

# 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**

**Greetings and an early Happy Holidays to all  
our Brothers and Sisters!!**

I would like to start with a very big thank you to each and every one of you for your diligent efforts to help maintain the United States Postal Service as a viable company. Not only are we the most trusted federal employees out there, our professionalism in delivery has allowed us to grow revenues and profits for the Postal Service in this past fiscal year (October 2013 thru September 2014). The Service has become profitable once again, as well as establishing a very favorable relationship with several different mailers for our work with parcels. We've remained successful this past year by taking the Amazon model and running with it, en route to becoming not only the most trusted delivery network in the nation, but the most efficient one as well. We have outdone our competition to the point where they now want us to deliver their parcels using our last mile network because they are unable to compete on our level.

So kudos to all, and especially to our hard-working and under-appreciated City Carrier Assistants (CCA) who carry a huge load for us and our customers on Sundays and Holidays. We are now delivering 363 days a year. With the exception of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we are out there every day taking care of our customers. Thanks again to all of you.

On a discouraging note, more and more of our brothers and sisters are being injured while at work. With our type of work, this is to be expected. We can all break down from time to time, so it is important that we do our part to work safely.

Regardless of how we are injured, it is sometimes the way the injury is (mis)handled by management that compounds a common, simple injury and it becomes a big pain in the butt. While management is responsible to assist the employee in identifying and filling out the proper paperwork, more and more we are finding that many of them are either verbally attacking the employee for getting injured or telling them that they are not "that hurt" and they should work through it. In many more cases, management is withholding the processing of proper paperwork, thus delaying compensation being paid to a carrier who is due that money. Management also tells carriers to go ahead and use sick leave or annual leave instead of waiting for compensation to be paid. Bottom line: management, instead of assisting the letter carrier who is injured while working, is not offering any assistance at all. Most of the time, they just want to know if you can "case and carry your route today."

Management will then want you to go to their doctor, instead of your own. Sometimes there is a couple hour wait for a car to come pick you up to go to their doctor. That is certainly uncalled for and unprofessional.

Along that line, I DO NOT want any doctor but my own working on my injury. I don't trust any doctor that does not have my best interest at heart and/or a doctor who is paid by the Postal Service.

And then, there is always "Management Slight of Hand." That is what I call it when "The Paperwork" is not available, non-existent, or the copy machine is broken so you cannot have a copy of your medical paperwork. Sometimes management uses that one to hold you hostage.

**Desk of President – continued on Page 2**

## Desk of President – continued

There are many more horror stories out there regarding On-the-Job Injuries (OJI). These are only a few. It is important that every employee knows how to react to an OJI. This is how I would handle any type of injury, both minor and major:

### MINOR INJURY

- 1) At the first sign of an injury, contact your supervisor to report the injury. **DO NOT WAIT UNTIL YOU RETURN TO THE OFFICE.**
- 2) As soon as is practical, call your steward or the union office for advice on how to proceed.

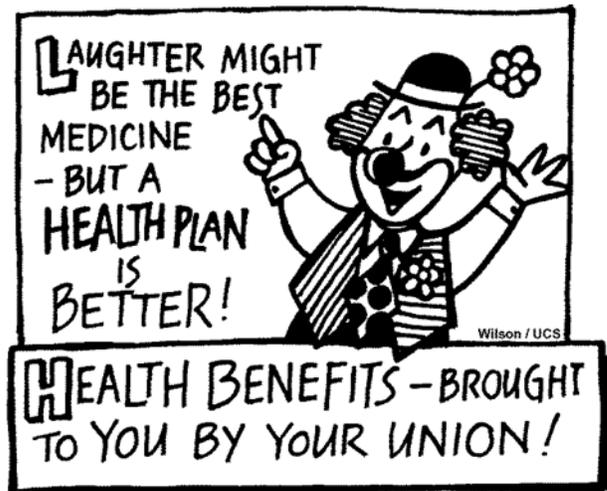
### MAJOR INJURY

- 1) If you or someone else incurs an injury that needs medical attention, **call 911**
- 2) As soon as you are able, report the injury to your supervisor.
- 3) As soon as is practical, call your steward or the union office for advice on how to proceed.

Most organizations that I have been affiliated with throughout my life have been very professional in the handling of on-the-job injuries. I wish I could say the same about our current employer but it is just not true. They are sloppy, they are ignorant to the process, and worst of all, they just don't give a damn about their most valuable asset....."US."

