

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

**VOLUME 60**

**FEBRUARY 2023**

**NUMBER 1**

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**By JANETTE DOLABSON**

### **National Election Reaction and Response from Branch**

#### **Brothers and Sisters of NALC Region 1:**

I realize that the National President has the authority to make decisions on who he appoints to positions, such as Regional Administrative Assistance in regions throughout the country. With that being said I absolutely do not agree with the decision, or the treatment made to do what he did to our own beloved and respected RAA Calvin Brookins. Our Branch and many others in Region 1 feel the same way.

I congratulate our new National Business agent, Keisha Lewis and wish her the best in her new endeavor. It would have been a great move on Nationals' part to have kept Calvin during the transition to help acclimate her to the position. He was, to many of our branches, the go to guy at the NBA for help and guidance in representing our members. He always was dependable, knowledgeable, trustworthy, kind and gracious. He will be deeply missed. We thank him for all his years of service and dedication to serving the NALC, our members, our Region, and our branch. He has been our mentor, our teacher, confidant, and most of all our friend. Calvin Brookins has served you with honor, dignity, selflessness, and dedication for more than half his life. We are a democratic union, correct? Everyone has the right to run for any office, right?

Or is it unless you run against the National Ticket for a position you are highly qualified to run for? I guess so. After you have the guts and strength to run for a position you have the right to, you get a call from the National President who tells you that you are no longer an RAA and puts you out of work on administrative leave with no given reason. Sounds like something the USPS would do.

It's disgraceful, classless, and overwhelmingly disappointing. It's a shameful treatment of a man who has served us all so well.

Apparently, according to some, if you run against the National Ticket, you no longer see their "vision" for the future and no longer will be on the same team as National. I don't agree with that mindset. It's the wrong message you are sending to OUR members.

**(Continued on Page 2)**

## **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 April 4, 2023 at 8:00 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 April 7, 2023. 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.

## **ELECTION**

The election shall be conducted by secret mailed ballot. All ballots will be mailed First Class to the home addresses of eligible members no later than May 8, 2023. The Election shall be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Executive Board of Branch 2462, NALC, which shall not be in violation of the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Rules of the National Executive Council. Ballots must be mailed back to the Election Committee at PO BOX 800785 Valencia CA 91380, and must be received by 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2023. The counting of the ballots will take place on Thursday, May 28, 2023 beginning at 5:00 p.m. at 6910 Hayvenhurst Ave., # 104 Van Nuys, California . All candidates and members may observe the counting

"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
MAIN OFFICE	4										
ENCINO	3										
PANORAMA CITY	1										
SHERMAN OAKS	1										
SUN VALLEY	0										
TARZANA	0										
RETIREE'S	7										
TOTAL	16										

**NEXT MEETING  
TUESDAY  
FEBRUARY  
7th  
2023**

**6:30 p.m.**

**It Will Be Held At the  
6910 Hayvenhurst Ave  
#104  
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA  
Between Van Owen & Sherman Way**

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

**Feb 11, 2023**

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

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 1)

**Below from his own words:**

"On Monday 12/19/2022, at 8:57 AM I received a call from Brian Renfro, and he stated to me that as per Article 9 of the Constitution and effective immediately I will no longer be used as a Regional Administrative Assistance. He did not give me a reason for removing me from my RAA position and did not give me a chance to ask any questions.

For 8 years I have performed all duties assigned to me diligently and to the very best of my ability. I have not had any negative performance reviews nor have the National Business Agent or President Fred Rolando ever told me that I was not performing my duties as required.

During my time as an RAA, I served and advised the members well, while overseeing:

- Safety issues and protocols
- Carrier Academy
- Organizing
- Route Inspections
- The New TIAREAP
- Evaluation and Adjustment process (01982)
- COVID protocol/issues
- Food Drive
- Minimum dues branches/concerns
- Arbitration Advocate
- Etc.

Everything I did as a RAA, I did for the NALC and the membership, every conversation I had whether it was in person or by phone with a Branch President, Vice President, Shop Steward or regular member, my only goal was to advise, instruct and educate as to how to better represent their members or themselves. I did my due diligence in that area each day.

My intentions were to stay around as a RAA and work with and be an asset to our new NBA Keisha Lewis. But Renfro decided that he no longer wanted me to serve the membership in NALC Region 1.

