

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

PICNIC

We have not had a union picnic since 2011. It is time to have one. I know they are expensive and we are tightening our belts financially but since this is a non-convention year and we have not had one in several years we have decided to have one. We will be holding our picnic at Santa Anita Race Track on Oct. 11th, 2011. Sign ups should be already posted in your stations along with a menu and list of activities. Just in case you have not had the opportunity to look at it here is a break down. Members will be \$10.00 to sign up and will be getting that back when they check in. (We will most likely take that back from you for your donation to MDA and get your raffle tickets with it :). As a member you will also have received 2 free beer tickets. If you don't drink give them away or sell them to the highest bidder. :) Your spouse or guest will cost \$15.00. Teenagers from 12-17 will be also \$15.00. Kids from the ages 4-11 will cost \$10.00. Anyone you bring that does not live with you or is not your 1 guest or a dependant will be charged full price. Full price is \$50.50 for adults and teens and kids will be \$30.00. We will have a full catered meal served from 12-2 PM. There will be all day hot dogs, ice cream and unlimited soda and water. All day long there will be a private area for our kids to play. That area will include a giant Jurassic Park bouncer/slide, 3 carnival games and a face painter. All just for our groups kids. Our picnic area will also be private to our group. No other folks will be allowed to come into our picnic area without a bracelet. Your tickets will include parking, entrance, a program, all your food and non alcoholic beverages and your kid's entertainment. We will be playing bingo, with prizes holding a 50/50 cash raffle and doing members only raffle for money and gift cards. We will also have a race dedicated to our group and 2 lucky guests will be able to go to the winners circle and get their picture taken with the winning horse and jockey. One of the best parts about holding this picnic on Oct. 11th is that the next day is Columbus Day and most of us will be off. Unfortunately many of our CCA's will be scheduled to work on Sunday. Hopefully those of you who are off can make it. It will be epic!! If you are a CCA and find out late that you will be off and it's past the deadline to sign up don't worry. We will make sure our

stewards have tickets for you up until the last day before the event. This is only for CCA's. All the rest of you have plenty of time to get on that list and get your tickets. If you haven't gone to any of the picnics at Santa Anita, I urge you to go to this one. It is loads of fun. (Make a few bets and come home with pockets of cash).

AMAZON FRESH

Amazon is going to change their totes to insulated boxes for their home grocery delivery service. This service is now going out to all our Branch offices except Sun Valley and Panorama City. If you have problems with getting different or conflicting instructions on these deliveries please see your shop stewards. There seems to be some confusion on how these are to be delivered. Every office should be on the same page in how carriers are instructed to get these delivered efficiently and on time. Obviously all carriers with these totes/boxes should be receiving the appropriate extra time it will take for those deliveries and deviations from line of travel.

(Continued on Page 3)

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.

Vice President's Report

By
Tracy Mullinax

TEXAS TIDBITS

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	6	6	2	2	5	1	5				
ENCINO	3	5	5	4	4	4	4				
PANORAMA CITY	2	2	2	1	2	2	2				
SHERMAN OAKS	7	4	5	6	4	6	5				
SUN VALLEY	2	3	2	1	2	2	1				
TARZANA	3	3	3	3	4	3	3				
RETIREE'S	4	8	6	4	4	6	6				
TOTAL	27	31	25	21	25	24	26				

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

SEPTEMBER
1st
"2015"

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

Sept 1, 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 August 22nd & September 26, 2015 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.

Thank You
Frank Brash

First of all, I want to thank the membership for sending President Dolabson, Trustee Burton and myself to the National Rap Session on July 17th-19th in Houston, Texas. We attended classes on Retirement, Branch Officer training, City Delivery and Dignity and Respect. The following are important items I think the membership should be informed of:

1) The first 9 CCA's are being converted to Regulars in Van Nuys on August 22nd. A 2nd wave of conversions will take place in Sept after e-reassign has been exhausted.

