

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

**VOLUME 58**

**APRIL 2021**

**NUMBER 4**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By JANETTE DOLABSON**

### **EAP**

Carrier's who have had a traumatic incident at work can file a CA-1 (for instance carriers robbed on route or assaulted or injured). If you are denied a CA-1 see your shop steward or call a union representative immediately. Management is required to give you a CA-1 and give you time to fill it out as well as give you access on the clock to seek counseling through EAP. Letter carriers seeking EAP services may contact their local union officers for information, call 1-800-EAP-4YOU (800-327-4968) or you can access EAP at [www.EAP4YOU.com](http://www.EAP4YOU.com).

EAP is 100% Confidential and 100% Free for you and your family members.

### **2022 Retiree COLAs Projection: 0.7% January 2021**

The 2022 COLAs for CSRS and FERS benefits are based on the increase in the average CPI-W between the 3rd quarter of 2020 (253.412) and the 3rd quarter of 2021 (TBA). Based on the January 2021 CPI-W (1982-84=100) of 255.296 the 2022 CSRS and FERS COLAs are currently projected to be 0.7%. The 2022 retiree COLA calculation will be finalized in October 2021 with the release of the CPI-W for September 2021.

CSRS annuities receive full COLAs; COLAs for FERS annuities are payable for retirees 62 and older and may be reduced by up to one percentage point from the increase in the CPI.

### **2022 FECA COLA Projection: 0.5% as of January 2021**

Based on the release of the January 2021 CPI-W (1982-84=100), the 2022 FECA COLA projection is 0.5%. The January 2021 CPI-W of 255.296 was 0.5% above the

December 2020 base index (254.081). The 2022 FECA COLA calculation will be finalized when the December 2021 CPI-W is published during the month of January 2022.

FECA COLAs are applicable only in cases where death or disability occurred more than one year prior to the adjustment's effective date.

The NALC Retirement Department can be reached by calling 800-424-5186 (toll free) Monday, Wednesday or Thursday, 10 a.m. to Noon or 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern time), or by calling the NALC Headquarters switchboard at 202-393-4695 Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) and asking for the Retirement Department. The USPS HR Shared Service Center (HRSSC) can be reached by current employees who are planning or applying for retirement by calling 877-477-3273, option 5.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) acts as the personnel office for retired letter carriers, and is the agency responsible for administering retirement, health and life insurance benefits. Before you call or write to OPM, be sure to have your Civil Service Annuity (CSA) number ready. OPM can be reached by retirees who have a CSA number by calling 888-767-6738 or 724-794-2005, 7:40 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday (Eastern time), or 202-606-0500 in the Washington, DC, area. Mail your written inquiries to Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017 (unless OPM has specified a different address for a specific action such as health benefits open season).

### **FOR NALC MEMBERS PLANNING to RETIRE SOON**

While the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) makes all decisions regarding retirement entitlement, current employees are required to apply for retirement through the USPS Human Resources Shared Services (HRSSC). HRSSC can be reached by calling 877-477-3273, option 5. When calling HRSSC, be prepared to provide your Employee ID and PIN.

**(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 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.

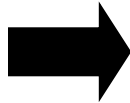
## ATTENDANCE CHART BRANCH MEETINGS

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

MAIN OFFICE	C 6 6
ENCINO	A 3 5
PANORAMA CITY	N 5 6
SHERMAN OAKS	C 1 2
SUN VALLEY	E 0 0
TARZANA	L 0 0
RETIREE'S	E 11 9
TOTAL	D 26 28

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

**NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY  
APRIL  
6th**



**It Will Be Held Online  
Using Zoom at 6:30 pm**

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

**April 12, 2021**

**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 you are staying safe in your homes during this crisis.

**Bob Johnson**

## SPECIAL NOTICE

**We will be holding the All Regular Branch  
Meeting online, until further notice  
using the ZOOM APP**

**This program can be downloaded to any Smart phone,  
Tablet, Laptop or Computer that has a camera. It is  
compatible for Android, IOS, MAC, or PC. Below is the  
Meeting ID and Password which you will enter on your  
screen when you start the ZOOM Program**

**Time: April 6, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time  
(US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86958053508?pwd=TEExqSDERbJg3QjdHaG4ydGJlVzErZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 869 5805 3508**

