



Tampa Letter Carrier

Volume 9 - Issue 4

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

Tampa, Florida

April 2010

President's Report

by Jim Good

President - Branch 599

Beginning of the End?

I'm sure by now that all letter carriers have been made aware, many times over, of the grave financial situation the Postal Service is in. But because of the magnitude of the crisis, and the disastrous results that may come from taking the wrong actions, I believe it is necessary to bring all the facts to the table once again from our union's standpoint.

Our NALC president, Fred Rolando, was invited to address the *Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Federal Service and General Government*, and did so on March 18, 2010. During his address President Rolando stressed the fact that the main cause of the USPS's financial crisis stems from a policy decision adopted by the U. S. Congress in 2006 that requires the Postal Service to pre-fund decades of future retiree health benefit obligations in just ten years. This requirement will cost the Postal Service \$5.6 billion per year until the year 2016.

Rolando said that although the policy, which was part of the *Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act*, seemed to be affordable in 2006, since the recession hit it is totally unaffordable. The Postal Service has had to pay over \$12.4 billion since the policy enactment, in addition to \$6 billion for current

retiree health benefits. No other agency or private company has a legal obligation to pre fund and only about one-third of Fortune 1000 companies pre fund at all. Those that do pre fund put aside much less than the Postal Service has already.

Rolando goes on to say that the *Office of Inspector General (OIG)* for the USPS has found that the *Office of Personnel Management (OPM)* used incorrect methods of figuring what the Postal Service had to pre fund, to the tune of a \$75 billion over payment. He has asked Congress to correct the retiree pre funding issue first, before they look at taking any further actions, because it is the single biggest cause of the financial crisis in the Postal Service today.

Rolando then addressed the issue of doing away with six-day delivery, saying that "...eliminating Saturday collection and delivery services would be penny-wise and pound-foolish. No business has ever restored itself to health by offering slower services and turning customers away." He said that too many businesses, such as pharmacies, DVD and game rental companies, and news magazines rely on six-day delivery to go to five day delivery. He said that 50,000 jobs could be lost in a time of high unemployment.

So this is where we, as a union, stand. We need for congress to act to make right the wrong that was done in 2006 when the Postal Service was

ordered to pre fund the retiree health benefits. That would go a long way to solve much of the financial woes.



Postmaster General Potter had other plans of action, such as lifting some of the limits on pricing of postal products and adding new products. But when Potter starts talking about eliminating Saturday delivery and hiring only a part-time workforce, we need to stand up for our rights and those of our fellow employees. When he claims that the jobs lost as a result of a reduction to five-day delivery could be handled by attrition, he is in a dream world. 25,000 to 35,000 positions cannot be controlled by attrition. So please, understand that this is the real thing. I know that many of us, who have been with the Postal Service for a long time, have heard this before. "The sky is falling, the sky is falling." Well, this time it really is. We have to work together; stick together, and act together when we are asked to give a little and keep in touch with our congressional representatives. It's a small price to pay to keep what we have worked so hard to gain!

Branch Meeting

Thursday, April 1

7:30 PM

Branch 599 Officers

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Michael Anderson	Orbe Andux
Don Thomas	Garland Tickle

Branch 599 Shop Stewards

Brandon	33510	Terry Franklin	(813) 758-3061
Brandon	33511	James Dobson	(813) 661-1636
Carrollwood	33618	Eddie Berroth	(813) 493-5224
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Hilldale Annex	33634	Julio Acosta	(813) 889-3913
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Port Tampa	33616	Sammy Graham	(813) 832-6644
Produce	33610	John DeRosa	(813) 850-8418
Ruskin / Sun City Center	33570	Jack Hencoski	(813) 685-9034
Seminole Heights	33603	Tony Diaz	(813) 598-9635
Sulphur Springs	33604	John Rowland	(813) 770-7769
Tampa Carrier Annex	33607	Don Wiseman	(813) 713-6273
Tampa Carrier Annex	33609	Tom Cobert	(813) 694-0711
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Town & Country	33615	Brian Obst	(727) 458-0679
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RETIREES BREAKFAST
(In Tampa)
First Monday of Every Month
9:00 AM at
The Coffee Cup
4407 N. Hubert
in Drew Park

RETIREES BREAKFAST
(In Brandon)
Second Tuesday of Every Month
8:00 AM at
La Septima Café
140 Parsons Ave.
in Brandon

Read the *Tampa Letter Carrier* online at
<http://www.nalc599.com/newsletter.htm>

Running With You

by Dook Ramotar

Careful What You Wish For

Maybe you have heard this statement: Be careful what you wish for. Many times we've wished for things that when they come through we ended up unhappy .