2) FERS Carriers hired before 1/1/13 pay .8% each pay period for there pensions. Those hired after 1/1/13 will pay 3.1% towards it and those hired after 1/1/14 will pay 4.4%!

3) Bills floating around today in Congress have damaging consequences if passed:

- A) No COLA'S for CSRS or FERS until age 62.
- B) High 5 vs High 3 (reduces pension).
- C) Raise employee contribution rates for pension:

CSRS----7% to 13%
FERS---- .8% to 3.1% to 4.4% to 6.35%.

- D) Reduce TSP earnings on the G-fund to zero!

4) *Formula for Social Security Supplement which is for those FERS employees who retire before age 62 with years of service is:* Your estimate of Social Security received at age 62 times your years of creditable service divided by 40 or approximately 75% of what you would receive at age 62!

5) Your National officers think that MSP Scanpoints will disappear once the last set of scanners will be deployed at the end of September! There will be continual software upgrades. Stay Tuned!

6) A new vehicle prototype is being built with carrier input. One will be built customized and bugs worked out before a fleet of 180,000 vehicles at 25k-35k each for a total of 6 billion dollars and a mass rollout for 2017! LLV's will disappear and workable FFV's will be used. In the meantime, Leased vans will be coming to handle our booming parcel business.

7) The new vehicles will have an adjustable seat and a two-tier form tray that moves up and down and side to side. The cab will look the same and there will be better ventilation but no air-conditioning. The rack will hold DPS, FSS and flat trays. They will be longer and taller vehicles with shelves on both sides for sorting parcels and you will be able to walk to the back of the vehicle without getting out. There will be an inclusion of a side cargo door which will help alleviate working from the back of the vehicle except in the parking lot.

(Continued on Page 4)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

RIMS/DMS

I would like to reiterate some information I put in the Mail Call a couple months ago regarding these new tools that all your offices are using to track your movements on your routes. These tools **DO NOT CIRCUMVENT THE CONTRACT**. They still must identify specific time wasting practices or expansion of street time by coming out there and witnessing it. They can't just look at a sheet of paper given to them by someone sitting in a room looking at screens all day and making a list of carriers they should be talking to. FYI if they are bringing you into the office to ask you questions about these RIMS/DMS tracking sheets you should ask if those can lead to discipline. If they say it may then you need to ask to have a shop steward present. If they ask you why you deviated or why it took you so long to deliver something, just tell them you don't know, you can't remember and you are just doing your job. The burden of proof is on them. With that said I am in no way saying that you should deviate without approval or expand your street time. You should remain gainfully employed at all times. If you are playing games out there they have the tools to see it and the resources to go out there and verify what you are doing. Don't put yourself in that position.

USPS NEWS

The USPS is testing a new mobile delivery device called MDD. They intend on having the employee scan mail pieces at specific locations during the collection and delivery of mail. Employee's will be texted and notified before reaching the location or delivery point with information on type of mail and the number of pieces they want scanned. They are testing this in Virginia. The test results will be used to determine the feasibility of replacing the external first class mail measurement system through the use of the scanning functionality of the MDD's and intelligent mail devices. They are intending on expanding this test to 55 other locations as a pilot program. The closest location to us is in Newhall.

CCA CONVERSIONS

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE NEWLY CONVERTED CCA'S!!

Celia Rodriguez, Brian Sierra, Victoria Calderon, Cesar Cortez, Emanuel Meza, Francisco Valenzuela, Gabriel Guzman, Kramoka Sako, and Ryan Lu. Just a reminder to you that you will have 60 days to sign up for your Health Benefits or you will have to wait until open Season. Also, you can sign up to be on the max list even though it is not the beginning of the quarter. (overtime list). I know that you are not going to be making a lot more an hour and with the benefit cost coming out of your checks and working less hours, it will be a hardship for some. Just know that your step increases are much faster than in the past contracts and you will quickly move to higher levels of pay. Be patient and work hard. It will be worth it. We would

love to see you all at the union meetings on the first Tuesdays of every month at 6:30 PM. Get involved and know your rights!! You will have to wait 90 days to be able to be credited with or take any annual leave. We just lost a couple Arbitration decisions regarding this issue.

