



Tampa Letter Carrier

Volume 8 - Issue 2

A.R. "Tony" Huerta - NALC Branch 599

Tampa, Florida

February 2009

President's Report

by Jim Good

President - Branch 599

Giving Thanks

We just wrapped up another one of our annual "Retirees Dinner and Shop Steward Installations" last Saturday night. This is the one time of the year when the members of Branch 599 get together to thank the retirees for the many years of hard work that they have done in order to leave the active members the legacy that they have. We have the retirees to thank for the beautiful building in which we hold our monthly meetings, as well as all the furniture in it. If it had not been for the many hours of volunteer work done by these "old-timers", we could very well be paying rent to someone just to have a place to hold our meetings, as is the norm in many cities around this great country.

We were very fortunate to have as our guest speaker and installing officer, NALC Director of Retired Members Ernie Kirkland. As much of an honor as it was to have Ernie here to speak with us, it was an even greater honor to have in attendance our own 50-year member, Jimmie Scaglione, who was presented with his *Gold Card*. What an achievement to be able to live long

enough to be a fifty year member of this great union. Jimmie also accepted a *Fifty-Year Gold Card* on behalf of Joe Diaz, who was unable to be at the dinner because of health problems. Our sincere congratulations go out to both Jimmie and Joe for this extraordinary achievement.

I also want to extend my thanks and

letter carrier Cash "Rocky" Randels for his participation in the recent *Three-Day Walk for Breast Cancer* (see photos elsewhere in this newsletter). This was an event that happened over the weekend of October 31st, 2008. Rocky walked a distance of sixty



miles to raise money to help find a cure for this terrible disease. Maybe his effort will help to set an example for others and possibly make this an annual event. Let's hope so.

As you can see, our branch is stepping up and trying to take the lead when it comes to community service and helping each other. That's what unionism is all about: Watching out for others;



Ernie Kirkland, Jimmy Scaglione, Jim Good

congratulations to all the newly installed shop stewards for our branch. It really is an honor to work as closely as I do with these dedicated, hard-working unionists. They have taken the initiative to step up to the plate and try their best to protect the rights of their fellow carriers, in many cases placing a target on their backs by doing so. The next time you get a chance, please take a minute and say thanks to your steward for being there for you.

I would also like to thank Tampa

keeping other friends first in our hearts and always thinking of what we as a group can do to help; and honoring those who are deserving of the honor, even though they do not care to be acknowledged.

Hopefully we, the active and newly retired members, will live up to the example set by those who came before us.

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Don Thomas	Garland Tickle

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Brandon	33510	Terry Franklin	(813) 758-3061
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Forest Hills	33612	Stephen Hall	(813) 494-4669
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Alan Robinson	(813) 843-9762
Hilldale	33614	A. Sam Santilli	(813) 215-7595
Hilldale Annex	33634	Butch Smith	(813) 889-3915
Hyde Park	33606	Tom Cobert	(813) 694-0711
Interbay	33611	Sammy Graham	(813) 832-6644
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MacDill	33608	Sammy Graham	(813) 832-6644
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Port Tampa	33616	Sammy Graham	(813) 832-6644
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Seminole Heights	33603	Tony Diaz	(813) 598-9635
Sulphur Springs	33604	John Rowland	(813) 770-7769
Tampa Carrier Annex	33607	Dook Ramotar	(813) 404-4380
Tampa Carrier Annex	33609	Dennis Lorenzo	(813) 966-3989
Temple Terrace	33617	Warren Sumlin	(813) 486-7612
Town & Country	33615	Brian Obst	(727) 458-0679
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The National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 599, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa, FL 33609-1617, 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.

All articles are subject to editing and revision at the discretion of the publisher & editor.

Articles must be submitted no later than the fifth of the month. Submit articles as .txt, .rtf, .doc or .wpd documents attached to email sent to

newsletter@nalc599.com

RETIREES BREAKFAST
(In Tampa)
First Monday of Every Month
9:00 AM at
The Coffee Cup
4407 N. Hubert
in Drew Park

RETIREES BREAKFAST
(In Brandon)
Second Tuesday of Every Month
8:00 AM at
Buddy Freddy's
134 Gornto Lake Rd S.
in Brandon

Read the *Tampa Letter Carrier* online at
<http://www.nalc599.com/newsletter.htm>

Running With You

Team Tampa

Let me congratulate the carriers of Branch 599 on their performance in 2008. With all you had to put up with from management last year, you deserve a better year in 2009. Happy New Year!