**Passcode: 417988**

**One tap mobile**

**+16699006833,,86958053508#,,, \*417988# US (San Jose)  
+12532158782,,86958053508#,,, \*417988# US (Tacoma)**

**Dial by your location**

**+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)**

**+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)**

**+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)**

**+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)**

**+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**

**+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**

**Meeting ID: 869 5805 3508**

**Passcode: 417988**

**Find your local**

**number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86958053508?pwd=TEExqSDERbJg3QjdHaG4ydGJlVzErZz09>**

## **Government Pension Offset (GPO) Windfall Elimination Program (WEP) By ART BOCEK**

WEP and GPO affects not only retiring CRS letter carriers but also any all retiring federal, state, county, city, pension annuitants whereby, no taxes (FICA) were paid into Social Security while working at his or her respective government positions.

The problem occurs is when a CRS letter carrier or any annuitant retiree, as mentioned above, having also worked in the private sector, therefore, paying taxes (FICA) to Social Security and now shows earned income quarters towards Social Security benefits, but now files for Social Security benefits he or she has earned.

Fortunately, FERS annuitants are exempt from WEP regulations and receive full benefits from both Social Security and FERS. The reason for this is because while you were working as a federal employee, the USPS or employing agency has paid taxes (FICA) to both Social Security and FERS.

Both WEP and GPO laws were passed by Congress in the late 70's and early 80's by of our forward thinking legislators were afraid of any "Double Dipping" by an annuitant in receiving both a government pension and Social Security benefits. Both WEP and GPO laws were designed to drastically reduce Social Security payments to an annuitant with also a government pension, even though taxes (FICA) were collected while working in the private sector.

**(Continued on Page 4)**

# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**(Continued from Page 1)**

Upon request, HRSSC will:

Mail an individualized annuity estimate based on a projected retirement date provided by the employee;  
Schedule and provide telephonic individual pre-retirement counseling;

Mail a packet of information (usually called the 'blue book') of forms and guidance.

HRSSC retirement services can alternately be accessed by employees close to retirement eligibility on-line using the LiteBlue eRetire application. Employees must know their Employee ID and USPS Pin numbers to access eRetire. The LiteBlue eRetire application allows the following:

View and print individualized annuity estimates;

Request and obtain a retirement application packet in one of two ways:

Download and print a retirement application packet.  
Order a retirement application packet and receive it in the mail  
Schedule a retirement counseling session.

In addition to information available from the USPS HRSSC, retirement information is available from OPM; and retirement information and advice is available to NALC members from the NALC Retirement Department. The NALC Retirement Department publishes a leaflet titled "Preparing for Retirement," and Question & Answer booklets on retirement matters for CSRS and FERS. Click here for more information.

## **Retirement counseling**

Letter carriers approaching retirement eligibility have a contractual right to individual pre-retirement counseling from the Postal Service, upon request. The purpose of the counseling is to promote fully informed retirement decisions by employees.

The Postal Service individual counseling is provided telephonically by a retirement specialist at the USPS Human Resources Shared Services Center (HRSSC). Letter carriers initiate and schedule the counseling session by calling HRSSC at 877-477-3273 option 5, or online at the Liteblue eRetire application.

Letter carriers have a right to this individual counseling on the clock, if desired. When a letter carrier wishes to receive the counseling on the clock, local management must arrange reasonably private space. The letter carrier has the right to have his or her spouse and/or an advisor present during the counseling. The counseling will include (but not be limited to) assistance with completing forms (e.g., StandSF2801 and any other forms related to FEGLI, FEHB, and TSP) and military and civilian service deposit issues.

If a letter carrier is unable to begin or complete a scheduled individual retirement counseling session, that issue will be addressed at the local level jointly by the union and management.

The Postal Service is required to provide individual and group retirement counseling. That obligation flows from law (the Civil Service Retirement Act and Federal Employees Retirement Act), Office of Personnel Management guidance (OPM is the federal agency that has authority to administer the CSRS and FERS), USPS Employee and Labor Relations Manual provisions (click here and here for the provisions), and national level settlements with the NALC.

Should you encounter any difficulties obtaining individual retirement counseling, contact the NALC Retirement Department for assistance.

## **Annuity Estimates**

HRSSC mails individualized computer-generated report called the annuity estimate is mailed twice each year to the home address of those employees currently eligible for retirement. Employees who are within three years of retirement eligibility may request and receive individualized annuity estimates by calling HRSSC. HRSSC. Employees within 5 years of retirement eligibility may view and print individualized annuity estimates on-line at LiteBlue using the eRetire application. The NALC Retirement Department provides generalized monthly charts showing annuity estimates under both CSRS and FERS.