NEW LETTER CARRIER POLITICAL FUND

During the RAP session in Houston, NALC President Fred Rolando formally announced the new name of the NALC's political action committee.

The name change comes as a result of an effort that began at the NALC convention in 2014, where hundreds of letter carriers submitted proposed new names for the former Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education. (COLCPE)

If you are already a contributor you do not need to make any changes. The NALC uses this fund to contribute to candidates for federal office that are labor friendly and friends of Letter Carrier issues. No union dues go to fund this account. It is completely voluntary.

HOUSTON RAP SESSION CLASS

There was one class at the Rap Session in Houston that was especially useful and well done. It was taught by Manny Peralta our National Director of Safety and Health and his staff. In that class we received a guide called Dignity and Respect. This guide was created to give stewards direction on the right way to improve the working conditions in their offices. It gives us strategies to address and correct the mistreatment of our fellow carriers on the workroom floor. It also gives the shop stewards the tools necessary to address and stop this mistreatment from managers. It has step by step instructions on what is needed and how to use the language prohibiting this behavior and the how to resolve it. All our stewards have one. If you are dealing with this issue in your station please seek the help of your shop steward. I know we have a few offices where this is going on regularly and it must stop. We are going to take all the steps necessary to see that it is stopped. No more threats, intimidation, harassment and bullying.



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT No. 314

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes August 4, 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 6:48 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of All Members who have passed this year.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

LORCELEE CORPUZ

BILLS READ---NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit was held on July 27th. All Trustees & Financial Sec/Treasurer were present. The books were found to be in good order.

HEALTH & SAFETY Main Office and Sherman Oaks had there safety walk thru's. Waiting for the Postal Service to send us a copy of the results.

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 4 retiree's present tonight.

14 attended the last Breakfast. This years Retiree Luncheon will be held on Sunday October 4th. at Encino Glen. Watch for upcoming specifics in future Mailcall's.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1780.00 in fund

HBR---L. DOLABSON If you are a CCA who has recently made Regular, you have 60 days to sign up for a Health Plan. If you have any questions contact Larry through the Union Office.

MDA--ANGER Next Wednesday will be MDA camp day in was a great success. Thanks to the Branch for sponsoring Justin, he had a wonderful time. Bowl-a-thon will be held on November 1st. at Matador Bowl. Minimum donation to bowl is \$ 25.00. Watch for further info.

MBA---ENZ National has sent out all new info on the various plans offered to members. These have been sent to the stations so that Carriers can review. They are also available at the Union office

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT---JOHNSON

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

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Attended Rap Session in Texas, I will have full report in September MailCall
PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Gave her report which will be published in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS--NONE

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Both FRANK BRASH and ROGER ASKEW have been in the hospital. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3.50 SANDRA DELGADO--SUN VALLEY--DONATED \$ 1.50

\$ 4 JOSE JIMENEZ--SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED \$ 2.00

\$ 7 SANDYANGER-BARRETT-TARZANA-DONATED \$5.00

Meeting Adjourned 8:11 PM

Vice President's Report

(Continued from Page 2)

8) Expansion of postal services:

A) Sunday parcel delivery will expand 250 zip codes this year to 8,250 overall.

B) Same day delivery: Order in morning and deliver in the afternoon.

C) Carriers will be delivering groceries on their routes as of 8/5/15.

D) Amazon lockers are at 7,000 7-11 stores for parcel pick-up.

E) Offices will be used as warehouses to store water for delivery each day.

9) USPS is in talks with several supermarket chains and looking at signing contracts to take over their delivery businesses because we believe it is more cost-efficient and can lead to many more full-time career jobs. As you can see, we are going to a 7 day round the clock operation.

10) Talks will begin in February on a new Collective Bargaining Agreement that expires in May 2016!

KEEP UP THE FIGHT!!!!!!