arbitration. Mr. Secular pointed out how advances in mail-sorting automation over the last 20 years have reduced the amount of time letter carriers must spend in the office but have, at the same time, increased the more strenuous yet quite valuable time that letter carriers spend on the street delivering the mail.

Mr. Secular reviewed the NALC's contract proposal, which is for a seven-and-a-half year bargaining agreement that includes preservation of 2 percent annual general wage increases as well as cost-of-living adjustments. It also calls on the Postal Service to recognize that, with the increase in street time, the letter carrier job has become harder and deserves an upgrade in pay. The NALC proposal also would retain, as is, the no-layoff clause, and it includes language that insists on keeping six-day mail delivery service a legitimate issue for collective bargaining, as well as an issue of public policy. And a new contract needs to preserve the memoranda of understanding against the contracting out of letter carrier work to low-paid, non-union and unskilled workers. Contracting out

will be harmful to the Postal Service and its customers, as well as bad public policy.

President Rolando stated that the Postal Service's financial situation is as dire as the agency says it is." President Rolando further stated after the hearing, "but the main source of the problem is not the pay and conditions of letter carriers, but the Congress of the United States. President Rolando stated, "The arbitration panel cannot solve the financial crisis by helping the Postal Service dismantle itself. "Congress must act and the arbitrators must give the parties the chance to do what's necessary to adapt to the needs of the 21st century." The next arbitration hearing is set for Oct. 29, with sessions scheduled for several dates through January. The Postal Service attorney laid out USPS' proposals, which include moving the letter carrier craft toward a workforce made up of as much as 25 percent of temporary, non-career carriers with no path to permanent positions. Creating a two-tier workforce by reducing both the new hire and top wage rates of new employees; eliminating COLAs, on top of a 42-month wage freeze retroactive to the expiration of the last bargaining agreement.

(Continued on Page)

BRANCH 2462 RETIREE "NITE" SUNDAY AFTERNOON

OCTOBER 28, 2012

**ENCINO GLEN
RESTAURANT**

16821 Burbank Blvd. Encino, California

Doors Open 1:00 PM

Price is \$ 5.00

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

BOB JOHNSON (818) 786-8505

"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

VOTE VOTE VOTE.

If you haven't already by the time you get this newsletter. NO on 32, Yes on 30. Vote for union friendly candidates. We need to pick up 25 seats in Congress to gain control of the House. We are in for the fight of our lives. If we don't win the Presidency and take back Congress we will be in sad shape. I want to thank those carriers who came out and worked on this election. They did phone banking, precinct walks, and helped in Congressman Sherman's office. It seems to be the same people all the time who come out and support these important efforts.

It was nice to see a few new faces stepping up and taking an active roll. What I don't understand is why not all of you do your part and step up to help save your jobs? It's now or never. I hear a lot of excuses. I don't have the time, I have kids, I live too far away, I am a Republican. Blah blah blah. When all is said and done, you might not have a job. You might have one that's in an office far from where you live now. I may sound harsh but that is the truth. Hopefully, we will be successful in our endeavors and the labor friendly candidates will be elected and the union busting legislation will have failed. If not, shame on you for not getting involved.

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	3	
ENCINO	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	8	3	3	
CIVIC CENTER	3	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	
PANORAMA CITY	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
SHERMAN OAKS	4	4	5	4	5	5	5	9	5	5	
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	
TARZANA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	5	2	1	
RETIREE'S	4	5	5	5	6	4	5	3	4	4	
TOTAL	21	21	24	21	24	20	23	38	22	21	

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**NOVEMBER
6th
"2012"**

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

Nov 6, 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 October 27th & November 24, 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)

Substantially modifying the no-layoff clause, which Reinert said would be necessary if the Postal Service's proposal to move to five-day delivery becomes law, and returning to another old idea: contracting-out mail delivery service to low-paid, non-union and unskilled workers. In short folks the Postal Service offer goes somewhat like this; NO raises, NO COLA's, NO Layoff protection, a 25 percent TE workforce, a two tier wage scale and contract out letter carrier work. It looks like we are in for a fight.

Six-day mail delivery

There is a six month resolution that preserves 6-day mail delivery. The House of Representatives passed a six month continuing resolution to keep the government in operation after Sept. 30, the end of Fiscal Year 2012. This continuing resolution contains a small victory for letter carriers. The bill maintains the federal appropriations language that preserves six-day mail delivery service. Again this is only good for six months.

