



Tampa Letter Carrier

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2016

Official Notice

of Nominations & Elections of Officers of NALC Branch 599, Tampa FL

Nominations for the election of officers of Branch 599 will be held at regular Branch meetings on October 6 and November 3, 2016, at our Branch hall located at 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 7:30 PM.

Candidates must accept nominations at the time made or, if absent, in writing. Candidates may accept nomination for only one office. Self nominations are acceptable. Nominations will be held for the following Branch offices: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Sergeant-at-Arms, three (3) Trustees, MBA/NSBA Representative, Health Benefit Representative, Director of Retirees, and two (2) Labor Management Representatives. The term of office will be three (3) years beginning January 21, 2017.

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.

Election will be conducted by secret ballot on December 1, 2016, at our Branch hall, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609. **The polls will be open 2:00–7:30 PM. Any member who is in line at 7:30 PM will be allowed to vote.**

Any member who for any reason will be unable to vote on December 1, may vote by absentee ballot. Requests for absentee ballots should be made by telephoning the Branch office at 813.875.0599 [7:30 AM – 4 PM] beginning November 4 through November 18, 2016.

Branch 599
serving
Brandon
Plant City
Sun City
Tampa

Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday
November 3
7:30 PM

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

Brothers and Sisters, the upcoming November Branch Meeting is the final for nominations for your Branch officers for the 2017-19 term. The election will be held December 1, from 2-7:30 PM the day of the Branch Union

Meeting. This is a great time to get involved or show your support for a member who wishes to run and become a Branch 599 officer. Any information and questions... please see the Official Notice, top of this page.

City Carrier Assistants: Update and information



Tony Diaz
President
Branch 599

(Continued on page 3)

Branch 599 Office

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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

<i>Position</i>	<i>Officer</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>
President	Tony Diaz	813.875.0599 cell 813.598.9635	tony_diaz599@yahoo.com
Vice President	Alan Peacock	813.892.9378	apeacock.nalc@verizon.net
Recording Secretary	Michael Brink	813.661.1636	recording.sec@nalc599.com
Financial Secretary	Gilbert Cabanas	813.405.8424	financial.sec@nalc599.com
Treasurer	John Gebo	813.503.1256	jjg7d7@aol.com
Sergeant-at-Arms	J.C. Howard	813.310.0689	
MBA/NSBA	Al Guice	813.465.9754	
Health Benefit Rep.	Lance Jones	813.264.9801	
Director of Retirees	Don Thomas	813.963.0653	retirees@nalc599.com
Trustees	Lori McMillion, Ch.	813.263.7101	
	Maggie Lancaster	813.317.7522	joelunaticplayer@aol.com
	José Oliva	813.299.8442	
Labor Management	Nick Cullaro	813.541.8159	
	Warren Sumlin	813.486.7612	
Presidents Emeritus	Garland Tickle • Orbe Andux Donald Thomas • Michael Anderson James Good • Alan Peacock		

Shop Stewards

<i>Station</i>	<i>ZIP</i>	<i>Steward</i>	<i>Station No.</i>	<i>Steward's No.</i>
Tampa Stations/Branches Chief Steward, Brian Obst 727.458.0679				
Brandon	33510/11	Grant Daniels	813.661.1636	850.210.4906
Carrollwood	33618	Freddie Nimphius	813.961.2962	813.263.7895
Commerce	33602	Pedro Jiminez	813.242.4507	813.727.9280
Forest Hills	33612	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Forest Hills	33613	Ed Humphries	813.935.2954	813.787.3914
Hilldale	33614	Darrick Smith	813.879.4309	813.446.5555
Hilldale Annex	33634	Varick Reeder	813.879.4309	315.491.6234
Interbay/Port Tampa	33611/16	Jackie Allen	813.831.2034	813.508.1440
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	Todd Soular	813.719.6793	508.615.6517
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/Hyde Park	33606	Joe Bitz	813.873.7189	813.465.0004
TCA/Peninsula	33609	Mike Williams	813.873.7189	813.541.3092
TCA/West Tampa	33607	Michael Smith	813.873.7189	813.326.0717
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)