## **Understanding the Grievance Procedure Postal Record:**

"All letter carriers have rights under the National Agreement, and all letter carriers should ask a steward to enforce those rights if they have been violated or denied. If other attempts to resolve a dispute or correct a contract violation fail, the steward may decide that a grievance is necessary. A grievance is a dispute, difference, disagreement or complaint between the parties related to wages, hours or working conditions of letter carriers. The process gives all letter carriers the opportunity to have their voices heard when management violates letter carrier rights under the National Agreement. The National Agreement requires that grievances be filed within 14 days of when the contract violation took place, so be sure to talk to your steward as soon as possible after you become aware of a problem. In each grievance, the union asks for a remedy. The remedy request should accomplish a few goals. It should require management to stop violating the contract. It sometimes requires a monetary award to compensate the letter carrier if he or she suffered a loss in pay or some other loss because of the contract violation. It is important to give your shop steward all of the information about Understanding the grievance procedure March 2021 2019-2023 AGREEMENT NATIONAL National Association of Letter Carriers (AFL-CIO) United States Postal Service Proposed March 2021 March 2021 The Postal Record 11 the issue so he or she can request the appropriate remedy. There are four possible steps to the grievance process, starting with Informal Step A, which involves the steward discussing the issue with the supervisor. This initial step gives supervisors a chance to fix the problem immediately without much paperwork. If the grievance is not resolved at Informal Step A, the union may appeal it to Formal Step A within seven days of the Informal Step A discussion. At Formal Step A, the NALC branch president and the postmaster (or their designees) are responsible for fully developing the facts of the grievance, exchanging relevant documents, and meeting to attempt to resolve the grievance.

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# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**(Continued from Page 3)**

If the grievance is not resolved at Formal Step A, the union may appeal the grievance to Step B of the process. The union and management Formal Step A representatives each write their facts and contentions about the issue and send the information, along with all relevant documentation, to one of the full-time dispute resolution teams (DRTs). These DRTs operate all over the country under the guidelines contained in the Memorandum of Understanding Re: Article 15 - Dispute Resolution Process incorporated into the National Agreement. Each DRT is composed of a letter carrier and a manager who consider the evidence, consult the National Agreement, and try to resolve the grievance. DRT members are jointly trained on the contract and how to apply its terms to resolve disputes. If the DRT can't agree on a resolution and instead reaches an impasse, the NALC national business agent (NBA) for the region may appeal the grievance to arbitration. Once an NBA appeals the grievance, an arbitration hearing is held during which the union and management present evidence and testimony to a neutral arbitrator. The neutral arbitrator then issues a final and binding written decision on the grievance. "The list of contract violations we have reversed, or prevented, through the grievance process could fill libraries," Rolando said. "Shop stewards stand up for letter carriers day in and day out by enforcing the contract on the workroom floor. Their work turns a contract written on paper into an enforcement mechanism that protects our rights and makes our jobs better and safer." To make the job of applying the National Agreement easier, USPS and NALC publish a Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM) that clarifies, section by section, the meaning of the contract as agreed on by both the union and management—often based on the outcome of previous grievances. With the JCAM in hand, stewards and managers can settle many disputes quickly. After ratification of the tentative agreement, should members so vote, NALC and USPS will work to revise the JCAM to reflect the changes in the 2019 National Agreement. Once updated, the new JCAM will be made available to all NALC members on the NALC website. A printed copy will be provided to each office and station throughout the country, and also will be made available through the NALC Supply Department. In the interim, shop stewards and branch officers should continue using the 2014 version of the JCAM to assist in resolving contractual disputes. "The NALC process has proven to be one of the best dispute resolution processes among postal unions, or even among unions in other industries," Rolando said, adding, "Our grievances are settled relatively quickly and fairly because everything is disclosed up front. "The process is designed to use the facts to find out what happened, and to use the contract to determine if a violation has taken place and what is needed to remedy the violation," he continued. "It encourages confronting the problem head-on and preventing it from happening again in the future." Even though NALC is the largest postal union, only a small percentage of grievances from postal employees that go all the way to arbitration involve letter carriers. Full disclosure of the facts at the beginning of the grievance process generally makes for speedy and fair outcomes—but it also makes a letter carrier responsible for supplying facts, and possibly evidence such as a written statement, up front. "Your best chance for a successful grievance is to give your steward all the information you have and whatever else they need to build a solid case," President Rolando said. "Don't hold anything back for any reason. Help your steward make the best case for you." Many shop

stewards became stewards after seeing the success of the grievance process and wanting to help their fellow letter carriers. "Increased knowledge and understanding of the grievance process among all letter carriers will only make the process more successful going forward and get more letter carriers interested in serving as shop stewards in the future," Rolando said. If you have further questions about the grievance process, contact your shop steward." PR