When sustaining an Injury, get the appropriate medical help if needed, contact your supervisor as soon as possible, and contact the union as soon as practical. We are here to help.

**Happy Thanksgiving! By Mike Wylly**



## OPEN SEASON

Open Season is right around the corner again and shortly thereafter comes 2015 which will introduce changes to your current medical, dental, and vision plans. Beginning November 10<sup>th</sup>, you will once again be choosing what plan(s) will be in the best interest of you and your family.

Instead of business as usual (if you do nothing, your same old plan will roll over), we encourage you to look at the NALC Health Benefit Plan. It is a **non-profit** insurance plan that is run by letter carriers, for letter carriers.

Many of you know the value and belong to a credit union rather than a bank. Credit unions are non-profit entities ensuring that service is for the benefit of their members. Most, if not all, credit unions charge lower fees and often no fees for the same services as banks with rather exorbitant fees. Most credit unions offer the same convenient services as the big banks. And....the same is true of the NALC Health Benefit Plan.

Please visit plan details: [www.opm.gov/healthcare/insurance/healthcare/plan-information](http://www.opm.gov/healthcare/insurance/healthcare/plan-information)

Do yourself and your family a favor and make an informed choice by visiting the OPM website link above and comparing the benefits. You will find that NALC Health Benefit Plan comes out on top and is likely the biggest bang for your buck.

**Submitted by – Mail Call Editor**

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

September 9, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. by Vice-President Serop Karchikyan. 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 eleven officers and stewards in good standing.

Motion passed to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, accepted as printed in the last issue of the Mail Call (Costanzo/Siechert). Motion passed to excuse Mike Wyly from the September meeting and H.T. Tran from the August meeting (Costanzo/Siechert). Motion passed that the warrants be drawn and bills be paid (Burskey/Siechert).

Motion passed to welcome the following applications for membership: Patricia Anguiano, Steve Bonneau, Rowland Galang, Victoria Harris, Brandon Hicks, Romano Khachekjan, Salvador Lopez, Anthony Martinez-Stone, Edfel Rogando (Siechert/Roldan).

**Welcome Brothers and Sisters!!** Health Benefit Rep Washington reminded all that Open Season is coming around again and highlighted some benefits of NALC plan. Remaining 22 raffle tickets (Boys from CA) were sold – money/stubs collected by Leroy Collier. USPS communication regarding New Hire Orientation Video was read.

Motion passed to accept recommendation from Executive Board that the Branch send up to 10 members to Leadership Conference on Oct 19<sup>th</sup>. Breakfast, lunch, carpool parking and registration fee to be paid by the Branch (Burskey/Siechert).

Recommendation that the Branch send two representatives including airfare, lodging, per diem, mileage & parking to Washington Lobby Trip in March 2015. Move to adopt (Burskey/Siechert) Amended – the two representatives be chosen by the President (Burskey/Costanzo). Amendment/motion passed.

Discussion of NRP/injured carriers being assigned outside of craft – carriers to contact Union before making agreement with USPS. Motion passed that the Branch purchase breakfast items up to \$100 for CCA Pancake Breakfast on 9/21/2014 (Burskey/Zorn). Discussion followed on hotly contested congressional races and on safety items at Pasadena GMF.

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 p.m. (Burskey/Trieu).

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman  
Secretary-Treasurer

## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

October 14, 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 ten officers in good standing. It was brought to the attention of the membership that the meeting would be abbreviated and all were encouraged to stay for election phone banking following the meeting.

Motion passed to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting, to be printed in the Mail Call (Collier/Siechert). Motion passed to excuse Vic Temblador from August and September meeting and Rob Burskey from the October meeting (Temblador/Burskey).

Motion passed to accept the following applications for membership: Sy Dith, Brandie Edmonds, Carlos Gomez, Grisel Hernandez, Denise Honore, Armando Mendez, Nicolas Ortiz, Mario Quintero, Marlene Rios Castro, Christina Sanchez, Christ Siekertzian, Bohden Stillians, Vanessa Westlake (Collier/Temblador). **Welcome CCA's!!**

Audit Committee report was read and motion passed that the report and recommendations be adopted (Collier/Siechert).

Motion passed to adopt the recommendation from the Executive Board that the Branch hold the regular membership meeting on the third Tuesday (November 18th) of November, due to Veterans Day holiday.

