



# Tampa Letter Carrier

Volume 3 - Issue 12

A.R. "Tony" Huerta NALC Branch 599

Tampa, Florida

December 2004

## President's Report

by **Jim Good**

*President - Branch 599*

### *Fighting For Your Rights Today*

**W**ell, it seems like it's happening again. We deal with management in good faith, trying to set up an equitable system to inspect and adjust routes to as close to eight hours as possible without going back to the old, traditional six-day mail count. We have invested six days of our time (Detlev and myself, as well as Al Smith), only to have the rug pulled out from under us by Acting Postmaster?, Officer in Charge?, Manager Customer Service Operations Paul Lavender.

I guess it shouldn't surprise me after 30 years in the United States Postal Service and three years of working under the current regime, to have a city the size of Tampa operating without a postmaster. Maybe that's a good sign, one that says we really don't need another level 26 boss on the third floor. But never fear, I'm sure we will have one sooner or later, hopefully one who has a little more faith in the letter carriers' ethics and pride in their work rather

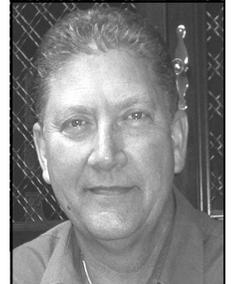
than believing that all carriers are out to screw the post office. That's all I ask, give us the benefit of the doubt. By all means, use the National Agreement, make us live up to the terms set up at the headquarters level and we will do the same for you. You will see how easy and friendly it can be when we work together, toward a common goal of delivering the mail and servicing the public for the betterment of the USPS and therefore the betterment of the NALC and our customers!

I traveled to the Sarasota Union Hall on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup>, along with the Presidents of St. Pete, Clearwater, Lakeland, Naples, Brooksville, and Sarasota to meet with the Postmasters of St. Pete, other District Operations Management people and assorted upper management from throughout the Suncoast District. It was the first meeting regarding the particulars of the adjustment process, so we just basically said that each city/locality will have to agree on what an average volume will be and that it must be verified in some manner by the union. We also said that we would compare what was shown in the work

hour/workload report and if the carriers were actually showing that their office time was entered correctly into the computer. The Presidents agreed and emphasized that the figures from DOIS are not acceptable and would not be used in this process.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 15<sup>th</sup>. Any carrier who feels his/her route is out of adjustment should have already submitted a request for a special inspection in accordance with Section 271.g of the M-39 Handbook. Remember, absolutely no adjustments of any kind can be made to any route unless an agreement is signed. The only exception is if a carrier has requested and is qualified for a special inspection under 271.g.

Three by-law changes were voted on at the November 4<sup>th</sup> branch meeting. One was to raise the expense allowance for the Recording Secretary to \$100.00,  
*(continued on page 6)*



## Election Notice

The election will be conducted by secret ballot at the regular Branch meeting on December 2, 2004 between the hours of 1:00 and 7:30 p.m. at the Union Hall, 3003 W. Cypress St, Tampa, Fl. Any member may upon request vote by absentee ballot. Requests for absentee ballots should be made by telephoning the Union Hall at (813) 875-0599 (between 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) beginning November 5, 2004 through November 18, 2004. The hours for voting at the Union Hall on December 2nd are from 1:00 – 7:30 p.m.

## Florida State Convention

Any member wishing to be a delegate to the FSALC Convention, who did not sign the nomination list at the November meeting, may do so at the December or January regular branch meetings.

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**Branch 599 Officers**

PRESIDENT	Jim Good	(813) 960-3759, cell 417-8877
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT	John Watts	(813) 971-5525, cell 240-5995
VICE-PRESIDENT	Detlev Aeppel	(813) 907-9685
RECORDING SECRETARY	Cheryl Clothier	(727) 385-7337
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	John Gebo	(813) 985-5474
TREASURER	Michael Anderson	(813) 681-5688
TRUSTEE(Chairman)	Henry Dupree	(813) 621-6471
TRUSTEE	Butch Smith	(813) 933-4676
TRUSTEE	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	Jack Hencoski	(813) 685-9034
MBA / NSBA	Albert Guice	(813) 621-7931
HEALTH BENEFITS	Lance Jones	(813) 264-9801
DIRECTOR OF RETIREES	Jack Newman	(813) 805-2942
LABOR - MANAGEMENT	Tony Diaz	(813) 598-9635
LABOR - MANAGEMENT	Matt Kokich	(813) 431-3686
MAPS COORDINATOR	Chris Albrecht	(727) 791-7162

**Presidents Emeritus**

Michael Anderson	Orbe Andux
James Butler	Milton McConnell
Don Thomas	Garland Tickle
Lenin Perez	

**Branch 599 Shop Stewards**

Brandon	33510	Terry Franklin	(813) 661-1106
Brandon	33511	Miroslaw Oldziej	(813) 661-1106
Carrollwood	33618	Freddie Nimphius	(813) 968-7491
Commerce	33602	Dook Ramotar Sr.	(813) 780-6254
Forest Hills	33612	John Watts	(813) 971-5525
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Eddie Alvarez	(813) 264-6532
Hilldale	33614	Gilbert Cabanas	(813) 855-0516
Hilldale Annex	33634	Lance Jones	(813) 264-9801
Hyde Park	33606	George McEndree	(813) 935-0244
Interbay	33611	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Interbay	33629	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
MacDill	33608	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Palm River	33619	J.C. Howard	(813) 621-1976
Plant City	33565	Misty Bauer	(813) 719-6793
Port Tampa	33616	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Produce	33610	Eric Fleming	(813) 310-8274
Ruskin / Sun City Center	33570	Jack Hencoski	(813) 633-5422
Seminole Heights	33603	Tony Diaz	(813) 598-9635
Sulphur Springs	33604	Matt Kokich	(813) 431-3686
Tampa Carrier Annex	33607	Anthony Moran	(813) 872-0709
Tampa Carrier Annex	33609	Pedro Jiminez	(813) 677-6014
Temple Terrace	33617	Mike Anderson	(813) 681-5688
Town & Country	33615	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Ybor City	33605	Detlev Aeppel	(813) 907-9685

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The National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 599, 3003 W. Cypress Street, Tampa, FL 33609-1617, publishes The Tampa Letter Carrier monthly. The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the writers, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Branch 599. It is the policy of this publication that all articles submitted for publication must be signed by the writer. All articles are subject to editing and revision at the discretion of the publisher & editor. Please submit articles to the branch office no later than the tenth of the month. For submission guidelines, send email to: [writer@nalc599.com](mailto:writer@nalc599.com) or go to <http://www.nalc599.com/writer.htm>

Jim Good - Publisher

Kit Kelley - Editor

**TAMPA RETIREES' BREAKFAST**

**First Monday of Every Month**

**9:00 AM at**

**The Coffee Cup**

**4407 N. Hubert**

**in Drew Park**

**BRANDON RETIREES' BREAFAST**

**Second Tuesday of every month**

**8:00 AM at**

**Buddy Freddy's**

**134 Gornto Lake Rd S.**

**in Brandon**

## Watts Line

by John Watts

*Executive Vice-President - Branch 599****Your Vote Counts***

**A**s I write this article the National Presidential election has been decided, the American people spoke and retained George Bush as our President, even though our Union supported John Kerry its time to put our differences aside and do whats best for this country as a whole. The first thing we need to do is to Support our Troops in Iraq. Give them the proper equipment and spend the money necessary to complete the job and bring our troops home out of harms way.

The special route inspections have begun at my station, Forest Hills. Out of the 22 routes that put in for inspection management said that 10 did not meet the requirements under the M-39 271G even though these routes including mine have worked 10 to 11 hours a day since June of 2002. They used DOIS and clock rings to disqualify most of these routes. Of course I have filed a Class Action grievance to challenge managements position. I feel the reason management is doing this is because they know the routes are out of adjust-

ment and this is a stall tactic to hope the union and management come up with an agreement on how to adjust routes according to the Memorandum of Understanding signed by our National Parties.

The good thing about this route check is that management will only ride and count the carriers whose routes did qualify for the inspection on one day of the six day inspections. This is definitely an advantage to the carriers that are to be inspected for they will count their own mail and they will show that the information management has been using to harass and intimidate carriers about their office and street time will prove to be bogus. This will show DOIS is garbage in, garbage out. My next article will follow up on the outcome.

It saddens me deeply that our local elections have turned into something that has never happened before in this branch.

1. Two articles of people running

against the present administration were not published in the November newsletter, neither was a political ad. The two articles were written by Alan Peacock running against Jim Good for President.



2. George McEndree running against a Trustee. But the most disturbing fact is that a Political add for Financial Secretary submitted for Tony Diaz running against John Gebo was omitted even though it was very cleverly explained away by Mr. Good I seriously have my doubts. One other thing that disturbs this writer is that the words of my article were changed without informing me that this was being done, but when Ray Wallace wrote an article (Political Add?) endorsing Mr. Good as president was not censored. Is it about time we turn the newsletter over to someone that is unbiased. Think about it. Ask questions, make an informal vote for the future leadership of our union. **TLC**

**Editor's Note:** Due to the article writer's complaints of bias and revision of his submitted material, and in the spirit of preserving his right to free speech, this article is published as received, with no editing. As to article revisions, for the past 30 months the Tampa Letter Carrier has published a disclaimer clearly stating that all items submitted for publication are subject to revision at the discretion of the editor and publisher. All items are checked, corrected and revised for grammar, spelling, factual accuracy, logic & coherence. While no submission for publication is automatically guaranteed publication, we have published every submission since May 2002.

