

MAIL CALL

Published by

ANTHONY TRIPOLINO BRANCH 2200, N.A.L.C.

SERVING

**Altadena, Glendale, La Canada, Montrose, Pasadena
Santa Clarita, South Pasadena, Sunland and Tujunga**

Phone: 626-798-6122

www.nalc2200.org

Fax: 626-798-6457

VOLUME NO. 34

CIRCULATION 1000

SEP/OCT 2021

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

COVID-19 Updates – On September 30, 2021, the Emergency Federal Employee Leave (EFEL, implemented on March 12, 2021 under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), expired. Carriers are no longer eligible to receive the EFEL for the eight previously qualifying reasons related to COVID-19.

However, several COVID-19 related Memorandum of Understanding have been extended until December 31, 2021 by joint agreement (M-01966), which will assist employees dealing with COVID-19 related complications. The memorandums that have been extended until December 31, 2021 are the temporary expanded sick leave for dependent care (M-01910); temporary use of the 7:01 rule (M-01913); temporary workplace changes to promote social distancing (M-01915); temporary use of TCAs (M-01916); and the reinstatement of MOU Re: Temporary Additional Paid Leave for CCAs (M-01911).

Additionally, MOU: Reinstatement of Temporary Additional Paid Leave for CCAs (M-01965) explains that the terms of MOU Re: Temporary Additional Paid Leave for CCAs (M-01911), will be administered as if it had been in effect without interruption since the original effective date of March 18, 2020.

Also extended through December 31, 2021, is a USPS memorandum (M-01914) which instructs managers and supervisors to allow liberal changes of schedule to accommodate employees who are dealing with childcare issues related to the pandemic. The memorandum also provides for liberal sick leave usage for employees who are sick and liberal annual and leave without pay (LWOP) to the extent operationally feasible.

Thus, COVID-19 related leave will be treated as scheduled leave (as opposed to unscheduled), and further directs that leave taken for COVID-19 related reasons during this time not be cited in discipline for failing to maintain an assigned schedule.

NALC and the Postal Service also agreed that the local parties may mutually develop a sign-up process for full-time employees who previously did not place their names on either the overtime desired list or work assignment list (M-01963).

Memphis Shooting – On October 12, 2021, there was a fatal shooting at the East Lamar Carrier Annex in Memphis, Tennessee by a postal employee in which three employees were killed. The shooter was the third victim and was killed by a self-inflicted gunshot. We extend our condolences to the families, friends and co-workers of the victims. The shooting is currently still under investigation, the details have not been released as to the motive for the shooting, yet it was noted that stressful working conditions had played a role. It is truly sad that events like this occur. Even though the motive for the shooting has not been revealed, it is likely safe to say a happy employee would not take such action by shooting other employees unless they have been pushed to their breaking point. No employee should have to work under conditions which lead to violent acts such as a shooting. It is very important that all employees treat each other with dignity and respect. If bullying, harassing and threatening employees occur, it should be reported immediately to higher level management or to the union, even if you are not the victim of the bullying, harassment or threats.

Desk of President – continued Page 2

Discipline/Scanning – As we all know, management seems to have their flavor of the month when it comes to issuing discipline. Recently, scanning is being revisited as the new flavor. Management has developed new software for tracking parcels in more depth and they are using this software to issue discipline. Quite a few carriers have been issued discipline for not scanning parcels and certified letters. It is very important to scan every piece of parcels, chunks and certified letters, whether they are delivered, on vacation hold, business closed or whatever scan it may need. The clock needs to be stopped on the scans the day the item is out for delivery so it does not surface as a failure. Additionally, items need to be scanned at the location of delivery. Upon returning from the street to the office at the end of the day, carriers should be cleared by management for all scans. If there are items missing a scan, it can then be corrected, at that moment, before the carrier ends tour.

Additionally, carriers need to be cleared by the accountable clerks for certified mail or other accountable items. Do NOT just leave the accountable items at the accountable cage and leave. Letter carriers must be sure they are cleared at the end of the day, so they are not held responsible for lost or misplaced items. If there are no accountable clerks at the end of the day, notify your supervisor so your items can be cleared. As peak season approaches, there are going to be more parcels and items to scan. Carriers need to make sure they scan every item to stop the clock on the item, provide good customer service, and keep themselves from being disciplined.

Wishing you all happy and safe holidays!!
– In Solidarity – There is Strength in Unity –
by Serop Karchikyan

And, by the way. Don't forget to.....



BUILDING YOUR NEST EGG VIA TSP

In the last Mail Call, our newly appointed Financial Secretary, Amy Lee, wrote about available retirement plans for city carrier assistants (CCAs). Specifically, how she personally took advantage of the Mutual Benefit Association (MBA) CCA Retirement Plan and eventually transferred it to her TSP account once she became a full-time career carrier. It is my hope that other CCAs in our Branch are taking advantage of this plan and many other services provided to them by the NALC MBA plan.

