



# Tampa Letter Carrier

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2014

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

### Nominations & Election of Delegates to the 2015 Florida State Association of Letter Carriers Convention

Nominations for delegates to the 2015 Florida State Association of Letter Carriers Convention in Saint Petersburg, Florida will be taken at *regular Branch meeting* on November 6, 2014; election on December 4, 2014, if necessary.

Regular Branch Meetings are held at our Union Hall, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609, at 7:30 PM.

2015 FSALC Convention will be held at the  
Hilton Hotel – Saint Petersburg Bayfront – July 22-25

- 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.

## Around The Horn from The President's Desk

Brothers and Sisters, I want to thank everyone who attended the two CPR classes held this year. The second CPR class of 2014 was held on October 7, at 7 PM, at our Letter Carriers Hall. Twelve more were CPR certified, bringing the total in 2014 to 57 certified to perform CPR. All participants received a certification (good for two years) from the American

Heart Association. The certified instructor was knowledgeable; the class included hands-on demonstrations and all questions were answered. This was a service I wanted to provide to anyone interested, as my life was saved by someone newly certified in CPR, my wife.

**The Method of Selecting Employees to**

**Work a Holiday**  
With Columbus Day having passed, several holidays upcoming, and with Amazon wanting to expand to holiday delivery, it is important we recognize



**Tony Diaz**  
President  
Branch 599

*(Continued on page 3)*

### Branch 599 Meeting

Thursday  
November 6  
7:30 PM

**Branch 599 Office**

3003 W Cypress Street  
Tampa FL 33609-1617  
813.875.0599

Fax 813.870.0599

www.nalc599.com

Tony Diaz  
President

tony\_diaz599@yahoo.com

*Office Hours*

Monday-Friday  
8 AM – 4:30 PM

Rodna Kimelman Kirk  
Office Secretary  
nalc599@verizon.net

**Tampa Letter Carrier**

Tony Diaz  
Publisher

Phyllis R. Thomas  
Editor  
editor@nalc599.com

Branch 599 Office  
813.875.0599

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 5<sup>th</sup> of each month in order for us to meet our time limits to the publisher.

# Officers

Position	Officer	Phone	Email
<b>President</b>	Tony Diaz	813.765.0599 office 813.875.0599	tony_diaz599@yahoo.com
<b>Vice President</b>	Alan Peacock	813.892.9378	apeacock.nalc@verizon.net
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Michael Brink	813.661.1639	recording.sec@nalc599.com
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Gilbert Cabanas	813.855.0516	financial.sec@nalc599.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Gebo	813.503.1256	jjg7d7@aol.com
<b>Sergeant-at-Arms</b>	J.C. Howard	813.310.0689	
<b>MBA/NSBA</b>	Al Guice	813.465.9754	
<b>Health Benefit Rep.</b>	Lance Jones	813.264.9801	
<b>Director of Retirees</b>	Don Thomas	813.963.0653	retirees@nalc599.com
<b>Trustees</b>	Lori McMillion, Ch.	813.263.7101	
	Maggie Lancaster	813.317.7522	joelunaticplayer@aol.com
	José Oliva	813.299.8442	
<b>Labor Management</b>	Alan Robinson	813.843.9762	
	Warren Sumlin	813.486.7612	
<b>Presidents Emeritus</b>	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	Warren Sumlin	813.661.1636	813.486.7612
Carrollwood	33618	Eddie Berroth	813.960.8894	813.493.5224
Commerce	33602	Detlev Aepfel	813.242.4507	813.505.7914
Forest Hills	33612	Alan Robinson	813.935.2954	813.843.9762
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Nick Cullaro	813.935.2954	813.541.8159
Hilldale/Annex	33614/34	Varick Reeder	813.879.4309	315.491.6234
Hyde Park	33606	George McEndree	813.873.7189	813.935.0244
Interbay/Port Tampa	33611/16	Marie Brown	813.831.2034	727.331.9907
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	Mike Thomsen	813.719.6793	303.916.3196
Produce	33610	Elvin Rodriguez	813.237.4280	646.346.3288
Ruskin/Sun City Ctr	33570	Aric Person	813.634.1403	813.545.7779
Seminole Heights	33603	Walt Rhoades	813.237.4569	813.389.1708
Sulphur Springs	33604	J.D. Lewers	813.237.4569	813.528.5519
TCA/Peninsula	33609	Troy Figueroa	813.873.7189	347.403.1644
TCA/West Tampa	33607	John Lacko	813.873.7189	347.453.4562
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

