

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Christmas Party

We will be holding our annual Christmas party on Sat. Dec. 12th, 2015 from 6:00 to 9:00. We hope you all come and have a good time. We made it for a Saturday night this year so you won't have to get up early and go to work in the morning, unless you are a CCA. We will be ordering food from Stonefire Grill again. Bring your family because Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there giving out gift bags in a raffle to all the kids under 13 present there. We will have beer available for the first couple hours.

Training RIMS/DMS

Our branch will be hosting a Region 1 training at the office on Nov15th to address concerns with discipline over the use of RIMS and DMS. The stewards will be able to understand how these new tools are used and what it means to carriers regarding discipline. If you have questions about the use of these tools, please talk to your shop stewards about it. Most of you know what RIMS and DMS is but for those of you who don't, here it is in a nutshell: These are Virtual Street Management tools used to monitor carriers daily street performance. The focus is to improve Customer service with better scanning and more consistent and reliable delivery.

DMS (Delivery Management Systems) combines USPS software programs with GPS capability. It will allow a manager to identify routes and/or carriers that they believe require attention and possible disciplinary actions. Unfortunately, the later seems to be the focus in some of the offices. Instead of improvement of customer service being their main objective, they are often using it only as a tool to target routes or carriers they don't like. Management is using these tools for documentation of performance issues and using it for corrective action.

RIMS (Regional Intelligent Mail Server), provides real time data for the current days activities, or historical data for about a month for review. This data is often used to issue discipline or at least used to do a fact finding. It is very easy

for management to see you out there without them actually being out there watching you. This class will give your representatives information that will help in dealing with this new rash of discipline stemming from these new "management tools".

CCA conversion

Congratulations to our newly converted CCA's too regular. We had 9 CCA's converted on October 30th, 2015. Jovel Gonzalez, Michael Gonzalez, Lauren Carter, William Powers, Aaron Ferrell, Froylan Marin, Kevin Fletcher, Oscar Lemus, and Ali Achemchem. If any of these carriers are in your office make them feel welcome. To the rest of you CCA's you just moved up 9 spots. There is a light at the end of the tunnel. Hang in there, your turn will come. To you newly converted carriers you will have 60 days to sign up for your Health Benefits. Please don't miss that opportunity.

(Continued on Page 3)

--SPECIAL NOTICE-- NO BRANCH MEETING IN DECEMBER

BRANCH 2462 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY EVENING
DECEMBER 12, 2015

AT

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS HALL
(CORNER OF VALERIO & VAN NUYS)

DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM - DINNER 7:00 PM

ALL MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILY
ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

FREE FOOD - FREE DRINK – FREE FUN
DOOR PRIZES FOR MEMBERS

FOOD WILL BE CATERED BY
STONEFIRE GRILL

SANTA WILL BE THERE !!

"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	5	6	6	6	5
ENCINO	3	5	5	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	5
PANORAMA CITY	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	4	4	3	3
SHERMAN OAKS	7	4	5	6	4	6	5	4	6	6	4
SUN VALLEY	2	3	2	1	2	2	1	2	2	1	1
TARZANA	3	3	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	3	7
RETIREE'S	4	8	6	4	4	6	6	4	5	6	9
TOTAL	27	31	25	21	25	24	26	25	30	28	34

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

JANUARY
5th
"2016"

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

Jan 5, 2016

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 date will be January 23, 2016 (4th Saturday) Please note that there will be no Breakfast in November or December due to the Holidays So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.
Thank You