Our 2019-2023 National Agreement has brought back the Part-Time Flexible (PTF) position, giving those carriers new rights and benefits including the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). The TSP is a retirement savings/investment account in addition to your Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS...aka your pension) and Social Security. If you were converted to PTF or regular career on or after October 1, 2020, your TSP automatic enrollment percentage is 5% of your base pay. This percentage is important because it means you will get the full bang for your buck. The Post Office contributes a 1% Agency Automatic Contribution each pay period, plus matches additional savings contributions you make up to 4%. That's up to 5% that the Postal Service will match to your account! Note: you have the option to change your contribution percentage at any time. Career letter carriers, hired between July 31, 2010 and September 30, 2020, have been automatically enrolled with 3% of their pay. I would encourage them to increase their TSP contribution percentage to 5% in order to take full advantage of the Agency matching funds.

It may seem like a long way off, but the earlier you begin saving, the more that compounding interest works in your favor. Ultimately, you want to be as educated as possible with your TSP/FERS so that when it is time to retire, your nest egg satisfies your desired lifestyle.

(DISCLAIMER: This content is for informational purposes only, you should not construe any such information or other material as legal, tax, investment, financial, or other advice.)

In Unionism,

Calvin Rich
Glendale Main Office Steward
Area Shop Steward

2022 Carl J. Saxsenmeier

Scholarship Program

The California State Association of Letter Carriers (CSALC) is now accepting applications for the 2022 Carl J. Saxsenmeier Scholarship Program. **All applications must be received by the Scholarship Chair by January 8, 2022.** The Chair will send scholarship packets to all applicants by the end of January 2022. The scholarships are available to the 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 2021 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.

Derek Simpson
Saxsenmeier Scholarship Chair
18315 E Bellbrook St
Covina, CA 91722-2754
Phone: 626-384-1746 (Please text if possible)

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

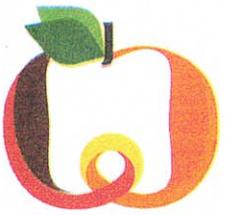
Officer Signature:

Title:

Branch Officer

Printed Name:

Branch Number:



SANTA CLARITA VALLEY
FOOD PANTRY

September 1, 2021

NALC Branch No. 2200
1310 N. Oxford Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91104

Dear NALC Branch No. 2200

On behalf of the Santa Clarita Valley Food Pantry and those you help us serve, we want to sincerely thank you for your generous donation of \$2000.

Your support makes a positive difference to alleviate the need to choose between buying food, paying rent, or getting medicines for families facing food insecurity. This is only possible because of the generosity from people like you.

Thank you for your contribution to our mission addressing food insecurity in our community.

Our deepest gratitude.



DOING THE
MOST GOOD

320 West Windsor Road, Glendale, CA 91204

August 27, 2021

0001293

National Association of Letter Carriers
1310 N. Oxford Avenue
PASADENA, CA 91104-3140



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

Dear Friend,

It is a pleasure to acknowledge your very generous gift of \$1,000.00 to The Salvation Army received on 08/26/2021.

We are humbled by your confidence in our ability to provide vital services including food, utility and rent assistance, after school programs, senior citizen programs and shelters. This year, while so many more people have faced unexpected hardship due to disaster, sickness or joblessness, your continued kindness is the hope that will comfort those in need.

Each year, The Salvation Army helps nearly 30 million Americans. **That's one person helped every second!** The needs are as diverse as the people we serve, and we remain committed to answering the call for help when asked.

We simply could not do what we do without your partnership. On behalf of all those whose lives are impacted so directly through your giving, please accept my sincere thanks. May God richly bless you for caring about your neighbors in need.

