



Tampa Letter Carrier

From the President's Desk



Alan W. Peacock
President, Branch 599



NALC President Emeritus
Vincent R. Sombrotto
1923 – 2013

November 2011. Although he had failing health and was in a wheelchair, his mind was sharp and his passion for the NALC and Letter Carriers still beat strong as ever. Even from his last breath he probably willed us this binding award. Not that he would have been satisfied with the Arbitrator panel decision, as many of us are not satisfied with it either. God bless you, Vince, and thanks for the long tenure you gave to all of us.

January 2013 was a month of many highs and lows. Barely by the time that we were informed of the new Arbitration Award, we were also informed of the passing of NALC President Emeritus Vince Sombrotto. Vince Sombrotto put the National Association of

Letter Carriers on a plateau that they had never been on before. It is a great honor to have known him and his undying devotion for Letter Carriers and humanity as a whole. The last time I had the opportunity to talk with Vince was at the *National Rap Session* in

Arbitrator's Award
Neither of the parties received everything they wanted from this award and it will continue to be discussed at the interpretive level for some time. There must be at least a dozen task forces established to

(Continued on page 3)



Branch Meeting
Thursday
March 7
7:30 PM

Branch 599 Office

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Tampa Letter Carrier

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National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch 599, 3003 W Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609-1698, publishes the Tampa Letter Carrier monthly. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Branch 599, NALC.

It is the policy of this publication that all articles submitted for print must be signed by the writer.

Please submit any and all articles to be published in the Tampa Letter Carrier to the Editor via email at editor@nalc599.com 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>
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Trustees	John DeRosa	813.850.8418	
	Warren Sumlin	813.486.7612	
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
March 7
April 4

Shop Stewards

will Meet
Tuesday 7 PM
March 5
April 2

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	Detlev Aepfel	813.661.1639	813.505.7914
Carrollwood	33618	Eddie Berroth	813.960.8894	813.493.5224
Commerce	33602	Pedro Jimenez	813.242.4507	813.727.9280
Forest Hills	33612	Rocky Randels	813.935.2954	813.766.2604
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale/Annex	33614/34	Varick Reeder	813.874.6809	315.491.6234
Hyde Park	33606	George McEndree	813.873.7189	813.935.0244
		Tim Hurlstone, Alt.	813.873.7189	813.367.7718
Interbay/Port Tampa	33611/16	Marie Brown	813.831.2034	727.331.9907
Interbay/Peninsula	33629	Sammy Graham	813.831.2034	813.454.3319
		Clement Cheung, Alt.	813.831.2034	813.758.5910
Palm River Annex	33619	J.C. Howard	813.663.0048	813.310.0689
Plant City	33564	Don Wiseman	813.719.6793	813.713.6273
Produce	33610	John DeRosa	813.237.4280	813.850.8418
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	George McClelland	813.634.1403	813.270.5035
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	Troy Figueroa	813.873.7189	813.403.1644
TCA/West Tampa	33607	Don Wiseman	813.873.7189	813.713.6273
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 Aepfel	813.242.4507	813.505.7914

From the President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

meet on several contested areas. Then again once we do agree on something we will continue to agree to disagree on too many interpretive concepts and semantics. I always prefer the KISS plan, keep it sweet and simple, but most contracts are designed to be argued over throughout their contract period, this one will be no exception. Starting with the method designed by the Arbitrator to phase out and give opportunity to TE carriers. First you thank them, then you cut their pay, then you make them compete for the very job they have been performing for years with no benefits or seniority. That is not opportunity and if the final outcome is just rhetoric to pad the budget that Congress created and make it look like they have created more jobs, the Postal Service will be the loser again, loss of trained, skilled employees with good records who have busted their butt for this agency without any promise for a future. You think they are not angry about this whole ridiculous process they are being put through at the same time the employer opens the same process up to the public? I only hope that relative standing doesn't mean where you have a relative in high places that can finagle the process to elevate some and diminish others. Let's pray that there is no scheme to just get more for less. There have already been some casualties from this new award who resigned because it wasn't what they applied for as a TE employee. The only positives after the dust settles is the avenue to a career path as well as an accelerated path back to the top step of city carrier in the same