There was an article recently in the news of the guy who won the lottery and got millions, which he took in a one shot payment. He ended up missing and was later found dead. His millions were not found. I wonder whether he was one of them who wished he could have millions to do with as he pleased.

Why I wrote about this is the news this week going on in capital hill saying "...let us eliminate Saturday delivery and should we do so, we would be saving billions of dollars..." I believe they did the math and this is what they came up with. I ask you carriers, do you believe management will accomplish this savings personally? I for one don't believe we will for when you compare the loss of revenue with doing away with the one day service and the savings accomplished, it will not produce the billions management expected to save. Many of us who are CSRS employees can remember the time we had to deliver parcels. Management's tone then was to let us get rid of the parcels and concentrate on let-

ters, etc. Even some of us carriers were of the same mind, saying "...we don't need the parcels..." So we did not push having the parcels. And so it is today management want a five day work week, and some of the carriers would let them have their way for we, too, want Saturday and Sunday off.

When I left New Jersey and transferred to Florida, there were special trucks to deliver relay and parcels. In Tampa there were guys doing parcels specially until a few years ago just before Commerce moved to Hyde Park. During that time when I came they was two I remember, John Baker and Steve Cueto. Now there are none.

Now carriers deliver their own parcels. When management came to their senses and realized parcels were money makers, too, they teamed with us to do parcel connect, where we get customers to ship by us. And it has proven to bring in money for the service. Now with the proposed five day delivery and no Saturday delivery of parcels, these customers will return to the other guys and we will lose out on all of that income.

Years ago management and many other companies encouraged us to pay our bills online and many of us did, not realizing that by doing so we are cutting out our own jobs. Management

claims they can put the one in five carriers who would be let go by attrition. I don't see that happening. Maybe you would be the one in five and just maybe you are one of them who pays their bills online. When this happens, lay the blame on management and yourself for helping them eliminate your job. Management's wish for five day delivery would, in my opinion, eliminate more than one in five jobs. We have just gone through the 2nd phase of the MIARAP adjustment where carriers bid on assignment when five day deliveries come down the road. What a mess that would be as we see with the current adjustment of MIARAP. Let your congressmen and senators know where you stand on five day delivery. It is bad for them and us.



There was a special meeting called for by TLC, Inc., on the expenses of the building. Out of hundreds of carriers I believe less than one hundred showed up. We need to show more support for the shape we're in and let our elected representatives know where we stand. Let's not wish for something to happen and when it does blame others. Remember parcel posts and online bill paying.

"Knowing is not enough, we must apply. Willing is not enough, we must do." Johann Von Goethe

Arslan Uniform Drawing

The Arslan Uniform prize for the April 1st. Branch 599 meeting will be \$340.00. If you are in attendance at the meeting and your name is drawn, you will win the \$340.00, donated by Bill & Shirley Moran of Arslan Uniforms.

Why not come to the meeting, hear what is going on with your union, and maybe win some big money? There have been many changes happening that affect your daily work, so you really need to keep informed regarding your rights. Hope to see you here on April 1st.

COLCPE Drawing Winner

A drawing was held during the March 4th branch meeting for a \$100.00 gift card from Ruth Chris' Steak House, donated by TCA Letter Carrier Will Tolivar. The names of all current direct deposit donors to COLCPE, as well as anyone who signed up for direct deposit at the March meeting were put into a hat and my name was drawn so I was the winner.

I want to thank Will for donating the gift card, and I want to let everyone know that during the meeting five new

members signed up for direct deposit to COLCPE. That brings the total number of donors in Branch 599 to sixty-four. Not bad, but with 1,021 members we still have room for improvement and growth.