With deep appreciation,

Captains Natalia and Kellez Berggren

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021

INCOME	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER				
NALC Active Rebate	22,600.30	23,066.17	SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER TRANSFERS			
NALC Retiree Rebate	238.51	0.00	FROM	TO		AMOUNT
Direct Dues	279.76	57.76				
Interest-Dividend	80.60	83.53	Checking	Convention		3,624.03
Other Income	0.00	0.00	Checking	Mikita		100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$23,199.17	\$23,207.46	Checking	Building		3,000.00
			Convention	Checking		0.00
EXPENSES	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER				
Building Maintenance	0.00	0.00				
Car Allowance	500.00	500.00				
COP Meeting	0.00	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Election	0.00	758.59	8/31/2021			
Food Drive	0.00	0.00	General Checking			\$203,785.14
Gardening	0.00	234.00	Mikita Scholarship			\$4,484.10
Insurance	0.00	0.00	Building Fund			\$297,008.82
Internet	90.80	90.80	Convention/Training			\$93,262.17
Mail Call	102.38	101.68	MDA LIABILITY			0.00
Mileage	0.00	0.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$598,540.23
Miscellaneous**	0.00	0.00				
National Convention	0.00	0.00				
Office Expenses	53.48	1,001.76	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Office Supplies	842.67	74.75	9/30/2021			
Officer Benefits	2,500.31	1,757.31	General Checking			\$196,450.28
Officer/Steward Salary	22,085.51	15,678.42	Mikita Scholarship			\$4,534.29
Payroll Taxes/Filing	1,793.69	1,310.20	Building Fund			\$299,072.64
Per Capita Tax	34.00	34.00	Convention/Training			\$95,086.01
Postage	187.99	47.99	MDA LIABILITY			0.00
Professional Fees	0.00	0.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$595,143.22
Property Tax/Use Tax	0.00	0.00				
Retiree Bonus	50.00	150.00				
Seminars & Education	160.79	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
State Convention	0.00	0.00	10/31/2021			
Telephone	126.39	126.07	General Checking			\$193,700.56
Utilities	300.93	12.66	Mikita Scholarship			\$4,584.48
Website Fees	0.00	0.00	Building Fund			\$300,138.68
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$28,828.94	\$21,878.23	Convention/Training			\$96,910.09
			MDA LIABILITY			-340.00
NET INCOME	-\$5,629.77	\$1,329.23	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$594,993.81

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – September 14, 2021

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. The roll call was answered by thirteen officers and stewards in good standing.

Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to waive the reading of minutes from previous meeting and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Lineman/Siechert) passed to waive the reading and accept the bills as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Rich/Lineman) passed to excuse Ric Roldan from the August meeting. Food Drive thank you letters were read from Santa Clarita Food Pantry and Glendale Salvation Army.

MDA Raffle next month, legislative updates were noted, and announcement of virtual officer training being offered. Branch nominations to take place next month.

Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to welcome and accept the applications for membership: Jacqueline Aguirre, Joceline Lugo Hernandez, Lawrence Lam, Xochith Zapien, Levon DerKrikorian, Mohammad Shams, Gilberto Cruz, Jr, George Andrew, Alexander Pedroza, Javier Morelos.

Motion passed to accept the following Executive Board recommendations: #1 (Siechert/Washington) That the Branch send Leroy Collier and Carolyn Zorn to the Washington DC Lobby Event in February 2022. Branch to pay for flight/travel, lodging, per diem and 24 hours of LWOP wages and/or By-Law wages #2 (Siechert/Lineman) That the Branch provide each eligible delegate (meets attendance requirement) for the state convention in April 2022 with train travel up to \$100, plus mileage to/from home to Amtrak station, also lodging and per diem or receipted meal expenses up to per diem amount.

President Karchikyan updated on Santa Ana district policies, later starting times, contractual raises and recent COLA implementation. Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – October 12, 2021

The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:06 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, including Eric Lai, retired member from Glendale. The roll call was answered by thirteen officers and stewards in good standing. Motion (Siechert/Washington) passed to waive the reading of minutes from previous meeting and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Food Drive Thank you letter was read from Bailey Human Care Center. Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to waive the reading of the bills and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to accept the Treasurer's Report, as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to accept and welcome the applications for membership: Victor Aquino Lopez, Juan Ayala, Brandon Camarena, Brian Castillo, Pei Chen, Ryan Foster, Jose Garcia, Jessica Gonzalez, Arrieon Gray-Hill, Heidi Gutierrez, Craig Hudson, Ronyae Jackson, Patrick McGowan, Esmeralda Melchor, Miguel Morales, Curtis Norton, Diego Ramirez, Lidio Rodriguez, Elizabeth Sandoval, Gerardo Sandoval, Holland Smiley, Lidia Tafoya, Lawrence Tualla, Jose Valencia, Yeong Woo. **Welcome!!**

Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to suspend the order of business for nomination of officers and convention delegates. Nominations were opened and closed for the office of President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Financial Secretary, Health Benefits Representative, MBA Representative, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Trustees (3). Nominations were opened and closed for convention delegates. Motion (Siechert/Temblador) passed that all delegates nominated be elected by acclamation. Full nomination report is attached.

Committee and legislative reports were given. The MDA raffle winner was Vinh Trieu who donated/sold his gift card to Calvin Rich for an additional \$30 to Muscular Dystrophy. Total raffle cash collected for MDA was \$340.