12.4 years it took a part time flexible. It is also expected, but not confirmed yet that now that there is a career path for city carriers that President Rolando will entertain an incentive for senior carriers to retire and many senior carriers are hoping for that as well. This job is not getting easier and we are not getting younger. The main thing to remember is that this is the Arbitrator Award, not a negotiated contract or one that is ratified by the membership

Shop Stewards

We have had some new or former stewards who have stepped up to fill some of the vacancies we had and it is greatly appreciated. As of now we either have at least one steward or an outside steward assigned to every office. This will be especially helpful to assist the additional new employees and assure that they get the right training to perform their duties. We also have several offices that will have route count and inspections in the month of March. Local negotiations will begin in April; now is a good time to start letting your stewards know what your concerns are regarding the local memorandum as well as how you feel about opening or not opening the local agreement. The National Business Agent's office plans to hold training for local negotiations prior to the beginning of the negotiation period.

Saturday Delivery

Breaking news on the Postmaster General's announcement that Saturday Delivery will end, has been met with negative response from NALC President Rolando, who is

asking for the Postmaster General to step down. The response from Congress states that the Postmaster General does not have the legal authority to make that decision. Carriers are reminded that we need to be diligent in our duties and the Union will keep us apprised of the circumstances and process for this issue.

Community Service

We had another MDA Bowl-A-Thon in February and we plan to have one more, probably at the Pin Chaser's on Hillsborough Avenue, formerly Crown Lanes. Every

time we can get together for a great cause and have a little fun too...it is very worthwhile for us all. The 21st annual NALC National Food Drive will be Saturday May 11, and hopefully we will improve over last year's drive which was still a very good amount of food donated. No matter how tough the times today are, we still can make a difference in a lot of other lives in our community. As always I want to thank all who go the extra mile and volunteer to participate in so many events that we have. We are the branch we are because of you and when we work together for each other we will be recognized for all your efforts. To quote Thomas Edison, *Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.*

Fraternally In Unionism and Solidarity,

Alan Peacock

President, NALC Branch 599



Treasurer's Report – December 2012



Ray Garcia
Treasurer
Branch 599

December 31 BB&T **Operating Account** \$20,007.79

Deposits

NALC Secretary Treasurer [2]	\$18,368.93
MDA Donations [3]	1,016.00
Lakeland Letter Carrier Newsletter	322.70
Branch Union Dues [3]	132.61
Retiree Dinner [3]	117.98
US Treasury	94.58
Bill Moran Ad [2]	50.00
BB&T Interest	.10

Expenses

Branch Officer Salaries [13]	\$2,338.12
Branch President Salary [2 PP]	4,921.60
Branch President Health Benefit [2]	652.08
Branch Office Secretary Salary [2 PP]	2,400.00
Branch Steward Salaries [17]	2,545.00
Branch Steward Reimbursements [4]	293.92
Editor/Webmaster Salary [monthly]	160.00
Security Guard during Branch Meeting	45.00
NALC per capita tax retirees	92.65
NALC retiree pins	50.00
IRS Taxes [form 941]	3,156.08
IRS Taxes [form 940]	531.45
FL Depart Taxes [form UTC-6]	251.04
FL AFL-CIO Dues [3]	360.00
Elizabeth Bourlon, CPA/PA	450.00
Retirement Gratuity	200.00
Reimbursements [2]	49.73
Chart House [Retiree Dinner]	4,501.55
Rap Session, Las Vegas	613.75
Ray Anthony Printing	53.50
Rust Insurance [coverage for building]	470.00
Muscular Dystrophy Assn Donations [3]	1,016.00
Postmaster [postage]	900.00
Postmaster [bulk mail account]	350.00
Branch Meeting Expense [Dec 2012]	55.36
Great American Leasing [copier]	329.89
QuickBooks Intuit	24.95
Verizon [phones & internet]	366.29
AT&T Wireless	94.45
Staples [office supplies]	813.09
BB&T Online Service	14.95
BB&T Operating Account Fee	2.00

