



# Tampa Letter Carrier

Volume 4 - Issue 7

A.R. "Tony" Huerta NALC Branch 599

Tampa, Florida

July 2005

## President's Report

### Keeping You Advised

I want to begin this month's article by welcoming Nancy Fryrear as our new Tampa Postmaster. I've known Nancy for a number of years and she has always been open minded, cooperative, fair and reasonable. I'm sure that we will have our disagreements, but I know that she will bring a welcome change from the policies and managerial style of Mr. Rome. I was told by Brother Ray Wallace that he "broke her in" as a supervisor back when he was the shop steward in Brandon. It seems he did a good job. Quite a few issues have been put on hold since Mr. Rome retired in November, and hopefully they can be resolved now that we have a permanent postmaster.

One of these unresolved issues involves minor route adjustments. Article 141 of the M-39 Handbook states that "reasonably current data" must be available in order to use the minor adjustment process. Since it has been at least two years, and in most cases longer than that since the last six-day mail count and inspection, the union and management must agree on an alternative method for these adjustments. I think we will be able to work this out without having to file numerous grievances, but we will do whatever is necessary to ensure that the routes in Tampa are adjusted properly. An agreement has already been reached in Sun City Center, and ongoing discussions are being conducted in Brandon and Plant City.

The award for the grievance that I arbitrated on May 3, 2005 regarding Item 9 of our Local Memorandum of Understanding (what type of leave counts against the compliment of carriers allowed off on annual leave) has been rendered and the union prevailed. What this means is that only

"leave for National and State Conventions, military leave for two employee positions per week during the months of May, June, July and August; and long-term sick leave where it can be reasonably projected that employees who are on extended sick leave will not be available to work" (30 days or more) can be counted. Management tried to take the position that carriers on LWOP for workers' compensation cases could be counted toward the number of carriers allowed off, but with this ruling that should cease. Please see your shop steward if this is still happening in your station.

I, as well as many of your other officers, have been hounding you repeatedly about contributing to COLCPE. Please read the other articles in this month's newsletter for more information on this subject. I think it is a disgrace that we only have about twenty members that are signed up for payroll deduction or direct deposit to COLCPE, especially in light of the current pending legislation regarding postal reform. Two dollars per pay period apiece may very well be the deciding factor in saving your current benefits. That's all we are asking for, TWO DOLLARS PER PAY-PERIOD! I have printed the information needed for all three methods of signing up for these deductions elsewhere in this newsletter. Please take a minute to do whatever applies to you for registering. I have also appointed Executive Vice-President Detlev Aepfel as Chairman of the newly formed COLCPE Committee to try and raise awareness and sign up carriers. You can reach him at (813) 505-7914.

Our second annual Muscular Dystrophy stoplight blitz will be held on July 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 until 6:00 pm. Last year we collected over \$11,000 with more than 100 carriers volunteering their time manning the intersections. This year we are hoping to collect \$20,000 with the addition of more intersections. Please join us in making this a successful event. Our annual Labor Day Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at the union hall. As may remember, last year's picnic was cancelled after two failed attempts because of the

hurricanes. Hopefully this year the weather will be more cooperative. So please put that date on your calendar so you can have a good time socializing with your fellow carriers outside of work.



by Jim Good

President - Branch 599

In closing I want to announce that effective June 1<sup>st</sup> I have retired from the Postal Service with thirty-one years of service. I started working for the USPS in February of 1974 as a distribution clerk in Cleveland, Ohio. After three years I transferred to the carrier craft and carried mail for twenty-five years until I was elected president of Branch 599. I thoroughly enjoyed my twenty-five years of delivering mail and have missed it since becoming president, but I find my current position even more challenging and fulfilling. I hope to remain your president for many years to come and this postal retirement will have no effect on my current duties. The first reason for my decision to retire at this time is of course the fact that I will begin to receive the annuity that I have earned for being employed with the postal service for thirty-one years. But equally important is the fact that our branch will save in excess of \$17,000 per year. This is because they will no longer have to pay into my retirement account or pay the postal service's share of my health benefits as called for in our bylaws. That is an enormous savings of member's dues money that can now be used to finance the Labor Day Picnic, Christmas Party, State & National Conventions, Training Seminars and other worthwhile causes to benefit our members. As always, I will be here and visiting the stations to help in any way I can.

