



Tampa Letter Carrier

From the President's Desk

Save America's Postal Service

By the time this publication is received, we will know somewhat of the future and the near future of our Postal Service and the current negotiations for our new contract. We have many things to be concerned about whether we are an active or a retired member. The current times we are in and especially leading up to next year's election require that we do everything we can to unite as coworkers, union members both active and retired to stand together for our livelihood and the service we provide to our nation. In spite of some of

the misleading information about the Postal Service by factions that would like to privatize government jobs and get their corporate greedy hands on an industry that is still a very large part of our economy, we can band together and ask for legislation to keep intact an institution that still delivers to all Americans. This is a battle worth standing up for, no matter what your party affiliation. This is a US Constitutional battle no matter what your party affiliation. Because of our right to have collective bargaining and to be able to fairly negotiate decent wages and



Alan W. Peacock
President, Branch 599

benefits as well as good working conditions, we have been targeted like no other private company or government agency in the world. I challenge any of those that speak against us to walk in our shoes in the torrid heat of summer or the knee deep snow in winter and work in the conditions that our fellow craft workers in our plants and on our docks, to tell us we don't deserve what we earn. Collective bargaining has done everything to assist

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- Official Notice -

Nominations & Elections of Delegates to the 2012 NALC National Convention

Nominations for delegates to the 2012 NALC National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota were taken at the regular branch meeting on October 6, 2011 and will continue to be taken on November 3, 2011...

(full announcement is on Page 4)



Branch Meeting
Thursday
November 3
7:30 PM

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 no later than the 5th of each month in order for us to meet our time limits to the publisher.

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MBA/NSBA	Al Guice	813.422.4967	
Health Benefit Rep.	Terry Franklin	813.758.3061	
Director of Retirees	Lance Jones	813.220.1292	
Trustee Chair	John Gebo	813.503.1256	
Trustees	Joe Oliva	813.299.8442	
	Lori McMillion	813.263.7101	
Labor Management	Sam Santilli	813.215.7595	
	John Rowland	813.770.7769	
Presidents Emeritus	Garland Tickle • Orbe Andux		
	Donald Thomas • Michael Anderson		
	James Good		

Executive Board Meets

Thursday 6:30 PM
November 3
December 1

Shop Stewards will Meet

Tuesday 7 PM
November 1
November 29

Shop Stewards

Station	ZIP	Steward	Station No.	Steward's No.
Brandon	33510	Terry Franklin	813.661.1639	813.758.3061
	33511	John Lykins	813.661.1639	727.542.4092
Carrollwood	33618	Brian Obst	813.960.8894	727.458.0679
Commerce	33602	Pedro Jimenez	813.242.4507	813.727.9280
Forest Hills	33612	Alan Robinson	813.935.2954	813.843.9762
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale	33614	Sam Santilli		813.215.7595
Hilldale Annex	33634	Julio Acosta	813.889.3913	
Hyde Park	33606	Tom Cobert	813.873.7189	813.694.0711
Interbay	33611		813.831.2034	
Interbay/Peninsula	33629	Sammy Graham	813.831.2034	813.454.3319
Palm River Annex	33619	J.C. Howard	813.663.0048	813.310.0689
Plant City	33564	Varick Reeder	813.719.6793	315.491.6234
Port Tampa	33616			
Produce	33610	John DeRosa	813.237.4280	813.850.8418
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	Jack Hencoski	813.634.1403	813.928.9034
Seminole Heights	33603	Tony Diaz	813.237.4569	813.598.9635
Sulphur Springs	33604	John Rowland	813.237.4569	813.770.7769
TCA/Peninsula	33609	J.R. Harazin	813.873.7189	727.418.8090
TCA/West Tampa	33607	George McClelland	813.873.7189	
Temple Terrace	33617	Warren Sumlin	813.899.2405	813.486.7612
Town 'N Country	33615/35	Brian Obst	813.884.0973	727.458.0679
Ybor City	33605	Detlev Aepfel	813.242.4507	813.505.7914

From the President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

the Postal Service from downsizing from near a

million strong at one time to little over half that size now, to assisting in interim route adjustments to save millions over what six day inspections cost. We don't work in the same system we did; just in the last five years drastic reductions have placed us at the point where we all do more and make more deliveries and with less personnel. This is a trend that will not change any time soon unless the economy improves and this nation puts more people back to work and the housing market begins to have new and steady growth.

