Tampa Letter Carrier

Official Notice

of Nominations & Elections of Delegates to the 70th Biennial NALC National Convention in 2016

Nominations for delegates to the 2016 NALC National Convention that will be held in Los Angeles CA, August 15-19, will be taken at regular branch meetings on October I and November 5, 2015, at our Branch hall located at 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 PM.

Members must be present to accept nominations or have a written notice on file prior to the time and the presiding officer declares nominations closed.

Members must have attended 8 Branch meetings per year for the 2 years prior to the convention to be eligible as paid delegates; others nominated/elected will need to cover all of their own expenses.

Any member having applied for, or served as a supervisor within the last two years, including detail to an acting supervisory position, is ineligible for nomination.

In the event the number of nominations exceed the number of delegates allowed to our Branch, an election will be conducted with the results announced at the regular branch meeting on December 5, 2015.

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

Branch 599 Meetings

Thursday September 3 7:30 PM Happy Labor Day holiday to all the Brothers, Sisters, and family of Branch 599! This Labor Day holiday will be special for the 21 CCAs being converted to regular career carrier as of August 22. This is a huge number for welldeserving City Carrier

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Assistants who have endured the rigors and the years of waiting. Congratulations and enjoy your first paid holiday! Hope to see all of you at the Labor Day Picnic, Sunday, September 6.

July was a very busy month.

I want to take this time to thank the membership for sending me to the



Committee of Presidents Meeting (COP) in Houston (Continued on page 3)

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Tampa Letter Carrier

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National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch 599, 3003 W Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609-1698, publishes the Tampa Letter Carrier monthly. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Branch 599, NALC. It is the policy of this publication that all articles submitted for print must be signed by the writer.

Please submit any and all articles to be published in the Tampa Letter Carrier to the Editor via email at editor@nalc599.com and also to the Branch Office at nalc599@verizon.net no later than the 5th of each month in order for us to meet our time limits to the publisher.

Officers

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Presidents Emeritus	Garland Tickle • Or Donald Thomas • M James Good • Alan I	ichael Anderson		
	-			

Shop Stewards

Station	ZIP	Steward	Station No.	Steward's No.
Tampa Stations/Bran	727.458.0679			
Brandon	33510/11	Grant Daniels	813.661.1636	850.210.4906
Carrollwood	33618	Eddie Berroth	813.961.2962	813.493.5224
Commerce	33602	Detlev Aeppel	813.242.4507	813.505.7914
Forest Hills/Annex	33612/13	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale/Annex	33614/34	Varick Reeder	813.879.4309	315.491.6234
Hyde Park	33606	Joe Bitz	813.873.7189	813.465.0004
Interbay/Port Tampa		Clement Cheung	813.831.2034	813.758.5910
Interbay/Peninsula	33629	Clement Cheung	813.831.2034	813.758.5910
Palm River Annex	33619	Pam Benton	813.663.0048	813.475.0753
Plant City	33564	Christopher Woodside	813.719.6793	813.924.6869
Produce	33610	Elvin Rodriguez	813.239.4084	646.346.3288
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	Aric Person	813.634.1403	813.545.7779
Seminole Heights	33603	Walt Rhoades	813.237.4569	813.389.1708
Sulphur Springs	33604	Steve Hall	813.237.4569	813.494.4669
TCA/Peninsula	33609	Troy Figueroa	813.873.7189	347.403.1644
TCA/West Tampa	33607	John Lacko	813.873.7189	347.453.4562
Temple Terrace	33617	Warren Sumlin	813.988.0152	813.486.7612
Town 'N Country	33615/35	Brian Obst	813.884.0973	727.458.0679
Ybor City	33605	Detlev Aeppel	813.242.4507	813.505.7914

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

and to OWCP Training in Jacksonville. In addition, thank you for sending Convention Delegates to the State Convention in St. Petersburg. All provided insight on hot topics, valuable information, legislative and contractual, and updates on what and how other branches are handling various issues.

