



THE Mail Bag NEWS

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TRI-VALLEY BRANCH 2902
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS AFL-CIO

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MEMBER: TRI-COUNTIES CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

VOLUME 66, NO. 4

CIRCULATION 2,500

JULY - AUGUST 2024

Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive Offers Help to those in Need

Region 1 RAP Session Provides Little Insight Into Contract Resolution

By James Perryman, President

It would be wonderful if the world distributed goods according to need. Although many of the wealthiest people try to help those who have little or nothing, others seem to just want. It's really a matter of attitude. Some people think that those who are poor choose to be poor, and those who have wealth earned it. The truth is far from reality. Most of the poor work hard every day to provide for their families and still live in poverty.

Generosity begins with participation in the Stamp Out Hunger across America NALC food drive. Many Americans, including millions of children, senior citizens and veterans, are unsure where their next meal will come from. Letter Carriers have helped meet the need by collecting food that Postal patrons leave near their mailboxes on the second Saturday of each May since 1993.

NALC branches deliver the food to directly to local food banks, which often face shortages in spring and summer because holiday donations

have been depleted. Most school meal programs are not available during the summer months, making the timing of the Letter Carrier food drive crucial.

I can't name all of you that went above and beyond the call of duty during the food drive, but I must give a special

thanks to our Branch Food Drive Coordinators, Mary Stanley and Walter Williams and to our volunteers: Rochelle Harvey, Marisol Chavira, Ethan Hernandez, Lisje Limpo, Eddy Tjandra, Matthew Marquez, and Debobroto Goswami for dispatching food drive cards to our local installations. A heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you that have participated in this yearly event at any time over the past 30 years; without all of your stellar efforts throughout the years the annual food drive could not succeed like it has for over the last quarter century.

This year, Branch 2902's food drive collected a total of 179,741



Pictured above are some of the fabulous volunteers at the Thousand Oaks P.O. who helped to make the Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive such a great success.

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Stamp Out Hunger Drive

continued from page 1

pounds of food. An increase of close to 20,000 pounds from the previous year (2023); which is very impressive despite the shortage of food drive cards received from national this year. Again, thanks to all for your hard work and charitable contributions.

CSALC/Region 1 Training and RAP Session in Las Vegas

Prior to the convention, the California State Association of Letter Carriers (CSALC) and National Business Agent (NBA) Region 1 officers conducted training classes on April 16 and 17 followed by a RAP session. These classes were attended by Branch 2902 officers, myself included, and many of our Stewards. I attended three classes; (1) Interviewing with Management for Discipline & Contract Grievances, (2) Article 8-Overtime Violations, and (3) LMOU Negotiation Process. The three classes that I attended were well taught and highly informative and the consensus amongst our officers and Stewards was: *all of the classes* attended were well taught and highly informative. Good job by NBA Keisha Lewis' office and her staff: Allan Rios, Jeff Frazee, Colleen Karnthong, Jay Laviolette, and the California State Association President Harold Kelso and his Officers.

Rap Session-NALC President Brian Renfroe was present only for the Rap session on April 17. He spoke about the collective bargaining process and went over the proposed

Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) with the delegates in attendance. NALC Vice President James Henry and NALC Director of City Delivery, Chris Jackson, were also in attendance and addressed the delegates on April 16th and 17th. They spoke about the importance of unionism and solidarity.

RAP Session

The following is a brief summation of the RAP session: NBA-Keisha Lewis reported currently Region 1 arbitration success rate is at 84% which is the highest throughout the national regions.

Legislative and Political Organizer for the NALC John Beaumont mentioned during the Rap secession that the support that United State Postal Service received from Congress and the Senate on both sides of the aisle is what's at stake. The Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 7629) is the union's current priority and has the best chance to pass. The Social Security Fairness Act (H.R. 82/S. 597) is second, and has the second-best chance to pass. He encourages the delegates to continue making campaign contributions to the Letter Carrier Political Fund (LCPF) and recruit other Letter Carriers to join in the political fight.

President Renfroe discussed the current CBA process and provided minimum details on specifics. Renfroe states that the Neutral Arbitrator has been selected but it took some work to convince the USPS to approve. However, he feels good about the selection and expects the hearing to begin soon.

