

**Happy 20th Anniversary to all members of the
Mid-States Conference!**

**Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, (Kentucky) Michigan, Minnesota,
Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota
and Wisconsin.**

May the next 20 years be as successful!

20 History—Mid-States Conference

1995—1996 Conference Officers—1st Conference

Emily J. Anderson, Moderator
Pete Harrington, Treasurer
Host State: Illinois



2015 Conference Officers—20th Conference

Danny Kemmering, (MO) President
Sandra Laramée (OH), Vice President
Mildred Dieball (SD), Secretary
Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer
Host State: Missouri

This 20-Year History Booklet is presented to you by your Mid-States Conference Officers for historical purposes. Printing was provided by Ohio's State Secretary, Penny Koren, who volunteered to print our 20-Year History Booklet and Past Mid States Conference Treasurer and IL Secretary/Treasurer Pete Harrington provided the history and typing of the text and graphics on behalf of the membership.

Enjoy!! Here's to 20 more Years!! God bless us all!

20TH MID STATES CONFERENCE



The Mid States Conference is comprised of the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. (Official states in 2015)

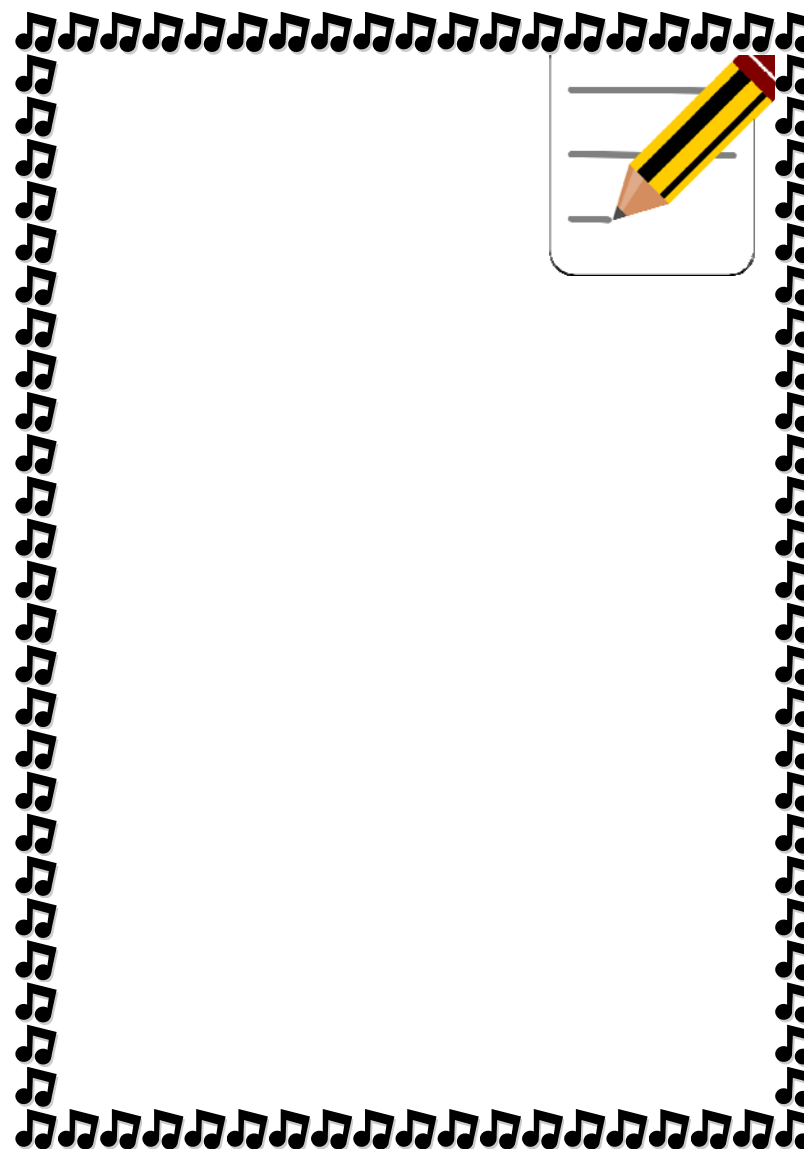
The purpose of the Conference shall be to support and promote fellowship, good will and to improve ourselves on matters and affairs of the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

20 Year History Booklet—2015

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NOTES



A decorative border for the notes page, featuring a spiral binding on the left and right sides and a pencil icon in the top right corner. The border is composed of a repeating pattern of musical notes.

THANK YOU!!

Special thanks to Emily J. Anderson, Past Illinois President and now actively involved retired rural carrier, for directing the early beginnings of this Conference from its infant stages to the growing force it has become in the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association. Our Conference has one of the largest memberships in the nation providing quality information to carriers and their families, as well as time for networking with other rural carriers in our craft who represent the middle of the country. NRLCA President Scottie Hicks (RIP) assisted Emily with the formation of this conference and we remember him with gratefulness for his support of the Illinois delegation's dream to help start a Mid States Conference and his skills and ability in "out of the box thinking."