Jim Good

Health & Welfare

Our condolences go out to Town & Country letter carrier Arthur Haines, whose mother passed away.

ARSLAN UNIFORMS

Bill & Shirley Moran

Retired Letter Carrier Branch 1477 St. Petersburg

Honorary Member Branch 599 Tampa

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Unionism

Are We Really Acting Like A Union?

Union, as defined by *Dictionary.com*: *A number of persons, states, etc., joined or associated together for some common purpose; an organization of workers; a labor union.*

Let us take a minute to think about this definition and look inward at each one of us and see if we really are acting like a "Union". The National Association of Letter Carriers was formed to help look out for the best interests of letter carriers in the Postal Service. Through the years the leadership of this Union has fought the difficult battles to provide for better wages and working conditions for the letter carriers. It hasn't always been easy as the history of this Union shows and we haven't always come out the way we wanted, but the leadership was always there to fight the good fight for the membership.

Today this Union is faced with some of the toughest challenges it has ever had to face. Our national leadership, headed up by President Fred Rolando, are preparing to enter into contract negotiations for the next collective bargaining agreement and if you listen to the Postal Service things couldn't be in more dire straits. This period is going to be filled with many difficult challenges that must be addressed by our leaders, many of which have already begun including the battle against the Postal Service plan to go to 5 day delivery, the Prefunding of Retiree Health Benefits and the over funding of the CSRS Pension fund.

In all of these issues our leaders need to be able to count on the membership to be available to assist in their efforts if called upon. This is the goal of the E-Activist Network, to establish a network of all the members of the NALC and their families that can respond to issues with rapid deployment if needed.

This network doesn't cost any money and it is not a daily function it is simply a plan to be able to reach each and every member of the NALC if a call for action is needed. This allows our leaders to bring to the fight the entire might of our Union at a moments notice to address any problems that may arise where a show of solidarity could make all the difference. This is a great tool for our leadership with one small problem - the percentage of members signed up is unbelievably low. Our branch of 1021 members (both active and retired) is only signed up at 40% (approximately). Remember what I said earlier, this doesn't cost anything. All you are asked is if the Leadership calls out to us with an e-mail for action, usually a call to contact your representatives in Congress about an issue affecting letter carriers, that we act accordingly. This is like having a seat at the negotiating table right next to President Rolando. I urge you to take the time to sign-up as an E-Activist, it is really simple. All you have to do is fill out the E-Activist form that is normally available in the Postal Record you get monthly in the mail or see your steward and ask for a copy, all that is needed is your name and e-mail address to get you started. The leadership doesn't sell your e-mail address nor do you get spam on it, it is only used to reach out to the membership if your help is needed to deal with an issue where immediate action is necessary. This is an area where we should all be signed up and ready to act if we should get the call. Please contact your steward and get signed up right away as the leadership needs your support at this crucial time in our history.

Additionally there is a second arm of support that has been setup to assist our leadership and it is called COLCPE (Committee On Letter Carrier Political Education). This is the Political Action Committee that lobbies on Capital Hill for the NALC and the issues that affect us and our jobs. This is funded completely from donations and no money for this comes out of you Union Dues. Let me

by **Brian Obst**

Chief Steward - Branch 599

say that again - THIS IS FUNDED COMPLETELY FROM DONATIONS AND NO MONEY COMES FROM YOUR UNION



DUES. It seems that many people are unaware of this fact. Donations to fund this committee are done in a number of ways but the preferred way is something you have all heard about quite a bit over the last couple of years, the Gimme Five Campaign. Simply put the Gimme Five Campaign is making a donation which is taken directly from your paycheck or your bank account (whichever way works best for you) of 5 dollars a paycheck. In today's market this is like drinking a couple less sodas each pay period. This money is placed in the fund and since it is being done by allotment the NALC Leadership can budget the use of funds easier because they know how much is going to be coming in each pay period. The funds are used in a Bipartisan manner, meaning that they are used to support legislators who are helpful to issues that affect the letter carriers regardless of party affiliation.