As of October 1, 2011, I have joined the ranks of the retired members and I pledge to continue to actively pursue the rights of Letter Carriers and the working class Americans that we represent the same as I did as an active member for 38 years. I made this decision for the good of my office at TCA so that I no longer hold a spot on the leave calendar and to save the branch the high expense of paying for my benefits. I want to thank all the retirees for their support and activism to stand up for the active carriers that work to the 5 o'clock window and beyond and can't attend many of the rallies that are scheduled during working hours. When we presented the petitions to the Congressional District offices on September 27, the majority of those attending the rally were retired members. Next time a motion for retirees comes up at the union meeting, the active carriers need to show a little love and appreciation. It is more important than ever that active and retired members stand together in harmony, solidarity, and unity. I know a lot of you have been asking when we are going to get the truth out in the media and counter the

misinformation that is occurring daily. The day of the rallies I was involved in, two TV interviews and one radio interview, the media was contacted prior to that date, but it wasn't on their minds until the day of the rallies. There was also a lot of support from the AFL-CIO in getting the media attention. There was a lot of coverage at the rally at Kathy Castor's office when we rallied to thank the Congresswoman for her support. There was no media at Gus Bilirakis' office in Plant City, which was mostly attended by rural carriers and a contingent group from Branch 599 when we presented the petitions to his staff member.

There is a lot of video on the NALC.org website showing rallies throughout the nation. After the rallies we finally had a majority of sponsor and cosponsors supporting HR 1351 that can provide the legislation to *Save America's Postal Service*. There were also gains in HRS 137 to save six day delivery with a few more cosponsors needed to have a majority vote on that issue as well. During this period the Branch has sent letters to all members of congress who are members of veterans and armed forces committees. One response from Congressman Allen West was returned addressed to Mr. A.R. "Tony" Huerta, even though the letter was signed by this writer; his response was about as misinformed as who it was addressed to. Apparently he has bought into the Congressman ISSA syndrome of gross misinformation.

Commitment to Our Community continues

On October 2, we had our first annual *Fill the Satchel for MDA*, a day proclaimed for Letter Carriers by Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn. We received permission to wear our uniforms and use our satchels for this MDA fundraiser as we continue our pledge to

build a muscle for the kids at MDA. Although the turnout was small and we only had enough volunteers for two corners, it was still helpful. Sunday November 6, we will have the second annual *Bowl-A-Thon for MDA*; this coupled with two previous events will help us provide some badly needed funds to those locally who are suffering from neuromuscular diseases.

Besides our efforts for MDA, also the *Combined Federal Campaign* is starting for those who may have other charities of choice that they prefer to help. This is what members of the NALC do, besides the service we provide we also help our communities

and when there is a need, we will be there. The planning stages of *Toys for Tots* are underway, too. Let's keep counting our blessings and give until it hurts because there is always someone hurting worse than us.

Stay Dedicated!

As we proceed towards the end of our current contract and look forward to our continued efforts to negotiate and bargain in good faith, we can only hope that there will be some common sense from our employer that has been lacking in regard to their employees. The effort that is made on a daily basis, in spite of deliberate decisions that are made to cause unwarranted disputes, shows the dedication of our craft employees. This coupled with some proper legislation can help the Postal Service return to the kind of service that we are capable of providing for all the citizens of our nation. Keep up the great job that all of you do and remember that our customers deserve our best!