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**Branch Meeting**

**Thursday July 7**

**7:30 PM**

**Branch 599 Officers**

PRESIDENT	Jim Good	(813) 960-3759, cell 417-8877
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT	Detlev Aeppel	(813) 907-9685, cell 505-7914
VICE-PRESIDENT	Gilbert Cabanas	(813) 855-0516, cell 597-7396
RECORDING SECRETARY	Cheryl Clothier	(727) 385-7337
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Tony Diaz	(813) 598-9635
TREASURER	Michael Anderson	(813) 681-5688
TRUSTEE(Chairman)	Henry Dupree	(813) 621-6471
TRUSTEE	Jose Oliva	(813) 873-2747
TRUSTEE	Terry Franklin	(813) 657-9690
SERGEANT-AT-ARMS	J.C. Howard	(813) 621-1976
MBA / NSBA	Albert Guice	(813) 621-7931
HEALTH BENEFITS	Lance Jones	(813) 220-1292
DIRECTOR OF RETIREES	Jack Newman	(813) 805-2942
LABOR - MANAGEMENT	Michael Stewart	(813) 310-1292
LABOR - MANAGEMENT	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
MAPS COORDINATOR	Chris Albrecht	(727) 791-7162

**Presidents Emeritus**

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

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

**3003 W. Cypress St.**

**Tampa, Florida 33609-1617**

**Tel: (813) 875-0599 Fax: (813) 870-0599**

**email: [nalc599@verizon.net](mailto:nalc599@verizon.net)**

**website: <http://www.nalc599.com>**

**Branch 599 Shop Stewards**

Brandon	33510	Terry Franklin	(813) 657-9690
Brandon	33511	Miroslaw Oldziej	(813) 661-1636
Carrollwood	33618	Freddie Nimphius	(813) 968-7491
Commerce	33602	Dook Ramotar Sr.	(813) 780-6254
Forest Hills	33612	Warren Sumlin	(813) 486-7612
Forest Hills Annex	33613	Eddie Alvarez	(813) 817-7391
Hilldale	33614	Gilbert Cabanas	(813) 855-0516
Hilldale Annex	33634	Lance Jones	(813) 220-1292
Hyde Park	33606	George McEndree	(813) 935-0244
Interbay	33611	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Interbay	33629	Jim Knotz	(813) 832-6644
MacDill	33608	Jim Knotz	(813) 832-6644
Palm River	33619	J.C. Howard	(813) 621-1976
Plant City	33565	Misty Bauer	(813) 681-6890
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) 872-1542
Sulphur Springs	33604	Matt Kokich	(813) 431-3686
Tampa Carrier Annex	33607	Ken Lee	(940) 368-4771
Tampa Carrier Annex	33609	Pedro Jiminez	(813) 727-9280
Temple Terrace	33617	Mike Anderson	(813) 681-5688
Town & Country	33615	Brian Obst	(727) 507-0135
Ybor City	33605	Detlev Aeppel	(813) 505-7914

**TAMPA RETIREES' BREAKFAST**

**Monday , July 11, 2005**

**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**

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. Submit articles as .txt, .doc or .wpd documents attached to email sent to: [newsletter@nalc599.com](mailto:newsletter@nalc599.com)

Jim Good - Publisher

Kit Kelley - Editor

**Executive Vice-President's Report**

**by Detlev Aepfel**

*Executive Vice-President - Branch 599*

***Now Is The Time To Act***

**T**he 2005 Florida State Association of Letter Carriers Convention and Spring Training Seminar was held June 9 through June 11 in Naples, Florida. Seventeen convention delegates represented Branch 599 at the convention. Twelve of these delegates stayed to attend the Training Seminar.

Clearly the biggest topics of interest during both the convention and seminar were legislative matters. NALC legislative specialist Tucker McDonald made two presentations concerning NALC positions and strategies regarding Postal Reform, Saving Social Security, and current lobbying efforts.

Postal Reform legislation should reach the House and Senate floors for debate in late June or early July. Although both House bill H.R.22 and Senate bill S.662 are generally favorable to letter carriers, there are still several issues that need scrutiny. Both bills call for indexing rates for "market dominant products" (First Class Letters) to the Consumer Price Index but differ on which subclass of products should be linked to the CPI and if there should be circumstances in which rates could be raised more than the index allows.

