

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Food Drive

Our total Food Collections for 2015 is 93,474. I want to thank you all for your hard work and dedication to help make this one of the most successful food drives we have had for many years. The paper bags were a huge reason why many branches across the country collected more food this year. Thanks you Ralphs/Food for Less and Anthem Blue Cross for their generous donations for the bags. There are many carriers and managers and family members that came in on their own time or stayed late to help pick up, sort and load the food. Here are just a few names given to me of those who volunteered their time. Encino had retirees Kenny Wheelles, Bob Enz and Roger Askew come and pick up food off the routes. Also carriers Paul Jeffrey, Larry Dolabson stayed and helped sort food. In Sun Valley, thanks to Sandra Delgado, her daughter Katerina and niece, Yadira. Thank you also to John Wilson who helped feed the carriers and volunteers by bringing them food and refreshments.

Legislative

There are new Postal Reform bills in the works in Washington DC. Both the House and the Senate have drafted bills. We need every single NALC member to make sure any postal bills under consideration preserve and strengthen our delivery networks, our services and our jobs. We can start now by contacting our Congress person that any Postal legislation that calls for service cuts (such as proposing postal holidays, eliminating mail delivery on Saturdays or eliminating door-to-door delivery) is unacceptable. Ask them to pass that along to their Republican Colleagues if your Congress person is a Democrat.

Fast Track

NALC President Fredric Rolando has sent a letter to

Congress, calling on lawmakers to ensure "that there is transparency and equity in the trade process."

"Congress must maintain its ability to approve trade partners in advance," Rolando wrote, "to determine whether America's objectives are being met inclusively, and to have the ability to strike or amend from trade deals provisions that fail to incorporate your input." NALC encourages all members to urge their members of Congress to vote "No" on H.R. 1890 and S. 995 should either or both come up for a vote.

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SPECIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Article V of the NALC Constitution and Article V of the By-Laws of Branch 2462, NALC, notice is hereby given for the Nomination and Election of Delegates to the State and National Convention, Nominations will be held at the October Meeting on October 6, 2015. Election, if needed, will be held in November 2015 and will be conducted by mail, as provided in Article IV of the By-Laws of Branch 2462 NALC. All members, in good standing, are eligible to be nominated. Any member, not in good standing or who has not attended at least eighteen (18) regular meetings during the twenty-four (24) months prior to their nomination as a Delegate shall not receive any expenses from *the Branch*. Any member who has less than one (1) year membership in this Branch who shall have attended at least three fourths (3/4) of those regular meetings, from his/her acceptance into membership, prior to their nomination as a Delegate or Alternate may receive expenses. All members of the Executive Board, by virtue of their office, shall be Delegates to all National and State Conventions. This Branch shall elect a Full Delegation to all National and State Conventions.

"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 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | | | | | |
| ENCINO | 3 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | | | | |
| PANORAMA CITY | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| SHERMAN OAKS | 7 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 6 | | | | | |
| SUN VALLEY | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | | | |
| TARZANA | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | | | | | |
| RETIREE'S | 4 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 6 | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 27 | 31 | 25 | 21 | 25 | 24 | | | | | |

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

JULY
7th
"2015"

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

July 7, 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 & DeCels). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be June 27th. & July 25, 2015 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You
Frank Brash

Vice President's Report

By
Tracy Mullinax

3996----Still relevant in 2015?

Absolutely, it is! 3996's are as important today as ever and those that need one need to request one. A 3996 is a postal form or document that is used by carriers to request overtime when needed. Management is only to give you one when you request one, mostly with a red flag placed up at your case. If you do not request one then management will assume you do not need one and are also going to assume you will be back in 8 hours. If you request a 3996 for overtime, management has to provide you with one, whether they think you need one or not.

If you request one and they do not provide you with one, grieve it! If they provide you with one and approve you overtime and/or auxiliary assistance then that is fine. If you need more time than was approved, then you need to call the office by a specified time; in most offices it is 3pm for more instructions. Do not take it upon yourself to use unauthorized overtime without approval. You have now subjected yourself to a fact-finding and possible discipline.

While a 3996 is only an estimate and is non-negotiable, carriers still have an obligation to the Postal Service to do their best guestimate on how much time they think they need on any given day. If you are not approved the assistance you asked for on your 3996, you must call in by the designated time to either get approval for overtime or to bring mail back or whatever the managers instruction is. To be told not to call in from the street is an improper instruction and should be grieved. You are now to follow the instruction and finish delivering all the mail as that is our job; to deliver the mail.

Do not bring mail back unless you are instructed to do so by a manager. Do not be intimidated or bullied into working 8 hours by skipping your break and lunch, because a supervisor says you do not need overtime. Your mail volume and parcels will tell you whether you need time or not. If you have any questions regarding this, please ask your shop stewards! Remember your rights are like muscles, use them or lose them!

In Unionism

IN MEMORY OF

RALPH PETERSON
BRANCH 2462 RETIRED MEMBER
SHERMAN OAKS STATION

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued From Page 1)

New Fleet

In April Rep. Jared Huffman introduced HR 1963, the Federal Leadership in Energy and Efficient Transportation Act. (FLEET) This bill seeks to modernize the USPS aging LLVs. If it passes it would give the Postal Service the opportunity to save money while reducing its vehicles effects on the environment, and the more efficient vehicles that would better accommodate the increased parcel volumes.

USPS operates the largest commercial fleet in the world. Most LLV's are between 18 and 24 years old and only get about 10 miles to the gallon. Fuel costs currently account for 10 % of every dollar spent by the postal Service. The USPS operates the largest commercial fleet in the world. Most LLV's are between 18 and 24 years old and only get about 10 miles to the gallon.

