

MAIL CALL

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SERVING

**Altadena, Glendale, La Canada, Montrose, Pasadena
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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

On Safety – Throughout our district, the Postal Service is focusing on safety, especially U-Turns and excessive backing. The reason is that U-Turns and excessive backing have led to numerous accidents that could have been avoided altogether. Management is using the data from the scanners and the geo location to monitor carriers' driving behaviors. Even though this data may not always be accurate, management will investigate issues nonetheless. Management has gone so far as driving out to the location of the alleged excessive backing or illegal U-Turn and asking customers for video surveillance. Carriers should avoid U-Turns and excessive backing altogether, if possible, by driving around the block or walking back, instead of backing up a vehicle for a missed parcel. Of course, certain locations on the route may require carriers to make U-Turns and reverse the vehicle, however, these locations should be approved by management and a copy of the approval should be kept in the route book. If a carrier is required to make a U-Turn or a 3-Point Turn, it must be a legal U-Turn or a 3-Point Turn in accordance with the DMV regulations.

The Postal Service has also been performing Safety Blitzes. A team, consisting of supervisors, managers and postmasters will drive out to a particular post office and conduct street observations. Besides scanner data and geo location, this is another tactic management is using to observe carriers. Management does not announce when a safety blitz will be conducted or which post office. Regardless, carriers must always work in a safe manner and follow all Postal Service safety rules and regulations while in the performance of their duties. This will, most importantly, keep the carrier safe and, in addition, keep the carrier out of trouble. Always work with the mindset that you are being watched and follow all safety rules. You never know who is watching you, whether in person, surveillance cameras or data from the scanner. Remember: your safety is PRIORITY.

New Business/New National Agreement – As some of you may have already noticed, our new pay rates from the 2019-2023 contract were implemented on April 10, 2021. These new rates apply to both career carriers and city carrier assistants (CCAs). Going forward, there will be additional pay increases in accordance with the new contract, with two additional general wage increases and four possible COLA's. The Postal Service and NALC have not announced a date for the retroactive pay going back to November 2019, however, it is being discussed and should be announced soon.

In addition to the additional pay, all CCAs will now be converted to career carriers upon reaching 24 months of service as a CCA on May 8th, 2021. I would like to congratulate those CCAs that have reached the milestone of conversion to a career carrier. It is not an easy journey starting as a CCA with the Postal Service, especially these couple of years dealing with COVID-19 and this last political season. However, those of you being converted after working hard, long hours have overcome the challenges of being a CCA. For the CCAs that have not yet reached the 24-month milestone, hang in there because there is a light at the end of the tunnel to be converted to a career status.

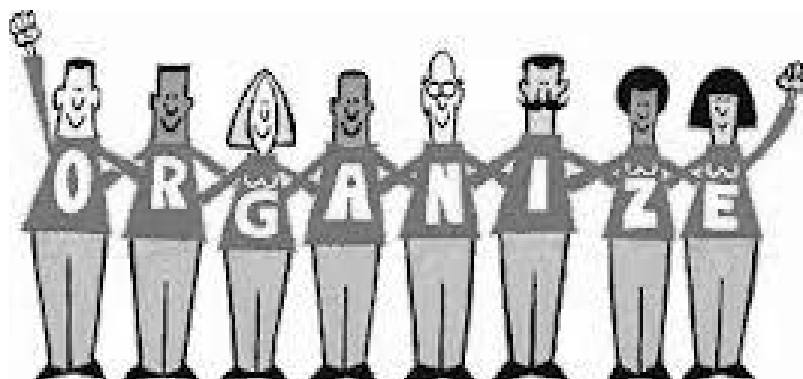
Emergency Federal Employee Leave (EFEL) – The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 signed into law on March 11, 2021, provides an important new leave benefit for letter carriers affected by COVID-19. Effective March 12, it establishes a new category of leave called Emergency Federal Employee Leave (EFEL). EFEL is available to all federal employees if they experience a COVID-19 related absence which qualifies under the provisions of the Act. Federal employees now have eight (8) qualifying reasons to take the leave.