Last year, the *Generals* were not happy. The USPS was losing money and they had to show savings, but they went about it the wrong way. Team Tampa was on the war path. They wanted scalps and tried to get as many as they could through Investigative Interviews, Letters of Warning, suspensions, removals, etc., not to mention intimidation to all except their pets. Did it work? Only Team Tampa knows, but what *Running With You* has been saying for a long time is we need to work together so we can put together a service and savings to keep the USPS viable in the future.

We are near if not the top of the list of employees in these United States. We deliver in all kinds of weather, our integrity and honesty are impeccable, our service excellent. The price you pay to mail your letters is cheaper than most countries. Sure, there are a few bad apples but which company in the US of A does not have bad apples? Yet, Team Tampa feels we are not doing enough. They claim we are stealing and not giving up undertime so they did route adjustment for 6 days,

riding with us days on end, and chopped up routes in the end. USPS and the NALC agree to implement an adjustment with the carriers and management participation and, from reports coming in at the offices participating in this process, we are doing good and management is not spending thousands of dollars to achieve this.

This process was to be in place this month but was extended until next month due to the fact we need to do this right the first time and not have to come back again and again. So if a month was needed to get it right the first time around, then let it be. When all this is finished, carriers won't have to read the note by the time clock each day of how much undertime you have today or face other scare tactics. *Running With You* believes that this is a *win/win* situation for both carriers and management, and should the mail pick up or drop lower, the program will begin again so that each route will be eight hours and not six hours, or ten hours.

What is sad about all this is management didn't trust the carriers and vice versa. We both distrust each other. This program puts together a carrier and supervisor manager who goes through the route and evaluates the mail volume, travel time etc., and explain in consultation with the carriers and ask their opin-

by **Dook Ramotar**

Executive Vice-President - Branch 599



ion. Previously carriers didn't have a say. Now they do. I say to the carriers, be fair when they come to you, let management know you are not a thief or cheater, that you will give a fair day's work to them. If we build confidence in them about us now, the next time around they will be inclined to believe you when you say you have an eight hour route or not.

In about six months or so, I would think that Team Tampa will see that the program implemented by the Joint decision between USPS and NALC are working. Then the *Generals* should be happy, but I won't count on it. They will always be after us because they need to keep their job. too. So work will have to be found for them.

In this week's paper, there was mention of this program which is being conducted between the USPS and the NALC. People should be expecting for some late deliveries of their mail. Hopefully it won't be as late as what they are receiving now. Until next month, so long from *Running With You*.

"Motivation is what gets you started. Habit is what keeps you going."

Jim Ryun

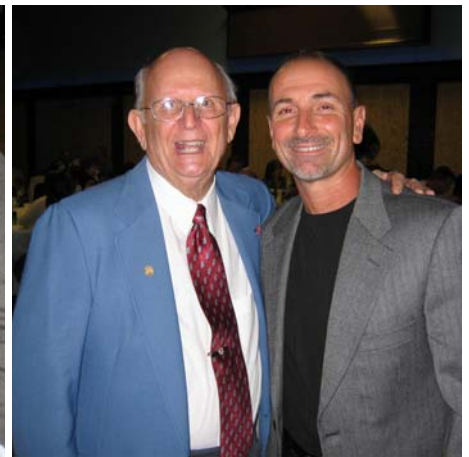
2009 Retirees Dinner and Officer Installation



President Emeritus Orbe Andux & his wife



Ernie Kirkland & wife Linda



Tony Diaz & Jimmie Scaglione

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Bill & Shirley Moran

Retired Letter Carrier Branch 1477 St. Petersburg

Honorary Member Branch 599 Tampa

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TAMPA LETTER CARRIERS PRESENT

BINGO

COME JOIN THE FUN

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30
GAMES START AT 6:30**

AT THE TAMPA LETTER CARRIERS HALL

3003 W. CYPRESS ST.

TAMPA, FL. 33609 813-877-4785

Things You Should Know

New Hope

First let me congratulate Mr. Butch Smith for becoming a new shop steward at Hilldale Annex. Here's hoping that the new year will spark new ideas into dealing with our declining mail volume.

The early out program did not attract the projected number of retirees the Postal Service set as their goal, which was over 40,000 craft employees. Perhaps another program with new incentives might help those numbers to be obtained. In a matter of a few months both Hilldale and the Annex station have had their managers retire. On December 31st, 2008, Mr. Pete Coleman, the manager at Hilldale Annex retired. Mr. Coleman is only 53 years old but has spent 31 of those years working at the Post Office. Jamie Cullaro, the manager at Hilldale, has retired due to health issues. I wish her a speedy recovery and hope that she enjoys a healthy and long retirement.