# Around The Horn from The President's Desk

(Continued from page 1)

the method of selecting employees to work on a holiday. The order of selecting can be found in our Local Agreement. Official name: Local Implementation of the 2011-2016 National Agreement between Tampa, Florida Post Office and Branch 599 NALC, AFL/CIO. The information can be found in Item 13 and reads as follows:

- a. 1st Selection - Casual Employees
- b. 2nd Selection - City Carrier Associates
- c. 3rd Selection - Part Time Flexible Employees
- d. 4th Selection - Transitional Employees
- e. 5th Selection - Full Time Employees and Part Time Regular Employees who **have volunteered** to work on their Holiday (DH) or Scheduled Day Off (SDO); selection of the volunteers shall be made on the basis of seniority.
- e. 5th Selection - Full Time and Part Time Employees who have not volunteered to work on their Scheduled Day Off, such employees shall be selected on a juniority basis.

**Many questions were raised** about the order during our last holiday, (Columbus Day, October 13). As we review the order, a., c., and d. do not pertain to our workforce at the present time. The 2nd Selection (b) does pertain to CCAs, and all CCAs are eligible to work.

## CCA Rotation

There should be a rotation in place with all CCAs for Amazon Sunday and including if there should be an Amazon holiday delivery. If this is not the case, notify your steward, all stewards have been advised to be aware of who is working every week.

## Amazon Holiday Delivery

The Columbus Day holiday, October 13, 2014, was the inaugural Amazon holiday delivery. Like Amazon Sunday

delivery, CCAs were scheduled to work delivering Amazon-only parcels. Future Amazon holiday deliveries are being scheduled; Christmas could be a heavy parcel day. Again, this opens the door for Priority and Express mail delivery in the future with big name mailers awaiting to join Amazon's success. Individual stations are still on schedule to act as their own hub starting November 16, for the holiday rush for a 4-6 week period. Individual stations will work their own CCAs.

I will continue to visit the *Hubs* on Sunday mornings to observe the Sunday process. I can tell you that the *Dynamic Routing*, the process of sequencing a series of deliveries or stops in a logical and efficient order crossing multiple ZIP codes (turn by turn directions) has had its problems, though isolated. The system has not downloaded properly from Amazon and the routing directions are incorrect.

When this has occurred the turn by turn delivery must be done manually. This has caused the CCAs to leave the office later, making for a long day.

## CCA Retention Initiative

The Suncoast District has implemented a plan aimed at the retention of CCAs; there will be extended training and more hands-on training. All on-the-job instructors have or will have training as to the new instructions on how to better prepare the CCAs for the duties of a letter carrier. Stay tuned.

## Golfing for MDA (see flyer)

**Attention all golfers:** as many of you have requested, we are planning the **1st Annual Branch 599 Golf Tournament to benefit MDA**. On December 7, Quail Hollow Golf Course will host Branch 599's first golfing event. The cost is \$60 per person, 8 AM shotgun start. Golfers will be provided lunch after their rounds; the Longest Drive Contest and Closest to the Pin Contest with

prizes. The Chipping Contest, Putting Contest, and raffle tickets will be available at an additional cost. Be part of a new tradition at Branch 599, the inaugural **1st Annual Branch 599 Golf Tournament!** We tried to keep the prices affordable for all, with the hope of filling the field. Flyers are circulating in the stations throughout the city...see your steward for information or call the union office at 813.875.0599. Retirees interested in golfing, please contact the union office for information.

**\* We are asking for raffle donations from businesses throughout the Tampa Bay area. In addition, we are also hoping each station sponsors a hole at the cost of \$100.**

## Quick Hits:

### Information you should know

\*) **Next work party** will be held Sunday, November 9, from 9-11 AM; we will be working on finishing the Recreation Room.

\*) **Recreation Room** is undergoing a facelift, new paint, cleaning, getting rid of the old dingy furniture, and replacing broken ceiling tiles. The Recreation Room will be available for rentals soon, for baby showers, kids parties, meetings, a get together, NFL Fantasy Draft parties and more.