Emily along with many other hard working members from Illinois and eventually other states helped to bring this conference to us, providing funding and workers for the original meeting and in the organization itself. Illinois is thanked as well for hosting the first three conferences at their own expense. Hats off to all of those Illinois rural carriers and others in the surrounding states who followed Emily's lead to bring this conference to us. *Thank you EMILY J. ANDERSON and the membership from the State of Illinois for this beginning!*



The 2005, 2009 and 2015 Year History booklet(s) were penned by Mid-States Treasurer, Pete Harrington, who has served the Mid States Conference as Treasurer for 20 years. The Conference thanks Pete for his many years of service to the Mid States Conference. 2015 was the first Conference he has missed, due to an injury just prior to the Conference. A special thanks to Pete for his service to the Conference for these 20 years on behalf of the membership of the State of Illinois and the entire Conference. Thank you Pete! We wish you well and may you enjoy many happy years of retirement now, and keep coming back!

HOSTS FOR CONFERENCES

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 0. May, 1995 | Illinois Issues Invitation |
| 1. May 3, 4, 5, 1996 | Galesburg, Illinois |
| 2. April 27, 28, 29, 1997 | Decatur, Illinois |
| 3. May 1, 2, 3, 1998 | Ft. Wayne, Indiana |
| 4. April 30, May 1, 2, 1999 | Ames, Iowa |
| 5. May 5, 6, 7, 2000 | Topeka, Kansas |
| 6. May 4, 5, 6, 2001 | Owensboro, Kentucky |
| 7. May 3, 4, 5, 2002 | Battle Creek, Michigan |
| 8. May 2, 3, 4, 2003 | Rochester, Minnesota |
| 9. April 30, May 1, 2, 2004 | St. Louis, Missouri |
| 10. May 6, 7, 8, 2005 | Omaha, Nebraska |
| 11. May 5, 6, 7, 2006 | Worthington, Ohio |
| 12. May 4, 5, 6, 2007 | Sioux Falls, So Dakota |
| 13. May 2, 3, 4, 2008 | Brookfield, Wisconsin |
| 14. May 1, 2, 3, 2009 | Peoria, Illinois |
| 15. May 7, 8, 9, 2010 | Indianapolis, Indiana |
| 16. May 6, 7, 8, 2011 | Des Moines, Iowa |
| 17. May 6, 7, 8, 2012 | Topeka, Kansas |
| 18. May 3, 4, 5, 2013 | Traverse, Michigan |
| 19. May 2, 3, 4, 2014 | Duluth, Minnesota |
| 20. May 2, 3, 4, 2015 | Branson, Missouri |

20 YEAR HISTORY IN REVIEW

The Mid States Conference is one of the largest membership Conferences in the nation. In 2009, the 12 member states represented over 35,402 members on March 31 (represented by 354 national delegates at national convention time). At the January 31, 2016 NRLCA membership announcements from the national secretary's report, the conference had 32,256 members which means 330 delegates for the national convention.

The Mid States Conference formed a united front in the Mid West, while keeping each state's individuality. Member states continue to caucus individually at national convention except for Illinois, Indiana and Ohio who began to caucus together at the national convention 9 years ago. This issue continues to be discussed among the member states.

The Mid States Conference has become a time for members to discuss important issues affecting the rural carrier craft, and an opportunity to discuss business of critical importance to the Midwestern states as a whole. It is the most similar rural carrier meeting to the national convention, on a much smaller level, but provides needed information to all those who attend. No Junior activities are provided at the Conference and Auxiliary activities have been limited to what the hosting State desires to do in this area. Much time is spent by retired members and spouses visiting with old friends and making new ones as the times change. It is a unique gathering of rural carriers at a smaller level than the national convention, but as informative.

In the beginning, Membership dues were set at 5 cents per member based on the 3rd Quarter Data from the National Office Membership Roles. Dues were raised for the first time at the 2015 Conference to 25 cents per member effective with the 2016 membership dues. Dues continue to be based on the Membership Roles from the National Office on 3/31 of the current membership year. Each host state received a \$1,600 stipend for hosting expenses which has been raised three times since then: In 2007 to \$1,800; in 2009 to \$2,500, and in 2015 to \$5,000.

The conference has rotated through the hosting membership states beginning with Illinois with the rotation going to each state in an alphabetical order each year unless a respective state requests a change. The rotation started over in Illinois in 2009 at the 14th annual Conference in Illinois. It will soon begin its third rotation time.

ORIGINAL CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

AMENDMENTS TO ORIGINAL GUIDELINES NOTED BELOW Marked throughout original guidelines with “”*

2003: (addition)

Amended to add that \$1,600.00 will be paid to the hosting state, who will submit receipts for that amount to the Treasurer to cover those expenses

2007: (replaces addition above)

Amended to add that \$1,800 will be paid to the hosting state, who will submit receipts for that amount to the Treasurer to cover those expenses.