The 3-day OWCP (Office of Workers' Compensation Programs) class in Jacksonville was full of valuable information. The entire 3 days were needed to cover all the material. I want to provide some basic information to help out a member who sustains a work related injury.

What Should Federal Employee/ Postal Worker Do When Injured At Work (Traumatic Injury)? Three forms are vital to the process, CA-1, CA-16.CA-17.

A Traumatic Injury is an injury you can pinpoint where and when and what time the injury occurred, and provide a narrative about the accident. Example: Carrier Fred was injured (Where) at 1702 W. Denver Street, Tampa FL 33699, (When) on May 23, 2015, (Time) it occurred at 2:35 PM. (Narrative) As I was delivering my route, I stepped up onto the porch at 1702 W. Denver, the porch gave way, my right foot and right leg crashed through the floor and my right knee twisted and I heard a popping sound. I pulled myself out of the rubble and my knee had already begun to swell. I limped away from the porch and immediately called my office and spoke to my supervisor. I was instructed to drive back to the office, but told my supervisor I could not drive or walk because of my knee. The supervisor and manager drove out to my route to pick me up and to drive my postal vehicle back to the office.

Let's break it down further in steps: • Report to supervisor: Every job related injury, whether traumatic or aggravated by the employment should be reported as soon as possible to your supervisor and also let your steward know what is going on.

 Obtain Medical Care: Before you obtain medical treatment, (unless it is an emergency situation) you will need from your supervisor, authorization to the medical treatment by use of a CA-16. It is essential that the CA-16 is signed by management. Emergency medical treatment may be obtained without prior authorization. You may initially select the physician to provide necessary treatment. This may be your private physician or an emergency room at a local hospital. Note: Occupational disease claims may not be issued without prior approval from OWCP, which is rare.

• File Written Notice: In traumatic injuries, complete the employee's portion of Form CA-1. Obtain the form from your employing agency, complete and turn it in to your supervisor as soon as possible. The longer you wait, the less it is viewed as traumatic. Note: Occupational disease, use form CA-2 instead of form CA-1.

 Obtain Receipt of Notice: A Receipt of Notice of Injury is attached to each Form CA-I and Form CA-2. Your supervisor should complete the receipt and return it to you for your personal records. If it is not returned to you, ask your supervisor for it. This is very important, many injured carriers are not provided a receipt, that means no proof you turned in your form to begin the process. Now it sits on the supervisor's/manager's desk and is not submitted. The form is never received and you never receive a claim number. The scrambling begins because Worker's Comp is unaware and you may be waiting for a certain medical test. I see this happening way more than it should. Protect yourself

...get a receipt.

• Submit Claim for COP/Leave and/or Compensation For Wage Loss: If disabled due to traumatic injury (you are not able to work at all), you may claim continuation of pay (COP) not to exceed 45 calendar days or use leave. A claim for COP must be submitted no later than 30 days following the injury (the form CA-1 is designed to serve as a claim for continuation of pay). If disabled and claiming COP, submit to your employing agency within 10 work days, medical evidence that you sustained a disabling traumatic injury. If disabled beyond the COP period, or if you are not entitled to COP, you may claim compensation on form CA-7 or use leave. Note: If disabled due to occupational disease, your claim for compensation for disability should be submitted as soon as possible after it is apparent that you are disabled and will enter a leave-without-pay status.

-US Department of Labor

This guestion is asked a lot when a carrier is injured on the job and the medical treatment runs past the carrier's end tour. Does the carrier get paid? Can the carrier be paid overtime while at the doctor? ELM 519.542 addresses that situation, Employee in Overtime Status: When an employee is directed by management to an on- or off-site medical unit due to illness or injury, all time spent waiting for and/or receiving medical attention on the service day on which the illness or injury occurs, which would have been worked but for the medical attention, is credited as work time even though overtime hours may be involved.