If single piece parcels were placed in the "competitive" category instead of "market dominant" category, rates would dramatically increase for household mailers and could force the USPS out of the parcel business. The NALC wants the indexing linked

to the more favorable subcomponent called the CPI Services or the CPI for Delivery Services. The NALC also wants the USPS to be able to bank unused authority to raise rates rather than be forced to "use it or lose it" as this could trigger political backlash by mailers and Congress. Both bills require the USPS to allocate between two thirds and three quarters of the savings from pension reform to pre-fund retirees' health benefits instead of funding the CSRS escrow account. This could be partially offset by returning military pension costs to the Treasury but even so such prefunding is not required in private industry or in other government agencies. The NALC is working with both parties in both houses of Congress to pass a balanced reform bill that treats all postal stakeholders as well as the public fairly.

The current position of the NALC on Social Security reform is one of wait and see. This is because despite all the rhetoric there have been no actual proposed solutions to the problems with Social Security. The Bush administration has not put forth any plan to reform Social Security. No legislation is currently being considered. While the NALC realizes that Social Security is essential to the welfare of seventy five percent of letter carriers there is no legislation to have a position on at this time. When Social Security reform finally surfaces the NALC will vigorously fight for the welfare and security of letter carriers.

The NALC is continuing to lobby members of Congress on letter carrier issues. Lobbying is how the NALC makes the needs of

letter carriers known. Some members of our branch have expressed disdain for how our political system works. It seems they somehow don't want to dirty their hands. To them I say, "Grow up!" All of our competitors outspend us lobbying Congress. For example, United Parcel Service, only one of our competitors, spends over ten million dollars annually lobbying Congress to halt or undermine the reform that the USPS needs so badly to survive. That is money spent every year by our competitors to take our jobs, our futures, and our security away from us by destroying the USPS as we know it. Now is the time for all letter carriers to take action. Letter carriers must make a unanimous effort to support COLCPE. If every letter carrier in the country contributed a dollar a week (that's .20 per day), the NALC would have nearly twelve million dollars annually to make your voice heard in Congress. Any letter carrier that does not contribute a nominal one dollar per week simply does not understand the seriousness of the situation. Branch 599 has recently formed a COLCPE committee. This committee will encourage and assist members in contributing to COLCPE through payroll deduction. Letter carriers will soon be receiving a \$600 union negotiated COLA. A contribution of two dollars per pay period equals fifty two dollars which would still leave \$548 for you. A buck a week is all we ask.



In Solidarity...

**Florida State Convention**



**June Meetings:**

Tues 6-28-05 - TLC Board of Directors Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:00 PM

Thur 6-30-05 - Executive Board Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:00 PM

**July Meetings:**

Tues 7-5-05 - Shop Stewards Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:00 PM

Thur 7-7-05 - Branch Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:30 PM

Tues 7-26-05- TLC Board Of Directors Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:00 PM

Thur 7-28-05 - Executive Board Meeting  
Union Hall, 7:00 PM

**TLC, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting Summary**

The 5/24/05 meeting was called to order by Chairman Obst at 7 pm. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as read. Financial report by John Gebo, Building Manager report by Jack Newman. The trees have been trimmed at a cost of \$2500. Building Manager Newman and Chairman Obst met with Natures Harvest to discuss the parking lot lease. A new contract will be written up raising our fee to \$500 per month, with the understanding that we will move the fence back 12 feet for additional parking.

Manager Newman requested permission to spend \$500 for two new chairs for the stage. A motion was made and passed to spend up to \$300 for two new chairs.

A long discussion was had regarding the maintenance man and his duties. Chairman Obst explained that the new parking lot lease would be renewable every 2 years with a 3% to 5% increase. Chairman Obst discussed correspondence from the Salvation Army about the possibility of once again having our organization certified for community service work. A new computer has been purchased for the publication of the newsletter. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm. Jim Good, Secretary, TLC, Inc.

