



Tampa Letter Carrier

VOLUME 17, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2018

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

16 Total CCAs Converted to Fulltime Regular in Tampa

We had two different conversion dates in **Tampa**, first, *congratulations* to the top **5 CCAs**, they were converted to fulltime regular carrier on Saturday, **March 3**. All five served as a CCA a little over 35 months. So we welcome to the career carrier status, Terrell Brown, Town 'N Country; Todd Arent, Palm River Station; Sidney Richardson V, Forest Hills Station; Glendalie Andujar, TCA; and Marian Ghaly, TCA.

Maverick Franklin Jr, Interbay Station was the #1 CCA on the relative standing (CCA seniority) list for a brief two-week period.

The second conversion date: *congratulations* to the next top **11 CCAs**, they were converted to fulltime regular carrier two weeks later on Saturday, **March 17**. This group served from 29 to 35 months as a CCA. We again welcome to the career carrier status, Maverick Franklin

Jr, Interbay Station; Wesley Benjamin, Hilldale Station; Rodolfo Quiles, TCA; Maurice Rice, Forest Hills Station; Raymond Garrett, Ybor City Station; Anthony Triche, Forest Hills Station; Melissa Garay, Sulphur Springs Station; Shaun Shaffer, Produce Station; Krista Simonds, Hilldale Station; Louis Donofrio II, Interbay; and Jorge Molina Jr., Sulphur Springs.

The 16 conversions are the most in a long long while and added to the 3 conversions earlier in February that is a good start to the new year! The timeline for conversions has been in the range of 24-30 months; the 35 months is a result of the withholding much of the district was under.

Selena Williams, Produce Station, is now the #1 CCA on the relative standing (CCA seniority) list.

We are working on additional conversions in April.

Brandon Post Office also had two different conversion dates, first on **March 3**, Michael Macchione was converted to fulltime regular

carrier then on **March 17**, William "Willie" Gonzalez

was converted to fulltime regular carrier. *Congratulations* to both! There was an issue with the calculations in Brandon, but after numerous emails, we have 2 new fulltime regulars.

Sun City Center Post Office had one conversion on **March 17**. *Congratulations* to Luis Santana who was converted to fulltime regular carrier!

AMS Load Truck Feature on the MDD

By now everyone has heard of the new Load Truck Feature on every scanner (MDD). The Load Truck Feature on the MDD is designed to make loading of packages more effective by segregating the load location. However, this feature is becoming a huge focus from headquarters down, that we have this technology available to help the carriers, but it is not being used. Meaning, while it was an option at



Tony Diaz
President

Branch 599
serving
Brandon
Plant City
Sun City
Tampa

Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday
April 5
7:30 PM

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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

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Presidents Emeritus	Garland Tickle • Orbe Andux Donald Thomas • Michael Anderson James Good • Alan Peacock		

Shop Stewards

Station	ZIP	Steward	Station No.	Steward's No.
Tampa Stations/Branches		Chief Steward, Brian Obst		727.458.0679
Brandon	33510/11		813.661.1636	
Carrollwood	33618		813.961.2962	
Commerce	33602	Andre Hinton	813.242.4507	931.980.5169
Forest Hills	33612	Ed Humphries	813.935.2954	813.787.3914
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale	33614	Troy Figuero	813.879.4309	347.403.1644
Hilldale Annex	33634	Varick Reeder	813.879.4309	315.491.6234
Interbay/Port Tampa	33611/16	Jonathan Jones	813.831.2034	813.293.2208
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	Varick Reeder	813.719.6793	315.491.6234
Produce	33610		813.239.4084	
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	Melinda Alejandro	813.634.1403	386.237.2715
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	Thomas King	813.873.7189	727.504.3866
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	Vic Figueroa	813.242.4507	845.380.6386

Around The Horn from The President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

first, the usage is now being tracked by headquarters, and it is mandatory. The feature can be tracked for usage in an entire city, by individual station usage, and by individual route usage. Everyone has been instructed to use the feature, and everyone should have been trained on the feature. If you have any questions, ask, if your scanner is not working properly, report it, do not just ignore the feature. The Postal Service is paying you to use the feature; it is someone's new brainstorm that is being rolled out. Using the feature may take longer during the loading of your parcels, keep track of the time it takes you, and adjust your estimate if needed, that is your right.