Example: Carrier John is injured on the job; it is 2:30 PM. He immediately calls to notify his supervisor; he is unable to continue and needs medical attention. Upon arriving at the station he was able to fill out the CA-1, then

Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

Our deepest sympathy

and prayerful support is extended to **Michelle Lucas** [Town 'N Country] and family at the passing of her son, July 28; to **Dennis Williams** [Interbay] and family at the passing of his mother, July 23; and to the family of **Larry Reeves** [retiree] whose passing was August 12.

Sponsors Needed for Our 2nd Annual NALC Branch 599 MDA Charity Golf Tournament

that will be held at

Heritage Isles Golf & Country Club on November 22

Help Letter Carriers support the Muscular Dystrophy Association Sponsor a hole at NALC Branch 599 MDA Charity Golf Tournament

Sponsor includes Hole Sign at tee box or Putting and Chipping contest Hole Sponsor: \$100 • Putting Contest: \$150 • Chipping Contest: \$150

Please Contact us for Sponsorship Forms and more information: Tony Diaz, President 813.875.0599 office • 813.598.9635 cell | Alan Robinson 813.843.9762

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

(Continued from page 3)

obtained a signed CA-16 for treatment and a CA-17. John was able to drive himself and went directly to an emergency room for treatment. John arrived at 3:30 PM and was taken back to examination area to begin tests. John begins tour at 7:30 AM and ends tour at 4:00 PM. John is on the Overtime Desired List (ODL) and was given a one hour trip/piece in the morning. His end tour this day then would have been 5:00 PM. Back at the emergency room John is being treated and gets released (with restrictions) at 6:30 PM. I) Does John get paid until 6:30 PM? 2) Does John get paid only his 8 hours for the day (7:30 AM-4:00 PM)? 3) Should John get paid until 5:00 PM since that is the time he would have worked till had he not received

medical attention?

4) Is John entitled to any overtime? Answers: 1) no, 2) no, 3) yes, and 4) yes.

John should be paid what he would have worked had he not been injured on the job. Eight hours at the regular rate and one hour at the overtime.

Quick Hits: Information you should know

Search for providers for Worker's Comp:

The Branch office will not recommend a specific doctor; we will refer you to the list of providers and you make your own selection. Follow below: NALC.org

Workplace Issues Injured on the Job

Tools for managing your OWCP claim

ACS bill pay portal Click on #1 Half way down the page, in blue, choose Provider Search Accept Select Program FECA Make Selections Scroll to Physician (MD) Enter City, State, Zip Code Specialty (Orthopedic, Neurologist, etc) Submit

Next work party will be cancelled due to the Labor Day Picnic.

Look forward to talking to you again on the next *Around The Horn from the President's Desk*

The Birdseye View

The first statement I would like to correct is the information from my previous article regarding our new Letter Carrier Political Action Committee (PAC); these are voluntary contributions that are not taxable for Federal Income Tax purposes, unlike your dues which are. Remind you though, not one cent of your dues is used for political actions. The Federal Elections Commission (FEC) regulations of political contributions changed when the Supreme Court passed Citizens United, as to how corporations and labor organizations could not prior to the new law make political contributions from their treasuries in efforts to defeat or elect candidates for federal office. If you are interested in following all the requirements that have to be met under the FEC regulations, and there are many, you can go to their website and research them. There are regulations on contributions and the deadlines for reporting as well as for any campaign literature or media releases in support of a candidate. Our battle is a non-partisan one to insure that all candidates are educated on the true financial situation of the USPS and not have them rely on fabricated falsehoods that have led to financial burdens on our institution that are not required by any other agency or corporation. Granted, there are some candidates that no matter how many efforts are made, they will not support Postal Reform because they already have been misled by lobbyists who aim to have our network dismantled for private sector corporate gain. We have proven and are making great strides to show that degrading service is not the solution and as of the financial reports from the second quarter of this fiscal year show, your efforts have already exceeded the profit of the entire previous fiscal year. These gains are starting to garner support that the best solution is to fix the sham that was created by the pre-funding scheme

that has deprived the USPS of billions of dollars of surplus that could have been put to use in areas of greater improvement to service and restoring service standards for American citizens. If you don't think that our legislative activities are necessary and important, check out the current American Postal Workers Union (APWU) negotiations ongoing. During the last contract everything precipitated from the APWU contract for clerks and the other crafts represented and resulting lower tier pay. WE all stay afloat together or sink together, but less than 10% percent of us are in the in the battle that is only allowed for members and administrative staff and our families.

