

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

VOLUME 56

NOVEMBER 2019

NUMBER 10

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

Consolidated Casing Update

“U.S. District Court Judge James E. Boasberg today heard arguments in NALC’S lawsuit against the Postal Service over the Consolidated Casing Initiative. As previously reported, the suit asks the court to issue an injunction stopping the Postal Service from continuing to test consolidated casing until NALC’s pending national level grievance is resolved by an arbitrator. Appearing on behalf of NALC, Peter D. DeChiara, of Cohen, Weiss and Simon, LLP, argued that many letter carriers are now suffering and will continue to suffer irreparable harm unless the consolidated casing program is halted by the court. The judge deferred issuing a decision and asked the parties for additional written briefs within the next two weeks.”
PR

Our Branch recently had this process start in Sherman Oaks. It’s been rough for our brothers and sisters there. Long days and long routes. To say there is a lot of problems with this process would be an understatement. First week 14 grievances. I am sure that is just the tip of the iceberg coming their way from the NALC. There is no regard for the contract whatsoever. Management feels that under Article 34 they can do what they want the way they want with no union say in the matter. We, obviously know better than that. No where does Article 34 say that they are allowed to violate the contract when doing these “tests” or Pilot programs. Hopefully the National Grievance that was filed will be heard and settled in our favor sometime in December. We will keep you posted. In the meantime, the USPS is planning on implementing 15 more sites a week through the country from now until November 9th. If you think your office is safe..... maybe not. Keep yourself informed.

Contract Update

On Sept. 20, 2019, negotiations for a new collective-bargaining agreement between NALC and USPS came to an impasse. The current collective-bargaining agreement remains in force pending final resolution of the parties’ collective-bargaining dispute.

The next step is a mandatory 60-day mediation period required by statute. The parties will use the mediation period to continue negotiations while simultaneously attempting to agree on a neutral arbitrator in the event the parties remain at impasse after the 60-day period. That neutral arbitrator will

chair an arbitration board that will also include one management and one union arbitrator.

The parties continue to have unresolved differences over major issues, including—but not limited to— letter carrier compensation, the non-career workforce, subcontracting, no-layoff provisions, and various memos regarding safety, city delivery, workplace intervention, route evaluations, route structure and wage theft.

Issues that remain in dispute after the mediation period will be addressed through the interest arbitration process, which will result in a final and binding decision on the contents of a new national agreement.

OWCP Scheduled Awards

I have had conversations lately with some folks about their permanent injuries. The topic of Scheduled awards came up. I bet there are a lot of our injured carriers who do not know about this. Here is some information for you that you might find helpful.

Schedule Awards

The Federal Employees’ Compensation Act (FECA), provides for schedule awards for an injured worker who suffers a permanent impairment to a body part covered by the Act. Permanent impairment is defined as the permanent loss, or loss of use of, a part of the body, whether partial or total.

Schedule awards are payable when an injured employee has suffered a permanent impairment to a part or function of the body that is listed in the schedule of body functions and members found in the FECA at 5 USC 8107.

Injured workers interested in pursuing a schedule award should ask their physician if he or she does evaluations of permanent impairment using the AMA Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment, Sixth Edition. Ratings made in accordance with earlier editions of the Guides will not be accepted by OWCP.

If your physician does such evaluations, ask him or her to schedule an exam to do the evaluation after you have reached maximum medical improvement (MMI). If your physician does not do such evaluations, ask him or her to refer you to a physician who does.

(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 material in this publication with our best wishes.

Vice President's Report

By
John Burton

CCA,S Do you know your rights and benefits? There are many places you can go to see them. I recommend downloading the NALC app it has all the information you need. The following is just a few questions taken from the CCA questions and answers which can be found in the app.

Is there a limit on the number of hours CCAs may be scheduled on a workday? Yes, CCAs are covered by Section 432.32 of the Employee and Labor Relations Manual, which states: Except as designated in labor agreements for bargaining unit employees or in emergency situations as determined by the PMG (or designee), employees may not be required to work more than 12 hours in 1 service day. In addition, the total hours of daily service, including scheduled work hours, overtime, and mealtime, may not be extended over a period longer than 12 consecutive hours. Postmasters, Postal Inspectors, and exempt employees are excluded from these provisions. If you are told to work more than 12 hours notify your steward. I know this is happening in Sherman Oaks and grievances are being filed.

