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

**VOLUME 62** **FEBRUARY 2025** **NUMBER 1**

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**By**
**JEMMAYEN MACARAEG**

The 2025 Los Angeles fires were a series of devastating wildfires that swept through Southern California in January 2025. Fueled by strong Santa Ana winds and dry conditions, the fires caused widespread destruction, displacing thousands of residents and claiming lives.

The fires had a significant impact on the Los Angeles region, causing widespread power outages, air quality issues, and evacuations. The economic and emotional toll on the affected communities was immense.

Branch 2462 officers and stewards proactively contacted members to assess their well-being and offer support. While the majority of members were unaffected, a few were forced to evacuate their homes. Thankfully, all members from Branch 2462 who were evacuated are ok and did not lose their home.

Some of our members from our sister branches lost their home, we are asking you to please help our brothers and sisters that are facing an overwhelming challenge. You can help simply by donating to the National Disaster Relief Fund to support those impacted by the 2025 Los Angeles fires. Your contribution can help provide essential assistance to all letter carriers who have lost their homes, livelihoods, and loved ones.

Here's how: Scan the QR code to donate money using credit card. You will need your member number, which can be found on the **Members Only portal** on nalc.org. The foundation is a 501(c) (3). Your contribution to the NALC Disaster Relief Foundation may be eligible for a tax deduction. It is recommended you seek further advice from your tax advisor. You may also donate by sending a check or money to:

**NALC Disaster Relief Foundation**
**100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144**

I would like to encourage our brothers and sisters that were affected by the devastating wildfires to reach out to Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for immediate support. You are not alone, please contact **USPS Employee Assistance Program (EAP) 24/7 phone 800- 327-4968 or website at www.EAP4YOU.com**

Here is additional helpful information:

**California Resources**

- **Active shelter locations in Los Angeles County:**
  - Westwood Recreation Center o 1350 South Sepulveda Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025
  - El Camino Real Charter High School o 5440 Valley Circle Boulevard, Woodland Hills, CA 91367
  - Pasadena Convention Center o 300 East Green Street, Pasadena, CA 91101
  - Ritchie Valens Recreation Center o 10736 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Pacoima, CA 91331
  - Northridge Park o 10120 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91324
  - Sepulveda Recreation Center Crisis & Disaster Resources o 8825 Kester Avenue, Panorama City, CA 91402
- **Active animal shelter locations in Los Angeles County:**
  - Los Angeles Equestrian Center o 480 West Riverside Drive, Burbank, CA 91506
  - Pierce College Equestrian Center o 7100 El Rancho Drive, Woodland Hills, CA 91371
  - Agoura Animal Care Center o 29525 Agoura Road, Agoura Hills, CA 91301
- **California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES)** Cal OES is responsible for overseeing and coordinating emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and homeland security activities within the state of California. Cal OES regularly dispatches team members to join first responders, emergency leaders and those impacted by disasters that threaten public safety, to tell their stories and provide information essential to the public.

**(Continued on Page 5)**

"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 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| PANORAMA CITY | 4 | | | | | | | | | | |
| SHERMAN OAKS | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| SUN VALLEY | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| TARZANA | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| RETIREE'S | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 27 | | | | | | | | | | |

# NEXT MEETING
# TUESDAY
# FEBRUARY
# 4th
# "2025"
# 6:30 p.m.
# BRANCH OFFICE

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

## Feb 9 , 2025

**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: !!!!

We have concluded our Saturday Retiree Breakfasts for the year. Thanks to all those who attended and for the Branch for sponsoring our event. We look forward to resuming again after the first of the year. We wish all happy holidays. Thank You

## PROPOSED BY-LAW CHANGE

Proposed to amend Article XII, Section 7 Which now reads:

**Section 7.** The salaries shall be as follows

| | |
|---|---|
| President | $ 350.00 per month |
| Vice President | $ 150.00 per month |
| Recording Secretary | $ 150.00 per month |
| Treasurer | $ 150.00 per month |
| Financial Secretary | $ 150.00 per month |
| Sgt-at-Arms | $ 50.00 per month |
| Trustees (3) (each) | $ 50.00 per month |
| Health Benefit Representative | $ 50.00 per month |
| MBA Representative | $ 35.00 per month |
| Editor | $ 55.00 per month |
| Shop Steward (each) | $ 75.00 per month |