Moving from the efforts to reduce the political pressure on our agency to removing the changes on the workroom floor that have transpired by the pressure that creates a toxic workplace, there is some attention growing in Congress as some legislators have introduced bills that are addressing reduced service and not only the affects that it has on customers, but also on postal employees. We are seeing a rise in areas of frivolous discipline and pressure to make preconceived numbers without regard for safety and other contractual requirements. This kind of activity that hedges into the Joint Statement and possible Hostile Work Environment along with unfair labor charges should never be tolerated. If you are experiencing this kind of activity in your office, it will require it to be proven by witness statements, grievance filing and request for intervention. Intimidation and disrespectful actions should never be tolerated, but they have to also be proven not just by assuming. If your office has safety concerns not being met, there is an avenue for filing an OSHA complaint associated with filing 1767s when these issues are not being addressed. These are never overnight resolves, but once

the process starts it can continue to gain evidence and proof that it will take to have changes take place. Sometimes



Alan Peacock Vice President Branch 599

it even takes years of intervention before something is finally resolved. The atmosphere we live in today is one of many fragile problems that left ignored can turn into a major disaster and that is the goal to be avoided. We have several consecutive years of filing record grievances; when will management understand that we will not tolerate violations of our contract? We are beginning to get many overtime violation payouts as well, all result of their insistence to violate the contract and mandated failure to fill routes properly along with staffing issues. Don't allow yourself to ever be intimidated and if you feel you are, ask to see your steward or if one isn't available, ask that one be provided by calling your union office.

Community Service

Hope to see all of you at the Labor Day Picnic! Join in all the fun and great chow being provided by Lupton's Bar B Q, our area supporter every election year at Boggy Bottom Ranch; they do a great job and support working families. All proceeds will be donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association. We also have our 2nd Annual MDA Golf Tournament coming up on November 22, at Heritage Isles Golf and Country Club in New Tampa. We will provide a chance for all participants to be a winner as the first one to get a hole-in-one on a designated par 3 hole with the prize of a 2016 GMC Canyon Truck courtesy of Rivard Buick-GMC. We had a great time at last year's first annual golf tournament for a great cause, raising funds for those that can't at Muscular Dystrophy Association.

TAMPA LETTER CARRIER

FSALC Convention

The Florida State Association of Letter Carriers biennial convention was held at the Hilton Hotel in St. Petersburg FL, July 22-25.





Photo above: Branch 599 stewards and delegates in training class at the FSALC Convention.

Photo above: Stewards during training at FSALC Convention. Photo at right: President Tony Diaz and Vice President Alan Peacock are joined at the FSALC Convention by Vito Sheeley, Staff Assistant to Congresswoman Kathy Castor, District Florida-14.



The Birdseye View

(Continued from page 5)

State Convention

I want to thank the membership on behalf of myself and all our delegates that attended the FSALC 73rd Biennial State Convention. The convention was well attended and as always our National President via membership in his Florida local, President Fred Rolando was there along with Judy Willoughby our National Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, also a Florida local member. The training that followed was excellent and very successfully identified with our current issues. Great Job, host Branch 1477!

National Convention

Next year the National Convention will be in Los Angeles, California, in a year that involves a presidential election, along with our own contract negotiations, with our current contract expiring in May 2016. We will have delegate elections in December after nominations in October and November of this year 2015, for those who have met the requirements and attended required meetings to be paid delegates which cannot exceed the amount of delegates allowed by the NALC Constitution. With our membership declining, we will be allowed fewer delegates than we were in the past even though we haven't sent near the number we

were allowed. For those who have never attended a convention, it isn't a vacation; you attend meetings and training during the day from early morning till late afternoon. Active letter carriers have to use their annual leave and only receive half of the room rate as all other delegates who share a room. It takes dedicated members to make the sacrifice to represent our branch at all our conventions for all the efforts of assuring our common future.

