

MAIL CALL

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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

Brothers and Sisters.....Happy Holidays!! I would like to take this opportunity and wish all of you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year as we say farewell to 2023. I would also like to thank all of you hard-working letter carriers for putting in the long hours through this peak holiday season. I hope all of you were able to spend time with your friends, family and loved ones for the Holidays and, as a friendly reminder, please be safe and responsible.

Mail Theft/Personal Theft – Mail theft continues to be a problem throughout the nation. There have been numerous reports of LLV's being broken into, in which mail and packages are being stolen. In some cases, the LLV's have actually been stolen. Carriers are not to leave mail or packages in front of the LLV's when delivering park and loop swings, or when the LLV is out of site for a period of time. These thieves have gone as far as stealing carriers' personal items from the LLV as well. In one case, a carrier's car keys were stolen along with his wallet. It is a good idea to leave personal items that are not needed, in your locker at the Post Office, such as car keys. All a carrier really needs on the route is their driver's license and money for lunch, everything else could potentially be an item that may be taken. In case a carrier is a victim of theft, a carrier can file a claim for reimbursement under Article 27 of the Joint Contract Administration Manual (JCAM) within 14 days of when the incident occurs. If you are a victim of theft, notify the Postal Service along with the Union.

Be safe. Stay well.

– In Unionism, Serop Karchikyan –

And...From the Desk of Vice-President

I'd like to wish the membership happy holidays and a safe peak season. Hope to see you all at the next steward and membership meetings and cheers to a great new year!

**Respectfully and in solidarity,
Sisters and Brothers – Calvin Rich**



**WISHING YOU ALL
THE VERY BEST NEW YEAR
STAY SAFE OUT THERE!!**

– From Branch 2200 Officers
and Shop Stewards –

NALC BRANCH 2200 AUDIT REPORT

August 22, 2023

On August 22,, 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 December 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.

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,the Costco Visa card rebates are paid by direct deposit to the UBB checking account 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.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – November 8, 2023

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 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 eleven officers and stewards in good standing. Motion (Lee/Siechert) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to waive the reading of the list of bills, they be accepted as printed and emailed, and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Lee/Siechert) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting and in the Mail Call.

Motion (Siechert/Lindsay) passed to accept the following membership applications on the first reading: M. Ahsan, A. Alejandro, J. Alfaro, A. Ascha, S. Blanco, C. Brooks, S. Duong, M. Frezza, J. Galvez, G. Geo, H. Gutierrez, H. Lopez Reyes, A. Olea, J. Perez Gonzalez, J. Rodriguez, A. Vazquez, A. Vidaurrazaga. **Welcome!** MDA Coordinator Carolyn Zorn announced there will be a new Representative for MDA and a rap session will be held in Las Vegas in April. HB Representative Keith Lineman shared new expanded benefits for 2024 and information from the Health Benefit Seminar he attended last month. Audit committee updated on preparing for the next audit. Legislative reported on the Federal Retirement Fairness Act and LA County Fed of Labor activities.

Motion passed to accept the following Executive Board recommendations #1 (Rich/Siechert) that the Branch host a 2024 retirement banquet to include complimentary dinner for retirees and a guest. Active members/guests will deposit \$30 to reserve a space and deposit will be refunded, for active members only, upon attendance at the banquet #2 (Rich/Trieu) that the Branch spend up to \$550 for Stonefire Grill catering the December Meeting Meal. Trustee Jan Siechert thanked the Branch and reported on officer training. President Karchikyan discussed Committee of Presidents meeting last month, including updates on safety issues and awareness, contract negotiations, PostalEase help issues, nationwide arbitration cases, TIAREAP, and pay increases.

Announcement of next month's Holiday Meeting Meal and a motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m. Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – December 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:01 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 eleven officers and stewards in good standing.

Motion (Lee/Siechert) passed to suspend the order of business for guest Corrinna Salas, District 7 Officer for the State Association. She shared the importance of contributing to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF) and updated on current bills in Congress.

Motion (Lee/Trieu) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to waive the reading of the bills spreadsheet, they be accepted as printed and emailed, and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Lee/Rich) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting.

MDA Coordinator Carolyn Zorn discussed an ongoing Shoe Drive Fundraiser and the upcoming MDA 2024 Summer Camp.

Motion made (Rich/Siechert) to accept the Executive Board recommendation that the Branch open Certificate(s) of Deposit (CDs) with excess funds that may be saved for long-term goals. Terms and conditions to be determined/negotiated by Branch president and financial institution(s). Motion (Collier/Zorn) amended to delay vote until recommendation is received in writing. Amendment failed. Previous motion passed.

Members at the meeting spoke about LiteBlue login issues, scam text messages, and QR parcel scanning. December in-person raffle \$50 gift card winners: Vinh Trieu (2), Thomas Kindhart, and Victor Temblador. Vinh Trieu sold one of his gift cards and donated \$30 to MDA. Motion (Siechert/Temblador) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2023

INCOME	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER		
NALC Active Rebate	25,749.23	25,454.80	NOVEMBER-DECEMBER TRANSFERS	
NALC Retiree Rebate	0.00	236.07	FROM	TO
Direct Dues	248.12	636.68	Checking	Convention
Interest-Dividend	868.37	900.26	Checking	Mikita
Other Income	216.00	60.00	Checking	Building
			Convention	Checking
				4,096.32
				100.00
				4,096.32
				6,254.47
TOTAL INCOME	\$27,081.72	\$27,287.81		
EXPENSES	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER		
Branch Picnic	0.00	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES	
Building Maintenance	0.00	201.33	10/31/2023	
Car Allowance	500.00	500.00	General Checking	\$143,122.11
COP Meeting	0.00	0.00	Mikita Scholarship	\$4,288.69
Food Drive	0.00	0.00	Building Fund	\$353,941.72
Gardening	0.00	162.00	Convention/Training	\$114,996.06
Insurance	0.00	2,494.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS	
Internet	108.80	108.80	\$616,348.58	
Mail Call	0.00	109.50		
Meeting Meal/Raffle	0.00	498.73		
Mileage	97.66	0.00		
Miscellaneous**	0.00	100.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES	
Office Expenses	136.96	110.97	11/30/2023	
Office Supplies	91.43	71.63	General Checking	\$142,418.53
Officer Benefits	1,776.15	1,779.04	Mikita Scholarship	\$4,338.87
Officer/Steward Salary	16,472.87	17,696.72	Building Fund	\$356,847.61
Payroll Taxes/Filing	1,336.73	1,435.61	Convention/Training	\$113,394.37
Per Capita Tax	152.00	38.00		
Postage	81.99	177.99		
Professional Fees	0.00	2,250.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS	
Retiree Bonus	100.00	0.00	\$616,999.38	
Seminars/Education	1,857.85	195.29		
Tax - Property	1,278.51	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES	
Telephone	130.49	130.50	12/31/2023	
Utilities	284.17	24.08	General Checking	\$138,724.06
Website Fees	50.00	70.00	Mikita Scholarship	\$4,389.06
			Building Fund	\$359,761.18
			Convention/Training	\$112,875.69
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$24,455.61	\$28,154.19		
NET INCOME	\$2,626.11	-\$866.38	TOTAL ACCOUNTS	
			\$615,749.99	

**1187 Bonus

JOHN S. MIKITA

SCHOLARSHIP

The John S. Mikita Scholarship Fund, sponsored by Branch 2200 of the National Association of Letter Carriers, each year awards one \$1,500.00 scholarship to a child or grandchild of a member in good standing. Applicants must be high school seniors and must meet all of the following eligibility criteria in order to be considered for awards in the 2024-2025 competition.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Applicant must be son, daughter, grandchild or legally adopted stepchild of an active, retired, or deceased letter carrier of NALC Branch 2200.

Applicant's parent/grandparent must be a member in good standing of NALC at least one year prior to making application or one year prior to death. Applicant must be a high school senior when making application and must submit the form provided on the reverse side, signed by the NALC member. This form must be returned to Branch 2200 by April 1, 2024.

REGULATIONS

Scholarship is to be used toward pursuing an undergraduate degree at an accredited four-year college of the recipient's choice. Winners may accept other college scholarship assistance in addition to the Branch award.

Any change of schools must be done only with permission of the Branch Scholarship Committee. If winner suffers certified serious illness, scholarship will be held in abeyance for not more than one year.

If applicant decides to attend a two-year college first, the scholarship money will be held in abeyance for up to two years until entry in a four-year college.

If unusual conditions are going to require an interruption in schooling, recipient must state reason(s) in writing to the Scholarship Committee and request that scholarship be held in abeyance. Request(s) will be reviewed by the Committee and a decision rendered. If the Branch member is suspended from the Branch, discontinues union membership, or enters supervision, scholarship will be canceled.

TERMS OF AWARD

The members of the Scholarship Committee will judge applicants each year. Winners are judged on the basis of secondary school records (50%), personal qualifications based on biography outline and essay responses (50%). If no suitable applicant applies, the award will be carried over to the following year, with an additional second award in the amount of \$500.

Decisions of the judges are final. Only the winner will be notified no later than June 1, 2024.

Award money is to be used for required college fees and course materials. **Scholarship payment will be made directly to the school, upon notification by the winner of enrollment in an accredited four-year college.**

APPLICANTS **MUST** RETURN A) THIS COMPLETED APPLICATION WITH ESSAY RESPONSES AND B) AN **“OFFICIAL”** TRANSCRIPT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL RECORDS, **TO ARRIVE NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2024** AT:

**JOHN S. MIKITA SCHOLARSHIP
NALC BRANCH 2200
1310 N OXFORD AVE
PASADENA CA 91104**

Applicant's Name _____ Son/Daughter/Grandchild of _____
(Name of Branch 2200 Member)

Home Address of Applicant _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____ Phone () _____

I certify that I am a member in good standing of NALC Branch 2200 for more than one year and that I have not been in supervision nor have I applied to be in supervision for at least two years. I also realize that application to become a supervisor would result in cancellation of this scholarship, if awarded to my child or grandchild.

Signature of NALC Parent/Grandparent/Guardian _____

Station/Post Office of Parent/GP/Guardian _____ Employee ID# of Parent/GP/Guardian _____

Name of Branch President _____ Name Vice-President or Secy-Treasurer _____

Approximately how many union meetings your parent/grandparent has attended in the last 10 years _____

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA (Please write legibly)

What awards have you received and with what clubs or organizations have you been affiliated?

_____ (attach additional page, if needed)

Please state hobbies, outside interests, and any additional information that you would like considered by the Committee _____

_____ (attach additional page, if needed)

On a separate page, please write a brief essay/response to the following questions:

1. How will you use your degree and advanced learning to improve our society and make the world a better place for the next generation to work, live, and play?
2. Why should you be chosen to receive the Mikita Scholarship?
3. What inspired you to the subject of your study or was there a person or an event that motivated you toward completing and achieving a degree?
4. How have labor unions impacted your life and in what ways might you help strengthen the labor union movement?

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 found 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.

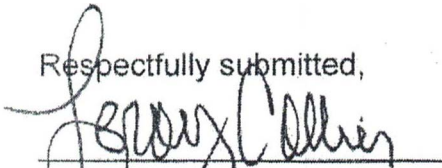
The Glendale Area Schools Credit Union holds a checking account, a savings account, and money market account for the building fund. These accounts were found to be in order.

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,


Lejoy Collier
Chairman

Date: 9/25/2023


Robert Burskey
Trustee

Date: 9/25/23


Jan Siechert
Trustee

Date: 9/25/2023

**Meeting Attendance
November/December 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 La Crescenta: Artur Aghakhanyan – A/A
La Canada/Montrose: Tina Giancanelli – P/P
Pasadena/San Marino: Kevin Nguyen – A/A
Tujunga: Rob Burskey – P/P

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, January 10th

@ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 14^{th**}

@ 7:00 p.m.

In-Person/Zoom

1310 N Oxford Ave

in Pasadena

Zoom Check in @ 6:50 p.m.

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR??

Please see inside....

John Mikita Scholarship Application

\$1500 Award

Applications due in our office

no later than April 1, 2024

2023 HEALTH BENEFITS SEMINAR

As Branch 2200's Health Benefits Representative, I recently had the privilege of attending the latest NALC Health Benefits Seminar. The seminar was held from October 15 through October 18th. Branch President Serop Karchikyan also attended the seminar. Held for the first time in person since 2019, in Las Vegas, hundreds of representatives and/or designees, gathered to learn about the latest updates and changes to our Union health plan for 2024 and beyond. During this 3-day event, attendees were given a wealth of information from the various training classes. In this article, I will highlight the subjects which affect many of our health plan members.

First and foremost, it is of the utmost importance that we increase enrollment in our plan. The more carriers enrolled in the plan brings a positive impact regarding premiums. It is a shared responsibility. If you are enrolled in our health plan, spread the word around the workroom floor to your fellow carriers who aren't enrolled. Inform them of the great advantages our plan provides, not only lower premiums but better coverage. Be a positive voice for your plan. The seminar classes provided valuable insight into our plan. One class demonstrated how to download our Member Access Portal Mobile App. Another class described the different wellness programs available to members.

Members can earn rewards, ranging from \$10 to \$50, by doing things such as getting vaccines, taking a health assessment test or quitting smoking. Health and wellness programs dealing with diabetes, weight loss, heart conditions and caregiving are available to members, free of charge. Classes introduced us to our partners in the plan. These partners include Cigna (Medical Services), CVS (Prescription Drugs), Optum (Behavioral Health) and Amwell (Telehealth Services). Classes also showed the new and expanded features our plan offers in 2024. These include, Behavioral Health Coaching Program, Telehealth—Dermatology, Expanded Hearing Aids, Expanded Foot Orthotics, A1C Testing, Skin Cancer Screening, Infertility, Gender Affirmation, Broad Vaccine Network and SilverScript Prescription Drug (PDP) with \$600 Medicare B Reimbursement. More details and descriptions of these features can be found at nalchbp.org. Classes were also given on subjects such as OWCP, the MBA (Mutual Benefit Association) and Individual Disability Income (an AFLAC-type benefit). As you can see, we were given a great deal of valuable information at this seminar. The seminar also briefly touched on the upcoming 2025 Medicare Integration. That subject will be discussed in an upcoming Mail Call article. Be safe. Be well. **In Unionism,**

Health Benefits Representative Keith Lineman