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 p.m. (Collier/Trieu).

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman  
Secretary-Treasurer

# TREASURER'S REPORT SEP-OCT 2014

INCOME	SEPT	OCT					
NALC Rebate- Benefits	2,610.10	2,657.74	<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>				
Retiree Rebate	269.62	0.00					
Active Rebate	16,697.81	16,376.72	General Checking	\$6,151.46			
Direct Dues	230.40	384.00	Mikita Scholarship	\$4,167.56			
Food Drive T-shirt Sales	0.00	0.00	Building Fund	\$244,885.40			
Picnic Ticket Sales	0.00	0.00	Convention Fund	\$35,931.88			
Interest-Dividend	202.77	206.05					
Retiree Banquet	0.00	40.00	<b>TOTAL ACCOUNTS</b>			\$291,136.30	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$20,010.70</b>	<b>\$19,664.51</b>					
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>SEPT</b>	<b>OCT</b>					
Building Repairs/Improvements	0.00	0.00					
Car Allowance	400.00	400.00					
COP Meeting	0.00	0.00					
Gardening	0.00	0.00					
Insurance	0.00	0.00					
Internet	118.64	66.67					
Mail Call	123.48	-5.30					
Meeting Refreshments	53.54	0.00					
Mileage	44.80	0.00					
Miscellaneous	0.00	100.00					
National Convention	0.00	0.00					
Office Expenses	120.61	617.30					
Office Supplies	91.42	52.17					
Officer Benefits	1,701.24	1,726.53					
Officer/Steward Salary	13,320.48	14,734.28					
Payroll Taxes	1,060.49	1,155.93					
Per Capita Tax	27.50	27.50					
Postage	47.99	54.48					
Professional Fees	0.00	2,700.00					
Retiree Banquet	0.00	1,691.13					
Retiree Bonus	100.00	0.00					
Seminars & Education	140.00	146.56					
State Convention	0.00	0.00					
Telephone	197.79	153.10					
Utilities	314.61	11.74					
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$17,862.59</b>	<b>\$23,632.09</b>	 <p><i>"Now, keep in mind that these numbers are only as accurate as the fictitious data, ludicrous assumptions and wishful thinking they're based upon!"</i></p>				
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,148.11</b>	<b>-\$3,967.58</b>					

# 2015 Carl J. Saxsenmeier

## Scholarship Program

The California State Association of Letter Carriers (CSALC) is now accepting applications for the 2015 Carl J. Saxsenmeier Scholarship Program. **All applications must be received by the Scholarship Chair by January 2, 2015.** The Chair will send scholarship packets to all applicants by the end of January 2015. The scholarships are available to the dependent children or grandchildren of members of NALC Branches within the State of California who have not served in a supervisory capacity in the previous two (2) years from the date of 2014 award announcement. Applicant's parent / grandparent must be a member in good standing of the NALC for at least one year prior to applying. Applicant must be a high school senior when applying. Saxsenmeier Scholarship awards are issued in the year of graduation and are not renewable.

**Jeff Parr**

**Saxsenmeier Scholarship Chair**

**1177 Levine Dr-Santa Rosa, Ca 95401**

**707-523-1818**

**Saxsenmeier Scholarship Application**

**(Please Print)**

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

NALC Member's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell / Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

NALC Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

**Local NALC Branch Officer Signature required for verification of member in good standing:**

NALC Branch Officer Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Branch Officer Printed Name & Branch  
Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Meeting Attendance  
September/October 2014**

**Officers:**

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

**Stewards:**

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



**Looking for change?**

So are we. Looking for a new Editor  
or a Co-Editor for the Mail Call.  
Please telephone the Branch office  
@ 626-798-6122 or  
[Email: nnorman@nalc2200.org](mailto:nnorman@nalc2200.org)

**MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.  
and  
Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>  
7:00 p.m.  
Union Office  
1310 N Oxford Ave  
in Pasadena**

**High School Senior??**

California State Association Saxsenmeier  
Scholarship Application is inside. Must be  
returned no later than **January 2, 2015.**

Mikita Scholarship Application will be in the  
next issue of the Mail Call.

**OPEN SEASON is Nov 10<sup>th</sup> – Dec 8<sup>th</sup>  
See inside for information  
on choosing your health benefit plan!**

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