# MAIL CALL

## Published by ANTHONY TRIPOLINO BRANCH 2200, N.A.L.C.

SERVING

Altadena, Glendale, La Canada, Montrose, Pasadena

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#### FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

**SUMMER ON THE WAY** – As we head into the late spring and early summer months, I would like to take this opportunity to remind our members of heat-related illnesses that carriers may experience. Heat-related illnesses can be very serious if not treated in a timely manner. Measures to prevent such illness must take place by staying hydrated before, during and after work daily. This is a critical factor to keep your body cool through perspiration throughout the day. What you drink plays a big role in staying hydrated too. Besides water, carriers also need to drink liquids which contain electrolytes. A couple of examples of liquids with electrolytes are sport drinks like Gatorade and others, such as coconut water. As we perspire throughout the day, we lose the essential electrolytes, known as potassium, sodium and manganese. Avoiding certain liquids also plays a big role. Drinks that contain high amounts of caffeine and sugar, such as soda, can contribute to dehydration. Additional information on heat related injuries can be found in Vice- President Calvin Rich's article in this edition of the Mail Call.

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY WHILE ON DUTY** – Criminal activity relating to postal vehicle break-ins and carriers being robbed while in the performance of their duties has been on the rise nationwide. The NALC and USPS at the national level are well aware of the issue and are working with the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, politicians and local authorities to resolve the issue. It is important that all criminal activity be reported to Management, but also notify your shop steward and/or the Branch office as we are documenting cases to inform the National Office. Letter carriers need to follow proper protocol to avoid criminal activities. It is very important to secure the mail, parcels, and personal belongings in the cargo area of the vehicle and properly lock the vehicle, along with the cargo door, when performing park and loop deliveries. Leaving exposed items in the front area of the vehicle makes for an easy target for criminal activity. Carriers have also been issued discipline by Management for leaving the mail in front of the vehicle while on park and loop deliveries. In the unfortunate situation that a carrier is robbed, the carrier should give up whatever items are being requested and not take any chances by resisting. All items that might be stolen are replaceable, but – life is not!

LETTER CARRIER RESOURCE GUIDE – NALC has released the 2023 version of the Letter Carrier Resource Guide which is available on the NALC.ORG website. The Letter Carrier Resource Guide is full of useful information on the rights and benefits of letter carriers for both career and non-career. The Branch has ordered printed copies of the Letter Carrier Resource Guide which will be available soon. If you would like a copy, please contact the Branch office. I advise all carriers to read the Letter Carrier Resource Guide to aid you in your career as a letter carrier.

> Be safe. In Unionism, Serop Karchikyan



#### And....From the Desk of Vice-President

April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 is Workers Memorial Day and I would like to take time to talk about what this means. This day is recognition and a day to remember those workers across the country that have lost their lives while on the job. As you can imagine, city letter carriers have not gone unscathed when it comes to losing their lives carrying mail. Hundreds of thousands of letter carriers leave their home to go to work and carry mail and yes, thankfully, the overwhelming majority come back home at the end of the day. However, carriers have legitimate hazards that must be dealt with daily, such as: pandemics, extreme temperatures, aggressive dogs & animals, long shifts that can go well into the night, out of date equipment, and an aged vehicle fleet that doesn't come with modern vehicle safety features, such as air bags, A/C, or cameras. The latter is being addressed by the National parties and it is my hope that soon enough we will have modern postal vehicles that will reduce vehicle accident-related deaths and heat-related deaths.

Furthermore, the OSHA Act requires that the Employer have a Heat Illness Prevention Plan (HIPP) and this HIPP must be activated and in place in the months of April through October of a calendar year or any other day in which the weather temperatures reach 80 degrees or above. If Management in your office has not conducted a mandatory standup talk about the HIPP please notify the union to see if a grievance may need to be filed.

On a final note, John Watzlawick of Independence, MO Branch 827, lost his life on July 24, 2012. John had just returned to duty following a five-week absence and delivered his route in temperatures exceeding 100 degrees while the area was under an excessive heat warning from the National Weather Service. Peggy Frank of Woodland Hills, CA Branch 2902, lost her life on July 6, 2018. Peggy had just returned to work following a three-month absence due to an injury. OSHA investigated and issued a citation charging USPS with not furnishing a place of employment free from recognized hazards that were causing or likely to cause death or serious harm to employees. Our NALC Director of Safety and Health, Manny Peralta Jr., has written that the goal of our union is for "... USPS to train its supervisors to do all in their power to protect us from excessive heat.