The Post Master, Nancy Fryrear, spoke at the December meeting

about plans and changes that are being discussed in order to save future expenses at some stations. One plan is to consolidate Hilldale Annex with Hilldale Station. It now appears that gas prices are low enough to compensate with our low volume of mail so that the travel distance is no longer a problem for the carriers.

Another thought is to move Town-n-Country to the Hilldale Annex. This would also allow the rural carriers to move from the trailer to the Town-n-Country building. This would save any future expenses of updating those old trailers plus bring all carriers inside of the building. I believe that we could save even more money if we just move the rural carriers from the trailers into Hilldale Annex building, thereby eliminating the need for Town-n-Country carriers to move. It also seems that Commerce Station is in the plans for another move. This station had moved from downtown to Hyde Park station but still has not found a permanent home.

On a happier note, our Health Benefit Plan has been officially extended to January 1, 2009, due to the huge success of that program. Well over 13,000 peo-

by Gilbert Cabanas

Vice-President - Branch 599

ple have converted to our plan. This will not only secure our future benefits but hold down our total cost per member.



Our new internal alternate route adjustment team is now busy visiting all the stations in order to combat the effects of this recession. Our PTFs are now in a hold mode because of the hiring freeze that is now in place. So, it might take a little longer to be converted to a regular carrier but as long as we can hold on through this recession it will be worth it. The only way to convert PTFs to regulars would be under the 88-12% formula which is the total percentage of the work force. So with the continuous route changes, eliminating some routes, and consolidating stations, we may avoid any possible layoffs. I believe that the best thing that has happened for the Postal Service is the declining gas prices. With the saving of over two dollars on a gallon of gas each day, and approximately 200,000 trucks consuming five gallons of gas every day, the gas savings alone should offset our total losses projected for this year.



President Jim Good (center) congratulates Adam Noble and Mike Loredo on their retirement and presents them their retirement gratuity check.

2009 Retirees Dinner and Shop Steward Installation



Food Drive & Toys for Tots Coordinator Lori McMillion & her fiancé Larry

Around The Horn

Alternative Route Adjustments

Brothers and Sisters, as the Interim Alternate Route Adjustment Process continues throughout our District, the State and the Country, still much work has to be done. At press time for this article we will be approaching 1000 routes that are adjusted or are in the final stages for implementation out of 1700 in our District. The original deadline of January 24th has been extended into February so we can adjust the remaining 700 routes. The four Tampa Teams to this point seem to have a much better grasp of the process than our counter parts in other areas in Florida and around the Country. In saying that, the Tampa Teams are not without confronting several problems along the way. We have all addressed possible calculation and territory change errors during this adjustment process. We all believe this process is based on carrier input, feedback and participation. This feedback has resulted in changes to the original scenarios in some instances. It is important that carriers believe their input is important in these minor adjustments since this process looks to be one we will use again. There have been situations however where the adjustments made by the Teams fall in line with the numbers compiled. This has left some carriers unhappy with their territory changes and adjustments, believe me, we have heard about it. As NALC representatives, we know as hard as we try, every carrier will not be pleased with this process and their changes. The goal is to adjust routes to the current mail volumes with as little impact and change to an individual and to a Station. This has been a challenge for all of us as we try to square-off your existing routes that frankly, in some Stations, are the furthest thing from being square. Many of you have acknowledged this to us in your consultations and understand changes must be made. Some Stations will see very little change while others a greater amount. One of my assigned Stations has recently been targeted as a COR Station, this Station is Sulphur Springs. This will be the first local Station to use the COR process since it was used in the adjustment debacle at TCA. The reason I mention COR is this process will bring a greater amount of