There was a serious computer problem during the November newsletter preparations and some files were unavailable due to a failed hard disk drive. We also had some submissions that were improperly formatted, or not attached to emails correctly, so that we were unable to verify receipt of the submitted materials at press time. However, all three missing items were later published in a special edition sent to all stations. We regret the problems but stuff happens.

**President's Note:** The problem that Mr. Watts is speaking about was explained at the Branch Meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The office suffered a number of computer software and hardware problems in the printing of the last newsletter. Mr. Watts also failed to point out that one of the current president's ads was also left out of the newsletter. It was an unfortunate omission, nothing more.

Vice-President's Report

by Detlev Aeppel

Vice-President - Branch 599

The Election and Letter Carriers

The national presidential election is over. The union endorsed John Kerry as the candidate most likely to advance the welfare and financial security of letter carriers and their families. The majority of letter carriers were moved to vote for John Kerry. The union endorsed candidate was defeated by a narrow margin. A significant number of letter carriers voted for President Bush. These carriers acted out of passion and conviction when casting their votes for Bush. Some acted out of concern for protecting the unborn from abortion. Many of us have been on both sides of that agonizing decision. Some acted to protect out rights to bear arms for sport and self defense. This right revolves around our traditions of self sufficiency and heritage. In addition, many have witnessed in other lands what may befall an unarmed population. Some responded to the reopening of wounds our nation suffered decades ago in southeast Asia and at home. Anyone who lived through that time suffered some loss of friends, family or part of themselves. Some felt that George Bush would protect them from terrorist attacks. We all want to be safe and secure. Others felt that George Bush was truly a born again sinner that had repented and was following a calling from God. We all see leaders with integrity and moral fiber.

These view points were hotly debated

by carriers in the swing rooms, parking lots, and meeting halls around the country. This loyal opposition is the meaning of and the true beauty of our democracy. We all develop deep feelings and opinions on subjects important to us. We feel free to debate and express our opinions to each other. After the votes are cast and counted we feel we should move on behind the chosen leader comfortable in the knowledge that our voice was heard and our concerns were noted. Sometimes this is what happens and sometimes it is not.

The president has declared his 51% to 48% victory a mandate for his entire conservative agenda. At the very least, calling a 3% victory a mandate is the ultimate example of fuzzy math. A strong union is more important now than ever. The Republican Party gained greater majority control of both the House and the Senate, controls all of the federal courts, and controls the Supreme Court now and long into the future, as well as retaining control of the White House. It will be much more difficult to get beneficial postal reform passed. We will probably face a revival of postal redesign and other attacks on our pay, benefits, and conditions of employment. Attempts may be launched against us to take away collective bargaining and binding arbitration. We must present a united front against any attempts to take away what

carriers have fought so hard to attain.

All letter carriers must renew their commitment to a strong union speaking with one clear voice on the issues that we will be facing in the months ahead. No matter how they voted in the national election, carriers must prepare to address the issues we will be facing. It is especially important that carriers who voted for Mr. Bush sign up as e-Activists and COLCPE contributors. When republican representatives and senators, as well as the president, receive correspondence on letter carrier issues from carriers that point out that they voted to put them in office, these letters will have a much greater impact. COLCPE contributions will also be needed to build coalitions of politicians friendly to our needs and issues. Currently our COLCPE funds are donated to 40% Republicans and 60% Democrats. If we are to succeed, this trend will need to continue. We need all letter carriers regardless of party affiliation working together for our mutual benefit. Remember, we are all in this together. In solidarity... **TLC**



Health and Welfare

- Joe Clemente, recovering from surgery
Pam Miles' mother, recovering from surgery
Albert Phelps, recovering from surgery
Shelley Rivera's sister passed away

Branch 599 Christmas Party

Branch 599 will host a Christmas Party on Sunday, December 12th from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the union hall. Active carriers, please see your shop steward for details. Retirees, please call the branch office at 875-0599 for details.

## In The Know

by George McEndree

*Looking Ahead*

**W**ell it looks like the Bush team is in for another four years. God help us all! Who knows what the agenda for the United States Postal Service will be in the eyes of George W. Here at Branch 599, we are preparing for the upcoming election for branch officers. The next three years of leaders for Branch 599 will be decided by you, the members. December 2, 2004, will be the day to voice your opinion by coming out to cast your ballot. Don't forget, for those of you who work twelve hours a day, or for some other reason can't make it to the Union Hall, call the office (813-935-0244) before November 18th to receive an absentee ballot.

To all my coworkers at HPCA, it looks as if it may be next year before we get any relief from those over bur-

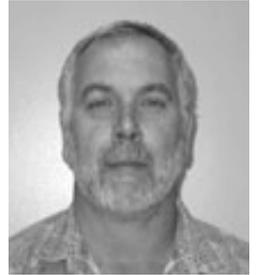
den routes. I'm sure Uncle Sam appreciates all the overtime paid out during the past year to the tune of hundreds of hours a week. Soon as Tampa gets a new postmaster I'm sure everything will be back to normal. What ever that is! One thing for sure, the upcoming year will be a trying one in all levels of the Postal Service. It's been a long time since I went a week without filing a grievance for one thing or another.

A couple of strange things took place the last couple of weeks. First, I became another statistic. No, I didn't get fired again but I did get bit by a dog. It took close to 29 years but it finally happened. Second, there were some strange but familiar foot steps in the building at Hyde Park. I'm referring to Mike Chiles. Wow has it been over a year since hanging up the old satchel?

It's been confirmed at the last branch meeting, that we are going to finally have that Labor Day Picnic, except it will be a Christmas Party. I hope everyone comes out and shares in some Holiday Cheer!

Until next time.

In solidarity, Brother George TLC



# ***ARSLAN UNIFORMS***

*Bill & Shirley Moran*

*Retired Letter Carrier Branch 1477 St. Petersburg*

*Honorary Member Branch 599 Tampa*

***NEED UNIFORMS IN A HURRY?***

***SHOP BY PHONE FROM HOME***

320 PATLIN CIRCLE EAST PHONE: 727-584-4307

LARGO, FL 33770-3063 CELL: 727-543-0705 FAX: 727-585-9367

wfm505@tampabay.rr.com

**President's Report** (from page 1)

which passed. I believe that the Recording Secretary deserves this raise in expenses and was glad to see that the membership voted for the change. The other two by-law changes failed, and for what I believe to be a good reason. Both of these changes tried to reduce the amount of expenses allowed for the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer. Seeing as how they both work for a union, I don't see how any member can agree to give back, financially, what has already been bargained for and agreed to. Had these by-laws been passed, it would be the same as if the USPS told us to take a cut in pay and our national president agreed to it. This is the third time in recent history that certain members have tried to lower these officers' expenses, and hopefully the membership has spoken on this issue for the last time.

December 2, 2004 is a very important day for the future of this branch. That is the day of the election of branch officers. It is every member's responsibility to have their voice heard in this elec-

tion, and it is a very easy thing to do. If you think that you may not be able to make it to the meeting just give the office a call by November 18<sup>th</sup>. I know that many of you may not get this newsletter until a few days before the deadline, or maybe not until after the deadline to request absentee ballots, so give the office a call as soon as you get the newsletter but no later than the 18<sup>th</sup>.

In closing I just want to say one thing. A funny thing always happens at election time. Rumors abound! So if you hear something that surprises or astounds you about things that you are told have been done, don't be afraid to ask questions and get the real facts so you can find the truth and make a good, sound decision. Trust the truth! **TLC**

**Postal Employee Relief Fund**

Postal Relief has a local sub-committee operating in Tampa at the present time. Brian Obst is the local NALC representative and the committee wants to remind retirees that they are able to apply for Postal Relief Assistance. Contact Brian Obst at 727-458-0679 for information.

**Kelley** (continued from page 9)

union and to letter carriers as evidenced by his long hours off the clock working on union and carrier issues. Besides that, I have had the misfortune to be "represented" on several occasions by his opponent. These experiences caused me to believe the current Executive Vice-President is much more concerned with his relationship with management than with representing letter carriers. During my last Step Two with him and management, he stood outside the manager's office castigating me while taking management's position. I finally threw the LOW on the manager's desk and walked out in disgust. With representatives like him, who needs adversarial managers? Now he is attempting to control the branch newsletter by making veiled threats to me on the phone and by making false allegations about missing articles and ads. On the basis of my experience and knowledge, I most enthusiastically recommend and endorse Detlev Aeppel for Executive Vice-President. Please vote on December 2nd or by absentee ballot and, for the sake of carriers, vote Good-Aeppel-Cabanas. **TLC**

**VOTE FOR TRUSTEE**

**Jose (Joe) Oliva**

**Member Branch 599 - 39 years**

**Letter Carrier - 39 years**

**TLC Executive Board - 1985-1994**

**TLC Trustee - 1991-1994**

**Health Benefits Report**by **Lance Jones***Branch 599 - Health Benefits Representative****Open Season***

**H**ere it is open season again! I'd like to encourage members to consider the NALC Health Benefit Plan: it is one of the best available. The plan is also one of the most reasonable. But the one thing you get by becoming a member is a Health Benefits Representative, something you don't have with other plans.

