

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

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

"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

ATTENDANCE CHART

BRANCH MEETINGS	
MONTH	J F M A M J J A S O N
MAIN OFFICE	5 4 4
ENCINO	3 4 4
PANORAMA CITY	4 6 4
SHERMAN OAKS	3 3 3
SUN VALLEY	2 3 2
TARZANA	2 4 3
RETIREE'S	4 7 6
TOTAL	23 31 26

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

APRIL
5th
"2016"

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

April 4, 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 & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. The next 2 dates will be March 26th & April 23, 2016 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.
Thank You

Frank Brash

Sick Leave/Disability Insurance Policy

Sick leave is a negotiated benefit to be used when a carrier becomes ill and is unable to work. A regular letter carrier earns 4 hours per pay-period or 13 sick leave days a year. Our job is physically demanding on a daily basis which requires us to get proper rest and eat healthy to ensure our best chance at staying healthy throughout the year. Carriers battle excessive heat; cold, rainy and windy conditions as well as allergies which can affect our ability to do our jobs. For those who are able to accumulate sick leave over many year's time, it is like banking money for the future.

One of the first things President Obama signed when he entered office was a bill to ensure all FERS carriers could accumulate an infinite amount of sick leave over their careers and have any unused sick leave credited towards their retirement. For example, a carrier with 2080 hours saved when they retire will be credited with 1 year of additional service. For someone with 35 years of service and 1 year of sick leave, they will receive approximately \$50 dollars more a month or \$600 dollars more a year in their pensions for as long as they live. As we get older and our bodies begin to wear down, there is a tendency to have more things go wrong with our health which causes us to use more sick leave.

For example, a carrier is 1 year away from their eligible retirement date and they have a heart attack Monday morning before work! Carrier #1 has 1 year worth of sick leave and has a regular paycheck coming in until they can retire. Carrier #2 has no sick leave and no disability insurance. Thus, this carrier has no income and bills to pay and we most likely will find them asking for annual leave donations from other carriers to help them until they can return to work.

Disability insurance is no longer offered by our union due to abuse. Private Disability Insurance is very expensive and restrictive in paying out if you can even find a company who will write you a policy. Sick leave used as a disability insurance policy costs you nothing and has many benefits to cover you while sick at work, a long term illness or to be added onto your years of service to increase your pension payout.

Either way, carriers cannot lose when we use our sick leave benefits to protect our income. Maintain a healthy lifestyle and give yourselves the best chance at banking sick leave and having it available as a disability insurance policy, if necessary! The following conversions are for hypothetical situations and take many years to accumulate.

- 1040 hours = 6 months sick leave
- 2080 hours = 1 year sick leave
- 3120 hours= 1 year, 6 months sick leave
- 4160 hours= 2 years sick leave

In Unionism

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

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 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.”

**TIRED OF NOT
KNOWING WHAT’S GOING ON ???
SICK OF LISTENING TO YOUR
CASE NEIGHBOR GOSSIP ABOUT
THE POSTAL SERVICE !!!!!**



Join E-ACTIVIST. It is simple go to the NALC website at <http://nalc.org/> and Click on the Logo you see above on the page. Fill out the easy form and you will get updates on a regular basis and then you won't be left in the dark when new information comes in. Don't want to go on line ?? Just contact your Shop Steward at your station or call the Union office leave your number and we will call you and walk you through the process. It only takes a couple of minutes and then you will be able to stay up to date on what is happening in Washington and how it effects your job and your paycheck. DON'T WAIT—DO IT TODAY !

ATTENTION RETIREE'S !!!

You may be familiar with the saying “There is no such thing as a Free Lunch” While this may be true, it does not pertain to Breakfast. The Branch holds a Retiree Breakfast meeting every 4th Saturday of the Month. No Voting, just a friendly get together to talk and eat. The best thing is

IT IS FREE !!!

That's right, if you are a retired member in good standing of Branch 2462 your Breakfast is provided at no charge
You Heard Right !

FREE !!!!

So what are you waiting for, meet with us this month.

When 4th Saturday of Every Month
Where Denny's Restaurant,
(Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis).
Time 9:00 AM

If you have trouble with transportation contact BOB JOHNSON and we will try and arrange for a ride. Come on out, you will have a great time, and the price is right !

Active Members are invited to attend also if it is your Day Off !!

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)

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"THE MAIL CALL"
BRANCH 2462, NALC
Steve Seyfried, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101
Van Nuys, CA 91406

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes

March 1, 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 6:42 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, SEYFRIED, JOHNSON, WILSON, BURTON, JEFFREY, DOZAL, L. DOLABSON, ENZ

ABSENT---MULLINAX

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

ANTHONY AGUIRRE, JOHN TOROSSIAN, BRADLEY SIMPSON

BILLS READ---NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE All is well

HEALTH & SAFETY Safety walk through for Main Office has been rescheduled for March 11th, at 10 am.

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 6 retiree's present tonight. There were 16 attending the Breakfast last Saturday. The Retiree luncheon will be on Sunday, October 16th. At Encino Glen. Watch for more info in the future.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1835.00 in fund

HBR---L. DOLABSON Target stores now join CareMark to provide prescription services for HBR members. HBP has sent out form 1099 B, for taxes. You must have one of these forms to prove you have health insurance under the new government health plan rules.

MDA--ANGER Newest fund raiser "Smelly Pens" are proving to be very popular. They can still be purchased from your Shop Steward for \$ 2.50 each and come in 5 different scents. All proceeds go to the Branch MDA Fund.

MBA---ENZ Currently working with a couple of members on their plans

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT---JOHNSON

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

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX No Report
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 the President to the Committee of Presidents meeting in Atlanta, GA on April 24 - 25th. Cost not to exceed @ 2200.00

M/S/C

MOTION---Branch purchase 1 floor cover for Electrical cords and microphone cables. Cost Not to exceed \$ 30.00

M/S/C

MOTION---Branch purchase 2 new microphones and cords. Cost not to exceed \$ 80.00

M/S/C

MOTION---Branch add the new Financial/Secretary computer to the Carbonite account. Cost not to exceed \$ 60.00

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch purchase 50 Food Drive Posters. Cost not to exceed \$ 25.00

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

Branch presented GEOFF GOTLIBOWSKI with an NALC Watch, to commemorate his recent retirement from the Postal Service, after 36 years of service. Congratulations GEOFF from all the members of Branch 2462.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 PAUL JEFFREY---ENCINO--DONATED
\$ 5 RAFAEL PEREZ---PANORAMA CITY--DONATED
\$ 10 FRANCISCO VALANZUELA---ENCONO---DONATE
\$ 7

Meeting Adjourned 7:45 PM

