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

VOLUME 54 JULY 2017 NUMBER (

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By JANETTE DOLABSON

Election

Congratulations to Paul Jeffrey, Tia Wilson and Jemmayen Macaraeg for their election to the position of trustee. Thank you to everyone who ran for office and who voted in the election for exercising your rights and having a voice. Thanks to those on the Election Committee for your hard work and dedication. Congratulations for those who were elected by acclamation to their positions. We will most likely have an installation of officers at the branch meeting in August. I will be meeting with the current stewards and those who are interested in being shop stewards and will decide on those who I feel will best represent our members in the grievance procedure. We will be having mandatory steward training classes every quarter. I will be sending out a packet to those interested in being shop stewards with job description and what the criteria of remaining a steward will be. We will be going over every grievance you file and make notes on what was right and what needs work and how to better your skills and improve. Those who excel in the informal A process will be trained to do Formal A grievances. Those classes will be held separately.

Retirement Class

We held a Retirement class on June 4th at the branch office. It was attended by about 60 people. It was really a great class and extremely informative and very well taught. Thank you so much, Yoggi Riley, for your teaching skills and knowledge about retirement. You have helped so many people make better decisions for their future. Yoggi also does retirement planning and counseling with individuals at a cost of \$45.00 for a 2-hour consultation fee. That's a great value and well worth it. Let me know if you want to take advantage of that offer and I can get you in touch with Yoggi. Thank you to Milena Zena from main office who came and signed for our deaf carrier and her husband for the class.

CCA Class

We will be hosting a CCA class on Thursday June 22nd, 2017 at the branch office. The first class will be from 11:00-1:00 for the Amazon fresh CCA's and the second class will be from 6:30-8:30 PM for the rest of the CCA's. Food will be provided for both classes. We will be going over the new contract as it pertains to the CCA's and any questions from the

CCA Q&A. Please let your CCA's know about the class as well as post the flyers that were printed and sent to you. You may want to copy more and hand them out to them.

(Continued on Page 4)

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 3, 2017. Election, if needed, will be held in November 2017 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.

SPECIAL NOTICE

THERE WILL BE NO REGULAR
BRANCH MEETING IN JULY
DUE TO THE HOLIDAY

"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 deem s 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 5 3 **ENCINO PANORAMA CITY** 3 4 3 3 **SHERMAN OAKS** 3 5 **SUN VALLEY** 2 2 3 3 **TARZANA** 4 3 1 3 5 5 5 7 8 **RETIREE'S** 6 **TOTAL** 24 29 26 28 33 27

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

> > **NEXT MEETING*****6:30 PM***

AUGUST 1st "2017"

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

Aug 4, 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 July 22nd & Aug 26, 2017 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there. Thank You

Frank Brash

Vice President's Report Tracy Mullinax

President Trump's Fiscal 2018 Budget

First of all, let me start out by saying that after over 15 months of negotiating with the Postal Service, our National Officers have brought us a contract they are very happy with and each member will have an opportunity to exercise their right to vote yes or no on it! That is the good news! The bad news is what President Trump has proposed in his 2018 Fiscal Year Budget. While Democrats and Republicans alike are calling this budget dead on arrival, there will be a budget passed, we are just not sure what the final copy will look like.

The proposed 4 trillion dollar budget titled "A New Foundation of American Greatness" proposes job-killing delivery service cuts at the U.S. Postal Service and calls for massive federal spending reductions over 10 years, including major cuts to federal and postal employee pension benefits. For active federal and postal employees covered by (FERS), the budget calls for gradually equalizing employee and agency contributions for pension benefits. This would cut our pay and raise our pension contributions by 1% of pay per year for up to 6 years, costing active carriers up to \$3,600 annually after 6 years. (The actual impact would depend on when FERS employees are hired: Letter carriers hired before 2013 now pay 0.8 percent, while letter carriers hired after 2013 pay 3.1 percent or 4.4 percent, depending on their exact date of hire. The FERS contribution rate, which would eventually be split 50-50 for all letter carriers under this budget proposal, now stands at 14.5 percent.

