

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

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individualized annuity estimates on-line at LiteBlue using the eRetire application.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Branch Birthday

On April, 3rd, 1926 our Branch 2462 officially began. So since we are going to be 90 years old next month we thought it would be nice to have a ninetieth Birthday Party at the Branch meeting on April 5th, 2016 at 6:30 PM. We will be serving sandwiches, chips and cake. Come and attend the meeting and enjoy the food. Happy Birthday NALC Branch 2462!

Retirement

I know a lot of you are near at or near retirement age and are seriously thinking about retiring. Here are some things you might need to know if you didn't already.

"Letter carriers approaching retirement eligibility have a contractual right to **individual** pre-retirement counseling from the Postal Service, upon request. The purpose of the counseling is to promote fully informed retirement decisions by employees. The Postal Service individual counseling is provided telephonically by a retirement specialist at the USPS Human Resources Shared Services Center (HRSSC). Letter carriers initiate and schedule the counseling session by calling HRSSC at **877-477-3273 option 5, or online at the Liteblue eRetire application**. Letter carriers have a right to this individual counseling **on the clock**, if desired. When a letter carrier wishes to receive the counseling on the clock, local management must arrange reasonably private space. The letter carrier has the right to have his or her spouse and/or an advisor present during the counseling. The counseling will include (but not be limited to) assistance with completing forms (e.g., StandSF2801 and any other forms related to FEGLI, FEHB, and TSP) and military and civilian service deposit issues. If a letter carrier is unable to begin or complete a scheduled individual retirement counseling session, that issue will be addressed at the local level jointly by the union and management." HRSSC mails individualized computer-generated report called the annuity estimate. It is mailed twice each year to the home address of those employees currently eligible for retirement. Employees who are within three years of retirement eligibility may request and receive individualized annuity estimates by calling HRSSC. HRSSC. Employees within 5 years of retirement eligibility may view and print

Region 1 State Training

Our Region 1 State training will be April 7-9th 2016 in Las Vegas Nevada. We will be sending 9 people to the training. They will be attending classes on JSOV, (Joint Statement of Violence in the Workplace), Workers Compensation, Retirement, COR (Carrier Optimum Routing), Article 8, Scanners/GPS/DMS, Food Drive/Community Service, and Legislative classes to name some of the classes offered. There will also be a Rap Session on Saturday with NALC President Rolando, who will talk about where we are headed in this contract year and in this next election. I am looking forward to learning a lot and bringing this information back to share with our members.

Discipline

There are a few offices that have really increased their discipline in the last 6 months. Most of the charges are for safety or missing scans. I have noticed that some supervisors are writing carriers up for violations and are not even safety infractions. Make sure you question what they are charging you for and that you were aware of that rule. For instance, having a satchel for a hop out across the sidewalk is not required. You must have a satchel with you when you are over 10 feet from the truck. Lap belts are fine for box to box mounted deliveries. You need to have a shoulder harness if you pull around a car or object and enter into traffic, turn a corner, enter an intersection, or make a U-turn. You have to also signal your intentions. If you are going to move around a car to get to the next box, turn on your signal. Don't just leave on your hazard lights. You still need to signal when you turn and move into traffic.

Scanning is another big problem. Do not just accept it when a supervisor accuses you of missing a scan on a parcel. They have no idea whether you actually had that package or not. We have had numerous occasions when a parcel was thrown into the wrong routes tub and that carrier just took it out and brought it back and put it in the right routes tub to be delivered the next day and did not say anything because they

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Vice President's Report

By
Tracy Mullinax

CONTRACT TALK

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE		5	4								
ENCINO		3	4								
PANORAMA CITY		4	6								
SHERMAN OAKS		3	3								
SUN VALLEY		2	3								
TARZANA		2	4								
RETIREE'S		4	7								
TOTAL		23	31								

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

MARCH
1st
"2016"

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

Mar 1, 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 next 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 February 27th & March 19, 2016 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.
Thank You

Frank Brash

Our National Contract expires at midnight on May 20th, 2016. Our Executive Council will be meeting on February 12th to finalize their preparation while meeting for the first time with Postal Management on February 19th for their first formal meeting on the negotiation of our new collective bargaining agreement. The Postal Service announced a 772 million dollar profit for the first two months of fiscal year 2016. With all the parcel revenue from December not factored in yet, it is safe to say that the Postal Service show a 1 billion dollar+ profit in their 1st quarter of their fiscal year minus their pre-funding obligation they have not been required to pay on.