December 31 BB&T **Building Fund Account** \$30,910.73

Deposits

Hall Rental Income [5]	\$3,744.66
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Expenses

Building Manager Salary [monthly]	\$600.00
Rental Agents [2]	250.00
Custodial Services [2]	500.00
City of Tampa [Police Security]	1,722.00
Florida Department of Revenue [sales tax]	403.20
Reimbursements to Building Manager [3]	274.98
Rental Refunds [3]	2,440.00
Repairs on Office Chairs	40.00
Simplex Grinnell Fire Alarm	392.50
City of Tampa Utilities	502.68
TECO [2]	1,721.68
TECO Gas	105.40
Crenshaw Termite & Pest Control [2]	79.18

Accounts as of January 31, 2013

BB&T Operating Account	\$11,868.87
BB&T Building Fund	29,034.23
MidFlorida Credit Union Savings	254.95
MidFlorida Credit Union CD	100,000.00
Regions Bank CD	50,000.00
USAmeriBank CD	200,000.00
USAmeriBank MM [Training Fund]	6,944.12
Total Balance Available	\$398,102.17



Proposed Bylaw Changes

ARTICLE XXII – Building Trustees

Currently reads as follows:

[does not currently exist]

Proposed to read as follows:

- a) The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Chairperson of the Branch Trustees and one non-officer branch member in good standing shall constitute the Building Trustees. The non-officer member will be appointed by the Branch President at the beginning of the president’s term and will serve for a three (3) year term or until he/she resigns. The president shall appoint a replacement if the member resigns during his/her three (3) year term. The appointed Building Trustee will not serve more than one consecutive three (3) year term.
- b) The Building Trustees shall have supervision over the operation and maintenance of the A.R. “Tony” Huerta Branch 599 Branch Building and its associated property.
- c) The Building Trustees shall appoint, by a simple majority vote of all five (5) trustees, a Building Manager to whom they may employ and provide for his/her compensation, not to exceed \$600 per month. The Building Manager must faithfully fulfill his/her duties as outlined in the Building Manager Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) or be subject to dismissal. In the absence of an appointed Building Manager, the Building Trustees shall by simple majority have the authority to delegate power as they collectively deem advisable to a designee that shall execute, perform or fulfill those duties which are outlined in the Building Manager SOP, as assigned. Any designee shall serve without compensation.
- d) The Building Trustees or their appointed designee is precluded from employment as the Branch Building Manager. However, if a Building Manager or designee has not yet been appointed, then one of the Building Trustees may perform the necessary functions, on a temporary basis, as outlined in the Building Manager SOP.
- e) The Building Manager, Building Trustees or their designee is authorized to spend a monthly amount not to exceed a total of \$1000 which is to be used exclusively for necessary expenditures for the building and its associated properties upkeep, maintenance and repair or replacement.
- f) Any monthly building expenditure in excess of \$1000 would require prior approval in accordance with Article VIII, Committees, Section 2 and subsequent approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a General Meeting or a Special Meeting called for that purpose.
- g) A record of accounting will be kept for all expenditures and will be available to Branch members for review upon request.
- h) The Building Trustees shall have control over all the building's physical and financial assets.
- i) The building’s financial assets are to be held in a designated Building Fund at a Financial Institution earning a fixed interest rate, not to include any Certificates of Deposit.
- j) The Building Trustees shall properly invest the building funds when such funds are available, maintaining any and all necessary records, and submit for approval a monthly report to the Executive Board with a semiannual report being presented to the Branch membership in January and July of each year.
- k) As Building Trustees, they shall serve without compensation.