Proposed to read:

**Section 7.** The salaries shall be as follows

| | |
|---|---|
| President | $ 450.00 per month |
| Vice President | $ 250.00 per month |
| Recording Secretary | $ 200.00 per month |
| Treasurer | $ 200.00 per month |
| Financial Secretary | $ 200.00 per month |
| Sgt-at-Arms | $ 60.00 per month |
| Trustees (3) (each) | $ 65.00 per month |
| Health Benefit Representative | $ 60.00 per month |
| MBA Representative | $ 45.00 per month |
| Editor | $ 55.00 per month |
| Shop Steward (each) | $ 150.00 per month |

Submitted & Signed by: Steve Seyfried, Giuillermo Mariscal, Paul Jeffrey

### What is the Mutual Benefits Association (MBA) ?

Hi my name is Pedro Morales and I am your MBA Representative. I also serve as a Shop Steward at Main office. The National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Mutual Benefit Association (MBA) is a not-for-profit organization that offers insurance and financial products to NALC members exclusively and their families. The MBA was founded in 1891 to help letter carriers and their families financially secure in the event of death or illness.

The MBA offers a variety of plans, including:

- Life insurance: Whole life, term life, and 10-year renewable and convertible term life.
- Annuities: Immediate annuities and retirement savings plans
- Other insurance: Short-term disability, hospital confinement, and group insurance

The MBA is a not-for-profit organization, so all of its revenue goes toward serving its members. This allows the MBA to offer better rates on savings plans and annuities than many private companies.

Today, the MBA has over $224 million of life insurance in force and can claim over $194 million of admitted assets. The organization continues to serve letter carriers and their families nationwide—not only by providing insurance protection, but through other activities as well.

## BRANCH 2462 PROPOSED BUDGETJANUARY 2025 THRU DECEMBER 2025

| | ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES | BUDGET 2024 | SPENT 2024 | BUDGET 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | NALC Per Capita Tax: | | | |
| | Regular Members | | | |
| | 340 at $ 268.06 | $ 91,140.00 | $ 91,418.74 | $ 91,140.00 |
| | Retiree's | | | |
| | 110 at $ 7.08 | $ 780.00 | $ 770.38 | $ 780.00 |
| | State Per capita Tax: | | | |
| | Regular Members | | | |
| | 340 at $10.40 | $ 3,536.00 | $ 3,517.20 | $ 3,536.00 |
| | Retiree's | | | |
| | 110 at $0.60 | $ 66.00 | $ 65.10 | $ 66.00 |
| 1 | Contingency Fund (regular members) | | | |
| | (340 @ 2.00 x 26 pay periods) | $ 17,680.00 | $ 17,674.00 | $ 17,680.00 |
| 2 | Contingency Fund (retired members) | | | |
| | (110 @ .50 x 26 pay periods) | $ 1,900.00 | $ 1,843.50 | $ 1,900.00 |
| 3 | Branch Officers Salary | $ 42,000.00 | $ 42,000.00 | $ 48,000.00 |
| 4 | The Mail-Call | $ 10,000.00 | $ 8,407.70 | $ 9,000.00 |
| 5 | Mail-Permit (includes postage) | $ 2,000.00 | $ 1,810.00 | $ 2,000.00 |
| 6 | Postage Expense | $ 1,000.00 | $ 92.95 | $ 500.00 |
| 9 | Harry Brenneman Award | $ 325.00 | $ 265.70 | $ 325.00 |
| 10 | Office Expense | $ 5,000.00 | $ 3,495.53 | $ 5,000.00 |
| 12 | Retiree's Luncheon | $ 7,000.00 | $ 5,081.51 | $ 5,500.00 |
| 13 | Installation of Officers | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| 14 | Branch Telephones | $ 1,200.00 | $ 839.80 | $ 1,000.00 |
| 15 | Bond for Officer's | $ 400.00 | $ 392.00 | $ 400.00 |
| 16 | Office Supplies | $ 1,500.00 | $ 1,000.12 | $ 1,000.00 |
| 17 | Labor-Management Meetings | $ 100.00 | $ - | $ 100.00 |
| 18 | Refreshments | $ 3,500.00 | $ 1,443.01 | $ 1,500.00 |
| 19 | Donations | $ 1,000.00 | $ 600.00 | $ 800.00 |
| 20 | Equipment Repairs | $ 1,500.00 | $ 579.00 | $ 700.00 |
| 21 | Equipment Purchase | $ 2,500.00 | $ 5,780.40 | $ 2,500.00 |
| 22 | Election Expense | $ - | $ 129.00 | $ - |
| 23 | Miscellaneous Expense | $ 100.00 | $ 10.00 | $ 50.00 |
| 24 | Public Relations | $ 1,000.00 | $ 1,737.12 | $ 500.00 |
| 25 | Station Expense | $ 1,600.00 | $ 1,920.00 | $ 2,000.00 |
| 26 | Educational & Training | $ 25,000.00 | $ 25,485.60 | $ 25,000.00 |
| 27 | Publications | $ 20.00 | $ 20.00 | $ 20.00 |
| 28 | Local Negotiations | $ 2,000.00 | $ - | $ 2,000.00 |
| 29 | Branch Picnic | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| 30 | Assignment Time | $ 20,000.00 | $ 25,728.29 | $ 26,000.00 |
| 31 | Insurance cost | $ 1,200.00 | $ 1,772.00 | $ 1,800.00 |
| 32 | Office Rental | $ 33,000.00 | $ 32,350.34 | $ 33,500.00 |
| 33 | Gas Utility | $ 600.00 | $ 497.24 | $ 550.00 |
| 34 | Food Drive | $ 4,000.00 | $ 1,206.38 | $ 1,500.00 |
| 35 | Ray Kreyer Award | $ 700.00 | $ 582.12 | $ 600.00 |