Treasurer's Report

4/1/2024 - 4/30/2024

General Account

Previous Balance	\$28,014.97
Receipts	\$42,511.10
Sub-Total	\$70,526.07
Disbursements	\$59,538.08
Total-on-Hand	<u>\$10,987.99</u>

Payroll Account

Previous Balance	\$13,566.28
Receipts	\$40,000.00
Sub-Total	\$53,566.28
Disbursements	\$36,043.64
Total-on-Hand	<u>\$17,522.64</u>

General Account (New)

Previous Balance	\$89,220.47
Receipts	\$570.65
Sub-Total	\$89,791.12
Disbursements	\$718.85
Total-on-Hand	<u>\$89,072.27</u>

Payroll Account (New)

Previous Balance	\$59,970.26
Disbursements	\$0.00
Total-on-Hand	<u>\$59,970.26</u>

Convention Fund

Previous Balance	\$233,441.22
Checking Acct #7 .15% rate-USPS-CU Dividend/Int.	\$29.56
(Active & Retirees 1650 x \$2 per By-Laws)	\$3,300.00
Total of Convention Fund	<u>\$236,770.78</u>

C.D. (6 mos) .350% rate Premier CU #1	\$92,773.07
C.D. (6 mos) .250% rate Premier CU #2	\$12,601.51
C.D. (1 yr) .598% rate Premier CU #3	\$118,865.51
MM Cert #21 (26 wks) .200% rate USPS CU	\$26,722.49
MM Cert #18 (26 wks) .250% rate USPS CU	\$24,977.99
MM Cert #19 (26 wks) .250% rate USPS CU	\$73,768.17
MM Ckg #8 (26 wks) .250% rate USPS CU	\$47,450.96
C.D. (6 mos) .380% Priority One CU	\$34,187.39
Shares acct USPS CU	<u>\$7.11</u>
Total of Contingency Fund	<u>\$431,354.20</u>

Retiree Fund

Retiree Luncheon	<u>\$5,906.22</u>
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Mary Stanley
Financial Secretary-Treasurer

He stated the union's position is to remove the 2-table pay structure. The new proposed pay table structure will have a substantially higher pay to start at Step A and have a substantially pay increase for the Top Step. COLAs will be applied at 100% at every step instead of by fraction according to a Letter Carrier's current pay step.

Renfroe said the Teamsters/UPS negotiated contract is good for our CBA negotiations as well as the union and labor movement across the country. He also believes that the NALC currently could have agreed on a contract that is a lot better than what our sister unions settled for with the Postal Service. However, he didn't think it was fair enough and believes we can do much better. He also stated all that remains in the current negotiations are economic issues.

The President discussed the NALC "quiet" type of negotiations. He's aware of some members calling for more open, public negotiations. He states the public sector process is different than the private sector when negotiating a CBA and he does not believe informing the members and public would be helpful at this time.

TIAREAP-Renfroe said they will not be renewing the MOU after May 31, 2024. However, any adjustments that began before the expiration date will continue. He believes the union's new proposal for adjusting routes using TIAREAP will not be accepted by the Postal Service. Renfroe believes that the USPS is unilaterally moving to make permanent changes to Chapter 2 of the M-39. The NALC will challenge such actions all the way through.

Article 8 Provisions-Renfroe mentioned, the USPS wants an overtime desired list that allows work assignment and non-overtime Carriers to volunteer to work on non-scheduled days. He believes this would conflict with distributing equitable OT work hours amongst ODL Carriers. He also mentioned the union's proposal that would allow Carriers who worked up to 12 hours in a service day and/or 60 hours in a service week to end tour at the maxed hour work limits without disciplinary action being issued. Conversely, management wants the union to agree to allow Carriers who volunteer to work past the maximum work hour limits; therefore, waving the rights to file a grievance.

Uniform Allowance-Renfroe states the process is broken. There is almost no use in increasing the uniform allowance because every time it goes up, the vendors raise their prices. Part of the problem is that one uniform company has bought out quite a few of its competitors. He believes there are no easy solutions to this issue.

