

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

**VOLUME 57**

**JULY 2020**

**NUMBER 6**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By JANETTE DOLABSON**

### **Consolidated Casing**

As most of you have heard, the Consolidated Casing grievance has been settled at the National level as follows:

The issue in this case is whether the testing of Consolidated Casing is permissible under Article 34 or otherwise violates the collective bargaining agreement. The parties agree to the following resolution of this matter, as follows:

1. Management will select 31 of the 62 current case consolidation test sites and those 31 test sites will be returned to their original route structure by July 31, 2020.

2. The remaining 31 test sites will continue through November 27, 2020. The Task Force established by the Memorandum of Understanding, Re: City Delivery Task Force will begin analyzing data from the test sites by July 20, 2020 to determine its application to future testing. Absent joint agreement by the parties to either continue the test or to jointly conduct alternative testing in these sites, the test sites will be returned to their original route structure by January 22, 2021.

3. It is agreed that there will be no further expansion of this Case Consolidation Test.

4. When test sites are returned to their original structure, carriers will be given the opportunity to return to their pre-test bid assignments and schedules. However, the number of assignments that exceed the number of assignments created under the test will remain vacant until the routes are evaluated and adjusted in accordance with #5 below. The local parties will jointly work through the transition and contact the appropriate NALC National Business Agent (NBA) and USPS Area Manager, Labor Relations (AMLR), or their designees, for guidance on any unresolved issues. The assignments selected to remain vacant will be auxiliary, no bid, or junior assignments, and no assignments will be eliminated before the routes are evaluated and adjusted in accordance with #5 below.

5. All routes from the test sites will be evaluated and adjusted as necessary beginning in January 2021 by either a joint route evaluation and adjustment process or the traditional route evaluation and adjustment process in accordance with Chapter 2 of Handbook M-39.

6. All data collected from the Case Consolidation Test will be shared and made available to the Task Force established by the Memorandum of Understanding, Re: City Delivery Task Force for review and discussion regarding its application to future testing of alternate methods and procedures related to city delivery functions.

7. Grievances related to the Case Consolidation Test pending at any step of the Dispute Resolution Process as of the date of this settlement or future grievances not resolved at Formal Step A will be sent directly to the appropriate NALC NBAs and USPS AMLRs, or their designees. The parties at the area/regional level will jointly determine if such grievances will be closed as a result of this resolution or processed. Additionally, the NBAs and AMLRs (or designees) will oversee the local parties' transition of returning test sites to their original structure. M-01923 -2- The above-referenced agreement constitutes a full and complete settlement of the Case Consolidation Test. This agreement is made without prejudice to the parties' position in this or any other matter and may only be cited to enforce its terms.

Even though it took a while, we are very happy that this has been settled and our National Representatives were able to reach a settlement in favor of our letter carriers who have had to deal with this process since September 2019. You have had to deal with a lot of stress and change and have handled it with such grace and determination. We are proud of your hard work and many hours spent dealing with this process. I am hopeful that our Consolidated casing office of Sherman Oaks will be one of those 31 office that will be returned to their original state by end of July 2020. If we are not, we will deal with the additional 4 months as we have done so since its implementation. We will keep you informed. Thank you all so much!

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"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 PRESIDENTS REPORT

By  
**John Burton**

As letter carriers on the front lines of serving 160 million Americans and businesses every day, you know that the Covid-19 pandemic is something we have never experienced before. While our letter carriers show their resilience, strength, and continued service to the public every day, the Postal Service looms closer to shuttering due to the staggering loss in mail volume and revenue during this crisis. It's a desperate situation that only Congress and the Administration can help

**We cannot allow the USPS to fail.**

Unfortunately, instead of providing much needed immediate financial assistance urged by NALC and stakeholder, the last stimulus gave the Postal Service a slap in the face by giving it access to a conditional line of credit. Those conditions aren't new to letter carriers - as they seek to destroy the network and attack letter carriers at the behest of private shippers. This is not a solution. It is a way to weaken the Postal Service by riddling it with more debt to the point where opponents of the constitutionally mandated service will destroy it.

While it's been 40 years since we have needed taxpayer funding, we need financial relief to continue to serve this country through this crisis - and we need it now. Thankfully, the American public is on our side. A recent bipartisan poll showed that 92 percent of voters support direct funding for the Postal Service in the next pandemic response bill.

Please take a minute to send a letter to your members of Congress and tell them that we need: an immediate and significant injection of money - and secure, regular appropriations for the Postal Service until this crisis is over.

Its easy to contact your member of congress go to the nalc app or website and click on the take action button follow the prompts and it will automatically send an email to your representative

## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

MONTH	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N
MAIN OFFICE	1	6	7								
ENCINO	4	8	5								
PANORAMA CITY	3	4	3								
SHERMAN OAKS	4	3	3								
SUN VALLEY	1	0	0								
TARZANA	1	1	0								
RETIREE'S	4	5	5								
TOTAL	18	27	23								

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

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

**JULY  
7th  
"2020"**

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

**July 10, 2020**

**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: !!!!

All Breakfasts have been cancelled until further notice. To all our Retiree's and Regular Members we hope that your are staying safe in your homes during this crisis.