NALC testified before the House on workers Compensation. Director of Retired Members Ron Watson told them that the "NALC welcomes the prospect of Reform to the Federal Employees' Compensation Act, provided it does no result in unfair harm to the injured workers and the FECA was designed to protect. Any such reform should be consistent with the basic principle that injured workers should be no better off and no worse off as a result of suffering an on the job injury".

CDRAAP/New Scanners/DMS/RIMS

Just as we thought would happen, the Postal Service in many stations are already trying to use the "official Discussion" letter. They are bringing carriers in the several days later to "Discuss" why there were gaps in service time on their routes. We will be filing grievances in any office where they are doing this. Let your steward know if you have been issued this paper discussion. Discussions are not to be in writing they are to be verbal and specific and not lead to discipline.

Scanners: make sure you have been properly trained. If you are sent out with them and instructed to start using a new function on it but not properly trained, see your shop steward and file a grievance if your supervisor does not give you that training. Your scanners need to be with you at all times unless you are on break, a comfort stop or quick dismount deliveries not requiring a scan.

CCA's

NALC headquarters has been informed that some CCA's have been working 2 weeks or more with no days off. Let us know if any of this is going on in your station so we can report back to the NBA's office. We will need possible dates and number of consecutive days worked and reason for the problem.

We are starting to get routes posted for bid and there will be some CCA's in our branch who will be getting converted to full time regular carriers in the near future. I have a list of relative standings for all the CCA's if you stewards want to take a look at it so you know where your CCA's fall on that list. Let me know if you want a copy I will get you one.

Picnic

We have secured an area at Santa Anita to hold our Picnic. It will be held on Oct. 11th, 2015 at 11:00 – 4:00. The prices and signup sheet will be given to the shop stewards early so we can try and get a nice crowd of folks there. There will be catered lunch served from 12:00-2:00. We will have all day hot dogs, sodas and water and ice cream plus 2 beer tickets per member. We will have a giant Jurassic jumper, 2 carnival games and a face painter for the kids. The price will include all this, along with your parking, entrance and program. One of the reasons we will have it on Oct.11th is because the next day is Columbus Day and most of us will be off work that day. We will have a race running there dedicated to our branch and 2 folks will get their picture taken with the winning horse in the winners 'circle. We will have a fun game of bingo with prizes and will be doing our membership raffle and 50/50 drawings. Mark your calendars now and save the date.

Mail Theft Initiative

Sierra Coastal District has begun a new mail theft prevention program to reduce losses caused by mail theft. They have identified the most frequent mail theft issues and addressed how to help prevent them from happening. Here are some of those problems being addressed: "fishing" mail out of collection boxes, breaking into collection boxes with hand tools, breaking into apartments and buildings using counterfeit arrow keys, passing fake money orders and money, passing bad checks, vandalism, vehicle break ins and stealing from mail carriers by assault or confrontation.

They have started taking action by replacing arrow locks with MAL keys, installing modified collection boxes, requiring owners/residents of broken delivery boxes to replace or repair them and notify other offices when bad checks and counterfeit money is attempted to be passed.

I was surprised that they did not address mail theft from residence mail boxes.



"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

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Branch Meeting Minutes

June 2 , 2015

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 J. DOLABSON at 6:44 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of RALPH PETERSON, RETIREE OUT OF SHERMAN OAKS
PRESENT--- J. DOLABSON, MULLINAX, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, WILSON, JEFFREY, DOZAL L. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT---BURTON

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

HECTOR MEDINA, HEYNER RAMOS, JEFFREY HILLIARD, HOUHANNES MKRTCHYAN, REGGIE HARVEY, RONALD VIRAY, RAFAEL TAPIA, LYDIA TELLEZ, JEREMIAH DOWNS, DARRYL CLAUD

BILLS READ---MOTION TO PAY

M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT--TRUSTEES

The audit will be held in July. The exact date and time will be announce at the next Regular Branch meeting.

SAFETY & HEALTH

School will be out soon, so we need to be extra careful when delivering around children. You should always double check that no one is around the vehicle when you are moving from delivery to delivery. Also with Summer approaching, weather will be heating up again. Be sure to stay hydrated by drinking plenty of liquids while out on the street.

RETIREES

6 retiree's present tonight.

17 or 18 attended the last Breakfast. Including Past President

CALVIN BROOKINS & PRESIDENT DOLABSON

MDA FUND--DOZAL

Currently \$2137.00 in fund

MDA--ANGER-BARRETT

The annual MDA camp will be in Irvine, on July 15th. If you would like to volunteer to help with the kids on this day, contact Sandy at the Tarzana Station or call the Branch office.

HBR---L. DOLABSON

Many of the benefits and programs available to members of the health plan can be accessed by going to the dedicated HBP website at nalchbp.org. Of course if you have and questions or concerns you can always contact me through the Branch office.

MBA--ENZ

Working with several

members. All is well.

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 spend an additional \$ 7000.00

for the Branch Picnic at Santa Anita

M/S/C

MOTION-- Branch donate\$ 200.00 to the

Saxemeyer Scholarship Fund

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 10 NALC watches

Cost to the Branch \$ 850.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch send the HB Representative to the HBP seminar in Las Vegas in October.

Cost not to exceed \$ 2000.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Executive Board investigate and report back to the Branch at the next meeting, the feasibility of purchasing an industrial strength shredder.

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 J J SAUCILLO--SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 5 JOSE JIMENEZ--SHERMAN OAKS

\$ 10 TIA WILSON--SUN VALLEY

Meeting Adjourned 8:08 PM

GIMME
5
for COLCPE