

MAIL CALL

Published by
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SERVING

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MAY/JUN 2014

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

AMAZON PARCELS – I would first like to thank all of you hard working letter carriers for your dedication, integrity, and brilliant work ethic on stepping up to make sure that the Amazon deal went through successfully, thus creating a huge hit across the country for the United States Postal Service. All of this, in spite of how some of our supervisors attempted to bring us down. **Just get out of the way and let us do our job.** If we were only able to follow that simple mantra, our lives and the lives of our customers would be so much better. Regardless of the workroom floor atmosphere in some of these buildings, we are still able to provide the best customer service that management will allow. I thank all of you for that.

JURY DUTY: There is language in every Local Agreement regarding Jury Duty. Unfortunately, we letter carriers don't know our rights, so we sometimes allow management to take advantage of us. Therefore I would like to give carriers the tools necessary on how to deal with a Jury Summons.

When you receive the Jury Summons, you should immediately make a copy of the summons and **keep the original for yourself.** You will need it when you go to court. On the copy you have made you should cover up your Juror I.D. # either with a dark pen or with white out. **WHY** you ask, do I need to cover up my juror's I.D #?? Well, because....in more than one office, we have had SOMEONE take the jury summons, call the courts, and reschedule the carrier's jury duty assignment. While I am not pointing fingers at anyone for doing this, I think it is pretty obvious who is falsifying records by calling the courts and representing that they are the carrier that has the jury summons, and then trying to reschedule the jury service.

Take the COPY of the jury summons to work a day or two after receiving it, and fill out a USPS Form 3189 (Request for Temporary Change of Schedule). Make sure that the day you start your change of schedule is on the Saturday PRIOR to the call in date for jury duty. I don't care what kind of HOG WASH the supervisor tries to tell you about "the form is not necessary, I will take care of you or you don't need a schedule change, it is your civic duty" etc. Submit Form 3189 and a copy of your summons to the supervisor as soon as you receive it in the mail. Make sure that you keep a copy of the change of schedule that was submitted. The change of schedule needs to indicate that starting on the Saturday PRIOR to my jury call-in, I want to change my schedule from Saturday (LIST THE DATE) until the duration of jury duty.

That way you are covered from the Saturday prior to calling the courts until your jury duty is finished. This is how you guarantee not going to jury duty on your day off and not getting paid for that day. If you encounter a problem after all of that, then supply the union with the proper documentation, as soon as it appears there will be a problem with the schedule change. What is the proper documentation? That would consist of a copy of the summons and a copy of the Form 3189 (change of schedule) **with a supervisor's signature on the form,** and a short statement from you. If you cannot get a copy from the supervisor within a couple of days after submitting the change of schedule or the supervisor disapproves the request, then please see your shop steward or call me at **626-798-6122.**

If you have any questions regarding this process, please contact us. Try to give us as much notice as you can. Calling the union office on Friday afternoon prior to the Saturday that you are trying to schedule off is probably not going to bode well for you, the letter carrier.

Desk of President – Continued on Page Two

Desk of President – Continued from Front Page

FLOW CHART: By now, I suspect that most of you have had a roll-out of the new flow chart that the Sierra Coastal District has put together. While a revised flow chart has been needed for a long time, I find it difficult to applaud this new, revised tool. As I read this document, I find it to be a barbed wire fence that is trying to strangle even tighter what the letter carriers do day to day. Can you say MICRO MANAGE?? This is nothing more than a tool that will be used as an enhancement to discipline. That's right.

D-I-S-C-I-P-L-I-N-E. So be careful – make sure that you follow the instructions as they are written.

I understand that the supervisors, and even the postmasters, have now been given flow charts to follow as well. Apparently nobody in the trenches knows what the hell they are doing in these post offices. Perhaps we now need a flow chart to know how to read the flow chart?? Again, I say, **“LET US DO OUR JOB.”**

The local union presidents from the Sierra Coastal District were invited to a telecon where management wanted input regarding the new flow chart. The presidents did in fact offer some advice. Some of that advice was accepted and some was ignored. The end result being an ALMOST unilateral document designed by desk jockeys, instead of the people that really know and understand the letter carrier job.