Brief account on how the new feature works:

The Load Truck Feature numbers one thru six have been placed on the inside cargo areas of your postal vehicle, LLV, ProMaster, and 2-ton. The numbers are designed to represent your route divided into six equal sections. Section one might the first 100 deliveries of your route. Section six might represent the last 100 deliveries, if your route has 600 deliveries. The Mobile Delivery Device (MDD) handheld scanner has been updated to include *Load Truck* menu option. Using this feature while loading involves scanning each package before placing it in the vehicle. The feature then will prompt the scanner to display a delivery point of the package and your total delivery points. The MDD will also visually and audibly provide the section of the truck where the package should be placed.

The feature is not yet equipped to notify the carrier there is a parcel delivery at the next address.

2018 Letter Carriers Food Drive, May 12

It is that time of the year for the NALC Food Drive. This year, as always, the second Saturday in May, the 12th, marks the 26th year we have filled food banks to capacity and filled empty tummies throughout the country. This year we are again without Publix supermarket grocery bags, however we are working with a new partner this year to provide the very important bags. **The bags are vital to the success of the food drive, without them we will feel the impact. The food drive advertisement cards will be distributed first, please deliver every card to every mailbox in order to get the word out.** The impact of the NALC Food Drive is enormous, as we provide 90% of the yearly food collected throughout the year. The annual food drive makes or breaks these food banks for the year. The numbers of the families in need of food in Hillsborough County are staggering and shocking, please do your part and know your efforts are for a great cause.

Social Media:

URGENT REMINDER

Again, as a reminder, posting to social media such as, Facebook, texting, Twitter, Messenger, SnapChat, Google+, Instagram, YouTube, MySpace, and others...is getting carriers in trouble.

Posting pictures while working in uniform, posting pictures after work in uniform...**stop it.** Calling out sick and showing up on social media at a restaurant, or hair salon, or at the beach, or shopping mall is not intelligent and very careless...stay off social media.

All USPS employees are responsible for complying with this policy.

Common sense must be exercised at all times when on any social media site. There are rules and regulations that must be followed and I felt it was time to again emphasize the importance of social media.

In addition, when using social media in a personal capacity, employees may not speak for or act on behalf of the Postal Service. All uses of social media related to official USPS business require management consent.

Quick Hits:

Information you should know

*** Legislative News:** For those of you not aware...the Postal Service and employees are under attack. As is the case every year, new House Resolutions, and House Bills are aimed to take benefits, threaten jobs, and downsize the agency.

Here are 3 House Resolutions to keep an eye on:

HR 15 / 6 Day Delivery, (identical to previous versions introduced each congress since 2009), to ensure the continuation of 6-day mail delivery service.

HR 28 / Door Delivery, (identical to the version introduced last session), to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers.

HR 31 / Service Standards, (identical to the version introduced last congress, to ensure that the USPS take all appropriate measures to restore service standards in effect as of July 1, 2012.

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



Get involved! Your future depends on it!



SAT., MAY 12, 2018

**PUT YOUR NON-PERISHABLE DONATION IN A BAG BY YOUR MAILBOX.
WE'LL DELIVER IT TO A LOCAL FOOD BANK.**

NATIONAL PARTNERS



Unionism...What has the Union done for Me

It is a fact that people have very short memories. Many talk about the good old days with fond recollection of that time gone by yet they fail to remember the struggles and/or problems that occurred in those past times. The same can be said for many members of our fine Union. I can tell you that I hear it said by many members: *What has the union done for me?*

While things today are much better than they were in the past, there are still ongoing battles that the union must fight to keep things for the membership on a forward moving direction. Today's greatest problem with the membership is that it is suffering from the successes of the past. Many of the members have not had to suffer from the problems of the past and they have the opinion that things will always be as good as or better than they are right now. They don't see behind the day to day operations to realize just what the union does for them.

First, one must understand what the union is before you can understand what it does for you. Labor Union: An organization of workers formed for the purpose of advancing its members' interests in respect to wages, benefits, and working conditions. As defined by Webster's we can see that the union is a collective made up of members of the same group who band together to address their common agenda. The power to bargain with management is increased as it is no longer you, individually, attempting to get management to deal with issues; it is everyone together in the union.

Now back to our original topic. It still mystifies me when someone says to me: *What has the Union done for me?* It seems like these people just assume that management loves them and would be happy to go to the ends of the earth to satisfy them. They just assume that if the union was gone that things would

be better because there would be less interference with their own personal agenda at work. The sad part with these people is they have never had to suffer at the hands of management like our previous brothers and sisters did. If history has taught us anything it is that management is not our friend.