\*) **Wanted**—we are in need of new volunteers to *step-up* with union activities. If you are interested, please contact your steward, myself or Branch 599's office. There are many opportunities...you can *step-up* and make a difference! From stewards to coordinators to work parties, there is always something going on where you can get involved. We must transition for the future of this Branch and for our union. Getting new members trained will insure the Branch and our union stay strong into the future.

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

# Sharing Our Members' Joys and Sorrows

## Our deepest sympathy

and prayerful support is extended to the family of **Raymond Imig** [retiree] whose passing was September 18; to **Lomax McIntyre** [Branch 599's Building Manager] and family at the passing of his brother, Dennis, September 27; and to **John /D DeRosa** [Produce] and family at the passing of his father, **Al DeRosa** [retiree], October 16.

## Mike Stuart Retired!



Mike Stuart and Tony Diaz

President Diaz recognized **Mike Stuart** [Carrollwood] during our October Branch meeting and presented him with a check from the Branch for his retirement.

## Castor for Congress!



Alan Peacock, Jason Mills, and Tony Diaz

President Diaz and Vice President Peacock presented Cathy Castor for Congress' campaign manager, Jason Mills, with a COLCPE contribution.

# FL Branch Presidents at Committee of Presidents



*Back row:*  
 Bob Henning  
 Percy Smith  
 Steve Halkias  
 Rick Abbarno  
 Joe Henchen  
 Dan Tegreeny

*Front row:*  
 Mike Monopoli  
 Sharon Capo  
 Tony Diaz  
 Tony Manchino

# The Birdseye View

The new fiscal year starts off with a new Alternate Route Adjustment Process agreement CDRAAP or City Delivery Route Alternative Adjustment Process. With the recent failure of the district wide six-day counts and inspection and the so-called adjustments that took place at a premium loss, the USPS finally made an agreement that the union was negotiating for from the onset of contract negotiations. With a little over a year and a half left on this contract which expires May 15, 2016, it was just another costly mistake by headquarters along with all its puppets that insist on micromanaging the USPS and wasting assets it can't afford to waste. The only time the USPS makes an effort to agree with us is after it loses a lot of revenue doing something we told them wasn't going to work to begin with. Don't expect any great turnaround in that style of management though, because they are still bent on making serious cuts that threaten service standards and produce less efficiency to the customer. When we are showing operational gains in revenue, USPS will still cave to the demands of the anti-federal representatives that have the desire to privatize government jobs that provide a universal service that most Americans will never be able to afford if it goes to the private sector.

## Your Vote Matters!

For the past eight years we have rallied to fend off the end of six-day delivery and now have delivery seven days a week in many areas of the nation with even more innovations in testing stages. When given the chance to adjust to change in demand of service that the public desires, we have always risen to that challenge even as we continue to be the sacrificial cash cow for combating the deficits of other government waste or lost revenue through huge tax breaks to many

large corporations that use the same infrastructure we all pay dearly for through our taxes. That's right, federal workers are tax payers and we also contribute to our retirement and pay for our health benefits as employees and retirees, so why has it taken so long to end the corrupt pre-funding and attempts to dismantle one of America's greatest institutions that is required by the United States Constitution because corporate greed is far more important than the citizens and the rights afforded to us by the U.S. Constitution. We have an opportunity to do something about that because the power of our vote can outweigh all the money in politics if we educate ourselves and elect leaders that value their constituents more than their contributors.

The only thing that can keep change from happening is apathy that turns the electorate away from voting because they don't believe it makes a difference. Everyone has an interest in the decisions that are made for us by our representatives whether it is something directly personal, career oriented, education, immigration, economy, or the security of our nation in a very violent world. We can't afford to not exercise our most treasured freedom...the right to choose by our vote. When we choose to ignore the importance of voting, we just might as well say we surrender to what anyone wants to decide our fate as they see fit.

As an organization, our union is strongly involved in the election process; we have many leaders involved in the screening of candidates along with other labor organizations as well as leaders of working family organizations that support a strong middle class America. We are also involved in canvassing and support through COLCPE for the candidates that support labor and working families and

secured retirements. Locally, we have voted as a branch to endorse several candidates that have reached out to us in an effort to be able to represent working class and labor for protecting a stronger middle class America at the local, state, and national level. *Get Out and Vote* on November 4, or hopefully you chose to support our jobs and Vote by Mail.