**President's Station Visits**

COMMERCE (33602) - THURSDAY, 7/7

SEMINOLE (33603) - WEDNESDAY, 7/20

SULPHUR SPRINGS (33604) - FRIDAY, 7/22

YBOR / PRODUCE (33605-10) - WEDNESDAY, 7/27

HYDE PARK (33606) - FRIDAY, 7/29

TCA (33607 -09) - TUESDAY, 8/2

**Proposed Bylaw Change - Article IV, Section 2**

Currently reads:

All officers shall be elected every three years and shall hold office three years or until their successors are elected and duly qualified. All regular members, except those who are acting in a supervisory position, and in good standing in the Branch, shall be eligible to hold office therein. All candidates for election as officers must be present at the meeting when nominated, or signify in writing their willingness to serve if elected.

No member may be a candidate for more than one elected office simultaneously.

**Proposed to read:**

All officers shall be elected every three years and shall hold office three years or until their successors are elected and duly qualified.

All regular members shall be eligible to hold any office or position in the Branch, except that a member who voluntarily or otherwise, holds, accepts, or applies for a supervisory position in the Postal Career Service for any period of time, whether one (1) day or fraction thereof, either detailed, acting, probationary or permanently, shall immediately vacate any office held, and shall be ineligible to run for any office or other position for a period of two (2) years after termination of such supervisory status. All candidates for election as officers must be present at the meeting when nominated, or signify in writing their willingness to serve if elected.

No member may be a candidate for more than one elected office simultaneously.

**Proposed By-law change - Article III, Section 1**

Currently reads:

The regular meeting of Tampa Branch No. 599 shall be held each month. Twenty-five (25) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

**Proposed to read:**

The regular meeting of Tampa Branch 599 shall be held on the first Thursday of each month beginning at 7:30 pm. When the day of the scheduled meeting falls on a Holiday the meeting will be re-scheduled at the discretion of the Executive Board. Twenty-five (25) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the branch meetings.

**Health and Welfare**

Sean Connelly, son of Interbay carrier Bob Connelly, passed away.

Frank Scott, retiree, passed away.

Jerry Peterson, Hilldale Annex, recovering from a broken foot.

The father of Jerry Peterson, Hilldale Annex carrier, passed away.

Marguerite Anderson, mother of Jeanne Chile of Commerce, passed away.

Milo Gonzalez, retiree, passed away.

## A Point of Personal Privilege

by Leslie Ray Garcia

### *Fact or Fiction?*

**I**n the Constitution of the United States, Amendment number one reads:

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances.” Our newspaper usually has a disclaimer which defines the articles written as the opinions of the writers and that they do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Branch 599.

The June 2005 issue of our newspaper had a very good article written by retired brother, Ray Wallace. He wrote about the 1970 strike against the USPS and what those brother and sisters did for us today. Our union won collective bargaining rights, although we were limited politically by the Hatch Act and the no strike clause was contained within our contract. The President was Richard M. Nixon, a republican, and his administration implemented the 1970 settlement. I wonder if we were allowed to strike, how many union members would

cross the picket lines especially with the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch and the Judicial Branch of the government in control of conservatives. Can you say “*air traffic controllers*”?

On the issue of a contract, I wonder what will happen to our negotiations when the current contract expires in 2006. With major companies voiding their contracts with unions at an alarming rate and the Bush administration pushing for privatization, I have some concerns as to what the outcome will be with our contract. Several companies are being allowed by the conservative-controlled federal courts to opt out of their contracts with regard to employee’s current wages, health care benefits, pension plans, COLAs, working conditions, overtime pay, forty hour work weeks, etc. I don’t seem to remember businesses reneging on their contracts as frequently with unions during the Clinton administration. I think during those eight years that around twenty million jobs were created and companies like General Motors Corporation were not laying off (or firing ) twenty five thousand employees. I guess allowing the companies to police themselves is okay because of the big bucks donated to the GOP. Therefore, there will be no federal intervention on

behalf of the employees by the Bush administration. These type of actions by corporations were the main reasons why unions formed! Isn’t allowing corporations to police themselves like allowing a fox to guard the hen house?

If you haven’t guessed it by now, summer is finally here. The humidity and temperatures are on the rise daily. I was talking to a carrier the other day and he told me that he placed a temperature gauge in the LLV and the reading was over 120 degrees! A word to the wise: All carriers need to make sure they drink plenty of water and a sports drink that helps replace electrolytes in your body. Try to have enough cool water to pour into a towel to help cool your body temperature down. You can be overcome by the heat and not realize it until it is too late.

