VOLUME 52 JUNE 2015 NUMBER 5

Representing the Stations of

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By JANETTE DOLABSON

Food Drive

By the time you read this the food drive will be over for this year. I want to take the opportunity to thank all of you for your time and dedication for making this another successful food drive. I know taking all those cards and bags and picking up food on your routes is added work and a difficult task. For those families that are in desperate need for food I thank you also. With the summer months coming, it is especially important since the kids that rely on those school lunches every week day for a meal will not be getting them during these months. Our Food Bank MEND services 40,000 people a month and the need seems to get higher every year.

We had two very successful food drive events. The first one was on April 30th at MEND. Television station KTLA came out with Wendy Birch and handed out mugs and signed everyone she gave out if they donated food. There were lots of folks who watched the live spots beginning at 5:40am, again at 6:40, 7:40 and 9:00. It was great exposure for the food drive and we really appreciate KTLA for all the free advertising. They are truly great partners in the fight to Stamp out Hunger.

The second event was the media/press conference event at MEND. Again this year Edward James Olmos was our spokesperson. He is a warrior for us and always helps us when we ask. He is passionate about helping those who are in need. His father was a Mail Clerk in Montebello so he has a soft spot in his heart for Postal Workers. We asked if he would consider being our National Spokesperson next year and he agreed.

I want to thank John Beaumont our CSALC President for coming out to both events. He is always so gracious and knowledgeable in interviews and we very much appreciate him giving us his time. I would like to thank our Regional Food Drive Coordinator, Jill Lemons for her time and help with the food drive. She worked very hard pulling together everything in region 1 and spent many hours on the phone and traveling around the state and country to make this food drive successful here in Region 1. Most of all I want to thank the

Wilson for all their hard work and dedication. I can't do this without their work and help pulling this together in each office. To all the volunteers from MEND and those who came in on their days off to help, thank you from the bottom of my heart. God Bless you for your giving spirits.

I will have the totals in the Mall Call next month so you can see how we did in our food collections.

State Training

We had many really great classes taught at the State Training in April. I feel the best one I attended was the one taught by our own Calvin Brookins. It was a class on CCA's and their rights and future in the Postal Service and with the NALC. They are our future and we need to bring them along and mentor them as much as we can. They have a very difficult job and get very little respect from their managers and some of their fellow carriers. We need to take them under our wings and make sure they have every opportunity to be successful. Stewards and officers especially need to bring them along in the union and let them know their rights and see if they are interested in getting involved in the union as activists or stewards. I am happy that we have 2 CCA's in our branch that are serving as alternate stewards.

Legislative

Several Congressman spoke at our Congressional Breakfast at the State Training. All of them are now on board with labor opposing the Fast Track Trade deal that the Obama administration is pushing. We hope that all of them will hold that line against it and not waiver under the pressure from Obama to support it. It is bad news to working families and to our economy. It will cost jobs and open the doors for moving more of our business's overseas. Call your Congressman today and urge them to oppose this fast track trade deal.

National Rap Session

We have a National Rap Session in July in Houston. I am looking forward to this because they will be ready to launch some new programs for training. There is a new Steward training program coming out, a new CCA orientation/training program and a new legislative system and parties.

(Continued on Page 3)

"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 deem s 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
 6
 6
 2
 2
 5

 ENCINO
 3
 5
 5
 4
 4

 PANORAMA CITY
 2
 2
 2
 1
 2

 SHERMAN OAKS
 7
 4
 5
 6
 4

 SUN VALLEY
 2
 3
 2
 1
 2

 TARZANA
 3
 3
 3
 3
 4

 RETIREE'S
 4
 8
 6
 4
 4

 TOTAL
 27
 31
 25
 21
 25

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

JUNE 2nd "2015"

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

June 2, 2015

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 May 23rd. & June 27, 2015 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You **Frank Brash**

Vice President's Report Tracy Mullinax

State Training Tidbits

On April 24th and 25th, your shop stewards attended the state training taking classes on the Joint Statement on Violence in the Workplace, CCA's and Organizing, FMLA and a three hour Rap Session with NALC President Fred Rolando. The following are highlights for the membership to learn from:

- 1) One year only is needed by a CCA in order to not have to undergo another 90 day probationary period when converted to a regular instead of prior memo of two years.
- 2) CCA's only get higher T-6 pay if assigned to it, not by signing on for higher assignment.
- 3) CCA'S night differential pay is \$1.16 for CC1 and \$1.23 for CC2 per hour.
- 4) Fingerprinting is to be done on the clock once CCA's are converted to regular.
- 5) 93% organized full-time nationwide, 81.6% CCA's nationwide. CCA's are 91% organized in Region 1.
- 6) 1.4 billion in fy 2014 profits and 1+ billion fy 2015 profits so far.
- 7) Governance of USPS has 3 Board of Governor's and 6 vacant seats.
- 8) Risks of Legislation are bills outstanding that have a Republican House and Senate, want to raise pension contributions 6% which would equate to a 6% pay cut and want to get rid of the social security supplement for FERS employees.
- 9) Colcpe brings in 6.4 million for each 2 year election cycle which has only a 10% contribution rate nationwide meaning there are still 90% that are not contributing.
- 10) 16,000 CCA's have been converted nationwide to regular since 2013. Van Nuys is creating RC's in each office and are looking for conversions to take place for the 1st time verrrrry sooooon.
- 11) Nationwide Postal cyber attack settlement is due before May 22nd, 2015.
- 12) USPS new source of revenue is groceries. It will begin approximately in Van Nuys on May 17th and will be done by CCA's right now.

IN MEMORY OF

CHARLES LOMBARDI BRANCH 2462 RETIRED MEMBER

BETTY WAGNER
BRANCH 2462 RETIRED MEMBER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued From Page 1)

plan coming for the next season of elections. I am excited about these new programs and their implementation. We need to get our stewards trained and make their jobs easier by providing them with the tools and knowledge they need to best represent our members.

CDRAAP/New Scanners/DMS/RIMS

We are winding down the initial route adjustments for this route adjustment process. We have implemented in many offices. Any mistakes can be fixed right away. You don't have to wait for the review process to fix most of the problems. We have been looking at some of the zones we have already implemented. We put back routes in nearly every zone we did. There are new routes all over the place yet when we look at the time the carrier is taking we see many are still working the same time or even more than they were before they were adjusted. Even on routes that all we did was take off streets are still working over about the same time they were before. We only used your times on the routes taking out any anomalies. Most of the volumes were from the fall numbers. My concern with this is that now with all this new technology that the Postal Service is rolling out, it will shine a glaring light on those of you that are out there expanding your times. Please do not put yourselves in that position. In some offices we have carriers with 300 or less deliveries and they are working over 8 hours. With this day and age of GPS on these new scanners they know where you are at and at what time every minute of the day. Branch Presidents had a meeting with District Manager Kerry Wolny where he gave us the MDD scanner and Line of Travel Requirements. We branch Presidents did not agree with some of what they want to do with these scanners. One of them was having the scanner with you all the time. Our lunches are our time not the Postal Services. You do not need to have your scanner with you at lunch. Why would you need to take a scanner with you when you are taking a comfort stop? You need that scanner in the restrooms? I don't think so. I believe the scanners should be used to scan and track the mail. Not the carrier. If the carrier is doing their job as they are supposed to do, this is not going to be an issue. But for those carriers who are out there playing games this is going to be a real problem for you. Sitting out their expanding time is no longer an option for you. With these new adjustments and the routes now being shorter I can see this being a real problem in the summer with the drop in volumes. Be aware that everything you do is going to be looked at and followed. Big Brother is watching.

Kerry also gave us a copy of "Official Record of Discussion" that they want to use for carriers not meeting their "street performance" in their scanning street variances that are unsatisfactory. They track how long from one scan point to the next and decide based on the 3999 times and your leaving time and lunch times where you should be at any given time of day and how long it should take you to get there and if you don't make those times for a certain period of time this is what you are going to see. Can it be used in subsequent discipline? I say -no. Will they try? I say -probably.

E-Activist

I have given forms to all the offices to sign up members to be e-activists. If you have already signed up but are no longer getting updates on legislation and information about our jobs from National, please re-sign up. Sometimes we drop off the list and we need to resign up. If you have not signed up at all before please do so. It is very important for

everyone to be informed as soon as possible about what is going on it Congress and at the national level what is happening with your jobs and your union. What happens there directly affects you and your family. Sign up and stay informed. We never give out your email addresses to third It's safe and secure and important for you to participate. Thanks!!

Fast Track. It Means Lost Jobs! By John Beaumont President, California State Association of Letter Carriers

Congress and the President are currently pushing expanding un-regulated trade deals with a new, and much larger, trade agreement known as The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP).

TPP being referred to as "NAFTA on steroids", would be the largest international trade deal in history with major economic and environmental consequences both here in California as well as across the entire nation. What is one of the most distressing facts about TPP is that the exact details of this agreement are being negotiate behind closed doors in total secrecy.

