

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

**VOLUME 56**

**FEBRUARY 2019**

**NUMBER 1**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By JANETTE DOLABSON**

### **Christmas Party**

Our Annual Christmas Party was a great success! Thank you to all who attended. It went very smoothly and there was a great turnout. There was plenty of food and drinks and tons of prizes and raffles handed out. I want to thank Santa and Mrs. Clause from coming and handing out gifts to all the kids. A special thank you to Tamie Seastrand our Regional Workers Compensation Assistant for coming as our guest but insisting to help serve the membership. It was great having her spend the evening with us. Our crew worked hard to make this evening a success. Thank you to Carly Hook, President of Branch 1427 who came down to help set up and serve. Thanks for those who set up, John Burton, Steve Seyfried, and Bob Enz. Thank you to Bob Johnson, Tracy Mullinax, Larry Dolabson, Mayen Macaraeg, Francisco Valenzuela, Raul Dozal, Paul Jeffery, and Tia and John Wilson. You are the best crew ever and I appreciate all your hard work. We had 36 no shows of those members who signed up. This did not include their guests that they put on the sign-up sheet, but we still had over 150 people there. It was the largest group ever. I want to also give a big dose of gratitude for the face painters who volunteered to come out and paint the faces of the kids. They were awesome.

### **Washington DC:**

“Democrats will take control of the House and Republicans will keep control in the Senate. Both parties in the Senate already have determined their caucus leadership, which will largely remain the same. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) will remain Senate majority leader, John Thune (R-SD) was elected majority whip, John Barrasso (R-WY) was selected as conference chairman and Joni Ernst (R-IA) was selected as vice chairwoman. On the Democratic side in the Senate, Chuck Schumer (D-NY), Dick Durbin (D-IL) and Patty Murray (D-WA) were selected to continue in their leadership posts as minority leader, minority whip and assistant Democratic leader, respectively. In Senate committees relevant to the Postal Service and to letter carriers, Ron Johnson (R-WI) is expected to continue as chairman of the Homeland Security and

Government Affairs Committee (HSGAC). Ranking member Claire McCaskill (D-MO) lost her reelection bid, as did Heidi Heitkamp (DND), who served as ranking member of the subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, which has primary jurisdiction on our issues. In addition, the death of John McCain (R-AZ) leaves both Republicans and Democrats with work to do in populating the committee, which cannot be done until the result of the Mississippi Senate race is known. In the House, Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) is generally expected to take over as Speaker of the House, with Steny Hoyer (D-MD) serving as majority leader. At press time, no opposition to Pelosi or Hoyer was known, though there was some talk of a possible challenge in the Speaker contest. The positions of majority whip, assistant Democratic whip, assistant Democratic leader and chief deputy whip have multiple members seeking to fill these posts. House Republicans, who will become the minority in the new Congress, have elected their key leaders. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) was selected as House minority leader and Steve Scalise (R-LA) as minority whip. Liz Cheney (R-WY) was elected chairwoman of the Republican Conference. She will be the third ranking House Republican and the highest-ranking Republican woman in the House. The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee (OGR) is the primary committee of jurisdiction for postal and federal issues. Elijah Cummings (D-MD) will take over as committee chairman. On the other side of the aisle, as many as seven Republicans retired or lost their re-election bids, leaving much yet to be determined, including who will take over as the committee’s ranking member. In addition to these committee changes, the new Congress will bring nearly 100 new members and will be one of the most diverse freshman classes in history. Getting to know these new members and educating them on the issues most important to letter carriers will be a top NALC priority in the early part of the 116th Congress.”

### **Carrier's Receive upgrade/Pay Schedule Consolidation:**

“In accordance with the MOU Re: Pay Schedule Consolidation, all career and non-career (CCA) Grade 1 city letter carriers were upgraded to their equivalent step in Grade 2 effective Nov. 24. Carrier technicians began receiving an

**Continued on Page 5)**

"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.

## Vice President's Report

By  
**John Burton**

Trump administration's task force released its report evaluating USPS finances and operations, *United States Postal Service: A Sustainable Path Forward*. Due to the White House on August 10, the administration sat on the report for nearly four months, leaving both the Postal Service and Congress to delay meaningful action on addressing core issues in order to wait for these recommendations. Although NALC is still studying the report and will report on its details in greater detail, NALC President Fredric Rolando called the report "a huge missed opportunity filled with legislative recommendations that are likely to be dead on arrival in Congress." Rather than fully addressing the artificial financial crisis caused by the 2006 retiree health pre-funding mandate enacted by Congress in 2006, the report launches an all-out attack on the collective bargaining rights of postal employees – calling for the revocation of the right to negotiate wages by America's postal unions. "NALC totally rejects this attack on hard-working American workers and we are confident that bipartisan majorities in both houses of Congress will too," Rolando said.