“In time of war the first casualty is truth.”  
Boake Carter



## Florida State Convention



**National Director of City Delivery Fred Rolando**



**National Director of Retired Members Don Southern**

**Unionism**

**by Brian Obst**

*Labor Management Representative - Branch 599*

**State Convention and COLCPE**

**W**ell, the state convention has come and gone with it's training seminar and I must admit that it was very educational.

The state officers were elected without opposition and I send my congratulations to them all and I am sure they will keep up the good work they have been doing up until now. As for the training seminar I was pleased to find some different classes this time around.

These classes not only help the stewards and branch officers but many of them can be of benefit to the average carrier on the street. One example was the class on dealing with fellow carriers and management as well as the classes on EAP, balancing work and family. These classes help to shed a light on issues confronting every carrier in the Postal Service today and help carriers develop the skills to assist them in dealing with these issues.

I would also like to touch on the legislative discussions held at the meeting this time around. One of the key points brought up was the donations to COLCPE (the NALC political action committee) are down. In this time of pending postal reform in the House and the Senate, it is important that we as carriers make our views on reform known to our elected representatives. We can do this through calls and letters and e-mails to their offices as well as donations through the COLCPE fund. These donations are specifi-

cally for political lobbying as none of your dues payments are allowed to be used for political purposes. There are several ways to donate such as by writing a check, starting a payroll deduction or even a direct deduction from a checking account. Please give consideration to making a donation to help get postal reform passed.

Please contact your station steward for any further information from the training seminar or call the branch office. Until next month, yours in brotherhood,

Brian Obst

I want to remind all members that the monthly TLC meeting is open to any interested member in good standing who desires to attend. I look forward to hearing any ideas that can benefit the membership. I can be reached through the Branch offices so don't hesitate to contact me.



Until next month,

Brian Obst  
Chairman, TLC, Inc.

**From The Chair of TLC, Inc.**

*by Brian Obst, Chairman - TLC, Inc.*

Hello once again from your chairman. TLC has been busy as we head into the summer months and I just want to say a few words to the membership. We once again have had to say goodbye to one of our board members as Cheryl Clothier has stepped down from her position so she could devote her time to other important matters and we wish her a fond farewell from the board. Her work will be missed but at the same time we would like to welcome new member Mike Stewart into the fold. I'm sure he will be able to fill Cheryl's shoes and be a great addition to the Board.

**NBA Judy Willoughby Addresses the Florida State Convention**



**MDA Stoplight Blitz**

Letter Carriers from Branch 599 will hold their second annual stoplight blitz to collect donations for the Muscular Dystrophy Association on Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 until 6:00 pm. Please contact your Shop Steward to volunteer for this very worthwhile cause.

Last year we collected in excess of \$11,000, with over 100 carriers tolerating the heat, humidity and rain. I know we can surpass last year's total. Please help your branch reach their goal of

\$20,000. Produce Shop Steward Eric Fleming has volunteered to be this year's coordinator. Please join him and your brother and sister carriers to make this our most successful year ever.

Any retirees interested in volunteering to man their own intersection, please contact Eric at Produce Station (237-4280) or on his cell phone at 310-8274.

**Health & Welfare Committee Chairman**

Russell Person, Chairman of the Health & Welfare Committee has resigned for health reasons. I have appointed Henry Dupree as the new chairman. We thank Russell for his service and hope his health improves.

Please call Henry at (813) 624-5307 or (813) 621-6471 to let him know of any carriers who are ill, recovering from surgery or have passed away.

Jim Good

**Health Benefits Report**

**by Lance Jones**

*Health Benefits Representative - Branch 599*

***Nine Dollars  
An Hour***

**N**ine dollars an hour. In 1985 that's about what a full time step "O" letter carrier was making. As of this week all over our nation union workers (people with collective bargaining agreements), all of them members of the different airline unions, are now making a wage and receiving benefits at their 1985 level. That is a decrease of nearly 60%. The widow of the pilot of the plane that was flown into the Twin Towers had her pension reduced by 50% last week.

Can you survive a 60% wage reduction next week? Well it's pretty obvious that it can happen and all unions are targeted. Last year UPS alone spent 10 million dollars on political lobbying. That's not counting what FedEx and the rest of our competitors spent on their own lobbying. The NALC had only about \$400,000 to spend.