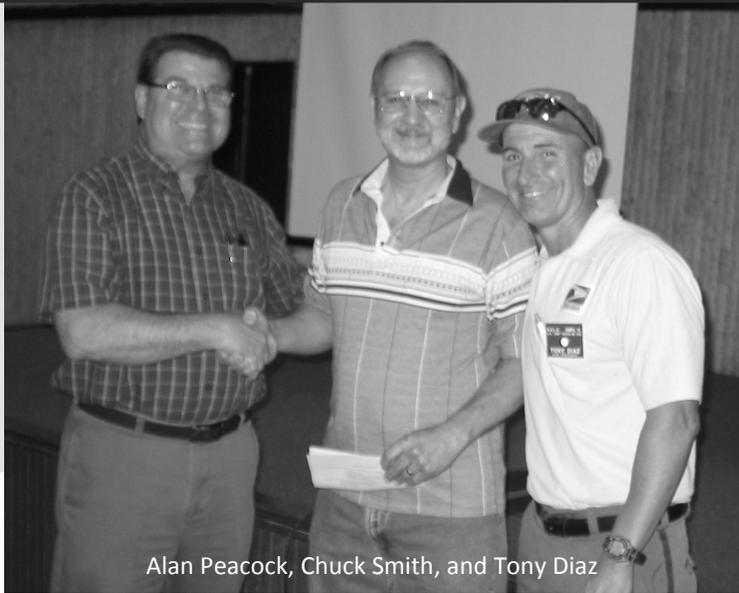
Signed by: Jim Good, Brian Obst, Detlev Aeppel, and Mike Brink

Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

Our deepest sympathy

and prayerful support is extended to **Donna Leberth** [Sun City] at the passing of her husband, Thomas, January 12; and to **Bob Grimes** [Carrollwood] whose father passed, September 22.

Chuck Smith Retired!



Alan Peacock, Chuck Smith, and Tony Diaz

President Alan Peacock recognized **Chuck Smith** [Tampa Carrier Annex] during our February Branch meeting and presented him with a check from the Branch for his retirement.



Learn more here: www.nalc.org
then signup as an e-activist!

Sunday
Work Party
at the Hall
March 10 9-11 AM

Retirees Breakfast
Monday March 4 9 AM
Coffee Cup
4407 N. Hubert Avenue, Tampa

Rally at Senator Rubio's office



We participated in a rally at Senator Rubio's office in Tampa...telling the Senate not to balance the budget on the backs of the middle class. No Cuts to Social Security, Medicare or Education, and to close the tax loopholes for the wealthiest 2% and corporations that ship jobs overseas.

ARSLAN UNIFORMS

Bill & Shirley Moran

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

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Tampa Letter Carrier
 Volume 12 • Issue 3 • March 2013

NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE
 PAID
 TAMPA FL
 PERMIT NO. 1285

Address Service Requested

**When Every Penny Counts...
 TPCU Checking Just
 MAKES SENSE!**

ELIMINATE THE FEES & SAVE GREEN!



COMMON CHECKING FEES:

	Other Financial Institutions: [^]	Tampa Postal FCU:
Monthly Service Fee	Average \$10.85	\$0
Debit Card Fee (Per Use)	\$1.00	\$0
Per Check Fees (Each)	\$0.10	\$0
Teller Transactions (Each)	\$3.00	\$0
Copies of Cleared Checks (Each)	\$2.00	\$0*

Many financial institutions are bringing back old Checking fees and implementing new ones to boost their income statements. Tampa Postal FCU understands times are tough and fees only make things worse. When you open your **FREE Checking Account** at the Credit Union, you will not be tied down by crazy banking fees.

GET YOUR FREE CHECKING ACCOUNT TODAY!

- 1 LOG ON TO WWW.TPCU.ORG & CLICK MEMBERSHIP
- 2 CALL **800.782.4899** FOR AN APPLICATION TO BE MAILED TO YOU
- 3 VISIT ANY TPCU BRANCH LOCATION

[^] Fees as reported in BankRates.com Checking Fee Review and analysis of local financial institutions' fee schedules as posted on their websites. *TPCU offers free web-based copies of cleared checks through online banking.

TPCU Checking Accounts are subject to approval by the credit union.