Based on the many benefits that the National Leadership has negotiated on our behalf over the years this is a mere pittance and if everyone was signed up the amounts made available to do the job would be a huge assist for our National Leaders and the Legislative efforts they need to deal with on our behalf. Unfortunately I must report again that we hover around 5% of our membership locally is signed up. I ask you to take a moment to look at how much better you are doing both financially as well as benefits wise from the negotiations that have taken place previously and consider

(continued on page 6)

And The Beat Goes On

by Ray Wallace

Have You Heard?

It was great to see a good turn-out of members at the March union meeting and it was a cold night outside. There were 75 there. I'm sure the president felt good. Will it continue?

Have you heard the news? Recording Secretary Mike Brink announced at the meeting that Brandon Shop Steward, Branch 599 TLC member, and Union Trustee Terry Franklin will be getting married April 30. I think I heard 2010. Terry is a rare breed. In this I mean that he will volunteer to do anything for Branch 599 and he has been in charge of the past Christmas and Labor Day events. Good luck to you, Terry, and your future wife.

I must say, there is another carrier that I've seen who goes out of his way to do things for his fellow carriers and he's also a branch trustee and TLC member, Bubba Zimmerman. After the March meeting he brought in a lot of eight foot PVC pipes that were cut down and put together by a few carriers to be used at some stations that had none. They use them to pull the trays from inside the truck.

Years ago volunteers were a common breed among the carriers. As we all know, people change for whatever reason and today for anyone to volunteer is unusual. So, to this writer, those two carriers stand out, Terry Franklin and Bubba Zimmerman.

Have you heard that the Tampa Postmaster Nancy Fryrear has been transferred out of Tampa to a better position in St. Louis? I have no idea how she was as the Postmaster of Tampa and in all of my years as a carrier, I've never seen a manager get promoted by being a nice person. But from the time she started in Brandon as a floor supervisor, you could not have met a nicer person. As we all know, to advance in the post office, they don't want nice people with feelings for your fellow humans, so I'm sure she has changed from the supervisor I once knew and worked for in her first office as a carrier supervisor in Brandon.

I've heard that with the lack of mail, supervision is going crazy giving out discipline and grievances are at an all time high throughout the USA. It's a shame that these supervisor can't see the handwriting on the wall with all of the frivolous issues of discipline that go to arbitration and are lost to the union. It's costing the post office thousands of dol-

lars that could be well spent on trying to save the post office and every one's job, not only the letter carriers but the managers also.



I don't think we will ever see Postmaster General Potter going on "*Under Cover Boss*" to see how the place is being run and how to improve it, ha ha. You would think that someone after all these years would realize that labor is an asset to any business and that they need to treat their employees with respect and dignity. Postal management thinks that *you are the enemy* and are they treat you as such.

Congratulations to Jim Brophy who has retired from Brandon as of March 1st.

I've heard that a lot of carriers are having problems with CVS Drug Stores. Make sure you count every pill in the bottle they give you. More then once I've been shorted. Just last week my wife had two bottles of 90. I counted both. One did have 90, but the second one, Paxil, had only 30. For me, no more CVS.

Unionism *(from page 5)*

signing up for the Gimme Five Program right away. Sign up information is available on the national website at nalc.org or contact you steward who will be happy to assist you in signing up. Lets give our National Leaders the tools they need to do the job that we elected them to do for us.

Finally I just want to say that as I started this article, we are a Union - a group of individuals banded together for a common cause. It is time that we all started to look at the Union in this light. I have heard many too many people asking questions like - What

has the Union done for me? Or Why didn't the Union do something about this issue? I am here to tell you that you are not outside looking in here, You are the Union. Not only are you the Union but I'm the Union and so is every other member. It is not a situation where someone else is the one to look to complain to or about, get involved and be part of the solution because without you there is no Union.

One last thought to ponder in this time of crisis with the Postal Service attempting all these changes that will have a negative effect on our livelihoods -

There are no benefits that have been gained through collective bargaining that can't be wiped out by Congress with the stroke of a pen. Our Leadership needs our support now more than ever so lets all get behind President Rolando and provide a united front for him to negotiate from a position of strength with the knowledge that the entire membership is with him all the way.