2nd CCA Town Hall Meeting, October 20, Union Hall

As of September, 17, 40,000 CCAs have been converted to fulltime regular carrier status nationwide. With that news, nationwide we continue to struggle as only 54% of CCAs are retained. Locally our percentages are higher, as we take an interest in our CCAs. CCAs are the future of the USPS, and they should be treated better than they are. Stewards are instructed to introduce themselves to new CCAs, to get involved with their struggles. Remember back, we all had our struggles when we began our careers. In Branch 599 we strive to welcome in our CCAs, starter uniforms are available, and for the 2nd time this year we will be conducting a CCA Town Hall Meeting on October 20, to address their questions and concerns. We represent our CCAs during or past their 90-day probationary period to assure excellent representation. We have been successful in saving jobs; there have been situations we have been able to fight for resignations so a CCA can be rehired into another craft and/or government job. We have been successful to have our CCAs join the union, the National rate is 87%, and Branch 599's rate is over 90%. Nationally, contract negotiations look to improve starting pay and benefits. Training is getting a facelift, with another day added and more hands-on, a shadow day, and 4584s (street observations) to better prepare CCAs for the realities of the carrier job. We stress giving CCAs the opportunity to learn, and finding the deficiencies which may require additional training.

Things to know about CCAs: 20 frequently asked questions

1. Do CCAs receive Night Differential or Sunday Premium?
CCAs receive Night Differential as defined in Article 8.7 of the National Agreement. CCAs do not receive Sunday Premium.

2. Do CCAs have a work hour guarantee?

Yes, CCAs employed in post offices and facilities with 200 or more work years of employment have a four hour work guarantee and CCAs employed in all other post offices have a two hour work guarantee.

Tampa has a four hour guarantee, it is important to note, any CCA scheduled to work and reports and upon reporting to work is told they are not needed will be paid the four hour guarantee.

3. Does the five-day break between CCA 360-day appointments refer to five calendar or work days?

Five calendar days.

4. Can CCAs be required to remain on stand-by or remain at home for a call-in on days they are not scheduled to work?

No. *This issue has gotten much better but there are still offices that want their CCAs on stand-by; it must be constantly monitored.*

5. May CCAs carry over leave from one appointment to another?

No. Currently any accrued annual leave is paid out at the end of a 360-day term.

6. Are CCAs covered by the Memorandum of Understanding, Re: Bereavement Leave?

Yes, however, CCAs do not earn sick leave and therefore may only request annual leave or leave without pay for bereavement purposes.

7. Can a CCA serve as a union steward?

Yes. *We have appointed several CCAs to steward positions and several have continued as stewards after being converted to fulltime regular.*

8. Are CCAs entitled to higher level pay under Article 25 of the National Agreement?

No.

9. What defines the anniversary date for the purpose of annual

uniform allowance eligibility for a CCA?

The calendar date the CCA initially becomes eligible for a uniform allowance.

10. How is the uniform anniversary date determined for a CCA who is converted to career status?

The employee retains the same anniversary date held as a CCA.

11. Does relative standing earned as a CCA in one installation move with a CCA who is separated and is later employed in another installation?

No.

12. Will CCAs be allowed to opt on (hold-down) vacant duty assignments?

Yes.

13. Is there a waiting period for a new CCA (no former experience as a career city letter carrier or city carrier transitional employee) before the employee can opt on a hold-down?

Yes, 60 calendar days from the date of appointment as a CCA. Once the CCA has met this requirement there is no additional waiting period for applying for/ being awarded a hold-down when the employee is converted to career.

14. Is there a difference in the application of opting (hold-down) rules between part-time flexible city carriers and CCAs?

No.

15. What is the official CCA Work Schedule?

The service week for CCAs begins at 12:01 AM on Saturday and ends on Friday at midnight.

16. What is a CCA's rate of accrual for annual leave? Is there a maximum?

1 hour for each unit of 20 hours in pay status in each pay period. A 40

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Around The Horn from The President's Desk

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hour week earns 2 hours of annual leave. An 80 hour pay period earns 4 hours of annual leave, the maximum per pay period.

