

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

FYI

New MOU on filling residual vacancies:

NALC and the Postal Service have entered into the Memorandum of Understanding Re: Residual Vacancies - City Letter Carrier Craft (M-01824), which establishes a process for filling residual vacancies. Anyone who wants to consider transferring to another area can view the residual vacancies on the NALC website.

M-01823 new MOU

The NALC and the Postal Service has reached an agreement regarding the hours of training that a new employee receives when arriving at the duty station. This provides 3 days (24 hours) of orientation and training when in this case new CCA's arrives at the carrier station. This is done with an OJI. Also CCA's are required to receive at least 2.5 hours of case training during the time they are with the OJI.

Correspondence from the USPS to the NALC

DOMA

On June 26, the Supreme Court ruled that Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is unconstitutional. As a result of that ruling, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has decided to extend marriage based federal benefits under its supervision and control to federal employees, annuitants, and their same sex spouses who have legally married in a jurisdiction that permitted same sex marriages, regardless of where they currently live or work.

Regarding internal regulations, the Postal Service will recognize same sex spouses who have legally married in a jurisdiction that permitted same sex marriages, regardless of where they currently live or work.

Handheld Scanners

The Postal Service has notified the NALC that it intends to conduct a next generation Handheld Device test. The postal Service plans to evaluate six different devices from three vendors. Field testing is scheduled to begin September 30, 2013, and run for approximately six weeks. Test sites have

yet to be finalized but will be selected from the Dallas Northland and/or Baltimore districts. The Postal Service intend to survey carriers (city and rural) before testing to gather input on divide applications. Carriers will test a different device each week for six consecutive weeks. If necessary, carriers will be required to continue to use the current scanner device during the test due to possible limitations in the functionality of the test devices. Participation carriers will be asked to provide feedback on the functionality and ease of use of each of the devices. This feedback will be considered during the evaluation and selection of the next generation of handheld scanners.

Real Time Tracking for Parcels and the Letter Carrier

All of our stations have the new cell phone devices that connects to the bulky scanners that we use that will allow for real time scanning of the parcels. In addition to carrying your scanner you will also be carrying this cell phone. This is good for our customers since it will allow the customer to track their mail, parcels, Express etc with real time tracking. There is another side to this device for letter carriers, this device has been equipped with GPS and can track where you are. Your supervisor will be able to see if you are off your line of travel, off of your route altogether, or if you are spending long periods of time without moving.

If management looks at this GPS and think you are doing something that you shouldn't be doing or you are somewhere that you should not be they will probably do an investigative interview (fact finding) and eventually issue discipline. The best thing that you can do is to do your job the way you should be doing it everyday. We have always advised our members to do your job as if someone is watching you all the time. You should be conscious of following the rules, be safe and professional. With this new GPS device this is more important than ever.

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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	2	8	5	4	5	6	3	
ENCINO	2	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	5	3	
CIVIC CENTER	3	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	
PANORAMA CITY	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	3	
SHERMAN OAKS	3	4	5	5	5	5	2	2	6	6	
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	2	
TARZANA	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	
RETIREE'S	6	3	6	5	6	6	3	5	6	7	
TOTAL	20	18	24	19	27	22	16	17	29	27	

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

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

NOVEMBER
5th
"2013"

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

Nov 5, 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"

ATTENTION: !!!!

There will be no Saturday Breakfast meetings in the months of November or December, due to holiday schedules. We look forward to seeing everyone back in January 2014.

Thank
 You
Frank Brash

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

If you have to deviate from your route for any reason please get permission from your supervisor first. If you are in a location longer than normal keep track of why, such as discussion with a customer, multiple parcels or accountable items, or sorting your outgoing and other mail at the end of your route to bring it back to the office. There are a lot of reasons that you might be in the same location for a length of time. There are also several reasons that you might have to deviate from your line of travel. Such as Express mail in order to get it delivered by noon or 3:00 pm. Try to let your supervisor know that you will have to deviate for this reason, this is a very common reason to go off your line of travel. Just be aware that they have a new toy and can't wait to play with it, and use it against you the letter carrier. CYA, don't give them a reason.

In Unionism

What's The Best Way To Protect Your Job



For as Little as \$ 5 Per Pay Period You Can Help Support Our Legislative Efforts To Save The Postal Service From Disaster and Extinction. Do Your Part. A Little Now Can Make A Big Difference Later. Don't Wait Till It Is Too Late. SIGN UP NOW AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Vice Presidents Report

Janette Dolabson

Here is a Summarized version of an article I read on line about the Postal Service. It made total sense to me. America needs to know the facts on the United States Postal Service's financial crisis. Little of what people have heard about the Postal Service's financial crisis is accurate; indeed, the USPS is doing far better financially than is suggested by many news reports that cite -- but don't explain -- billions in red ink. The service is breaking even delivering the mail this year, and some quarters it's even making a profit. For example, in the first quarter of this fiscal year, it had a net operating profit of \$100 million. You read that correctly. It took in \$17.7 billion in revenue from selling stamps (the agency is self-funded and hasn't received a dime of taxpayer money for 30 years) and spent \$17.6 billion delivering the mail. It accomplished this despite the economy and despite the Internet.

