

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

VOLUME 59

NOVEMBER 2022

NUMBER 11

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By JANETTE DOLABSON

I would like to extend Condolences from the Branch to the families of Dennis Teubner retired carrier out of Encino and Paul Miller retired out of Tarzana.

I would like to Congratulate Retired member Daniel Rathbone for reaching his over 30 years being retired. Thank you for all your years of service to the branch and your membership.

Congratulations to all the Retirees who were honored at our Retiree Luncheon on October 30, 2022. I will have a report on that in the next Mail Call since this article is being written before the actual event will take place.

By the time this is printed in our Newsletter our National Election for Officers will have concluded. I want to thank Calvin Brookins for stepping up and running for National Business Agent. It took a lot of courage to go against the National ticket and do what we in this branch and other branches believe was the right choice for that position. Win or not, at least we had a choice and a voice. We will support whoever wins.

COLA

The sixth regular cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for career letter carriers under the 2019- 2023 National Agreement was \$2,455 annually following the release of the July consumer price index. This increase was added to every step in Table 1 and Step O in Table 2, and then applied proportionately to Steps A through N in Table 2. The increase has been applied to the pay chart on page 7. The increase was effective on Aug. 27, 2022. The sixth COLA alone was at least a 3.8 percent pay increase for each step in the career pay schedules. The five previous COLAs paid under the 2019-2023 National Agreement have resulted in total pay increases for each step in the career pay schedules of at least 6.2 percent. The result is at least a 10 percent increase so far during this contract from COLA increases alone. PR

Time Projection Rules

In 2007, NALC and USPS settled a national-level dispute over management's use of DOIS projections (M-01664) in determining a letter carrier's daily workload. In 2011, the parties further agreed that projections cannot determine a letter carrier's daily workload when they settled a national-level

dispute that arose for the Greater Indiana District's use of an "office efficiency tool." This settlement (M-01769) is applicable to any other tool/system/program currently being used or developed in the future to project office and/or street time.

I am so tired of hearing constantly that management is insisting that these projections determine your time as a carrier. Obviously, that isn't the case. Further, most the carriers on routes were not even the same carrier those "projections" were based on. It has become an intimidation tool that our supervisors seem to have been trained to use on carriers. Don't buy it. Don't be intimidated by it. DO let us know if this is continuing in your offices and we will again address it in all offices still doing this. I have also been told that if the carrier tells them they need a 3996 they respond to them they don't need one and you have undertime. It is not the Supervisors job to deny you access to a 3996. They can either deny the time or approve it or part of it. I have also been told that when a carrier is denied the time and the carrier tells them they will call if they are going over and the Supervisor in that office said no don't call. This is also not acceptable. Carrier's have been instructed to always call if they will be working over their approved time. When a carrier calls to inform the Supervisor, they will be going over that time, they should give them one of three instructions. 1. Keep going. 2. Bring it back or 3. We will send you help. There should be no arguing, no intimidation, and no threat of discipline for not making managements "projections". See your Steward if this continues to happen.

IN MEMORY OF

**DENNIS TEUBNER
RETIREE ENCINO**

**PAUL MILLER
RETIREE TARZANA**

"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	3	4	7				5	6	6	5		
ENCINO	3	4	4				4	4	3	2		
PANORAMA CITY	4	4	4				4	5	3	3		
SHERMAN OAKS	2	4	3				5	4	6	4		
SUN VALLEY	0	0	0				0	0	0	0		
TARZANA	0	0	0				0	0	1	0		
RETIREE'S	9	7	7				6	8	5	7		
TOTAL	21	23	25				24	27	24	21		

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY NOVEMBER 1st 2022

6:30 p.m.

**It Will Be Held At the
UNION OFFICE
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave
#104**

Between Van Owen & Sherman Way

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

Nov 6, 2022

**WEB PAGE.... WWW.NALCBRANCH2462.ORG
BRANCH OFFICE.....818-786-8505
O P C PERSONNEL OFFICE.....818-374-5600
E-Mail.....Branch2462nalc@gmail.com**

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NOT LET UP. WOULD'T YOU LOVE A
GREAT TASTING—COOL DRINK FOR
YOURSELF OR A FRIEND !!!
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205-6749 TO ORDER!!!**

**ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF THESE
GOES TO MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY**



**BRANCH 2462
RETIREE LUNCHEON
SUNDAY AFTERNOON
OCTOBER 30, 2022
MONTEREY AT ENCINO
(FORMALLY ENCINO GLEN RESTAURANT)**

16821 Burbank Blvd. Encino, California

Doors Open 1:15 PM

LUNCH at 2:00 PM

Price is \$ 10.00

Retiree's and Active Carriers are Welcome

Health Benefit Report
by
LARRY DOLABSON, HB Representative

The Federal Benefits Open Season for the 2023 plan year for health insurance under the FEHB Program, dental and vision insurance under FEDVIP and flexible spending accounts under FSAFEDS will be held from November 14 through December 12, 2022.

Federal Benefits Open Season gives Federal employees and other eligible individuals the opportunity to review their plans, make changes, and enroll in one of 271 FEHB plan choices for 2023. During this time, annuitants can also re-evaluate their plans and decide if they are optimal coverage.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, and new challenges must be met such as Monkeypox, OPM continues to work with the FEHB Carriers to ensure our enrollees have access to appropriate benefits and services and to meet and address these challenges. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Carriers have provided quick solutions for access to testing, vaccines, mental health benefits, and telehealth, as well as encouraging our enrollees to get vaccinated by offering incentives.

The FEHB Program is market-based, centered on choice and competition.