Fraternally in Unity for Labor and Working Families, *Alan Peacock* Vice President NALC Branch 599 NALC Congressional District 14 Liaison

Proposed Bylaw Changes

Article V Elections

Currently Reads:

Section 19:

Delegates will be paid up to half $(\frac{1}{2})$ of their expense allowance prior to departing for destination, with the balance payable after the last business of the Convention or Conference. Any delegate who does not attend all business sessions will forfeit all the remaining expense allowance unless excused by the Delegate Chairman.

Proposed to Read:

Section 19:

Delegates will be paid up to half (1/2) of their expense allowance as recommend by the Executive Board and approved by the Branch to be paid at the Branch Meeting immediately prior to the convention or conference date. The balance will be payable upon return from convention or conference when delegates receipts are provided to the Branch Treasurer. Any delegate who does not attend mandatory business sessions will forfeit all the remaining expense allowance unless excused by the Delegate Chairman.

Signed by: Alan W. Peacock, John J. Gebo, Gilbert Cabanas, Nick Cullaro, and Julius C. Howard Jr.

Article V Elections

Currently Reads:

Section 17:

The amount of compensation shall be recommended by the Executive Board for Branch approval.

Proposed to Read:

Section 17:

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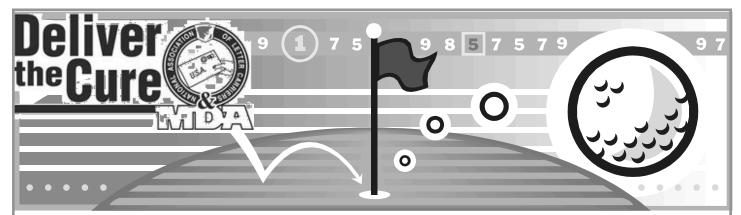
The amount of compensation shall be recommended by the Executive Board no later than October to be approved by the Branch no later than November prior to December elections for Convention delegates to State and National conventions.

Signed by: Alan W. Peacock, John J. Gebo, Gilbert Cabanas, Nick Cullaro, Warren Sumlin, and Julius C. Howard Jr.

Branch 599's Labor Day Picnic

Sunday September 6 12-4 PM

Signup Deadline was August 21.



2nd Annual NALC Branch 599 Golf Tournament

Help Letter Carriers support MDA

Heritage Isles Golf & Country Club 10630 Plantation Bay Drive, Tampa FL 33637

November 22, 2015

8 AM Shotgun Start

\$60 per person

Includes Round of Golf • Driving Range • Lunch • Long Drive Contest • Closest to Pin Hole in One, Free Truck Giveaway courtesy of Rivard Buick-GMC

Also available

Raffle Prizes • \$5 donation Putting & Chipping Contest

Breakfast available in clubhouse for additional charge.

------ Cut Here (please Print)

Golfer I

Golfer 3 _____

Golfer 4

Golfer 2 _____

Make checks payable to: NALC Branch 599/MDA Mail to: NALC Branch 599, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609 Branch Office 813.875.0599 • Tony 813.598.9635 • Alan 813.843.9762

Payment Due by November 14, 2015 Pin Sponsors and Raffle Gifts welcome

A Blunderful Blizzard of Boz

Now that your blunderful Boz has become a retiree, I decided to explore the goings-on at a retiree breakfast. I was able to coax some old-timers into recalling some things that the younger carriers might not even remember.

Do you remember using a leather satchel?

Do you remember 2-digit zones, which were replaced by ZIP codes, as in the song lyrics: No such number, no such zone?

Do you remember wearing uniforms with Eisenhower-style jackets and busdriver hats?