changes to a Station. This COR adjustment process my Team is performing will have the watchful eye of District Headquarters and above. They do not want the repeat disastrous performance of TCA. We are doing some tweaking to COR and taking additional steps to insure the process is successful. So what is COR? COR (Carrier Optimal Routing) is a computer modeling program that utilizes algorithms (a mathematical method of solving problems) to: 1) configure compact contiguous (neighboring, adjacent, bordering) routes, 2) determine safe, efficient travel patterns, 3) determine relays based upon actual volume, 4) make objective decisions based on data, and 5) reduce park points, relays, mileage and work hours. This COR route design, based on optimization (enhance effectiveness of something) modeling is currently utilized by major delivery and pickup companies in private industry. COR began in Connecticut in 2005, and since then has spread to 25% of the country. The Postal Service expects the outcome of this process not only to create more efficient routes but safer routes. Eliminating unnecessary travel and providing more accurate lines of travel will also lower costs of vehicle use. The manual input of the carriers route inspection data and other key configured indicators is very critical to the success of this COR process. We have already changed the preliminary figures in COR to match the numbers we compiled from our data discussed at the initial consultations. The willingness by District to allow us the opportunity for manual input once the travel paths are created is so important to the success of COR. Also, we will be driving several routes after the lines of travel have been configured to confirm accuracy before submitting the adjustment for approval. Carrier territory was going to change significantly for certain routes at Sulphur Springs even without CORS by eliminating one full route and an auxiliary route. With CORS, all routes will be affected percentage wise even more so. We do not want to duplicate what happened at TCA, as was described to me "it is like throwing spaghetti against a wall and watching the scenario being created as it slides down".

Quick Hits: Information you should know

*) I want to congratulate a very, very good friend of mine that will be retiring at the end of this month. That's right, February of 2009 will mark the final month Carrollwood Station carrier Bob West will be a part of the

by Tony Diaz

Financial Secretary - Branch 599

Postal workforce. Bob and I worked briefly together at Seminole Heights Station over 25 years ago and worked together at Sulphur Springs Station for a number of years. You seldom run into a quality person like Bob. Not only is he my good friend, but he and my son share a friendship through golf that is very special. I am thankful we shared so many great times together back in the day. We constantly talk about the old retirees we worked with, each one of them with an unforgettable line or story that always brings us to a laugh. Good Luck Bob, may you enjoy many happy and healthy years of retirement and Thanks for your friendship.



Look forward to talking to you again in the next *Around The Horn*.

President's Station Visits	
Interbay 11 & 16	Wednesday, February 4
Interbay 33629	Thursday, February 5
Forest Hills	Tuesday, February 10
Forest Hills Annex	Thursday, February 12
Hilldale Station	Wednesday, February 18
Town & Country	Friday, February 20
Temple Terrace	Tuesday, March 17
Carrollwood	Thursday, March 19
Palm River Annex	Wednesday, March 25
Hilldale Annex	Friday, March 27
Sun City/Ruskin	Tuesday, March 31
Plant City P. O.	Thursday, April 2
Brandon 33510	Wednesday, April 8
Brandon 33511	Thursday, April 9

Unionism

Carriers in a Common Cause

It has been said that “Those who fail to remember and fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it.” This is a point that all carriers should take to heart. The history of the NALC is important to all carriers as many battles have been waged throughout the more than 100 years of this great union and we all must learn from them to prevent the previous issues from rising up to do us harm again.

The national leaders of this union understand this and have created a great source of reference on our history throughout the more than 100 years the NALC has been in existence. It is called *Carriers in a Common Cause (A History of Letter Carriers and the NALC)*. Within it's pages you will find stories that detail the trials and tribulations of the many members that have come before us, and how their battles against the postal service, Congress, presidents, Postal Boards of Governors (just to name a few) were fought, and what the results of those battles were. While many of today's carriers may

think that they have precious little in common with the carriers of old, a quick review of the past will be very enlightening.

The fight has been ongoing since that 29th day of August, 1889, when 60 carriers met above a saloon in Milwaukee, in response to a convention call, and founded our great union, the National Association of Letter Carriers. In the 100 plus years of our union it is amazing to see how the same issues will rise time and time again to attack us and our jobs. This demonstrates the need for eternal vigilance on the part of all carriers to ensure all of the craft employees are properly protected. Remember, when one carrier is set upon by management, don't ignore it, and don't turn a deaf ear and a blind eye because you may be next to be under attack. The need for solidarity is continual and there is never a time where we can sit back and say that we have it good and we don't have any need to worry because things are good. Do not be lulled into a false sense of security because things have been good for a long time. Remember that things have been good due

to the hard work and leadership of the national officers, as well as the frontline union officials in your local branch, right down to our stewards in the field.

I would highly recommend that all carriers get their hands on a copy of *Carriers in a Common Cause* and read it cover to cover. Once finished, contact your local branch leaders and ask what you can do to help maintain this union and protect all of our jobs and livelihoods. It takes so little by all to do so much for everyone and in this time where all of our jobs are in danger from decreasing mail volume and management attacks, don't you think you can do your small part to help? Do those who went before us proud and ensure that our jobs and our union continue on.

As always, *knowledge is the key.*

Brian Obst - Chief Steward

by Brian Obst

Chief Steward - Branch 599



2009 Retirees Dinner and Shop Steward Installation



Forest Hills Annex Shop Steward
Alan Robinson & wife Annette



Branch 599 President
Jim Good & wife Marilyn

Toys for Tots

2008 Toys for Tots Report

If there is one thing I am sure of, it is that we should all be thankful to have a job. I am sure all letter carriers enjoyed their families this holiday and watched the kids open their presents. I did and it made me so aware of what I have and can provide for my family by being under the safety net I have as a member of the NALC.

This starts my *Thank You* to everyone who had a hand in the *Letter Carrier Toys for Tots* day on December 6th. First, I know all types of carriers helped and you all deserve a huge round of applause. I have deep respect for you all that goes beyond just the daily rounds you do. Some of you stay quiet and just do the work, some get involved a little, and some go above and beyond the expected and create a system of collecting within your individual offices.

With the economy hurting so many more families, I started the toy drive this year with a very weak feeling that we would accomplish much success. The kick off went nicely with Mayor Pam Iorio attending, along with Steve Jerve from NewsChannel 8, and many from different organizations who all help out in their own way.

Besides having to order pallets and boxes, and putting out posters and flyers to all post offices, it comes down to a waiting game. The Rough Riders took care of the volunteers and they did a very good job. What a help they are for us so make sure you thank them when you see them. One problem I did encounter was some stations did not have the posters up after I delivered them. I would place calls to them and was promised they would have them up that day. But in one station it was only a day and a half before the drive. The posters are there to notify customers who visit the lobby and wait in line. It is one way we get the word out and each day it is not posted is a day many children could miss out on a toy.

by Lori McMillion

Toys for Tots Coordinator - Branch 599

Well, despite all that I am pleased to say that the collection was not a failure. We collected an amount that superceded my expectations. At first, the trucks were just trickling in with toys, but near the end of the night, we received much more. Jim and I walked out of that warehouse with our heads up high representing all carriers from all the unions.

I sure hope we get into the new year with good health and fresh minds and renewed ideas about how we are going to live out the rest of our lives. Will it include helping out someone who is needy? Maybe we will find out in May during our food drive.

Happy New Year, everyone!

Lori McMillion
Toys for Tots Coordinator
Branch 599



Rocky Randels Participates in the Three-Day Walk for Breast Cancer



Retired But Not Tired

Retiree News

As most of you know, January 17, 2009, the Retirees Dinner & Dance was held. This is a night of enjoyment not only for the retirees but the active carriers, too. I know, for me, personally, it is a night I look forward to each year.

On the morning of the function, President Good, Mike Anderson, Joe Oliva, and I met at 10:00AM to prepare the hall for the evening festivities. Even with the meal being catered, there is still a lot of work to be done. Years ago active carriers took annual leave and helped the retirees make up the menu for different branch functions. To me it was an honor to be one of the *clique*, preparing the food and working on the serving line. Times sure have changed.

It was a night that we honored our *50-Year Members*, Jimmie Scaglione and Joe Diaz. Jimmie and his beautiful wife, Francis were able to attend. Due to an illness, Joe could not attend. NALC Director of Retirees Ernest Kirkland honored Jimmie with his Gold Card and Pin.

Jimmie also accepted Joe's Gold Card and Pin, which he will deliver personally to Joe. Both of these gentlemen were more than union brothers to me. Thank you both for being close friends, mentors and my pisanos.

To see some of the old faces that show up year in and year out is very moving. This year there were some of the newer retirees. Two that stood out to me were Barry Griffiths and Jim Pasco. These were the two who helped me make it through my probation period at the old Forest Hills Station. Jim would tell me, "Don't worry, I'll look you up on the street." The only problem was I didn't make it out of the office too often. Barry always had the answer for everything, even who to bet on at jai-alai.

I was glad to see about half of those who attend the Retirees Breakfast at the Dinner Dance. Where were the rest of you guys? I still can't understand why more don't attend. Here is a night of great fellowship, a great meal, good beverages and desserts. Yet for a branch our size we only get about 20% in attendance. At our branch meetings, it is even less. Brothers and sisters, unionism is more than just paying dues. Let's make a New Year's resolution to get involved, attend

by John Gebo

Director of Retirees - Branch 599

meetings and branch functions, to be an *e-Activist*, to join COL-CPE. Remember a strong union is its membership. You are the membership.