## **Government Pension Offset (GPO) Windfall Elimination Program (WEP) ART BOCEK**

**(Continued from Page 2)**

Now, as a retired CRS annuitant and receiving your government pension, having filed for your Social Security benefits, you will quickly determine, Social Security uses a specific formula in greatly reducing your Social Security benefit payments. The formula used by Social Security has many factors needed to be entered and each annuitant numbers are different from each other, in the determining your benefits. This formula can be found on Social Security's web site. Anyone can use this web site in determine one's Social Security benefits to be paid to an CSR annuitant or any other government pension annuitant

One can only marvel and wonder as to who is really "Double Dipping" after seeing just how much of a reduction in Social Security benefits occurs by having a CRS or government pension and then filing for benefits under Social Security Administration. Remember, you already have paid taxes into Social Security by working in the private sector. Any reduction of Social Security benefit dollars denied to any annuitant goes back to the government, so who is really "Double Dipping?" It's your money? What do you think?

Spouses and survivors of Social Security benefits normally will qualify for spousal and survivor based on earnings of their spouses—unless they qualified for greater amount based on their own Social Security earning history. CSR letter carrier annuitants with little or no private sector work experience, a survivor or spousal benefits from Social Security could be larger based on their own Social Security earning history.

Most spouses and survivors of Social Security benefits will qualify for spousal and survivor benefits based on earnings of their spouses—unless they qualified for greater amount based on their own Social Security earning history. CSR annuitants with little or no private sector work experience, survivor or spousal benefits from Social Security could be larger since their own Social Security benefits would be minimal based on their own Social Security.

The GPO (enacted in 1977) eliminates unfortunately most if not all of the spousal and survivor benefits for retirees who receive a government annuity for non Social Security work. This is because GPO reduces benefits to spouse and survivor by \$2 dollars for every \$3 dollars paid in CSR annuity benefits to affected retirees..

The NALC has been working very hard in lobbying our legislators in either repealing or reducing the WEP and GPO laws, "Social Security Fairness Act" "Bill # 117HR82." This change will only happen when we raise our voices together in opposition to WEP and GPO laws in the form of both phone calls and letters to our respective representatives in Washington DC.

Our legislators need to understand just how unfair the WEP and GPO laws are in reducing benefits payments to an annuitant after they have paid their fair share of taxes (FICA) to Social Security pocket, while working the private sector and not receiving full benefits in return when retired.

I welcome your comments. See you the next union meeting.

# OWCP REPORT

BY

## JEMMAYEN MACARAEG

### HOW TO FILE A CLAIM ELECTRONICALLY? ECOMP

Injured workers, brothers, and sisters, have you guys experienced challenges when filing on-the-job injury? Say no more! Now you can file on-the-job injury claim electronically, its fast, easy, and away from management that gives you a hard time. It will eliminate confrontations and worries about management if they will do what they are required to do to process your claim and if they will do it right. You are now in the driver's seat. You are now in charge on filing your claim.

