

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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VOLUME NO. 35

CIRCULATION 1000

SEP/OCT 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT – Serop Karchikyan

Fellow sisters and brothers:

In late September of 2022, I attended the Committee of Presidents Meeting in Anchorage, Alaska. Many topics were discussed by Local Branch Presidents from across the Nation. The biggest issue was the insufficient staffing amongst most Installations Nationwide. National President Fred Rolando and Executive Vice President Brian Renfroe stated they are aware of the issue and are addressing it with USPS Headquarters. NALC, at the National Level, has signed Memorandums of Understanding with USPS which allows certain Installations to hire Part Time Flexibles (PTF's) in lieu of City Carrier Assistants (CCA's), in the hopes of increasing the retention rate in Installations where the retention rate is below average. NALC at the National Level will also be negotiating the new 2023 contract for termination of the CCA position and the hiring of PTF's nationwide instead. This will give newly hired PTF's more of an incentive to stick around since they will be career employees from the beginning and will be receiving career employee benefits as well. The starting wage for the newly hired employees was also addressed by President Rolando. NALC is going to be negotiating higher starting wages for new employees in the hopes of increasing the retention rate across the Nation.

Another topic that was addressed at the COP was the rise in mail-related theft and robbery. This topic was a big concern for the safety of letter carriers nationwide. NALC has addressed this issue with the Postmaster General, the Office of Inspector General (OIG), and the Postal Police. It is scheduled for a Congressional hearing as well, to ensure letter carrier safety and addressing preventative measures of theft and robbery while performing their daily duties. If any one of you letter carriers, or carriers you know of, has been robbed or there has been mail theft, please report to the Branch as soon as possible as the National office is tracking these incidents and requesting this information from the local Branches.

Executive VP Renfroe stated that all letter carriers should register and create an account on ECOMP, with or without any current claim. The process is simple and will be ready to go should you ever need to file a claim. For those that might not be aware, all employees of the Postal Service can file a work-related injury online on ECOMP.DOL.GOV. This is the website for Department of Labor, Office of Workers Compensation for employees injured while in the performance of their duties, whether it is a Traumatic Injury (CA-1 Claim), Occupational Disease and Illness (CA-2 Claim) or a Notice of Recurrence (CA-2a Claim). An employee may file a claim on ECOMP without having to deal with Management and their delays. Another benefit for filing a claim on ECOMP is the claim gets electronically tracked and documented online. An employee can log into ECOMP, review their claim and any information related to it. It can be extremely helpful for employees to stay on top of the status of their claim. ECOMP also allows employees to electronically upload documents to their claim examiner without having to go through Management. Employees can even file a COVID-19 claim on ECOMP. If you have not done so yet, register for ECOMP just in case you are ever involved in a work-related injury.



Left to right: Brian Renfroe, Serop, Fredric Rolando

OPEN SEASON ON YOUR HEALTH PLAN

It is that time of year again when letter carriers should review their health-care related needs and decide if their current health plan is fulfilling those needs. If the current plan fails, a carrier is in luck. Beginning on Monday, November 14th, 2022, and running through Monday, December 12th, 2022, it is Open Season for the Federal Health Benefits Program. During this period, carriers can choose the health plan best suited for them and their families. And that program is the **NON-PROFIT** National Association of Letter Carriers Health Benefit Plan or NALC HBP. A Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) program run by carriers for carriers, the NALC HBP High Option plan offers low copays, low-cost prescriptions, and high-quality customer service. The average health plan is estimated to see a monthly premium increase of around 8.7% for 2023. The NALCHBP increase is only 4.5%, an increase of \$10.00 for the Self-only option and an increase of \$20.00 for Self and Family option, from 2022 rates.

The Postal Service Reform Act passed earlier this year, brings an additional benefit. At no extra cost, a Medicare Advantage option will be available to all NALC Health Benefit Plan High Option annuitants and eligible dependents with Medicare Parts A and B as their primary payer. Beginning January 1, 2023, annuitants will be offered the NALC High Option Plan-Aetna Medicare Advantage. For current High Option members, this will not affect enrollment with the NALC HBP High Option, members will only need to opt-in to the Aetna program. A few highlights include dental and vision coverage and the Silver Sneakers fitness program.

As your Branch Health Benefits Representative and a member of the NALC Plan, I can attest to the quality of care our Health Plan provides. I had been enrolled in a few of the other plans over the course of my postal career and none were comparable. I encourage all postal carriers to enroll in the NALCHBP High Option and **“Upgrade Your Health to A Union That Delivers.”**

Keith Lineman – Health Benefits Representative



Memory Lane: Vote by Mail during COVID



Halloween Nightmare for Letter Carriers

EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE THIS NOVEMBER

I write to encourage all Letter Carriers to exercise your constitutional right to Vote! As citizens of this great country, voting ensures your voice is heard at all levels of government, whether it be at the local, state or national level. Our democracy critically depends on voting, and it shows the rest of the world that the People determine who is elected to best represent everyone.

