



National VP District 3

By **Jim Littlejohn**

\$4 Per Gallon for Gasoline

Possibly by the time you read this you may be paying upwards to \$5 a gallon for gasoline, since lately the price of gasoline seems to be going up on a daily basis. Because of this unprecedented increase in the cost of getting to the worksite and back, the time is well at hand for the IRS to awaken from its lethargic slumber of paying lip service to a problem and continuing on with business as usual and actually take some time and effort to create a better working environment for all employees. Service now has the opportunity to reduce the size of its expensive (and possibly unhealthy – 1114 Commerce for example) of office buildings and truly afford its employees the opportunity to work at home.

By doing this, the IRS would be creating a win/win/win situation for employees, customers and the environment. The first win would be allowing a telework environment, i.e. working from home at least one day per week. In this way an employee's annual commuting cost could be reduced dramatically. The May 2008 edition of the NTEU Bulletin refers to figures from a study conducted by the Telework Exchange that indicated in 2007 an employee's commuting cost would drop by almost 60 percent if the employee was able to come into the office only two days per week and telework the remaining three days a week. According to this same study, 96 percent of federal employees are currently eligible to be on some form of telework and nearly 80 percent are eligible to telework on a full time basis. To support the efforts of federal employees in their telework efforts, just recently, the House approved H.R. 4106 which if

passed into law would allow even more federal employees to participate in telework programs.

To better bring home this point, let us assume that you and everyone else in your workgroup chose to participate in a full time telework schedule. The first thing you would notice is that you would no longer have that hour commute every morning and afternoon. If you then opted to take that two hours a day you are saving by not sitting behind the wheel, you could then go on a 4-10 (Article 23, Section 2G of our contract) work schedule of working 10 hour a day, 4 days a week instead of the traditional 8 hours a day, 5 day a week. As you can see, by doing this, you would still be starting and ending your workday at the same time, but only having to work 4 days a week. Yes, poof, as if by magic you would be getting one extra day a week off work and yet still only putting in the same number of hours (counting your commute time). If your regular commute time is more than an hour a day to the office, you save even more time.

So as you can see, by taking advantage of a telework schedule, you would be gaining an extra day off every week. On top of that, you also save on gasoline for the daily commute you are no longer making and not having to pay for parking. This would be in effect a quite substantial pay raise. We should all be on a 10 hour work day and only get into an automobile when it is absolutely necessary to do our job in

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John's Column

By John Darden
Chapter President

HOMELAND SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE -12

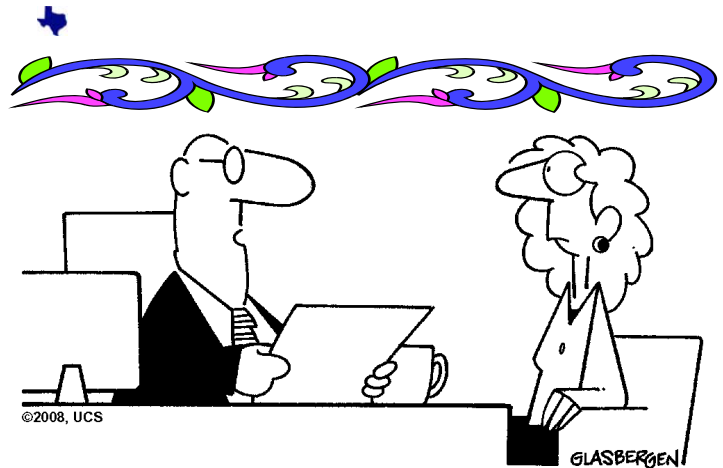
What is going on with this? Six months ago very few Service employees ever even heard of HSPD-12 and now suddenly the Service has decided it has become very important and so there has been a rush to have meetings and "inform" our employees of the importance of this directive. As it turns out, this directive was issued back on August 27, 2004 to address post-911 concerns regarding terrorism and the security of government facilities and data within the Government. September 11, 2001 as we all know, was almost 7 years ago. What about our safety from then until now? Oh well, at least now we will get a new ID card, I feel safer already!

But wait! There is more to this story. In order to guarantee security and safety, a tiny transmitter will be implanted deep inside one of your teeth, a molar will work best because it is in the back of your mouth and cannot be seen when you smile or eat. With this added "security" measure, management will be able to follow your every move, both during and after working hours. After all, we are all government employees 24/7, so why shouldn't the "Government" be able to track you 24/7? Now, before you start calling me with questions, I know that there are some out

there (there is no need to name those management officials by name) who have no teeth or just a very few. So, for you there is something else planned, a little more painful perhaps but I am sure that security concerns out weigh any physical discomfort you may experience. The implant will be surgically placed deep under your toenail of the big toe of your choice. This sounds a little painful to me but please remember this is all for National Security and we all know that security is important.

Okay, I am making up the part about the implant in your teeth and toes. This was just to make a point about this new ID card. Still don't be surprised, it could happen in the near future. As Benjamin Franklin once wrote, "He who would trade liberty for some temporary security, deserves neither liberty nor security. He who sacrifices freedom for security deserves neither."