Frank Brash

Vice President's Report

By
Tracy Mullinax

2015 Las Vegas Leadership Conference Tidbits

- 1). Postal Service has 8 billion dollars in the bank.
- 2). Amazon has hired 100,000 seasonal workers for the holidays. a 20 per-cent increase over last year. Postal Service should not rely to heavy on Amazon packages as they are using any method possible deliver packages at the cheapest price; including building their own network delivery service with strategically placed hubs.
- 3). As of December 8th, the Postal Board of Governor's will have only 1 member and many vacancies.
- 4). Our contract expires on May 20th, 2015. Bargaining sessions begin on February 19th.
- 5). 25,000 TE/CCA's have been converted nationwide since November of 2013.
- 6). CCA conference to take place in Washington DC in mid-January.
- 7). Veterans make up 25 per-cent of the NALC.
- 8). NALC is working on new memo's with USPS CCA uniform allowance and having CCA's carry over leave when converted to regular rather than cashing them out.
- 9). CCA's tiebreaker in relative standing is their SSN and their tiebreaker when they turn regular is their test score for seniority purposes. A CCA's seniority date is the date they become regular, not the date they were hired.
- 10). On the legislative front, there is a bill HR 3412 that would allow us to deliver beer and wine for the 1st time since prohibition in 1909. It could bring in up to 50 million in additional revenue.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all NALC members and their families a most happy and healthy holiday season and to thank you for your continued support.
In Unionism

BRANCH 2462 DELEGATES TO THE 2016 NALC NATIONAL CONVENTION & STATE CONVENTION

JANETTE DOLABSON **	TRACY MULLINAX **
STEVE SEYFRIED **	ROBERT JOHNSON **
TIA WILSON **	JOHN BURTON **
PAUL JEFFREY **	RAUL DOZEL **
LARRY DOLABSON **	ROBERT ENZ **
CALVIN BROOKINS	JACK WINKEL
SANDY ANGER-BARRETT	GUILLERMO
MARISCAL	
JEFF JACKSON	JEMMAYEN MACARAEG
JOSE JIMENEZ	JANET McKEIVER
ART BOCEK	ROGER ASKEW
ELIA VIVEROS	RAFAEL PEREZ
FRANK BRASH	

** Denotes Automatic Delegate (Executive Board Member)

HBR Update

by

Larry Dolabson

Hi Larry here ! First let me report that Open Season for changing health plans is coming up soon. The dates will be from NOVEMBER 9, 2015 through DECEMBER 14, 2015.

Choosing the proper health insurance plan is a huge decision for most individuals and families. Finding the right combination of affordable cost and comprehensive coverage can be a daunting task. We invite you to consider the 2016 NALC Health Benefit Plan High Option. It is simply the best plan offered to letter carriers because it is designed for letter carriers and their health issues.

Last month we had the wrong rates listed in the Mail Call. Here are this years rates.

Active Letter Carriers high option for self only \$60.69, self + one \$136.67, self and Family \$131.71 all bi-weekly. Retiree rates are self, \$72.55, self +1 \$162.28, and self and family \$158.68 all bi weekly rates.

If you are a CCA who has served 360 days (CCA or TE), you have three options:

1. You can choose self-only or self & family coverage in the USPS Noncareer Plan and receive a \$125 contribution to the premium every two weeks
2. As a NALC member, you can choose to become a member and select self plus one or self & family coverage (not self-only) from the NALC Consumer Driven Plan or Value Option Plan and receive the \$125 bi-weekly contribution from USPS
3. You can choose self-only, self plus one or self & family coverage in any plan offered through the FEHB Program, but receive no contribution toward premium costs.

If you have not completed a 360-day period of service, you have only one plan option: You can choose to enroll in USPS Noncareer plan (with either self-only or family coverage) and receive the \$125 bi-weekly premium contribution from the Postal Service. However, if the NALC prevails in its dispute with the USPS, you may also have the option in the future to choose self & family coverage under either version of the NALC Consumer Driven Plan or Value Option Plan and receive the \$125 bi-weekly contribution from USPS.

The CCA CDHP plan is \$200.24 for self, \$309.79 self +1 and \$309.80 for self and family bi weekly.

If you already have the NALC Health Benefit Plan here is a benefit you might like to take advantage of. When you

complete a health risk assessment (HRA),that analyzes your health related responses and gives you a personalized plan to achieve specific health goals, you may choose to be enrolled in the CignaPlus Savings discount Dental program or choose to receive a CVS gift card or you can choose a wearable activity tracking device.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

Retiree's

I would like to congratulate our newest retirees, Steve Seyfried, Jose Macarenas and Richard Reimer. Thank you for your many years of service and membership to the NALC. Enjoy your time away from the grind of carrying mail and the "stuff" that went along with it. We wish you many years of health and happiness. I would like to extend a special note of gratitude to Steve for his long time service to our branch as an officer and more so as a great friend and colleague. I know it will continue but now you won't have to go to the union office after working all day carrying mail around. Even more selfishly for me, it frees you up for more tasks. Thanks, again "Sparky" and enjoy every minute of it.