**Bob Johnson**



**Protect Your Future Sign Up To Contribute Today. Just Ask Your Shop Steward. No Union Dues Are Used For This Fund Only Your Donations Make It Work**

# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

(Continued from Page 1)

## **COVID-19**

As things start to get back to some form of normal we are happy to get back to holding our monthly branch meetings and schedule trainings. We have had several COVID-19 cases in our branch and are grateful that all those who had to deal with this virus have successfully returned to health and most are back to work. It is important to continue to practice social distancing at work and when you are off. We do not want to regress back to the way things were a few months ago. Wear your masks and gloves. I know its hard, especially when the heat is rising.

## **New Steward Training**

We have Scheduled a new Steward training at the Branch office to be held on Thursday July 23rd, 2020 from 6:30-8:30 PM. Food will be provided at the office. If you are interested in becoming a Steward or even of you just want to understand the process better, please sign up at your Station. I will have sign up sheets posted in your stations. I especially welcome CCA's who are interested to learn and possibly become a Shop Steward. You are the future of this great union. I urge you to get involved. Shop Stewards have a lot of responsibility. They are our front- line folks in the offices with direct communication with our carriers and their issues. They are our most important asset to our members. Ask them questions, keep informed. If you do not feel you have been heard by them, please call me and let me know. I can help. 661 373-2224. I hope to see you at the training. Keep in mind this is a training class on how to file a grievance and the steps it takes. It is not a rap session. We will be having a branch meeting on July 7th at 6:30. Please come and be a part of that meeting. It's our first one back since March. I am looking forward to it.

## **Grievance Activity**

In 2019 our branch processed over 500 grievances. So far in 2020 we have settled or are in the process of settling 235 grievances. A good chunk of those have been with the Consolidated casing test in Sherman Oaks. When a grievance is filed on your behalf you should be told the outcome once it is settled. If that is not happening, let me know. I will pull it and tell you how it was settled. It is the responsibility of the branch to let you know the outcome of a grievance. If it has been appealed to the DRT (Dispute Resolution Team) level and has not been ruled on yet, we should also let you know once that decision is made and what it is. If you have not been informed of the outcome of a grievance. Call me. I will find out if it has been settled and how it was resolved.

If you are issued discipline you have 14 days to file a grievance. Do not wait 14 days to give your letter of discipline to your shop Steward. Please give it to them immediately or make them aware that you were issued discipline. This gives your Steward time to investigate and file the grievance within that 14 days. We have had folks receive discipline and never give it to the Steward and never told the Steward they received it. That will stay in your file for 2 years without a grievance being filed on your behalf. We don't know if you don't let us know.

If you have an issue that is not discipline, ask your Steward if there are grounds for a grievance. Sometimes there is not. Your Steward should be able to explain to you if there isn't, and why. If they do not know for sure, they should find out and get back to you.

If you are on the Max list in your office, management can mandate you to work on your non- scheduled day off. If you have made a doctor's appointment for that day, please notify your supervisor in advance of that day so they are aware that you are unavailable. If the appointment was made last minute and management requires documentation, provide it. Follow instructions and if there is a grievance for that instruction, we can file one. Don't give management any ammunition by not following instructions.

## **NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS OF BRANCH OFFICERS**

This is official notice to members of Branch 2462 that nominations for the following offices will be held at the regular branch meeting July 7, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Branch Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave # 104, Van Nuys California. The Offices are President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sgt-at-Arms, Three (3) Trustee's, Editor, Health Benefits Representative, and Mutual Benefits Representative. No one may be nominated for more than one (1) office. Candidates must accept nomination at the time made or, if absent, in writing to be received by the Branch Secretary no later than July 9, 2020. The terms of Office shall be for a three year period. Candidates elected shall be delegates to the National and State Conventions as stated in the Branch By-Laws.



**HAVE A SAFE & HAPPY JULY 4<sup>TH</sup> HOLIDAY**

**"THE MAIL CALL"**  
**BRANCH 2462, NALC**  
**Francisco Valenzuela, Editor**  
**6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 104**  
**Van Nuys, CA 91406**

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## **HEART OF THE VALLEY**

**N A L C BRANCH 2462**

**MDA Muscle Walk of Southern California**

**JOIN OUR TEAM SUPPORT US**

**It's simple, go to the Donor Website below & follow the instructions**

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<https://mda.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.team&teamID=9546>

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Our team has partnered with MDA to give strength to individuals and the families affected by neuromuscular disease.

Join our team or donate to support the MDA and their mission to transform the lives of people living with neuromuscular disease.

**See you at the MDA Muscle Walk!**