

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

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Food Drive

On May 7th, 2019 we held our annual Media kick off at MEND Food Bank. Actor Edward James Olmos, actress Alison Arnglim along with LA County Federation of Labor President Rusty Hicks, California Association of Letter Carriers President Harold Kelso, Regional Administrative Assistant for the National Business Agents office of the NALC Calvin Brookins, and Manager of Post Office Operations Sarah Isordia for the USPS all spoke in front of new stations and media outlets about our letter carrier food drive. The message was very clear. We can't make it easier for folks to help feed those in need in their communities. All they had to do was leave out a bag of food at their mailboxes and their letter carrier will pick it up and take it back to be delivered to their local food bank or pantry.

By this time the food drive is in the books and we will be waiting for results on how we did as a branch as a district and as a region as well as a nation. There are over 40 million food insecure people in this great country. That's 1 in 8 people. Most of those are children, seniors, veterans, and low -income families trying to make ends meet and put food on the table.

Thank you all for your hard work in delivering the cards and the bags and picking up all that food along your routes. We are very blessed to be able to do this every year and are hoping for a wonderfully successful outcome. I will keep you posted.

Branch Office is -MOVING

Our branch is moving into a new unit in the same complex. We will be going from suite 101 to suite 104 3 units away. It is a smaller unit and will save the branch money on the, ever escalating, rent in the current size suite we are in now. There will still be plenty of space to hold events, trainings and union meetings in the new unit. The phone number will remain the same. So, starting May 15th our new address will be 6910 Hayvenhurst #104 Van Nuys, CA. 91406.

Consolidated Casing

The Postal Service is intent to develop a study

designed to determine the impact of consolidated casing on city delivery routes. Specifically, they plan to test restructured city letter carrier assignments by, to the extent practical, separating office duties, including but not limited to casing, from street duties.

Chris Jackson explains:

"This is a unilateral test and NALC has not agreed to participate in this process. However, NALC representatives will be closely monitoring and observing the testing process. Following the receipt of this notification, we attended several meetings to clarify the proposed study and the potential impact on our craft. Based on these meetings, our understanding of the Postal Service's concept is explained below.

Carriers performing casing duties will report early in the morning and will have their start times adjusted accordingly. USPS states that casing-assignment carriers may start as early as 5:45 a.m. These carriers will case a total of six routes, three at a time, and prepare them for street delivery. The newly designed consolidated case will consist of three pieces of casing equipment in the traditional horseshoe design with one complete route in each piece of equipment. The cases will have double-sided address labels on plastic strips affixed to the case that can be reversed. USPS uses various methods for attaching these labels. This case labeling method is commonly referred to as 2-into-1 casing for offices already using this system. The casing carrier will case three routes for delivery, pull down the routes, switch the case labels, then case and pull down three additional routes. For example, the caser will case and pull down routes 1-3, then switch the case labels and case routes 4-6. Full-time letter carriers performing casing assignments may be given additional street duties to fulfill their eight-hour requirement. Carriers performing street duties will report later in the day, with start times scheduled to coincide with the projected time the casing duties are complete. Assignments with street duties may be adjusted with additional deliveries to make up for the loss of office time. USPS states that these carriers will report in two different groups, with the first group to begin tour approximately 8 to 8:30 a.m. and the second group perhaps an hour or an hour and a half later.

(Continued on Page 3)

"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
John Burton

Bipartisan legislation introduced to repeal USPS pre-funding mandate

On April 28, Reps. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Tom Reed (R-NY), Xochitl Torres Small (D-NM), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) introduced the USPS Fairness Act (H.R. 2382) which would repeal the mandate that USPS "pre-fund" decades' worth of health benefits for its future retirees, enacted through the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) of 2006. As letter carriers know, the pre-funding mandate has cost an average of \$5.4 billion annually since 2007 and is responsible for 92 percent of USPS losses over the last twelve years, and 100 percent of losses over the past six years. Were this burden not imposed, USPS would have recorded surpluses of nearly \$4.0 billion since 2013. Instead, the mandate has prevented the Postal Service from properly investing in its networks and infrastructure since it was enacted and even worse, the resulting financial losses are still used to both threaten core services that Americans rely on -- such as door-to-door service, six-day delivery, and convenient post office hours -- and to advance proposals to privatize the Postal Service and attack the jobs and rights of America's postal employees.