Lastly, Renfroe discussed the increase in violent crimes against Letter Carriers. He spoke on an incident in San Francisco, where the perpetrator only received 30 days in jail for assaulting a Letter Carrier. He talked about some solutions such as: increasing mandatory penalties and changing Postal arrow keys to electronic arrow keys that could make them less valuable. He said arrow keys were selling on the black market for up to \$20,000.

Renfroe then ended his report by apologizing to the delegates for being AWOL for the CSALC/Region 1 training and RAP Session in San Diego last year (2023).

I want to thank all who attended this year's CSALC/Region 1 training in Las Vegas and to all who assisted in guiding the new Shop Stewards as they navigated through the training

agenda and process. It was a good experience for us all, and a successful business trip. And, thank you, Alex Lopez for the additional notes on the RAP Session.

Medicare Part B Special Enrollment Period Runs Through September

The Special Enrollment Period (SEP) has arrived and runs through September 30, 2024. The SEP is a result of the Postal Service Reform Act that created the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) program within the existing Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. A major component of the Postal Service Reform Act was the integration of Medicare with the PSHB program. What this means is that retirees aged 65 or older who have not yet enrolled in Medicare Part B have a chance to enroll without being subject to the late enrollment penalty during this special one time only period. If they enroll, the Postal Service will pay for the rest of their lives any annual penalties on the premium for not having enrolled during their initial enrollment period. For those who did not enroll in Medicare Part B when they were first eligible, this is a chance to opt in at a time when they might need it more, without having had to pay the premiums earlier when they did not need it, or a penalty for opting in late. Eligible retirees should have received notice and enrollment instructions from the Postal Service. To read more about the PSHB Program, see the January issue of The Postal Record.

Lastly, I want to thank all those who attended the Branch's Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser on Sunday, June 24 at Harley's Bowl in Simi Valley. I think it's fair to say that we all had a great time participating in a noble event to raise money for the NALC official charity, which positively impacts the future of our MDA families. Based on the generous efforts of branch members, we were able to collect over \$300 during this special event. Nice job everyone.



Pictured above are the fun-filled bowlers who participated in the Branch 2902 Bowl-A-Thon to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA), the official charitable organization of the NALC. This small but mighty group raised over \$300 towards a fabulous cause and had a great time doing it. Thanks to all who participated early on Sunday June 2 at Harley's Bowling Alley in Simi Valley.



Letter Carriers Help to Stamp Out Hunger

By Albert Reyes, Executive Vice President

The Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive was held on Saturday, May 11, 2024.

This community service event would not have succeeded without the cooperation of the Postal Service and volunteers. It was great to see everyone working tirelessly to unload Postal vehicles full of food.

This year marked a significant change in my 26-year career as Mission City Annex did not host its food drive. I was stationed at the Sylmar Installation, where the San Fernando, Sylmar, North Hills, Granada Hills, and Mission Hills Carriers, along with the invaluable help of Granada Hills Shop Steward Javier Torres, North Hills Shop Steward Fernando Aguilar, and Sylmar/San Fernando Shop Steward Samuel Sabedra, collected about 12,000 pounds of food across all five zip codes. Their dedication, hard work, and effort are truly appreciated.

The Sylmar/San Fernando office had a guest appearance from Postmaster DeAngelo Johnson, who was responsible for the barbecued tri-tip, burgers, hot dogs, and chicken. There were no complaints about the BBQ. Thank you to Customer Service Manager Ben Vega and Supervisors Eloisa Alejandro, Rafael Tapia, Joemmel Ramos, and Freshema Dunn for their help and contribution.

I would also like to recognize the clerk craft, Krystal Molina, Maria Pawa, Arthur Ngaokrachang, and Yolanda Lopez, who also helped on this great day. Also, thanks to Custodians Donald Thompson, Mike Martinez, Cynthia Leyba, and Alice Hong for helping clean and setting up the dock.

Praise all the Letter Carriers for working extra hard on this beautiful day in this office and throughout our branch. It's humbling to see all the work that goes into this day. The volunteers from the food banks state that the food they collect can last up to around the winter holidays.