Fraternally in Unity and Solidarity,

Alan Peacock
President



Treasurer's Report for September 2011



Ray Garcia
Treasurer
Branch 599

BB&T Operating Account - Sept. Opening Balance = \$22,629.28		
	Payments	Deposits
President/Steward [3 PP]	6,239.64	
Branch Office Secretary [3 PP]	2,934.82	
Shop Stewards' Pay [14]	1,617.16	
Financial Secretary	777.38	
Treasurer	729.37	
Shop Steward Reimbursement [lost wages]	373.59	
Shop Steward/Labor Management Reps [2]	292.48	
Vice President/Steward	280.36	
Sergeant-at-Arms	149.83	
Shop Steward/Trustee [1]	141.52	
Shop Steward/Health Benefit Rep	126.24	
Trustees [3]	94.35	
Recording Secretary	94.35	
MBA/NSBA Rep	47.17	
Director of Retirees	23.59	
Labor Day Picnic	3,139.55	
MDA Branch Donation	1,329.00	
National Rap Session [Branch motion]	518.84	
Staples (office supplies)	420.69	
Bulk Rate Permit for Newsletter	375.00	
Verizon (office phones/internet)	359.36	
CIT Technology (printer lease)	356.31	
Walk for the Cure Donation [Branch motion]	300.00	
Retirement Gratuity	200.00	
Petty Cash Replenishment	200.00	
Postage [4 rolls of stamps]	176.00	
Editor/Webmaster [Sept]	160.00	
AT&T Wireless [Branch motion]	93.57	
Security Guard [Sept & Oct]	90.00	
QuickBook Pro Updates	24.95	
Personnel Concepts Revised FL Manuals	25.90	
BB&T Banking Fee	14.95	
NALC Dues		20,157.42
Labor Day Picnic collected for MDA		1,329.00
From Money Market for National Rap Session		518.84
Newsletter Ads [2]		275.00
Local Dues		261.16
BB&T Operating Acct Interest		.21
Totals	\$21,705.97	\$22,541.63
BB&T Operating Account - Sept. Closing Balance = \$23,464.94		

BANKING ACCOUNTS	
BB&T Money Market	216,531.15
Mid FL Credit Union CD	100,000.00
Regions Bank CD	50,000.00
BB&T Building Fund	37,076.14
BB&T Operating Acct	23,464.94
Mid FL Credit Union	235.00
Grand Total	\$427,307.23

Official Notice

of
Nominations & Elections
of Delegates to the
2012 NALC
National Convention

Nominations for delegates to the 2012 NALC National Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota were taken at the regular branch meeting on October 6, 2011 and will continue to be taken November 3, 2011, at the Union Hall located at 3003 W. Cypress St., Tampa, Florida 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.

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 the branch, an election will be conducted with the results announced at the regular branch meeting in December.



Tony Diaz
Vice President
Branch 599

Fill the Satchel for MDA

Brothers and Sisters, *special thanks* to the carriers who participated in the NALC *Fill the Satchel for MDA*. On Sunday, October 2, 20 carrier volunteers gave up their Sunday morning for a great cause. We met at the Union Hall at 9 AM to coordinate the three-hour collection, which began at 10 AM. Two busy intersections were selected, Hillsborough Ave. and Himes Ave., and Dale Mabry Hwy and Kennedy Blvd. Additional volunteers would have allowed us to cover more intersections and thus collect more money. The 20 carrier volunteers represent about 2% of the total Branch 599 membership, active and retired. I know we can do better than that, just 3 hours of your time. We were well received by the passing motorists for the most part, however with the saturation by the panhandling, people were somewhat skeptical at first. Our clean Postal uniforms along with our new MDA signs separated us from the panhandlers. We still collected over 1,600 dollars, on a Sunday and on just two intersections. This was not only an important event for MDA, this was also great opportunity for the Letter Carriers to be seen in the public eye, in a positive light. With all the turmoil and uncertainty that surrounds the Postal Service these days, any positives are welcomed. I received many comments of support for our jobs during the collection. People still want and need the Postal Service, and events such as this promote just how important we are to the community. For those of you who were not able to volunteer for MDA this time, there will be more events planned this year. A national *Bowl-A-Thon* is scheduled for November 6. It would be great to have at least one team from each station. Make a difference...get involved.