We all buy insurance, for our homes our cars, life insurance and health insurance. But how many of us buy *JOB insurance*? Very few of

us do. Well, it's out there to be had. It's called COLCPE. That's right, our political action fund. Don't think it's job insurance? Well, here are a few things the Florida letter carrier faces in the near future:

1. House bill HR-22 on postal reform. It's out of committee now and we may be asked to call our congressional representatives any day now if things start to go against us.
2. Senate bill S-662 on postal reform. It's about to come out of committee and again we may have to make the call.
3. As I write this column there is a major attack from the White House and the Postal Board Of Governors to make our pension and health benefits subject to collective bargaining in both of the bills mentioned above.
4. These bills will eventually go to committee again and we may have to make those calls once more.
5. Those of us in District 11 will have a vacated House seat. We certainly need to fill that seat with someone who is a friend to postal labor

unions.

6. Soon we will face a gubernatorial race here in Florida. Wouldn't it benefit us to fill that job with someone friendly to labor?



All of us are about to receive a COLA raise of nearly \$600.00 Now is the time to buy that *job insurance*. It's so easy. So why not give just \$5 dollars a pay period? They take it out automatically. Or maybe you can give \$10 a month from your checking account. They take it out automatically. It will be the best insurance you ever bought.

Think about it: \$10 a month so you might not lose \$15 an hour! Sounds like a great deal to me. Just ask any of your union officers for more details. They will be glad to help you fill out the proper forms.

In Solidarity...

**Florida Congressional Delegation**

**Senators:**

- Mel Martinez (R)** 317 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-3041  
**Bill Nelson (D)** 716 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510 (202) 224-5274.

**U. S. Representatives:**

- District 9: Michael Bilirakis (R)** 2408 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-5755  
**District 5: Ginny Brown-Waite (R)** 414 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1002  
**District 11: Jim Davis (D)** 409 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3376  
**District 12: Adam Putnam (R)** 1213 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1252  
**District 10: C. W. "Bill" Young (R)** 2407 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-5961

**Florida State Convention**



# 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

## ***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

*bilmor@tampabay.rr.com*

Contribute to COLCPE regularly from your biweekly paycheck

# How to contribute to COLCPE using PostalEASE



Letter carriers can contribute directly to COLCPE (NALC's Committee on Letter Carrier Political Education) from their paychecks every pay period using the Postal Service's PostalEASE. Through PostalEASE you can designate COLCPE as one of your two\* payroll "allotments."

**YOUR 17-DIGIT ACCOUNT NUMBER:**

- 1 Be sure you know your 4-digit USPS Personal Identification Number (PIN). If you cannot remember your PIN number, call PostalEASE at 1-877-4PS-EASE, select "1", enter your Employee ID Number (located at the top of your earnings statement), select "1" to hear information about your PIN, and select "2" to have your PIN mailed to you.
- 2 Create your own Account Number by inserting in the spaces at right the first seven digits of the ID number that appears above your name on the back cover of your Postal Record.

0 0 3 4 9 5 2 5 3 5  
(First 7 digits of ID number on Postal Record label)

\*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\* S-DIGIT 54321  
 XXXXX 09 LC 9876 W13 08  
 JOHN CARRIER  
 1234 MAIN STREET  
 ANYWHERE, US 54321-9999

## 3 Now you are ready to call PostalEASE toll-free at 1-877-4PS-EASE (1-877-477-3273)

- When prompted, select "1" for PostalEASE and then enter your Employee ID Number and your USPS PIN
- Select "2" for payroll options
- Select "1" for allotments
- Disregard instruction to complete Allotment Worksheet and select "2" to continue
- Select "3" to ADD a new allotment
- Enter the 9-digit Financial Institution Routing Number:  
**0 6 4 0 0 0 1 7**
- Select "1" to continue processing allotment
- Select "1" to "enter the allotment now"
- Enter your 17-digit Account Number from above
- Enter "1" for Checking
- Enter amount of allotment: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ .00 per pay period.  
 If amount is correct, select "1"

\* If you already have two allotments, you must cancel one to contribute to COLCPE through PostalEASE. To do so, follow the instructions at left but instead of selecting "3" to add a new allotment, select "2" to cancel an allotment.

**After completing your entry, do not end the call until you hear the following:**

Confirmation Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your allotment will become effective on: \_\_\_\_\_

Your allotment will be reflected in paycheck dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Keep this information for your records and future reference.