**Alan Peacock**  
Vice President  
Branch 599

## Clock Ring Integrity

Information all carriers need to improve on, especially when we are under an agreement that provides for data based adjustments is your individual clock ring integrity. If you don't perform and produce accurate clock rings it can have a very negative effect on your route data and minor changes from data based adjustments. Be consistent in the office and on the street and make sure you correctly indicate the operation and the assignment you are assigned to include assignments off your route as well. If you manage to manufacture time to your route that was actually used on another route it could create either over-time or under-time in the adjustment process where your route could continue to be poorly adjusted. One of the biggest failures that stewards notice are your PM clock rings where you don't properly identify PM office duties or don't report any at all. Management will be required throughout the life of the CDRAAP to post every day your work-hour/ work-load report so that you have an opportunity to see if your data is being recorded correctly.

If you are given a street inspection, you are entitled to a copy of your 3999. Every carrier should properly

*(Continued on page 6)*

# A Blunderful Blizzard of Boz

It was an honor and a privilege to have served as an OJT (On-the-Job Trainer). The opportunity to pass wisdom and skills on to another generation of letter carriers was both a fulfilling task and a real blast. Future OJTs, however, must be careful not to let any of their bad habits inadvertently influence the trainees. With this in mind, I offer a few cautionary tips:

It is not necessary to sound your horn whenever you spot a *Deaf Child Area* sign.

The term *marriage mail* does not refer to wedding invitations.

*Plucking the duck* is not a synonym for *pulling down*.

It is not wise to address members of the management team by their nicknames, i.e., *Junior*, *Dragon Lady*, *Colonel Sanders* or *Buzz Lightyear*.

A parcel marked *Rattle OK* does not necessarily originate in Rattle, Oklahoma.

*GOLF* magazine is not a publication for dyslexic sadists (F-L-O-G).

During the holidays, do not go to a business that is no longer on your route and inquire about your missing present.

It is not necessary, after removing the mail from your case, to hum *Wachet Auf*, known in English as *Sleepers Awake*.

When preparing a 3996 (help slip), it would not be acceptable to use the term *little feet* in line J (Reason For Use of Auxiliary).

Letter carriers are not required to tell a bad pun at every business delivery.

If the regular carrier tells you *it goes off easy on the street*, it doesn't.

Do not assume that a parcel contains an explosive device if the mailer has listed *boom box* as part of the contents.

If there are any dogs on the route, it would not be advisable to carry raw meat in your satchel.

And lastly, do not do as one of my trainees actually did. The customer's door was wide open, a piece of plywood covered a shattered storm door window, and a very large dog bowl sat in the breezeway. Not wanting the customer to think he was an intruder, the trainee placed the mail in the mailbox, then pounded on the door frame and shouted *US Postal Service, it's the mailman, HELLO!!*

Carry on, Boz



**Jim Boczarski**  
**Sulphur Springs**  
**Member**  
**Branch 599**



Join together with tens of thousands of other letter carriers to make your voice heard! NALC will send you email alerts when it's time to act on issues affecting active and retired letter carriers and the future of the Postal Service. [www.nalc.org](http://www.nalc.org)

# The Birdseye View

(Continued from page 5)

learn and provide a correct 3996 every time you need more than 8 hours to complete your assigned route duties and you should always request a copy of your 3996. Too many times this is not the case even with senior carriers who take for granted that nothing can happen to their route. Management tries to get carriers to agree to their amount of auxiliary assistance; in actuality you should make the professional estimate and management has the right to approve or disapprove or go on the street with you to verify your request. In cases where they

disapprove your request, you should call by 1500 and request whether they intend to give you help or they want to approve you doing the remainder of the time you initially requested. In other matters where you may leave the office later than anticipated and you need to amend your request, do so on your 3996 and make management aware. If you are on the street and you need to request more time, you call management and put the request back on them to decide and you amend that request on your 3996 when you return from the street. Don't assume, and always

make them make the decision, which is their responsibility to do. If you follow those simple applications you will not be put into discipline actions for unauthorized over-time; keep communication open and allow them to be responsible. Remember, if you put the ball in their hand it protects you. If they challenge you, always remember to tell them you were being on the side of caution and working safe and that is what you are required to do.

Fraternally in Unionism and Solidarity,  
*Alan Peacock*  
Vice President

# Robert's Corner:

## Postponing and Referring to a Committee:

Suppose that you are in the middle of debate on a main motion and you want to put off taking a vote on it. Perhaps it is a matter that is not urgent and you want to take up something which is. Perhaps you feel more information is needed and want time to gather it before making a decision. There could be a hundred reasons why you might want to stop dealing with a proposal for the time being and put it off until another occasion.