17. Do CCAs converted to full-time regular serve a 90 day probationary period?

City Carrier Assistants converted to fulltime career status during the term of this agreement will not serve a probationary period when hired for a career appointment provided the employee successfully served a cumulative 360 days as a City Carrier Assistant directly before conversion to fulltime career status. *CCAs who are converted to fulltime career status usually serve at least one 360 day term, very few conversions should face the 90 day probation.*

18. Are there rules covering work hour guarantees for a CCA who has a gap between two periods of work?

Yes. If a CCA is notified prior to clocking out that he/she should return within two hours, it is considered a split shift and no new work hour guarantee applies. However, if a CCA is notified prior to clocking out that he/she is to return after two hours, the CCA must be given another work hour guarantee pursuant to Article 8.8 (2 or 4 hours depending on office size).

19. Must a CCA serve the entire 360-day initial appointment to qualify for Health Benefits?

No. All CCA employees will be eligible for the USPS Plan within a reasonable period from the date of hire and entry into a pay status, consistent with the requirements established under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. You must either elect coverage within 60 days of the date you were hired or during any open season period. CCAs who select self-only coverage and want to receive a biweekly contribution of

\$125 from the Postal Service toward their health insurance premium must select the USPS Plan. More than self-only coverage is also available. However, keep in mind that the Postal Service contribution is \$125 regardless of whether you elect self-only or more than self-only coverage.

20. Are CCAs converted to fulltime regular after the quarterly overtime desired list sign-up period (2 weeks prior) allowed to place their names on a list?

Yes, per local agreement, CCAs converted to fulltime regular following the signup period may place their names on either the overtime desired list (10 or 12 hours) or work assignment list (own route).

Vehicles:

The Next Generation

On September 17, six different manufacturers have been awarded contracts to produce 50 prototype vehicles. The manufacturers include AM General, Oshkosh, VT Hackey plus three more, with the contract valued at over \$37 million. The *Next Generation* Delivery Vehicle, will replace the Grumman Long Life Vehicle (LLV) that's been in use since 1987. None of the designs have been revealed, but the preliminary requirements called for right-hand-drive, sliding curbside doors for driver and cargo, a payload capacity of 1,500 pounds, interior height of six feet four inches, and an overall length of 19 feet. It's also expected to have either an aluminum or composite body and deliver significantly better fuel economy and emissions performance than the LLV. The prototypes will include hybrid, the newest in technological innovations and alternative fuel options. In addition, a variety of vehicle sizes, motors, transmission/drive trains, and different power trains to satisfy all delivery conditions. The manufacturers will have a year to produce their respective prototypes for possible approval. The

Postal Service over a six month period, will test the prototypes in different cities and states, different types of weather, different delivery methods, and testing all geographic challenges. The tests will also include: measuring temperatures inside the vehicle, safety improvements, maneuverability, and visibility. Production of the winning entry or entries is scheduled to begin in late 2018. —*Postalnews.com*

Quick Hits:

Information you should know

*) Carrollwood Carrier, Dave Bradley, passed away October 12. Dave lost his battle with cancer, staying optimistic throughout his battle, hoping to return to work. He was very appreciative for the well wishes and support he received from all his union brothers and sisters. He will be deeply missed by his Carrollwood coworkers.

*) The new NALC Member App is now available for download...iPhone App Store and the Google Play Store for Android. As technology increases our ability to communicate, NALC must stay ahead of the curve. From websites to email to social media, this union has continually developed the tools to put the most up-to-date information and resources into the hands of our stewards and members. The app contains links to workplace resources, including the National Agreement, the JCAM, the MRS, CCA resources and more. It also includes legislative tools, such as a bill tracker, an individualized list of your congressional representatives and PAC information. And one of the coolest features: an Interactive Non-Scheduled Days calendar. When you install the app, it'll ask you for your home ZIP code, so it can give you the correct legislative information. You then sign up for notifications based on your interests. —*nalc.org*

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

The Birdseye View

US Elections

Ten fiscal years of attempts to repair the damage of the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act and after the brief September session we continue to look for hope. With Congress on another lengthy recess until after the November election it looks as another stagnant year of failing to fix a major problem. Hopefully the American people speak strongly about the many years of status quo and elect the candidates that actually want to serve the American people instead of the American people serving them. Who wouldn't like to have 2 months off after a month of work? Maybe that's a little exaggeration, but it appears that their campaigns take precedence to the welfare of those they serve. Of course we know the difference between the dedicated public servants and those that are self-serving. I have quoted on many occasions from the book, *A Purpose Driven Life* the statement: *never elevate yourself to diminish others*. We need more leaders that understand that concept because today they are few and far in between. One thing that the electorate needs to understand is that voting is the greatest privilege we have in a free society. Unfortunately the voters are turned off by a bias or conflicting media or they choose just one thing that matters to the individual and not based on all the issues that affect our nation as a whole. Do working people and union workers listen to the endorsements that come from vetting and screening candidates and listen to the positions the candidates take on the things that really matter to all of working class Americans? We all love our job opportunities, we want a future for all our children, we all want peace and security in all communities, and we want a country that builds a good economy without tons of national debt. Hopefully we all do our duty to help achieve what is best for all Americans and not just a privileged few.