Remember the National Officers, including Renfro, work for you (the membership) and you always have the right to voice your opinion about decisions they make. The actions or decisions that are made by the leadership should be in the best interest of the members.

I count it a privilege and an honor to have been a part of and to have served the members of NALC Region 1."

I have been involved with this union for the last 34 years and have enjoyed my time serving as a representative.

(Continued on Page 5)

JANUARY 2023 THRU DECEMBER 2023

	ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES	BUDGET 2022	SPENT 2022	BUDGET 2023
	NALC Per Capita Tax:			
	Regular Members			
	350 at \$ 267.28	\$ 86,371.20		\$ 93,548.00
	Retiree's			
	110 at \$ 7.00	\$ 770.00	\$ 793.15	\$ 770.00
	State Per capita Tax:			
	Regular Members			
	350 at \$ 10.40	\$ 3,640.00	\$ 3,593.60	\$ 3,640.00
	Retiree's			
	110 at \$ .50	\$ 55.00	\$ 66.75	\$ 55.00
1	Contingency Fund (regular members)			
	(350 @ 2.00 x 26 pay periods)	\$ 18,200.00	\$ 17,968.00	\$ 18,200.00
2	Contingency Fund (retired members)			
	(110 @ .50 x 26 pay periods)	\$ 1,430.00	\$ 1,850.00	\$ 1,430.00
3	Branch Officers Salary	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00	\$ 42,000.00
4	The Mail-Call	\$ 6,700.00	\$ 9,131.97	\$ 10,000.00
5	Mail-Permit (includes postage)	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,700.00
6	Postage Expense	\$ 750.00	\$ 1,838.14	\$ 800.00
9	Harry Brenneman Award	\$ 250.00	\$ 952.48	\$ 300.00
10	Office Expense	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,467.58	\$ 4,000.00
12	Retiree's Dinner	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 4,545.64	\$ 5,500.00
13	Installation of Officers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
14	Branch Telephones	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,007.81	\$ 1,200.00
15	Bond for Officer's	\$ 400.00	\$ 392.00	\$ 400.00
16	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,552.51	\$ 1,600.00
17	Labor-Management Meetings	\$ 100.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 100.00
18	Refreshments	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,397.44	\$ 1,500.00
19	Donations	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 1,000.00
20	Equipment Repairs	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 488.00	\$ 750.00
21	Equipment Purchase	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,078.60	\$ 3,000.00
22	Election Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
23	Miscellaneous Expense	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
24	Public Relations	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,502.90	\$ 1,500.00
25	Station Expense	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00
26	Educational & Training	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 11,076.22	\$ 20,000.00
27	Publications	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00
28	Local Negotiations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
29	Branch Picnic	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
30	Assignment Time	\$ 16,000.00	\$ -	\$ 16,000.00

ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES		BUDGET 2022	SPENT 2022	BUDGET 2023
31	Insurance cost	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,067.00	\$ 1,200.00
32	Office Rental	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 29,178.62	\$ 33,000.00
33	Gas Utility	\$ 350.00	\$ 339.60	\$ 400.00
34	Food Drive	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 1,615.22	\$ 4,000.00
35	Ray Kreyer Award	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,057.13	\$ 600.00
36	C.O.A. Mail Call	\$ 50.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 125.00
37	Route Inspection Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
38	Mileage (.625 per mile)	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,869.41	\$ 2,000.00
39	Scholarship Expense	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00
40	Electric Utility	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,541.55	\$ 2,000.00
41	Dues & Membership Expense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,103.70	\$ 1,300.00
42	Janitorial Expense	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00	\$ 900.00
43	MDA Expense	\$ 600.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 600.00
45	Bass Calendars	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,687.50	\$ 1,800.00
46	Christmas Open House	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 7,878.27	\$ 8,000.00
47	Independent Medical Exam	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
48	Organizing Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
49	Cellular Phone	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 100.00
50	Greeting Cards	\$ 25.00	\$ -	\$ 25.00
51	On-Line Service	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,175.76	\$ 1,300.00
53	NALC Store Expense	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 2,100.00
54	Deaf/Inter-Sign Language	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
55	General Taxes	\$ 650.00	\$ 423.01	\$ 600.00
56	Cable Expense	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,111.72	\$ 1,400.00
57	Retiree Breakfast Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00
58	Cost of LM-3 & 990 Reports	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 845.00	\$ 1,000.00
59	Workers Compensation Insurance	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 592.00	\$ 1,600.00
60	Konica Minolta C458 Expense	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 6,525.04	\$ 7,500.00
99	Non-Numbered Items	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS		\$ 292,050.00	\$ 256,174.52	\$ 309,063.00