H.R. 1351 & H.R. 137

These numbers should be very familiar to you. If they are not, you do not care about your job or about the future of the Postal Service. I would think now is a really good time to educate yourself and get tuned-in with these two critical House Resolution Bills. If you are an *e-activist* (a free NALC informational service), you should be up-to-date with all pertinent information and news that will affect all of us. Let's briefly review these two bills. *This information comes directly from the NALC website:*

H.R. 1351

H.R. 1351 takes the necessary first steps toward ensuring a financially sound future for the United States Postal Service. The bill was drafted with three major components, taking into consideration the recent Segal Company Report issued by the Postal Regulatory Commission:

1. It calls on the Office of Personnel Management [OPM] to recalculate the USPS surplus in the Civil Service Retirement System within six months of enactment, using a methodology that fairly allocates the cost of pensions between the Post Office Department and the U.S. Postal Service as proposed by the Segal Report.
2. Then, once the accurate *postal surplus* is determined by the OPM, the agency would have 15 days to transfer the surplus to the PSRHBF.
3. Direct the OPM to permit the USPS to use most of its \$6.9 billion surplus in the FERS system to satisfy two obligations in FY 2011: a \$5.5 billion payment due to the PSRHBF, and a \$1.2 billion estimated payment to the Department of Labor for Federal Employees Compensation Act (worker's comp.)

expenses. Any remaining funds would be used to reduce the Postal Service's normal cost-percentage for FERS in future years.

Good news for **H.R. 1351**, in the House of Representatives, at press time for this article, there were 223 members, Democrats and Republicans who are already cosponsors of this Bill. That is a majority!

H.R. 137

So far 205 House members from both parties are cosponsors of H.R. 137; this Bill expresses the sense of the House that the USPS should take "all appropriate measures" to ensure continuation of six-day delivery. There is still some work to do with H.R. 137, again at press time 13 more cosponsors were needed for a majority. This Bill should create a lively debate. However, if H.R. 1351 passes and the financial obligations of the Postal Service are corrected, is the discussion to eliminate the six-day delivery even necessary?

Stay tuned and stay informed.

Quick Hits:

Information you should know

The nationwide *Save America's Postal Service* rally held on Tuesday, September 27, was well received and very successful. *Thanks* to all the retirees and active members who participated. We got a positive message out to the public.

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

Please tear out the form on page 8 and collect 10 names for our petition. Then turn it in by November 14.

A Point of Personal Privilege



Ray Garcia
Treasurer
Branch 599

Recently I was given a letter from a brother letter carrier that stated I was repugnant. I was quoted scriptures as to apparently my need to repent? I guess I am a sinner for being a Democrat and a Liberal like my father. This letter carrier's or even many of your points of view and your right to disagree are because of freedom of choice, speech, etc. to which I volunteered to defend when I joined the United States Naval Reserves, December 7, 1964 at the ripe old age of 17. In 1966, I as many reservists were called to active duty by President Johnson. February 1967, while on board the USS Allen M. Sumner DD 692, till September 1967, we saw action off the coast of North and South Vietnam. I finished my 6 years of service in the reserves December 6, 1970. I could have received a medical deferment because of a severe knee injury, but I proudly chose to get medical documentation to fulfill my obligation to my country.

The United States Postal Service is in dire straits

because former Republican President George W. Bush's administration chose to force the prepayment of retiree benefits from the USPS in the amount of \$65 billion. It was to be paid out in \$5.5 billion amounts. No other business or corporation in the history of the United States has been forced to pre-pay for future retiree benefits! The Mail Handlers or the Clerk Craft have run an ad on television that clearly states that the USPS receives NO tax moneys or subsidies from the Federal Government to fully fund or assist the USPS. We only receive moneys to pay our expenses through the sale of stamps and other avenues of shipping. As always there are quite a few letter carriers unaware of any legislation in the House of Representatives that would require the payment of those pre-paid moneys