Our Branch

We will also select new officers and stewards this year and look for the continued success of our organization's leadership in representing all our members and looking for new opportunities to provide stability for our branch's future. We have made some great strides in recent years with the sacrifice of the dues paying members for the purpose of securing our property, restoring the building and always looking for new ways to improve and preserve what we have.

Our Hall has been the venue for many training sessions during the last couple of years with DRT training, CCA training, CPR Training, retirement seminars, and hosting District II training as well. Hopefully we will build some improvement in the social and recreation area in the near future and enjoy some fun along with all our labor. All work and no play as it has been said makes for a dull day.

We also want to have a large participation in all aspects of our union, not just paying dues and wondering what your union is doing for you...we want an active participation and help to create new ideas. Out of over a thousand members in our branch, which over six hundred are active letter carriers, we only average about fifty members that participate in meetings and decisions that affect all of us. The officers and stewards are here to fight for your rights and protect them from rigid management tactics, but we need your support in other areas that affect our branch, our membership, and our community. Successful branches have volunteers to assist in all branch activities; without support those charitable ventures fail, such as our Stamp Out Hunger food drive, Muscular Dystrophy Association fund raisers, and apparently one that is becoming extinct is our Toys for Tots drive due to lack of interest. Another need is for more



Alan Peacock
Vice President
Branch 599

delegates to our Central Labor Council with West Central Florida Labor Council, AFL-CIO. Currently I am the only delegate; we had up to five delegates at one time.

The struggles we have getting volunteer participation relates directly to our own communication failure of not having closer involvement and a conversation with our members and find out who is available to provide some support or are interested brothers and sisters that have organizational desires. The attempt at having a branch auxiliary was another failure because we can't twist enough arms of our spouses to create one. If anyone has some ideas bring them to our attention or we will continue to just be too busy to make a difference to find some activities to unite around.

I want to thank all the members for your friendship and support during the past six years during my time as President and Vice-President. We have been through some difficult transitions with a lot of burdens placed upon our employer, conditions that we will always put the greatest effort to help right the ship we all love and work for and the customers we all serve.

Best wishes to all our members and families as we move into the busy holiday season. I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving and may you all be blessed with abundance of cherishing family time.

Fraternally and Grateful,
Alan Peacock
Vice President NALC Branch 599

Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

Our deepest sympathy and prayerful support is extended to the family of **Dave Bradley** [Carrollwood] whose passing was October 12; to **Brandon Boring** [Interbay] on the passing of his father; to Maria and **Jedrek Cordero** [Town N' Country] at the passing of her grandmother; and to **Tony Green** [TCA] at the passing of his mother.

Speedy Recovery to **George Czanko** [retiree] who has been in the hospital; and to Lou and **Matt Rezanka** [retiree] after their serious automobile accident, they both had to be cut out of the wreckage.

Congratulations!



President Diaz; Elaine, Joey & Sabu; Postmaster Fermo

Town N' Country carrier, **Joey Rodriguez**, was presented a 40-Year Service Award by Postmaster Richard Fermo. Joey retired on October 1!



Ray Porche and Tony Diaz

Congratulations to **Ray Porche** [Palm River], and **Arnie Weijola** [Brandon],

who received their retirement pin and gratuity from President Tony Diaz during our October Branch meeting!



Arnie Weijola and Tony Diaz

Branch 599 Installation of Officers and Dinner

January 21 Doors open at 6, Dinner at 6:30

U.S. Election Day

Tuesday November 8

Remember to Vote if you haven't all ready!