Further, we want them to promptly come to our aid when we inform them of the heat illness symptoms that we experience. We want supervisors to care for your well-being as if it involved their loved ones." It is my personal belief that this is not difficult to achieve. The ball has always been in Management's court to take the shot and do the right thing by **'caring'** for their employees. However, shall Management not do the right thing, this Union will gladly put pen to paper and push them to do right by letter carriers.

Brothers and sisters, may we never forget names like Peggy and John and for us remember that history often repeats itself, that life is fragile and precious and that letter carriers across this beautiful country deserve safe working conditions. Be safe out there and please look out for your brothers and sisters both at work and outside of work.

> In solidarity, Calvin Rich



The heat is on!! Stay Hydrated Safety First The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:00 p.m. by President Serop Karchikyan. The pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Jan Siechert and there was a moment of silence for our departed brothers and sisters since the last meeting. The roll call was answered by thirteen officers and stewards in good standing, including new Glendale Shop Steward, Michael Covarrubias. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Thank you card from Glendale retiree, Anna Gallego, was read. Motion (Rich/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the bills as emailed and printed for members at the meeting and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Siechert/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as printed and emailed to members at the meeting. Motion (Lee/Siechert) passed to accept J. Beltran and D. Fisher for membership. WELCOME!

MDA Representative Carolyn Zorn announced a successful yard sale last month and another is set for March 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> at the Union Office. Sister Zorn also spoke on contributing to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF), thanking your Congressional Representative for their support, and that the Social Security Fairness Act (HR82/S597) has been reintroduced. Food Drive Coordinator Rob Burskey asked all to spread the word on May 13<sup>th</sup> Food Drive and T-shirts are on the way. Motion (Lee/Rich) passed to waive the reading of the audit report and accept as printed and emailed to the members at the meeting, to be printed in the Mail Call. Vice President, Calvin Rich, reported on a grievance and arbitration award from Memphis, TN regarding harassment and violence in the workplace.

Motion passed to accept the following Executive Board recommendations: #1 (Burskey/Trieu) That the Branch pursue a summer picnic at Castaic Lake. #2 (Siechert/Roldan) That the Branch receive Costco Rebates as income. #3 (Rich/Siechert) Every year, the Branch donate the amount equal to the Costco rebate amounts for the use of the MDA coordinator to fundraise for Muscular Dystrophy.

President Karchikyan reported on the new process of clocking-in/out via scanners, nationwide staffing shortage, and the final COLA in this contract. Reminder of our June drawing for in-person attendance each month. Winner must be present to win. Motion (Siechert/Lee) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING** – April 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:05 p.m. by President Serop Karchikyan. The pledge of allegiance was led by Sergeant-at-Arms Ric Roldan and there was a moment of silence for our departed brothers and sisters since the last meeting and Brother-in-Law of Trustee Jan Siechert. The roll call was answered by twelve officers and stewards in good standing. Angie Ordenana from Pasadena and John Casanave from Santa Clarita were introduced and welcomed to the meeting. Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) made to waive the reading of the bills as emailed and printed for members at the meeting and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) calling for the question passed with vote of 11 to 1. Previous motion passed with vote of Yes: 11, No: 2. Motion (Siechert/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as printed and emailed to members at the meeting. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to accept the following applications for membership: B. Alvarez, D. Avelar Meza, D. Carrillo, J. Clavel, M. Cruz, F. Dela Cruz, C. Figueroa, Y. Garcia-Solano, J. Girges, M. Gloster, E. Hamilton, E. Jimenez, R. Johnson, T. Leal, B. Lopez, M. Lorenzo, P. Madriles, J. Magtalas, A. Marquez, A. Martinez, D. Mercardo, W. Moua, E. Nozawa, L. Paialii, W. Park, W. Regalado, J. Rheault, E. Rodriguez, B. Thomas, K. Tsai, M. Urmenta, L. Wiginton, J. Zepeda. WELCOME!