Do you remember telling friends who were looking for a job that they always could become an LSM operator?

Do you remember the mandatory calflength black socks?

Do you remember seeing equipment marked U.S. Post Office Department?

Do you remember giving your case neighbor the finger? (The finger was a hand stamp for return-to-sender mail.)

Do you remember casuals?

Do you remember bundling trips with a blue strap?

Do you remember being issued a *chit* to exchange for your keys, and keeping the *chit* on your personal key ring so you could trade keys for keys? I remember accountable clerk Zola Martin

telling her favorite carriers: I won't take any chit from you!

Do you remember requesting a receipt for every registered letter you returned or delivered? I still haven't thrown any of them out yet.

Do you remember the year in which the printer provided us with green pink cards? Some cases probably still have one or two of these cards.

Do you remember the green *relay boxes*, from which you obtained your next trip, your lunch, and in which you escaped from the sun or rain?

Do you remember testing the ill-fated Segways on Davis Islands?

Do you remember bicycle routes?

Do you remember that before barcodes or scanners, we used a *wand* to touch a little button inside the collection box to verify the time of collection?

Do you remember the *bread trucks*, which were replaced by the LLV?

Do you remember the Jeeps which were white on top & blue on the bottom?

Do you remember being assigned a vehicle outfitted with a *tachograph* to monitor your speed and duration of inactivity? I hear they were easily disabled.

Do you remember the *Mailster*, a three

-wheeled Cushman delivery vehicle?

Do you remember forwarding mail yourself, without the dubious assistance of CFS?



Jim Boczarski Sulphur Springs Member Branch 599

Do you remember streeting flats flat into a flat case? And the routers who helped you organize them into delivery order, muttering to themselves: Up the even, down the odd?

Do you remember the electric trucks, the natural gas LLVs, and the flatbed trucks for parcel post?

Do you remember white mail and green mail?

Do you remember when UBBM was called NOVM? (No Obvious Value Mail)

Do you remember the various insignia that preceded the Seattle Seahawk look-alike? (The US MAIL eagle, the left-facing eagle on white with a yellow border, the POST OFFICE DEPT pony express rider, and the numbered metal badge.)

And do you remember those anxious hours in 1970, waiting for word from union headquarters to find out if 599 was going to join its heroic brothers in a wildcat strike?

And whether you recall those things or not, please don't forget to: CARRY ON! -Boz.



Tampa Letter Carriers' electric sign gets a facelift that is long overdue!



Local Flooding Affects Mail Delivery



NALC and the Labor Movement

Throughout the late 19th century, even before the letter carriers organized into a national union, they were struggling side by side with other American workers in the fight to establish an eight-hour work day.

The struggle for an eight-hour day is a landmark in letter carrier history, but it was also an intense nationwide movement, one involving an enormous number of workers in addition to letter carriers. At the time carriers were working 10 to 12 hours a day, seven days a week, so the passage of the Eight Hour Law in 1888 was a cause for celebration and a tribute to the labor movement's maxim, *strength through* unity. In solidarity with their fellow workers and flushed with labor's victory, in 1889 letter carriers formed their own national union, the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Shop Stewards will Meet

Tuesday 7 PM September I September 28

Executive Board Meets

Thursday 6:30 PM September 3 October 1 Sunday Work Party at our Hall 9-11 AM

October 4 November 8

Retirees Breakfasts

Monday September 14 9 AM Coffee Cup Restaurant 4407 N Hubert Avenue, Tampa Tuesday September 8 8 AM Bob Evans Restaurant SR-60 & Falkenburg Road, Brandon



Bill & Shirley Moran

Gold Card Member Branch 1477 St. Petersburg Honorary Member Branch 599 Tampa

NEED UNIFORMS IN A HURRY? SHOP BY PHONE FROM HOME

320 Patlin Circle East, Largo FL 33770-3063 BILL'S CELL 727.543.0705 • SHIRLEY'S CELL 727.543.0708 FAX 727.585.9367 bilmor@tampabay.rr.com



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