VOLUME 56 JULY 2019 NUMBER

PRESIDENT'S REPORT By JANETTE DOLABSON

NALC files two national level grievances:

NALC has filed a national level grievance regarding the Postal Service's unilateral implementation of the consolidated casing initiative scheduled to begin in the Annandale, VA Post Office in May. The Postal Service plans to expand the initiative to over 200 additional locations this summer. NALC will help branches involved in this test. Branch officers, representatives, and members with questions should contact their national business agent's office. NALC will provide updates on this test as they become available. As some of you know, Sherman Oaks Station has been scheduled as one of those offices that will be part of those locations using the Consolidated casing initiative. Shop Steward Guillermo Mariscal from Sherman Oaks will be the office contact. We will keep you all informed of how this process goes, how it will work and what contract violations we will be filing.

NALC has also filed a national level grievance regarding the Postal Service's continuing non-compliance with the contractual caps on the employment of City Carrier Assistants (CCAs). Article 7, Section 2 of National Agreement and the Memorandum of Understanding Re: Sunday Delivery – City Carrier Assistant Staffing limit the number of CCAs the Postal Service may employ in each USPS District.

Route Adjustments:

Office Time- No letter carrier can be disciplined for simply not making standards. There must be a showing of unsatisfactory effort. This showing must be based on documented, unacceptable conduct that led to the carrier's failure to meet office standards (M-39 Section 242.332).

Street Time -There are no street standards! In national level settlement M-00304, the parties agreed there is no set pace at which a carrier must walk and no street standard for walking. This language was reinforced in the September 16, 2011 national level settlement M-01769. The relevant language from these two settlements is shown below. These settlements are reproduced in their entirety on the next two pages. M-39 242.332 No carrier shall be disciplined for failure to meet standards, except in cases of unsatisfactory

enort which must be based on documented, unacceptable conduct that led to the carrier's failure to meet office standards. M-00304 "In keeping with the principle of a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, it is understood that there is no set pace at which a carrier must walk and no street standard for walking." M-01769 "...there is no set pace at which a carrier must walk and no street standard for walking."

Conduct of the Route Examiner- The role of the examiner is to observe and accurately record data. Section 232.1 of the M-39 Handbook requires the examiner to do the following: Any claims of a violation of these requirements should be supported by a detailed statement from the letter carrier(s) involved. M-39 232.1 The route examiner must: a. Not set the pace for the carrier but should maintain a position to observe all delivery points and conditions. b. Not suggest or forbid any rest or comfort stops but should make proper notations of them. c. Not discuss with the carrier on the day of inspection the mail volume or the evaluation of the route. These matters must be discussed with the carrier later when all data has been reviewed and analyzed. d. Make notations on the day of inspection on the appropriate form or separate sheet of paper of all items that need attention, as well as comments on the day of inspection. Also list any comments or suggestions for improving the service on the route, as well as suggestions or comments made by the carrier during the inspection for improvement in delivery and collection service. e. Make comments and suggestions clearly, and in enough detail for discussion with the carrier and for decision-making purposes. The manager who will discuss the results with the carrier must have enough facts and figures to reach a final decision on any necessary adjustments to the route.

Improper Deductions of Street Time- Management may not just make a time deduction because a letter carrier allegedly failed to properly finger mail or take proper short cuts. Instead, management is required to instruct the letter carrier to use proper procedures and make every effort to reinspect the route prior to adjustments being implemented (M-39 Section 242.344). 6. Week After Route Count and Inspections (PS Form 1840-B) Remember that when the week of inspection is over, the carrier is not finished with the inspection process. The week after the route count and inspection is the eighth week used for completing the 1840-B timecard analysis (M-39 Section 242.324). M-39 242.344 If during the route inspection, the supervisor notes that the letter carrier fails properly to finger mail or to take proper short cuts.

(Continued on Page 3)

"The MailCall" is published monthly by "Heart of the Valley Branch 2462, NALC, 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., Suite 104, 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

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH J F M A M J J A S O N

MAIN OFFICE 5 5 5 **ENCINO** 2 2 **PANORAMA CITY** 4 3 **SHERMAN OAKS** 3 2 **SUN VALLEY** 1 1 **TARZANA** 1 1 0 **RETIREE'S** 6 5 3 4 6 **TOTAL** 2022 21 19 24 24

material in this publication with our best wishes.