Thanks to the 25,000 new members who smartly joined the NALC Health Plan. Wouldn't it be something if all union members joined their own health plan? Lower premiums, better benefits. Why union members don't support their own plan is probably the same reason they don't attend meetings or functions. Does being able to say "*I pay union dues...*" make one a good union member? In my opinion, the answer is NO.

Our next Retirees Breakfast is February 2, 2009, the day after the Super Bowl (hope it is over by our bedtime). Hope to see you then.

So, as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans sang, "Happy trails to you, until we meet again."

Fraternally,
John Gebo

Rocky Randels Participates in the Three-Day Walk for Breast Cancer



Arslan Uniform Drawing

The Arslan Uniform prize for the February 5th Branch 599 meeting will be \$190.00.

If you are in attendance at the meeting on and your name is drawn, you will win the \$190.00 donated by Bill & Shirley Moran of Arslan Uniforms.

Why not come to the meeting, hear what is going on in your union, and maybe win some big money? Hope to see you here on February 5th!

And The Beat Goes On

A New Year

Well here we are, another year: 2009. Wow, it seems like it was only yesterday we were all dreading the turn of the century to 2000. Of all the years I spent in the Post Office, there were a number of slow periods in the economy of our country with a lot of people collection unemployment and I used to think, "Thank god that the Post Office keeps going and there is always more advertising and thus there is more overtime for all the postal employees." So it's quite a shock to see what has happened to the post office today in 2009. The lack of mail means that for the first time there is a threat of lay offs for any with less than 6 years. But it all started a few years ago with the fax machine (even this management and the union both used) and more use of the computer. Who buys stamps any more? The Riverview Post office used to have a counter just for buying stamps. In January I had to wait in the long line and when I asked where was the single counter for stamps was, the reply was "Not many are buying stamps any more." What a shame.

How many of you pay your bills by electronic deduction? Every time I get a bill the envelope says, "Don't send a check to us, let us deduct in from your bank account." Thus they save by not sending your bill to you by way of the U.S. Mail

and you don't send it back. Multiply that by thousands and you have cut out quite a few mail deliveries thus reducing more time. This writer is from the old school and I still buy stamps and send all my bills thru the good old Post Office.

From what I hear through the grapevine, there are a lot of upset carriers that are crying the blues on the loss of their route and if I was still working, I'm sure I would be one of them. But due to the lack of mail, adjustments are being made nationwide and another big loss is the overtime. It's only human nature to live your life to the money you are bringing home and a lot of carriers have been making big bucks. That has to be a shock to the pocketbook. The few times I've gone into the Brandon Post Office parking lot I thought I made a mistake and went into a new car dealership as all I saw was new cars, SUVs and pick-up trucks. As tough as it is, be thankful you are not on the unemployment line. Many a year prior to my post office time I stood in line at the unemployment office in N.Y. This is no fun. I do think the retiree is better off than most today as we have learned to live on a tight budget. This was not easy at all and how I missed the overtime. My take home pay was cut by more than half. But as I said, you adjust to what you bring home.

I am always reading John Gebu's article about the Retiree Breakfast and sometimes President Good pays. So I thought to myself, I could use a free breakfast. I asked John what time was the breakfast? Wow! Too early for me. I asked

John where is the breakfast? Drew Park, west of Dale Mabry. Too far for me. I always thought Drew Park was just strip joints and X-rated movies, something to do after breakfast. Ha ha, only kidding guys.



On a sad note, Friday, January 9th, a long time employee, a clerk, Eddie Croake died after a long battle with skin cancer. Ed was in charge of the Bloomingdale office and you could not have met a nicer man. In December I was at the Brandon Post Office for an X-mas get together. It was a Saturday morning and there was plenty to eat and almost all of the carriers and clerks were wearing a black T-shirt honoring Ed Croake and the Moffitt Cancer Center. The T-shirts were selling for \$5.00 with this money going to Moffitt. The Brandon Postmaster allowed the carriers to wear the T-shirt on the street that day.

As I was talking to a clerk, a guy wearing a black T-shirt came up to us both and shook hands with us and walked away. I said, "Who was that? I don't know him." The reply was, "That's the Postmaster". I replied, "I wonder if he knows who I am."

My condolences go out to the Ed Croake family, and to all the Brandon employees who seemed to really love this guy.

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