to be refunded to the USPS to make it solvent or go into the BLACK. Those of you that live in a district that is represented by a Republican, please write to them and request that they cosponsor this vital piece of legislation! This bill is H.R. 1351 (latest title: United States Postal Service Pension Obligation Recalculation and Restoration Act of 2011) that not one Republican from the state of Florida has cosponsored! Even though 19 fellow Republicans have cosponsored this bill from other states and they are: Charles F. Bass (NH-2), Rob Bishop (UT-1), John R. Carter (TX-31), Charles W. Dent (PA-15), JoAnn Emerson (MO-8), Michael G. Fitzpatrick (PA-8), Jim Gerlach (PA-6), Michael G. Grimm (NY-13), Richard L. Hanna (NY-24), Lynn Jenkins (KS-2), Walter B. Jones Jr. (NC-3), Peter T. King (NY-3), Frank A. LoBiondo (NJ-2), Tom Marino (PA-10), Patrick Meehan (PA-7), Todd Russell Platts (PA-19), Jon Runyan (NJ-3), Christopher H. Smith (NJ-4) and Don Young (AK-at large). There are 185 Democrats on board this important piece of legislation! One Democrat from Florida has failed to become a cosponsor as of this date (9/13/2011) and her name is Corrine Brown (FL-3). The Republicans that have *not* cosponsored this bill are: Sandy Adams (FL-24), Gus M. Bilirakis (FL-9), Vern Buchanan (FL-13), Ander Crenshaw (FL-4), Connie Mack (FL-14), John Mica (FL-7), Jeff Miller (FL-1), Richard Nugent (FL-5), Bill Posey (FL-15), David Rivera (FL-25), Tom Rooney (FL-16), Dennis Ross (FL-12), Steve Southerland (FL-2), Cliff Stearns (FL-6), Daniel Webster (FL-8), Allen West (FL-22) and C.W. Bill Young (FL-10). If you need some talking points on this bill to write to your Republican representative, you can find them at nalc.org. President Fred Rolando has been quite vocal on this bill (HR 1351). Please apply for the monthly deduction of \$5 to COLCPE to protect your family's

welfare, your health benefits, your hourly wages, your retirement, and to protect your job!

Many of you think President Obama and the Democrats of the House and Senate are doing nothing to get this economy rolling. What many of you fail to be aware of is that the Republicans blocked 31 Bills in 2010. By the time President Obama was sworn into office in January of 2009, America was losing 600,000 jobs a month. Within 6 months of passing the Economic Stimulus Bill (which was opposed by every single House Republican and all but 3 Senate Republicans), those job losses were reduced by two-thirds! Republican Mitch McConnell has made it publicly known that the GOP plans on making Obama a one-term President. They since have voted NO on every measure to get this economy back on its feet! Here is a listing of some of those blocked bills: Aid to Small Businesses, Unemployment Benefits Extension, Bank-Reform, Campaign Disclosure, Jobs Bill in the Senate, Transparency in Campaign Contributions, End tax breaks for US companies sending jobs offshore, Raise the Oil Spill Liability Cap, Wall Street Reform Bill, Senate campaign-finance bill, Small Business Lending Bill, Repeal of Military's 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy, they blocked their own Amendments on the Health Care Bill, Energy Legislation, Blocked a debate on Financial Oversight, Killed a measure that created 240,000 jobs, blocked a bill on Mine Safety, Blocked Immigration Reform, Blocked efforts to hold BP Oil accountable, Blocked 2 bills to spur Renewable Energy Investment, blocked Medical help for 9/11 heroes, blocked another small business bill, blocked financial reform to stop

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Save AMERICA'S Postal Service



Save SATURDAY delivery

Postal Service customers deserve first-rate service six days a week.

The Postal Service is critical to our economy—delivering mail, medicine and packages on time and at an affordable price, without a dime of taxpayer money.

But no company can grow or even maintain its business by cutting its service. Reducing the scope and quality of service by eliminating Saturday delivery service or closing post offices and facilities will not restore the Postal Service to health. It would likely drive mailers away and therefore worsen the Postal Service's financial problems.

- Cutting Saturday delivery is penny wise and pound foolish—a 16 percent service cut that saves little money.
- Closing post offices and facilities will cost jobs, cut off rural communities and make it harder for small businesses to grow.
- Eliminating Saturday delivery would undermine the Postal Service's role in parcel delivery, the fastest growing part of the postal industry.