Do CCAs have a work hour guarantee? Yes, CCAs employed in post offices and facilities with 200 or more work years of employment have a four hour work guarantee and CCAs employed in all other post offices have a two hour work guarantee. If you clock out to go home and are told to clock back in are continue working you are guaranteed an additional of 4 hours of work or pay if this happens notify your steward.

Can CCAs be required to remain on "stand-by" or remain at home for a call-in on days they are not scheduled to work? No you are never on stand-by you are either scheduled or not.

I know the life of a CCA is difficult and management will try and overwork you and try to hold you to the same times as the regulars. The best defense for this is knowing your rights. if you are having problems with management notify your steward or call the union office.

ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	3	7	5	
ENCINO	4	5	3	4	5	5	5	5	4	4	
PANORAMA CITY	4	3	2	2	3	2	3	3	0	3	
SHERMAN OAKS	3	3	3	2	3	4	3	2	4	4	
SUN VALLEY	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
TARZANA	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	1	
RETIREE'S	3	4	6	5	6	6	3	5	5	4	
TOTAL	2022	2119	2424	2420	2022	2222					

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

**NEXT MEETING
6:30 PM**

**NOVEMBER
5th
"2019"**

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

November 8, 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 on January 25, 2020 , (Corner of Sherman Way & DeCelis). It will begin at 09:00 AM. So, please mark your calendar.....We hope to see you there.
Thank You

Bob Johnson



Letter Carrier Political Fund

The Best Way to Protect Your Future

Talk With Your Shop Steward About Signing Up

You Won't Regret It, And It Just Might Save Your Job !

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

OWCP recently revised some procedures for evaluating impairment ratings. Provide your doctor with a copy of the Impairment Rating Fact Sheet, which clarifies those revisions.

Requirements

Impairment ratings must:

1. State the date you reached maximum medical improvement,
2. Describe the impairment, and
3. Give a percentage evaluation of the impairment in terms of the affected body part, not the body as a whole.
4. Include a data collection form or summary form from the relevant chapter of the Guides that identifies the specific features to consider for each category for organ system impairment, it must be used to document the data and be attached with the final report.

The percentage evaluation must be based on charts and tables found in the AMA Guides, and the medical report must include references to the applicable charts and tables. Your physician must explain in the report how he or she determined the percentage impairment by specific reference to the charts and tables in the AMA Guides that were used to make the determination.

Submitting the Schedule Award Request

When you receive the medical report, send it to OWCP with a cover letter requesting a schedule award. Active letter carriers must complete the employee portion of the CA-7, check "schedule award," and submit it to the Postal Service. Request a completed copy of the CA-7 from the Postal Service. The Postal Service has 5 working days to submit the CA-7 to OWCP.

If you are retired and applying for a schedule award, federal regulations allow an application to be submitted with a cover letter requesting the schedule award as long as there was a previous CA-7 filed. Schedule awards are payable concurrent with wages or retirement benefits.

Schedule awards are generally not payable concurrent with OWCP wage-loss compensation benefits. However, if an employee has a job-related injury that causes impairment in one body part (that entitles him or her to a schedule award) and at the same time has a different job related injury to a different body-part that is disabling, both wage-loss compensation and a schedule award may be paid concurrently.

Schedule awards paid by OWCP do not constitute a settlement or final payout.

Receiving a schedule award does not end the right to continue receiving other OWCP benefits, such as payment for medical bills, reimbursement of transportation expenses for travel to medical appointments, wage-loss compensation benefits, etc.

Mutual Benefits Report

By

BOB ENZ, MBA

The MBA is a NALC office providing excellent insurance and financial policies at a reduced cost for Members. Currently they are offering a Maturity Income item. The minimum payment is \$ 15.00 per pay period, and you may choose either a Roth, Traditional IRA or a Non-Qualified annuity.

	ROTH	TRADITIONAL	NON-QUALIFIED
Tax Ded	NO	YES	
Income limit		YES	YES
Contribution limit	YES	YES	NO
Tax Free		YES	NO
			Annual

Minimum interest 3.5 % and you may start withdrawing at 59 ½ years of age. Monthly payments can be either set up for 5, 10, 15, 20 years or for as long as you live. There is a penalty, surrender charges and IRS penalties for early withdrawal before 59 ½

There are many more plans and opportunities offered by the MBA, so check out and see if any of these work for you and your family. Each Station has a display and pamphlets available, if you cannot find them contact me at the Union office or check them out on the NALC Website.



