

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**

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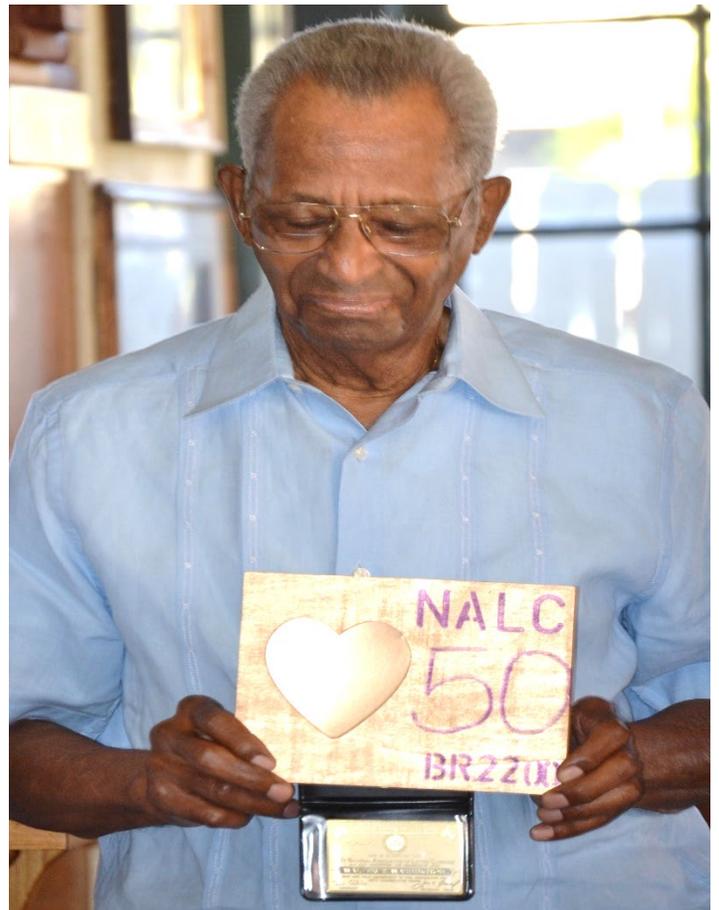
CIRCULATION 1000

MAY/JUNE 2023

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Walter Washington, Sr – I'm saddened to inform you that Brother Walter Washington passed away on May 27, 2023, at the age of 96. Brother Washington has been a member of the NALC for more than sixty years and was a former Branch President, Health Benefits Representative, Trustee, and has served our Branch on countless committees. Brother Washington was a letter carrier in Pasadena and the NALC was a big part of his life as he was actively participating and attending membership meetings through April of 2023. Brother Washington was also an active letter carrier during the Great Postal Strike of 1970. Every letter carrier for the past 50 plus years, including this current day, has benefited from Brother Washington's efforts in supporting the Postal Strike of 1970. Brother Washington had many decades of experience dealing with Postal Service issues and helping our members in need. When I met Brother Washington in 2009, he was the Health Benefits Representative. He loved to report and inform our members during the membership meetings about our NALC health benefits and regularly pushed fellow members to eat well, exercise, check your blood pressure, and stay healthy! Brother Washington was a pleasure to have at all of our meetings because of the decades of experience with both the USPS and NALC. This experience brought great value to our members because history with the USPS tends to routinely repeat itself. I would like to thank Brother Washington for all the years of service and participation with our Branch and note that he will surely be missed.

Working Without the Flats Sequencing System (FSS) – For those employees hired after 2013, working without FSS might be unusual. A few weeks ago, the USPS discontinued FSS for the offices within our Branch and carriers are now required to case the flats that were typically sorted by the FSS machines. Casing the flats that were initially processed by FSS may add additional office time to your assignment for the day depending on the volume of flats to case.



Walter Washington on 50 years NALC membership

The routes within our Branch were adjusted during route inspections with the FSS office time. Now that there is no FSS, the office time will likely increase and cause a later leaving time to the street compared to when we had FSS. Carriers need to be mindful of the volume of flats they must case daily, and request the appropriate amount of overtime and/or auxiliary assistance. The standard for casing letters and flats is 18 and 8. Which means carriers are required to case 18 letters a minute and 8 flats a minute to meet the standard.

Desk of President continued – Page Two

Desk of President – continued

Since Management does not receive a piece count of the flats that used to be processed by FSS, they are now required to manually count the volume of flats that are to be cased daily. Management counts the flats by feet, rather than by piece. A typical foot of flats takes about 15 minutes to case.

This will give a ballpark estimate of how much time you would need to case your flats for the day. Of course, the thickness or thinness of the flats plays a factor as to how much time is needed. If the flats are thick, it could take less than 15 minutes and if they are thin, more than 15 minutes. Carriers can request overtime and/or auxiliary assistance if there is a high volume of mail to case, whether it is letters or flats by notating that reason on their PS Form 3996. For example, if you have 5 feet of flats to case which would take you approximately one hour and fifteen minutes, the carrier may state “5 feet of flats to case” or “leaving later than adjusted office time” on their PS Form 3996. This will account for the extra amount of time one might need if casing flats caused a longer office time compared to the adjusted office time when flats were sorted via FSS.

Since casing flats can cause a longer office time, the USPS and the NALC have reached a joint route adjustment agreement which is called “Technology Integrated Alternate Route Evaluation and Adjustment Process” (TIAREAP). This is in effect until December 31, 2023 to evaluate the offices that are no longer on FSS and make any adjustments needed for the routes that are overburdened as a result of discontinuation of FSS. It is important that carriers work consistently “by the book” as the evaluation period of the routes could be over an extended period and not limited to a single week. In addition, Small Parcels and Rolls (SPR’s) and/or Chunks are considered and counted as flats. Carriers need to either case or tray the SPR’s and/or Chunks while on office time prior to loading their vehicles. It is very important to work the SPR’s and Chunks on office time to protect that office time. If handling the SPR’s and/or Chunks is performed on street time or while loading, the carrier is not going to get the credit for the office function.

Since the office time is going to be evaluated through the adjustment process, it is very important to get accurate data for the office time, so the adjustment outcome is correct.

**Be safe. In Unionism,
Serop Karchikyan**

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

Protecting Route Integrity During TIAREAP Route

Inspections – My brothers and sisters – Today I will take the time to explain the importance of making sure you are credited for all the work you do on your route or your fellow carriers’ route when providing auxiliary assistance. How can you do that, you ask?

You can do so by never, ever working off the clock. Too many times I have seen and grieved carriers working off the clock. If you believe that there is no harm to you or other carriers when working for free, then you are mistaken. Everything in life has a cause and effect and when you work for free it affects the routes evaluated time in the future. I’ll remind everyone that Article 41 of the National agreement states that “Management shall not allow carriers to work off the clock.” This also means that you should be taking your two 10-minute breaks and a 30-minute lunch every day you work more than 6 hours. This will ensure the breaks and lunchtime are properly evaluated and included on each route.

The new scanners being used by carriers now are currently gathering PS 3999’s each day you carry a route. This data can be used to evaluate all routes in your office should the need for a route inspection be warranted. Additionally, the new Timeclock feature on the MDD scanners is now in effect and is another contributing factor to maintaining route integrity. Remember that it is the carrier’s responsibility to properly record their time functions such as BT, MV to office, MV to street on your route or the route you helped on, and End Tour.

Finally, carriers should contact their shop steward or our Branch office if Management changes or falsifies their route performance clock rings and workhours. Article 30 of the National Agreement states “The principle of a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay is recognized by all parties to this Agreement.” All carriers should know that there is no street standard nor walking pace when delivering the mail. It is important to remember to remain consistent on how much time it takes you to complete your assignment and to always work safely. I urge you to read the M-39 & M-41 Handbooks and their provisions outlining the process of performing your route and having it evaluated during route inspection. **Desk of Vice-President continued – Page 7**



2023 NALC Branch 2200 Annual Picnic



Come and have fun in the sun with the members of Branch 2200!

SWIM, GAMES, RAFFLES, OH MY!!



WHERE: 32132 Castaic Lake Dr, Castaic, CA
Castaic Lake Recreation Area

B12 Squirrels Hollow - B14 Ducks Pond - B15 Timberland

WHEN: Sunday August 27th 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
(Food will be served from 11:30am - 1:30pm)

****Ticket Prices** (limit 5 per member): \$10 - (13 and older) \$5 - (3 to 12yrs)

Tickets must be purchased no later than August 14th - Parking (on site): \$12/car



Support a great cause! MDA Raffle tickets for \$5. Prizes TBA.
Purchase ahead with picnic tickets or on the day of the event

**FOR TICKETS, CONTACT YOUR STEWARD OR BRANCH OFFICE AT (626) 798-6122 OR
EMAIL: NNORMAN.NALC2200@GMAIL.COM**

****Extra tickets \$20 each. Space is limited. Tickets will be sold on a first come, first serve basis.
Event is for NALC members and their families only.**



The Washingtons – the team to fight for letter carriers

I didn't know Mr. Walter Washington that well, but from my personal observation of the times I saw him at many of our meetings, he was reliable, stable, and honest; characteristics in a human being that I admire and hold to a high standard. Mr. Washington spoke in a mild mannered voice but his soft spoken words were often loud, proud and frankly, powerful. He was a man with an abundance of knowledge who didn't have to command respect, but that respect was given due to the nature of his character. His concern for carriers and our union are part of his DNA. He had medals for battles from our union that I could not even fathom. I like hearing his "back in the day" stories of how it used to be and how it has become. It was through his stories that I learned of how some carrier families qualified for public assistance, that deliveries were sometimes 2-3 times a day, and that carriers would sell postage stamps on their routes...I could go on. I always looked toward him and others of his generation that made the path easier for carriers like me to follow. Walter Washington will be missed as with many of his generation.

One last mention and that is to shine the light on his wife, Lucille Washington, who is an amazing woman that stood by and supported her husband's career thru the bad times, good times, and the hard times. I have learned from oral history that she not only stood beside her husband but often was chairperson or founder of an auxiliary committee for the advancement of letter carriers. The Union certainly benefitted from Mr. **AND** Mrs. Washington. It's like having two members for the price of one letter carrier. Hats off to Mrs. Washington and Brother Washington. May you rest in peace.

Hip, Hip, Hurrah!!!

Ric Roldan
Sergeant-at-Arms

Brother Washington was There

Where should one begin?? I started to work at USPS in 1976. Wow....that's a long time ago. Walter Washington had already been and done his presidency for Branch 228 (yes, 228 was the number of our Branch until 1980). If I recall correctly, it's soooo long ago, we were only Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre letter carriers. Walter was there.

Walter was there at my first membership meeting in December 1976. Upon completing my probationary period, I began attending meetings on a regular basis. And Walter was there.

If one would cruise through the years of Branch minutes for our membership meetings, one would see and realize how often Walter was there. He was there in varying capacities of positions in our Branch and was there as Chair of audit committees, resolution committees, housing committees, and By-Law committees. He even served as an installing officer following a Branch election. Yes, Walter was there.

And then, my goodness....of course, there was Lucille. A force to be reckoned with, all her own. I remember bus rides and air trips and convention rooms with Lucille. I remember her being on the front lines always ready and happy to help. And yes, Walter was still there.

Some of us had the privilege to attend Walter Washington's memorial service on Friday, June 23 at Metropolitan Baptist Church in Altadena. Those in attendance from Branch 2200 were: Artur Aghakhanyan, Joe Henderson, Serop Karchikyan, Amy Lee, Nancy Norman, Calvin Rich, Jan Siechert, Vinh Trieu and Carolyn Zorn. And Walter was there.

My heart goes out to Lucille and the Washington family. My heart goes out to the brothers and sisters of Branch 2200 for the time is changing and the loss of a great generation is upon us. Make no mistake though. Walter will always be here. Rest in peace, Brother.

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

**In Memoriam
Walter T Washington, Sr
April 7, 1927 to May 27, 2023**

TREASURER'S REPORT MAY - JUNE 2023

INCOME	MAY	JUNE				
NALC Active Rebate	26,294.00	26,160.92	MAY-JUNE TRANSFERS			
NALC Retiree Rebate	0.00	225.70	FROM	TO		AMOUNT
Direct Dues	132.16	363.44	Checking	Convention		4,196.39
Interest-Dividend	677.56	657.78	Checking	Mikita		100.00
Other Income (HBP/T-Shirt Sales)	91.50	1,125.00	Checking	Building		4,196.39
			Convention	Checking		4,803.13
TOTAL INCOME	\$27,195.22	\$28,532.84				
EXPENSES	MAY	JUNE				
Branch Picnic	328.00	0.00				
Car Allowance	500.00	500.00				
COP Meeting	150.00	168.94	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Food Drive	882.58	381.33	4/30/2023			
Gardening	450.00	0.00	General Checking	\$153,662.64		
Insurance	0.00	0.00	Mikita Scholarship	\$3,987.64		
Internet	93.80	103.80	Building Fund	\$335,752.39		
Mail Call	0.00	0.00	Convention/Training	\$107,512.32		
MDA	0.00	0.00				
Meeting Meal/Raffle	0.00	350.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$600,914.99	
Mileage	0.00	107.29				
Miscellaneous**	200.00	132.28				
Office Expenses	1,443.05	268.36	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Office Supplies	178.55	73.11	5/31/2023			
Officer Benefits	1,784.82	1,784.82	General Checking	\$157,494.58		
Officer/Steward Salary	17,478.82	16,762.42	Mikita Scholarship	\$4,037.81		
Payroll Taxes/Filing	1,432.59	1,362.28	Building Fund	\$338,511.54		
Per Capita Tax	38.00	38.00	Convention/Training	\$104,054.81		
Postage	489.99	57.99				
Professional Fees	0.00	0.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$604,098.74	
Retiree Bonus	0.00	0.00				
Seminars/Education	123.41	168.94				
Telephone	125.86	125.86	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Utilities	237.19	15.51	6/30/2023			
Website Fees	0.00	0.00	General Checking	\$155,699.18		
			Mikita Scholarship	\$4,087.98		
			Building Fund	\$341,240.66		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$25,936.66	\$22,400.93	Convention/Training	\$106,940.67		
NET INCOME	\$1,258.56	\$6,131.91	TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$607,968.49	

**Saxsenmeier/Washington Service

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – May 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:03 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 twelve officers and stewards in good standing. Motion (Siechert/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Letter from National Executive Vice President, Paul Barner, was read regarding President Brian Renfroe's Leave of Absence. Motion (Rich/Siechert) passed to waive the reading of the bills spreadsheet as emailed and printed and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Siechert/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept, with the correction to March's report, as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Motion (Temblador/Lee) passed to accept the following applications for membership: G. Cando, I. Latin, M. Montoya, N. Nash, M. Powers, L. Villaneda. **Welcome!** MDA Rep Carolyn Zorn reported on yard sale fund raising and letter writing for Muscular Dystrophy. MBA Rep Vinh Trieu reported that all NALC members are covered with a \$5K accidental death benefit. Health Benefit Rep Keith Lineman shared that May is mental awareness month with the NALC plan providing mental health services through Optum Live and Work Well program. Food Drive Coordinator Rob Burskey asked members to get the word out regarding the Food Drive May 13th. Trustee Leroy Collier announced the next Branch audit will be August 22nd. Brother Collier and Sister Zorn spoke about Teamsters and unionizing companies, including Amazon. Motion (Siechert/Burskey) passed to accept the Executive Board recommendation that the Branch policy be changed to reflect that bills must be submitted no later than the Monday prior to the Executive Board meeting in order to be considered at that month's membership meeting. By Law change was read: Article II, Section 1 (Full Text – Page 7). President Karchikyan announced that FSS will be discontinued May 27th. He also reported that Santa Clarita will be included in the transition to "super hubs," and to make sure that carriers are cleared in the PM for accountable mail. The Branch thanked Nancy Norman for providing the meal for the meeting. Motion (Temblador/Giancanelli) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – June 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, especially former Branch President and Health Benefits Representative, Walter Washington. The roll call was answered by eleven officers and stewards in good standing. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to waive the reading of the minutes and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting. Letter from Lucille Washington was read regarding Walter's death and a motion (Temblador/Siechert) passed to send a flower arrangement to his memorial service.

Motion (Temblador/Siechert) passed to excuse Robert Burskey from the June meeting. Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to waive the reading of the bills and the spreadsheet be accepted as printed and emailed and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Rich/Lee) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as emailed and printed for members at the meeting.

Motion (Lee/Temblador) passed to accept the following applications for membership: R. Becerra, J. Portillo, A. Tokhunts. **Welcome!** MDA Rep Carolyn Zorn updated the members on MDA summer camp. Food Drive report was read/printed and a total of 136,950 pounds was collected.

Motion (Collier/Temblador) passed to adopt the proposed By-Law Change (Full Text – Page 7) to Article II, Section 1. Aye: 14, No: 2.

Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to accept the Executive Board recommendation that picnic tickets be sold at \$10 for ages 13 to adult, \$5 for children 3 to 12, under 3 years free. Each member may purchase up to 5 tickets with additional tickets sold at the rate of \$20 per person (Age 3 and up).

June in-person raffle \$50 gift card winners: Amy Lee, Vinh Trieu, Serop Karchikyan, Carolyn Zorn. Vinh Trieu donated his gift card to MDA. The Branch thanked Keith Lineman and Leticia Alonso for providing the meal for the meeting.

Motion (Lee/Temblador) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer



Two past presidents – side by side again

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

As of the print date for this publication, we are still awaiting the ruling/approval from our national office for the By-Law change to meeting on Wednesdays and to allow Zoom participation. We hope that all of you can find a way to come to our July 11th membership meeting in person. We are transitioning to a new “normal,” which hopefully will include Zoom for members to attend if they are unable to get here in person. But for now, for July, you gotta find a way to get to the union office in Pasadena!

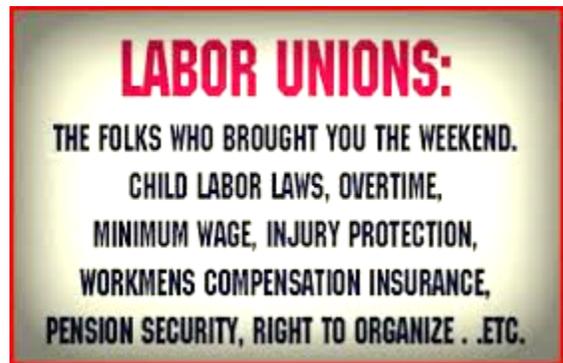
There is so much to learn from Branch meetings and from talking to members before and after the meetings begin and end. After a brief sharing of the details, the question most often asked goes something like this, “Can management do that.....??” You will get an answer. Either a hard and fast, yes, no, 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 December 2023 general meeting, where (4) \$50.00 gift cards will be awarded to member(s) present. So, any way possible, **please come in person to the union office for membership meetings!**

Desk of Vice-President – continued from Page 2

On a sad note, our past Branch president, Walter Washington, recently passed away at 96 years old. Brother Washington dedicated most of his life to serving letter carriers while holding numerous officer positions. His dedication to fighting on the front lines for letter carrier rights is admirable and something that should be remembered by those who knew him and not be taken for granted by those who thrived from it. May you rest in power Brother Walter and my condolences to the Washington family.

**In solidarity,
Calvin Rich**



Proposed By-Law Change*

ARTICLE II. MEETINGS

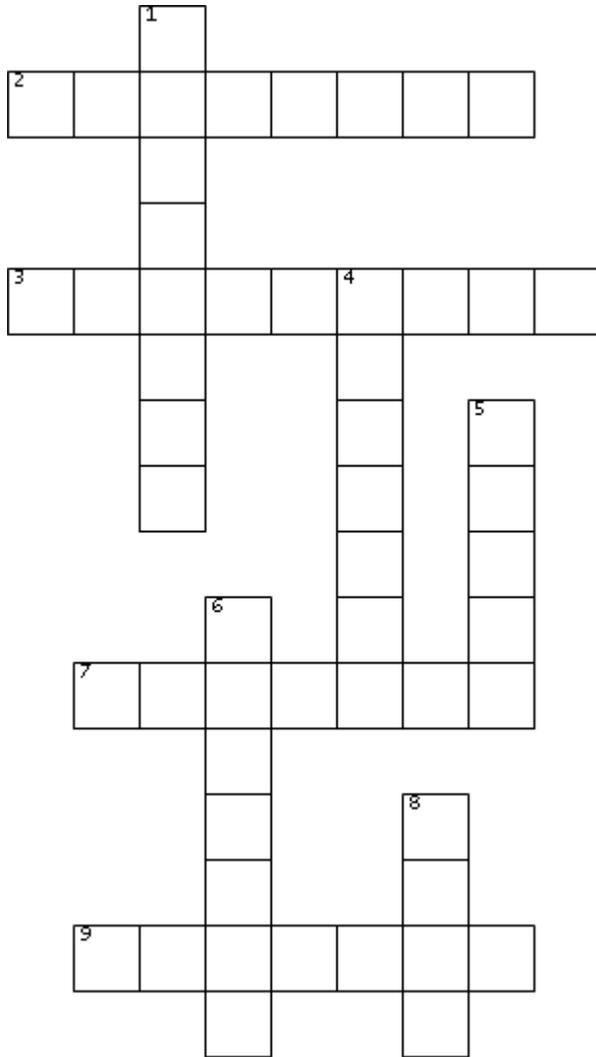
Section 1. Regular meetings of this Branch shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Union Hall. The meeting shall not continue beyond 10:00 p.m. without the consent of the members present and voting.

Propose to read:

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Branch shall be held at the Union Hall at 7:00 p.m. on the second **Wednesday of each month unless it conflicts with a holiday or a national or state convention and it will then be held on the third Wednesday. Members may participate by Zoom or any other virtual meeting service that the Branch may adopt providing a membership verification method is utilized. Digital members will be counted as present and be allowed to vote.** The meeting shall not continue beyond **9:00** p.m. without the consent of the members present and voting.

***This By-Law change was approved by the membership on June 13, 2023.**

Welcome to USPS



ACROSS

2. This Benjamin was the first Postmaster General
3. 2nd Saturday of May
7. The new way of route adjustments
9. Your union representative

DOWN

1. _____ Association of Letter Carriers
4. Current NALC President (last name)
5. Current Branch 2200 President (first name)
6. Your protection in the event of an animal/dog attack
8. ___your wheels

Puzzle courtesy of Amy Lee, Financial Sec'y

Meeting Attendance May/June 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/E
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 GMF 01: Kevin Nguyen – A/A
Pas Jackie Robinson 03/04: Carolyn Zorn – P/P
Tujunga: Rob Burskey – P/E

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Tuesday, July 11th

7:00 p.m.

In-Person only

1310 N Oxford Ave

in Pasadena

Members may hear/see meeting via Zoom

August 8th or 9th

7:00 p.m.

Pending By-Law approval

Please call the office 626-798-6122

to confirm meeting date

**Raffle Tickets for In-Person Attendance
MEETING MEAL STARTING AT 6:00 P.M.**

Branch Picnic flyer inside!!

Space is limited. First come, first served.

Buy your tickets today!

Call the union office (626-798-6122)

Speak with your shop steward, or email:

nnorman.nalc2200@gmail.com