Yes, first-class mail revenue is down about 2 percent this year. But that same Internet also leads more people to order goods online, and the resulting revenue from packages deliveries has risen by 9 percent. That, of course, bodes well for the future, with the Internet beginning to offer as many opportunities as challenges. Now, as for that red ink you've heard about, it exists -- but it has surprisingly little to do with delivering the mail. It's almost entirely an external problem created by politicians. In 2006, Congress mandated that the Postal Service pre-fund future retiree health benefits for the next 75 years, in 10 years at a cost of \$5.5 billion a year. Pre-funding accounts for 100 percent of USPS red ink this year.

Unfortunately, some lawmakers want to use the very financial crisis they helped bring to the USPS as a pretext for dismantling an institution relied on by millions of Americans and by small business owners. Instead of addressing pre-funding -- which they instituted and could fix, thereby actually addressing the source of the financial drain -- they want the public to take the hit. They advocate ending home mail delivery, which would force residents to go to "cluster boxes" in all kinds of weather and safety conditions. And they seek to eliminate Six Day delivery, which would raise costs for small businesses.

Our representatives in Washington have a decision to make. They can degrade service to the public and send the Postal Service on a downward spiral toward its demise. Or, they can fix the pre-funding fiasco so citizens and our businesses can continue to receive the services they have counted on for decades.



Branch Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2013

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NOMINATIONS FOR STATE & NATIONAL DELEGATES

CALVIN BROOKINS	**	JANETTE DOLABSON *
STEVE SEYFRIED *		ROBERT JOHNSON *
TRACY MULLINAX *		JEFF JACKSON *
TIA WILSON	*	ROGER ASKEW *
LARRY DOLABSON *		ROBERT ENZ *
PAUL JEFFRIES		KEVIN DONOHUE
FRANK BRASH		JOSE JIMENEZ
ANALIA GARCIA		RAUL DOZEL
JOHN BURTON		ANDY GOACHER
JACK WINKEL		JANET McKEIVER
SANDY ANGER-BARRETT		ART BOCEK

** Automatic Paid Delegate (President)
* Automatic Delegate (E Board Member)

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 JOAN STALBOERGER--RETIREE
\$ 5 JEFF JACKSON--SHERMAN OAKS
\$ 10 JOSE JIMENEZ--SHERMAN OAKS

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:26 PM

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



Join 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 want to go on line ?? Just contact your Shop Steward at your station or call the Union office leave your number and we will call you and walk you through the process. It only takes a couple of minutes and then you will be able to stay up to date on what is happening in Washington and how it effects your job and your paycheck. 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 October 1, 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 7:13 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ROGER ASKEW

MOMENT OF SILENCE—All members who have passed away this year.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

XAVIER CARRILLO, SHADAE HAYNES, ELIA VIVEROS. In a brief ceremony Vice President Dolabson swore in Elia Viveros as the newest member of Branch 2462. Welcome to Elia and all of the new members.

MOTION TO SUSPEND BUSINESS FOR

GUEST SPEAKERS

M/S/C

The Branch was addressed by Administrative Assistant to the NBA JAMES HENRY and also, ALAN RIOS, who is currently enrolled in the NALC Leadership Academy. Alan gave a very nice presentation as part of his academy curriculum program. The slide show and video presentation gave a brief timeline regarding the NALC history. We wish to thank both brothers for their time and efforts and we wish Alan much success in his academic studies.

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

TRUSTEES Audit was held and the books were found to be in good order and all accounts balanced.

SAFETY & HEALTH Mgt is tracking Carriers on the street using GPS in the new phones. They are also making daily street observations so be sure to work in a safe and proper manner at all times.

RETIREES—BRASH 7 attending tonight. Breakfast is still a big hit, we had a good turnout at last months gathering. Please note that October will be the last month of Saturday Breakfasts until the new year. See you in January.

MBA--ENZ 2 new members signed up for benefits programs this month. Contact Bob for more info.
HBR--L. DOLABSON Flu season is coming so remember to get a Flu shot. I will be attending the HBR seminar this month, so watch for my report next month.
MDA FUND--ASKEW \$ 1543.00 currently in the fund.

EDITOR SEYFRIED No Report
LEGISLATION REPORT--ASKEW HR 2758 still sitting out there in Congress. This bill is a postal service killer. If passed the service would disappear as we know it. Bills S 316, HR 630 & HR 691 are the bills we want to support. Contact your Congressional representative and urge them to vote no
MDA--ANGER November 3rd will be our annual Bowl-a-Thon at Matador Bowl. It will begin at 10 am.

Plan on attending this important Fund raiser and helping raise money for our MDA charity. There will be food and drinks for all, so don't miss this fun day.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT READ by JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept report as read
M/S/C

VICE PRESIDENT DOLABSON E-Activist sign-up is moving forward. If you are not already signed up, contact your Shop Steward. Remember to work according to Postal Regulations on your route, as the times you are using now will be used for eight week analysis during your route inspections and adjustments.

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

BY-LAWS

A By-law amendment which was passed at the August regular meeting has been approved by National Trustees and is now in effect.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the LA County Fed Turkeys & Toys fund
M/S/C

UNDERLINED= UNANOMOUS VOTE

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