The root of the Postal Service's current financial crisis is a 2006 law that drains the USPS of \$5.5 billion a year and forces it to overpay billions more into federal pension accounts. Congress created the USPS financial crisis, and Congress can fix it—without drastic cuts in service or massive layoffs, and at no cost to taxpayers.



Make your voice heard and sign the petition to save six-day delivery at saveamericaspostalservice.org.

**Tear out this page and use form on reverse!
Turn it in by November 14.**

Things You Should Know

The Final Chapter for TLC

Our lawyer, E.G. Bourlon P.A., has now completed all the paperwork and we have filed with the Florida Department of State regarding the dissolution of Tampa Letter Carriers Inc. This was voted on and approved at several meetings by the TLC members and then by the Branch members which was sufficient for approval. The Branch members also appointed and approved a new Building Manager along with his monthly salary. All of the Hall's physical and financial assets were counted and verified by several members appointed by President Peacock, so the dissolution of Tampa Letter Carriers Inc. is now final and the Building Trustees will have supervision over the operation (rentals) and maintenance (repairs, cleanup, etc.) of the building of A.R. "Tony" Huerta Branch 599 NALC. The Hall and all its assets are now under one umbrella which is Branch 599. The building trustees constitute the Branch's President, Vice President, Financial Secretary, and the Board of Trustees who will submit for approval, a monthly report to Branch 599's Executive Board along with a monthly financial report to the Branch members.



On another note, there have been several rallies across the nation in order to educate the public on *Save America's Postal Service*. One was held on September 27 at our hall which was attended by only 40 people. We also held a rally at Plant City and another group stayed in Tampa to try to get support from our representatives on our bill being constituted in Congress. This fall, Congress will be making major decisions about the future of the

Postal Service. Will those folks in Congress consider our concerns or will they focus on their future trying to get reelected? All of us have a say in our future; make your concerns count and force the politicians to decide a better future with our voices, rallies, and letters. So will you join us in this opportunity, or regret lack of effort on your part? We are the nation's only



We presented petitions during the Save America's Postal Service Rally to Congressman Gus Bilirakis' office on September 27.

universal communication delivery network. Don't allow Congress to destroy this great legacy. We must inform the public that the Post Office hasn't used a dime of tax payer's money in 30 years. Also, we are the *most trusted federal workers* named by the American people for 6 years running. Does the public know that the Post Office has earned a 611 million dollar net profit in the past 4 fiscal years in spite of the worst recession in 80 years? Our 20 billion dollars in Postal losses don't stem from the mail, rather a 2006 Congressional mandate on prefunding future retiree health benefits. There is a 20 billion dollar cost since 2007 which accounts for 100% of the agency's red ink over that period. Congress created this mess, so let our lawmakers fix it; we must help them pass House Bill 1351 for that

purpose. Let's help Congress to stabilize and resolve these problems for our future.

Promote USPS Delivery!

Now I know that the Internet has many folks paying their bills online, but they are also ordering more goods online, so we must cash in on that issue. We must also inform or educate consumers that our universal network delivers at less cost than the other delivery companies.



Gilbert Cabanas
Financial Secretary
Branch 599

Our efforts for MDA

On a happier note, about 16 Carriers went out on *Fill Your Satchel Day* on October 2 to help with our National MDA drive. These carriers collected about \$1,600 which was added on top of the \$1,300 we made on the Labor Day Picnic, for a total of \$2,700. After that collection, Mr. Diaz cooked hamburgers for those volunteers at the Hall.

Please tear out the form on opposite page and collect 10 names for our petition. Then turn it in by November 14.

C'mon Man!

You know I like to say what I feel and try to let life go on, but as they say on ESPN:

C'mon man:

- Where are all our young people in this Union →→→→→
c'mon man
- At the rally we had students for worker's rights →→→→→
c'mon man
- Our young adults in our union won't even volunteer →→→→→
c'mon man

- Be a part of the answer, don't be a question mark →→→→→
c'mon man
- Give to COLCPE - \$10, it is job insurance →→→→→
c'mon man
- Finally, come to the MDA Bowl-a-thon, let it be your start in getting involved →→→→→
c'mon man

And one more thing I want to sound off on...that is collecting for MDA. I did not pick the day or the time, it was

decided by our National Union Headquarters (in DC). Whatever excuse you had, it wasn't good enough...those twenty or so people that showed up despite the non-issues...*Thank You* and paying it forward is what this crazy life is all about.