JANUARY 2023 THRU DECEMBER 2023

BALANCE SHEET

INCOME \$ 313,512.00

EXPENDITURES \$ 309,063.00

BALANCE \$ 4,449.00

The above report will be voted on by the members at the regular meeting, on February 7, 2023. Respectfully submitted,

Tia Wilson

Treasurer

Tracy Mullinax

Financial Secretary

Robert Johnson

Trustee

Paul Jeffrey

Trustee

John Burton

Trustee

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**(Continued from Page 1)**

But most of all I have enjoyed the people I have met and the friendship that has developed over the years.

I want to thank all of you who have supported me through the recent election and my career as a Regional Administrative Assistant. That support is the reason I persevered through it all and could not have made it through it without you all. So again, from the bottom of my heart I want to thank each one of you for your support and for all you do out there for the membership.

This post is just to let you all know that I will no longer be serving you as an RAA, not my choice, but the choice of your new National President."

**Calvin Brookins**

### **Fraud Alert:**

Since many of our carries stated to us that this stand up was not given in their offices I am printing what should have been told to you here:

Be on the lookout for fake LiteBlue websites. Securing the privacy of your personal data is a shared priority for you and the Postal Service. Any private information stored online is a potential target for criminals. We have become aware of a fraud scheme by cyber criminals using fake USPS LiteBlue websites to target Postal Service employees. These websites appear as near-exact replicas of the official LiteBlue website. Some sites use web addresses, with spelling variations of "Lite" or "Blue" instead of the correct website address. Scammers use these fake websites to collect usernames and passwords. When you attempt to log in to a fake site, the scammer records your information. They can use this to enter PostalEASE —the self-service application reached through LiteBlue for employment-related services. There, scammers may access your sensitive data, which they can manipulate for their own financial gain. The LiteBlue and PostalEASE applications have not been compromised. A limited number of employees have reported unusual account activity involving their PostalEASE accounts, which has been attributed to their prior interaction with the faked LiteBlue websites. If you use a search engine such as Google or Yahoo to navigate to LiteBlue, you may find the fake websites in your search results. We are working with the internet service providers to remove the fake websites. However, they often reappear as quickly as they are removed. You can reduce the chances of going to a fake site by navigating directly to the official USPS website at (spell aloud) W-W-W - "dot" -L-I-T-E-B-L-U-E - "dot" U-S-P-S - "dot" G-O-V. If you visit LiteBlue frequently, you should bookmark the site as one of your favorites. We are assisting employees affected by this fraud and providing them with credit monitoring services. We are also taking additional precautions across our network to mitigate the risk of further impact to our employees. The Postal Service's Corporate Information Security Office, Office of

Inspector General, and Postal Inspection Service are investigating this matter.

If you suspect you are a victim of this fraud, or if you encounter a fake LiteBlue website, please contact CyberSafe by email at [cybersafe@usps.gov](mailto:cybersafe@usps.gov).

### **Christmas Party;**

Thank you to all who came out to our Branch Christmas Party and especially to those who helped put it all together and work hard serving out members. Thanks to RAA's Allan Rios and Calvin Brookins for representing the NBA office at our gathering.

### **Food Drive Update:**

Since our Food Bank has decided that they are reassessing their role in our food drive. We will not be getting bags donated this year. MEND has been disappointed in the decline in food donations and the quality of the food they have received. I understand that they do receive more food with money raised than they do with actual food donations, however, it seemed that they are moving in the direction that many food banks are going. Donor drives rather than food drives. The executive board discussed our options this year and have decided to leave it up to each station on whether they want to do the food drive in their offices with just the food drive cards. Those offices coordinators will find a local church, pantry, soup kitchen etc, who would welcome the food donations and be willing to pick up the food at that station on food drive day. Those offices opting into the food drive will be the only offices that we will be ordering food drive cards for this year. It makes me particularly sad that we have been so involved and dedicated to this food drive in our branch for over 35 years with MEND as our partner.