For retirees the administration's budget calls for completely eliminating cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for current and future annuitants under FERS (hired after 1984). For those under CSRS, COLAs would be reduced by one-half of 1 percent or (0.5 percent) each year.

The pension cuts don't stop there. The budget also calls for reducing CSRS and FERS pension benefits for new retirees by basing annuities on workers' highest average pay over five years (high-5) instead of over three years (high-3). It would also eliminate the "Social Security supplement" that covers the gap for workers who retire under FERS before they qualify for Social Security benefits at age 62.

With regard to the Postal Service, the budget calls for 46 billion in vaguely defined cuts and revenue changes over a decade. It proposes reducing the frequency of delivery (presumably eliminating Saturday delivery) and scaling back door to door delivery.

For those of you who followed the election, you will remember Trump campaigned as a populist and said he wanted to help working people. What he has done has pushed policies that help the wealthy at the expense of the middle class.

We as a union, must remain vigilant in fighting and preserving the wage and benefits package our union has fought so hard for since collective bargaining came in 1970. Stay tuned! Nothing we have is guaranteed and only needs legislation from a Republican Congress to damage what we have fought so hard for. Get involved with YOUR UNION and make a difference!!!

2017 ELECTION REPORT BRANCH 2462

TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVE CARRIER BALLOTS MAILED TOTAL NUMBER OF ACTIVE CARRIER BALLOTS RETURNED FOR COUNTING PERCENT OF ACTIVE CARRIERS VOTING	372 53 %	197
TOTAL NUMBER OF RETIRED CARRIER BALLOTS MAILED TOTAL NUMBER OF RETIRED CARRIER BALLOTS RETURNED FOR COUNTING PERCENT OF RETIRED CARRIERS VOTING	77 61 %	126
TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS MAILED TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS NOT COUNTED (No Signature) TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS NOT COUNTED (No Return Address) TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS NOT COUNTED	8 8 16	498
TOTAL NUMBER OF PRESIDENTIAL BALLOTS NOT COUNTED (Illegible) TOTAL NUMBER OF TRUSTEE BALLOTS NOT COUNTED (Illegible)	1	0
TOTAL NUMBER OF DUPLICATE BALLOTS SENT THERE WERE 503 BALLOTS PREPARED FOR MAILING AND 25 EXTRA BALLOTS PRINTED 5 PREPARED BALLOTS AND 6 EXTRA BALLOTS WERE USED FOR THE DUPLICATE BALLOT NEEDS. WE HAVE 19 EXTRA BALLOTS LEFT ON HAND		11
TOTAL BRANCH PARTICIPATION IN 2017 ELECTION (Total # of Returned Ballots)	290 58 %	
TOTAL NUMBER OF BALLOTS COUNTED AND VERIFIED	274 55 %	

2017 ELECTION RESULTS

PRESIDENT

JEFF JACKSON JANETTE DOLABSON	101 171	36.9 % 62.4 % ***
TRUSTEE		
PAUL JEFFREY	222	81.0 % ***
WILLIAM POWERS	124	45.3 %
JEMMAYEN MACARAEG	165	60.2 % ***
TIA WILSON	209	76.3 % ***

^{***}WINNERS ARE UNDERLINED

2017 ELECTION EXPENSES BRANCH 2462

\$

53.00

ELECTION EXPENSES

RENTAL PO BOX

KRISTAL GRAPHICS SUPPLIES STEVE SEYFRIED ROGER ASKEW ROBERT JOHNSON ROBERT ENZ RICHARD DUENEZ DAN RATHBONE	(Envelopes) (Paper/Stamps) (Approximate Hours Worked 20) (Approximate Hours Worked 12) (Approximate Hours Worked 12) (Approximate Hours Worked 8) (Approximate Hours Worked 4) (Approximate Hours Worked 4)	***	206.63 635.73 500.00 400.00 400.00 265.00 135.00		
EXPENSE SUBTOTAL		\$	2730.36		
ELECTION DEPOSITS RECEIVED					
STAMPS RETURNED CANDIDATE JEFF JA CANDIDATE JANETT	,	\$ \$ \$	49.00 100.00 100.00		
TOTAL ELECTION	EXPENSE	\$	2481.36		
BUDGETED ELECTION EXPENSE		\$ \$	2500.00 18.64		

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

Food Drive

Here are the total pounds collected this year for our 25th Anniversary Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive for our branch. We do not have the National totals yet.