Desk of President – Continued on Back Page



LUNCHTIME BACK IN THE DAY.....RELAY BOXES – As a retired Letter Carrier, I remember these. The Post Office used these to try to save money and worker power. Vans were purchased to transport carriers and the mail for their routes. Letter carriers were dropped at their first Park and Loop delivery. Carriers would strap out the different swings/relays of their routes, and the relays were dropped at a couple different boxes for each carrier. The letter carrier would: reach that location; then deliver the next set of Park and Loops. An intersection could have four separate swings/relays to deliver and the carrier would then be at her/his next relay box. Lunch and water might be left in a relay box. Hopefully, the driver would remember to include that in the correct box....otherwise, you end up with NO lunch or someone else's. Carriers had no vehicles to sit in for a break or lunch. A relay box or bus stop might be their only shelter. Drivers had their own routes to deliver after dropping off the relays/swings to the boxes. Very shortly, these delivery methods proved to be an overtime fiasco. Duh.....once again, no input from letter carriers. Carriers had to wait to be picked up. The wrong swings were sometimes placed in the wrong relay boxes. Vans and drivers broke down or might be otherwise delayed on their own assignments. Overtime soared. Thanks for the trip down Memory Lane –

Retired Letter Carrier, Jan Siechert, Pasadena



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – March 9, 2021

The meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:04 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, and in remembrance of Gold Card member, Ed Thompson from Glendale. The roll call was answered by twelve officers and stewards in good standing. Motion (Siechert/Rhodes) passed to waive the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting and accept, with correction to include “audit report emailed to each registered meeting member.”

Motion (Siechert/Burskey) passed to waive the reading of the bills and accept as emailed to members present at the meeting. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to waive reading of Treasurer’s Report, accepted as printed in the Mail Call. Motion (Collier/Siechert) passed to accept the applications for membership on the first reading: Naukeysha Bryant, Jeremy Castaneda, Corazon Catolico, Monica Escoto, Jeanette Garcia, Man Ho, Illiana Madon, Teanna Miller, Jose Mota, Steven Tarkowski, Steven Torres, and Drew Wiechert. **Welcome!!**

Legislative Liaison Zorn updated on the need for active carriers to be involved in the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF). Health Benefits Rep Walter Washington reported on members calling the health plan for preferred providers’ current status. Food Drive Coordinator Rob Burskey reported on the postponement of the Food Drive from May this year until September/October.

Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed that the audit reports be accepted and any recommendations be considered under a separate motion. Motion (Siechert/Trieu) passed to accept the recommendation in Audit Report 2-25-2020 regarding numbered account for MDA funds. Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to accept amended Executive Board recommendation that the Branch use the Costco Executive Rebate to purchase Gift Cards to the maximum extent possible, Cards to be raffled for MDA, and to use the remainder of the rebate for Branch office supplies.

President Karchikyan reported on USPS management and district downsizing, the members’ ratification of the National Agreement, local negotiations, next generation delivery vehicles, and access to the COVID vaccines.

Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – April 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order via Zoom 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. The roll call was answered by twelve officers and stewards in good standing.

Ricardo Garcia, 4-year carrier from Glendale Verdugo Viejo was introduced to the membership.

Minutes from the previous meeting were read and a motion (Siechert/Rhodes) passed to accept, as read. Bills were read, motion (Siechert/Rhodes) passed to accept the bills, as read.

Motion (Siechert/Rich) passed to waive reading of Treasurer’s Report, accepted as emailed to members present at the meeting.

Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to accept and welcome the applications for membership on the first reading: Danny Alvarez, Eileen Ayala, Ben Bedore, Eric Chavez Dominguez, Angela Collins, Van Giang, Sarah Hermann, Daisy Limas, Md Mia, Jacob Navarette, Sophia Orozco, Jaime Perez-Barrientos, Erin Picard I, Antonio Pimentel, Fernando Quintanilla, Joseph Quiroz, Jarrett Sidney, Fernando Vasquez, Albert Zelaya Jr. **Welcome!!**

Legislative Liaison Zorn reported on the Biden nominees for USPS Board of Governors and their upcoming consideration by the Senate. Audit Committee reported on potential date of May 13th for the next audit.

