

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Christmas Party

First, I would like to thank all of those who came out to our Christmas Party on Dec. 10th. I hope you had a good time. We had a record crowd of around 170 people. Thanks, especially to my elves, Steve Seyfried, John Burton and Bob Enz for working all day helping set up and for serving. It's a lot of work and you are always fun to hang with while pulling this off. Thank you to Tracy Mullinax, Larry Dolabson, Bob Johnson, Paul Jeffrey, Sandy Anger-Barrett, and Jason Collelo for serving and selling tickets. Thanks to Calvin Brookins for helping with raffles and huge props to Tia and John Wilson for bringing such joy to the kids and for the delicious goodies John baked for the event. If I am forgetting anyone please forgive me. The only real negatives, we had to scramble for more room since we did not have enough tables ready and of the 14 centerpieces we purchased for the event only 2 were left at the end of the night. Those were not for people to take home. They were not cheap.

New Branch Appointments

As you know we had a couple recent approved by-law changes. One of them was to separate the Financial Secretary/Treasurer job into two jobs. I would like to thank Tia Wilson for stepping up and taking on the job of Financial Secretary. With Tia's appointment to that position a Trustee position became available and I have appointed Jemmayen Macaraeg to take that position. So thank you, Mayen and welcome to the Executive board. You will both do a wonderful job.

Lobby Trip

There is a scheduled lobby trip for the end of February 2017 in Washington DC. John Burton and myself will be participating in lobbying our Congress and Senate on behalf of the NALC. With the new Republican control in both the Senate and the House it is very important that we as a union stay strong and steadfast in our commitment to working families and letter carrier friendly agendas. It will be a long difficult road ahead and we need a loud voice with those who represent us politically. We have 2 years to try and make a dent in the house and senate to gain control. Hopefully there will not be too much damage done in those 2 years.

(Continued on Page 5)

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

OF

BRANCH OFFICERS

This is official notice to members of Branch 2462 that nominations for the following offices will be held at the regular branch meeting April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Branch Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave # 101, Van Nuys California. The Offices are President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt-at-Arms, Three (3) Trustee's, Health Benefits Representative, and Mutual Benefits Representative. No one may be nominated for more than one (1) office. Candidates must accept nomination at the time made or, if absent, in writing to be received by the Branch Secretary no later than April 6, 2017. The terms of Office shall be for a three year period. Candidates elected shall be delegates to the National and State Conventions as stated in the Branch By-Laws.

ELECTION

The election shall be conducted by secret mailed ballot. All ballots will be mailed First Class to the home addresses of eligible members no later than May 15, 2017. The Election shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Executive Board of Branch 2462, NALC, which shall not be in violation of the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Rules of the National Executive Council. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee, P. O. Box 56501 Sherman Oaks, California 91413 and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2017. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, June 1, 2017 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101 Van Nuys, California. All candidates and members may observe the counting.

"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		3									
ENCINO		4									
PANORAMA CITY		3									
SHERMAN OAKS		3									
SUN VALLEY		2									
TARZANA		4									
RETIREE'S		5									
TOTAL		24									

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

NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM

FEBRUARY
7th
"2017"

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

Feb 9, 2017

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 January 28rd & February 25, 2017 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there. Thank You

Frank Brash

Union or Non-Union?

As the holiday season has now passed and millions of packages have been delivered by letter-carriers, we now enter into a period where there will be some dropoff. How much? That remains to be seen. Have you noticed a 40% increase year over year from last holiday season. Why?

Because we are running at a 99% scanning rate with amazon parcels; highest among all delivery companies by far. The lowest? The amazon drivers themselves. Why?

Well, those amazon drivers are considered independent contractors and not amazon employees. They are subcontract drivers who drive leased vehicles with the amazon logo on it. Their day starts by driving truck to amazon hub to pick up an average of 260 parcels per route. They earn \$15 an hour minus gas they have to put in, tolls they pay and maintenance on their vehicle. They earn no overtime, no health insurance, no retirement, no sick pay or vacation. After all expenses are paid, many earn less than the minimum wage.