The real question that I have about this new ID card is will this actually improve safety and security or is it just another government contract to be handed out to make some private company rich? You decide. After all, we all know how well our new and improved GovTrip system is doing in replacing TRAS.



"I'm offering you a six-figure salary. Three figures on the 15th of the month and three figures on the 30th."

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NTEU
The National Treasury Employees Union
Chapter 46

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the field.

The second win is that for our customers. With everyone working a ten hour day and staggering when individuals in the workgroup take their day off, hours of operation can be extended in order to better serve those customers whose work schedules do not permit them the opportunity to contact the IRS during normal hours.

Finally, the third win is that for our environment and ultimately all of us. By cutting down on commuting and weekly gasoline consumption, we are making the air we breathe cleaner and our roads less congested. This has even further savings implications by making our roads last longer and by savings lives with less vehicle accidents occurring. You can't get into a traffic accident if you are at home.

The world has changed and this agency must immediately take steps to keep up with these changes. With today's technology all phone calls to the Dallas Call Site could be transferred to the employee's home without any loss of service. Employees could volunteer to adjust their shift to better meets the needs of the Service and better meet the needs of the employees.

The time for action is NOW!

We do not need to be wasting valuable time and very expensive gasoline sitting in traffic attempting to get to a musty old federal building or leased government space.

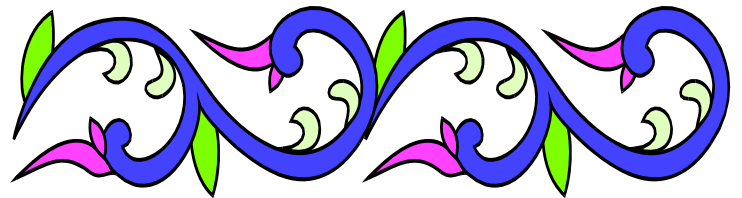
- Our Employees deserve better!
- The Customer deserves better!
- The environment deserves better!



Most situations in life are easier to get into than out of.



"I've been in management for thirty years. It's not going to be easy going out and earning an honest living."



Pictured above is Fount Rowel, Legislative VP and Brain Chase, Deputy Chief of Staff for U.S. Congressman Jeb Hensarling during a Legislative visit. During the meeting several key issues were discussed such as retiree issues, FEHB, government privatization, fair pay for federal employees, and labor management partnership. This meeting took place at the Congressional District office. If you would like more information or have any questions about any legislative issues please contact the union office at 214-413-5555.

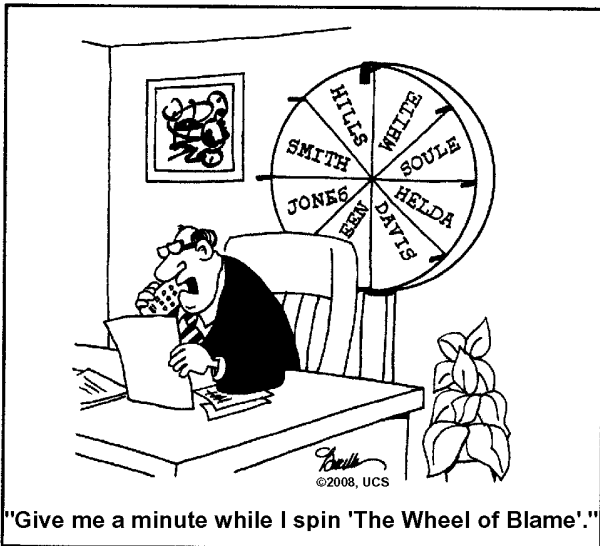




Chapter-46 General Meeting (Picnic)

I am inviting all of NTEU Chapter-46 members to come out to our annual picnic, this will be a great fun filled day for you and your family. We will have lots of activities for the children, a bounce house, face painting, balloon toss, sack-race and more. Now for the BIG BOYS AND GIRLS (Adults) cold beer, and if you don't care for a cold beer you can B.Y.O.B, cards, and dominoes. So, bring your favorite lawn chair, cooler, lucky deck of cards and/or dominoes. Do you think you can play? Let's see how good you are. Don't miss this opportunity to come out and enjoy free, yes! I said FREE (GRATIS) food and drinks. The chapter will supply hamburgers, hot dogs, soda, chips, pop corn, and cookies.

The picnic is going to be at The River Legacy Park located at 701 NW Green Oaks Arlington, Texas 76006 (The Legacy Pavilion) on Saturday July 26, 2008 from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Contact Sharon Wilson or Angela Porch at 214-413-5555 to obtain your free tickets. The tickets are so we can determine how many families to expect. Tickets will be available starting July 1, 2008 so make plans to attend.



"Give me a minute while I spin 'The Wheel of Blame'."

A Special Message to All NTEU Chapter 46 Members:

Previously we informed you about a medical problem that one of our members, Carmen Munoz, suffers. This is a little known disease called Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD).

Carmen has been informed that she is in need of a Kidney transplant and is asking for your help in finding a kidney donor. If you know anyone who is open to providing the "Gift of Life", please notify her of your/their willingness to help me fight this horrific disease.