There are many important Propositions and government positions that are up for election this November. This Branch respects our members' decisions in who and what they vote for and encourages carriers to do their research, while stressing the importance of having representatives in government who are Pro Union and publicly support Postal Service Bargaining Unit Worker rights. Additionally, the Union advocates for the membership to **VOTE BY MAIL**, as it is a trustworthy and secure form of voting.

**In Unionism,
Calvin Rich, Vice-President**

2023 Carl J. Saxsenmeier

Scholarship Program

The California State Association of Letter Carriers (CSALC) is now accepting applications for the 2023 Carl J. Saxsenmeier Scholarship Program. **All applications must be received by the Scholarship Chair by January 7, 2023.** The Chair will send scholarship packets to all applicants by the end of January 2023. 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 2022 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:

Note to all members with high school seniors....

Branch 2200 Mikita Scholarship Applications
will be in our next issue of the Mail Call.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – September 13, 2022

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 departed brothers and sisters since the last. The roll call was answered by twelve officers and stewards in good standing.

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

Motion (Lineman/Lee) passed to accept the following applications for membership: S. Adame, L. Adeva, K. Basillo, J. Cisneros, A. Hope, L. Jackson, G. Martinez, J. Murphy, J. Nolan, I. Ochoa, H. Popoca, T. Solorzano, K. Spicer, P. Truong, M. Valenzuela. **WELCOME!**

MBA Representative Vinh Trieu spoke about Short-Term Disability coverage for NALC members, offering a great option for those who have used their allotted sick leave. Leroy Collier reported on legislative issues and suggested that, when available, the CSALC endorsement flyer be shared with Branch members.

President Karchikyan discussed the possibility of the CCA position being eliminated with the next contract negotiations and updated on the new letter carrier pay increase effective August 27th. Vice President Rich shared his experience at the National Convention in Chicago and provided information on the new Next Generation Delivery Vehicles (NGDV). The next National Convention is set for Boston, MA in the summer of 2024.

Motion (Lee/Lineman) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – October 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order via Zoom and in-person at 7:02 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 departed brothers and sisters since the last meeting including Retiree Stella Rodriguez from Glendale. The roll call was answered by thirteen officers and stewards in good standing.

Motion (Siechert/Roldan) 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 as emailed and printed for members at the meeting and warrants be drawn and bills be paid. Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to waive the reading of the Treasurer's Report and accept as printed and emailed to members at the meeting. Motion (Lee/Siechert) passed to accept the following applications for membership: M. Castro, T. Chavez, J. Chu, M. Locicero, M. Mendoza, J. Orellana, S. Tonkham. **WELCOME!** The holidays are around the corner and "Thank You" postcards will be available to purchase. Contact the Branch office for more information.

Motion (Siechert/Burskey) passed to suspend the order of business for NBA Regional Assistant, Calvin Brookins to address the membership. Brother Brookins announced his candidacy for Region 1 National Business Agent.

Motion (Rhodes/Rich) passed to accept the Executive Board recommendation that the Branch spend up to \$550 for Stonefire Grill catering the December meeting meal. Carolyn Zorn spoke on Midterm Elections and the importance of voting, followed with encouragement by Leroy Collier for all to VOTE by MAIL. Announcement that the next Branch audit is scheduled for November 29th.

President Karchikyan shared several topics that were discussed at the Committee of Presidents meeting in September. This included carrier safety nationwide, staffing/retention/overtime issues, table pay scales, and Medicare Integration for retirees and those approaching retirement. He also strongly encouraged carriers to create an ECOMP account even without any current claim/issue. Motion (Lee/Trieu) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2022

INCOME	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER				
NALC Active Rebate	23,791.55	23,916.94	SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER TRANSFERS			
NALC Retiree Rebate	225.70	0.00	FROM	TO		AMOUNT
Direct Dues	341.11	767.76	Checking	Convention		3,816.67
Interest-Dividend	144.68	191.35	Checking	Mikita		100.00
Other Income	0.00	0.00	Checking	Building		4,783.54
TOTAL INCOME	\$24,503.04	\$24,876.05	Convention	Checking		10,971.50
EXPENSES	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER				
Building Maintenance	0.00	0.00				
Car Allowance	500.00	500.00				
COP Meeting	1,000.32	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Election	0.00	0.00	8/31/2022			
Food Drive	0.00	0.00	General Checking			\$183,593.74
Gardening	0.00	0.00	Mikita Scholarship			\$3,586.38
Insurance	0.00	0.00	Building Fund			\$315,628.54
Internet	83.80	103.80	Convention/Training			\$105,161.26
Mail Call	131.40	131.40	MDA LIABILITY (-)			0.00
Mileage/Parking	48.56	0.00	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$607,969.92
Miscellaneous**	0.00	0.00				
Muscular Dystrophy Assn	0.00	0.00				
National Convention	1,385.48	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
Office Expenses	69.93	306.69	9/30/2022			
Office Supplies	155.47	83.74	General Checking			\$180,085.65
Officer Benefits	2,574.11	2,026.16	Mikita Scholarship			\$3,636.53
Officer/Steward Salary	23,921.10	16,322.68	Building Fund			\$318,625.68
Payroll Taxes/Filing	1,910.54	1,341.60	Convention/Training			\$98,741.80
Per Capita Tax	37.50	37.50	MDA LIABILITY (-)			0.00
Postage	147.99	79.99	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$601,089.66
Professional Fees	0.00	0.00				
Retiree Bonus	50.00	50.00				
Seminars/Education	0.00	0.00	ACCOUNT BALANCES			
State Convention	0.00	0.00	10/31/2022			
Telephone	128.98	128.46	General Checking			\$179,172.09
Utilities	462.16	0.00	Mikita Scholarship			\$3,686.69
Website Fees	0.00	0.00	Building Fund			\$320,713.22
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$32,607.34	\$21,112.02	Convention/Training			\$98,031.74
			MDA LIABILITY (-)			0.00
NET INCOME	-\$8,104.30	\$3,764.03	TOTAL ACCOUNTS			\$601,603.74