The report also calls for massive service cuts – allowing USPS to reduce the frequency and quality of delivery services, which would result in huge job losses for city letter carriers. It also advocates forcing the Postal Service to dramatically raise prices for the delivery of packages, the fastest growing and highly profitable segment of the Postal Service's volume. Indeed, an industry coalition representing package shippers, the Package Coalition, warned that the recommendations would "limit access and raise prices" on package delivery, harming consumers and the Postal Service alike.

So, what does this mean? Its just another attack on our jobs and wages. The NALC will fight this and what can you do? DONATE to the Letter Carrier Political Fund.

The Letter Carrier Political Fund is a non-partisan political action committee (PAC) established for the purpose of electing qualified candidates who support letter carriers and who are committed to maintaining a strong and innovative U.S. Postal Service.

Each year, NALC fights to fend off attacks in Congress that threaten letter carriers' collective-bargaining rights, retirement benefits and livelihood. We've been successful so far, and we want to continue helping to elect House and Senate candidates who will protect us, promote our issues and deliver our message to Washington.

Since **union dues can't be used to support candidates for political office**, NALC relies 100 percent on member contributions to the LCPF, which in turn helps us support those on Capitol Hill who defend the issues that matter most to us. Our PAC brings together in Washington strong letter carrier advocates—from all political parties—who are dedicated to helping to defend a strong USPS that provides universal, innovative and affordable service.

**In Unionism**

## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	4										
ENCINO	4										
PANORAMA CITY	4										
SHERMAN OAKS	3										
SUN VALLEY	1										
TARZANA	1										
RETIREE'S	3										
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>20</b>										

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

**NEXT MEETING  
\*\*\*6:30 PM\*\*\***

**FEBRUARY  
5th  
"2019"**

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

**Feb 8, 2019**

**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 26th & February 23, 2018 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there. Thank You

**Bob Johnson**

**2019 PROPOSED BUDGET FOR BRANCH 2462**

ESTIMATED INCOME:

Regular Members	365 at \$756.34	( \$ 29.09 - ppp)	\$ 276,064.10
Retiree's	110 at \$ 36.00	( per year)	\$ 3,960.00
NALC Health Benefit Reimbursement			\$ 75.00
Interest			\$ 35.00
Other Income			\$ 350.00
		TOTAL INCOME	\$ 280,484.10

**JANUARY 2019 THRU DECEMBER 2019**

ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2018	SPENT 2018	BUDGET 2019
NALC Per Capita Tax:			
Regular Members			
365 at \$ 228.80	\$82,777.50	\$80,180.60	\$83,512.00
Retiree's			
110 at \$ 7.00	\$770.00	\$773.01	\$770.00
State Per capita Tax:			
Regular Members			
365 at \$ 10.40	\$3,900.00	\$3,778.40	\$3,796.00
Retiree's			
110 at \$ .50	\$55.00	\$66.85	\$55.00
1 Contingency Fund (regular members)			
(375 @ 2.00 x 26 pay periods)	\$19,500.00	\$18,892.00	\$18,980.00
2 Contingency Fund (retired members)			
(110 @ .50 x 26 pay periods)	\$1,430.00	\$1,616.00	\$1,430.00
3 Branch Officers Salary	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00	\$42,000.00
4 The Mail-Call	\$6,000.00	\$6,525.53	\$6,500.00
5 Mail-Permit (Includes postage)	\$1,800.00	\$1,425.00	\$1,600.00
6 Postage Expense	\$600.00	\$516.29	\$750.00
9 Harry Brenneman Award	\$250.00	\$227.32	\$250.00
10 Office Expense	\$8,000.00	\$12,124.27	\$8,000.00
12 Retiree's Luncheon	\$2,500.00	\$1,864.12	\$2,000.00
13 Installation of Officers	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
14 Branch Telephones	\$1,400.00	\$1,007.77	\$1,200.00
15 Bond for Officer's	\$300.00	\$210.00	\$250.00
16 Office Supplies	\$1,200.00	\$1,355.63	\$1,200.00
17 Labor-Management Meetings	\$200.00	\$---0---	\$100.00
18 Refreshments	\$800.00	\$540.48	\$700.00
19 Donations	\$1,200.00	\$900.00	\$1,200.00
20 Equipment Repairs	\$750.00	\$697.24	\$750.00
21 Equipment Purchase	\$2,000.00	\$3,492.68	\$2,000.00

ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2018	SPENT 2018	BUDGET 2019
22 Election Expense	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
23 Miscellaneous Expense	\$150.00	\$---0---	\$100.00
24 Public Relations	\$1,500.00	\$2,235.72	\$1,000.00
25 Station Expense	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
26 Educational & Training	\$\$20,000.00	\$23,821.26	\$20,000.00
27 Publications	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00
28 Local Negotiations	\$---0---	\$98.51	\$---0---
30 Assignment Time Account	\$15,500.00	\$13,500.00	\$13,500.00
31 Insurance cost	\$1,100.00	\$962.00	\$1,100.00
32 Office Rental	\$32,400.00	\$32,700.02	\$34,000.00
33 Gas Utility	\$325.00	\$256.38	\$300.00
34 Food Drive	\$4,000.00	\$2,584.54	\$3,000.00
35 Ray Kreyer Award	\$600.00	\$575.56	\$600.00
36 C.O.A. Mail Call	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$50.00
37 Route Inspection Expense	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
38 Mileage (@.58 per mile)	\$1,100.00	\$996.99	\$1,100.00
39 Scholarship Expense	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
40 Electric Utility	\$1,600.00	\$1,485.95	\$1,500.00
41 Dues & Membership Expense	\$790.00	\$799.92	\$800.00
42 Janitorial Expense	\$900.00	\$900.00	\$900.00
43 MDA Expense	\$500.00	\$730.62	\$500.00
45 Bass Calendars	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00
46 Christmas Open House	\$7,000.00	\$5,448.57	\$7,000.00
47 Independent Medical Exam	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
48 Organizing Expense	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
49 Cellular Phone	\$200.00	\$---0---	\$200.00
50 Greeting Cards	\$10.00	\$3.60	\$10.00
51 On-Line Service	\$1,200.00	\$834.76	\$1,000.00
53 NALC Store Expense	\$1,000.00	\$1,975.00	\$1000.00
54 Deaf/Inter-Sign Language	\$---0---	\$---0---	\$---0---
55 General Taxes	\$600.00	\$473.51	\$600.00
56 Cable Expense	\$1,250.00	\$1,038.98	\$1,250.00
57 Retiree Breakfast Expense	\$2,500.00	\$2,418.79	\$2,500.00
59 Workers Compensation Ins	\$2,000.00	\$4,376.00	\$2,000.00
60 Konica Minolta C458 Expense	\$---0---	\$1,768.18	\$5,300.00
99 Non-Numbered Items	\$---0---	\$257.39	\$---0---
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$277,127.50</b>		<b>\$279,873.00</b>

**JANUARY 2019 THRU DECEMBER 2019  
BALANCE SHEET**

INCOME	\$280,484.10
EXPENDITURES	\$279,873.00
 BALANCE	 \$611.10

The above report will be submitted to, and voted on by the general membership of Branch 2462 at the regular meeting to be held on February 5, 2019.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

additional 2.1 percent compensation of their applicable hourly wage for all paid hours effective Nov. 24. Time served toward a letter carrier's next step is maintained and each will receive their next step increase as previously scheduled. In accordance with Article 9, Section 7.

CCA letter carriers received a 1.0 percent general wage increase in addition to the upgrade mentioned above, also effective Nov. 24. This 1.0 percent general wage increase for CCAs is in lieu of the cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) that career letter carriers receive in accordance with Article 9, Section 3."

PR Career city letter carrier increases Date Type of Increase Amount July 2016 COLA \$21 Nov. 26, 2016 General wage increase 1.2% Jan. 2017 COLA \$333 July 2017 COLA \$270 Nov. 25, 2017 General wage increase 1.3% Jan. 2018 COLA \$520 July 2018 COLA \$645 Nov. 24, 2018 Upgrade/Pay Schedule 2.1% Consolidation\* Jan. 2019 COLA TBD July 2019 COLA TBD.

City carrier assistant increases Date Type of Increase Amount Nov. 26, 2016 General wage increase 2.2% Nov. 25, 2017 General wage increase 2.3% Nov. 24, 2018 Upgrade/Pay Schedule 3.1% Consolidation.