This is an excellent event for families affected by the tough times. Word around the office during the station visits is that if Renfroe doesn't advocate a better contract, this food drive next year would be for Letter Carriers.

Once again, I want to express my deepest gratitude to every Letter Carrier who went above and beyond for this community service event. As we look towards the future, let's remain hopeful that this contract will be resolved before next year's food drive. Let's continue to support and watch out for one another. Until next year, with optimism and gratitude!

What's Happening With No Lunches?

First and foremost, the union has always maintained that all Letter Carriers (and yes, CCAs are Letter Carriers) may not be required to work more than six consecutive hours without their lunch break. The Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM), section 432.33 refers to this break as meal-time and states: "Except in emergency situations or where service conditions preclude compliance; no employee may be

required to work more than six continuous hours without a meal or rest period of at least 1/2 hour."

Letter Carriers should never work through a lunch break. The Postal service will automatically deduct thirty minutes if you work six consecutive hours or longer. It is assumed that you will be taking a lunch break. You are working off the clock if thirty minutes are deducted and a lunch break is not taken.

Article 41.3.K of the National Agreement states explicitly, "Supervisors shall not require, nor permit, employees to work off the clock." Every route has been adjusted to include an authorized lunch location. If you are unsure where to take lunch, check your PS Form 1564-A for your route.

Handbook M-41, City Delivery Carriers Duties and Responsibilities, Section 521.6 states: This shows the time of authorized lunch, location of authorized lunch stop(s), and location where the carrier is authorized to leave the route for lunch. Similar information for any lunch deviation by Carrier technician is entered on Form 1564-A.

Some Carriers need to know the authorized location to leave the route for lunch. If you have any questions, please see your Shop Steward. Management may not know where the authorized lunch information is located for each route. Ask questions, and do not assume management has your best interest at heart.

I was approached once by a Carrier who had signed a waiver during orientation stating that they waived their right



Pictured above is Kurt Schlemmer, retiree from the Thousand Oaks P.O. as he accepts his Retirement Watch. Congratulations Kurt and enjoy your newfound freedom!

to take a lunch break. Unfortunately, that waiver has yet to be produced. This waiver would also contradict provisions and articles of the collective bargaining agreement.

I am aware of PS Form 3971 and PS Form 3189. Requesting a temporary schedule change for personal convenience is essential when waiving an employee's right to a lunch break. When PS Form 3971 is submitted management will disapprove the request. Management is to give a reason for disapproval/write the following as the reason for disapproval. These forms should be utilized.

So why is management denying a Carrier's request for no lunches? Management may have instituted a blanket policy denying a Carrier's request for a temporary schedule change. Carriers may not be submitting proper documentation. Management may be mandating Carriers' unwanted overtime. Carriers may return from the street and inform management they did not take lunch.

Often, management informs Carriers that they will no longer approve no-lunch requests. This is a violation that needs to be investigated. See your Shop Steward if this is happening. Carriers have the right to waive their lunch break; however, it must be appropriately documented. Also, management may deny a Carrier's request for no lunch when they report from the street early.

They may have swings on the floor and require you to carry the auxiliary. Carriers should have management approve the no-lunch request in advance. I often hear Carriers saying that verbal approval is a past practice. Just because it has been allowed without proper documentation doesn't make it correct. Many Carriers are upset that they are refusing to go back to the street upon their return to the office and unilaterally choosing to skip their lunch. This has led to discipline. See your Shop Steward if this is happening.

Some Carriers have had their routes evaluated, and without proper documentation, management will add thirty minutes to their routes because no-lunches are not adequately documented. Carriers will be upset because they believe they have seniority rights to daily no-lunches. This is not accurate.

In conclusion, does management have the right to create a blanket no-lunch policy? No! Do carriers have a right to submit a no-lunch change of schedule? Yes! Can management deny this request? Yes! Does a carrier have a right to know why their request is being denied? Yes!

Enjoy your time with friends and loved ones over the summer season. Stay hydrated. Utilize your rest breaks, including lunch breaks. Continue to watch out for one another. Educate each other. If you still need to do so, download the NALC app, and as always, be safe out there!