Overall, the Postal Service is a thriving business 7 days a week when just a couple of years ago our postmaster was pushing for 5 day delivery. How quickly things can change! The USPS is now sitting on over 9 billion dollars in the bank while revenues and profits continue to surge. The Customer Connect program nationally, has brought over 2 billion dollars in revenue since its inception in 2003 by letter carriers across America.

The hard working letter carriers in branch 2462 and all over this great land should take pride in all the work they have done to help achieve the profits the Postal Service now enjoys. I assure all of the letter carriers of branch 2462 that our elected national officers have been working diligently for months trying to put together the best case for the NALC to ensure that we get the fairest and most beneficial contract possible while continuing to ensure the Postal Service will remain viable and relevant far into the 21st century. It takes two to tango in collective bargaining and I hope that postal management in Washington DC will see the value and benefits that all letter carriers bring to our company and reward us for the hard work we do each day.

We are the most dedicated and trusting employees working for the government today and should be recognized and compensated for it. All I ask is for all of you to have faith and patience in our contract negotiating team in Washington and for you to continue working hard day in and day out while I would hope by May 20th that we all have a negotiated settlement to be proud of and are able to vote for. Stay tuned!

In Unionism



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

did not want to be in trouble for not noticing they had a parcel that did not belong to them.

The burden of proof is on the Postal Service to prove you had it. If they can't then that discipline should be grieved and rescinded. Talk to your Shop Steward and make sure that they look into it and file to get that discipline rescinded.

Legislative

"On Jan. 21, the Senate's Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee (HSGAC) conducted a hearing to discuss the "Reality of the Postal Service." The major emphasis of the hearing was to determine the state of the Postal Service as it relates to its finances—specifically revenue, expenses, liabilities and debt—and to discuss the impact of the legislative and regulatory burdens to which USPS is subjected.

The hearing consisted of two panels of witnesses. NALC President Fredric Rolando was on the second panel, and he focused his testimony on the effect of the congressional mandate on USPS to pre-fund its retiree health benefits fund (RHBF). In his testimony, Rolando called on the committee to address three major impediments to the Postal Service: the pre-funding mandate, which accounts for 86 percent of USPS' \$57 billion in reported losses, the policy that requires all postal retirement funds to be invested in low-yielding Treasury bonds and the scheduled expiration in April of the 4.3 percent exigent rate increase."

C.C.A. CONVENTION REPORT

by
William Powers

St. Louis, Mo
January 17 - 19, 2016

I never realized just how good we have it as I was born and raised in Southern California. In fact, until my trip to St. Louis where it was a shivering 6 degrees the furthest east I had been was Arizona.

The City Carrier Assistant convention was very informative for me and the union; which, brought us there to get our input so the life of a C.C.A. may be a little more bearable.

At the conference we covered several topics from the union to C.C.A.'s and the issues that effect their decisions to remain working for the post office. As C.C.A.'s we are new to the world of the post office and to the structure of the N.A.L.C., so the conference started out with us learning a bit about how the union is organized. There was a video shown in regards to the strike of the postal workers back in the 1970's. This was led by Vince Sombrotto and was brought about because of working conditions and the fact that most postal carriers had to have two jobs to make ends meet. The media hailed this as The Revolt of the Good Guys.

I learned that the union in conjunction with the post office is going to completely restructure the Carrier Academy; so, that potential letter carriers will know if the job is right for

them early on and will hopefully save the post office some money in training. The New Carrier Academy will include an actual case at the training facility where trainees will be given instruction on properly casing a route. The first two days will be orientation and the third and fourth days, Wednesday and Thursday, will be the driver training. The driver training used to be at the end of the course and if failed one couldn't work as a letter carrier; hence, the post office paid for almost two weeks of training to find out a particular person wouldn't be able to work and cost the post office quite a bit of money. After this the first week is concluded and the next week will start with a shadow day followed by more training if the person still believes the job is for them. Another issue being looked into is the fact that if an O.J.I.'s route is only walking when a new carrier trains with them all they will be trained on is walking; hence, if they are needed to carry a mounted route they will not have been properly trained for this.