While we're on the topic of open season I'd like to explain FSA (Flexible Spending Accounts). Here's how they can work for you. If you are currently seeing a doctor and taking prescription drugs on a daily basis, have a major operation coming up or have fixed uncovered medical expenses for next year then you're all set to use this tax saving benefit. For example, you are seeing a physician four (4) times a year with twenty dollar (\$20) co-pay which equals eighty dollars (\$80) a year. You are also taking four (4) prescription drugs that cost you twenty dollars (\$20) co-pay each, every ninety days for a total of three hundred twenty dollars (\$320) in co-payments a year. You also have your teeth cleaned

year. You also have your teeth cleaned twice a year at sixty dollars (\$60) a visit or one hundred twenty dollars (\$120) a year. Your total fixed expense for the year is five hundred twenty dollars (\$520) of uncovered medical bills. During open season you can use postal ease to join FSA for this \$520. They take \$20 dollars a pay period from your wages BEFORE taxes reducing your federal tax deduction. At the end of the year you send FSA a copy of your unpaid medical expenses along with a completed form and they send you a check for the \$520. You have until November of the following year to submit your claim so if you join in 20056 you'll have until November 2006.

The open season for FSA's is November 8, 2004-December 31, 2004. You can be reimbursed for almost any uncovered medical expense including glasses, vision exams, and day care for a dependent child, surgeries, etc. and the money is available to you throughout the year so you don't have to wait

as in the example above. You can make a claim any time after you have paid for an uncovered medical expense. But you'll have to show proof that it is an uncovered expense usually a copy of your insurance carriers form showing (patients) liabilities. The number for Posies is 1-877-477-3273. It's really simple and a benefit that's there for us to use. We all work hard for our money and if you can keep more of it in your pocket it makes sense.



Remember to VOTE on December 2<sup>nd</sup> it's your Union and your vote is your voice.

See you at the hall...

**TLC**

## **VOTE FOR MIKE STEWART FOR LABOR MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE**

- **Shop steward in Seminole Station 2003-2004**
- **Worked closely with incoming shop steward the first quarter of 2004 to help him mainly with the overtime and equability**
- **Worked with the AFL-CIO as a representative for Branch 599**
- **In Labor 2004 Movement from Sept.-Nov. 2004.**
- **Active union member with a desire to help better the union.**
- **Supports the current president, Jim Good**

# Get Involved

With the end of one of the most important political campaigns of our lifetime and with the better partner to labor failing to get elected, our best effort to protect our careers will be required. Hopefully we will still have enough friends across party lines that share our interest in keeping the sacred rights that we have provided through collective bargaining. Living in a country as great as our's and enjoying the tremendous freedom's that we have, we should never forget the sacrifices that have been made to protect them. In the same token we should never be lulled to sleep and take for granted that there are those whose agenda's and philosophies differ from our own. To the winner of this recent election comes the burden of proving that the platform that you so staunchly defended is the right direction for all Americans. Hope and trust will become your strongest allies if you show the leadership all of us long for. God Bless us all and God Bless America.

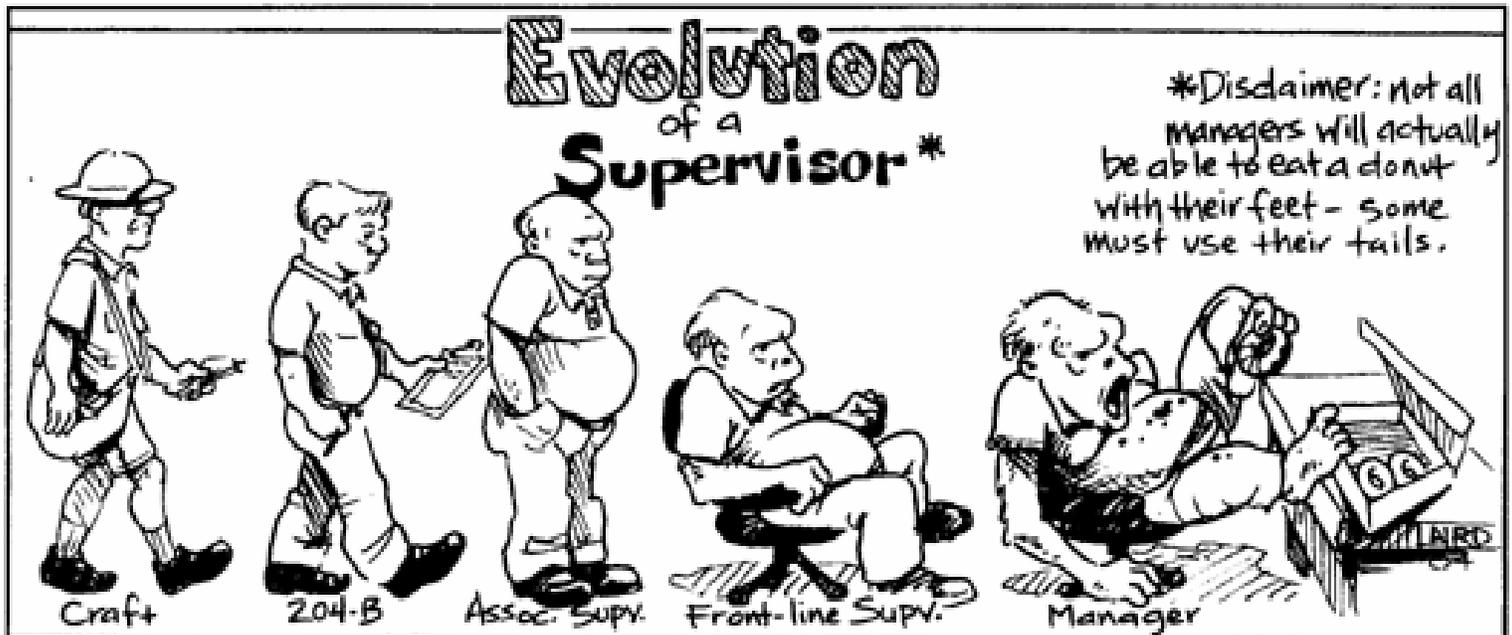
During the past year Postal Service exceeded all expectations for the fiscal year that ended on the 30<sup>th</sup> of Septem-

ber. With one month left in the fiscal year, the Service reported that it had net income in excess of \$2.8 Billion, or \$656.6 million over budget. Year-to-date mail volume increased 1.7 percent from a year ago, with the biggest increases coming from Standard and International mail. Mail volume increases have also lead to being stated as reason's for denying special route inspections. That is quite a contrast from the story we were told during route inspections of the past couple of years. As special route inspections have begun in Forest Hills, on the very first day there was seventy-eight feet of non linear mail that didn't arrive until after two o'clock in the afternoon. Is this going to be déjà vu on how slick management can maneuver the mail in order to affect route adjustments? Apparently all the slick tactics of eliminating routes, vehicles, and the savings in benefits have paid huge dividends in their revenue reported. Another possibility of the huge surplus could be that they are not including the Civil Service Retirement system offset that they are hoping will no longer be their burden under Postal

Reform. With the future contract being negotiated in 2006 and the results of the current election there is no doubt that we will have huge hurdles to over come. Tie together the changes in the legislature, Postal Reform, contract negotiations it all adds up to quite an uphill battle for our organization. We must be united and involved in order to be successful in our causes. Everyone who has not become an E-activist needs to do so, the power of grass roots efforts are immeasurable especially with the technology that exist today. We also need to support all our union's activites. It is essential that we remain politically involved. We are not just there to support the union but the Postal Service is also a beneficiary of our activism, and that is how we protect our careers and our future.



Get Off the Sideline and Join in, It's Our right. **TLC**



## Unionism

by Brian Obst

Trustee - Branch 599

### *Union - All For One*

**U**nion, as defined by Webster's, A confederation of independent individuals for some common purpose. This is the N.A.L.C. in a nutshell, a group of individual letter carriers who have banded together for the common good of all carriers. This noble organization is carrying on the work of previous generations by consistently looking out for all of us carriers and always maintaining an eye to the future for our craft

Back to Webster's again and Unionism is defined as the principle of forming or adhering to a union. In short, support of the policies and actions of the Union on behalf of the members of said Union.

Once more to Webster's where a Unionist is defined as an advocate or supporter of Union or Unionism. I have been a member of this Union for about six years and it seems to me that all members would want to be considered as Unionists, for we all believe in the principles of what our Union stands for and should support the policies and actions our leaders take on behalf of the

membership. DON'T WE?

The next time you attend a meeting and listen to the agenda being discussed why not listen and see if there is anything you can add to help the entire membership. In this time of Steward and Branch elections why not volunteer to serve as a Steward even if only for 1 year. Remember that all Stewards start out the same way, INEXPERIENCED! The great thing about this Union is that we are all here for the same reasons and we all will make ourselves available to assist in training new Stewards and people interested in getting involved in the Branch operations. Remember there was someone here before me that helped me get started as well as helping me continue to learn on a daily basis so I can continue to represent in the best possible manner for the members. I can only hope that there will be someone here for me to help train to carry on the torch when I am gone.