55-Year Membership Pins

The following members are invited to the next General Meeting* or the next Retiree's Luncheon* to be presented with their membership pins. Please call the Union Hall at (818) 700-9615 and let us know if you will be present to accept yours.

Gale Aldrich
Garry Aldrich
Juan Ambriz Jr
Ronald Auld
James Beauchemin
Robert Benson
Dago Bretado
William Brundige
Scott Campbell
Edward Castellano
Richard Cayton
Richard Chavez
Donald Chisholm
Anthony Cicero
John Clermont
WM Cohen
Paul Decareau
Jose Dominguez
Levi Duke
Jack Dunn
Keith Fagan

Manuel Feliciano
Charles Ferrell
Albert Fitz
E Garcia
Zane Gardner
Bob Golden
Dan Gorman
Dennis Graham
Joe Gutierrez
Steve Haueter
Rudolph Hernandez
Ralph Hilton Jr
Delbert Horton 2
Vincent Infantolino
Warren Jones 3
Clyde Jones Jr
Richard Jost
John Kalvelage
D L. Knight 2
Lee Leighton
Michael Loisides

Larry Marez
Mariano Marin
Robert Martone
Ronald Mason
John McIntosh
Larry McKeighen
Jon McClaran
Donald McClure
Billy Miller
J P. Morales
John Munoz
Miguel Munoz
Carlos Murrieta
Wilbur Nelson
Jose Noriega
William Norman
Audrey O'Brien
Pedro Ornelas
Steve Packer
Gary Pearson
Everardo Perez



Charles Powell
Albert Quezada Jr
Dennis Ritenour
Reynaldo Rivera
Enrique Rodriguez
Alex Rodriguez Jr
Larry Sartor
Franz Schatt III
Donald Schiller
Stephen Speer
Robert Tacata
Jess Turbeville
David Tweit
Carl Wesanen
Wayne Wiebers
Donovn Wolfe
Darlene Zaub
Michael Zieper

*Dates of these events can be found on page 12

Let Them Know How You Feel

Contacting Your Representatives is the Way to Get It Done

By David Hyman, Branch 2902 Trustee & Political Liaison



Greetings Sisters & Brothers!
The NALC is supporting a new piece of legislation. The “Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA)”

The bill, H.R. 7629, is sponsored by Representatives Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-Ohio). There has been an uptick in crimes against Letter Carriers on the job in the last four years — more than 2,000 assaults. Arrest and prosecution of these criminals has not kept pace with the increase in crimes against Letter Carriers. This bill would allocate \$7 billion spread over the next five years to address the Postal Service securing its infrastructure, including the installation of high-security collection boxes. POLCA would provide funding to update technology and have the U.S. Attorney General appoint an Assistant U.S. Attorney in each judicial district to prioritize cases against Letter Carriers. This bill would increase sentencing guidelines making them similar to assaults on other federal law enforcement officers. Presently there are 17 co-sponsors.

There have been a few additional co-sponsors on other legislation the NALC has been following. The Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82, now has 311 co-sponsors. The Senate version, S. 597, has 52 co-sponsors and needs 60 to override a potential filibuster. All our local Representatives and both

Senators are on these two bills as co-sponsors.

The Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act, H.R. 856, has 43 co-sponsors. The Senate version, S. 274, has 11 co-sponsors, including our Senator Padilla. None of our local Congressional representatives are on the House bill yet.

H.R. 3721, the USPS Shipping Equity Act still has 17 co-sponsors, none from our area. The Federal Retirement Fairness Act, H.R. 5995, has 88 co-sponsors including Julia Brownley from our area. H.R. 376, the Door-to-Door Delivery resolution, has 37 co-sponsors including soon to be retiring Tony Cardenas.

The L.A. Federation of Labor has a subgroup known as the Federation of Retired Union Members (FORUM). Bob Golden and I regularly attend their meetings. A group that works closely with the L.A. Fed and Forum, The California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA), brought to our attention some legislation that would increase the utility taxes many of us pay living in an apartment or small home. Last year the state legislature passed AB 205, a bill mandating a new monthly fixed charge, aka a utility tax on all investor-owned utility residential customers. The bill that passed last year has no ceiling on how high the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) can raise utility taxes. Assembly member Jacqui Irwin who represents many of our members in Ventura

SECURE AND EASY SLIDE DOG SPRAY HOLSTER!

