

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By Calvin Brookins**

### **Continuing Resolution/6-Day Mail Delivery:**

The Senate is set to begin debate on extending the current continuing resolution (CR) to fund the government through the end of the fiscal year, ending Sept. 30, 2013. The language that mandates continuation of six-day-a-week mail delivery is part of the annual appropriations process and thus is included in the CR. Given Postmaster General Donahoe's recent announcement that he plans on eliminating Saturday delivery beginning Aug. 5, it is more important than ever that we weigh in with our senators and insist that, as they consider the extension of the Continuing Resolution, they make absolutely certain that the language preserving six-day mail delivery stays intact.

Before a recent hearing of the Senate committee that oversees the Postal Service, the Postmaster General urged Congress to strike the language in the Continuing Resolution and allow him to move to a five-day delivery schedule. Postmaster General Donahoe stated the following to the Senate committee;

"Please do not put language in that says specifically you can't do it, because I would obey the law and wouldn't do it,"

This is why we need to ensure that our senators on Capitol Hill make it crystal clear to the PMG that they are NOT giving him the authority to circumvent the will of Congress and end Saturday mail delivery. Starting right now, please call [888-987-3602](tel:888-987-3602), where you will be patched through to the office of one of your state's senators. Remind the senator that eliminating Saturday delivery is not only short-sighted as a business strategy, by giving away the Postal Service's biggest competitive advantage and threatening the network, but doing so would eliminate 80,000 good middle-class jobs at a time when the country can not afford higher rates of unemployment.

We need Congress to discuss comprehensive postal reform, not the hasty elimination of delivery frequency language that has been included in every congressional spending measure for more than 30 years. Please ask your senator to ensure that continuation of six-day-a-week mail delivery gets included in the Continuing Resolution extension when it comes up for a vote on the Senate floor in the coming weeks.

This was a message through e-Activist from President Fred Rolando. He also thanks you for your continued efforts. And will be calling on you again soon, as we continue the fight to save Saturday mail delivery and get Congress to pass responsible postal reform legislation.

### **NALC March 24<sup>th</sup> / Save 6-Day Delivery Rallies**

In an effort to increase public awareness and support for saving 6-day delivery National is asking us to hold four (4) rallies in California on Sunday March 24, 2013. These rallies will be held in San Francisco, Fresno, Los Angeles and San Diego.

We will be attending the rally in Los Angeles, the rally will be held at;

Hollywood Station  
1615 N. Wilcox Ave  
L.A. 90028  
12:30 to 3:30 pm

The rallies are scheduled to take place just a few days before the House vote on Continuing funding for 6-day delivery for this fiscal year ending September 30, 2013. It is very important that we start now getting commitments from as many members as possible to attend. We need everyone out at these rally sites, so please bring family, friends and everyone you know to join with us. Now is the time for all letter carriers to step up and let your voice be heard, after all it is your job on the line here. Please join us on March 24, 2013, for the rally in Hollywood.

If you believe the Postal Service is an important link connecting all facets of American society and wants to ensure Congress' continued support of six-day delivery, take a few minutes of your time to share that view with your [representative](#) or [senators](#). Don't delay—reach out today before it's too late.

You can use the NALC website at [nalc.org](http://nalc.org) to find out who your representative or senator is and how you can contact them. There is a link for that on the NALC website.

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"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.

## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH J F M A M J J A S O N

MAIN OFFICE	2	3	3
ENCINO	2	2	3
CIVIC CENTER	3	1	3
PANORAMA CITY	1	2	1
SHERMAN OAKS	3	4	5
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1
TARZANA	2	2	2
RETIREE'S	6	3	6
TOTAL	20	18	24

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

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

**APRIL**  
**2nd**  
**"2013"**

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

**April 2, 2013**

**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 & DeCielis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 breakfasts will be on April 27<sup>th</sup> & May 25, 2013 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You  
Frank Brash

## Vice Presidents Report

### Janette Dolabson

There has been A LOT of negative press lately about the shape the Postal Service is in. We all know our company is in trouble and much of it has not been the fault of the Postal Service itself but the mandate to pre fund the future retirees health plan and the over 55 billion overpaid into the pension plans. We are not getting that money back. You and I need to be calling our Congressmen and our Senators now to urge them to keep six day delivery. Cutting service and jobs is only going to lead to further disasters for us. Ask them to support legislation eliminating the pre funding and saving 6 day delivery.

Now moving on to something more positive and good. FOOD DRIVE is coming fast. The T-shirt order forms will be in your stations soon. Please sign up and support this tremendous thing we do every year. Did you know 1 of 6 Americans live in food insecure households and 17 million of those are children, 3 million are seniors? Are you aware we are the largest 1 day food drive in the world? Our district collected more than any other in our region last year. Our food that goes to MEND in one day is more than they get from all other food donations combined during the year.

I need you to understand just how big this is what we have done the last 21 years. You have helped make this happen. Don't become complacent. Get fired up. Let us pull this off even bigger and better this year even in the face of all the negativity all around us. This matters in a huge way.