Legislative

There was a letter sent out by our CSALC President regarding Medicare part B premiums increasing in January 2016 regardless of whether or not there is an increase in Social Security payments. There is a House resolution, HR 3696 and a Senate Bill, S.2148 that were introduced to prevent this over 50% increase in these premiums. There are about 7.5 million people, including Letter Carriers that have Medicare and CSRS, Civil Service Retirement System. We are asking you to call your representatives and urge them to sponsor these bills. You can reach yours at the Capitol Switchboard at 202 2254-3121. If you are calling your Congressman make sure ask them to sponsor HR 3696. If you call Senator Feinstein or Boxer ask for them to sponsor S 2148. Make sure you mention that the bills are titled the Medicare Premium Fairness Act of 2015.

In California, Governor Brown signed into law AB 1461, The California New Motor Voter Program. This legislation will automatically register people when they apply for a driver's license or an ID card in California. There is no choice to opt out they will be automatically registered. It will not, however register anyone that is not a citizen applying for a license or ID since those folks will automatically be handled differently.

"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes November 3, 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 6:37 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, JEFFREY, DOZAL, L. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT---NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

WITH CORRECTION--AMOUNT FOR QUICK BOOKS PAYROLL SOFTWARE IS \$575.00 NOT \$375.00

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

EVAN OLANDE, PEDRO HERNANDEZ, LUIS RIVERA, AUSTIN VRABIC

BILLS READ---NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE Budget meeting will be in the 1st week of January. Audit will be held in the 3rd week of January, exact dates will be announced at a later date.

HEALTH & SAFETY Street supervisors are out in force training new supervisors, so make sure you are driving and doing your routes in a safe manner. Reports are that they are especially focusing on not parking in RED ZONES, and Carriers driving without seatbelts on and doors open.

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIRES 9 retiree's present tonight.

Good turnout once again for Breakfast.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$3652.00 in fund

HBR--L. DOLABSON Watch for updated Health Plan Info in December issue of MailCall.

MDA--ANGER Bowl-a-thon for November has been cancelled, due to a new owner at Matador Bowl. Watch for upcoming fund raising items.

MBA--ENZ No Report

EDITOR--SEYFRIED Nominations for 2016 State and National Convention Delegates were held at last meeting. There were 24 members nominated and 23 accepted their nomination. Since we are entitled to 25 Delegates there will not be any need for a special election. Congratulations to those who are Branch Delegates.

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT--JOHNSON

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

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Open Season for FEGLI begins September 1st through the 30 of 2016. This is an early

notice but the opportunity to increase your Postal Life Insurance only comes around every 7 or 8 years, so you should be investigating your options. NALC will begin contract talks with the USPS on February 19, 2016. I will have a report on the Leadership Conference I attended last week in the upcoming 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 renew the subscription to the Postal Record. Cost to the Branch \$ 20.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Salvation Army for Thanksgiving & Christmas
Cost to the Branch \$ 200.00
M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100.00 to the Labor Community Services LA County Fed
Turkeys & Toys
M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 2 Winners Circle Photo's from Santa Anita Branch Picnic
Cost to the Branch \$ 45.00
M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 3 new folding tables. Cost not to exceed \$ 250.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 6 new Training tables. Cost not to exceed \$ 325.00 M/S/C

MOTION--Branch empower the Executive Board to conduct any and all business of the Branch from November 4, 2015 through January 4, 2016.
M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

JOHN BURTON gave a brief report on his Campaign Training classes.

California State Letter Carrier President JOHN BEAUMONT briefed the Branch on current Legislation pending in Congress. He also spoke on NALC and State's upcoming agenda for the new year.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 JACK WINKEL--RETIREE

\$ 6 JACK WINKEL--RETIREE--DONATED

\$ 10 JANETTE DOLABSON--TARZANA--DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:28