By making a COLCPE allotment through PostalEASE, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or employment by the Postal Service nor a part of union dues and that COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office as permitted by law. You are also making this allotment with the understanding that COLCPE contributions are not tax deductible and that your selection shall remain in full force and effect until canceled through the PostalEASE system.



Contribute  
to **COLCPE**  
monthly from your bank account via  
**Electronic Fund Transfer**

Every month on the 1st of the month, COLCPE will automatically (and without a fee) deduct from your bank account the amount you choose to contribute.

Please fill out and mail this coupon  
with a voided check or deposit slip to:  
**NALC-COLCPE**  
100 Indiana Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20001-2144

I hereby authorize my bank to deduct from my checking account **monthly** the sum of:

\$25     \$20     \$15     \$10     \$5     Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

and forward that amount to NALC's Committee on Letter Carriers Political Education (COLCPE).  
I make this authorization voluntarily and may revoke it at any time by notifying the NALC COLCPE Committee in writing.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_ OR Postal Record number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Attach a voided check here:**

By making a COLCPE Electronic Fund Transfer authorization, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that your monthly contribution is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers or employment by the Postal Service nor a part of union dues and that COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office as permitted by law. You are also making this Electronic Fund Transfer authorization with the understanding that COLCPE contributions are not tax deductible and that your selection shall remain in full force and effect until you cancel by notifying the NALC COLCPE Committee in writing.

# RETIREES!

## Contribute to **COLCPE** directly from your **ANNUITY**

**R**etired NALC members now have the option of making voluntary COLCPE contributions directly from their monthly CSRS or FERS annuities, a convenient way to make regular donations to the political action fund similar to the payroll system available to active carriers. The amount you decide to contribute will come out of your annuity *each* month.

**Before you begin:** To contribute directly from your annuity, you'll need your:

- **CSA retirement claim number, and**
- **Personal Identification Number (PIN).** Retirees who don't have a PIN can obtain one by contacting OPM by telephone at 888-767-6738; in writing at Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017; or online at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov).

**Here are 3 easy ways to start your allotment:**

### 1. Telephone OPM

To start your COLCPE allotment by telephone, call 888-767-6738 and speak with a customer service representative. (In the Washington, DC area call 202-606-0500.)

### 2. Write to OPM

To start your COLCPE allotment via mail, send a letter to: Office of Personnel Management, Retirement Operations Center, Boyers, PA 16017. Be sure to include your CSA number, the amount you want to contribute monthly, and the organization name: National Association of Letter Carriers—COLCPE.

### 3. Sign up on the Internet

- Go to [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov)
- Click on "Employment and Benefits"
- Click on "Retirement Benefits"
- Under "How Do I," scroll to "Set up an allotment to an organization" and click "Go"
- After reviewing the page describing services OPM provides retirees, scroll to the bottom and click "Yes"
- Enter your CSA number and PIN
- Click on "Set organizational allotment" and select "Natl Assn of Letter Carriers—COLCPE"
- Enter the amount of your *monthly* contribution and click "Submit"

*That's all there is to it! You will receive a confirmation by mail from OPM notifying you of the date the first contribution will be withheld from your annuity.*

By making a COLCPE contribution, you are doing so voluntarily with the understanding that it is not a condition of membership in the National Association of Letter Carriers nor a part of union dues and that COLCPE will use the money it receives to contribute to candidates for federal office as permitted by law. You are also making this allotment with the understanding that COLCPE contributions are not tax deductible and that your selection shall remain in full force and effect until canceled through OPM.



# Tampa Postal is Your Ticket to a *Dream Vacation...*

*Between June 1st - August 31st, 2005, all you have to do is take out a Home Equity Loan or a Home Equity Line of Credit in the amount of \$15,000 or more and you will receive a fabulous 3 day / 2 night vacation courtesy of Tampa Postal Federal Credit Union!*



*Enjoy your vacation at one of hundreds of Marriott Fairfield Inn locations across the country!*



[www.tpcu.org](http://www.tpcu.org)

*\* Transportation not included. Quantities limited. Some restrictions apply. See a loan officer for more information.*

A.R. "Tony" Huerta NALC Branch 599  
3003 West Cypress Street  
Tampa FL 33609-1617  
(813) 875-0599 fax (813) 870-0599  
<http://www.nalc599.com>

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