**Thanks for all you do. It is greatly appreciated.**

## HBR Report

### Larry Dolabson

Here is the work sheet showing what the new pay percentages will be for the NALC Health Benefits Plan under the new contract. 2012 the USPS paid 80%. This year they will pay the same. Next year in 2014 they will pay 78%, in 2015 77%, and 2016 76%. Obviously we all will be paying more for our health benefits as do almost every other federal or state run business. For carriers appointed to career jobs on or after Jan. 12th 2013 the USPS share will be set at 77%. Then in 2013-2015 it will fall to 76%.



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

## MEND Bulk Mailing Project

For many years, MEND had volunteers or volunteer couples who oversaw our bulk mailing projects. However, those volunteers are now quite elderly and unable to continue. We are thinking that a "younger" retiree or couple might be an ideal candidate, and we are wondering if possibly **any retired Letter Carriers who would be interested.**

Each month, MEND sends out a print piece via bulk mail to our various stakeholders. Certain months, the mailing is to about 3000 households; other months, the mailing might go to 12,000 residents and businesses. There is usually some stuffing involved (we always include response envelopes), as well as sticking mailing address labels on the front of the envelope or print piece. We usually have a group of volunteers from a church or school or community group who work on the mailing, as well as individual volunteers who are job trainees or who otherwise work here at MEND.

Our goal is to get these pieces out by the 25th or 26th of each month, so that our readers can receive the mailing in time to include the response envelopes with their "bills to be paid" documents at the first of the following month, and hopefully respond with a donation. Interestingly, the response to these mailings by readers sending in donations in the envelopes we included generated more than \$120,000 of income to MEND last year!

If we could find a dependable **Bulk Mail Coordinator volunteer or volunteers** (maybe a couple) who could oversee this bulk mail process, here is what the responsibilities would include;

- Early in the month, coordinate with the MEND Volunteer Director and PR Specialist on groups that are planning to come to MEND to do volunteer projects to ensure there are enough volunteers assigned to help with the mailing for that month.

- The week of the 20th of each month, plan to be at MEND 3-6 hours per day for three days to train and supervise volunteers assigned to work on bulk mail (hours can be set based on the availability of the volunteer Coordinator(s) )

- Ensure that the pieces to be mailed are sorted and prepared according to Post Office requirements

- (Optional: Deliver the prepared mailing to the Van Nuys Post Office on Sherman Way)

If you are interested in volunteering some of your time for a good cause or if you know someone who would be interested contact the Union office at (818) 786-8505.

## In Unionism

# Mutual Benefits Information Update

## Bob Enz—MBA Representative

### Whole Life Policies

Paid up in 20 years	Highest premium
Paid up in 65 years	Lower premium

Paid up in	90years	Lowest premium
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Policy builds up cash account.

You may withdraw cash with a %8 fee



## 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  
You Heard 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 !!

# "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 March 5 2013

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 6:43 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW

**MOMENT OF SILENCE**—In Memory of Members who have passed.

#### 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

**TRUSTEES** No Report  
**SAFETY & HEALTH** No Report  
**RETIREEES**--BRASH 6 attending tonight.  
 Breakfasts was well attended, next one is Sat March 23, 2013  
**MBA**--ENZ No Report  
**HBR**--L. DOLABSON Over 3000 new members were enrolled during last Open Season.  
**MDA FUND**--ASKEW \$ 1667.00 currently in the fund.

**EDITOR SEYFRIED** No Report  
**LEGISLATION REPORT**--ASKEW HR 30, which has 131 cosponsors, would keep 6 day delivery. S316 would eliminate pre-funding requirement for Health care. HR 630 would eliminate pre-funding for Health care also and is working through the House. Contact your Representative and ask that they support these bills.

**MDA**--ANGER Shamrock Lollipops will be on sale at Stations \$ 2 each or 2 for \$ 3. Contact your Shop Steward. Still looking for MDA Camp counselors for this summer. Contact Sandy if you would like to help out.

**FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT READ** by JOHNSON  
**MOTION**--Accept report as read  
 M/S/C

**VICE PRESIDENT DOLABSON** Food Drive will have bags again this year. We will be meeting with Media representatives later this month to plan for our Kickoff Event.

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

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

##### NEW BUSINESS

**MOTION**--Branch order 6 men's NALC Watches. Cost not to exceed \$ 500.00

M/S/C

**MOTION**--Branch donate \$ 50.00 to sponsor DAN RATHBONE in the North Valley Caring

Bike-a-thon

M/S/C

**MOTION**--Branch send President to the COP Meeting in Detroit, MI, in April. Cost not to

Exceed \$ 1700.00

M/S/C

#### UNDERLINED= UNANIMOUS VOTE

#### OLD BUSINESS--NONE

#### GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Branch presented BOB JOHNSON with a Retiree pin to mark his retirement from the Postal Service

#### MDA DRAWING

\$ 4 ART BOCEK--RETIREE--DONATED  
 \$ 6 JOHN BURTON--CIVIC CENTER  
 \$ 10 KEVIN DONOHUE--RETIREE

**MEETING ADJOURNED 8:09 PM**



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 !**