SIX-DAY DELIVERY – On one final note, we, as letter carriers were right around the corner of having our work week shortened to five (5) days, when the committee responsible for the appropriations failed to include ONE SENTENCE in those bills requiring the post office to keep six (6) day delivery. Fortunately, letter carriers across the country came together and called their representatives to make sure that this appropriation did in fact make it into the bill, to keep the language of six (6) day delivery for another year. I know many of you are very eager to have weekends off. But the fact of the matter is: there is no guarantee that Saturday would be the day we don't work. Furthermore, the Postmaster General (PMG) has already made it very clear that his objective is ultimately to get to three (3) day delivery. Then all we have is **A PART TIME WORK FORCE.**

Until next time, be careful what you wish for....you might get it in the end.

Strength and Unity with Solidarity,

By Mike Wylly



Hurricane Harbor – Branch Picnic 2014
Edna Lopez and Vinh Trieu were Queen and King of the Picnic – pictured above in some water fun. A couple hundred folks came out to enjoy the day.

WORDS FROM THE AREA SHOP STEWARD

Letter Carrier Work Methods – This article deals with the approved methods for delivering mail. First, let's look at work methods on park and loop/foot routes. There is a National level settlement that states in part: **"The parties agree that under no circumstances will city letter carriers on park and loop or foot deliveries be required to carry more than three bundles."**

The first two bundles will normally be DPS letters and cased mail. The third bundle can be either walk sequence saturation (WSS) or unaddressed mailings. WSS mail is prepared in the order of delivery by the mailer. If you look above and to the right of the address, you should see the letters "WSS." The National level settlement sets standards that WSS mail must meet in order to be carried as a third bundle. The National level settlement states in part: **"City letter carriers on park and loop or foot deliveries who currently carry three bundles will continue to carry as a third bundle, within weight restrictions, Enhanced Carrier Route (ECR) and periodical walk sequenced letter or flat mailings (WSS) that have either 90% or more coverage of the total active residential addresses, or 75% or more of coverage of the total number of the active deliveries on a route."**

In order to be carried as a third bundle, WSS mail must meet one of the standards by covering either:

- 1) 90% of all active residential deliveries on the route
- 2) 75% of the total active deliveries on the route

Unaddressed mailings count as **one** of the three bundles you may be required to carry. Don't let anyone try to tell you any different. Management can instruct you to put enough unaddressed mail pieces for a relay behind another bundle of mail. However, just remember that one bundle of mail and one bundle of unaddressed mail always = TWO bundles of mail. This is true, no matter how you organize or carry your bundles. When you add in your DPS, that makes three bundles.

Any additional WSS bundles exceeding the three-bundle limit that management instructs you to deliver has to be merged by collating or casing the additional set(s) of mail into three bundles. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**



The third bundle may be carried either in your satchel or on your arm **at your option**. The second paragraph of the National level settlement states in part: "The individual city carrier will determine whether he/she carries the third bundle on the arm or in the satchel." The choice is yours, use it.

The Struggle Continues.
Leroy Collier
Area Shop Steward

CLIP AND SAVE – CLIP AND SAVE – CLIP AND SAVE

CHECK THOSE CHECK STUBS

It has been for a long time that I have not paid very much attention to my paystub/earning statement. I look at how much take home pay and all other details, I simply depended on the Postal Service pay system to get right. Until recently. One day, I used the I.V.R. (Interactive Voice Response), the 877 number to call in, requesting a total of 32 hours of sick leave. When my earning statement arrived, it showed 16 hours charged to annual leave and only 16 hours of sick leave. Then another pay stub shows that 5 minutes of sick leave was deducted. I compared my notes for the weeks in question and I did not request 5 minutes of sick leave. Nor did I request 16 hours of annual leave when I was sick. When I questioned management as to how these two incidents happened, they don't know. Only thing they can do is correct the error/complaint. Another carrier has had the same problem in our office. He received his pay stub showing .75 hours (45 min) of annual leave. This was only the 2nd pay period of the year, so he knew that he had not used any leave yet. He compared notes and found that he worked a total of 9:15 hours on the day in question. I helped him to request the clock rings from management and discussed with the Postmaster and finally, it has been corrected. Brother and sister carriers, have you looked at your pay stubs recently? If not, begin to do so now. Don't rely on the postal pay system. It is your hard earned money and benefits. We all know that postal equipment (scanner/phone system) has many problems, such as parcels not scanned for delivery, scanner freezes, etc. Track your overtime, annual leave and sick leave hours and check your pay stubs. Contact your shop steward or call the union office, if you think there might be a problem.