Some other topics included Safety and health which is always a key part in our duty as letter carriers to keep ourselves as well as the public we serve safe, while doing our job. The job we do is and can be very dangerous if not done in a safe manner. I, being a baby in terms of the post office have already been in several stand ups and had to hear the dreaded words of a carrier being involved in a serious accident where they were hurt or worse. I hope not to be in one of these stand ups again so remember to be safe and vigilant.

There was a lot of other things discussed but these were the ones that stuck out the most to me. That and the importance of having politicians that are lobbying for us in Capitol Hill to make sure policies such as the retirement fund don't get passed that cripple us as an organization and make it almost impossible for us to operate. With as little as \$5 a pay period each of us can help to make sure something like this doesn't happen again so I would urge everyone to donate to the Political Action Committee which I'm sure your shop stewards would be more than happy to help you get this started.

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)

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes

February 2 , 2016

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

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of all Letter Carriers who have passed this year.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT---BURTON, ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

GUEST SPEAKER--EAP Representative GAYE DANIELS spoke of various EAP Programs available to Postal Workers who are having any personal problems in their lives. The program is free and is completely voluntary and confidential. Contact the EAP office or our Branch Office for further details.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--NONE

BILLS READ--NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE Audit was held and the books were found to be in good order and balanced.

HEALTH & SAFETY Nothing new, be Safe !

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 7 retiree's present tonight.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1797.00 in fund

HBR---L. DOLABSON Target stores now join CareMark to provide prescription services for HBR members. If you need lab test performed you should contact either Quest or Lab Corp. If you go to HBR website and fill out the Health Assessment Questionnaire you can get a free gift card.

MDA--ANGER Newest fund raiser is now in, "Smelly Pens" are fun and functional. They sell for \$ 2.50 each and come in 5 different scents. All proceeds go to the Branch MDA Fund. Contact your Shop Steward to buy yours !

MBA---ENZ No Report

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT---JOHNSON

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

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX In the final quarter of 2015 the Postal Service made \$ 772 MILLION dollar profit. For 2016 the first quarter profit will be over 1 BILLION dollars. They currently have approximately 8 BILLION DOLLARS banked. National Contract talks with the Postal Service will begin on February 19th. New vehicles are starting to be purchased, but don't expect to see any around here in any numbers until 2017. Scanning of Amazon Fresh is still a problem, with a couple of offices passing out disciplinary actions. Make sure you scan

all parcels, especially Amazon, as they could pull their business at any time.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Gave her report which will be published in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch send 9 members, to be chosen by the President, to the Region 1/CSALC state training classes in Las Vegas on April 7 -10. Cost not to exceed \$ 10,600

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 4 Food Drive Banners & 2 Baseball Caps. Cost not to exceed \$ 375.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 50.00 to the American Cancer Society in memory of WADE OSWALT

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase a new computer monitor for the Financial Sec/Tres office. Cost not to exceed \$ 300.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase a desk top computer for the Financial Sec/Tres office. Cost not to exceed \$ 650.00.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 3 Laptop computers for the President, Recording Sec/Editor, Chief Shop Steward. Cost is \$ 926.49 each. Total cost not to exceed \$ 2800.00.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 10 NALC watches. Cost to the Branch \$ 850.00.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch renew the bond for the 4 Line Officers. Cost to the Branch for \$ 35000.00 in coverage is \$ 210.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch give the Van Nuys Knights of Columbus a \$ 400.00 deposit for the 2016 X-Mas party in December.

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch ma a \$ 1000.00 deposit to the Monterey Restaurant for the 2016 Retiree Lunch

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Briefly spoke to Delegates regarding the housing at the National Convention. Specific details will be given at a Delegate meeting to be announced.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 6 RAUL MARINO--PANORAMA CITY

\$ 8 TIA WILSON--SUN VALLEY

\$ 10 CALVIN BROOKINGS--DONATED IN THE NAME OF DAN RATHBONE

Meeting Adjourned 8:20