Discussion followed on local negotiations, recent Form 50’s, contractual raises, COLA adjustments, and the lump sum back payment.

President Karchikyan reported and detailed two recent LMOU’s on the implementation of CCA Conversion to Career Status (MOU 01946) and Reassignment Opportunities (MOU 01947). President Karchikyan also addressed issues specific to leave for COVID vaccine appointments and vaccine side effects.

Motion (Siechert/Roldan) passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Submitted by,

Nancy Norman
Secretary-Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT MARCH/APRIL 2021

INCOME	MAR	APR				
NALC Active Rebate	33,111.61	21,745.27		MAR-APR TRANSFERS		
NALC Retiree Rebate	245.83	0.00		FROM	TO	AMOUNT
Direct Dues	446.56	404.32				
Interest-Dividend	81.75	79.39	Checking	Convention		3,525.24
Other Income	0.00	343.71	Checking	Mikita		100.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$33,885.75	\$22,572.69	Checking	Building		2,000.00
			Convention	Checking		0.00
EXPENSES	MAR	APR				
Building Maintenance	0.00	0.00				
Car Allowance	500.00	500.00		ACCOUNT BALANCES		
COP Meeting	0.00	0.00		2/28/2021		
Food Drive	0.00	0.00		General Checking		\$206,154.94
Gardening	0.00	0.00		Mikita Scholarship		\$5,182.78
Insurance (Crime Bond)	2,836.00	0.00		Building Fund		\$290,618.54
Internet	90.80	90.80		Convention/Training		\$81,561.17
Mail Call	0.00	0.00				
MDA Expense	0.00	290.29		TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$583,517.43
Miscellaneous**	0.00	0.00				
National Convention	0.00	0.00				
Office Expenses	42.43	515.77		ACCOUNT BALANCES		
Office Supplies	191.57	96.42		3/31/2021		
Officer Benefits	1,556.04	2,334.06		General Checking		\$212,876.79
Officer/Steward Salary	13,771.56	20,422.40		Mikita Scholarship		\$5,233.00
Payroll Taxes/Filing	1,148.16	1,678.10		Building Fund		\$291,684.14
Per Capita Tax	34.00	34.00		Convention/Training		\$83,343.26
Postage	107.99	207.49				
Professional Fees (CPA)	2,100.00	0.00		TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$593,137.19
Property Tax/Use Tax	0.00	1,143.68				
Retiree Bonus	250.00	300.00				
Seminars & Education	0.00	0.00		ACCOUNT BALANCES		
State Convention	0.00	0.00		4/30/2021		
Telephone	126.46	126.59		General Checking		\$208,343.39
Utilities	254.79	39.38		Mikita Scholarship		\$5,283.22
Website Fees	0.00	0.00		Building Fund		\$292,747.69
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$23,009.80	\$27,778.98		Convention/Training		\$85,107.33
NET INCOME	\$10,875.95	-\$5,206.29		TOTAL ACCOUNTS		\$591,481.63