If the Branch, as well as the Union as a whole, is to continue to be strong and viable it needs more members to become involved in the actions that shape

the direction of the Union for today as well as the future. Please consider serving in some capacity to help your Shop, Branch and National and remember as I paraphrase the words of a great American President - Ask not what your Union can do for you ... Ask what YOU can do for your Union. Remember that a Union is only the organization of members and without the members working together towards the common goal there really is no Union. I look forward to being able to continue practicing Unionism and I await the next wave of members to step forward to assist in direction of our Branch as well as our National.

Also don't forget to exercise your right to vote for your branch officers on Dec 2.

As an active Unionist I remain yours in Brotherhood,

Brian Obst

Shop Steward/Trustee

TLC



## Voting For Those Who Represent You

by Kit Kelley

On December 2nd you will have the opportunity to choose the union officers who will serve and represent you for the next three years. Now more than ever it is important to exercise your rights to choose your union representatives. With postal reform and possible privatization looming large on the horizon, these are momentous times for all letter carriers, active and retired. With so much at stake it is important that letter carriers not only vote but also vote wisely. Whether you vote at the union hall or by absentee ballot, your choices will determine the direction our branch takes in many areas

that will affect your job and your rights over the next few years. With that in mind, I would like to offer my personal endorsements and recommendations for the top three branch officer positions.

I have known both Jim Good and Gilbert Cabanas for many years (Gilbert since 1985 and Jim since 1989.) Having worked side by side with these two has allowed me to get to know both very well. I can honestly say that both Brother Good and Brother Cabanas are honest men of integrity who have the best interests of letter carriers at heart. Jim Good has fulfilled his campaign promises,

done a great job as president and deserves another term. Gilbert Cabanas possesses such a command of the contract that even management respects him and this makes him the most effective shop steward in the city. He also has never quit the union once, let alone several times. Both Jim and Gilbert are tireless advocates for carriers and possess demonstrably good records of faithful and effective service on behalf of carriers. I recommend and endorse both men.

I don't know Detlev Aeppel as well but he seems to be very dedicated to the

*(continued on page 6)*

# The Coalition

**We are committed to carry this Union into the future with respect and dignity to the best interest of the membership. We will negotiate with management and bring a strong representation for protecting the rights that were contractually negotiated with management.**

## We Will:

**Fiercely deal with management on the issues that affect the membership on the work room floor.  
Better train the shop stewards and support them on the work room floor.  
Create an atmosphere of concern to all members in our Union  
Bring experienced and knowledgeable bothers and sisters to handle the concern of the members.  
Reorganize the branch office to better serve the members.  
Negotiate with management in our best interest and not theirs.  
Keep inform the membership about concerns that affect us all.  
Account for all funds collected and provide full accountability to the membership at end of year.  
Balance the amount of funds that is paid for salaries to those that offer little service to the members.  
Justify payment to those that really provide services to the membership of this Union.  
Eliminate the two and half percent collected from dues that is presently paid for licking envelopes.  
Stop the greed and self interest that erode our branch finances.  
Reestablish and gain the respect with a new leadership that is needed in our Union.  
Work hard to better defend the membership at a time of need, we will be there for you.  
Use technology to better serve the membership, up grade and make available our computers to all.  
Have the conviction that will bring honesty,integrety and the will for betterment in our Union.  
Involve the branch office in health and safety issues.**

## We Will not:

**Flirt with management when it comes to your rights.  
Chum up to management involving your representation.  
Make friends with managers that are not friedly to our concerns.  
Over look safety issues that affect you on the work room floor.  
Negotiate with management without your consent and input.  
Walk away when you have concerns.**

**Your vote counts, please be at the hall on December 2, 2004 or request an absentee ballot. Please consider us as your future leaders.**

**VOTE  
MATTHEW KOKICH  
FOR  
LABOR RELATION  
AS A UNION REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
BRANCH 599  
HANDLED GRIEVANCES AT:**

**NORTHDALE ANNEX (STEP 1&2 LEVEL)  
SULPHUR SPRINGS (STEP 1&2 LEVEL)  
SEMINOLE STATION (STEP 2 LEVEL)  
YBOR STATION (STEP 2 LEVEL)**

**ATTENDED FLORIDA STATE TRAINING  
SEMINARS :  
GRIEVANCE INVESTIGATION  
OVERTIME TRACKING  
FAMILY LEAVE  
OWCP**

**MEMBER OF BRANCH 599 EXECUTIVE  
COMMITTEE**

***RE-ELECT  
MATTHEW KOKICH  
FOR  
LABOR RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVE***

# Brian Obst for Labor/Management Representative

My name is Brian Obst and I work out of the town and country Office. I just wanted to let you all know that I am running for the position of Labor/Management Representative: one of two such positions in this year's Branch 599 elections for the Executive Board. I would like to point out what I feel are some of my qualifications:

Elected Shop Steward at Town and Country for the last 5 years.

Appointed Shop Steward for Interbay Station, Port Tampa and Mac Dill for the better part of the last 2 years.

Appointed as a Trustee for the Executive Board for the last 2 years.

Attended most of the TLC Board meetings over the last 3 years (once I was able to get a bylaw passed to allow interested parties to attend these meetings.)

Represented carriers as Shop Steward in Sulphur Springs and Temple Terrace when asked to by the President or carrier request in these stations.

Assisted in the processing of grievances with the President at the Informal A level.

Attended almost all Training Seminars, State conventions and National Conventions since my installation as a Shop Steward 5 years ago.

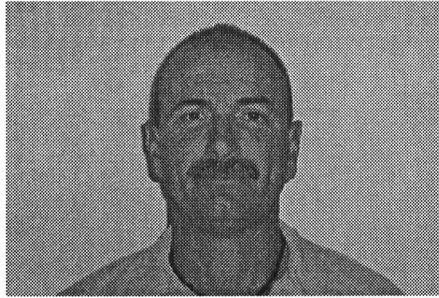
Assisted in training of new Shop Stewards.

Assisted in signing up non-members to the Branch 599 rolls.

It has been my desire to assist my fellow carriers in their dealings with management so as to protect their rights under the National Agreement. I have done so in the past and I will continue to do so in the future. Those of you who know me know that I am tireless in my pursuit of what is right and protected under the National Agreement and I ask you to help me by letting others who may not know me as well see the kind of Union representative that I am. I think I can be of further assistance to the members of Branch 599 and render assistance to our President in the position of Labor/Management Representative so I ask humbly for your support on Election Day. I am a member of the Good Team and have had the pleasure of working closely with many of the members on the slate and look forward to continuing the good work that we have been doing.

Once again I ask for your support on Election Day not only for myself but for the Good Team as a whole to move the Branch forward, securing a better future for the members of Branch 599.

I'm Brian Obst and I approved this message.



**ELECT**

# **TONY DIAZ**

## **FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**BROTHERS AND SISTERS, I WISH TO ANNOUNCE MY CANDIDACY FOR THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL SECRETARY FOR BRANCH 599. I FEEL CERTAIN I AM QUALIFIED TO SERVE THIS ELECTED POSITION EFFECTIVELY. I WILL ALWAYS WORK AND REPRESENT OUR GREAT BRANCH AND MEMBERSHIP WITH ITS BEST INTERESTS IN MIND.**

**\*\*\*\*\*GUARANTEE\*\*\*\*\***

I Guarantee to run a campaign free of criticism and accusations toward my opponent. I want to run on my own merit and accomplishments. We are a Union, let's act like brothers and sisters and respect one another.

**HAVE SERVED THIS BRANCH IN VARIOUS POSITIONS:**

**BRANCH 599 MEMBER ..... 24 YEARS**  
**CURRENT SHOP STEWARD ..... 14 YEARS**  
**BRANCH RECORDING SECRETARY ..... 2 YEARS**  
**ALTERNATE SHOP STEWARD ..... 6 YEARS**  
**N.A.L.C. REP. EMPLOYEE SOCIAL & REC. COMMITTEE**  
**CURRENT LABOR - MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE**  
**CURRENT T.L.C. BOARD MEMBER**  
**CURRENT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER**  
**NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE**  
**STATE CONVENTION DELEGATE**

**I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT ON DECEMBER 2**

**THANK YOU**  
**PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT**

Elections for our union officials are coming up in December and I thought it was imperative to write in to the newsletter this month. I have been in the post office for only a little over seven years and in my time I have only been a part of a couple of minor grievances, although all are of importance. A couple of months shy of two years ago I was involuntarily excessed out of the city of Tampa and I was not alone. This process was really difficult for me to swallow because I was hired on in St. Pete. and commuted for three years before a transfer was approved. Now I know that people commute all the time and some are forced to drive farther than I had to, but I was finally in a situation in which I was close to home and being married with three kids it was important to me.

When the word and the date came down for my excessing the buzz was that everything would work out because of the blatant contractual violations that were happening. I try to find positive in every situation and I was able to see in this one that at least I did not lose my job. So for about 16 months I made the best of my situation in St. Pete. and waited for my return date and answers from grievances filed. While I was in Tampa my daily travel time was about 30 total minutes, to and from work combined. While I was in St. Pete. my daily travel time was usually one and a half hours but most of the time it took longer. If it took me only an hour longer each day that is six hours a week working my NS day, 24 hours in a four week period, which equals about a day a month. My point being if this excessing was a violation of contractual rights, I was rightfully due some kind of reimbursement for all the time that my family and I lost, for all the money that I had to spend on gas, and the wear and tear on a vehicle that I basically had to get rid of due to the commuting. SOMETHING!

