

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Calvin Brookins

Convention

I want to thank the membership for sending me to yet another convention to represent Branch 2462 as a delegate. This convention was informative and interesting, there was several resolutions presented and voted on. Someone from the branch will be putting together an extensive report on the convention and will be disseminated to all members at every station.

President Rolando opened the convention with his keynote speech to more than 5300 delegates in the Philadelphia convention hall. President Rolando talked about the many victories that we have celebrated since the 2012 convention in Minneapolis, but at the same time making us aware of the challenges that the union faces in the coming months and years ahead. President Rolando also noted the remarkable achievement we have reached within our union and the labor movement that we are celebrating our 125th anniversary this year.

"Not many institutions get to celebrate their 125th anniversary," Rolando said. "That's a remarkable achievement when one considers how much has changed since the NALC was founded in Milwaukee 125 years ago. "Our union has endured and thrived through tumultuous times," the president continued. "It is a proud history of service, solidarity and progress a history we celebrate this week."

He used that milestone as a springboard to review the NALC's past successes as they relate to the challenges that lie ahead for the union and for the U.S. Postal Service. "The task before us is a daunting one," he said, "because it involves a wide variety of fronts political, legislative, managerial, commercial, not to mention the media and the public. But the National Association of Letter Carriers is up to the task. Our union is strong and unified, we know what's at stake, and we have the facts on our side."

Rolando noted that he had to report to the Minneapolis Convention in 2012 that immense challenges complicated the NALC's efforts to defend letter carriers at the bargaining table and in Congress, challenges such as the poor economy, congressional dysfunction, misguided USPS leadership and technological change. "It is sobering to report that many of these obstacles remain with us today," Rolando said.

And while the Internet technology revolution shows no sign of abating, he said, "technological change may be one area where there is cause for cautious optimism." The Internet also is generating new business via soaring e-commerce deliveries, Rolando said.

But despite the challenges of the past two years, the president said, letter carriers can point to several positive victories as well, particularly our work with the broader labor movement during the 2012 general election to halt the surge of anti-labor political forces in the United States, and the contract the NALC secured through interest arbitration.

"Although we did not emerge unscathed from the binding arbitration process, we achieved our most important strategic goals," he said. "We won pay increases, kept our COLA clause, maintained the ban on subcontracting, won an all full-time career workforce and developed a pathway to career jobs for non-career bargaining unit letter carriers. We avoided a permanent two-tier workforce and helped position the Postal Service to become a major player in package delivery again."

Philadelphia marks the third consecutive convention that finds the NALC battling USPS over Saturday delivery, Rolando said. "For L'Enfant Plaza, Saturday delivery is a cost, plain and simple," he said. "For us, Saturday delivery is the Postal Service's competitive advantage." But our problems aren't limited to L'Enfant Plaza, the president said. "The past two years, we've defeated several legislative efforts that would have harmed the Postal Service, us, and the millions of businesses and people who depend on a robust Postal Service," Rolando said. "We beat back these proposals, thanks to excellent work from our legislative and political staff and you, our grassroots activists."

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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.

Vice President's Report

By
Janette Dolabson

On the Legislative front, on Aug. 1st a Bi-Partisan Bill was introduced by Dem. Congresswoman Susan Davis and Rep. Congressmen Peter King and David Joyce that addresses the issue of the use of cluster boxes being used instead of door to door delivery. This Bill would protect door to door delivery for our customers and would help to protect thousands of letter carrier jobs. The Bill has been given the number HR 711 it reads as follows "

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers."

Please contact your Congressperson and urge them to co-sponsor this important piece of Legislation if they have not already. If they have, please thank them for their support. It is very important that you all sign up to be e-activists, to get all the information on current issues involving Letter Carriers and our jobs it is equally important to donate 5\$ a pay period to our Political Action fund COLSPE that's sole purpose is to help fund political action and candidates that benefit Letter Carriers regardless whether they are Democrats or Republican.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	4	4	8	6	5	4	5	5			
ENCINO	2	3	4	3	3	2	3	4			
PANORAMA CITY	2	1	7	2	2	2	2	1			
SHERMAN OAKS	5	6	6	6	4	6	7	5			
SUN VALLEY	2	4	1	1	1	2	2	1			
TARZANA	3	2	1	2	2	2	3	3			
RETIREE'S	4	5	6	5	5	4	7	6			
TOTAL	22	25	33	25	22	22	29	25			

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**SEPTEMBER
2nd
"2014"**

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

Sept 2, 2014

**WEB PAGE.... WWW.NALCBRANCH2462.ORG
BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE.....818-374-5600
E-Mail.....BRANCH2462NALC.GMAIL.COM**

"RETIREE CORNER"

ATTENTION: !!!