Remember - *Knowledge is the Key.*

Brian Obst
Chief Steward

Around The Horn

by Tony Diaz

Financial Secretary - Branch 599



Management Wasting Money

Brothers and Sisters, almost every day we are reminded or hear of the grim financial condition the Postal Service is experiencing. You know the proposed five-day mail delivery, downsizing the workforce, combining stations and branches, save here, save there. Having said that, it seems every aspect of spending should then be scrutinized, right? If so, we must ask one question, Where is the accountability for the unnecessary expenditures on grievances we are being forced to file for managements very careless interpretations. I wanted to share with you one of the two grievances I recently filed, both victorious, that should not have had to be filed. While both are considered a victory, it's a grievance that simply reaffirmed the language that is already written in the *Local Memorandum of Understanding (LMOU)* and the National Agreement. These grievances both needed to be sent to the "B Team" to clarify a clear interpretation. The information was presented at the lowest grievance level, *Informal Step A* for what should have been an easy resolution. No chance, more grievance time, two more steps, you get the picture. So again, where is the accountability? Why isn't management being held responsible?

Let me explain the situation that came about.

A carrier in Seminole Station submitted a *PS Form 3971* (Request for or Notification of Absence), or leave slip for advanced excused sick leave. This 3971 was submitted 3 weeks in advance, it was not submitted for a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or after a Holiday. So what's the problem? The 3971 is returned back to the Carrier denied,

for the reason period full. This doctor's appointment was ordered by an insurance company, not the carrier, for an off the job accident injury.

My immediate questions/concerns:

- Why the denial?
- Why is the period full for a sick leave request?
- Period full, isn't that an justification to deny just annual leave?
- What does a sick leave request have anything to do with an annual leave issue?
- Is 3 weeks not enough notification?
- Is it realized the Carrier was ordered to be at this appointment?

Upon hearing of the carrier's denial for his sick leave request, I immediately spoke with my supervisor to resolve this blatant misinterpretation before it needed to become a grievance. The baffling reasoning given was not only was the period full but also included a section read straight from the LMOU, Item 4. It reads, "*The total number of employees who shall receive approved leave each week after the advance commitment period shall be 12% by section.*"

I took a step back and replied, "You have got to be kidding! Do you realize that section falls under Item 4 of the LMOU, Formulation Of Local Leave Program? Do you realize this section covers annual leave only and there is not one mention of sick leave anywhere?"

Obviously we did not come to an understanding and thus the grievance was filed. During my preparation, the following is additional information included in the grievance, from the *JCAM*, pages 10-12:

Sick Leave. Article 10.5 provides for the continuation of the sick leave program, whose detailed regulations are contained in ELM Section 513. Section 513.1 defines sick leave as leave which "*...insures employees against loss of pay if they are incapacitated for the performance of duties because of illness, injury, pregnancy and confinement, and medical (including dental or optical) examination or treatment.*"

Sick Leave Use. Letter carriers apply for sick leave, either in advance or after returning to work, by submitting a Form 3971. When an employee has an unexpected need for sick leave, he or she must notify the appropriate postal authorities as soon as possible of the illness or injury and the expected duration of the absence. Upon returning to work, the employee must submit a Form 3971 (ELM Section 513.332).

The Decision.

The Dispute resolution Team has resolved this grievance. The approval or denial of sick leave is subject to ELM 513 requirements, not ELM 512 or Items 4-12 of the Tampa LMOU. **The denial of scheduled sick leave for a medical appointment based on the negotiated leave cap of the Tampa LMOU is inconsistent with and violates Articles 10 and 19 of the National Agreement.**

Quick Hits: Information you should know

*) ELM Section 513.65 provides, "If an employee becomes ill while on annual leave and the employee has a sick leave balance, the absence may be charged to sick leave."