I did receive something, I received it dated May 5,2004 from the desk of President Good, a letter with the ruling on the arbitration

cases that I and many others were involved in. Finally some kind of an ending to a long and drawn out ordeal was in sight. Now you may want to sit down for this, my ruling along with many others was that there could not be a ruling because of untimeliness. The paperwork was not filed properly therefore I was not to receive any kind of monetary reimbursement for anything that I, and many others, went through. I asked several questions at the union meeting following my receipt of this letter and still have the same questions. Who is responsible for this ruling? If this was blatant disregard of the contract, what happened? What if this was a removal case? Could I keep my job? If there was an offer made, why was I not notified of the offer or the amount, so I could have some kind of input? If arbitrations are under the concept of you win some and you lose some and the union enters the negotiations with that mentality is that a fair stance for us on the frontlines?

If we should win a case, WE SHOULD WIN! I want a President that is willing to lose his or her job to protect the jobs below him or her. As many people were involved in these arbitrations, I am only speaking for myself but I can only imagine some of the hardships others have had to endure. I never would have guessed that I would end up in the middle of an arbitration case but I was and I can not risk another decision like this one.

Vote for responsibility.

your union brother,

Nick Cullaro

BY TOM TONKYRO CARROLLWOOD

After reading last months newsletter I felt I needed to share some information with all the members of Branch 599.

I work at Carrollwood Station, I've worked for the Postal Service since 1981, and served with the Air Force for 5 years.

Last July my career with the Postal Service almost came to an end. I only had 2 years until retirement but I probably wouldn't have had the possibility of my retirement check if I hadn't had the support and assistance of my shop steward Freddie Nimphius.

I rarely attend union meetings but I am aware that the union is always there for its members. I always watched Freddie Nimphius as he discussed issues with management on the workroom floor ever since I first arrived at Carrollwood in 1990. Since I first witnessed Freddie Nimphius and his dealings with management, I really never understood what he actually did every day until I needed his assistance. In my case he assured me that I was going to be well protected, I knew he knew what he was talking about because in his career he had been threatened by management a number of times. I also know that in his career he has probably been awarded the most money in Tampa as result of his standing up for the contract. He has won more grievances than any one I know in the union.

I had to report to the 3rd floor for my incident with my shop steward, Freddie Nimphius. I was totally impressed and reassured in my situation, when everyone that passed by me and Freddie Nimphius knew who he was and that he represented the union, Branch 599, and me Tom Tonkyro, the regular everyday carrier

The union represented me as I requested, Freddie Nimphius resolved my situation and my possibility for retirement has been restored. When the routes needed to be tweaked at Carrollwood he created new positions and adjusted my over burdened route as well as other routes that wanted to be adjusted. I, Tom Tonkyro, have finally ~ that after all these years what a good union steward can do for you and your career.

I know the Branch elections are this month, and Freddie Nimphius is running for the Vice-President position and I heartily endorse his candidacy. I know Freddie Nimphius will be a great Vice President, as proven by his past record as shop steward and the numerous other positions he has held in Branch 599 since 1980.

In closing I would like to thank Branch 599 for providing me with the union representation I needed during my time of need, I never thought I would need the union, but I did and I had Freddie Nimphius.

In my union freedom of expression Nimphius-Peacock and the trendy New Coalition have my support.

Elections, again! Depressing, isn't it? But, necessary. I am the kind of carrier who requires good representation. I'm unsure of my rights, and I have a problem with my mouth. When harrassed by management, I tend to react in a less than peaceful manner. John Watts represented me when I was at Forest Hills. I could have been fired. He had my punishment reduced to LWOP during my scheduled day off! While I was at Sulphur Springs, Al Guice was able to take every negative piece of paper-work in my records and have them torn up. When I returned to Sulpher Springs after a tour in the Army, Matt Kokich took me and my supervisor into an office, and when we came out, there was not only peace between us (and this after at least one outburst from me) but lasting peace. His knowl- edge of not only the rights, but the principles on which they are based gave such weight to his opinion, that there was little arguement once he spoke. While I was at Seminole Heights, Tony Diaz did the most wondrous of things. He kept me completely out of trouble. I'm not sure how he did it, but every time I started having problems with management, Tony worked it to my advantage. We've recently heard the term "political capital". These representatives, because of their knowledge, temperament, and experience have gendered a lot of political capital. I don't always agree with them, and during our personal time we argue. But when we part, we part as friends. I trust my back to these people, and I'm asking you to do the same. I have been in two wars, and in many a battle- field. I have been shot at, but nothing has prepared me for the violence of our Union meetings. It has to stop. We need representatives who can work together with people with which they disagree without having lasting animosity. When Jim Good took my grievence, he was given a case where there were so many blatant violations, there was no way to lose. PTFs hired while we were fired? Less than two weeks notice? Downsizing stations without route adjustments? I had been so angry, that I had considered going to Rich Rome's office and demonstrating physically that there is a personal side to his little head games. But it was so obvious that we were going to win, I was able to re- strain myself. I trusted Jim to do me ight. I was then sent to the Middle East, but continued to carry on correspondence with Jim via email. I first knew something was wrong when Jim stopped re- sponding to my emails! I found out that we had lost the case when another carrier who was in the same unit said he had heard rumors to that effect. I had to call management to get verification! I believe that Jim means well, but is inadequate for the job. It's time for a whole new team. Whether by absentee ballot or in person, vote for the Coalition. Steve Hall, Sulphur Springs Sta- tion, ph: 494-4669

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## **THE NEW COALITION**

**FOR THE EVER CHANGING NEEDS OF LETTER CARRIERS NATION  
WIDE AND HERE AT BRANCH 599.**

**A POSITIVE, PRECISE, UNAMBIGUOUS, AN UNEQUIVOCAL TEAM  
OF LEADERSHIP THAT I AM PROUD TO BE A PART OF.**

**I'M GEORGE McENDREE, A NOMINEE FOR TRUSTEE.  
ALSO KNOWN AS THE AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLE TITLED  
"IN THE KNOW"**

**I JOINED THE WORKFORCE RIGHT OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL.  
I'VE BEEN A MEMBER OF THE NALC FOR MANY YEARS.  
OVER 19 YEARS AT BRANCH 599, PAST MEMBER BRANCH 40  
PAST MEMBER BRANCH 482 (MY HOME TOWN).**

**THE EARLY YEARS, AS A TEAMSTERS AND IRON/BRIDGE  
WORKERS UNIONS RESPECTFULLY.**

**I'VE SERVED AS SHOP STEWARD IN BRANCH 599, UNDER THREE  
DIFFERENT PRESIDENT'S ALL AT HPCA. I'M PRESENTLY A  
MEMBER OF THE TLC BOARD AND SIT IS AS A TRUSTEE.**

**YOUR VOTE FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF THE  
PEACOCK-WATTS-NIMPHIUS TEAM. WILL BRING YEARS OF  
EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND THE RESOURCES. TO MAKE  
THIS BRANCH A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH!!!**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ RE-ELECT ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

# JOHN GEBBO

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FOR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**  
**BRANCH 599 N.A.L.C.**

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## ***The EXPERIENCED Incumbent***

- 26 Years a Member of Branch 599
- 26 Years a Health Plan Member N.A.L.C.
- 22 Years T.L.C. Inc.
- 14 Years Financial Secretary
- 4 Years Recording Secretary
- 10 Years Delegate to State and National Conventions

***“Retired but NOT TIRED”***

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*Union Members  
Branch 599 N.A.L.C.  
Tampa, Florida*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters,*

*I am up for re-election for Financial Secretary of Branch 599. On December 2, 2009 I am asking for your support and vote. As I have in the past, I will continue to work for the best interest of the branch and all members.*

*My thanks to each and every member for the support you have given me during previous terms as Financial Secretary. Once again, I am asking for your support for my re-election. Thanking you in advance for your support and hopefully your vote.*

*Sincerely and Fraternally,*

*John Gebbo*



PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

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# Vote Eric Fleming For MBA/NSBA

## Union Representative for Branch 599

### Qualifications

- Union Stewart-2 years/handling various grievances
- Attended Florida State Training Seminars
- Grievance Investigation/FMLA/SLOC
- Overtime Tracking

### Educated not Aggravated

- Bachelor of Science/Criminology
- Masters of Science/Criminology

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am counting on your support in my effort to become the next MBA/NSBA representative of Branch 599. Over the past nine years I have worked constantly for the rights of all carriers and to ensure that union members receive the best. As your MBA/NSBA representative I will ensure that our union members will be well informed and educated on the importance of issues such as life insurance. I will work from a foundation of education, not constant aggravation.