Nick's News

Hello to all, active and retired. It's been a busy year so far, especially for the NALC. Our national contract expired in May and negotiations are ongoing, and it's a huge election year. I attended my second national convention in August, in Los Angeles, with the rest of our delegates and really wish that I would have started attending these things years ago. One of the things that I really appreciate at these conventions is the magnitude of the gathering of fellow carriers. Sometimes we forget just how grand the NALC is and the force behind it. To hear stories and issues from carriers across the nation and to realize that, for the most part, we all deal with the same issues is somehow comforting. Everyone there can relate to each other. It is also nice to be able to venture out a little to a part of the country that you may have not seen before. While we were there we used the subway several times, which is never boring, to go to the Hollywood strip and do some people watching. We also had to hit the In and Out burger, which probably tasted better than it really was due to the time of night we ate there. I was also able to take the train to the Santa Monica pier and walked to Venice Beach, where the freaks are and took an Uber to Rodeo Drive for a real *fish out of water* feeling. I can say that I've been there now though.

A few things from the convention that I thought I'd share:

1. Sunday Amazon is now in 8,590 ZIP codes with an average of 1.8 million

parcels delivered as of June, 2016.

2. Priority Mail same day delivery has started in San Francisco and New York, and in Sacramento there are carriers picking up parcels directly from Walmart to deliver to their customers.
3. Grocery delivery through Amazon Fresh continues and in some areas will be delivered by the regular on the route in their line of travel.
4. There are 7,000 Amazon cluster lockers that we are delivering to, for customer convenience.
5. US Postal Service has given several companies the opportunity to build the next generation delivery vehicle, it would be one of, if not the largest, government vehicle contract ever. It would be approximately 180,000 vehicles at \$25,000-35,000 each.
6. The CDRAAP process added 2,600 routes nationally.
7. Scanner voice implementation is supposedly coming soon with possible turn by turn directions and parcel notification at each address.
8. Our union is organized at 93.5% and our CCAs are organized at 86.9%, which is the highest that they have been ever.

I would also like to mention and to thank our branch for sending Steward Varick Reeder and me to the Formal A and Beyond training at the National Maritime Institute in Baltimore MD in



Nick Cullaro
Labor Management
Branch 599

September. The training was quite rigorous, but was well worth our time and the branch's money. We worked daily from morning until night on cases that we would argue in front of a group of our peers at the training. We would take turns acting as the union and as management as though we were at an actual Formal A hearing, and of course they shifted us around a couple of times so we would not be with someone that we were familiar with. To see these Formal A meetings in a small group setting with facilitator and peer critiques was critical. Vice President Lew Drass lead the training and Regional Administrative Assistants lead the small groups; they were all exceptional. I would definitely recommend the course.

Get involved...come to some meetings. If you're interested in becoming a paid national delegate, it's easier than you think...just show up. Officer and steward elections are coming up as well, if you haven't been a supervisor in the last 2 years all you have to do is to be nominated.

Remember 3 things that we can control: our appearance, our attitudes and the service that we provide to our customers.

Nick Cullaro

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Sunday November 6

Remember to set your clocks Back 1 Hour before retiring Saturday night the 5th!





Central Florida Labor Council, AFL-CIO

2016 Endorsed Candidates as of October 5

U.S. President:.....Hillary Clinton

U.S. Senate:.....Patrick Murphy

U.S. Congressional Candidates:

CD 9 (Polk County)..... **Darren Soto** 338 N Magnolia Ave, Ste D, Orlando 32801

CD 14 (Hillsborough County) **Kathy Castor** 301 W Platt St #385 Tampa 33606

CD 13 (Pinellas County) **Charlie Crist** PO Box 1547, St. Petersburg 33731

CD 17* (DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, & Polk Counties) ...**April Freeman** PO Box 152198, Cape Coral 33195

*Endorsement limited to advocacy where there are overlapping races with an endorsed candidate

Florida Senate:

District 18 (Hillsborough County)..... **Bob Buesing** PO Box 173727, Tampa 33672

District 19 (Hillsborough & Pinellas Counties) **Darryl Rouson** 535 Central Ave, Ste 406, St. Petersburg 33701

District 22 (Polk County)..... **Debra Wright** 2575 Gerber Dairy Rd, Winter Haven 33880

Florida House of Representatives:

District 36 (Pasco County)..... **Amanda Murphy** PO Box 1379, New Port Richey 34656