| | ESTIMATE EXPENDITURES | BUDGET 2024 | SPENT 2024 | BUDGET 2025 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 36 | C.O.A. Mail Call | $ 125.00 | $ 150.00 | $ 125.00 |
| 37 | Route Inspection Expense | $ 1,000.00 | $ - | $ 1,000.00 |
| 38 | Mileage (.70 per mile) | $ 3,000.00 | $ 3,452.00 | $ 3,200.00 |
| 39 | Scholarship Expense | $ 300.00 | $ - | $ 300.00 |
| 40 | Electric Utility | $ 2,000.00 | $ 1,718.73 | $ 1,900.00 |
| 41 | Dues & Membership Expense | $ 1,300.00 | $ 1,183.24 | $ 1,300.00 |
| 42 | Janitorial Expense | $ 900.00 | $ 900.00 | $ 900.00 |
| 43 | MDA Expense | $ 600.00 | $ 29.02 | $ 150.00 |
| 45 | Bass Calendars | $ 1,800.00 | $ 1,662.50 | $ 1,900.00 |
| 46 | Christmas Open House | $ 9,000.00 | $ 8,290.29 | $ 5,500.00 |
| 47 | Independent Medical Exam | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| 48 | Organizing Expense | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| 49 | Cellular Phone | $ 100.00 | $ - | $ 100.00 |
| 50 | Greeting Cards | $ 25.00 | $ 19.70 | $ 25.00 |
| 51 | On-Line Service | $ 1,300.00 | $ 1,002.89 | $ 1,100.00 |
| 53 | NALC Store Expense | $ 2,100.00 | $ 1,000.00 | $ 1,000.00 |
| 54 | Deaf/Inter-Sign Language | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| 55 | General Taxes | $ 600.00 | $ 346.50 | $ 500.00 |
| 56 | Cable Expense | $ 1,400.00 | $ 1,045.73 | $ 1,200.00 |
| 57 | Retiree Breakfast Expense | $ 2,000.00 | $ 888.83 | $ 1,300.00 |
| 58 | Cost of LM-3 & 990 Reports | $ 1,000.00 | $ - | $ 2,300.00 |
| 59 | Workers Compensation Insurance | $ 600.00 | $ (582.00) | $ 600.00 |
| 60 | Konica Minolta C458 Expense | $ - | $ 84.84 | $ - |
| 99 | Non-Numbered Items | $ - | $ - | $ - |
| | TOTALS | $ 312,497.00 | | $ 311,347.00 |