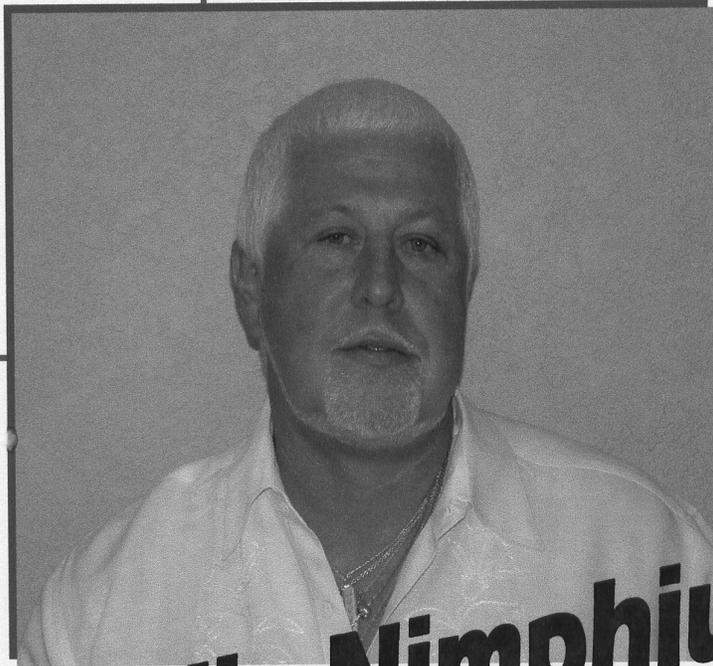
My thanks go to each and every member for your support during this election. Let's work together for a winning team.

**Remember- Eric Fleming- MBA/NSBA Representative**

Thank you for your support,

Eric Fleming

**Paid Political Advertisement**



# **Freddie Nimphius** ***for* Vice President**

Branch 599 deserves the type of Vice President that will give the membership strong experienced leadership without regard to personal feelings. I offer you that commitment.

I ask for your vote, and in return, I pledge to be available when you need my help.

**Capable**

**Experienced**

## **Served Branch 599 as**

- Trustee
- Employee & Welfare Representative
- MBA/NSBA
- Local Negotiation Contract Committee member
- Branch EEO Representative
- Branch Bylaws Committee member
- Workers' Compensation experience
- Convention Delegate  
State & National
- Shop Steward at several stations
- Current Shop Steward, Carrollwood

**Dedicated**



## VOTE JIM GOOD FOR PRESIDENT

Below I have listed a comparison of experience between myself and my opponent. These are the facts. The more informed the voter, the better quality of officer that will be elected to serve and represent the membership.

### **Jim Good**

Continuous service since 1996

1. Shop Steward from 1996-2001
2. Step II Designee 1997-2001
3. TLC Board Director 1997-2004
4. TLC Treasurer 1999-2002
5. State Convention Delegate past 8 yrs
6. Nat. Convention Delegate past 8 yrs
7. Branch 599 Trustee 1999-2001
8. Branch 599 President 2002-present

### **Alan Peacock**

Sporadic service

1. Shop Steward ? years, not 2004
2. Formal "A" Rep. 2002-2003
3. TLC Board Director 2002-2003
4. TLC (Appointed) Co-chair 1 year
5. State Conv. Delegate 2003
6. No Nat. Conv. Past 8 yrs.
7. No Branch office past 13 yrs

As you can see, the differences between us are great. The office of President of this branch is something that must be earned. The demands are great, the responsibilities sometime seem overwhelming and it takes years of seasoning and training to be able to stand up to the task. It is not a popularity contest. Words alone do not make a candidate qualified to be the President. Dedication, training, standing up to all types of opposition and challenges, and sometimes sacrificing one's time that should be spent with one's family is necessary.

Just a few things that I feel must be pointed out from last month's newsletter. My opponent stated "We must unite in order to accomplish our mutual goals and protect what is so valuable to us all". Why then did he sign a petition to bring official charges against me, only the third time in the history of our branch, at a cost to the union of over \$800.00, and then withdraw all charges without a finding? That doesn't sound like unity to me.

He goes on to say "Like the theme of our National Convention, many people, many cultures, one union, so should this be the slogan of our branch". Yet he did not attend the 2004 National Convention. That's OK, there's nothing wrong with not attending a convention, but if you want to be the branch president shouldn't you be there?

I have dedicated myself to this branch and its members for the past three years and look forward to doing so for the next three. I have the utmost respect and confidence in the members of this branch to weigh the qualifications of myself and my opponent and make a responsible choice.

# GOOD/AEPPPEL/CABANAS

When I took over as president almost three years ago I had no idea of the complexities of this office. I thought that it might take me six months to a year to get myself together and fully understand the position of President. I was wrong! I've been in office almost three years and am finally to the point where I feel confident in my duties. I have been able, through presidential appointments, to surround myself with dedicated officers that I can depend on for assistance when needed. Unfortunately I do have one officer who has made it abundantly clear that he is not with me or the best interests of the local union and its members. He has fought me at every turn, yet he cries out "unionism". I wish that weren't the case, but it is.

The reason I bring these facts to you is that I know that I have done a good job for the membership during my initial term. I have based all my policies and decisions on my belief that honesty, integrity, and dedication are the true meaning of unionism. I know most of you agree!

That being said, I have put together a team of dedicated, well trained members that share my beliefs. The "New Coalition" has a long list of "changes" that they want to make. They say that they want to gain respect with a new leadership. Respect is already here, it does not need to be gained, and it has already been earned. They want to "better train the shop stewards", yet my opponent isn't even a shop steward and his running mates for Exec. V.P. and V.P. haven't gone to the State Training Seminars in over a year and a half! They talk and are concerned about our branch finances, yet we are in better shape financially than in any time in recent history, even after paying out over \$30,000.00 to our previous president.

Please join me in supporting the dedicated candidates that I have chosen to run with me so that together we can continue to represent you in the manner that you all deserve.

---

## Vote Good-Aeppel-Cabanas

**You work hard in a demanding job, in a sometimes hostile environment, for abusive and unreasonable managers and supervisors. You don't need inexperienced, pro-management, on again/off again flaky representation. You need real help.**

**As a union member, you deserve quality, knowledgeable, dedicated union representation. You want the kind of representative that not only means what he says but who is also there when you need him. You don't need empty promises, fancy election ads, catchy slogans, or a "new coalition". You need smart, tough defenders who are able and willing to fight for your rights.**

**Why settle for less? Vote for your best interests and for the best interests of your union brothers and sisters. Vote for experience, knowledge, dedication and tenacity.**

## Vote Good-Aeppel-Cabanas

 **VOTE**  
**ALAN PEACOCK**



**PRESIDENT**  
**BRANCH 599 NALC**

As a candidate for President of Branch 599 National Association of Letter Carriers, I ask for your vote and support in order to provide the representation that is so necessary in our current environment. If you select me to lead our branch, I will do everything in my power to include all members in every aspect of our organization. Together we can make our branch one that we will all be clearly proud of and preserve its future for the benefit of all active and retired members. We must unite in order to accomplish our mutual goals and protect what is so valuable to us all. We will never diminish the accomplishments of the past, nor will we sit idly and allow those many hard fought for rights and benefits to be stripped away. It is my utmost desire that we become the most informed and inclusive organization in our union. Like the theme of our national convention, Many People, Many Cultures, One Union, so should this be the slogan of our branch. With your support and trust in the group of leaders that I feel will be faithful servants to our entire membership and with the hope for garnering the involvement of any members who desire to contribute to the betterment of our union, we will succeed together. I personally invite all our members to become involved in the new coalition for change to insure a brighter future for our branch.

Fraternally in Solidarity

Alan W. Peacock

Democracy cannot be truly representative if it locks out the people it seeks to serve...

Paid Political Advertisement

# ELECT CHERYL CLOTHIER

For  
Recording Secretary Branch 599 NALC

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- 21 years service as SFC in the US Army, retiring in 2003
  - 7 years as Personnel Services NCOIC, for Communications Instruction and Training Battalion USAR
  - 3 years successfully running Food Drive, as coordinator
  - 13 years as union member in NALC
  - 3 months as appointed Branch 599 Recording Secretary
- 

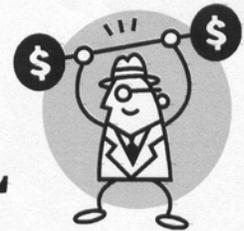
**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

**If I am elected as your next Recording Secretary, I would do the job to my utmost ability. I would apply those Army values that I was taught while serving my country. Those values are: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. They all apply to everyday living and work ethics. My thanks go to all who supported me through the Food Drive campaigns. You all know how dedicated I am once engaged in an activity. I am asking for your support now, by voting for me as your next Recording Secretary Branch 599.**

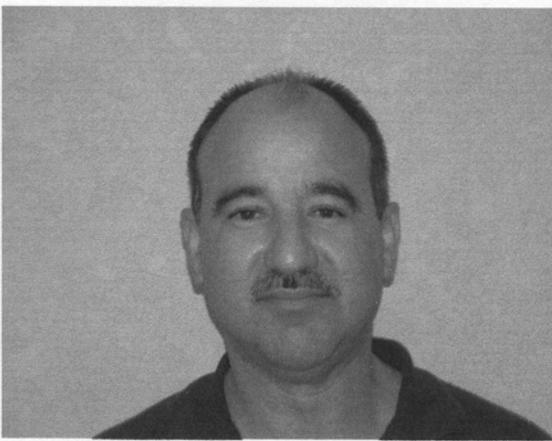
**Sincerely,**

**Cheryl Clothier**

PAID POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENT



VOTE  
**DUANE A. DOSAL**  
TREASURER



**EDUCATION:** B. A. in Business Administration and Mathematics

- EXPERIENCE:**
- Former Shop Steward at Carrollwood & Forest Hills Annex.
  - 1986 – Detailed to Budget Office
  - 1992 – Union / Management Route Adjustment Team
  - 1993 – DPS Methodologies Test in Tampa
  - 1994 – Route Inspection Review Team
  - 1995 – 1998 Head of Route Adjustments for Tampa When Branch 599 actually made the adjustments.
  - 2003 – Present - Treasurer Of Tampa Letter Carriers, Inc.