Tarzana- 32,831, Main Office- 30,642, Encino-18,009, Sherman Oaks- 17,849, Sun Valley- 8,974, PC- 5,217, KTLA event- 4,417. Total pounds collected was 115,939. Thank you to Sandy Anger Barrett, John Burton, Tracy Mullinax, Guillermo Mariscal, Tia Wilson, and Mayen Macaraeg for being our food drive coordinators!! You did an excellent job! Thanks especially to John Burton for helping handle the breakout of cards and bags, not just for our branch but for all the branches in Sierra Coastal and beyond that received bags or who needed additional cards. I want to also give a shout out of thanks to Rob Burskey from Branch 2200 and his wife Cody for helping separate the bags and get them ready to send out to all the office in the district getting bags. It was a lot of work and I appreciate it deeply! Thank you Steve Seyfried for going out with me to the offices and picking up food the day of the drive. A special thanks to Help the Children for donating over 28,000 pounds of food and to Henry Tracia for donating the printing of Flyers and thank your cards. Thank you to all the carriers who volunteered to either drive the routes and pick up food or stay late and sort the food. I need to thank also the volunteers from MEND and to MEND food department director Richard Weinroth for the wonderful job they all did the help make this food drive run smoothly and for the nice dinner provided to us at MEND on May 27th. It was delicious. Thanks to the USPS managers and supervisors who helped us be successful. There were some who did a lot of work. Thanks to KTLA for their wonderful event with Lynette Romero to help get the word out for the Food Drive. Thank you to actor Edward James Olmos, actress Jeri Ryan, NBA Bryant Almario, CSALC President Harold Kelso, Branch 4006 President Jill Lemons, RAA Calvin Brookins and all the carriers from Branches who came out and helped take part in the KTLA event and the Media Kick Off at MEND. Mostly I want to thank the carriers who did the heavy lifting the week of the food drive, taking out the cards and the bags and picking up all that food on food drive day. You all are the best and I truly appreciate your hard work and dedication!

Contract

The ballets will be mailed out on June 19th for ratification vote by our members. Here is some of the contract information for you to see and think about.

Term

The 2016 National Agreement will last 40 months, covering the period May 21, 2016, to Sept. 20, 2019. General wage increases and pay upgrade All letter carriers, career and non-career alike, will receive three wage increases as follows:

- 1.2 percent effective Nov. 26, 2016, paid retroactively.
- 1.3 percent effective Nov. 25, 2017.
- Effective Nov. 24, 2018, all Grade 1 letter carriers will be upgraded to Grade 2. This upgrade will result in an average wage increase of 2.1 percent for Grade 1 letter

carriers across all current wage tables. Carrier technicians also will receive a pay increase of 2.1 percent effective Nov. 24, 2018.

CCAs will receive additional wage increases of 1 percent on these three dates for a total of: 2.2 percent on Nov. 26, 2016 (paid retroactively); 2.3 percent on Nov. 25, 2017; and an additional 1 percent increase at the time of the upgrade, Nov. 24, 2018. These additional increases will be paid in lieu of cost-of-living adjustments for CCAs.

Cost-of-living adjustments for career letter carriers

All career letter carriers will receive seven COLAs based on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W) and using the existing COLA formula and the July 2014 CPI as the base month. The first two COLAs will be paid retroactively and the remaining five will be paid in the future as follows:

- The first COLA will be \$21 annually effective Sept. 3, 2016, paid retroactively.
- The second COLA will be \$333 annually effective March 4, 2017, paid retroactively.
- The third COLA will be effective in September 2017.
- The fourth COLA will be effective in March 2018.
- The fifth COLA will be effective in September 2018.
- The sixth COLA will be effective in March 2019.
- The seventh COLA will be effective in September 2019.

The COLAs will be applied to the two pay tables for career city carriers in the same manner used in the 2011 National Agreement.