District 41 (Polk County)..... **Robert Doyel** PO Box 987, Winter Haven 33882

District 59 (Hillsborough County)..... **Rena Upshaw-Frazier** 107 Falling Water Dr, Brandon 33511

District 60 (Hillsborough County)..... **David Singer** 712 S Oregon Ave, Ste 200, Tampa 33606

District 63 (Hillsborough County)..... **Lisa Montelione** 9814 N Pawnee Ave, Tampa 33617

District 68 (Pinellas County)..... **Ben Diamond** 165—7th Ave NE, St. Petersburg 33701

District 69 (Pinellas County)..... **Jennifer Webb** PO Box 10640, St. Petersburg 33733

District 70 (Hillsborough, Pinellas, Manatee & Sarasota Counties)..... **Wengay Newton, Jr.** PO Box 11551, St. Petersburg 33733

District 72 (Sarasota County)..... **Edward James III** PO Box 1011, Sarasota 34230

Municipal Races:

Hernando County Commission, Dist. 1 **Jimmy Lodato** PO Box 194, Brooksville 34605

Hernando County Commission, Dist. 3 **Diane Rowden** 10350 Fulton Ave, Weeki Wachee 34613

Hernando County School Board, Dist. 4..... **William Vonada** 13298 Asbury St, Spring Hill 34609

Hillsborough County Clerk of Court **Pat Frank** 3108 W. Agawan St., Tampa 33629

Hillsborough County Property Appraiser **Bob Henriquez** 1535 W Park Ln, Tampa 33606

Hillsborough County Commission, Dist. 6..... **Pat Kemp** 5605 N. Seminole Ave, Tampa 33604

Hillsborough County School Board, Dist. 5 **Tamara Shamburger** 7908 Lakeshore Dr, Tampa 33604

Hillsborough County School Board, Dist. 7 **Cathy James** 11803 Rossmayne Dr, Riverview 33569

13th Judicial Circuit (Hillsborough County) State Attorney **Mark Ober** PO Box 18987, Tampa 33679

13th Judicial Circuit (Hillsborough County) Judge, Grp. 24 **Melissa Polo** 3802 W Bay to Bay Blvd, Ste 12, Tampa 33629

Pasco County Clerk of Court **Paula O’Neil** PO Box 7110, Bayonet Point 34674-7110

Pasco County Commission, Dist. 3 **Barry Horvath** 1747 Mountain Ash Way, Trinity 34655

Pasco County Commission, Dist. 5 **Jack Mariano** 8116 Greenside Ln, Hudson 34667

Pinellas County Commission, District 3..... **Charlie Justice** PO Box 40234, St. Petersburg 33743

Pinellas County School Board, Dist. 1 **Joanne Lentino** PO Box 281, Bay Pines 33744

Pinellas County School Board, Dist. 5 **Eliseo Santana Jr.** 1400 Byram Dr, Clearwater 33755

Polk County School Board, Dist. 1..... **Billy Townsend** 818 Johnson Ave, Lakeland 33801

Polk County School Board, Dist. 4..... **Becky Troutman** 212 – 1st St S, Winter Haven 33880

Sarasota County Commission, Dist. 1 **Fredd “Glossie” Atkins** 1679 – 35th St, Sarasota 34234

Sarasota County Hospital Board, Central District, Seat 1 **Jody Davenport** 2532 Clipper Ship Way, Sarasota 34231

Constitutional Amendments:

Amendment 1 Rights of Electricity Consumers Regarding Solar Energy Choice **Oppose**

Amendment 2 Use of Marijuana for Debilitating Medical Purposes **Support**

Amendment 3 Tax Exemption for Totally & Permanently Disabled First Responders **Support**

Amendment 5 Homestead Tax Exemption for Certain Senior, Low Income, Long Term **No Position**

A Blunderful Blizzard of Boz

The Boz has a hole in his head. How else would the pun fairies be able to pierce my thick skull to plant hideously dumb jokes into the oatmeal I call my brain? When the Christmas choir sings the second stanza of *Joy to the World*, why do I hear *He rules the world with Ruth and Grace*? Why am I concerned that when the Magi returned to their homelands by a different route, King Herod still knew where to send his baby assassins? Could it have been a *shepherd spy*?