**BRANCH 2462
RETIREE
LUNCHEON
SUNDAY AFTERNOON
OCTOBER 27, 2019
MONTEREY AT ENCINO
(FORMALLY ENCINO GLEN RESTAURANT)**

16821 Burbank Blvd. Encino, California

**Doors Open 1:00 PM
LUNCH at 2:00 PM
Price is \$ 10.00**

**Retiree's and Active Carriers are
Welcome**

**For Further Information Contact
BOB JOHNSON (818) 786-8505**

**"THE MAIL CALL"
BRANCH 2462, NALC
Steve Seyfried, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 104
Van Nuys, CA 91406
Address Service Requested**

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

**Branch Meeting Minutes
October 1, 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 6:52 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS DOZAL

MOMENT OF SILENCE-----In Memory of LETTER CARRIERS WHO HAVE DIED

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

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

ABSENT—NONE

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

ANTHONY CASTELLANOS

BILLS READ—NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT COMMITTEE No Report
HEALTH & SAFETY—DOZAL Keep doors close and seat belts on when moving in your vehicle. Even though we are having cooler days still important to stay hydrated while working. San Diego Carrier struck while standing at the back of his vehicle, has had 8 surgeries and is expected to recover. Try to park in less traveled sections of your route. Arrest has been made in the murder of South Carolina Carrier.

TRUSTEES No Report
RETIREES 4 retiree's present tonight. Last Breakfast had 21 members and family in attendance. We will not have anymore Breakfast's until January. Retiree Luncheon will be on Sunday October 27th we have 12 new gold card members this year.

MDA FUND--DOZAL Currently \$1188.00 in fund
HBR—L. DOLABSON Open Season will begin this year on November 11th and run through December 9th. This is the only opportunity you have during the year to change your health plan, so take advantage and check out the NALC Plan, you will find it to be very competitive and offers excellent coverage for singles or family options.

MDA--MACARAEG No Report
MBA—ENZ Watch for article in the MailCall

FINANCIAL SEC—MULLINAX Branch is now at 98.2% organized, talk with your fellow Carriers, members and non-alike, and let them know how important it is that we stand united in our fight for fairness and equal respect on the workroom floor by all.

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

VICE-PRESIDENT BURTON Sherman Oaks is a complete disaster. Many contract violations occurring. Massive overtime, Penalty OT, working on the street till after 8 and 9 pm Starting a push to enroll Carriers in NALC Political Action Fund.

PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON Report in the MailCall

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES READ

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION—Branch donate \$ 100.00 to Letter Carrier ROMULO RUIZ, of San Diego Branch 70, who was struck and injured while working. M/S/C

MOTION—Branch renew the payroll computer program. Cost not to exceed \$ 700.00 M/S/C

MOTION—Branch dedicate and name the new office in memory of Past President ROGER ASKEW M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

NOMINATIONS FOR STATE & NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES

JANETTE DOLABSON * @ ALBERTO CRUZ
JOHN BURTON * CALVIN BROOKINS
STEVE SEYFRIED * FRANCISCO VALENZUELA
TRACY MULLINAX * ROD GODDARD
BOB JOHNSON * RAFAEL PEREZ
RAUL DOZAL * RICHARD DUENEZ
PAUL JEFFREY * WILL POWERS
JAMMAYEN MACARAEG * GUILLERMO MARISCAL
TIA WILSON * JOSE JIMENEZ
LARRY DOLABSON * ART BOCEK
BOB ENZ *

* = Automatic Delegate

* @ = Automatic Paid Delegate

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

BROTHER TRACY MULLINAX thanked PAUL JEFFREY for stepping down and making room for new Shop Steward at the Encino Station. And also for all his years of help and friendship he has shown to everyone, especially to TRACY

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 STEVE SEYFRIED—RETIREE--DONATED
\$ 5 JOHN BURTON—MAIN OFFICE—DONATED
\$ 8 MIGUEL MALDONADO—MAIN OFFICE--DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:06 pm