Recently retired letter carriers

Letter carriers who have retired over the last several months will receive applicable retroactive general wage increases and COLAs. The Office of Personnel Management will also make any annuity adjustments made necessary by the retroactive increases.

Step increases for city carrier assistants

The tentative agreement would establish step increases for CCAs. In addition to the wage increases described above, CCAs will receive a 50 cents per hour raise after 12 weeks of service and an additional 50 cents per hour increase after an additional 40 weeks of service. These step increases will be paid retroactively to Nov. 26, 2016, for CCAs with paid hours since Nov. 26, 2016. For example, CCAs with 52 weeks of service as of Nov. 26, 2016, will get a \$1.00 per hour raise, effective on that date and paid retroactively.

Step advancement for certain former transitional employees

Effective May 26, 2018, eligible former transitional employees (TEs) will be advanced in Table 2 of the letter

carrier pay scale based on their length of service as TEs after Sept. 29, 2007. Such former TEs will be entitled to between one and four step increases as follows:

Length of creditable TE service Number of additional steps

2 years but less than 3 years	1
3 years but less than 4 years	2
4 years but less than 5 years	3
5 or more years	4

For those eligible former TEs converted to career status prior to May 26, 2018, the step advancement will be effective on that date. For those converted thereafter, the step advancement will be effective upon conversion to career status. All employees eligible for step advancement will retain time-in-step credit.

Health insurance

In 2017, there is no change in the Postal Service's share of premium costs for career letter carriers' health insurance (76 percent of the weighted average Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) plan premium, capped at 79.25 percent of any given plan premium). Following the pattern of previous contracts, the Postal Service's share will decline by a total of 3.0 percent over the term of the tentative agreement. The share will decrease to 74 percent in 2018 and to 73 percent in 2019. The maximum employer contribution for any given plan will be 77.25% in 2018 and 76.0% in 2019. Over the course of the entire contract, the Postal Service's share for career letter carriers will remain higher than that paid by other federal agencies that participate in the FEHBP (72 percent of the average premium, capped at 75 percent for any given plan).

The bi-weekly impact of these Article 21 changes will depend on which plans carriers enroll in but will, in any case, represent a small fraction of the bi-weekly pay increases provided by Article 9 of the tentative agreement.

On health insurance for CCAs, the tentative contract maintains the Postal Service's bi-weekly contribution of \$125 toward self-only coverage in the USPS Non-Career Health Plan, but it would significantly increase the Postal Service's contribution toward self-plus-one and self-and-family coverage in that plan (now set at the same \$125 bi-weekly contribution available for self-only coverage). In the initial year of CCA employment, the USPS will pay 65 percent of the premium costs. In the second year of CCA employment and beyond, the USPS share would rise to 75 percent of the total premium. Job security protections for letter carriers

The no-layoff clause that protects letter carriers after six years of service as career employees is retained in the tentative agreement. In addition, prohibitions against contracting out city carrier work would be continued for the duration of the 2016-2019 contract, if the contract is ratified. Joint Workplace Improvement Process

The tentative accord includes an MOU on improving workplace culture. The parties have agreed to establish a Joint Workplace Improvement Process to address many issues to provide safe, efficient work environments in which employees are treated with dignity and respect.

Upon ratification, there would be a one-time conversion to career status for CCAs with relative standing date at least 30 months prior to the ratification date. The conversions would work as follows:

- In 200-workyear offices, eligible CCAs will be converted to full-time regular career status in their installation.
- In 125- and 100-workyear offices, eligible CCAs will be converted to part-time flexible career status in their installation, rather than waiting to convert to full-time career status as a CCA.

The parties have agreed to consider the possibility of another one-time conversion after one year.

Additionally, the parties have agreed to address situations where CCAs work in small offices with no clear path to a

There is no increase to the CCA employment caps in Article 7 of the Agreement or to the number of CCAs currently on the rolls. However, the Postal Service will maintain a percentage of the additional CCAs previously agreed to by the parties through many MOUs. These MOUs, which would continue in the tentative agreement, have provided additional career conversion opportunities for CCAs, about 47,000 to date. The vast majority of these CCAs did not have to serve probationary periods as career employees. The MOUs continue to include a weekly meeting to monitor appropriate staffing levels through career conversions and voluntary transfer requests.