VIDEO



[HTTPS://YOUTUBE/2BEN69t6CnQ](https://youtube.com/2BEN69t6CnQ)



BUY



<https://a.co/d/3DvZAuM>

FOR ALTERNATIVE BUYING OPTIONS OR BULK ORDERS PLEASE CALL- (818) 239 6153

County, has proposed AB 1999 to put a cap on rate increases of 10%, plus inflation, potentially saving residents hundreds of dollars a year. Contact your local Assembly Member or State Senator by June 30 to encourage them to support this bill to protect our seniors, people with disabilities and working families.

Progress was made for some of the hotel workers. They started their struggle for a living wage against the hotels

in July 1 of last year and since then, 34 local hotels have settled, offering the hospitality workers a \$10 raise over the next four years. There are still 25 or 30 other hotels that are still negotiating and many of these are near settling. When unions fight, we win.

Time for Dodgers Baseball! (See the ad below for Union Night at Dodger Stadium).

ATTENTION NALC Branch 2902 Members



Tickets on Sale Now Los Angeles Dodgers vs Cleveland Guardians

Join us for a fun and exciting time at the ballgame.



Date: Saturday, September 7, 2024

Time: 6:10 pm

Cost: \$50.00 per person



Each attendee will get a Union Night Dodger t-shirt.

Check or cash to David Hyman at (747) 236-8831 (cell) or davidahyman@aol.com

**Hurry, tickets are limited and
on a first come, first served basis.**



Life Insurance for Everyone

By Chris Alessi, MBA/NSBA Representative

How fast this year has gone. It's hard to believe the Holidays will soon be here, and how fast life goes by too. Some people think that there is no need for life insurance. Why not take a look at your insurance needs and your finances for the future. If someone depends on you financially, you probably need life insurance. Some examples of specific life stages or life events that might trigger the need for life insurance are:

(1) You are currently married or getting married soon. Many families depend on two incomes to make ends meet. If you died suddenly, would your spouse have enough money to cover your funeral costs, credit card balances, outstanding loans and daily expenses?

(2) You are a parent or about to become one. If you died tomorrow, would your spouse have the financial means to provide your children with the opportunities you have always dreamed they would have? Even parents who don't work outside the home need life insurance because they provide services that would be expensive to replace, such as child care, transportation, and household chores. Single parents need life insurance more than anyone because their children rely on them for everything.

(3) You are a homeowner. If you are like many people your home is your most significant asset. Life insurance can protect your investment and spare your family the disruption

of being forced to find a new and less expensive place to live.

(4) You (or your spouse) are changing jobs. If you or your spouse/partner have recently been promoted or started a position, it's a good time to reevaluate your life insurance coverage. You may not realize it, but when your income rises, your spending tends to rise too. Updating your life insurance coverage can help make sure your family would be able to maintain its new and improved life style if something were to happen to you.

(5) You are retired or planning for retirement. If your children are on their own and your mortgage is paid off, you might feel your need for life insurance has passed. But if you died today your spouse could outlive you by 10, 20, or even 30 years. Would your spouse have to make drastic lifestyle adjustments to make ends meet? Adequate Life Ins coverage can help widows and widowers avoid financial struggles in retirement.

(6) You are Single. Many single people don't have a need for life insurance because no one depends on them financially. But there are a few exceptions. If you're providing financial support for aging parents or siblings, or if you're carrying significant debt you wouldn't want to pass that onto family members, you may want to consider life insurance.