The motion to *Postpone to a Certain Time* meets this need. If adopted by a majority vote, it puts off further consideration of the main motion to a later time or meeting named in the motion.

In the ordinary circumstance, you cannot postpone a motion beyond the next regular meeting, and not beyond the third month after the present month. For example, at a meeting in February, a motion cannot be postponed to a meeting later than May, even if that is the next regular meeting.

After a motion to *Postpone to a Certain Time* has been stated, it may itself be amended, for example to change the time to which the main motion is to be postponed. It is debatable, but the debate must be limited to the *motion to Postpone*. This means you may talk about whether it is or is not a good idea to postpone the main motion, or about the details of the postponement, such as for how long it should be. However, **you may not debate whether the main motion itself is good or bad.**

Now suppose that before voting on a main motion, you may feel that it would profit from redrafting or further study by a small group of people. It may be that much time would be required to amend the main motion properly or that additional information is needed, so that it would be best to turn the motion over to a committee for study or redrafting before the body of members considers it further. The motion to *Commit* (*Refer to a committee*) allows this. It requires a majority vote and should identify the committee to which the motion is to be referred. It may include instructions to the committee; for example, it may specify when the committee is to report, or that the committee shall propose an amendment written to accomplish a particular purpose.

The motion to *Commit* is amendable. It is also debatable. Debate must be about the desirability of referring the matter to a committee, or about the details of the referral (which committee, when to report, and so forth). **While the motion to commit is pending, you may not debate whether the main motion is itself is good or bad.**

Committees are of two basic types: **Standing committees** have a continuing existence and function, normally responsibility over a particular subject matter. If a motion's content falls within the subject matter of a standing committee, it must be referred, if it is to be sent to a committee at all, to that committee. **Special committees** are created for

a particular task and go out of existence when the task is completed. For example, if a main motion to purchase a new copier versus leasing a copier is pending, you may want to refer it to a specially created committee with instructions to study the proposal and report the committee's recommendations at the next meeting.

The method of selection of the Chair and members of standing committees is usually established in the branch bylaws. As it relates to special committees, the motion to refer a pending motion to a special committee itself creates the special committee. If no motion is pending, a special committee may also be created by a main motion that assigns a particular subject or matter to the committee. If the branch bylaws are silent on the method of appointing members of special committees, the method is typically set for that committee in the motion creating the committee. A common method is that the special committee members be appointed by the President or presiding officer. Another is for the motion itself to name the members.

Excerpts from the above may have been taken from [www.robertsrules.org](http://www.robertsrules.org) and *Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised In Brief* written by Henry M. Robert III, William J. Evans, Daniel H. Honemann and Thomas J. Balch with the assistance of Daniel E. Seabold and Shmuel Gerber.