Management had to be brought to the bargaining table kicking and screaming and our brothers and sisters went out on strike to gain benefits that carriers enjoy today and they did this at great personal risk to themselves. The members, many of them working more than one job and still getting assistance because they were still below the poverty line, forced management to address issues of pay and benefits for the workers. They gained the right to collectively bargain with management instead of what had previously been a system of collectively begging and getting whatever management wanted to give or not give.

What has the Union done for me...well let's take a look at some of the things the Union did/does for you:

- **Ensures a living wage for workers with contractual guaranteed raises.**
- **Overtime for hours worked in excess of 40 hours weekly.**
- **An 8-hour work day with the guarantee of overtime if you have to work more than 8 hours.**
- **Sick leave and annual leave earnings so you get paid if you are sick and get vacation time.**
- **Guarantee time so that you have a schedule to work not at the whim of management.**
- **Cost of living allowance so our paycheck isn't eaten away by inflation.**

These are just some of the items negotiated by the union for the members that with a stroke of the pen could

be taken away, so the union must stay vigilant in its dealings with management to protect what has been gained in

the past. Additionally the union has also provided the following:

- The **NALC Health Benefit Plan** is my personal favorite.
- The **Mutual Benefit Association** that has insurance plans for disability and retirement planning.
- **NALCREST** the NALC retirement community in Central Florida providing housing accommodations in a planned development community so members have a place they can retire to if they want at a reasonable cost.

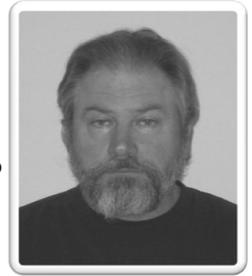
It seems to me that the union goes far above when providing for its members. It took some very forward thinking members to fund the items listed above and through proper management the benefits have only strengthened through the years.

I guess the best way to sum this up is with a rephrasing of one of the quotes of former President John F. Kennedy: **Ask not what your union can do for you; ask what you can do for your union.**

Remember, you are the U in Union.

Until next month I leave you ...
Knowledge is the Key.

Brian Obst
Vice President
Stations/Branches Chief Steward



Brian Obst
Vice President
Branch 599

CPR Facts



Branch 599 hosted its 3rd CPR Training Class on February 22, attended by 45, the largest crowd to date! After completion of another successful class, it is imperative to stress to everyone the importance of being CPR certified. **CPR is still the most important step in increasing the chances of survival.**

CPR definition: Short for cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

An emergency procedure in which the heart and lungs are made to work by compressing the chest overlying the heart and forcing air into the lungs. CPR is used to maintain circulation when the heart has stopped pumping on its own.

Facts:

- 70 percent of cardiac arrests outside hospitals happen at home. —American Heart Association
- Only 48 percent of cardiac arrests outside hospitals get immediate help until professional help arrives. —AHA
- 90 percent of people who suffer cardiac arrest outside a hospital die. —AHA
- CPR performed in the first few minutes of cardiac arrest can double or triple survival. —AHA
- Most people called on to give CPR in an emergency will be trying to save a loved one—a spouse, a child, a parent, a friend. —AHA
- Only half of Americans can be counted on to perform CPR in an emergency.
- 61% worry they will injure the victim. —AHA
- When someone is unresponsive, there's nothing you can do that can make him/her any worse. —AHA



- Local County Fire and EMS receive 650-700 calls daily. Operators will talk 4-6 callers through CPR. —AHA

Did You Know?

- CPR should be used by bystanders when someone suddenly collapses, isn't breathing, doesn't have a pulse and isn't responsive (won't wake up), **Call 911 first**. Then begin CPR. Push hard and fast in the center of the chest until help arrives.
- Hands-Only CPR is for teens and adults. Infants, children, drowning and drug over-dose victims and some others will need mouth-to-mouth rescue breaths.

- There is no minimum age for learning CPR. It's all about body strength and ability to keep chest compressions going until help arrives. American Heart Association studies show that kids as young as 9 can learn and retain CPR skills.

• For more than three years, the AHA has worked with local school boards to pass policy that requires high school students to learn Hands-Only CPR. Now, about 25,000 high school seniors in Hillsborough, Pinellas, and

Pasco counties graduate each year knowing CPR.

• 911 operators do not expect callers to be trained in CPR; the percentage of trained

CPR callers is very low.

- February is American Heart Month, proclaimed by President Lyndon Johnson in 1963. At the time, more than half the deaths in the United States were caused by heart disease. Heart disease is still a leading cause of death in the United States, taking about 610,000 lives annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

—Information from Irene Maher, Tampa Bay Times correspondent

Santilli teaches and entertains!