CCA holidays

career opportunity.

The following six days shall be considered holidays for CCAs: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. The amount of holiday pay a CCA will receive will be determined by the size of the office in which the CCA works.

CCA leave provisions in local agreements

The agre ement requires the parties to negotiate choice and incidental leave provisions for CCAs during local implementation. It also establishes an alternate dispute resolution process for impasses related to CCA leave prior to arbitration.

Article 8 improvements

All overtime, regardless of whether such overtime was worked on a carrier's own route, will count toward equitability for overtime desired list (ODL) carriers. Additionally, management will be required to post equitability totals weekly, rather than quarterly.

An MOU is incorporated into the agreement to continue to allow the local parties the option of developing a process that allows employees who transfer from another installation or are converted to full time following the signup period to place their names on either the ODL or the work assignment list. Existing agreements pursuant to previous versions of this MOU will remain in effect.

"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

Steve Seyfried, Editor 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 101

Van Nuys, CA 91406

Address Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

VAN NUYS, CA PERMIT No. 314

Branch Meeting Minutes June 6, 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 6:50 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE------In Memory of All members of the NALC and U S Military who have passed in 2017. Thank you all for your Service.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—ENZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

RODOLFO ROSALES, DWAYNE JOHNSON, ERFAN HEYDARI, PAOLO REYNA, WILLIAM FUENTES, DIANA RODRIGUEZ

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITEE Audit will be July 25, 2017

at the Branch office at 6:30 pm.

HEALTH & SAFETY Accidents are worse this

year than last, most common is hitting fixed objects. Also be aware of your park points and always use a safe area. Be aware that as temperatures rise it is important that you stay hydrated, not only at work but also at home. Not wearing seat belts and driving with doors open continues to be a problem in Van Nuys Be aware of your surroundings and always work in a safe and professional manner.

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 6 retiree's present tonight.

Saturday breakfast had 16 in attendance.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$2614.00 in fund HBR—L. DOLABSON High option plan allows for 20 visits to the Acupuncturist and 24 to a Chiropractor, these must be preapproved. Also provides for 30 days of Hospice care.

MDA--ANGER No Report MBA—ENZ No Report

EAP—DANIELS Our EAP Representative Gaye Daniels is still recovering from an automobile accident.

We hope to see her again at the meetings soon.

EDITOR--SEYFRIED No Report FINANCIAL SEC—WILSON No Report

TREASURER—JOHNSON Report

Read Financial

MOTION TO ACCEPT FINANCIAL REPORT AS READ M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT MULLINAX Pushing to get last of the non-members signed up, as they are getting the benefits of the new contract also. Look for my report in the July Mailcall on President Trump's proposals for the 2018 Federal Budget.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON be published in the MailCall

Gave her report which will

OLD BUSINESS--NONE EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

MOTION—Branch purchase 400 Letter Carrier calendars. Cost not to exceed \$ 1600.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Branch pay the back Workman's

Compensation Insurance cost from 10/15 thru
10/16 with State Farm insurance.

Cost not to exceed \$ 4414.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Branch empower the Executive Board to conduct any and all business of the Branch from Wednesday, June 7, 2017 thru Tuesday

August 1, 2017 tillu Tuesuay
2017.

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 JOHN BURTON—MAIN OFFICE

\$ 6 JOHN BURTON—MAIN OFFICE--DONATED

\$ 10 RICHARD DUENEZ—MAIN OFFICE--DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:21

TIA WILSON TRUSTEE

Thank You

I would like to thank all the carriers that participated in this years food drive to get the cards & bags delivered and especially picking the food up on Saturday. I would also like to give special thanks to Jesse Greenfield, Ada Orozco & her daughter Hayley for donating their time on their day off, 204B Sandra Delgado, and John Wilson. I could not have done it without all of your help.

I would also like to thank the branch for sending me to the state convention, and the members that voted for me to resume my position as Trustee. I look forward to serving the branch for another term.