MEETING PLACE OF BRANCH 2462, NALC 6910 HAYVENHURST AVE., SUITE 104 VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA

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

JULY 2nd "2019"

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

July 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 July 27th & Sept 28, 2019 (4th Saturday) So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there. Thank You

Bob Johnson

Vice President's Report

John Burton

Contract COLA

The projected accumulation toward the seventh regular COLA under the 2016-2019 National Agreement stood at \$499 annually in May following the release of the April 2019

Consumer Price Index

On May 10, 2019, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced that the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W, 1967=100) stood at 742.683 in April, 44.103 points above the base level of 698.580 in July 2014. The accumulated COLA through May stood at 24 cents per hour or \$499 annually.

The seventh COLA will be based on the increase in the CPI-W between the base index month and July 2019, less any previously calculated COLAs, and will be payable the second full pay period following the release of the July 2019 index. The six COLAs that have been calculated under the 2016-2019 National Agreement, totaling 86 cents per hour, are as follows: 1st COLA, 1 cent per hour (\$21 annually), 2nd COLA, 16 cents per hour (\$333 annually), 3rd COLA, 13 cents per hour (\$270 annually), 4th COLA, 25 cents per hour (\$520 annually), 5th COLA, 31 cents per hour (\$645 annually), and 6th COLA, 0 cents per hour (\$0 annually).

Following Memorial Day recess, lawmakers returned to Capitol Hill from their respective states and districts to continue work on fiscal year 2020 appropriations, to send the \$19.1 billion disaster relief bill to the White House where it was signed into law, and for the House to pass legislation that would provide a pathway to citizenship for the 'Dreamers' before it promptly died in the Senate following a statement from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

House Activity

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) approved its fiscal year (FY) 2020 bill on Monday, preserving NALC's long-standing language that 6-day and rural mail delivery continue at the 1983 levels. Additionally, the measure prohibits funding for both the President's proposal to overhaul the Office of Personnel Management and the implementation of bad faith/anti-collective bargaining proposals many federal agencies are forcing on federal employees in recent months. Of relevance for the federal community, the bill contains a 3.1 percent federal pay raise for civilian employees in 2020 (does not apply to letter carriers).

Senate Activity

Senate Resolution 99 (<u>S. Res. 99</u>), which opposes the privatization of the U.S. Postal Service, hit a majority of bipartisan support on Tuesday. With 52 cosponsors plus its author Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI), the resolution sends a strong message of support for USPS, its network, and most importantly, its workforce. This is an excellent achievement, but worth noting that there are plenty of Senators who have not yet signed on.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

and that those failures were sufficient enough to warrant a time adjustment for the route, a reinspection will be made after the letter carrier has been instructed regarding the proper procedures to be used. Every effort will be made to conduct such reinspection prior to the implementation of the adjustments in the delivery unit. M-39 242.324 The average street time for the week following the week of count and inspection (including only the days the regular carrier served the route) shall then be recorded on Form 1840-B, and averaged into the 7 weeks random time analysis to obtain an 8 week composite week average. If the regular carrier did not serve the route on at least one of the days of the week following inspection, that week will not be used in computing the street time allowance for the route. The average weekly street times for those weeks will then be transferred to Form 1840.

Food Drive Results:

Our totals for this year's food drive for our Branch. Main Office 21,118, Sherman Oaks 11,917, Encino 10,940, Tarzana 7,350, Panorama City 5,760, Sun Valley 5,557, MEND KTLA event 3,134 and the residual collected 3,403. Total is 70,235 pounds of food. It was lower than last years total but still a huge amount of food. Lower totals can be due to weather, having plastic bags rather than paper or not properly delivering all the cards and bags on the routes. Any routes that did not deliver the cards or the bags on those routes that received them potentially takes needed food out of the mouths of those who need it. Most all carriers work very hard on food drive day and the weeks leading up to it. It is hard work and the outcome is so important. Thank you to all of you who did your part in making this work and feed those who are in need in our local communities. I want to especially thank our office Coordinators, Sandy Anger, Mayen Macaraeg, Francisco Valenzuela, Guillermo Mariscal, Rod Goddard, Tracy Mullinax, Tia Wilson and John Burton. You all work so very hard and it is greatly appreciated. Special thanks to John Burton for helping with the 1 1/2 million bags that came through Van Nuys. It takes a lot of time and muscle moving those bags off the docks and getting them to their destinations. Some other folks helped along the way moving those bags out too and to you, I am very grateful. Larry Dolabson, Bob Enz, Mayen Macaraeg, Francisco Valenzuela and members from sister branches, Darcel Cole 2086, Jill Lemons and David San Augustine 4006, and Robert Burskey 2200. There were a lot of carriers who stayed and helped sort food or went out and picked up food off routes. I thank you all for going on an above helping make this day successful.