MDA Representative Carolyn Zorn announced the next yard sale will be May 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> at the Union Office. Sister Zorn encouraged members to sign up for the Letter Carrier Political Fund and updated on the Social Security Fairness Act (HR82/S597). Food Drive Coordinator Rob Burskey updated on May 13<sup>th</sup> Food Drive noting that T-shirts are available for \$15. Vinh Trieu thanked the Branch for sending him to the Region 1 Training with discussion following on setting up an ECOMP account even if you do not have a pending claim. President Karchikyan discussed the new route inspection parameters. Vice President, Calvin Rich spoke about Heat Illness Prevention Program (HIPP) and mandatory standups regarding this program. Motion (Sichert Trieu) passed to accept the Executive Board recommendation that the President and Health Benefit representative attend the HB seminar in October. Branch to pay for registration, travel, lodging, per diem and 24 hours at the By-Law rate to the HB rep. President Karchikyan thanked Jan Siechert for providing the meal for the meeting. Motion (Zorn/Siechert) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Nancy Norman Secretary-Treasurer

Nancy Norman Secretary-Treasurer

## **TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH - APRIL 2023**

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## NALC BRANCH 2200 AUDIT REPORT FEBRUARY 7, 2023

On February 7, 2023 The Trustees, Robert Burskey, Jan Siechert, and Chairman Leroy Collier, with the assistance of the Secretary-Treasurer Nancy Norman and financial secretary Amy Lee conducted an audit of the records of NALC Branch 2200. We reviewed records from October 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

We reviewed statements of the United Business Bank and Glendale Area Schools Credit Union, Including checking, savings, and money market accounts.

The Audit Committee selected random banking and Costco visa charges and matched them to the corresponding receipts for accuracy.

We noted that membership dues deposits are made by direct deposit from our national office to our United business bank checking account and a printout of the dues deposits was copied from the National offices website. These deposits were reviewed and found to be in order.

Direct dues are collected from certain members and recorded on the monthly financial log. The dues of the full time president are withheld from his biweekly salary and also recorded on the monthly financial log. We found these records to be in order.

We reviewed cash deposits and found them to be in order. We reviewed the deposit receipts with the bank statements and found them to be in order. We also compared the checks issued with the bank statements and found both to be in good order. We reviewed the monthly treasurer's report and the account balances and found them to be in order.

We reviewed the Costco account and the Costco visa card statements with the accompanying receipts, they were found to be in order.

The Costco account and the Costco Visa card received rebates each year based on amount charged to account. The rebate amounts were donated to the MDA account to be used for fundraisers and donations to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. We found that account to be in order. We reviewed the payroll vouchers, work hours, and expense forms presented to the membership for consideration after being reviewed by the trustees. These reports were found to be in order.

The branch has adopted an optional direct deposit system for the payment of officers' work hours/ expenses. This system was reviewed for the first time by the audit committee, the system seems to be in order.

We also confirmed the Federal and State quarterly tax deposits were made by electronic transfer as required. The LM2 annual financial report for the last fiscal year was filed on time. All officers that handled branch funds are adequately bonded.

The Glendale Area Schools Credit Union holds a checking account, a savings account, and money market account for the building fund. These accounts were found to be in order.

The United Business Bank of Long Beach holds the General Fund checking account, the John Mikita Scholarship Fund savings account and a money market account for the convention fund. All accounts were found to be in order.

We conducted inventory of fixed assets and took pictures of the same we found all equipment to be accounted for. And all property tax paid

Having conducted this review of the accounts and books for the selected period, we find the financial records of Branch 2200 in good order.