My desire is to provide Branch 599 with honest and responsible financial accountability.

IT ALL ADDS UP !

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT



VOTE GOOD - AEPPEL - CABANAS VOTE

ELECT DETLEV AEPPEL  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT BRANCH 599

I AM ASKING FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND YOUR VOTE FOR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF BRANCH 599. I AM WELL PREPARED AND FULLY QUALIFIED FOR THIS TASK. I HAVE STUDIED, TRAINED AND DEMONSTRATED MY KNOWLEDGE OF UNION ISSUES. AS STEWARD, HEALTH BENEFIT REPRESENTATIVE, AND VICE PRESIDENT I HAVE FOUGHT TIRELESSLY FOR THE RIGHTS OF MY FELLOW CARRIERS AND BEEN GUIDED BY THE PRINCIPLES OF HONESTY, INTEGRITY, MORALITY, ETHICS, AND FAIR TREATMENT FOR ALL. I HAVE BEEN TAPPED BY PRESIDENT JIM GOOD FOR SPECIAL PROJECTS AND LABORED DILIGENTLY TO HELP MAKE HIS ADMINISTRATION A SUCCESS. I HAVE ALWAYS SERVED THE BRANCH TO THE UTMOST OF MY ABILITY. I AM NOT BEHOLDEN TO ANY PAST ADMINISTRATION. MY ONLY AGENDA IS REPRESENTING THE MEMBERS OF BRANCH 599 AND MAKING EVERYONE'S VOICE HEARD. I WILL WORK TO BRING UNITY TO OUR BRANCH BY FOSTERING AN ATMOSPHERE OF INCLUSION AND INVITING EVERYONE TO PARTICIPATE. I WILL WORK TO DEVELOP FUTURE BRANCH LEADERS BY ENSURING NEW STEWARDS ARE WELL TRAINED AND BY IMPLEMENTING A COMMITTEE SYSTEM AND ENCOURAGING VOLUNTEERISM.

1. Letter carrier and Branch 599 member since 1988
2. Shop Steward Ybor Station 1992-1993 & 2000 - Present
3. Health Benefits Representative 2003
4. Vice President Branch 599 January 2004 - Present
5. Attended six State Conventions since 1993
6. Attended the past five National Conventions
7. Attended every State Training Seminar held during my tenure as Steward
8. Certified OWCP Specialist
9. Designated Union Observer for route adjustments 2002 - Present
10. Food drive volunteer 2000 - 2004
11. MDA Volunteer 2004
12. Member of e-Activist network and COLCPE payroll deduction contributor

ELECT DETLEV AEPPEL  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
ON DECEMBER 2

# NEW COALITION



We are Past and Present Officers, Shop Stewards, Active and Retired Members of Branch 599 NALC. We Bring Many Years of Knowledge and Experience; We Stand Together In Bond, for a Change in the Future of Our Branch with No Self Interest. You hold the key and together we can make our Union better. You're Trust and Vote for the Coalition will strengthen our unity. >WE ask all our friends to support the Coalition<

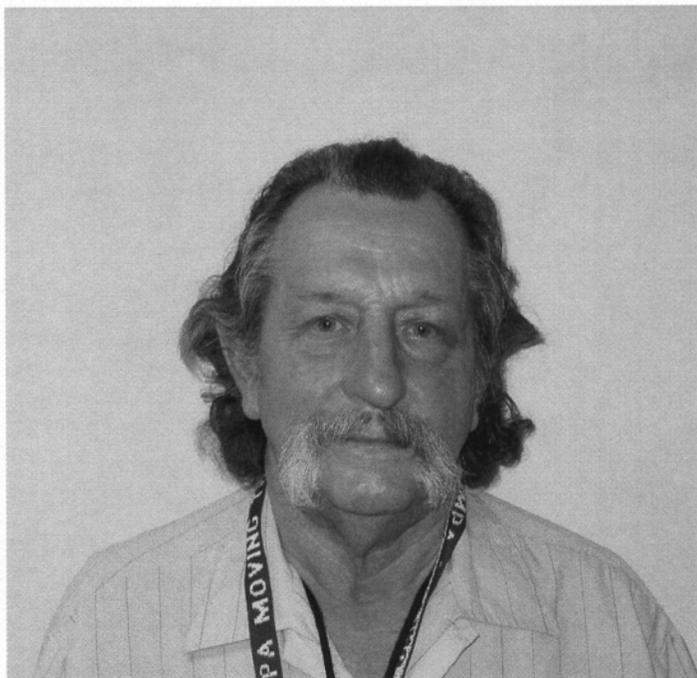
## The New Coalition for a Better Branch 599

President.....Alan PEACOCK  
Exec-Vice President.....John Watts  
Vice President.....Freddie Nimphius  
Recording Secretary.....Glynis Alexander  
Treasurer.....Duane Dosal  
Financial Secretary.....Tony Diaz  
Trustee.....Arnold Butch Smith  
Trustee.....Dook Ramotor  
Trustee.....George McEndree  
Sergeant at Arms.....Julius Howard  
MBA/NSBA.....Al Guice  
Health Benefits.....Gary Stone  
Labor Management Member.....Matt Kokich  
Labor Management Member...Veronica Lorenzo  
Director of Retiree's.....Jaime Rodriguez

Please join us and get involved. We welcome your ideas and concerns. For Absentee Ballots: You must call and request the absentee ballot from November 5 through November 18, 2004. From 8:00 AM.-5:00 PM Call for your Absentee Ballot: @ Tel: 813-875-0599 or 813-877-5491

Paid Political Advertisement

**FOR OUR GOOD AND THE GOOD  
OF THE BRANCH VOTE FOR JIM GOOD  
AND HIS TEAM**



**PAID FOR BY M. C. BROUSSEAU  
CARRIER EXTRAORDINAIRE**

# RE-ELECT JOHN "TOO TALL" WATTS

## EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT



Elect a proven leader who has the knowledge, experience, and determination to get things done. I am an aggressive, outspoken union man that will go to bat for all my brothers and sisters regardless of the situation. I am not the apathetic type that is going to sit on my butt and let management run loose. Being a fighter, I will make sure management abides by our contract and is accountable to the carriers. I don't pull punches; I tell it like it is.

I have been representing members of Branch 599 since 1984. You the members have elected me to be your representative for almost twenty consecutive years. If re-elected I will continue to fight for all of your rights. If you want the best representation available then I am your man. I will give my all for you and our union. Thank You and God Bless America.

# Vote Dec 2

Paid Political Advertisement

## Julius C. Howard for Sergeant at Arms-Proud to serve:



I have over thirty-two years of service and I am presently the Shop Steward at Palm River Station and prior I also served as Shop Steward at Ybor City Post Office. Since Nineteen-Eighty Seven I concurrently served as representative of both sides on the 33605 and 33619 of the station. For several years I served as a Trustee of our Branch during the nineteen-ninety's. I served then and today I want get involved once again and provide a service to the Union. I am proud and feel honored to be a member of this great Union I have had the pleasure to be associated with some great people. I have been thought by the best and thank them all, in turn I have used that knowledge and experience to better represent the people in my station and believe me their have been numerous grievances concerning removals, letters of warnings, safety issues, overtime issues. I have presented grievances that have recovered thousands of dollars in monetary payment for resolving the issues that affected our members. Being a Shop Steward takes a toll on you

when you have to represent a member involving removals it takes a lot of effort to make sure that the member receive a just and fair resolve to their problem and get them back to work. I have had a share of inept supervisors that had little knowledge and experience in the floor operation in the Post Office. But many were thank full when they left the station and some left with my hope that they never return again. I respectfully request your support and ask that you give me your confidence to once again be involved in the operation of our branch and help the leaders of our branch. I not only ask you vote for me, I also ask that you give support to Alan Peacock as your President and to does that are part of The New Coalition, we are seeking election for future leaders in our Branch. This group of brothers and sisters I know well, I have worked with them and have complete faith and trust in them and I ask for you're vote. Together we will make the future of your representation a lot better. Thank you. J.C...

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## Dook Ramotor for Trustee-Honor Respect and Unionism



I have been a participant of Union activities from the beginning of my carrier in the Postal Service and attend to all Union meeting. I have served for over twenty years as a letter carrier and for over fifteen years I have served as the Shop Steward at Down Town Commerce's Station. During my tenure here I have defended successfully Six Removals, the carriers were returned to work with full restored pay and no derogatory record in their file. I have also addressed many other issues involving grievances concerning letters of warning they were resolve favorably for the carriers. The major infractions and violation is the equitability of the carriers on the Over-Time Desire List, every quarter I have to address this problem and seek a monetary resolve for carriers that were not made whole on the ODL. I want to thank my friends they have supported and kept me in office for a long time. My respect goes out to all and I remind them that on December 2, 2004 is the day for our Branch

Election, held at the Union Hall

I consider myself very fortunate with the training that I have received at National Conventions, State Conventions, Shop Steward Seminars and monthly shop stewards meeting by the Branch.