*) For those of you still not aware, this comes straight from the NALC website. In a special report, the USPS Office of
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A Point of Personal Privilege

An After Thought

Matthew J. Sause III, President of NALC Branch 139 Marshall, Mo. recently wrote that at their Regional RAP, "...the consensus of NBA, RAAs, CAU-guest and all the DRP B-Teams was when you return from the street (or at the last stop on your route) you sort all mail that used to be done in the office; or, you can come into the office on street-time to put your trays away, sort your 3-M Mail, put mail in the throw-back case and return your equipment to your locker. Then, you can clock-to-office time to clear your accountable mail and go home. They were told that the maximum allowable PM office time is five minutes. If you use more than that, the next time you have a MI-CRAP evaluation, anything over five minutes will be deducted from your route time and you will get that much added to your route!" However, "...Denny Belden of NALC Branch 1091, Orlando, Fl., which has the same NBA as Tampa, wrote that a pre-arb by our NBA for Orlando and Titusville, has us only sorting to four categories on the street. Any finer separation is to be done on office time in the PM, per the handbooks. We separate DPS errors, dispatch, UBBM, & mark-ups. Of course, no one can force anyone to do it in the office and many carriers are 'bullied' into separating on the street. I do it by the book. The last MIARAP adjustment the manager adjusted my office time, as he knew that I did everything by the book. I did get three stops added. That's three stops they took away on the prior MIARAP."

Most of us have a federal health benefit plan. My wife and I have NALC/Cigna. As of February 1, the monthly premium increases by \$47.60 to \$299.74 a month and the price of prescriptions increases. Last year's generic prices remain at \$12 for a 90 day

supply but the name brands increased from \$35 to \$65 for a 90 day supply. I wonder if the proposed health bill, and the delay passing it, has allowed the insurance companies and prescription drug manufacturers time to raise prices.

Now, as to my title, I was placed in the hospital January 2, 2010, because of heart attack symptoms. My stay at the hospital was approximately two and a half days. The diagnosis was acute angina. I am starting to receive medical bills through NALC/Cigna. The hospital bill was \$25,747.91 without health insurance coverage. The answer to the question in the title of this article is, *everyone needs and should have quality affordable health care!* How can over 30 million people in this country survive without quality health insurance? How much revenue or financial burden is put on each state to provide emergency medical services for the uninsured? What amount of lost revenue from the uninsured affects our national deficit? How much does the uninsured affect our premiums?

It seems that Barrack Obama wants to be known as the bi-partisan President. (I wish he was like Harry S. Truman or Lyndon B. Johnson.) He continues to believe that the Republicans are willing to work across party lines. Yet they continue to obstruct, stall and filibuster every piece of legislation that comes before the Senate. Now they are delaying the money to be allocated to those individuals that are unemployed and to extend the time period to receive the unemployment checks. What kind of human beings are these people?

Throughout the health seminar held at *Briarwood* the majority of the Republicans walked in lock step by stating "*start over.*" Much of the legislative proposals that are included in the 2500 page health bill are their proposals. I wonder how many Americans died during those seven hours because of lack of affordable health care. I know it's their

by Leslie Ray Garcia

fault they weren't able to work two jobs or more so they could purchase their own health insurance. The problem is that most of the jobs do not offer retirement, health benefits, or a living wage. These same members of the party of "*NO*" have an annual salary of \$175,000 and a federal employee health plan from insurance companies that the USPS has available for us. All members of Congress, the Vice President, and the President have the same access.



When they retire they draw their annual salary and receive social security. This can not happen but here's a thought. A law needs to be passed that those, or any politicians, that retire from public office may only receive the average mean income for all 50 states and then pay for their own health insurance premiums and prescription drugs. Most of them are not in the best of health and their health plan just might be canceled for many of the reasons citizens of this country have their policies and claims denied.

In an unbelievable, but I hope an enlightening, moment in time, the five decade Democratic Senate seat held by John and Ted Kennedy was lost to a supposed moderate Republican. It is my belief that this should be a wake up call to the Democratic National Committee as well as the entire party. Although it was a special election to fill the vacated seat, the Democrats should be aligning their ranks to recover the seat in the November mid-term elections.

Recently the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in an unprecedented ruling that corporations have First Amendment free speech "*rights.*" Of course corporate money still can not go directly

(continued on page 9)



Branch 599 President Jim Good congratulates Stan Michno on his retirement from the USPS

Around The Horn *(from page 7)*

Inspector General strengthens the case NALC has made over the past three years that the Office of Personnel Management badly miscalculated the postal surplus in the Civil Service Retirement Fund.