In Solidarity and Peace Out,
A. Sam Santilli



Sam Santilli
Shop Steward,
Hilldale
& Labor Mgt. Rep.
Branch 599

A Point of Personal Privilege

(Continued from page 6)

millions from losing their homes, again blocked a small business bill, they killed the Renewable energy and Job Creation Bill, again blocked the US Senate from holding Hearings, blocked and opposed tax cuts unless the wealthy are included, killed Job-Creating Tax cuts, blocked 20 judicial nominees, blocked the freeze on credit card interest rate hikes but they voted in mass to extend the Bush tax cuts for the RICH! These bills would have substantially reduced the unemployment rate and mustered in new living-wage paying jobs for America, instead the vote heard from

Republicans was NO!

I wonder how many of the House and Senate Republicans and those that are of the Tea Party could follow the Christian doctrine followed by Jesus Christ. In the Bible that so many of these individuals believe or supposedly follow, the Jesus I read about helped the sick and the poor. He associated with many of the most vile humans on Earth...he healed a mad man, healed a cripple and a blind man (free medical care which is now called Obama care?), fed 1,000s, raised the dead, forgave a prostitute, made a tax collector one of his disciples, said that the greatest commandment of all was

love, threw out the rich in the Temple, etc. What Christian doctrine are the Republicans following and what Bible are they reading? Or do they just read between the lines and only interpret what they want? I don't think they read the same Bible or worship the same God I do. I guess many of you think my Bible must be that of a socialist or a communist, not the King James Version and the New Testament.

*The world is a dangerous place to live--
-not because of the people who are evil
but because of the people who don't
do anything about it. --Albert Einstein*



Sharing Our Members' Joys & Sorrows

Get well wishes & prayers

are sent to **Russell Person** [retiree]; **Don Thomas** [retiree]; **Tom King** [Hyde Park]; **Audie Childers** [retiree]; and to **Michael Crowder** [Interbay] for recovery at Sable Palm Health Care Center, Largo [visitors are welcome].

Our deepest sympathy

and prayerful support is extended to Stella and family at the passing of her husband, **Anthony Panek Sr.** [retiree], September 8; to **Derrick Cousin** [Produce] at the homegoing of his mother, Sandra Diane, September 23 ; and to **Shelton Billups** [Ybor] at the passing of his grandmother, Audrey Williams.

Retirees Breakfast

Monday November 7 9 AM

Coffee Cup

4407 N. Hubert Avenue, Tampa

Shop Steward Nominations

will take place at the stations in November and Elections will be held in December, if necessary.



Save America's Postal Service Rallies



Florida State Association of Letter Carriers Convention





MDA
Deliver the Cure Bowl

Bowlathon
November 6
2-4 PM
Pinchasers on Armenia

We had a great time collecting for MDA!

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FOR MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY



Toys for Tots *Motorcycle Ride*

Sunday December 11 1 PM at Branch 599
KSU 1:30 PM

We are planning our first Toys for Tots Motorcycle Ride! Please bring a new toy for our collection.
The cost will be \$10 single and an additional \$5 for passenger.
If you are interested, call the Branch Office, 813.875.0599.
Some groups that rent our Hall want to ride with us and we are trying for more.



Save America's Postal Service Rally—delivering petitions and Thanking Representative Cathy Castor for her support!



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marshacabanas@gmail.com

Daughter of Gilbert Cabanas, Financial Secretary of Branch 599



Member Contact Info

Name _____

Address _____

Phones _____

Email _____

Please fill out this form and mail it to the union hall or email your info,
so that we can make sure we have current and correct contact information for each member.

NALC Branch 599
3003 W Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609-1617

nalc599@verizon.net

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