## ESTIMATED INCOME:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Regular Members | 340 at $ 885.82 | ( $ 34.07 - ppp) | $301,178.80 |
| Retiree's | 110 at $ 36.00 | ( $3.00 per month) | $3,960.00 |
| NALC Health Benefit Reimbursement | | | $85.00 |
| Interest | | | $6,000.00 |
| Other Income | | | $150.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | | | $311,373.80 |

## BALANCE SHEET

| | |
|---|---|
| INCOME | $ 311,373.00 |
| EXPENDITURES | $ 311,347.00 |
| BALANCE | $ 26.00 |

The above report will be submitted to, and voted on by the general membership of Branch 2462 at the regular meeting to be held in the month of February 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Tia Wilson--Treasurer Tracy Mullinax--Financial Secretary Francisco Valenzuela--Trustee

# Presidents Report
**(Continued from page 1)**

- The American Red Cross

Los Angeles Region The American Red Cross is one member of the local, state, and federal disaster response community. During a disaster, the Red Cross provides shelter, food, emotional support, health services, clean-up supplies and comfort items.

Los Angeles Region: phone (310) 445-9900 1450 South Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90021.

Western Los Angeles Chapter: phone (310) 394-3773 1450 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401

- 2-1-1 California

2-1-1 operates nationwide and connects callers to human service information. This service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, even during disasters. Information and resources may be provided for a variety of needs including shelter, cell phone power stations, rent/utility assistance, and disaster response programs. Dial 211 from your phone to speak with a trained information and referral specialist. Calls are routed to service centers based on your geographic location. You can also call (800) 339-6993 or visit their website to obtain a list of local resources.

- California Wildfires Statewide Recovery Resources (CA.GOV)

For statewide recovery resources such as Local Assistance, Services, Debris Removal, Housing, Financial Assistance and Local Assistance Centers visit the Statewide Wildfire Recovery Resource page ca.gov/LAfire.

- California Fire Foundation

Wildfire Relief Fund The Wildfire Relief Fund is designed to assist residents in the aftermath of a disaster. Immediate needs for survivors may include shelter, food, cash, and other basic needs. Recovery is often more complex and depends on the scope of the disaster and an affected community's specific context and needs. For these reasons, the Wildfire Relief Fund supports both immediate disaster relief and long-term recovery efforts for those affected by California wildfires.

- California Department of Insurance

The California Department of Insurance offers resources to help survivors of wildfires. For information on claims and loss management, residential property claims guide and a home inventory guide, please visit their website or call at **1-800-927-4357**

National Resources:

- SAMHSA Disaster Distress Helpline 800-985-5990 (24 hours)

Website: https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/disaster-distress-helpline This helpline, through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), can provide immediate counseling to anyone who is seeking help.

- SAMHSA Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator

Website is: https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/

This line is available 24 hours/day and 7 days/week. The Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator provides information and a search tool for behavioral health and substance abuse/addiction services in the United States and U.S. Territories. You can access the free and confidential treatment provider search tool using the link listed above. After completing the search criteria, you can view a list of treatment providers and detailed information about each provider. You may also call (800) 662-4357 to receive free and confidential information about mental health and substance abuse treatment services in your area.

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Visit the FEMA website for information here. Find open shelters near you by texting SHELTER and your zip code to 4FEMA (43362). Example: Shelter 01234 (Standard text message rates apply).