This is a genetic disorder characterized by the growth of numerous cysts in the kidneys. The patient then requires dialysis or kidney transplantation. This disease never skips a generation and there is currently no treatment or cure for this horrific disease.

You can reach Carmen in one of the following ways:

Email: cdmunoz@sbcglobal.net
 Telephone #: 817-684-6695




National Transplant Assistance Fund
 www.transplantfund.org
 150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite F-120, Radnor, PA 19087 800-642-8399 610-635-6108 (fax)

**TRIBUTE GIFT TO
 NTAf SOUTH-CENTRAL KIDNEY TRANSPLANT FUND
 IN HONOR OF CARMEN MUNOZ**

Amount of contribution: _____ Date: _____
 Name of contributor (please print): _____
 Address: _____
 Daytime Phone: _____ Email: _____
(Email address is for acknowledgement only.)

Please make check payable to: **NTAF South-Central Kidney Transplant Fund**
 Print in memo section of check: **In Honor of Carmen Munoz**
 Please send to: **NTAF**
 150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Suite F-120
 Radnor, PA 19087

NTAF has the ultimate authority regarding administration and disbursement of all contributions. NTAf will send an acknowledgment for any contributions of \$250.00 or more, or if requested by the contributor of a lesser amount.



For credit card contributions, please call 800-642-8399 or visit www.transplantfund.org.

Bankcard Account Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
 Amount of Contribution: (\$25 minimum) _____ MasterCard Amex Visa
 Cardholder Signature: _____
 Cardholder Name (print): _____
 Cardholder billing address, phone and email if different from above (be sure to include email address to receive receipt): _____

For donation of stocks, please call 1-800-642-8399.
 CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE TO THE EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW. THIS CAMPAIGN IS ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL TRANSPLANT ASSISTANCE FUND, A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT PROVIDING FUNDRAISING ASSISTANCE TO TRANSPLANT AND CATASTROPHIC INJURY PATIENTS. INFORMATION: 800-642-8399

Thank you for your generosity and desire to help!

Picnic in the Park!

Children activities

bounce house
face painting
sack-race
balloon toss
three legged race
and more

Adults

cards and dominoes
B.Y.O.B,
bring your cooler
bring your favorite lawn chair

Food

hamburgers
hotdogs
pop corn
chips
soda
cookies

Good tasteful music by DJ Ferris

We will have prizes

When: **Saturday,**
July 26, 2008

Where: **River Legacy Park**



The Legacy Pavilion

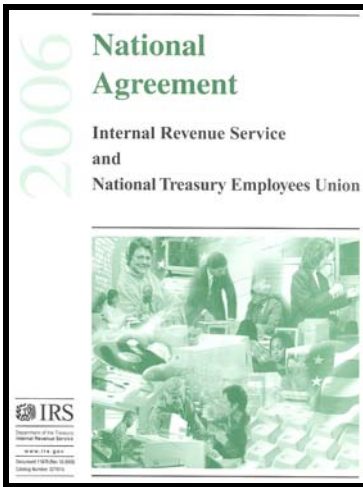
701 NW Green Oaks, Arlington, TX 76006

Time: **4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**

NTEU Chapter 46 will be providing **food, drinks** and **prizes**.

Come join the fun!

Pick up your FREE tickets in the Union Office, or contact Sharon Wilson or Angela Porch, at 214-413-5555, if you have any questions.



Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down



Thumbs down to the AWSS manager who is requesting that one of his work-group employees phone in a daily update while being hospitalized for an unknown duration. 🇹🇽

Know Your Contract -- Article 6 Outside Employment

Requests for outside employment will be made using Form 7995. The Service will approve or disapprove an employee's written request as soon as possible, but not later than ten (10) workdays from receipt of the completed request. If a response is not received within ten days, the request will be considered denied. The employee (via a steward) may then proceed to the streamlined grievance process.

When disapproving any request for outside employment, the Service will include a statement of its reasons for disapproving any such request. Grievances concerning the denial of outside employment must be presented within ten (10) workdays of the receipt of a denial by the employee. Any unresolved grievance may be appealed to arbitration.

Upon denial of a grievance regarding outside employment, if there is no dispute as to the facts, the Union may appeal to an outside arbitrator within thirty (30) workdays of the denial of the grievance.

Seasonal employees may not engage in any prohibited activities as set forth in the applicable Plain Talk About Ethics and Conduct. While in non-duty status, seasonal employees may engage in outside employment without obtaining prior written permission but must submit a written request to engage in outside employment if such activity continues when they return to duty status.



W&I Department 4 holds Juneteenth Celebration. Special thanks to Department Manager Christopher R. Carroll for allowing his employees to attend. Pictured are (from left to right) William Slade, Sharlindra Fowers, Fount Rowel, Peggy Farris, Angela Griffin, Eric Johnson, Shawanna Young and Kyana Palmer all Chapter 46 members participating in the food spread. 🇹🇽



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Tomoko

"I called you in here, Bob, to ask what you're doing away from your desk."