NON-MEMBER ROSTER - BRANCH 2200

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POST OFFICE	PL	REG/CCA	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	POST OFFICE	PL	REG/CCA
Choi	Mong	Altadena	10	R	Lam	Tung	Pasadena	8	R
Gonzalez	Heather	Altadena	10	R	Lennick	William	Pasadena	1	R
					Manju	Mohammed	Pasadena	6	R
Aviles	Edith	Glendale	107	R	Mejia	Gerald	Pasadena	5	R
Banh	Kelly	Glendale	121	R	Moreno	Jose	Pasadena	4	R
Esguerra	Benito	Glendale	141	R	Phan	Johnny	Pasadena	5	R
Hovhannesian	Azad	Glendale	104	R	Trac	Tam	Pasadena	1	R
Isajani	Derik	Glendale	161	R	Truong	John	Pasadena	6	R
Khuu	David	Glendale	141	R	Victorio	Rodel	Pasadena	5	R
Mazariegos	Thelma	Glendale	162	R	Wang	David	Pasadena	1	R
Phung	Phan	Glendale	161	R					
Rivera	Juan	Glendale	111	R	Amado	Christopher	Santa Clarita	740	R
Rodriguez	Linda	Glendale	161	R	Chavez	Anthony	Santa Clarita	620	R
Soldatenko	George	Glendale	104	R	Davinroy	Andrew	Santa Clarita	320	R
Suh	Uk Sun	Glendale	141	R	Frasca, Jr.	Carmine	Santa Clarita	320	R
Wen	Raymond	Glendale	104	R	Lartigue	Kim	Santa Clarita	120	R
					Lartigue	Peter	Santa Clarita	120	R
Luu	Hong	La Canada	101	R	Lucas	Craig	Santa Clarita	120	R
					Navarro	Junzky	Santa Clarita	120	R
Asuncion	Joel	Pasadena	6	R	Ybarra	Jose	Santa Clarita	120	R
Barsamian	Razmik	Pasadena	6	R					
Carrillo, Jr	Ismael	Pasadena	7	R	Helstrom	Paula	Sunland	320	R
Chau	Sy	Pasadena	3	R	Merhoff	Kurt	Sunland	320	R
Estrada	Angela	Pasadena	1	R	Srirathu	Rawat	Sunland	320	R
Frigillana	Abraham	Pasadena	0	R					
Gonzales	Gary	Pasadena	3	CCA	Sugiarto	Albertus	Tujunga	500	R
Ho	Raymond	Pasadena	7	R					
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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
March/April 2021**

Officers:

President Serop Karchikyan – P/P
Vice President Carolyn Zorn – P/P
Secy-Treasurer Nancy Norman – P/P
Financial Secy – Vacant
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

ZOOM MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

**Tuesday, May 11th
7:00 p.m.
via Zoom**

**Tuesday, June 8th
7:00 p.m.
via Zoom**

Check in is at 6:45 p.m.

For the foreseeable future, membership meetings are being held via Zoom. With that said, we invite you to join the meetings from the comfort of your own home, all across the United States. Provide your email address and you will receive an invite. 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.
STAY SAFE EVERYONE!!

Desk of President – Continued from Front Page

An employee obtaining the COVID vaccination or recovering from any injury, disability, illness, or condition related to such immunization is now eligible to use EFEL. In addition to obtaining the immunization for COVID -19, carriers also have the opportunity to use EFEL when the employee is caring for a family member with a mental or physical disability or who is 55 years of age or older and incapable of self-care, without regard to whether another individual other than the employee is available to care for such family member, if the place of care for such family member is closed or the direct care provider is unavailable due to COVID-19.

This leave may be used if an employee is caring for their son or daughter, if the school or place of care for their child has been closed, requires or makes optional a virtual learning instruction model, requires or makes optional a hybrid of in-person and virtual learning instruction models, or if the child care provider of the son or daughter is unavailable, due to COVID-19 precautions. And of course, also in the unfortunate situation that an employee tests positive for COVID-19 or is advised by a medial physician to self-quarantine.

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) administers the EFEL fund, however, OPM has not released the official guidelines for EFEL. The original date OPM was to release the guidelines was March 31, 2021; it was extended to April 28, 2021 and has currently, once again, been extended. The Postal Service is approving the EFEL in two week increments until the guidelines are released by OPM.

Carriers should notify management as soon as possible for requesting EFEL on a PS Form 3971 for any of the qualifying reasons by checking off “Other Paid Leave,” with code “086-21” and state EFEL and the qualifying reasons number on the remarks portion of the PS Form 3971. **ALWAYS** keep a copy of your PS Form 3971 with management’s signature on the form. If you are unable to complete a PS Form 3971 in advance, keep communication records either by text or email messages requesting EFEL and the qualifying reason and complete a PS Form 3971 upon your return to duty. There have been circumstances when management has disapproved EFEL and, in that situation, notify your shop steward or the Branch Office immediately.

**In Solidarity – There is Strength in Unity –
by Serop Karchikyan**