I should have warned you. The content of this report is *intense*. (sleeping bags, kerosene lamps, rope, flashlights, etc.) My mom used to sew nametags into all my jackets, shirts and underwear. This was my first experience with *clothes captioning*. Why do we say *cloudburst* and *downpour*, but not *cloudpour* and *downburst*? With all this bickering over second amendment rights, one has to wonder which is worse, a *salt rifle* or a *potato gun*? I was called out once for staring at the medically enhanced cleavage of a buxom waitress. I defended myself by saying that while I was out West, I developed an *interest*

in the silicone valley.

When you're driving along the streets of Tampa and you see that ubiquitous END ROADWORK sign, do you silently suspect it means STYMIE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRESS? And what about that sign you see at pedestrian crossings? The poor little stick man has no feet! Maybe it means *Amputee Crossing*. When the presidential candidates take a whirlwind tour of Kansas, is it the same kind Dorothy Gale took? And Toto, too? (NB: John Paul II's apostolic motto was *Totus Tuus.*)

My favorite postal novel is *Moby Dick*. Why? you might ask. Because the very first line is: Call me *USmail*. Did you know that there is a wax museum in Los Angeles? They have a very secure and tightly locked enclosure housing the likenesses of Marie Sklodowska Curie, Lech Walesa, Nicholas Copernicus, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, Casimir Pulaski and Karol Wojtyla. It's called the *Pole Vault*.

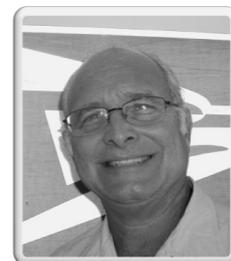
Podiatrists have an annual formal event called the *Foot Ball*. Did you hear about

the monk in Tibet who was shot in his *Buddhist Temple*? Did you know that many NALC branch presidents suffer from *traumatic postmaster stress disorder*?

Do you ever wonder what happened to the original baroness in *The Sound of Music*? Personally, I think it was linked to the infamous *Trapp shooting incident*. And why would Austria need a submarine captain, anyway?

Is it true that a family law firm has now established a division just for those charged with voyeurism? Their web address is *for the peephole.com*. I remember the time my wife bought us tickets to see the original Three Tenors. One of them was replaced by his understudy that night, however. His name was *Placebo Domingo*. Enough of this already.

Carry On! -Boz



Jim Boczarski
Retired Member
Branch 599



State Training Seminar in Orlando

October 14-16
Branch 599 had 6
first-timers!

Back: Grant Daniels,
Detlev Aeppel,
Darrick Smith,
Todd Soular,
Varick Reeder,
Michael Smith

Front Row:
Clement Cheung,
John Gebo,
Pam Benton,
Troy Figuero,
Mike Williams,
Walter Rhoads,
Tony Diaz

Labor 2016 kick-off Breakfast attended by AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka



Br 1477 President Joe Henschen, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, FSALC/ Br 2008 President Al Friedman, Br 599 President Tony Diaz, Br 1477 President Emeritus Orville Elliott, Br 1477 2nd VP Tom Phillips



AFL-CIO President Trumka thanks President Diaz for the use of the beautiful union hall.



President Trumka sharing a moment with Florida State Association of Letter Carriers President Al Friedman.



President Trumka addressing the Labor Representatives.



GILBERT CABANAS

FOR

FINANCIAL SECRETARY

Vote on December 1, 2016

Goals/Changes

- Provide: Copies on all financial expenditures
- Provide: A sense of financial stability
 - 6 consecutive years of surplus in building funds
- Protect/preserve: Integrity of our great Union hall
- Provide: A legacy and loyalty to our current and future members

Qualifications and Experience

- Member of NALC Branch 599 for 50 years
- Vice President for 10 years
- Shop Steward for 22 years
- Financial Secretary for 6 years
- Created and managed the first building account ever to improve and maintain appearance of building
- Loyal and dedicated Union member
- Original member of Million Mile Club
- Delegate to the state convention and training seminars since 1984
- City Safety Coordinator for 4 years
- City EEO representative for 3 years

Opponent

- Failed to attend Union meetings for almost 10 years
- Applied and served in the 204B program while a Branch 599 member
- Continues to change job positions in the Union every 3 years

RE-ELECT
JOHN GEBO
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FOR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
TREASURER
BRANCH 599 N.A.L.C.