They deliver to over 200 addresses over an average 80 mile radius. What amazon does give them is an android phone with an app that scans packages and determines their next destination. It also can track the employee to see where they are at all times. They have learned not to stop for lunch, as employees at amazon will call the dispatcher at any point in the day if they notice they are behind schedule. They are required to deliver 1 package every 2-3 minutes. Any complaints lodged by customers, the drivers are written up and called out and embarrassed in a standup each morning before they leave. They are allowed 2 complaints per 1000 packages before they are recommended for removal. If they do not keep up they are called reminding them to pick it up. This kind of nonsense will lead to accidents, safety violations and packages thrown from the vehicle etc.

Needless to say, these are non-union contractors, non-employees, no contract, no guarantees, no benefits, no overtime and no rights. If you ever wanted to know what our jobs would be like without the NALC, look no further than amazon package drivers. Amazon is a 360 Billion dollar company who treats these people as something that can be discarded at any time for any reason.

Support our union and their never ending battle to help the Postal Service grow and thrive into 2017 and beyond. We are proud of all our union members in NALC Branch 2462.

I urge all members to grab a non-union member in our branch and encourage them to join.

As for the answer to the title question!!! A resounding UNION!!!!!!!

In Unionism

2015 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR BRANCH 2462

ESTIMATED INCOME:

Regular Members	370 at \$704.60	(\$ 27.10 - ppp)	\$260,702.00
Retiree's	115 at \$ 36.00	(per year)	\$4,140.00
NALC Health Benefit Reimbursement			\$120.00
Interest			\$50.00
Other Income			\$375.00
TOTAL INCOME			\$265,387.00

JANUARY 2016 THRU DECEMBER 2016

ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2015	SPENT 2015	BUDGET 2016
NALC Per Capita Tax:			
Regular Members			
350 at \$ 213.20	\$74,620.00	\$73,758.83	\$78,884.00
Retiree's			
110 at \$ 7.00	\$770.00	\$764.83	\$805.00
State Per capita Tax:			
Regular Members			
350 at \$ 10.40	\$3,640.00	\$3,663.40	\$3,848.00
Retiree's			
110 at \$.50	\$55.00	\$64.85	\$57.50
1 Contingency Fund (regular members)			
(350 @ 2.00 x 26 pay periods)	\$18,200.00	\$19,262.00	\$19,240.00
2 Contingency Fund (retired members)			
(110 @ .50 x 26 pay periods)	\$1,430.00	\$1,598.00	\$1,495.00
3 Branch Officers Salary	\$36,000.00	\$36,000.00	\$42,000.00
4 The Mail-Call	\$6,300.00	\$6,213.77	\$6,500.00
5 Mail-Permit (Includes postage)	\$1,500.00	\$1,675.00	\$1,800.00
6 Postage Expense	\$500.00	\$506.42	\$600.00
9 Harry Brenneman Award	\$250.00	\$227.20	\$250.00
10 Office Expense	\$8,000.00	\$11,594.97	\$7,000.00
12 Retiree's Luncheon	\$2,500.00	\$2,275.37	\$2,500.00
13 Installation of Officers	\$-	\$-	\$500.00
14 Branch Telephones	\$1,500.00	\$1,144.87	\$2,000.00
15 Bond for Officer's	\$300.00	\$210.00	\$300.00
16 Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$589.05	\$1,000.00
17 Labor-Management Meetings	\$200.00	\$-	\$200.00
18 Refreshments	\$750.00	\$830.22	\$800.00
19 Donations	\$800.00	\$800.00	\$800.00
20 Equipment Repairs	\$750.00	\$159.07	\$500.00
21 Equipment Purchase	\$4,000.00	\$3,682.34	\$2,000.00

ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2016	SPENT 2016	BUDGET 2017
22 Election Expense	\$-	\$-	\$2,500.00
23 Miscellaneous Expense	\$150.00	\$25.00	\$100.00
24 Public Relations	\$750.00	\$1,775.00	\$500.00
25 Station Expense	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
26 Educational & Training	\$19,000.00	\$21,112.34	\$17,500.00
27 Publications	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
28 Local Negotiations	\$-	\$-	\$3,000.00
29 Branch Picnic	\$-	\$-	\$-
30 Lost Time Account	\$15,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$15,500.00
31 Insurance cost	\$1,100.00	\$910.00	\$1,000.00
32 Office Rental	\$24,500.00	\$24,494.00	\$26,000.00
33 Gas Utility	\$300.00	\$279.56	\$300.00
34 Food Drive	\$3,500.00	\$3991.49	\$4,000.00
35 Ray Kreyer Award	\$650.00	\$573.57	\$600.00
36 C.O.A. Mail Call	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
37 Route Inspection Expense	\$-	\$-	\$-
38 Mileage (@.54 per mile)	\$1,200.00	\$783.47	\$1,000.00
39 Scholarship Expense	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
40 Electric Utility	\$2,000.00	\$1,576.34	\$1,600.00
41 Dues & Membership Expense	\$700.00	\$666.60	\$700.00
42 Janitorial Expense	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
43 MDA Expense	\$400.00	\$294.26	\$500.00
44 Membership Drawing	\$-	\$-	\$-
45 Bass Calendars	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
46 Christmas Open House	\$6,000.00	\$7,170.18	\$6,000.00
47 Independent Medical Exam	\$-	\$-	\$-
48 Organizing Expense	\$-	\$-	\$-
49 Cellular Phone	\$-	\$-	\$-
50 Greeting Cards	\$10.00	\$-	\$10.00
51 On-Line Service	\$1,300.00	\$1,299.88	\$1,200.00
53 NALC Store Expense	\$1,000.00	\$850.00	\$800.00
54 Deaf/Inter-Sign Language	\$-	\$-	\$-
55 General Taxes	\$600.00	\$457.35	\$500.00
56 Cable Expense	\$1,300.00	\$1,238.48	\$1,250.00
57 Retiree Breakfast Expense	\$2,000.00	\$2,199.33	\$2,000.00
59 Workers Compensation Ins	\$1,000.00	\$702.00	\$1,000.00
99 Non-Numbered Items	\$-	\$257.39	\$-
TOTALS	\$251,045.00	\$	\$265,009.50

JANUARY 2016 THRU DECEMBER 2016
BALANCE SHEET

INCOME	\$265,387.00
EXPENDITURES	\$265,009.50
BALANCE	\$377.50

The above report will be submitted to, and voted on by the general membership of Branch 2462 at the regular meeting to be held in the month of February 2016.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

AmeriStamp Expo

The first weekend in March there will be an AmeriStamp Expo in Reno Nevada. This Expo is held by the American Philatelic Society. They have offered the NALC Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive a booth at the Expo to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Food Drive. Zazzle has approved the printing and selling of a limited edition 25th Anniversary Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Stamp to be sold at that Expo. The proceeds will go to the local Reno food bank. We will also be taking food donations to that food bank at the expo. Anyone who is interested in attending this Expo in Reno are also welcome to come and participate in the unveiling of the stamp and help manning the booth. The entrance to the Expo is free of charge. Let me know if you think you would like to come. It should be pretty awesome. I will be working the booth on Saturday March 4th and Sunday March 5th. The Stamp unveiling ceremony will take place on Saturday March 4th. There will also be many stamp collectors and sellers at this event with some interesting history and fun things to do for kids. The event begins on Friday March 3rd and ends on Sunday March 5th.

Relative Standing

Those CCA's who had their relative standing date changed when they moved from one office to another within the same installation improperly should have had it corrected by now or very soon. Please let us know if there are any continued date issues in the future that we might not have been aware of.

New NBA and National Officers

On Dec. 2nd, 2016 NALC President Fred Rolando appointed a new Executive Vice President Brian Renfroe who used to hold the National position of Director of City Delivery. He will take former EVP Tim O'Malley's place after Tim's retirement earlier in the year. Brian is a very capable and knowledgeable leader and we wish him the best of luck and our support in his new position. With his move up Fred appointed our own Region1 National Business Agent Chris Jackson to the National Position of Director of City Delivery. We are so proud of Chris and excited for him in taking on this new National Appointment in Washington DC. He will do a wonderful job. Since Chris is moving on to National, that left his Region 1 Business Agent position available and Fred appointed Regional Administrative Assistant Bryant Almario to be National Business Agent for Region 1. We want to extend our Congratulations to Bryant and we are looking forward to working with him in Region 1.