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 dates will be August 23rd & September 27, 2014 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You
Frank Brash

Health Report

By
Larry Dolabson, HBR

There is a new web-site that you can go to if you have the NALC Health Benefit plan to see where're your closest CVS Minute clinic is and what services they provide to you. It is www.minuteclinic.com. We had 4,228 new enrollees into the NALC Health Benefit Plan this past open season, bringing the total members to 225,028.

We have had a couple carriers who have had heart attacks this past year from our branch. Here is a few of the warning signs you should be aware of.

Chest discomfort that lasts more than a few minutes or that goes away and comes back. This sensation may include feelings of pressure or squeezing. -upper body discomfort, such as pain in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.

Shortness of breath that either accompanies or precedes chest discomfort.

Other symptoms such as nausea, lightheadedness, or breaking out in a cold sweat.

Seek immediate help if you have these symptoms.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

There is a silver lining in the legislative process, the president said. "The Obama administration has agreed to discuss alternative proposals for postal reform in next year's budget," Rolando said. "Plus, the recent financial turnaround at USPS and personnel changes at the Office of Management and Budget give us hope that we can turn the administration in our favor. The NALC has made other progress, too. "We have built unity among the four postal unions," Rolando said. "And with them we have reached consensus among key business groups, mailers and trade associations on a sensible industry coalition plan."

This plan, developed with the other postal unions as part of our recently formed alliance, became the core of a consensus plan the NALC hopes to offer Congress in the future.

The NALC faced two major challenges in the last round of collective bargaining, Rolando said: The Postal Service's financial losses and the agreement reached by APWU in 2011, which complicated the task of resisting USPS' concessionary demands.

"Thanks to the tireless efforts of the NALC's officers, staff, legal team and expert witnesses," the president said, "the Das award in January 2013 allowed us to meet most of our strategic goals: Producing a fair contract for letter carriers and for the Postal Service."

The Das award created a path to career employment for part-time letter carriers as well via the City Carrier Assistant (CCA) position. "The CCA workforce remains a work in progress," Rolando said. "Looking forward, we will focus on reducing the percentage of non-career carriers, raising CCA compensation by achieving general increases and COLAs, improving their health benefit coverage and winning pension credit for CCA service. "But we are not waiting for the next round of bargaining to make progress for CCAs," he said, noting that the NALC has entered into multiple memorandums of understanding with the Postal Service that have resulted in thousands of part-time flexible and CCA conversions to full-time career status. "The stakes in organizing CCAs are high," he said, "because CCAs, who are more numerous and who have a clear path to career status, are pivotal to the future of the NALC."

But even as the NALC fights for long-term job security, the president said, the union remains dedicated to preserving the safety, health and well being of our active members.

"That has been the focus of the joint Safety-Service Committee," Rolando said, "set up to deal with routine delivery outside traditional delivery hours and to combat unsafe work conditions, whether in sunshine or after dark." The work of the committee, he said, has resulted in major staffing improvements, hundreds of route adjustments, changes to

starting times, revised transportation schedules and improved safety equipment and practices. "At the Minneapolis Convention we began a discussion about the future of the NALC, its structure and possible reforms to become more efficient and effective," Rolando said.

To advance that debate, Rolando appointed a Special Review Committee composed of branch, state and national leaders to report on these matters to the Philadelphia Convention. "Our goal," he said, "is to maintain our powerful union so letter carriers can shape their destinies together. "It's up to us to save the Postal Service, just as we have always done," he said. "We can-not count on USPS management or Board of Governors members. We have to stay strong and mobilize enough allies to force change in Congress. We need a new USPS governance structure and new management.

"Imagining and building a dynamic postal service for the 21st century is the challenge for the next two years and for the next 25 years as well," the president said. "That's the mission we must embrace in Philadelphia," Rolando said. "Together, brothers and sisters, nobody can defeat us. Nobody can divide us, and nobody can get in our way." "Let's get to work!"