Respectfully submitted. Leroy Collier

Chairman

Robert Bursh

Robert Burskey Trustee

Janet C. Siechert

Jan Siechert Trustee

Date: 3/8/2023

Date: 3/8/2023

Date: 3/9/2023

## **NON-MEMBER ROSTER - BRANCH 2200**

Gonzalez	Heather	Altadena	1	1					1
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Dauh					Gonzales	Gary	Pasadena	6	R
Banh	Kelly	Glendale	121	R	Но	Raymond	Pasadena	7	R
Daghbashyan	Rafik	Glendale	161	R	Lam	Tung	Pasadena	8	R
Esguerra	Benito	Glendale	141	R	Mejia	Gerald	Pasadena	5	R
Hovhannesian	Azad	Glendale	104	R	Moreno	Jose	Pasadena	4	R
Isajani	Derik	Glendale	161	R	Phan	Johnny	Pasadena	5	R
Kim	Ki Hoon	Glendale	0	CCA	Truong	John	Pasadena	6	R
Mazariegos	Thelma	Glendale	162	R	Victorio	Rodel	Pasadena	5	R
Ngo	Danny	Glendale	121	R	Wang	David	Pasadena	1	R
Phung	Phan	Glendale	161	R					
Rivera	Juan	Glendale	111	R	Becerra	Richard	Santa Clarita	121	CCA
Rodriguez	Linda	Glendale	161	R	Chavez	Anthony	Santa Clarita	620	R
Soldatenko	George	Glendale	104	R	David	Noel	Santa Clarita	620	R
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Asuncion	Joel	Pasadena	6	R	Helstrom	Paula	Sunland	320	R
Barsamian	Razmik	Pasadena	6	R	Srirathu	Rawat	Sunland	320	R
Carrillo, Jr	Ismael	Pasadena	7	R					
Chau	Sy	Pasadena	3	R	Mousesian	Vahik	Tujunga	500	R
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Our goal is 100% Membership!!

### Meeting Attendance March/April 2023

### Officers:

President Serop Karchikyan – P/P Vice President Calvin Rich – P/P Secy-Treasurer Nancy Norman – P/P Financial Secy Amy Lee – P/P Sergeant at Arms Ric Roldan – P/P Health Benefits Rep Keith Lineman – P/P MBA Representative Vinh Trieu – P/P Trustee Leroy Collier – P/P Trustee Rob Burskey – P/P Trustee Jan Siechert – P/P **Stewards:** Glendale Main Office: Calvin Rich – P/P Glen Grand Central: Michael Covarrubias – P/A Glen La Crescenta: Artur Aghakhanyan – A/A

La Canada/Montrose: Tina Giancanelli – P/P Pasadena GMF 01: Kevin Nguyen – A/A Pas Jackie Robinson 03/04: Carolyn Zorn –P/P

Tujunga: Rob Burskey – P/P

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS** 

Tuesday, May 9th 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, June 13th 7:00 p.m. In-Person/Zoom 1310 N Oxford Ave in Pasadena Zoom Check in @ 6:45 p.m. MEETING MEAL STARTING AT 6:00 P.M.!!!



The Heat is On – 2023 Branch Picnic – Castaic Lake

## IN-PERSON BRANCH MEETINGS THE TIMES THEY ARE A CHANGING

In the next few months, the pandemic dispensation provided by our national office will expire. There are new considerations and decisions to be made as to how Zoom might have a seat at the table in order to keep our members informed. Please come to the May and June meeting (in-person or Zoom) for input as to how we best make this transition back to "normal."

There is so much to learn from Branch meetings and from talking to members before and after the meetings begin and end. After a brief sharing of the details, the question most often asked goes something like this, "Can management do that......??" You will get an answer. Either a hard and fast, yes, no, or sometimes, "it depends." If you keep coming, you will catch on to what drives the decisions (mostly our national contract and/or local agreement) and where to find the information you are seeking.

If you're hungry, thirsty, and tired, arrive any time after/around 6:00 p.m. and we'll get you some food and a place to relax. And....each month, you will receive a raffle ticket when you sign in. A drawing will be held at the June 2023 general meeting, where (4) \$50.00 gift cards will be awarded to member(s) present. So, any way possible, **please come to the union office on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month!** 

## SAVE THE DATE!!

Who – Branch 2200 Members and Families What – Lunch, Swimming, Games When – August 27, 2023 Where – Castaic Lake

We are looking for members that might enjoy helping to plan the event, run games at the event, help decide on food for the event, etc.

Someone from our office might be calling so if you have some good ideas, please share! Volunteer so you can get to know carriers and Branch members from other cities Please call the Branch office at 626-798-6122 More details in next Mail Call