President Karchikyan updated on fatal USPS shooting in Tennessee and also reported on a local, serious vehicle accident involving a CCA. Motion (Burskey/Trieu) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

NALC BRANCH 2200

NOMINATIONS/October 12, 2021

PRESIDENT

Serop Karchikyan

VICE-PRESIDENT

Calvin Forest Rich

Carolyn Zorn

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Nancy Norman

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Amy Lee

HEALTH BENEFITS REPRESENTATIVE

Keith A Lineman

Walter Washington**

MBA REPRESENTATIVE

Vinh Trieu

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Federico "Ric" Roldan

TRUSTEES (3)

Artur Aghakhanyan**

Robert Burskey

Leroy Collier

Jan Siechert

CONVENTION DELEGATES

Artur Aghakhanyan**

Robert Burskey

Leroy Collier

Michael Covarrubias

Iskui Dermendzhyan

Tina Giancanelli

Serop Karchikyan*

Amy Lee

Keith A Lineman

Nancy Norman*

Kelvin Nunez

Ervin Larrie Rhodes

Calvin Forest Rich

Federico "Ric" Roldan

Jan Siechert

Victor M Temblador

Vinh Trieu

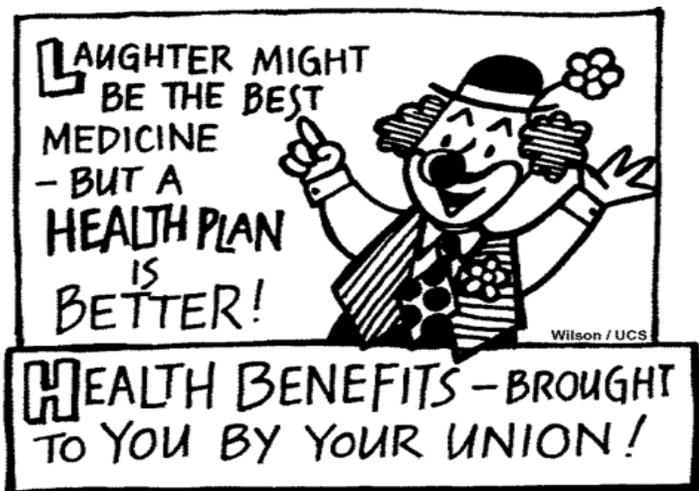
Walter T. Washington

Carolyn Zorn

*President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer are paid convention delegates by virtue of their office

**Declined/Did not accept nomination

NOTE: All delegates were elected by acclamation. All offices, with the exception of Vice-President, have been elected by acclamation



Open Season is right around the corner again, from November 9th through December 14th. 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.

The website below allows you to compare plan details: <https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/healthcare/> Do yourself and your family a favor and make an informed choice by visiting and comparing both the costs and the benefits of each health plan. You will find that NALC Health Benefit Plan comes out on top and is likely the best plan for you and/or your family.

BRANCH 2200 ELECTIONS 2021

Branch nominations were held at our October membership meeting and are posted in this Mail Call. Ballots for the office of Vice-President will go into the mail on November 13th. All other officer positions have been voted in by acclamation. Election results will be announced at our regular December membership meeting. **Please notify our office if you have not received a ballot by November 22nd.**

Please notify our office of any change to your mailing address or email address.

Email: nnorman.nalc2200@gmail.com or Fax: 626-798-6457 or Phone: 626-798-6122

Meeting Attendance September/October 2021

Officers:

- President Serop Karchikyan – P/P
- Vice President Carolyn Zorn – P/P
- Secy-Treasurer Nancy Norman – P/P
- Financial Secy – Amy Lee – P/P
- Sergeant at Arms Ric Roldan – P/P
- Health Benefits Rep Walter Washington – P/P
- Trustee Leroy Collier – P/P
- Trustee Artur Aghakhanyan – A/A
- Trustee Rob Burskey – P/P
- MBA Representative Vinh Trieu – P/P

Stewards:

- Glendale Main Office: Calvin Rich – P / P
- Glendale V.V. 05: Iskui Dermendzhyan – P/P
- Glendale V.V. 06 & 08: Keith Lineman – P/P
- Glen La Crescenta: ArturAghakhanyan – 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
- Santa Clarita Main Office: Scotty Reese – A/A
- South Pasadena: Vinh Trieu – P/P
- Tujunga: Rob Burskey – P/P

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Tuesday, November 9th
7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 14th
Election Results Meeting
7:00 p.m.**

**In-Person/Zoom
1310 N Oxford Ave
in Pasadena**

Zoom Check in @ 6:45 p.m.

As long as the pandemic allows, we will be meeting in-person and via zoom (hybrid). Masks are required at all in-person meetings, whether you are vaccinated or not.

If you have any topics or information that you would like to see discussed in the meeting, please let us know via email:

nalc2200@gmail.com

or call the Branch office at 626-798-6122

SEE YOU ALL SOON!!!