Before, I go to details on how to file a claim electronically through ECOMP, I want to share a story about a Letter Carrier who was injured while performing his duty and for confidentiality I will call him Mr. Ouchie Hurt. When he got injured due to slip and fall, he called his office to report the accident immediately, but nobody answered the phone so, he decided to keep going which was not a good idea. When he finished his route and went back to his office Mr. Hurt notified Supervisor Remiss about the accident and that caused his injuries. Unfortunately, Supervisor Remiss did not do what she was supposed to do when the employee reports an accident and an on-the-job injury. Mr. Hurt went home hoping he will be OK the next day. He reported to work the next day still in pain due to his injuries. He decided to report his accident and injury at this time to Station Manager Lay Zee. Mr. Hurt told Station Manager Lay Zee that he wants to seek medical attention and asked Mr. Lay Zee if he should seek medical attention through the post office or to go to his personal doctor. Station Manager Lay Zee told him to go to his personal doctor. Station Manager Lay Zee did not even ask Mr. Hurt if he wanted to file a claim or at least if Mr. Hurt was OK. Anyways, the same day his peers advised him that he should file an on-the-job injury claim, so Mr. Hurt took the initiative to tell supervisor that he wants to file a claim, but the supervisor told him that he has to file a CA-2 which is the wrong because his injury was a traumatic injury not an occupational disease injury. A friend of Mr. Hurt also advised him to call me to seek guidance on what needs to do. When MR. Hurt called and after hearing what happened I advised him that he needs to file a CA-1 and not a CA-2 and that he can submit his claim electronically but if he decides to submit it through management he needs to request and fill out the form CA-1 and to make sure that when he submits the form CA-1 that he gets the receipt which is the 4th page. The following day Mr. Hurt informed management that he is requesting for the form CA-1. After he filled out the form CA-1, upon his submission of his CA-1, management refused to accept his CA-1. He called me right away. He was very anxious, upset, and worried. I told him that he needs to talk to his shop steward about management refusing his form CA-1 because management do not have the right to refuse any claim whether they believe the claim or not. Only OWCP can make the determination whether the claim is accepted or denied. Then I told him not to worry because even if the management refused his form CA-1 he can still file a claim through ECOMP and that he does not have to deal with management. One of his concern about filing electronically was he is not a computer savvy, so I helped him step by step on how to navigate on filing a claim electronically through ECOMP and just like that he was an expert. Two days later he had received a response from OWCP that they had received his claim. He was pleased and learned that filing a claim through ECOMP was very easy, and that you don't need to be computer savvy. He was glad that he was introduced to the electronic filing a claim because it is very convenient for him. When OWCP needs more supporting documentation for his claim he can just upload the document and have a peace of mind that OWCP received the documents and when needs to access the documentation he submitted he just need to log on and he can access the files he submitted or any letter from OWCP through his cellphone. He also loves the fact that it tells him exactly the date when the supporting document that they are requesting are due. I shared this story with you guys to show that reporting workplace injuries can be a straight-

forward easy process that ensures injuries to get treated and benefits paid. Electronic claim filing is beneficial to injured workers. I encourage all injured carriers to utilize the electronic filing through ECOMP.

ECOMP features include injury claim submission and allow for uploading of supporting documents to OWCP case files.

To access the system, employees will need to log on to the ECOMP website found at [ecomp.dol.gov](http://ecomp.dol.gov). On the upper right side of the ECOMP home page is a "Help" section. Moving your cursor over the "Help" icon will display a drop-down menu that includes a user's guide for injured workers, supervisors, and other agency personnel. The guide for injured workers is very helpful. ECOMP includes a step-by-step video tutorial on how to navigate electronic filing. Injured letter carriers should review the user's guides prior to filing a claim. Once the Postal Service has activated your district to use ECOMP, you can register by clicking on the blue Register link found on the right side of the ECOMP home page. You must complete the registration process prior to filing a claim.

The Postal Service must allow an injured worker access to a postal computer to file a claim. However, you do not have to use a postal computer; you also can file a claim from your personal computer, tablet, or cell phone.

To register, you will be asked to enter your name, home telephone number and email address. You may use any personal email address. Be mindful that you will receive emails from OWCP and notifications about forms you file in ECOMP. You may want to create an email account specifically for your claim, so you do not miss OWCP notifications. The next step in registering is to enter your Social Security number (SSN) and confirm it. When you file forms CA-1, CA-2, or CA-7 in ECOMP, you will need to enter your SSN, and it must match the one you entered when you registered. Then you will be asked which government organization you worked at the time of injury. Scroll down and choose "United States Postal Service." A drop-down menu will allow you to select the postal district you work in. Once you choose your postal district, the form will automatically list the Postal Service injury compensation office as your duty station. A message will be displayed indicating that you can file forms CA-1, CA-2, CA-3, CA-6, CA-7, CA-7a and CA-16 through ECOMP. Next, you enter your immediate supervisor's email address. Postal supervisors' email addresses normally are their last name, followed by a period, followed by their first name, followed by [@usps.gov](mailto:@usps.gov). For example: [Smith.John@usps.gov](mailto:Smith.John@usps.gov). Do not worry if you enter the wrong email address; the district injury compensation office also will receive a copy of the claim and will email the claim form to your supervisor. The last step in registering involves creating a password and choosing three security questions. Once you have done that, your account will be created, and you can begin filing a claim. After you file a form in ECOMP, it will be forwarded to your supervisor for the supervisor portion of the form to be completed.