Fill the Satchel

Recently the Branch participated in the Fill the Satchel for Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA). On September 9, 2012, several carriers went out to Encino Commons and asked customers to fill their mail satchel with money for MDA. I would like to publicly thank those carriers who to time out of their busy schedule to raise money for a very good cause. A great big NALC thank you to; Tracy Mullinax, Analia Garcia, Danny Carrera, Jeff Jackson, Jack Winkel, Janette Dolabson, Janet McKeiver, Paul Jeffrey, Jose Jimenez, Steve Seyfried, and Judy Winkel. We want to also thank our MDA sponsored kid Justin and his Grandmother Roxie for helping us on that day.

Proposition 32 – Political Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

Proposition 32 is being circulated across California as campaign finance reform that offers a broad-based and fair solution to curtail special interests' control of government and returns power to the voters. However, what this proposed legislation really does is limit the voice of union workers and create special exemptions for corporate interests.

Proposition 32 would severely restrict union members in both the public and private sector from having a voice in our political process. This would result in working families like us not to be able to speak out on issues that matter to us all. Community issues like cuts to our schools and colleges, police and fire response times, post office closures, patient safety and workplace protections.

Proposition 32 is misleading, deceptive and full of consequences that hurt all of us. It does absolutely nothing to limit special interest influence on politics. And in fact it is **NOT campaign finance reform**, as its backer's claim, since the **measure actually exempts Super PACs and corporate front groups from the same restrictions it puts on unions**. The measure also does nothing to prevent anonymous donors from spending unlimited amounts to influence elections.

Corporations already outspend unions 18-1 in politics but that is not enough for big business. This measure would effectively clear the playing field of any opposition to their

agenda of outsourcing jobs, gutting homeowner protections, slashing wages and health benefits and attacking retirement security.

Proposition 32 is misleading, deceptive and full of consequences that hurt all of us. It does absolutely nothing to limit special interest influence on politics while severely curtailing working people's ability to stand up to powerful corporate interests. The result would be a devastating tilt in power to big banks, corporate CEOs and billionaires that would be the final death to California's middle class. Protect your voice; protect your future, **Vote No on Proposition 32.**

In Unionism

TIRED OF NOT KNOWING WHAT'S GOING ON ???



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

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Branch Meeting Minutes October 2, 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 6:33 pm. 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, JACKSON, WILSON, ASKEW, L. DOLABSON

ABSENT—ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP NONE 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. Always work in a safe manner.

RETIREES 4 retiree's present tonight.
We had a good group in attendance, 8, at the Saturday breakfast. Retiree Luncheon will be October 28th at Encino Glen at 1 PM. Watch for further updates.

MBA--ENZ No Report
HBR—L. DOLABSON Open Season for signing up for or changing health plans will be from November 12 – December 10, 2012. Seasonal flu, pneumonia and Influenza shots are available for free for NALC Health Plan members, contact your provider for more information.

MDA—ASKEW \$ 1284 currently in fund.
LEGISLATION—ASKEW Congress is in recess now for the elections so this is a great time to contact your local Representatives and let them know that we want them to support Letter Carrier legislation and keeping 6 day delivery in place.

MDA Fill —the —Satchel day was a great success, we raised \$ 595.00 for MDA. 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 Precinct walk will be held in Simi Valley looking for volunteers.

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 renew the Payroll software for Quick Books for 1 year. Cost not to exceed \$ 475.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Branch open Chase/Visa line of Credit. Cost to Branch is zero M/S/C

MOTION—Branch send 2 people, chosen by the Branch President, to the Cal State Assn Precinct Walk in Las Vegas, Oct 13-14th. Cost not to Exceed \$ 700.00

M/S/C

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Branch Christmas Party will be held on Friday, December 14th at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Van Nuys. Watch for specifics in MailCall and at your stations.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 BOB JOHNSON—MAIN OFFICE
\$ 5 FRANK BRASH--RETIREE
\$ 6 ANALIA GARCIA—MAIN OFFICE

MEETING ADJOURNED 7:55 PM

BRANCH 2462 ENDORSES BRAD SHERMAN FOR 30TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

IN A UNANOMOUS 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.