I have requested the support and the vote from members that work in my station and I ask for your vote. I am also associated and running with Alan Peacock an excellent selection for President of Branch 599 and I support him. The team The New Coalition was put together to better serve the membership and now the ball is in court, your vote really counts. Vote for John Watts, Freddie Nimphius, Glynis Alexander, Duane Dosal, Tony Diaz, Arnold Butch Smith, George McEdree, Julius Howard, Al Guice, Gary Stone, Veronica Lorenzo and Jaime Rodriguez. We assure you that your representation will be protected and excellent presented. Make Your Vote Count!

[Paid Political Advertisement]

# ELECT

## Gilbert Cabanas For

### Vice President of Local Branch 599 Vote on December 2, 2004

*My experience and qualifications  
Will preserve your contract rights.*

.....

#### Qualifications:

- Longest Consecutive Running Shop Steward, since 1984
- Vice-President, 1991-1994
- Union Member, since 1968
- Letter Carrier, since 1968
- Safety Coordinator from 1993-1994 for the City of Tampa

#### Experience:

- In charge of city-wide team routing adjustments (1993-1994)
  - In charge of first vertical flats team (1994)
  - City D.P.S. Coordinator, (1994)
  - City Food Drive Coordinator
  - Handled E.E.O. claims
  - Delegate to National Conventions, since 1984
  - Delegate to State Conventions, since 1984
  - Delegate to Training Seminars, since 1984
  - Original member of the "Million Mile Club"
- .....

#### Goals/Changes:

- Support the current president, Jim Good.
  - Provide information and training to all stewards at monthly meeting.
  - I will be involved in all major issues, not hand my duties to others.
  - PROVIDE KNOWLEDGE LEADERSHIP - HONESTY  
AND RESPECT
- .....

*Gilbert Cabanas*

**ELECT**  
**LANCE JONES**  
**For**  
**NALC HEALTH**  
**BENEFITS**  
**REPRESENTATIVE**

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Three years as Steward at Hilldale annex.

Two years as Sergeant at Arms.

Three years on the Executive Board.

One year on TLC.

Currently Branch 599's Health Benefits Representative.

Attended last six State Training seminars.

Attended 2004 National convention.

Attended Health Benefits Training Session at the 2004 National Convention.

Worked with several Health Benefit claims adjusters for the benefit of members.

**My Agenda**

In the next three years I hope to add several non-participating Doctors to the PPO list.

Especially those Doctors that work for the participating hospitals but are not currently PPO providers. This will save our members 20 % on those Doctors bills by raising the benefit payment from 70% to 90% by the plan.

I'll be there for the membership by making myself available on my days off or a Sunday if that's what it takes. By coming to your house to hear your concerns or go over your Medical statements with you. Choose carefully and vote for the People who will be there for you. Please come out and Vote on December 2 it's your union and your future.



# **Gary Stone**

**for**

# **Health Benefits Representative**

Please allow me the opportunity to serve you as *Health Benefits Representative* for the next three years. When elected, my plan is to establish a strong working relationship with a representative at our headquarters, allowing me to discuss and resolve issues that we encounter from time to time...enabling me to better serve you.

Over the years, I have come to realize that the National Association of Letter Carriers is the best possible organization and we should be active members. Not only have I been a member of TLC, but I have also been involved in the preservation of our union hall.

Early in my career, I felt by going into management, I could make a difference and improve working conditions for Letter Carriers. But, management did not allow supervisors that much authority and I returned to delivering mail. Lesson learned—the best place to help Letter Carriers is through our union. With your trust and vote, I stand ready to serve you, Branch 599 members, to the best of my ability. I am counting on your vote, December 2.

**Given the chance to serve, I won't let you down!**

## PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

I feel very fortunate to have served you, the membership, for over twenty-five continuous years...from Shop Steward to Recording Secretary to Chairman of T.L.C., Inc. to present, Financial Secretary.

During my time on the Executive Board and T.L.C. Inc Board of Directors, I have always voted the way I thought the members who elected me would want me to.

In 1994 I was asked to run on a slate with the then incumbent President. At that time I felt there were candidates running that were better qualified than the ones on that slate, so I ran as an independent.

This election year I will be on the incumbent's slate...President Jim Good's Slate. Why? Just short of three years as President, Jim has accomplished the things he said he would do during the last election. As a first term president he has exceeded my expectations even under some adverse conditions. I was appalled at several of our branch meetings the way some of the members showed no respect for this president. Not only did he have to fight management but some of our own brothers and sisters. Yet, these same members talk about respect, dignity, and solidarity. Where have they been the last three years?

President Good has picked a slate that has always been 100% Union. It has a good mixture of young and old. People with continuous service of dedication, integrity, knowledge and honesty. The likes of members, Gil Cabanas, Jack Newman, Mike Anderson, Henry Dupree, Jose Olivia and this writer. Once again, I stress continuous service to all members, active and retirees.

Of the younger group, President Good has on his slate the likes of Detlev Aepfel, Cheryl Clothier, Terry Franklin, Jack Hencoski, Eric Fleming, Lance Jones, Michael Stewart and last but not least, Brian Obst. This is a group of present branch officers, shop stewards and a PAC organizer. I see here a group of future leaders in our branch. They have the drive, desire and initiative.

I am asking each and every member to vote wisely. The Union is only as good as the membership. The membership is supreme. You will determine which direction you want this great union of ours to go. In the last three years there has been some great gains. We have a better line of communication to our membership through our monthly newsletter and our Branch 599 web site. A good relationship with our National Officers and Business Agent. Respect from the other branches in the Suncoast District and throughout the country. And last, but not least, we are financially better off today than we've been since I took office in 1990.

Once again, please support the Good/Aepfel/Cabanas Team and the rest of the "Good Guys" slate. With all that said and done, I would like to wish each and everyone a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season.

Thanking you in advance for your support for my re-election and hopefully your vote on December 2, 2004.

Sincerely and Fraternaly,

*John Gebo*

# Albert "Big Al" Guice



**For the past fourteen years I have held the office of M.B.A. Representative for our Branch**

**Since 1991 you have heard me on the microphone at every Union meeting, I am usually the first one to give the monthly Union reports on issues pertaining to MBA.**

**I am a proud member of this Union and I have attended most of all conventions since nineteen-eighty-seven. As Shop Steward I have serve the brothers and sisters at the Sulphur Springs Station for over ten**

**years. I have Attended Shop Steward training and State Seminars. Serve in the Executive Board and performed other services for the Branch.**

**I am running with The New Coalition Team, we are experience and knowledgeable, I ask you to give me your vote and support this excellent group of people that want to make changes in our Branch.**

**Come Vote on December 2, 2004 at the Union Hall**

## TAMPA LETTER CARRIERS PRESENT BINGO

**COME JOIN THE FUN**

**EVERY WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY**

**DOORS OPEN AT 5:30**

**GAMES START AT 6:30**

**AT THE TAMPA LETTER CARRIERS HALL**

**3003 W. CYPRESS St.**

**Tampa, Fl. 33609**

**813-877-4785**

# **VOTE FOR MICHAEL ANDERSON**

## **TREASURER**

***It is with great honor that I accept the nomination as Treasurer of this great union. I have eleven years experience as Treasurer under three Branch presidents. Between those years I was able to serve the Branch as Vice President and as President. I have been a delegate to National as well as State Conventions since 1984. I have been a District Trainer since 1993, and I just had the privilege of being appointed the Lead Trainer for the Southeast Area by our National Director of City Delivery, Brother Fred Rolando. But most important of all, I have been a Letter Carrier my entire career. It has been important to me to have a positive effect on this Branch. I look forward to seeing everyone for this election and ask that you consider the team of Jim Good. We have worked hard together for the best interest of this branch and will continue to work for all of our brothers and sisters. We must all come together to help the President of the United States to understand the importance of Postal Reform. I have the utmost respect for Jim Good and a vote for the team is a vote for the future of our postal jobs as well as a vote for the future of Branch 599 National Association of Letter Carriers.***

### ***VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE AND KNOWLEDGE***

***Jim Good                      President***

***Detlev Aeppel                Exec. Vice Pres.***

***Gilbert Cabanas            Vice President***

***Cheryl Clothier            Recording Secretary***

***John Gebo                    Financial Secretary***

***Michael Anderson Treasurer***

***Board of Trustees***

***Henry Dupree***

***Jose Oliva***

***Terry Franklin***

***Jack Hencoski              Sergeant at Arms***

***Eric Fleming                MBA/NSBA Representative***

***Lance Jones                Health Benefits Representative***

***Jack Newman              Director of Retirees***

***Brian Obst & Michael Stewart      Labor Relations Representatives***

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\* APY - Annual Percentage Yield. Fees could reduce earnings on account.  
Penalty will be imposed for early withdrawals. \$1000 minimum deposit.  
Rates effective as of October 1, 2004.

A.R. "Tony" Huerta NALC Branch 599  
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<http://www.nalc599.com>

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