As the heart of a \$1.4 trillion mailing industry that employs 7.5 million Americans, the Postal Service links more than 159 million American households and businesses to each other seven days a week. It is essential to our nation's voting systems and to multiple industries, communities and populations, including e-commerce; prescription drugs; the nation's paper, publishing, and advertising businesses; and to millions of small businesses and tens of millions of citizens in rural, suburban, and urban communities across the country. Should this legislation progress through the House and Senate, and then be signed into law, it will significantly improve the financial situation at the Postal Service.

Two of the 3 resolutions we have in congress have reached a majority. H res 33 the anti-privatization resolution has 236 co-sponsors and H res 54 to keep 6-day delivery has 228 co-sponsors. H res 23 to keep door to door delivery has 174 co-sponsors it needs 218 to get a majority.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	4	5	5	5	5						
ENCINO	4	5	3	4	5						
PANORAMA CITY	4	3	2	2	3						
SHERMAN OAKS	3	3	3	2	3						
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1						
TARZANA	1	1	1	0	1						
RETIREE'S	3	4	6	5	6						
TOTAL	2022	2119	24								

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**JUNE
4th
"2019"**

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

June 7, 2019

**WEBPAGE.....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 May 25th & July 27, 2019 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar....We hope to see you there.
Thank You

Bob Johnson



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

All letter carriers performing street duties will obtain their own accountable items prior to leaving for the street, and afternoon return-to-office duties will not change. Some of you may recall the caser/streeter concept that USPS tested in 2011. This test involved some letter carriers performing office duties for multiple routes while the remaining carriers delivered on the street. This test is slightly different based on the proposed case configuration. In caser/streeter, each route maintained its own case, while in this test, multiple routes will be combined into one case. The current test appears to be the Postal Service's attempt to revisit the prior unsuccessful caser/streeter route pilot.

Three phases of testing On March 21, USPS sent a follow-up notification letter identifying one delivery unit, Annandale, VA, in which testing is scheduled. Evaluation of the existing assignments were to begin on April 8, with testing tentatively to have commenced on May 4. USPS indicates that testing will be done in three phases and has identified one location where this consolidated casing concept is being introduced. In Phase Two of the test, USPS intends in June to initiate six additional sites, one in each postal area, with these locations to be identified in the near future. Phase Three of the test will involve 200 sites to be initiated in August, with at least one site in each postal district. NALC anticipates that the test will be rolled out on a larger scale in the near future. USPS states that there are approximately 1,000 additional delivery units it believes to be suitable for this consolidated casing test. Local branches should notify their NBA office immediately if management begins testing in other locations. This management-initiated pilot test does not alter any provisions of the National Agreement. As always, letter carriers should protect themselves by making proper clock rings, requesting auxiliary assistance/ overtime via PS Form 3996, Carrier-Auxiliary Control and documenting curtailed mail via PS Form 1571, Undelivered Mail Report.

Proper clock rings are vital to ensure that street delivery, auxiliary assistance, waiting time, parcel delivery and time spent casing are recorded correctly. Letter carriers may be assigned to perform only parcel delivery for multiple routes. If this occurs, these carriers should ensure that clock rings reflect time spent delivering parcels on a particular route. Likewise, if a carrier is performing office duties, accurate time entries need to be recorded so that the time is credited to the proper assignment. Sections 131.41 and 131.42 of Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities require you to verbally inform your manager when you believe you cannot carry all the mail distributed to your route in eight hours or within your normal schedule. Letter carriers should continue to provide verbal notification and request a PS Form 3996 if you require overtime or auxiliary assistance to meet management's expectations. Management is obligated via Section 122.33 of Handbook M-39, Management of Delivery Services to provide you with a PS Form 3996 when you request it. When you request a 3996, no matter what your manager says to you, say, "I am requesting a 3996" and explain the reasons for your request. In addition, if you are instructed by management to curtail mail, you should request and complete a PS Form 1571 documenting the undelivered mail and have it completed by management. You also should request a copy of the signed PS Form 1571. Federal law

prohibits improper delay of mail and in some instances letter carriers have received legal citations for failing to document curtailed mail. A signed copy of this form is your protection against potential legal or disciplinary actions. Article 41 of the National Agreement requires management to address a letter carrier's request for assistance promptly and to provide copies of both completed forms upon request. Article 41, Section G of the National Agreement provides: G. The Employer will advise a carrier who has properly submitted a Carrier Auxiliary Control Form 3996 of the disposition of the request promptly after review of the circumstances at the time. Upon request, a duplicate copy of the completed Form 3996 and Form 1571, Report of Undelivered Mail, etc., will be provided the carrier. If you are denied either form or the requested copies, immediately request to see your shop steward.