Once the supervisor has completed the claim form, a hard copy will be given to the injured worker to sign, an OWCP requirement.

The ECOMP website also allows injured workers to upload documents (medical reports, general inquiries, appeals, etc.) directly into the claim file. The left side of the ECOMP home page asks, "Have you been hurt on the job?" Below that, it asks, "Need to upload a document?" Clicking on the blue "UPLOAD DOCUMENTS" icon will open the "Upload Documents to Case" page, which will request the case number, last name of the claimant, date of birth and date of injury. Once that information has been entered, follow the instructions to choose the document you want to upload. If you have an existing claim, you do not need to be registered to upload documents.

Enjoy reading! If you have any question or need help navigating ECOMP please feel free to call or text me at (818)419-7723.

If I do not answer, please leave a message with your name, phone number, the office you work at and a brief message.

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

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**Address Service Requested**

**Branch Meeting Minutes**  
**March 2, 2021**

By  
Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held VIRTUALLY on the ZOOM APP. It was called to order by PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON at 6:43 The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS POWERS  
MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Memory of All Letter Carriers who have passed this year.

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

**PRESENT**--J. DOLABSON, BURTON, SEYFRIED, WILSON, MULLINAX, POWERS, JEFFREY, MACARAEG, JOHNSON, L. DOLABSON, DUENEZ, VALENZUELA  
**ABSENT**--NONE

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL**

**CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--NONE**

**BILLS READ--NONE**

**MOTION TO SUSPEND BUSINESS** M/S/C

**SPECIAL GUEST**--NALC Legislative and Political Organizer, JOHN BEAUMONT gave an informative update on what is happening in Washington DC, and on the current bills related to Letter Carriers. For more detailed information check out the Legislative Action Center on the National Website  
WWW.NALC.Org

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT & BUDGET**--TRUSTEES Audit was held on Feb 11, 2021& all books were found to be in good order.

**SAFETY & HEALTH** No meetings have been scheduled for the near future. Always work in a SAFE and PROFESSIONAL manner. Roving Safety Squads are on the streets watching at all times.

**RETIREES** 9 retiree's present

**MDA FUND--POWERS** Currently \$887.00 in fund

**HBR--L. DOLABSON** Still waiting to here from National on how many new members, and new roster.

**MDA--MACARAEG** New fund raiser under way, Virtual Walking. Teams are being organized and you can make donations at your Stations with your Shop Stewards.

**MBA--DUENEZ** Received some new info regarding various plans. Pamphlets will be coming to your stations soon.

**EDITOR--VALENZUELA** MailCall fund is up to date.  
**FINANCE REPORT--MULLINAX** Still working on non-member list but difficult due to delays from National on membership listings. All Pins have been completed and we are working on when and how to get them out to membership. Still waiting to see how things progress before committing to a Retiree Luncheon, but we hope to have one. Yearly Safety Audits have begun at Stations. Bring any concerns to Steward  
**TREASURERS REPORT READ--WILSON**

**Motion--Accept financial report as read** M/S/C

**VICE-PRESIDENT BURTON** Bill HR 47, to prevent Privatization of the Postal Service has 79 Co-sponsors and we hope for some action on this soon. Currently trying to set up appointment with Congressman Garcia (R-25).

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

**OLD BUSINESS--NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION--Branch send up to 5 Members, to be chosen by the President, to the LCPF Training Class on March 14, 2021 from 10 am-12 pm.**  
Each Member to receive \$ 50.00 for all expenses.  
Total cost to the Branch \$ 250.00

M/S/C

**MOTION--Branch send up to 5 Members, to be chosen by the President, to the Formal A Training Sessions on March 28, April 25, and May 23, 2021 For 4 hours each session, each Member to receive \$ 100.00 for each day attended, to cover all expenses. Total cost to the Branch \$ 1,500.00**

M/S/C

**MOTION--Branch send 2 Members, to be chosen by the President, to the Financial Officers Training Class. Each Member to receive \$ 150.00 for all expenses. Total cost to the Branch \$ 300.00.**

M/S/C

**UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE**

**GOOD OF ASSOCIATION**

Retiree ART BOCEK wished to commend the OWCP Rep on her articles in the MailCall, and to express his thanks for the Branches commitment to the Paper.

**MDA DRAWING**

**NONE**

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 PM