The previous was a very important part of President Rolando's keynote address to the delegates at the convention. I put this in the MailCall because I believe it is important for all members to know and understand the clear position that your National President is taking in order to protect your rights and your jobs well into the future.

The NALC's 69th Biennial Convention took place in Philadelphia July 21-25. Select videos from sessions are now available on the NALC website, as well as Convention Chronicles covering the entire week plus Flickr photo albums covering proceedings, workshops, activities and more. You can review all of this on the NALC's website at www.nalc.org.

National Elections

There will be an election this year for most of the national officer's positions at the NALC. All but four of the resident officer's positions are being contested and three of the NBA positions are also being contested. However, Region 1 NBA position is not being contested as NBA Chris Jackson won by acclamation. Please exercise your right to vote in this election and encourage your co-workers at your station to do the same.

NO PTF's conversions

While the Postmaster did make me aware that PTF's in Van Nuys will be converted to full-time, the one thing that wasn't taken into consideration was that the USPS Headquarters was not going to approve such conversions. So, all PTF conversion is on hold right now. I say to those PTF's hang in there you will become full-time, just think of it this way, you are making more money for a little bit longer.

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



Address Service Requested

**Branch Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2014**

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 6:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS ANALIA GARCIA

MOMENT OF SILENCE—Retired Gold Card member TOM BECKWITH & Branch 24, JACKIE WHITE'S mother.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--BROOKINS, J. DOLABSON, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, MULLINAX, WILSON, BURTON,GARCIA, L. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT—NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

None

TRUSTEES Audit was held at the Union office on Tuesday July 29th at 6:30 pm. The books were found to be in order and all accounts balanced.

SAFETY & HEALTH Still waiting for all Stations to receive the Heat stand up.

RETIREEES—BRASH 6 attending tonight, and breakfast on the 4th Sat was well attended.

MBA--ENZ Should be getting updated info from Convention, will distribute when it arrives.

HBR—L. DOLABSON Watch for my article in the MailCall

MDA FUND--GARCIA \$ 1636.00 in the fund.

MDA--ANGER-BARRETT VIP Day was big success, thanks to Branch for sponsoring one of the kids.

LEGISLATION REPORT—J. DOLABSON A Bi-partisan bill to preserve door-to-door delivery was torpedoed at the last second, when they forced their member to withdraw his sponsorship. After a concerted effort by NALC, we were successful in finding 2 other Republicans who did sign on, and HR 711 was introduced. It is now time to contact your rep's and tell them to vote in favor of this bill.

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

MDA—ANGER-BARRETT July 14th will be Camp Day for MDA. Anyone who is off that day and would like to attend to see what goes on is invited to contact Sandy for further info.

PRESIDENT BROOKINS 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 renew liability insurance

policy for 1 year. Cost to the Branch \$ 780.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch pay JOHN WILSON for hosting the Branch Website. Cost not to exceed \$ 60.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 20 copies of the current National Agreement. Cost not to exceed \$ 100.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch authorize PRESIDENT BROOKINS to send up to 6 members to the Pasadena, Region 1, Leadership Conference on Sunday Oct. 19th. Cost not to exceed \$ 1050.00 Branch will also cover registration fee, Cost not to exceed \$ 120.00. M/S/C

MOTION--Branch refund \$ 107.00 of the \$ 642.00 that was deducted from TIA WILSON's convention expense check for lodging expenses M/S/C

UNDERLINED= UNANOMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

We would like to Thank POSTMASTER JOEL SMITH for his insistence on meddling in the Sherman Oaks, 91423 Route Inspections. His actions resulted in each Carrier on a route in that zone, to receive \$ 200.00 in cash.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 BOB JOHNSON--RETIREE--DONATED \$ 2.00
\$ 6 ROGER ASKEW--RETRIEE--DONATED \$ 4.00
\$ 9 MIGUEL MALDANADO-MAIN OFFICE-DONATED ALL

ADJOURNED 8:02 pm

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 3)

Organizing / FYI

We still have 12 non-members in the branch, but that number will soon go down to 11 and possibly 10. Each non member should be asked by someone who is a member to join this great union of ours. Just tell them that because of this Great union they are about to receive over \$1000.00 per year in COLA raises over the next month and a half. This would not have happened if we did not have a union and the non members are benefiting from this. We are in a dog fight for all of our postal jobs, ask the non members to get into this fight with us.

In Unionism!