Collective Bargaining Update

NALC President Fred Rolando stated in the December Postal Record, "We are continuing to engage the Postal Service in negotiations for a new contract. We continue to have productive discussions in many areas of our National Agreement, including increased CCA pay and benefits, step advancements for former transitional employees and the issue of financially rewarding all letter carriers of their contributions to the operational success of the Postal Service. We are continuing these discussions because the path to a new

agreement remains open. As long as that path remains open and we continue to make progress, we will continue to pursue it. However, we are fully prepared to pursue our goals through interest arbitration if progress toward a good contract stalls or if the path to an acceptable agreement closes."



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 !!

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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

January 3 , 2017

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 6:45 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory All members of the NALC and U S Military who have passed in 2016.

Thank you all for your Service

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 CORRECTIO, the amount in the MDA Fund is \$1920.00, not the printed number.

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

MARVIN KINNEY JR, LEONIDES SANCHEZ, DANIEL ALONZO, BLANCA CASTELLON, CARLOS GUTIERREZ, DAYANA GUARDADO, MAYRA MURGUIA, SHAMIKA TOWNES, TERRY TELPHY, WILLIAM WINTER, ROMEO CARLOS, MAURICO GARCIA, JAMES SOLIS

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE Budget meeting will be on Jan 5th and the Audit will take place on Jan 25th at 6:30 pm at the Union Office.

HEALTH & SAFETY No Report

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 5 retiree's present tonight.

Saturday breakfast. will begin again starting in January, 4th Sat

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$2446.00 in fund

HBR—L. DOLABSON Waiting on National for the final figures on Health Plan membership signup for the new year, will report as soon as information is available.

MDA--ANGER Justin and his family are doing well and we wish them all the best in the New Year.

MBA—ENZ No Report

EAP—DANIELS We are sorry to report that our friend Gaye Daniels was injured in an automobile accident over the holiday. She is OK, and recovering, but we want to let her know we are thinking of her and hope she has a speedy recovery and gets back to us soon.

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report

FINANCIAL/TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON--NONE
VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX 47 Fact findings given in December, including one the day before Christmas. 5 Accidents in the last month. Please everyone be alert on the street to traffic and safety issues. Wear your seat belts and obey the speed limits, on the street and in the Postal parking lot. We can expect an all out attack on the Postal Service now that Trump has been elected and the Republicans hold both houses of Congress. Look for another push to PRIVATIZE THE POSTAL SERVICE, the last time when Bush tried this we had a Democratic majority in the Congress, so we were able to stop it. Now we have no such advantage. These will be tough times, all the more reason you need to be informed and active in your UNION !!!!!. There is only one body standing between you and having your jobs eliminated or stripped on all benefits, and that is the NALC. Don't think it cant happen, IT CAN !!!!!
PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Gave her report which will be published in the MailCall

PRESIDENT DOLABSON ANNOUNCE THAT TIA WILSON HAS BEEN APPOINTED TO THE NEWLY CREATED FINANCIAL SECRETARY POSITION & THAT JENMAYEN MACARAEG WILL BE TAKING HER PLACE AS TRUSTEE ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD. CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU BOTH.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS

The following actions were taken by the Executive Board since the November, 2015 General Meeting:

1. Board authorized the payment of \$ 666.60 to renew the membership of 2 members for 1 year in the L A County Federation of Labor.

5. Board authorized the renewal of the Mailing Permit for the Branch Paper. Cost not to exceed \$ 250.00

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch send the President and John Burton to Washington, D.C. to participate in the Congressional Lobby trip.
Cost not to exceed \$ 7000.00
M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

MDA DRAWING

\$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED—RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 5 ROGER ASKEW--RETIREE--DONATED

\$ 7 RAPHAEL PEREZ—PANORAMA CITY--\$ 5
DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 7:42