Vinh Trieu, Shop Steward
South Pasadena Post Office

**Meeting Attendance
May/June 2014**

Officers:

President Mike Wyly - P/P
Vice President Serop Karchikyan - P/P
Secy-Treas Nancy Norman - P/P
Financial Secy Frank Costanzo - P/P
Sergeant at Arms Ric Roldan - E/P
Health Benefits Rep Walter Washington - P/P
Trustee Donald Smith - P/P
Trustee Carolyn Zorn - P/P
Trustee Leroy Collier - P/P
MBA Representative Vinh Trieu - P/P

Stewards:

Verdugo Viejo - Serop Karchikyan - P/P
La Crescenta: Ric Roldan - E/P
Raymond Annex 01: Kevin Nguyen - A/A
Raymond Annex 06: H.T. Tran - P/A
Jackie Robinson 03/04: Carolyn Zorn - P/P
Tujunga: Rob Burskey - P/P
South Pasadena: Vinh Trieu - P/P
La Canada/Montrose: Tina Giancanelli - P/P
Area Shop Steward Leroy Collier - P/P



MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Tuesday, July 8th
7:00 p.m.
and
Tuesday, August 12th
7:00 p.m.
Union Office
1310 N Oxford Ave
in Pasadena**



The above are office hours for President Wyly. He is often out filing grievances on your behalf. Just know that when you call the union office, messages are retrieved several times a day. When there is a break in schedule, you will receive a return phone call. Area Steward Collier works Tuesdays and Wednesdays – same hours, as he is out in the field as well.

**NALC BRANCH 2200
1310 N Oxford Ave
Pasadena CA 91104**

City	Station	2011	2012	2013	2014
Pasadena	East Pasadena	33,000	32,034	36,575	59,950
Pasadena	Raymond				
Pasadena	Jackie Robinson	19,250	18,700	19,525	
Pasadena	San Marino	7,700	7,700	6,600	3,850
Pasadena	Residual	1,500	1,500	1,500	3,300
Pasadena Total		61,450	59,934	64,200	67,100
Glendale	Main Office	8,500	5,797	4,303	6,137
Glendale	Grand Central	11,500	8,600	5,850	8,033
Glendale	North Glendale				
Glendale	La Crescenta	20,850	16,200	17,000	17,350
Glendale	Tropico	4,545	2,320	3,415	6,135
Glendale	Verdugo Viejo	16,800	11,000	14,000	16,500
Glendale	Residual	1,000	2,000	2000	2000
Glendale Total		63,195	45,917	46,568	56,155
Santa Clarita	Newhall	33,300	30,800	30,800	23,100
Santa Clarita	Main Office	35,750	38,500	38,000	50,000
Santa Clarita	Residual	6,700	7,000	7000	7000
Santa Clarita Total		75,750	76,300	75,800	80,100
Altadena		22,250	19,800	16,500	14,025
La Canada		12,459	12,750	10,500	15,950
Sierra Madre		16,250	17,000	25,500	N/A
South Pasadena		16,500	14,550	12,050	11,550
Sunland		10,375	7,850	10,400	13,500
Tujunga		16,850	11,550	13,150	13,975
GRAND TOTAL		309,104	265,651	274,668	272,355

Food Drive Success!!

The **22nd NALC Food Drive** was a huge success. I want to thank all the letter carriers out there for the great job you did. I know it was a lot of extra hard work, but giving back to the communities we serve is a great thing. There are millions of people who will not go hungry because of your efforts on the Food Drive, and every one of them appreciates it. Be proud of what we do every year to help Stamp out Hunger in America. I also want to thank the postmasters, station managers and supervisors who helped make the Food Drive run smoothly – there were many of them. And I especially want to thank all the Food Drive Coordinators for the work they do to help make this huge Food Drive a success – and it is a success, year after year. We collected **272,355 lbs** of food this year.

That is awesome!!!!

See this final totals sheet showing how much food each office collected individually. Once again, thank you for all of your hard work.