**

NON-MEMBER ROSTER - BRANCH 2200

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POST OFFICE	PL	REG/CCA	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POST OFFICE	PL	REG/CCA
Gonzalez	Heather	Altadena	10	R	Gonzales	Gary	Pasadena	6	R
					Ho	Raymond	Pasadena	7	R
Banh	Kelly	Glendale	121	R	Lam	Tung	Pasadena	8	R
Daghbashyan	Rafik	Glendale	161	R	Ma	Terry	Pasadena	0	CCA
Esguerra	Benito	Glendale	141	R	Manju	Mohammed	Pasadena	6	R
Hovhannesian	Azad	Glendale	104	R	Mejia	Gerald	Pasadena	5	R
Isajani	Derik	Glendale	161	R	Moreno	Jose	Pasadena	4	R
Kim	Ki Hoon	Glendale	0	CCA	Phan	Johnny	Pasadena	5	R
Lopez	Abraham	Glendale	0	CCA	Truong	John	Pasadena	6	R
Mazariegos	Thelma	Glendale	162	R	Victorio	Rodel	Pasadena	5	R
Phung	Phan	Glendale	161	R	Wang	David	Pasadena	1	R
Rivera	Juan	Glendale	111	R					
Rodriguez	Linda	Glendale	161	R	Becerra	Richard	Santa Clarita	121	CCA
Soldatenko	George	Glendale	104	R	Chavez	Anthony	Santa Clarita	620	R
Suh	Uk Sun	Glendale	141	R	David	Noel	Santa Clarita	620	R
Wen	Raymond	Glendale	104	R	Davinroy	Andrew	Santa Clarita	320	R
					Lartigue	Kim	Santa Clarita	120	R
Ko	Miguel	La Canada	101	PTF	Lartigue	Peter	Santa Clarita	120	R
Luu	Hong	La Canada	101	R	Navarro	Junzky	Santa Clarita	120	R
					Ybarra	Jose	Santa Clarita	120	R
Asuncion	Joel	Pasadena	6	R					
Barsamian	Razmik	Pasadena	6	R	Helstrom	Paula	Sunland	320	R
Carrillo, Jr	Ismael	Pasadena	7	R	Srirathu	Rawat	Sunland	320	R
Chau	Sy	Pasadena	3	R					
Estrada	Angela	Pasadena	1	R	Sugiarto	Albertus	Tujunga	500	R
Frigillana	Abraham	Pasadena	0	R					

Branch 2200 will pay \$100 to the first member (President not eligible)
to sign up a non-member in a pay status on this list, with a completed, signed Form 1187.
Payment processed upon completion of probation and first successful deduction.
See your shop steward for forms or contact the Branch office at 626-798-6122.
Our goal is 100% Membership!!

**Meeting Attendance
September/October 2022**

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 – E/P

Stewards:

Glendale Main Office: Calvin Rich – P/P
Glen La Crescenta: ArturAghakhanyan – P/P
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 8th
7:00 p.m.**

**Tuesday, December 13th
7:00 p.m.**

Holiday Meal at 6:00 p.m.

In-Person

**@ 1310 N Oxford Ave
in Pasadena**

Zoom Check in @ 6:45 p.m.

RAFFLE - DECEMBER 2022

**Every member in attendance
"in person" at each membership meeting
will be given a raffle ticket
for a December drawing
(4)\$50 Gift Cards.**

**The more you show up,
the more chances to win!
Winner must be present
(yes, in person!) to win.**

IN-PERSON BRANCH MEETINGS

They may be hard to come by, but a few good things came out of the Pandemic of 2020. One has been the ability to "Zoom" a meeting rather than actually be there in person. For sure, Zoom is easy and pretty convenient when one is far from home or unable to physically get to a meeting. However, all of the "stuff" that used to be done before and after meetings has been lost. This includes one on one time with a steward and/or the Branch president or to simply share company. Sometimes, there just isn't time in our membership meeting to cover all of the issues that are going on in our station. Or an issue is personal and sharing it with a group of 20 doesn't seem altogether enticing.

For these reasons, we are making an effort to encourage all of our officers/shop stewards/members to come to meetings in person. Like the good old days.

So, any way possible, **please come to the union office on the 2nd Tuesday of every month!!**



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING
and
Happy Holidays to all our NALC Members**