The EXPERIENCED Incumbent

- 38 Years a Member of Branch 599
- 14 Years Financial Secretary
- 3 Years Branch Treasurer
- 4 Years Recording Secretary
- 38 Years a Health Plan Member N.A.L.C.
- Past: Shop Steward

Trustee-Director of Retirees

“Retired but NOT TIRED”

*Union Members
Branch 599 N.A.L.C.
Tampa, Florida*

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

I am up for re-election, for TREASURER of Branch 599. On December 1, 2016, I am asking for your support and vote. As I have in the past, I will continue to work for the best interest of the branch and all members.

My thanks to each and every member for the support you have given me over the years. Once again, I am asking for your support for my re-election. Thanking you in advance for your support and hopefully your vote.

Sincerely and Fraternally,



PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

To all of my fellow brothers and sisters of Branch 599: I would like to tell you why I feel that I have the qualifications to be your Treasurer. Prior to becoming a City Letter Carrier, I went back to college and completed my courses to obtain my degree in Business Administration with an accounting major. I spent 15 years working in that field.

After becoming a City Letter Carrier, I became active in the union. Over the ten years of eligibility I have attended both the National and the State Conventions. When I go to the conventions I attend the workshops they offer. At the last two National Conventions I attended as many financial workshops as I could. Some people feel that if they attend a workshop that is all you need to do. I learned new things about handling branch finances at the last convention.

On the local branch level some of the positions I held go back to when we still had TLC. I was asked to balance the checking account so we could transfer everything to the union. I also served as the food drive coordinator. Presently I am serving as a trustee.

As treasurer I feel that the members are entitled to better financials. Just handing out a bank statement does not show the true balances in the bank accounts. The members are entitled to better reporting on the financial status of the members' money.

Thank you,
Maggie Lancaster

Paid Political Advertisement



3rd Annual
NALC Branch 599
MDA Charity Golf Tournament

Heritage Harbor Golf & Country Club

Help Letter Carriers Deliver the Cure for Muscular Dystrophy

Sponsor a Hole • Sponsor includes sign at tee box • Hole Sponsor: \$100
Putting or Chipping Contest • Sponsor includes sign at Putting or Chipping Contest
Sponsor: \$150 • Raffle Gifts Welcome!

MDA Federal ID #13-1665552

Business or Individual Name: _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Message on Sign or Attach Business Card: _____

Make checks payable to: NALC Branch 599 and mark it For: MDA • Mail to: 3003 W Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609
Contact info: Tony Diaz, President 813.875.0599 | Alan Robinson: 813.843.9762

3rd Annual NALC Branch 599 MDA Golf Tournament

Help Letter Carriers
Deliver the Cure for Muscular Dystrophy!

Heritage Harbor Golf & Country Club
19502 Heritage Harbor Parkway
Lutz FL 3358

December 4, 2016

8 AM Shotgun Start
\$60 per person due by November 18, 2016
\$65 per person after November 18, 2016

**Includes Round of Golf • Driving Range • Lunch
Long Drive Contest • Closest to Pin**

\$5 donation Putting & Chipping Contest with \$100 prize
Raffle Tickets Available

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

Golfer 1 _____ Golfer 3 _____
Golfer 2 _____ Golfer 4 _____

Make checks payable to: NALC Branch 599 and mark it For: MDA
Mail to: NALC Branch 599, 3003 W Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609
Branch 599 813-875-0599 | Tony 813-598-9635 | Alan 813-843-9762

Hole sponsors and raffle gifts welcome!

Shop Stewards will Meet

Tuesday 7 PM
November 1
November 29

Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday 7:30 PM
November 3
December 1

Executive Board Meets

Thursday 6:30 PM
November 3
December 1

Sunday Work Party

at our Hall 9-11 AM
November 6
December 4

Retirees Breakfasts

Monday November 7 9 AM
Denny's Restaurant at Dale Mabry & Spruce
2004 N Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Tuesday November 8 8 AM
Bob Evans Restaurant
SR-60 & Falkenburg Road, Brandon

ARSLAN UNIFORMS

Bill & Shirley Moran

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

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A.R. Tony Huerta Branch 599
National Association of Letter Carriers
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813.875.0599 • Fax 813.870.0599
www.nalc599.com

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Happy *Early* Holidays

Skip Your November or December Loan Payments!

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