Free, anonymous EAP screening

The National Joint Employee Assistance Program Committee has created a place where any letter carrier may obtain a free screening for depression or alcohol abuse, on the Web at [www.eap4you.com](http://www.eap4you.com)

To access screenings:

1. Go to the EAP website.
2. Click on NEW USER.
3. Type 800-327-4968 in the box and click CONTINUE.
4. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click CONTINUE UNREGISTERED.
5. On the left side, listed under INFORMATION AND TOOLS, click on SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOLS link.
6. This will bring you to the Self-Assessment Tools webpage that begins by listing the various types of assessment tools available.

The free screening can help you determine if you might be suffering from depression or alcohol problems. Of course, only your doctor can give you a full diagnosis after a full evaluation, but the screening can reveal whether you suffer from symptoms consistent with those problems. If the screening result indicates that you could be suffering from depression or alcohol problems, you will be given a number to call for a free, confidential consultation with an Employee Assistance Program counselor. The screening is completely anonymous because no personal identification is requested. The screening is completely free and available every day, 24 hours a day.

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

If you have trouble with transportation contact FRANK BRASH 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 !!



## IN MEMORY OF BOBBY HILL

**CIVIC CENTER  
BRANCH 2462**

**"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, 2018**  
**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 6:40 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sgt-at-Arms RAUL DOZAL

**MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory BOBBY HILL—CIVIC CENTER and All members of the NALC and U S Military who passed in 2018. Thank you all for your Service**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

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

**ABSENT—**ENZ

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL**  
**CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**CARLOS ROSAS, ANA ORTEGA, CYMONE NELSON, ERIC RODRIGUEZ, NATHANIEL TREADWELL**

**BILLS READ—NONE**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT COMMITTEE** Budget meeting will be on Jan 8th and the Audit will take place on Jan 24th at 6:30 pm at the Union Office.

**HEALTH & SAFETY** Doors closed, and seat belts always fasten, when sitting inside the vehicle.

**TRUSTEES** No Report

**RETIREEES** 3 retiree's present tonight. Saturday breakfast. will be on Saturday, January 26, 2019

**MDA FUND--DOZAL** Currently \$1417.00 in fund

**HBR—L. DOLABSON** National has mailed out the new Health Cards to members. If you have not received your new health card, contact Larry.

**MDA--MACARAEG** We raised \$ 500.00 for MDA Birthday fundraiser, which has brought our 2018 total to over \$ 5000.00. This moves the Branch into the SILVER LEVEL for the first time ever. We look forward to raising even more for 2019 and hopefully can achieve GOLD LEVEL. Thanks to all who participated in events and made this MDA year the best in a long time.

**MBA—ENZ** No Report

**FINANCIAL SECT REPORT—MULLINAX** All stations should have their Christmas party receipts turned in by next regular meeting. Membership pins are being mailed out to those who were not given at stations.

**TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON** READ

**MOTION—**Accept the Financial Reports as read M/S/C

**VICE-PRESIDENT BURTON** Bills to protect the Postal service from privatization now have majorities in both houses of Congress.

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

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ**

**OLD BUSINESS**

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

1. Board authorized purchase of two desk chairs. Cost not to exceed \$ 500.00
2. Board authorized the payment of \$ 800.00 to renew the membership of 2 members for 1 year in the L A County Federation of Labor.
3. Board authorized the expenditure of \$ 500 as a donation to Branch 133 Fire Fund
4. Board authorized the renewal of the Mail Call mailing permit. Cost \$ 300
5. Board authorized the purchase of 10 NALC watches. Cost \$ 850
6. Board authorized the purchase of 10 NALC Retiree hats. Cost \$ 150
7. Board authorized 10 Members, to be chosen by the President, to attend the Region 1 Shop Steward Training Class in Las Vegas, April 11-14, 2019. Cost not to exceed \$ 15,000.00

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION—**Branch purchase gift cards for each of the Christmas party face painters. Cost \$ 100.00  
M/S/C

**UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**Good of the Association**

The Secretary would like to say thank you to Brother PAUL JEFFREY for taking notes at the November Regular meeting. Branch membership is now at an all time high of 97.2%. We wish our Past Vice President LESLIE MICHELSEN a speedy recovery after her recent illness. Get back soon Leslie we miss you. Happy and Healthy New Year to all Members.

**MDA DRAWING**

- \$ 2 BOB JOHNSON—RETIREE--DONATED  
\$ 4 ROD GODDARD—SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED  
\$ 8 JOSE JIMENEZ—SHERMAN OAKS—DONATED \$ 4  
Meeting Adjourned 7:39