- To Register for FEMA Disaster Assistance:

Website is: www.disasterassistance.gov

Phone is: 800-621-3362,
TTY 800-462-7585

## IN REMEMBERANCE OF

## James Earl Carter Jr

**39TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

THE MAIL CALL
BRANCH 2462,
NALC
6910 Hayvenhurst
# 104
Van Nuys, CA
91406
Address Service
Requested

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

# Branch Meeting Minutes
# January 7, 2025
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 MACARAEG at 6:51 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by SGT-AT-ARMS GODDARD

**MOMENT OF SILENCE--In Memory of all LETTER CARRIERS & RETIREES that passed in 2024.**

**ROLL CALL OF OFFICERS**

**PRESENT**--MACARAEG, J. DOLABSON, SEYFRIED, MULLINAX, WILSON, GODDARD, L. DOLABSON, VALENZUELA, BURTON, MORALES
**ABSENT**—NONE

**MINUTES ACCEPTED AS PRINTED IN MAIL**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**JIZET ISSAIAN, CECILY SMALLEY, JUAN CORCIO, TAMIR HABARI, RUBEN KEROBYAN, KENIA ORANTES-SANCHEZ, DIONE CASTRO, TRENT POWELL, CHALEE ARUNOTAI, ANGEL RODRIGUEZ, ALEJANDRO DEHARO, NICOLAS GAVIDIA, AIRANE HENDERSON, CHRISTA TRENGALI, IVAN TORRES, CASH BRADSHAW, SIMON SIMONIANS, TONY MARIN MARISOL ZUNIGA, CARLOS MEJIA, DEVIN MALONE, BRIAN DELGADO, JOANNA PEREYDA, DAVID OCHOA LIZETTE VALLE, OJENY MIRZAKHANIAN**
**COMMUNICATIONS READ**
**BILLS READ--NONE**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

AUDIT & BUDGET—TRUSTEES Audit will be on January 23,2025. Budget is done and will be submitted Feb. meeting.

SAFTEY & HEALTH Earbuds—Earbuds wearing them during deliveries, while moving, or dealing with the public is prohibited.

RETIREES 8 Retiree's present tonight.

MDA FUND--GODDARD $ 1,666.00 in the fund

HBR—BURTON New ID cards are on the way. You can access your new number on the HP website, if you need to see your doctor before you receive it.

MDA—BURTON Still have Jamba Juice cards available, and we are looking forward to having another Bowl-a-Thon sometime in the coming year.

MBA—MORALES Please read my article in the February issue of the MailCall.

POLITICAL—BURTON Windfall Elimination Bill has passed Congress and is on the way to be signed by President

FINANCE REPORT—MULLINAX If your station has not turned in receipts for your Christmas party do so immediately.

TREASURERS REPORT—WILSON Financial Reports were read.
Motion to accept Financial Reports as read M/S/C

VICE-PRESIDENT DOLABSON Announced her resignation effective February 1, 2025.

PRESIDENT MACARAEG BOB JOHNSON has resigned as Branch Trustee effective Dec, 31 2024. I have appointed PAUL JEFFREY to fill the position. P.O. has a new vehicle being tested made by Mercedes-Benz, it is similar to the Pro Master. Announced the updated regulations regarding the Hatch Act. Encino will be having route inspections in March. We will be holding a training class sometime before then to familiarize Carriers on how to handle the inspection. Food Drive will be held on May 10th this year more information to follow.

**OLD BUSINESS--NONE**

**BYLAWS**
A Bylaw change was submitted, it will be published in the February MailCall and voted on at the March 2025 meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

MOTION—Move that the Branch honor CALVIN BROOKINS with the title of PRESIDENT EMERITUS BRANCH 2462 M/S/C
MOTION—Move that the Branch endorse JAMES HENRY for the position of National NALC PRESIDENT M/S
MOTION TO TABLE M/S/C

**UNDERLINED INDICATES UNANAMOUS VOTE**

**GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**
Several members spoke about outgoing VICE PRESIDENT DOLABSON, thanking her for all the time and effort she has given to the Branch. Food was served to honor LARRY DOLABSON who retired on December 31st. Congrats to Larry.

**MDA DRAWING**

$ 2.00 RAFAEL PEREZ—PANORAMA CITY--DONATED
$ 4.00 BRIAN REYES—MAIN OFFICE—DONATED
$ 5.00 JOSE JIMENEZ—SHERMAN OAKS--DONATED

**Meeting Adjourned 8:40 PM**