Thanks to MEND Volunteers and staff for all their support and help with the whole process. We could not do it without them. Thanks to the Postal Service for their support and all their help in allowing us to do this every year.

Thanks to Calvin Brookins for his tireless help during the 6 months plus process that this food drive requires and to the Branch for allowing me the time to do this for the whole Region.

I am looking forward to seeing our Regional totals by District and overall National Totals. We had a ton of bags across the country this year especially those 7 million bags donated by our brothers and sisters of the UFCW. It should be a great year overall across the country.

BY-LAW CHANGE

The following By-Law changed was submitted at the June Regular Branch meeting. It will be voted on at the August Regular Branch meeting. All By-Law changes require a 2/3's vote to pass.

PROPOSED TO CHANGE ARTICLE XIII, EDITOR

NOW READS:

ARTICLE XIII

EDITOR

Section 1. The Editor shall be appointed by the Executive Board and approved by the

Membership at a Regular Branch Meeting.

Section 2. The Editor shall administer the duties of the

Branch publication as determined by the

Executive Board.

PROPOSED:

ARTICLE XII

EDITOR

Section 1. The Editor shall be appointed by the

Executive Board and approved by the Membership at a Regular Branch Meeting.

Section 2. The Editor shall administer the duties of the

Branch publication as determined by the

Executive Board.

Section 3. The Editor shall be a member of the

Executive Board.

New Language appears in Bold and Underlined

Submitted by Members in Good Standing:

STEVE SEYFRIED

ROBERT ENZ

TRACY MULLINAX

JOHN BURTON



"THE MAIL CALL" BRANCH 2462, NALC

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Branch Meeting Minutes June 4, 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 6:43 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, AND IN CELEBRATION OF THE 75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE D-DAY INVASION AND ALL WHO PERISHED ON THAT DAY IN DEFENSE OF FREEDOM.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—MACARAEG

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

AMBER HEARD, ABIGAIL ROJAS, LUIS CARLOS, ALEJANDRO TREJO

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITEE No Report

Finally had 1st **HEALTH & SAFETY** Meeting of the year with Mgt. While talking a good game regarding safety, Mgt's actions regarding these important meetings is, as usual, lacking. Safety is a 2-way street and is more than just going out and "getting Carriers" to boost your Vehicle accidents are up almost 100 %--BAD Industrial accidents are down—GOOD. Carriers have a responsibility to work in a safe and professional manner, so take the time to do so. Be aware that the new scanners can now tell how fast you are driving, how fast you are accelerating and braking your vehicle, and whether your vehicle is backing up. Always drive safe, wear Seat Belts, Doors closed when moving and FFV rear cab door should always be open when driving . Also always have your satchel with you when making deliveries to the house door.

TAKE THE TIME TO WORK SAFE !!!

TRUSTEES No Report

RETIREES 6 retiree's present tonight.

16 attended the Breakfast. Next Breakfast July 27th.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1466.00 in fund HBR—L. DOLABSON Hospitalization, MRI's, Cat Scans and other high-level test must be precertified before

being done to avoid out of pocket expenses. 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 participated in Walk-a-Thon on May 18th and raised \$4333.00. Thanks to all who helped with donations and those who came out and walked.

MBA—ENZ Handled request from member for information regarding plan.

FINANCIAL SEC—MULLINAX All bills are up to date. Membership Pins have been ordered and will be awarded when they come in.

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

VICE-PRESIDENT BURTON HR 2382, a bill to repeal Prefunding is moving through the House and now has 89 cosponsors. HR 2517 just been proposed, which would allow alcohol to be mailed and delivered by USPS. Senate Bill 99, to prohibit Privatization of the USPS now has majority support. CCA's are not being given 30-60-80 Day evaluations by Mgt. in violation of the contract. Shop Stewards should be carefully monitoring this, as it will definitely affect whether a CCA can be terminated during their probation period.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Will give her report in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ OLD BUSINESS--NONE NEW BUSINESS

BY-LAW

A By-Law change was submitted to the Branch. It will be published in the MailCall and will be voted on at the August Regular Branch Meeting.

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE

Good of the Association

The Branch Office has now been successfully moved to the new suite. We are at the same location, but 3 doors down in SUITE 104. Thanks to all who helped with the move.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 5 BOB ENZ—RETIREE

\$ 8 MIGUEL MALDENADO—MAIN OFFICE

\$ 10 GREG WOOD--RETIREE—DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:07 pm