This agreement is being negotiated with demands from other trading partners for deregulation, privatization, tax breaks and other financial advantages for Big Business while shrinking workers' rights and job protections in the name of "labor flexibility." Trading partners included in TPP are: Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam and Japan. Both the President and Congress have stated "That this agreement creates jobs here at home, protects the environment, and ensures safe imports". Twenty years ago the exact statement was made about NAFTA and we all know now how that turned out!

Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress are being pushed by wealthy corporate interests looking for more power and less oversight on global trade agreements. To accomplish this goal they need to Fast Track this legislation quickly through both the House and Senate. This process allows a vote to be taken on this legislation with very limited debate and without allowing amendments. Fast track legislation is not the way for a democracy to operate. It short cuts our representation in DC.

Please call 202-224-3121 today and ask to speak with Senator Feinstein's office. Let the Senator know you would like her support for working families and oppose S.1900, Fast Track legislation.

After you call Senator Feinstein it is very important you also call your individual member of the House of Representatives at 855-712-8441 and ask your representative to also support working families and oppose H.R. 3830, Fast Track legislation.

We need your help to call today! This legislation could be introduced for a vote congress at any time.

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101 Van Nuys, CA 91406

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M/S/C

Branch Meeting Minutes May 5, 2015

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 J. DOLABSON at 6:50 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of CHARLES LOMBARDI & BETTY WAGNER RETIREES

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--- J. DOLABSON, MULLINAX, SEYFRIED. JOHNSON, WILSON, BURTON, JEFFREY, DOZAL L. **DOLABSON**

ABSENT-ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

LEINANI MOORE, JORGE HERNANDEZ, RAUL MERINO, SARKIS JEGHELIAN, LAURA GARCIA, LILIAN FLORES, OSCAR AYALA, KEONA BOND, ARLIN MONZON, ARTHUR ABRAHAMIAN, OMAR LARA

BILLS READ-NONE COMMITTEE REPORTS

5 retiree's present tonight. **RETIREES**

16 attended the last Breakfast.

MDA FUND--DOZAL

Currently \$2114.50 in fund HBR-L. DOLABSON During the last open season there were 3940 new members who signed up. Health Plan members can get a discount at CVS Pharmacies by

showing your NALC Health Card when you check out.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON

MOTION—Accept Financial reports as read M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Article will be in MailCall PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Gave her report which will

be published in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch purchase 2 locking file cabinets

Cost not to exceed \$650.00 M/S/C

MOTION-- Branch send 3 people, to be chosen by the President, to the National Rap Session in Houston, Texas, from July 17-19th. Cost not to

exceed 4200.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch send 2 people to the OWCP training class in Ontario on June 7th. Cost not to

exceed 300.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch send JUSTIN TAYLOR to the MDA Summer Camp July 13 - 17th. Cost is \$ 800.00, Half to be taken from MDA Fund and

Half from the General Fund **UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE** GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Branch presented JACK WINKEL a NALC watch to honor his recent retirement. VP MULLINAX swore in new member OSCAR AYALA and presented him with a membership pin.

MDA DRAWING

STEVE SEYFRIED--SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 5 JEMAYEN MACARAEG--PAN CITY--DONATED

TIA WILSON--SUN VALLEY 7

Meeting Adjourned 8:24 PM

JOHN BURTON CHIEF SHOP STEWARD

Park Point Safety

Don't Let One Moment Of Inattention From You Or Someone Else End Your Life Or Make You Have To Live With Something That Could Haunt You Forever.

In The Past 10 Years There Have Been Several Accidents Where A Carrier Was Working From The Back Of There Vehicles And Were Struck From Behind By Another Vehicle. Sadly These Accidents Resulted In Several Deaths And Others Were Seriously Injured.

What Can You Do To Prevent Such An Accident? First Everyone Must Look Where They Park. If At All Possible Do Not Park On Busy Streets Unnecessarily. If There Is A Side Street With Less Traffic You Should Park There. If You Need To, Get With Your Supervisor If You Have Any Concerns About Your Park Point Locations. If That Doesn't Work Contact Your Shop Steward.

Also Don't Talk On Your Cell Phone Or Use Headphones While Working Out Of Back Of Your Vehicle. You Need To Be Alert And Be Able To Hear What's Going On Around You.

Use Flashers And Strobes When Parked And Working From The Rear Of Your Vehicle. Always Remember To Park At Least 20 Feet From An Intersection Or 30 Feet When The Intersection Is Regulated By A Traffic Light.

Always Remember Stay Alert And Always Be Aware Of Your Surroundings. Being Aware And Alert Could Possibly Save Your Life.