When considering life insurance, Your Mutual Benefits Association has great plans at affordable costs because the MBA is a non-profit organization that is backed by our national union and passes the savings on to its members. MBA products are available for all NALC members, spouses, children, grand-children, great grand-children, step children, step grand children, step great grand-children and parents or legal guardians up to 80 years old. You can choose a death benefit from \$10,000 to \$100,000. The MBA has eight individual life insurance plans:

Whole Life Plans	Term Life Plans
MBA-20 Pay Whole Life Plan	MBA's 10-Year Renewable and Convertible
MBA-Paid up at age 65	MBA's New 5-Year Renewable and Convertible
MBA-Whole Life Plan Independence (Single Premium)	MBA's New 20-Year Term
	MBA's New Term to 65

All these plans have a 30 day return policy that after you review the plan and you're not satisfied for any reason, you may return them for a full refund of all premiums paid. These plans can be purchased through easy bi-weekly payroll allotment, monthly, or annual premiums.

For more Info you can contact the MBA directly at (202) 638-4318 or Tuesday and Thursday at: (800) 424-5184, also on the web at nalc.org. Click on member services and scroll down to the Mutual Benefit Association.

In closing I wish all our members and their families a great summer, Be safe and enjoy. In Solidarity, God Bless you.

By the Numbers: Membership 2024

By Diane Dozal, Branch 2902 Recording Secretary

Active members	1,211
Retired members	519
(including 117 Gold Card members)	
Total members	1,730
During the last year:	
Separated*	116
Retired	24
Deaths	4
Transfers Out	22
Cancel	14
 New Members*	 198
Transfers In	12

*Numbers are high due to hiring and separation of CCAs

Branch 2902 is 98.3% Organized!



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Hermance Law

ESTATE PLANNING & CRISIS PLANNING ATTORNEYS

THE TRUTH ABOUT ESTATE PLANNING, WILLS, TRUSTS & PROBATE



*Daughter of a
Letter Carrier*

- A Will alone does **NOT** avoid probate court. A Trust **DOES** avoid probate court.
- Probate is **VERY** expensive and the fees are set by statute. Example, an estate of \$500,000 (FMV Home \$490,000 and \$10,000 in bank accounts) has **statutory fees of \$26,000**. This can be avoided with proper planning including a Trust.
- If you don't have a legal plan, everything **does not** automatically go to your spouse or kids. It passes via intestate law which may not be what you would want.
- If you don't have a legal plan and you can't make decisions for yourself, a judge will decide who gets to make decisions for you and it is expensive to go through.

WILLS | TRUSTS | PROBATE (SOMEONE PASSES AWAY) | TRUST ADMINISTRATION

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M39-122.33

The employee, upon request, will be provided a Form 3996, Carrier - Auxiliary Control, after the supervisor has been verbally informed as to the reason for the request. The employee shall not be denied the form and, upon request, a duplicate of the completed form will be provided the employee.

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THE MAIL BAG NEWS

NALC BRANCH 2902

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Canoga Park, CA

RETIREES LUNCH RAFFLE AT 12:30

JULY

Where: Golden Panda
1825 Madera Rd.
Simi Valley

When: Tuesday, July 16, 2024

Time: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

AUGUST

Where: Golden Panda
1825 Madera Rd.
Simi Valley

When: Tuesday, August 20, 2024

Time: 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Calendar of Events

JUL	4	Independence Day-Holiday
JUL	11	Executive Board Meeting* 6:00 pm Executive Council Meeting* 7:00 pm NOTE DATE CHANGE DUE TO 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY
JUL	16	Retiree Luncheon* 11:00 am Golden Panda-Simi Valley
JUL	18	Regular Branch Meeting* 7:00 pm Union Hall-Chatsworth
AUG	1	Executive Board Meeting* 6:00 pm Executive Council Meeting* 7:00 pm
AUG	5	NALC National Convention August 5-9 Boston, Massachusetts
AUG	15	Regular Branch Meeting* 7:00 pm Union Hall-Chatsworth
AUG	20	Retiree Luncheon* 11:00 am Golden Panda-Simi Valley
SEP	2	Labor Day-Holiday
SEP	5	Executive Board Meeting* 6:00 pm Executive Council Meeting* 7:00 pm
SEP	17	Retiree Luncheon* 11:00 am Golden Panda-Simi Valley
SEP	19	Regular Branch Meeting* 7:00 pm Union Hall-Chatsworth

* Subject to Covid-19 restrictions