## **JANUARY 16, 2023 We Remembered & Honored**



**"THE TIME IS ALWAYS RIGHT TO DO  
WHAT IS RIGHT"**

**1965 Commencement address  
Oberlin College, Ohio**

**"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**

**January 3, 2023**

**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 6:54 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS POWERS

**MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Memory of ALL LETTER CARRIERS that have passed in 2022.**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

**PRESENT**--J. DOLABSON, SEYFRIED, WILSON, MULLINAX, POWERS, JEFFREY, BURTON, L. DOLABSON, VALENZUELA

**ABSENT**--MACARAEG, JOHNSON, DUENEZ

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL CALL CORRESPONDENCE READ**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP--**

**ALEJANDRO CORTEZ, NICHOLAS FRANCIS, JUAN GURROLA, MILTON GUZWAN, RICARDO SANTELIZ, EDENILSON TEXIN, ROBERTO ACOSTA JR., SAMUEL LEE, CALEB LUNSFORD, JENNIFER MARINEZ, JOSE SOLORZANO, MERCEDEZ STERLING**

**BILLS READ--NONE**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**AUDIT & BUDGET--TRUSTEES** Budget meeting will be held on January 5<sup>th</sup> and the Audit will be held on Jan 26<sup>th</sup>. Both will be at the Union Office.

**SAFETY & HEALTH** Same problems with Carriers not following Earbud policy, not fastening seat belts when in drivers' seat and delivering to mounted boxes and improper lifting procedures. Street observations will be starting again with special attention to those working on SUNDAY. Follow the safety rules and you will have no problem.

**RETIREEES** 7 Retiree's present tonight. We will have an announcement from the Executive Board, regarding the Retiree Breakfast's at the next meeting

**MDA FUND--POWERS** \$ 2458.00 in the fund

**HBR--L. DOLABSON** We now have the updated information regarding the Health Plan for 2023. If you have any questions please contact me through the Branch Office. If you have not received your 2023 Health Plan Card call me.

**MDA--MACARAEG** No Report.

**MBA--DUENEZ** No Report

**POLITICAL--BURTON** Nothing is happening in DC, waiting for the Republican house to choose a new Speaker

**EDITOR--VALENZUELA** All is Well

**ELECTION--SEYFRIED** Branch will be having an Election of Officers upcoming in May. Information regarding

the Nominations and Election will be published in the February MailCall

**FINANCE REPORT--MULLINAX** DAN TRAN of Tarzana Station retired last month. Wishing him well for the future !

**TREASURERS REPORT--WILSON** Financial Reports for Nov & Dec 2022 were read by the Financial Secretary.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS AS READ** M/S/C

**VICE-PRESIDENT MACARAEG** No Report

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

**/OLD BUSINESS--**

**The following actions were taken by the Executive Board since the last Regular Branch Meeting Board voted to:**

1. **Send 2 people to the COP Meeting in Detroit MI from March 11 - 14. Cost not to exceed \$ 3000.00**
2. **Purchase Federal & State Regulation Poster Kit. Cost to the Branch \$ 84.99**
3. **Purchase 20 rolls of stamps. Cost \$ 1200.00**
4. **Purchase 10 Men's NALC watch's and 10 Retiree hats. Cost to the Branch \$ 1050.00**
5. **Pay the Treasurer \$ 864.50 to prepare the LM3, 99, and the Workman Compensation Audit.**
6. **Reinvest the CD, which expired end of Dec. at a financial institution to be chosen by Finance Committee.**
7. **Purchase a new coffee urn.**
8. **Rent a PO Box for the upcoming Branch Officer Election. Cost to the Branch \$ 129.00**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**MOTION--Branch renew the USPS Marketing Mail Permit for the MailCall. Cost to the Branch \$ 275.00** M/S/C

**UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANIMOUS VOTE**

**MDA DRAWING**

- \$ 3 EDWIN BORJAS--SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED  
\$ 3 EDWIN BORJAS--SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED  
\$ 5 ART BOCEK--RETIRED--(ENCINO)

Meeting Adjourned 8:32 PM