Additional contract violations may occur as a result of the consolidated casing test. Union representatives should be watchful for any violations of the National Agreement, and investigate and file grievances accordingly. For example, union representatives and letter carriers should be wary of contractually improper schedule changes, bid assignments, route inspection and adjustment processes and overtime distribution. These examples are only a sample of possible contractual violations related to this initiative. Branch presidents or union officials should not make any local agreements with regard to this unilateral USPS test. NALC is committed to protecting the rights and benefits afforded city letter carriers in the National Agreement throughout the testing process, and will keep you updated on this initiative as information becomes available."

Our branch will be watching carefully that all violations of the contract during this process will be filed and addressed as they occur.



M D A

BOWL-A-THON

**SATURDAY, JUNE 15, 2019 8 P.M.
SANTA CLARITA LANES**

**PLAN NOW TO ATTEND,
GET YOUR TEAMS ORGANIZED
AND READY TO GO.
TROPHIES AND PRIZES.**

**YOUR \$ 40 DONATION INCLUDES 2 HOURS
OF BOWLING WITH RENTAL SHOES. FREE
PIZZA AND SODA. BEER, WINE AND
MIXED DRINKS MAY BE PURCHASED.**

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

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VAN NUYS, CA
PERMIT No. 314

Address Service Requested

Branch Meeting Minutes

May 7, 2019

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 of ALL LETTER CARRIERS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO HAVE DIED.

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

DANIEL PENA, LANCE AGUIRRE, DANIEL RAMIREZ, ALBERTO GUTIERREZ, YVETTE GALINDO, CUAWHTEMOC PINEEDA CELIS JR., VICTOR RETANA GONZALES, FRANCIS ANDRES, MICHEL HERNANDEZ, DASHAWN ALLEN, GEOVANY LOPEZ, ORALIA JIMENEZ

BILLS READ—Motion to pay STEVE SEYFRIED \$ 371.64 for 4 months publication of the MailCall M/S/C

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE No Report
HEALTH & SAFETY No meeting, Massive amounts of Supervisors out on the streets watching for violations Always drive safe, wear Seat Belts, Doors closed when moving and FFV rear cab door should always be open when driving . Also have your satchel with you when making deliveries to the house door. WORK SAFE !!!

TRUSTEES No Report
RETIREEES 6 retiree's present tonight. 15 attended the Breakfast. Next Breakfast May 25th.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1528.00 in fund
HBR—L. DOLABSON Reimbursement check from National has arrived. CCA's who are converted have 60 days from conversion to sign up for a health plan, if not you must then wait till Open Season. Check out the NALC Plan it is the Best for Letter Carriers and their families.

MDA--MACARAEG Bowl-a-Thon will be held on Sat, June 15th at Santa Clarita Lanes. Branch MDA team will be participating in Walk-a-Thon on May 18th.

MBA—ENZ No Report

FINANCIAL SEC—MULLINAX Food Drive T-shirt money is due tonight. Office checks for Food Drive have been sent to all Station Food Drive Coordinators.

TREASURERS REPORT—JOHNSON READ
MOTION—Accept the Financial Reports as read M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT BURTON 2 Of 3 Bills in Congress regarding the Postal Service now have majority support. Keep the pressure up on your Congressional Representative to support Letter Carrier issues.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Will give her report in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch renew the Quicken Accounting computer program for one year.

Cost to the Branch \$ 99.00
M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

Good of the Association

Member DAN RATHBONE and CALVIN BROOKINS spoke on how proud they are of Branch 2462 and the great work being done by the Members of the Branch.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 4 DAN RATHBONE--RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 7 TOM WINN--RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 10 RICHARD DUENEZ--ENCINO—DONATED \$ 5.00

Donated Jamba Juice Card won by

RICHARD DUENEZ--ENCINO

Meeting Adjourned 8:07 pm