Major cost drivers of our Program align with those experienced in the commercial market, such as pharmacy spending, including expensive specialty drugs; the cost of treating chronic illness, and advances in medical technology and innovation.

Type of Enrollment	Enrollment Code	Premium Rate			
		Biweekly		Monthly	
		Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share
High Option Self Only	321	\$259.72	\$102.98	\$562.73	\$223.12
High Option Self Plus One	323	\$560.52	\$241.73	\$1,214.46	\$523.75
High Option Self and Family	322	\$611.42	\$211.30	\$1,324.74	\$457.82
CDHP Option Self Only	324	\$167.18	\$55.73	\$362.23	\$120.74
CDHP Option Self Plus One	326	\$368.86	\$122.95	\$799.19	\$266.40
CDHP Option Self and Family	325	\$396.08	\$132.03	\$858.18	\$286.06
Value Option Self Only	KM1	\$137.22	\$45.74	\$297.31	\$99.10
Value Option Self Plus One	KM3	\$302.71	\$100.90	\$655.87	\$218.62
Value Option Self and Family	KM2	\$325.22	\$108.40	\$704.63	\$234.88

"THE MAIL CALL"

BRANCH 2462, NALC

Francisco Valenzuela, Editor
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 104
Van Nuys, CA 91406

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Branch Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2022

By

Steve Seyfried, Secretary

The Meeting was held at the Branch 2462 Union Hall 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave, #104 Van Nuys California. It was called to order by PRESIDENT J. DOLABSON at 6:49 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS POWERS

MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Memory of DENNIS TEUBNER, PAUL MILLER & ALL LETTER CARRIERS that have passed in 2022.

ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS

PRESENT--J. DOLABSON, MACARAEG, SEYFRIED, MULLINAX, POWERS, JEFFREY, BURTON, VALENZUELA

ABSENT--WILSON, JOHNSON, L. DOLABSON, DUENEZ

MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL

CORRESPONDENCE READ

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--THERE WERE SEVERAL NEW MEMBERS ACCEPTED TONIGHT. THEIR NAMES WILL BE PRINTED IN NEXT MONTH'S MAILCALL.

BILLS READ--NONE

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AUDIT & BUDGET--TRUSTEES Audit will be held in January, date to be announced.

SAFETY & HEALTH Once again we are forced to revisit the USPS Policy on the wearing of headphones and/or earbuds at work. You are allowed to wear headphones/earbuds while at your case. If you leave your case for any reason you must remove them from your ears. The wearing of headphones/earbuds while on the street is absolutely NOT ALLOWED, except on your Lunch break, and provided that you are not moving either on foot or in your vehicle. It has been recorded that many Supervisors are seen both in the office and on the street and in the office, with earbuds on while moving about or driving. While this is NOT ALLOWED we cannot do anything other than inform them of their VIOLATION of Postal Regulations. It is certainly a double standard but one we have no control over, this would fall to the Postmaster and upper management.

RETIREES 7 Retiree's present tonight. Retiree Luncheon is on for October 30, 2022. At the Monterey at Encino

MDA FUND--POWERS Currently \$ 1788.00 in the fund

HBR--L. DOLABSON Watch for Article in November MailCall for important info regarding the Health Plan
MDA--MACARAEG New Jamba Juice Cards are still available, contact your Shop Steward to purchase a two for one card. They are \$ 10 and proceeds go to MDA; we will be looking at having a Bowl-a-Thon early next year.

MBA--DUENEZ

No Report

POLITICAL--BURTON

HR 82, The Social Security

Fairness Act, which would eliminate the Wind-Fall Tax, now has 303 co-sponsors, and is expected to proceed to the House Floor for a vote in the next 2 weeks. HR 4268, which would allow CCA's to buy back their time, is stalled awaiting more support. CHRISTY SMITH continues to rally votes for her run at the District 27 House seat.

EDITOR--VALENZUELA

All is Well

FINANCE REPORT--MULLINAX 180 invitations have been sent to all retirees for the Retirement Luncheon. We would like to have 100 individuals attending, as this would greatly help reduce the overhead costs. ALL MEMBERS both Retired and Active and their families are invited to attend. Cost if \$ 10, contact the office to request tickets.

TREASURERS REPORT--WILSON Financial Reports were read by the Financial Secretary.

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS READ

M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT MACARAEG Shop Steward class for new Steward applicants are going great. Congrats to WILLIAM TORRES on his promotion to Full Time Career Carrier status.

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

OLD BUSINESS--NONE

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION--Branch renew Quick Books Annual payroll subscription. Estimated cost to the Branch \$ 650

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch authorize an additional amount of \$ 92 to cover the extra cost of our Workman's Comp insurance for Aug 28,2021 thru Aug 28,2022

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to Marine Toy's for Tots Foundation

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to Van Nuys

Salvation Army for Thanksgiving

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to Van Nuys

Salvation Army for Christmas

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to American

Cancer Society, in the name of ROGER ASKEW

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch donate \$ 100 to the Wounded

Warriors Project

M/S/C

MOTION--Branch gift JESUS CRUZ, our MDA

"Poster Child," \$50 for his Birthday in November

M/S/C

UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE

GOOD OF ASSOCIATION

Branch celebrated with Pizza and delicious goodies, the Occasion of Brother DAN RATHBONE's 30th Year of Retirement.

MDA DRAWING

\$ 3 JOSE JIMENEZ--SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED

\$ 4 STEVE SEYFRIED--RETIREE (S-OAKS)--DONATED

Meeting Adjourned 8:48 PM