Rob Burskey
Food Drive Coordinator

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

May 13, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Mike Wyly. The pledge of allegiance was led by Rob Burskey, there was a moment of silence for departed brothers and sisters since the last meeting and for Beverly Simpson's brother and the father of Ric Roldan. The roll call was answered by twelve officers in good standing.

The membership welcomed Ethan Guenin from Wisconsin as a new CCA to Pasadena. Motion passed to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, accepted as printed in the Mail Call (Smith/Burskey). Motion passed to excuse Ric Roldan from the meeting (Temblador/Burskey). Motion passed that warrants be drawn and bills be paid (Burskey/Siechert).

Motion passed to accept applications for membership from: Arnold Aguila, Fernando Aguilar Jr, Alonso Berumen, Mike Cekic, Emmanuel Flores, Alexis Garner, Treesa Garrett, Yvonne Martinez, Ivan Ochoa, Carlos Ramos Jr, Alfredo Reveles, Jose Ruiz and Manuel Trujillo (Collier/Siechert).

WELCOME to ALL!!

Food Drive Coordinator Burskey thanked all the carriers and others for making the Food Drive a success again this year, and gave preliminary totals.

Carolyn Zorn reported on donated cell phones for MDA and on COLCPE numbers on our Branch member participation, emphasizing the need for all to contribute. She also reported on the upcoming election and Propositions 41 and 42. Jan Siechert reported on the City of Pasadena's position regarding our requested council resolution. Also discussed was the work of the L.A. Conservancy in saving old and historic post office buildings.

Motion passed to accept the recommendation of the Executive Board that the Branch go on record with the endorsement of Dr. Lee Rogers, Democrat running for Congress in the City of Santa Clarita. (Collier/Siechert).

President Wyly discussed the sale of Hurricane Harbor picnic tickets for June 22nd, and the current/ongoing process of PTF's being converted to regular status.

Trustee Chair Leroy Collier announced that the Audit of Branch finances will take place on 6/25/14 at 3:00 p.m.

Motion passed to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. (Zorn/Siechert).

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

June 10, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by President Mike Wyly. The pledge of allegiance was led by Sergeant-at-Arms Ric Roldan and there was a moment of silence for departed brothers and sisters since the last meeting. The roll call was answered by twelve officers in good standing and the Branch welcomed Letter Carrier Jon Ilagan from Tropic Station in Glendale. Motion passed to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, to be printed in the Mail Call (Smith/Burskey). Motion passed that warrants be drawn and bills be paid (Burskey/Costanzo). Motion passed to accept the applications for membership from Diana Rodriguez and Dominique Caballero (Costanzo/Roldan).

MBA Rep Vinh Trieu announced the new retirement savings plan developed for CCAs. Food Drive Chair Rob Burskey updated totals on Food Drive, read thank you letters, and reported \$800 in T-shirt sales. President Wyly led a discussion on PTFs and CCAs being converted to regular city carrier status.

Executive Board Recommendations: 1) Branch is authorized to spend \$30 per Executive Board member for a retirement dinner for Joanne Ware, office secretary. Motion to adopt (Burskey/Siechert). Amendment to include Joanne Ware's daughter – Motion and amendment passed. 2) Branch is authorized to spend up to \$200 for a gift for office secretary retirement (Collier/Burskey). Motion passed. 3) That the Branch authorize and accept the proposed estimate for bathroom and ceiling beam (Proposal #1), including 10% contingency for additional expenditures (Burskey/Costanzo). Motion passed.

Motion to authorize expenditure of \$600 to Home Improvement Co. for 10 LED can lights and two dimmer switches to be installed in meeting room area (Burskey/Siechert). Motion passed. Motion to authorize an expenditure of \$600 to Home Improvement Co. to remove popcorn ceiling, repair walls as needed/sand/prime/paint and install lighting in the room occupied by Joanne's (main) desk (Burskey/Siechert). Motion passed.

Discussion regarding six day delivery and an attempt to divert monies away from USPS to a highway trust fund. There was an appropriations update, campaign school report, and discussion of congressional districts to work for the next coming election cycle. Carolyn Zorn reported and updated on MDA camp.

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. (Siechert/Karchikyan).

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer