



Tampa Letter Carrier

Volume 2 - Issue 5

A.R. "Tony" Huerta - NALC Branch 599

May 2003

President's Report

by Jim Good

President - Branch 599

Well, it's that time of year again. The 11th annual letter carriers' food drive will be held on Saturday, May 10th. Last year, through your hard work, we collected over 750,000 pounds of food. I'm sure that we will be at least as successful this year. Cheryl Clothier has again volunteered to coordinate the food drive, and everything is going smoothly and on schedule. All those who ordered t-shirts should have them delivered by their shop stewards by Friday, May 2nd. The Executive Vice-President of Branch 2008 NALC (Clearwater), Al Friedman, was successful in getting Kash & Karry on board this year. They have agreed to supply all the bags for collection of the food at no cost to any of the branches in our area. They also will be collecting food donations at their stores in our area, which should contribute greatly to the success of our drive. Just remember, when you're out there sweating and breaking your back lifting all those heavy bags of food, its for a great cause.

on the Labor Day Jerry Lewis Telethon for countless years. Our own branch, in years past, was always one of the leaders in raising contributions on a regular basis. We are going to re-commit ourselves to that cause starting this year. In the near future we will be asking for volunteers from each station to collect donations at some of the major intersections throughout our area. We may start a golf tournament or other type of event with the proceeds going to the MDA. But the officers of this branch can't do it ourselves, we need your help, so please be ready to offer whatever assistance you can when the time arrives.



Now for an update on some of the important issues concerning working conditions in Tampa. We have an arbitration date for the first grievances regarding the excessing of full-time regular letter carriers. The case will be arbitrated on June 10, 2003, and we should have a decision back within 30 days of the conclusion of that arbitration. While the results are never certain, the union feels confident that we have developed a strong case and are anxious to have our "day in court". The carriers that have been excessed outside the city, and those who have been arbitrarily moved into the mail handler craft, have been very patient. It's time for those carriers to be returned and made whole for management's blatant violations of the

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While I'm writing about great causes, let me tell you about some plans I am putting into place to get back into the business of helping the Muscular Dystrophy Association. I have formed a new committee to look into different ways for our branch to raise donations for this very worthwhile association. As many of you know, the National Association of Letter Carriers has a history of helping the MDA on a National Level. Our National President, or his designee, has appeared

**BRANCH
MEETING
THURSDAY
MAY 1
7:30 PM
AT
THE
UNION HALL**

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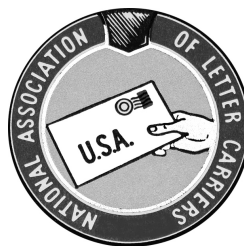
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Carrollwood	33618	Susan Sinigaglia	813-962-3128
Commerce	33602	Dook Ramotar Sr.	813-780-6254
Forest Hills	33612	John Watts	813-971-5525
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Ella Winner	352-583-0626
Hilldale	33614	Gilbert Cabanas	813-855-0516
Hilldale Annex	33634	Lance Jones	813-968-9369
Hyde Park	33606	George McEndree	813-935-0244
Interbay	33611	Dee Brockman	813-831-2034
Interbay	33629	Brian Obst	727-507-0135
MacDill	33608	Dee Brockman	813-831-2034
Northdale	33624	Freddie Nimphius	813-968-7491
Palm River	33619	J.C. Howard	813-621-1976
Plant City	33565	Misty Bauer	813-719-6793
Port Tampa	33616	Sammy Graham	813-837-6257
Produce	33610	Harold Frantz	813-231-2621
Ruskin/Sun City	33570	Jack Hencoski	813-633-5422
Seminole Heights	33603	Mike Stewart	813-238-7401
Sulphur Springs	33604	Albert Guice	813-621-7931
TCA	33609	Alan Peacock	813-962-0646
TCA	33607	Anthony Moran	813-872-0709
Temple Terrace	33617	Frank Pereira	813-988-0526
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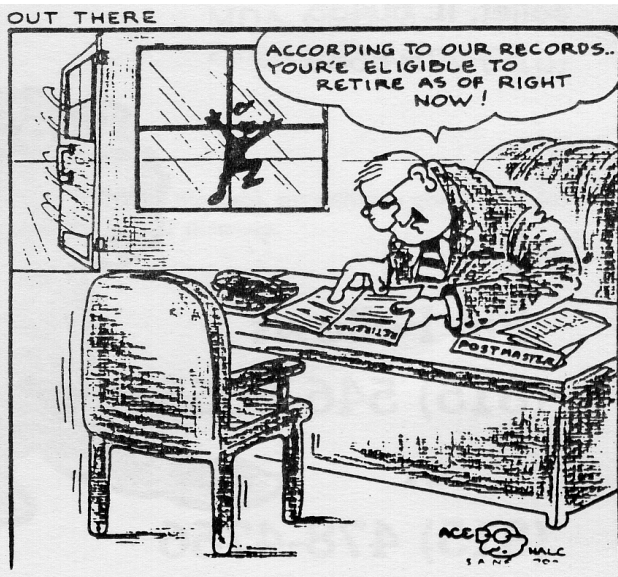
MAPS Coordinator

Christian Albrecht 727-791-7162

Presidents Emeritus

Milton McConnell	James Butler
Sam Dolcimascolo	Garland Tickle
Howard Carter	Orbe Andux
Don Thomas	Michael Anderson
Lenin V. Perez	

RETIREES BREAKFAST
First Monday of every month
9:00 AM
at
The Coffee Cup
4407 N. Hubert
in Drew Park
(NE corner of MLK & Hubert)

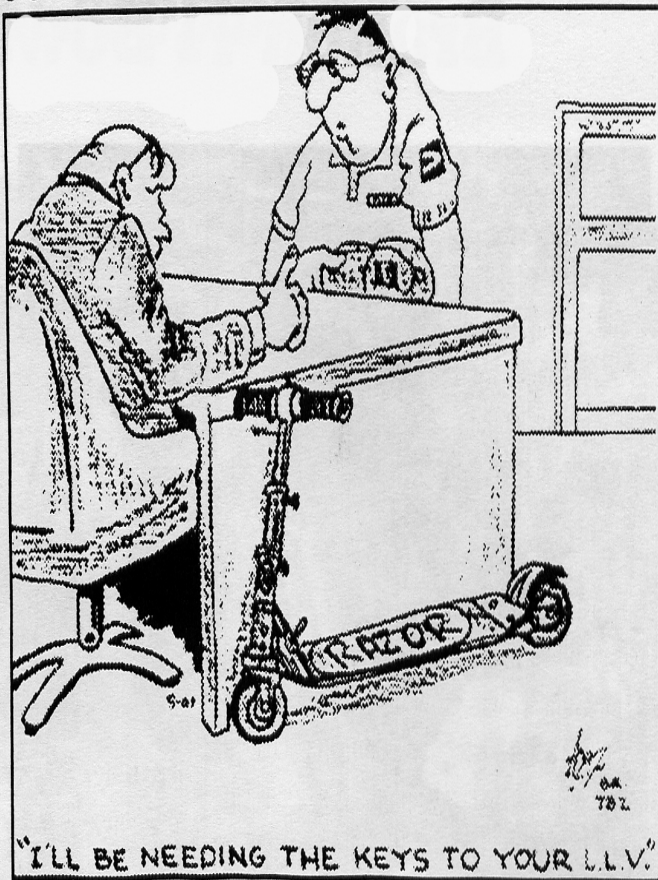


The President's Report *(from page 1)*

National Agreement. Maybe when justice is served, management's superiors will see that these people do not have the best interests of the Postal Service at heart, and will hold them accountable for their convoluted decisions, but I seriously doubt it.

The Postmaster and Area Manager have informed me that they have received approval for twelve PTF's to transfer into Tampa. How they can tell me, with a straight face, that this is good news and will benefit the carriers is beyond my comprehension. They say that the PTF's are needed because of the shortage of manpower in the city, *yet they continue to excess full-time carriers outside the city!* What is wrong with this picture? I may not be the most intelligent person in the world, but it seems to me that management is thumbing their noses at our union. How can they possibly think that they have the right, contractually or morally, to send full-time carriers to other cities and at the same time import PTF's from around the country. When this arbitration is ruled upon, by who I hope is a logically thinking arbitrator, I can only hope these so-called leaders of the Tampa Post Office are made to pay dearly for their gross mismanagement.

OUT THERE



ARSLAN UNIFORMS

Bill 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

The Watts Line

by **John A. Watts**

Executive Vice-President - Branch 599

The Commission on Postal Reform appointed by President Bush is giving their report and recommendations on July 31st of this year. All Letter Carriers and Postal employees should be writing their Senators and Congressmen to let them know that Universal Service must continue. (Universal Service means delivering to every address in the United States six days a week.) We should also let the politicians know that they should never consider privatizing the Postal Service. This would virtually make using our service in small communities and rural areas so expensive many Americans could not afford to send a letter or mail a package.

House Bill HR735 and Senate Bill 380 have been passed by Congress and are awaiting the President's signature. Both these bills deal with adjusting the payment formula for funding the Civil Service Retirement System. When these bills are signed the Postal Service will save 3 billion dollars per year, postponing rate hikes and helping to pay for other postal needs.

At the present time on the local front we are dealing with hostile working conditions at a few of the stations in Tampa. I personally feel that the union and upper management will resolve these issues so we can focus on other problems that also need to be addressed such as forced overtime and staffing in each station. If your unit is not properly staffed it places a burden on the craft employees to get the mail distributed and delivered in a timely manner and also because of budget restraints places a burden on the manager and floor supervisors to make an unrealistic budget.

Even though the fiscal year budget for 2004 is months away, lets hope the people in charge of creating these budgets will be more realistic this time around. Let us all pray for the brave men and women that have given their lives for our safety and freedom.



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

Outside The Lines

by Leslie Ray Garcia

Branch 599 President, Jim Good, stated in his last article that the USPS'S motto since "the first deadly tragedies involving postal employees occurred many years ago was DIGNITY and RESPECT." The problem with that motto is it only applies to craft employees of the USPS not to management! They have no *respect* for the common every-day craft employee and they think letter carriers owe them *dignity*. Just like "Zero Tolerance" is only for craft employees. Management has zero tolerance for us! Every motto or slogan that the USPS management has invented is only to take one more of the negotiated benefits away from craft. The intimidation factor is at its highest.

Well, the first phase of route checks at Hilldale is complete. The route inspection for 15 routes went as expected by this writer. The mail volume was down: letters, flats, spurs, plugs, accountables, parcels, etc. Thursday after the count the harassment started: "...your route has relatively the same amount of mail that you had the week of count and you have 1.5 hours of undertime." Several carriers have been called into the office for an investigative interview because they did not meet their supposed demonstrated ability.

Remember boys and girls, when management calls you into the office it is not, and I repeat, it is not to see how your family is doing. You need only ask one question when they state "This is an official discussion": "Will this discussion lead to discipline?" If they say no, get it in writing. If they say yes, request to have your shop steward present during the interview.

All letter carriers who have been inspected (whether 1 day or 6 days) need to request that they have complete copies of their Form 1838s, Form 1840s and Form 3999s, plus any and all comments made by the inspector for each day of the count. If they don't give you those items within 24 hours, request to see your shop steward and file a grievance. You have the right to know what information will be used against you after the route exams. If you don't protect yourself with these copies of your forms, management can use the information against you.

I told a carrier years ago that the route you are assigned to is not yours because if you die, management is not going to bury their route case, their route vehicle or eliminate the delivery of their route. They will, however, put another body to case their route, to drive their vehicle and deliver their route. Management, with its new found number crunchers, will try to put the letter carrier occupation in an early grave. The only way to combat them is to play the game on their ground.

All carriers need to be educated especially about how to

perform your duties the same way every day. I know it becomes monotonous but with the scanners (and very soon GPS) you better know to the second how much time you need to deliver their routes. Do it by the book! One letter carrier that had route exam on preferred bid used only 6 hours total per day. This carrier is an unassigned regular (former 204B) and stated after route checks were over with (when told he had just eliminated that route and would be sent out of the station because he was unassigned and the junior regular) "I have a preferred bid and can not be sent out of the station." You can not have a preferred bid on an auxiliary route, which according to management is a route of 8 hours or less (management's fuzzy math an 8 hour route is a route less than 10 hours). I think 6 hours meets that criteria for an auxiliary route, don't you?

Hilldale Station got the news that our begin tour times have been changed permanently to 0800 and end tours will be 1650, so much for customer satisfaction and service. Yet, the other day the Postmaster stated that we should be starting at 0700 with the new upgrades in equipment. Just once I would like to be told the truth by management! Then again, I have a better chance of winning the lotto than to have management tell the truth. Of course, the steward told the station manager that if he switched the times back to 0730 to 1600, the steward was going to file a grievance for *out of schedule pay*. I believe these schedule changes are the station manager's form of punishment for route checks, part 1 not meeting the pre-set office and street standards for mail volume. (Evidence that the changing of the begin tour times was punishment: the station manager posted it on the time clocks and did not tell us during the Friday stand up talk!) It is may also be punishment for the station because the steward refuses to allow management to blatantly violate the Local Agreement, the National Agreement, Arbitration Rulings and USPS Manuals, whenever they feel the whim!

Do you know why I do not believe management when they talk about service? There are a minimum of 3 routes that deliver in the business section of Drew Park. With the 8 AM starting times, especially on Fridays, many of the businesses at the end of these routes are not delivered nor is their out-going mail picked up until the following Monday because many of these businesses close prior to 4:00 PM. If the regular carrier is out sick or on annual leave, the routes are pivoted (given out in trips). Very seldom do these businesses get their mail prior to 4:00 PM. Knowing management, they will state that the carriers should be able to deliver all mail and

(continued on page 7)

And The Beat Goes On

by Ray Wallace

It was very disappointing to this writer that a brother Letter Carrier and Shop Steward was denied the right to attend a T.L.C. meeting. Since when has the Tampa Letter Carriers' Corporation become a secret organization? I am a past member of TLC and the years I was a member everything was 100% above board. In today's world of 2003 it is very rare when you have a carrier that shows an interest in any thing to do with the union. We have a hard enough time trying to keep people in the union period and here we have the Chairman of T.L.C. wanting to deny a letter carrier his right as a member of the Tampa Union to sit in and observe. What is going on?

T.L.C. is in charge of all the money that is spent by the Tampa union. We went to war with Iraq to stop a leader from ruling his country with an iron hand. From reading Brian Obst's April article, it scares this writer when our own T.L.C. does not want any one to observe where "our" union money is going.

I don't know how many of you read N.A.L.C. articles from other unions through out the U.S.A? I get a few and in reading them it is ironic how almost all are saying the same thing about Postal Management. Every letter carrier in the U.S.A. has the same type of die-hard mismanagement. Few are better, most are worse. When I was in basic training after being drafted into the U.S. Army, I will never forget

the words of a 1st Lt. who said at one of the classes, "No matter what a person's status in life, always remember we all put our pants on one leg at a time." Well, I really do think that when a postal manager gets dressed, they climb up a step ladder and jump into them two legs at a time as for sure 90% of them are different from the rest of us. How can any human being that has the privilege of being a postal manager treat letter carriers like dirt under their feet? Are these managers married? Do they have children? Do they believe in God? Heaven? Hell? In almost every job as a manager I'm sure there are things you have to do that may be against your grain, but to be able to do what upper postal management asks of the lower supervisors?

I do not understand how any human being (for the sake of a job) is willing to give up his rights that we Americans have gone to war to maintain. These so called floor supervisors lie constantly. They belittle carriers to the point of almost destroying them as the good people they are. These poor excuses of a manager get up in the morning, climb the step ladder and jump two legs at a time into their skirt or pants, get in there vehicle and go to work, grab their clipboard, look at what the computer says about how much mail is on every route, then go out on the work room floor and become "King Kong." You may be in charge now but always remember that God is watching and the letter carrier will have the last laugh.

Outside The Lines *(continued from page 6)*

return to the office prior to their end tour times of 1650.

Hilldale at one time had enough utility regulars to cover routes that were vacant but now with the excessing process, our manpower is down. As John Watts stated, letter carriers are doing more work with less workers. He forgot to add that there is more mis-management now than ever. (Shouldn't there be less management if we must have less craft employees?) Of course, this is putting undo stress on each letter carrier but according to management there is no such thing as stress! Yet, more of them are out on OWCP stress, percentage wise, than craft.

The second phase of route inspections started Thursday, April 3, 2003 for 33614. I came back at 1630 with only 7 foot of mail. I was ridden with on this day. Friday, there was about 7 foot of mail, I was not ridden with and I came back at 1600. Saturday I was ridden with and I had 5 foot of mail and was told to be back at 1500. I

barely made it back by 1530! Of course my paper work looks like a road map with all the red ink. Usually Friday or Saturday we deliver K-Mart and Wal-Mart advertisement. Guess what? We had neither one of these items to deliver. What a coincidence!

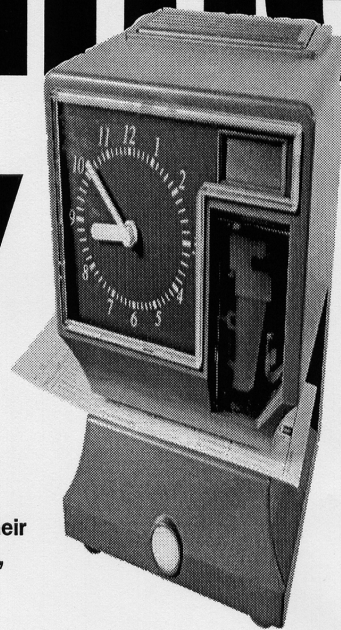
With daylight savings time upon us, we will be out in the heat longer. Last year I lost about 5-8 pounds of body sweat a day in the heat of the summer. Many times I drank so much water and Gatorade I vomited them back up! By the way, could the supervisors who got medical certifications that it was too hot to sit in the vehicle to do route exams please give me the name of their physicians?

"You know very well that whether you are on page one or page thirty depends on whether they fear you. It is as simple as that."
Richard M. Nixon

Think about it!

An important message from Branch 599.

Stop the Attack on Overtime Pay



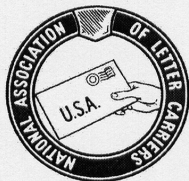
In today's failing economy, working Americans are struggling to keep their jobs and pay their bills. Instead of providing economic relief to workers, President Bush and his corporate allies are waging an all-out attack to eliminate or reduce overtime pay.

Fact 1: On March 31, 2003, the Bush administration proposed new rules that would take away the right to overtime pay for millions of workers. (*Federal Register*, Vol. 68, No. 61, 3/31/03)

Fact 2: Corporate lobbying groups are pushing Congress to pass H.R. 1119 and S. 317, bills that would cut the pay of the millions of workers who depend on overtime pay. (Economic Policy Institute Issue Brief #190, 3/31/03)

Fact 3: S. 317 would replace the 40-hour workweek with an 80-hour, two-week work period. If S. 317 passed, workers working 50 hours in one week and 30 hours the next week, for example, no longer would be paid overtime. (www.thomas.loc.gov, 4/7/03)

Fact 4: These comp time bills would undermine the 40-hour workweek and make overtime cheaper for employers, resulting in more mandatory overtime and less control over your work hours. (Economic Policy Institute Issue Brief #190, 3/31/03)



Call your representative today, toll free, at 1-888-280-6279
and your senators at 1-800-718-1008 and tell them to:

Protect Your Overtime Pay.

For more information, visit www.afcio.org/yourjobeconomy/ns04022003.cfm.

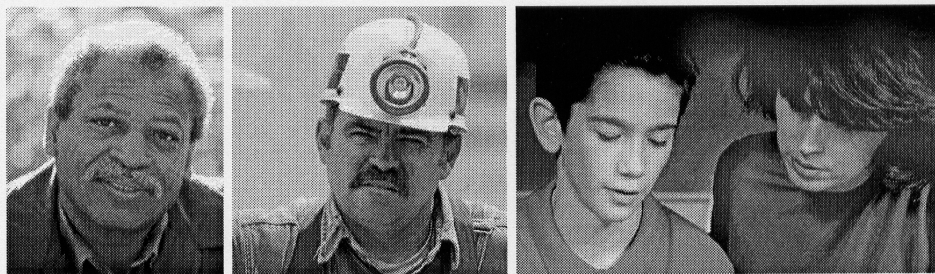


An important message from Branch 599.

Strong Economy for All— Or Tax Cuts for a Few?

While working families struggle with job loss, a failing economy and crumbling schools and highways, President George W. Bush and his friends in Congress are trying to pass more than \$726 billion in tax cuts that will primarily benefit the richest 10 percent of taxpayers.

President Bush is making the wrong choice for America. Instead of rewarding the wealthy, President Bush should grow the economy, invest in children, schools and infrastructure, expand affordable health care, help states bridge huge budget gaps and protect Social Security and Medicare.



America Needs Good Jobs and a Strong Economy—Not More Tax Breaks for the Rich

Call Congress Today.

Call your representative and senators toll free
at 1-888-280-6279.

Urge them to oppose Bush's reckless tax cut for
a few and instead invest in a strong economy for all.

For more information go to

www.aflcio.org/yourjobeconomy/ns10112001.cfm or
jgood.nalc@verizon.net.



Tampa Letter Carriers, Inc. – Separate But Together**by Brian Obst**

At the branch meeting last month I proposed a Bylaw change to the Branch 599 bylaws to allow members of Tampa Letter Carriers', Inc. (all members in good standing of Branch 599 are members of Tampa Letter Carriers, Inc.) to attend Board of Directors Meetings. The proposed bylaw establishes an Article covering TLC, sets the proper day for the monthly meeting of the TLC board and opens the meetings to all interested parties - providing they are members in good standing of Branch 599. In an effort not to interfere with the meeting this bylaw proposal restricts the interested parties to observation only. If the parties wish to speak on any issue raised at the meeting they must petition to address the board at the next meeting. This proposed bylaw change is currently posted by all stewards at their stations and will be discussed at the next Branch meeting prior to being called for a vote

on the issue. I would strongly recommend that all members of Branch 599 read the proposed Bylaw change and attend the branch meeting to take part in discussion and most importantly to vote on this proposed change. REMEMBER the UNION is only as strong as the Membership. If only 50-75 people show up and vote they are making decisions that affect all the membership. Your rights can only be protected if you take an ACTIVE ROLE in the operation of YOUR BRANCH!

Yours in Brotherhood,

Brian Obst

Shop Steward, Town & Country Station

Postal Land**by David Brubaker**

Many, many years ago,	Rules and regulations,	The dilemma grew worse and worse,
In a land so far away,	Soon prevailed in "Postal Land,"	No one seemed to care,
"Postal Land" was happy,	And all the happy people,	Service to the customer,
Things were done the postal way.	Became indifferent, careless, bland.	No longer mattered there.
But in time, something went awry,	Hope gave way to despair,	Numbers, numbers, numbers,
In this land beyond the sea,	They were numbers in a game,	Echoed throughout the land,
A horrid creature somehow got in,	"Red tape" had taken over,	A voice of disapproval,
It's name – "Bureaucracy."	They were faces without a name.	Was met with written hand.
Subtly at first approach,	You see, man cannot work,	Random chaos was the norm,
It was considerate and kind,	For those in authority,	In "Postal Land" beyond the sea,
But the more it tried to help,	Who rule and quench the spirit,	All because he had his way,
The more it changed its mind.	Of what's called "Productivity."	The beast called "Bureaucracy."

Letter Carrier's Food Drive

by Cheryl Clothier

Here we go again! It doesn't seem like a year has already gone by and suddenly the Food Drive is upon us. On that Saturday last year, my route was being inspected while I was running around town ensuring everything was going okay with the Food Drive. What a busy day that was! Last year we collected 757,525 pounds of food. It was our second largest total. I just want to thank all of the carriers (city and rural) for that. But there are so many other people to thank. Where do I start? Tampa Bay Harvest and Salvation Army for the distribution of the food, The Flyer for printing our advertisements, US Post Office (Tampa) for the use of equipment and support, the Mayor of Tampa for our Food Drive Proclamation, for the MVS tractor trailer drivers who worked until midnight, getting all the food to the warehouse, to the many volunteers and sponsors not mentioned and to Branch 599 for all their hard work.

But this year, I don't have to be inspected and it's our 11th year of the Food Drive, which takes place Saturday May 10. Again, we have the support of Tampa Bay Harvest, Salvation Army, the US Postal Service, The Flyer, Penske, Arco Food Service, Tampa Yankees, Southland Advertising, Campbell's Soup, and many others. The list is long. This year Kash-n-Karry has come on board to support and sponsor the Food Drive. They are going to supply the bags for Central Florida, Pasco, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. They are also going to have the same bags we get available to the public, three weeks prior to the drive, in their stores to bag their customers groceries. Also a large box will be placed in every K-n-K prior to the drive so customers can donate food at the stores. We also have the Rough Riders volunteering to work at every station, to help offload the carriers as they come in from their routes.

T-Shirts will be available for pick-up at the Shop Steward Meeting and at the Union Meeting in May. They are a heavy duty white T-Shirt with the Bill Keane Family Circus cartoon on the front and sponsor logos on the back. We even had a T-Shirt order all the way from California.

Extra pallets and pallet boxes will be available at every station. I know we ran short last year because we filled them all up. I know Interbay Station filled over 44 pallet boxes. There will also be an empty

tractor-trailer available at the largest stations, Interbay, Produce, Carrollwood, and Forest Hills. This will help the MVS drivers move the food faster to the warehouse.

This year we are only delivering the Campbell's Soup Cards and the Kash-n-Karry Bags. The cards are to be delivered on Thursday May 8 and the bags on Friday May 09. We will not be delivering that thin paper handout that everyone hated.

Just wanted to thank TCA for holding on to or actually finding space for 4 ½ pallets of Campbell's Soup Cards that I ordered from NALC HQ. (685,000 cards to be exact.) I ordered enough to cover the city of Tampa and all associate offices within Hillsborough County. They are to be delivered to all city, rural and P.O. box residential deliveries only. (Not the Businesses.) The cards and bags are First Class mail. They have the G-10 endorsement on them.

Last year, we heard rumors that some carriers threw all their cards and bags in the trash somewhere on their route, because they didn't want to deliver them. I hope we don't hear any rumors like this during this food drive. We are doing this for the community to try to help feed the needy. It makes me feel good to know that I can help in this way and be grateful for all I have. I don't mind helping others less fortunate than me.

Last year, there were a few incidents where thieves in cars, were driving up to curb boxes and stealing bags of food before the carriers arrived. If you witness this, call Tampa Police Department immediately or call your supervisor.

By the way, I retired from the US Army on February 4th this year after completing 20 years and 5 months service. I just want to close by saying thank God, support our troops and our president, and bring them all home safe when the mission is complete. Let's have a safe and bountiful Food Drive this year!

Cheryl Clothier

Food Drive Coordinator Branch 599

Health and Welfare Committee

Russell Person, retired letter carrier, has agreed to chair a newly formed committee to keep everyone informed of members who have become ill or have passed away. He will be available to assist any member, or their family, in any way possible should the need arise. Here is Russell's contact information: 1206 N. Oregon, Tampa, FL 33607 (813) 253-3477. Feel free to contact him regarding any carrier's health and welfare needs.

Our deepest condolences go out to Brother Person and his family on the recent passing of his mother. We will keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Congratulations!

Seminole Station shop steward Mike Stewart flew to Las Vegas the weekend of April 19th and came back a married man! Best wishes to him and his new bride for a lifetime of happiness together.

WHAT A GREAT TIME TO SELL OR



BUY A HOME!



With interest rates at an all time low, it's the perfect time to buy or sell. Plus, we're giving away free vacations or paying \$500 of your closing costs when we close the sale or purchase of your home! Call me today.

Office: 813-962-1777
 Residence: 813-991-5480
 Cell: 813-760-5069
 Fax: 813-907-8420
 Email: Dniles5480@aol.com
 Website: www.erapologroup.com



Don Niles
 Realtor
 (Retired Letter Carrier)



12966 North Dale Mabry Hwy • Tampa, FL 33618



Florida State Association of Letter Carriers

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Fill out and return applications for the
 "Mary Lou Jackman-William 'Bill' Corbeau Scholarship Fund"

Name of Student _____ Female ___ Male ___

My Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

NALC Branch No. _____ Member's Name _____

Member's Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

This is to certify that the above named member of the FSALC is a member in good standing.

 Signature: President or (Recording) Secretary of Local Branch

RETURN ALL APPLICATIONS TO:

Marty Ireland
Director of Education, FSALC
3062 NW 60 Avenue
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33313-1203

In order to qualify for the scholarship, the following requirements must be adhered to:

1. Children must have graduated from a credited high school or have a GED.
2. Children must be a dependent of a member or spouse of a deceased member of the FSALC who has not remarried.
3. The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student in a credited college and documentation must be provided from the credited college that the applicant is a full-time student at the time of selection.
4. The award is based on a random selection, not a scholastic record.
5. Four (4) annual scholarships, two for a female and two for a male, each in the amount of \$2,000 will be awarded.
6. Application must be received by **June 6, 2003**. The drawing will be held at the State Convention in Orlando, FL on June 20, 2003.

In The Know

by George McEndree

“Today we mourn the passing of an old friend, COMMON SENSE. Common Sense lived a long life, but died in the United States from heart failure on the brink of the new millennium. No one really knows how old he was, since his birth records were lost long ago in bureaucratic red tape.

He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and Post Offices everywhere, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as to know when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm, why more time is needed for more volume or more patrons and that life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn .) reliable parenting strategies (the adults are in charge, not the kids) and it's okay to come in second and in from the dark.

A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression and the Technological Revolution, Common Sense survived cultural and educational trends including body piercing, whole language, unreasonable supervisors and “new math”. But his health declined when he became infected with the “If-it-only-helps-one- person-it's-worth-it” virus.

In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of well intentioned but overbearing regulations. He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers and managers. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools and work places endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies. Reports of a six-year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch, a letter carrier being disciplined for showing compassion and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student only worsened

his condition. It declined even further when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but could not inform the parent when a female student was pregnant or wanted an abortion.

Common Sense lost his will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband, churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than victims, letter carriers lost all respect from their upper management and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from the Boy Scouts to professional sports. When a woman, too stupid to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, was awarded a huge settlement, Common Sense threw in the towel. As the end neared, Common Sense drifted in and out of logic but was kept informed of developments regarding questionable regulation such as those for low flow toilets, rocking chairs, stepladders, DPS, DOIS and auto emissions.

Common Sense finally succumbed when, while the United States was fighting a war on terrorism, a federal judge declared the Pledge of Allegiance to be unconstitutional. Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife Discretion; his daughter Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by two step-brothers; My Rights and I'm a Whiner. Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.” (author unknown)

THINK ABOUT IT!

In Solidarity,

Brother George, HPCA

May 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <i>Union Meeting 7:30</i>	2 <i>Bingo</i>	3
4	5 <i>Breakfast Club The Coffee Cup</i>	6	7 <i>Bingo</i>	8	9 <i>Bingo</i>	10
11	12	13	14 <i>Bingo</i>	15	16 <i>Bingo</i>	19
18	19	20	21 <i>Bingo</i>	22	23 <i>Bingo</i>	24
25	26 Memorial Day <i>Holiday</i>	27 <i>TLC Meeting 7:00</i>	28 <i>Bingo</i>	29 <i>Executive Board 7:00</i>	30 <i>Bingo</i>	31

June 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Breakfast Club The Coffee Cup</i>	3 <i>Shop Steward Meeting 7:00</i>	4 <i>Bingo</i>	5 <i>Union Meeting 7:30</i>	6 <i>Bingo</i>	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Bingo</i>	12	13 <i>Bingo</i>	14
15	16	17	18 <i>Bingo</i>	19	20 <i>Bingo</i>	21
22	23	24 <i>TLC Meeting 7:00</i>	25 <i>Bingo</i>	26 <i>Executive Board 7:00</i>	27 <i>Bingo</i>	28
29	30					

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Saturday, May 17, 2003
Registration: 8:30 a.m.
Program: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
USF Special Events Center
Tampa, Florida



Airport

5201 W. Spruce St.
Phone: 813-876-3128
Fax: 813-875-3801

North Tampa

13902 N. Florida Ave
Phone: 813-264-4969
Fax: 813-264-9730

Valrico

1989 State Road 60 E
Phone: 813-661-5868
Fax: 813-657-9275

Spring Hill

4094 Deltona Blvd
Phone: 352-683-9711
Fax: 352-683-7174

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