The OIG's investigative research unit report shows USPS was overcharged an astounding \$75 billion for pension liabilities that should have been paid for by the U.S. Treasury, since they relate to service performed before USPS was created in 1971.

This means the onerous prefunding schedule included in the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act

is grossly inflated, since OPM short-changed the Postal Service Retiree Health Fund in 2007, when the agency transferred the surplus into the fund. It will be interesting to see if those funds are redirected back to the USPS, talk about a boost.

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

Personal Privilege *(from page 8)*

to candidates, however they are allowed to utilize their vast financial resources to independently campaign to elect or defeat friend or foe. The working class and poor are going to have an even higher mountain to climb with no level playing field.

"We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us."

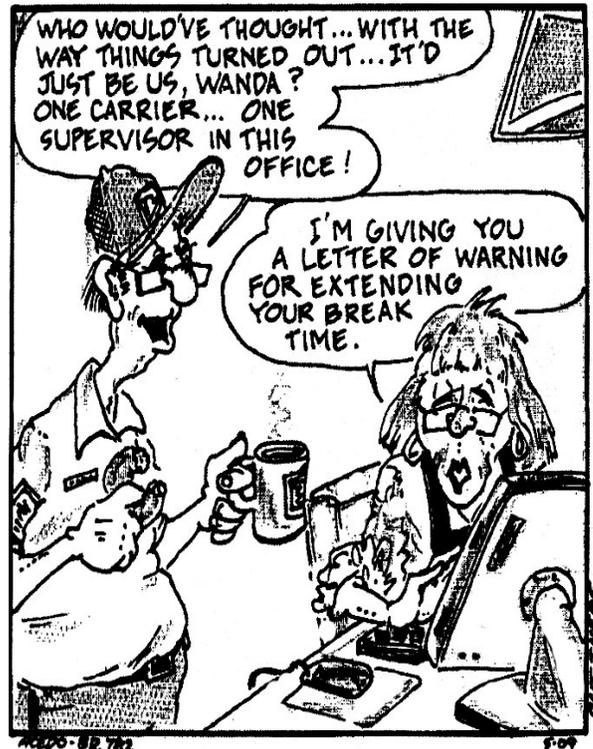
Book of Common Prayer



Branch 599 President Jim Good congratulates Rich Eber on his retirement from the USPS

Presidents Station Visits

Station	Date
Sun City Center - 33570	Tuesday, April 6
Plant City - 33564	Wednesday, April 7
Brandon - 33510	Thursday, April 8
Brandon - 33511	Friday, April 9
Hilldale Annex - 33634	Wednesday, April 21
Interbay - 33629	Thursday, April 22
Interbay - 33611	Friday, April 23
Palm River Annex - 33619	Wednesday, April 28
Carrollwood - 33618	Friday, April 30
Temple Terrace Annex - 33617	Tuesday, May 4
Town & Country - 33615	Thursday, May 6



EAP Offering Reward!



The Suncoast Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Committee and the Suncoast Scoop want to send you to the 2010 Suncoast District Family, Friends and Fun Day at Tropicana Field to watch the Rays take on the Marlins. To win two tickets to the game enter a picture, idea or slogan highlighting the EAP program and its benefits.

Any Suncoast Postal employee or family member may submit an entry. The winning entry will win two tickets to Family Friends and Fun Day, Tampa Rays vs. Florida Marlins, Sunday, June 13 (and, your winning entry will be featured on *The Scoop*, and posted on Suncoast District bulletin boards!)

Submit all entries to:

EAP Contest / District EAP Committee

2203 N Lois Ave Ste 1040

Tampa, FL 33607-7140

or email to: *Gary.M.Sawtelle@usps.gov*

With your entry please include your name, phone number, and your employing office.

The committee will vote on the winning entry on Thursday, April 8th, 2010.

The USPS Employee Assistance Program (EAP) The USPS Employee Assistance Program represents the best efforts of Postal Service management, the APWU, and the NALC to provide a comprehensive work-life resource for all employees and their immediate family members. For more information on EAP, go to <http://www.eap4you.com>.

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(813) 875-0599 fax (813) 870-0599
<http://www.nalc599.com>

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