Hilldale carrier, Sam Santilli, is beloved at Trinity School for Children by the students and the teachers. On February 15, Sam was front and center with four kindergarten classes. Sam's annual teach-in at the school was both instructional, enlightening, and held the attention of the students. After a question and answer period which produced several very good questions, the students were treated to an up-close look at the USPS LLV. *Great job, Sam!*

Pat Behne Retired!



Pat Behne & Tony Diaz

Congratulations to **Pat Behne** [Brandon] who received her retirement pin and gratuity from President Tony Diaz during our March Branch meeting!

45-yrs Service Award!



James Burgos & District Manager Eric Chavez

Ceremony for **James Burgos**, Forest Hills; he received an award for 45 years of Postal service. *Congratulations, James!*

“Mary Lou Jackman-William Corbeau”
Scholarship Application

(Please do not reduce the size of this application)

Name of Student: _____

Male Female

Address: (print legibly) _____

City, State , Zip: _____

Contact Phone Number: Cell _____ Home _____

NALC Branch Name/Number: _____

Branch Contact Phone Number: _____

NALC Member's Name :(print legibly) _____

I certify the above named member of the FSALC is in good standing .

Date: _____

Signature of Local Branch President or Secretary

Return all applications to:
Joseph A. Henschen, FSALC Director of Education
C/O Branch 1477
5369 Park Blvd.
Pinellas Park, Florida 33781

To Qualify, the following requirements must be met:

- 1. The Student must have graduated from an accredited high school or have a GED.*
- 2. The Student must be a dependent of a member or the spouse of a deceased member of the FSALC who has not remarried.*
- 3. Applicant must enroll as a full-time student in an accredited college or university, and submit proof of enrollment to receive the funds if awarded (DO NOT SUBMIT PROOF OF ENROLLMENT AT THIS TIME)*
- 4. Applications must be postmarked on or before July 1, 2018*

This scholarship award is based on a random drawing, not on academic records or qualifications. There will be four scholarships awarded—two for female and two for male—each in the amount of \$2000. This drawing will be held during the NALC 71st Biennial Convention July 14-21, 2018

(Please do not reduce the size of this application)

Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

Our deepest sympathy and prayerful support is extended to **Will Tolliver** [retiree] and family at the homegoing of his wife, Kathryn, [retired rural carrier], March 12.

District 2 Training



Branch 599 President Tony Diaz and Vice President Brian Obst attended the District 2 Meeting at Bradenton Branch 1753's union hall on Sunday, February 18. State President, Al Friedman directed the 4-hour training. The National Business Agent's Office sent Regional Administrative Assistant (RAA) Jeff Siciunas to cover contractual issues. National sent Eddie Davidson for legislative updates.

Branch 599 Members connect here in Facebook: facebook.com/groups/nalc599 Click: [Join Group](#).

Mark your Calendar! Branch meetings in 2018 will be...

April 5 • May 3 • June 7 • July 12 • August 2 • September 6 • October 4 • November 1 • December 6

Please remember

to keep our office updated with all of your contact information.

District 2 NALC Retirement Seminar

For those eligible or nearing retirement.

National Business Agent is sending Raymond King from Atlanta who trained under Ron Watson.

Sunday April 15

10 AM – 2 PM

Tampa Letter Carriers Hall

3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609



Job Related Injuries
Government Workers' Comp Provider

4150 N Armenia Avenue, Suite 102, Tampa FL 33607
Phone: 813.877.6900

Shop Stewards will Meet

Tuesday 7 PM
April 3
May 1

Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday 7:30 PM
April 5
May 3

Executive Board Meets

Thursday 6:30 PM
April 5
May 3

Sunday Work Party

at our Hall 9-11 AM
April 8
May 6

Retirees Breakfasts

Monday April 2 9 AM
Denny's Restaurant at Dale Mabry & Spruce
2004 N Dale Mabry Highway, Tampa

Tuesday April 10 8:30 AM
Bob Evans Restaurant off Fletcher
12272 Morris Bridge Road, Temple Terrace 33637

ARSLAN UNIFORMS

Bill & Shirley Moran

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

**NEED UNIFORMS IN A HURRY?
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320 Patlin Circle East, Largo FL 33770-3063
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FAX 727.585.9367
bilmor11@gmail.com



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SPEAK TO A LOAN OFFICER TODAY!

*Tampa Postal FCU will pay up to \$700 in closing costs (appraisal cost, recording fees, doc stamps and title search) for each Home Equity Line of Credit closed with the credit union between February 1 - April 30, 2018. Restrictions apply. Contact Credit Union for complete details.