**Mike Brink**  
Recording Secretary  
Branch 599

**Remember to Vote if you haven't already!  
Election Day is November 4**



*1st Annual  
Letter Carriers'  
MDA Charity  
Golf Tournament*



Sponsor a hole at the NALC Branch 599 MDA Golf Tournament

Hole Sponsor: \$100.00

Includes business or individual sign at tee box

Putting Contest Sponsor: \$150.00

Includes sign at putting contest

Chipping Contest Sponsor: \$150.00

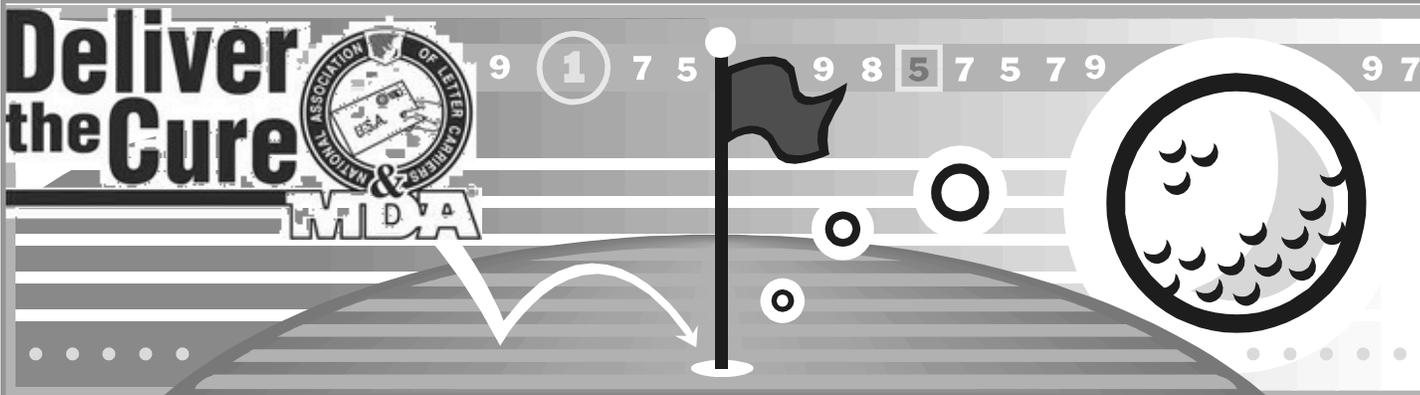
Includes sign at chipping contest

	Info as it will be on sign
Name: Business or Individual	
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	
Other Notes or Message:	

Make checks payable to: NALC Branch 599-MDA

Mail to: 3003 W CYPRESS ST

TAMPA FL 33609-1617



# 1<sup>st</sup> Annual NALC Branch 599 Golf Tournament

*Help Letter Carriers support MDA*

Quail Hollow Golf Course  
6225 Old Pasco Road, Wesley Chapel FL 33544

**December 7, 2014**

8 AM Shotgun Start

\$60 per person

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

Also available

*Raffle Prizes • \$5 donation Putting & Chipping Contest*

*Breakfast available in clubhouse for additional charge.*

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

Golfer 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Golfer 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: NALC Branch 599/MDA  
Mail to: NALC Branch 599, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa FL 33609  
Branch Office 813.875.0599 • Tony 813.598.9635 • Alan 813.843.9762

***Payment Due by November 14, 2014***  
***Pin Sponsors and Raffle Gifts welcome***

# Retirees Banquet

January 17, 2015  
Tampa Letter Carriers Hall

Dinner served at 6 PM

We are using our Hall for the Banquet; it stands today for us because of all that our retirees have done to build it. It is part of us as we are part of it... what better place to gather and fellowship than our own Union Hall!

RSVP by January 5, 2015  
Branch Office 813.875.0599

Our Branch is providing the meal for this evening of fellowship with our Brothers and Sisters [and spouse or one guest].

Looking forward to seeing you at our Union Hall!

*Don Thomas, Director of Retirees*

## A Crime Prevention Safety Seminar

will be held at our Branch Meeting on November 6; it will be a half hour presentation.

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

*from your Officers,  
Stewards, and Staff*



### **Shop Stewards will Meet**

Tuesday 7 PM  
November 4  
December 2

### **Sunday Work Party at our Hall**

9-11 AM  
November 9  
December 7

### **Executive Board Meets**

Thursday 6:30 PM  
November 6  
December 4

### **Retirees Breakfasts**

Monday November 3 9 AM  
Coffee Cup Restaurant  
4407 N Hubert Avenue, Tampa

Tuesday November 11 8 AM  
Bob Evans Restaurant  
SR-60 & Falkenburg Road, Brandon

# **ARSLAN UNIFORMS**

*Bill & Shirley Moran*

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

**NEED UNIFORMS IN A HURRY?  
SHOP BY PHONE FROM HOME**

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FAX 727.585.9367  
bilmor@tampabay.rr.com



A.R. Tony Huerta Branch 599  
 National Association of Letter Carriers  
 3003 W Cypress Street  
 Tampa FL 33609-1617

813.875.0599 • Fax 813.870.0599  
 www.nalc599.com

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# Happy Early Holidays



## Skip Your November or December Loan Payments!

Skip one or ALL your loan payments! For only \$25 per loan, you can skip your loan payment for either the month of November or December (excluding 1<sup>st</sup> Mortgages, Home Equity Loans, MasterCard and RV Loans).\* If you already made your November loan payment(s), you can still skip December!

Visit [www.tpcu.org](http://www.tpcu.org)  
 to Learn More.

800.782.4899 | [WWW.TPCU.ORG](http://WWW.TPCU.ORG)

\*Visit [www.tpcu.org](http://www.tpcu.org) for complete details.



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