2008: (replaces addition above)

Amended to add that \$2,500 will be paid to the hosting state who will submit receipts for that amount to the Treasurer to cover those expenses.

2010:(Article VII)

“The Mid States Conference shall meet on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday on the weekend of the 1st Sunday in May.” (This allowed the conference to never be on Mother's Day weekend and the purpose for the change.)

2015: (Article VI)

Amended to change state membership dues from 5 cents to 25 cents per member.

(addition above). Host states reimbursement was approved to increase from \$2,500 to \$5,000.

ORIGINAL CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

Article IX.

There shall be one or more delegates present at the annual conference from each state in the conference with the authority to act on their state's behalf. Member states unable to attend shall notify the conference president of any inability to attend.

Article X.

Parliamentary procedures of the Conference shall be as established in "Roberts Rules of Order".

Article XI.

These guidelines may be amended by a simple majority vote of the membership present at the annual meeting.

Approved May, 1999



AMENDMENTS to Original Guidelines Passed as noted on following page.

“* “ next to an article means that there has been an amendment made to the Article at some time during the 20 years. All Amendments are noted separately on page 33 of this booklet. Please refer to them for all updates to the original Guidelines. (page 33). The Guidelines printed here are the originals with amendments noted at the end with the amendment and year it was passed.

Host states rotate by alphabetical order and each state's officers respectively serve as President, Vice President and Secretary of the Mid States Conference in that rotation. The Treasurer is the only elected office and this election is held annually at the Conference in May. Past Secretary/Treasurer, Illinois, Pete Harrington , served as Treasurer for the first twenty (20) years of the Conference, being elected annually by the membership.

An audit of the Treasurer's records is conducted by an audit team every three years. This team is selected by the Treasurer from the various conference state secretary/treasurers and a report is presented at each conference following the audit. The next audit is to be performed at the 21st MidStates Conference in 2016. Reports are on file with the history information in the Treasurer's office. All team members for the audits are thanked for their service to the membership.

The state of Kentucky began an award presentation in 2001 for the state with the most members in attendance. They presented Illinois with a "traveling trophy" for having the highest attendance at the conference (including all members, spouses, guests), but did not include their own state as it was felt that would not be fair to the other states. This practice has continued since 2001. The trophy is presented to the winning state President on behalf of the state from the hosting conference President at the annual banquet, and the winning state President returns the trophy the next year to the current Conference President. This practice continues today.

Winners of the "traveling trophy" since 2001 are as follows:

Michigan: 7
Illinois: 6
Missouri: 1
Wisconsin: 1



Michigan: 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012
Illinois: 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2013, 2014
Missouri: 2011
Wisconsin: 2015

20 YEAR HISTORY CONTINUES

Kentucky's membership left the Mid States Conference in 2007 to join the Southern Atlantic Conference (SAC). North Dakota's membership joined the Mid States Conference in 2009. These changes bring the membership to 12 representing: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio and South Dakota. In 2014 North and South Dakota requested to consolidate their states as one when hosting and will fall in the rotation just prior to Ohio.

The Conference has grown in attendance, information and politics. The format has changed dramatically over the last three years as the national office has become more involved in the planning and agenda format making it less a "Mid States" hosted conference as it began into a more national ran conference held in the "Mid West".

20 years of Mid States Conferences has brought about a great deal of change for mid west carriers. The hope is that this trend will continue for many years to come.



Perfect Attendance!

In the 20-year history of the Mid States Conference only 2 members have attended every Mid States Conference that this writer is aware: **Larry Gunnell from Indiana and Bridget Boseak from Michigan.**

Pete Harrington of Illinois had attended every conference until 2015 when he suffered an eye injury just prior to coming to Missouri. However, he sent his reports and thoughts to Conference President Danny Kemmerling so that he was represented.



*Congratulations to
Larry and Bridget for perfect attendance at all
20 Mid State Conferences!*

ORIGINAL CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

A. President

1. Vote in tie votes.
2. Preside and call all meetings.
3. Invite local speaker.
4. Appoint the chaplain.
5. Shall take the responsibility to inform the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association of all meetings and activities.

B. Vice President

1. Replace the President in his/her absence.

C. Secretary

1. Keep minutes of all meetings.
2. Keep membership informed of all meetings.

D. Treasurer

1. Maintain the financial records of M.S.C.
2. Collect all dues, pay all bills, and maintain records.
3. File all necessary IRS reports.

Article VI. *

Member states will pay annual dues at the rate of 5 cents per member based on the 3rd quarter remittance as published in *The National Rural Letter Carrier*.

Article VII.

Each member state shall retain its sovereignty and will not be required to vote in a Conference block.

All rural carrier members in good standing of each state shall be invited to be present at all meetings.

Article VIII. *

The Mid States Conference shall meet the first weekend of May each year.

ORIGINAL CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

Article I.

The name of this Conference shall be “Mid-States Conference”.

Article II.

The purpose of the Mid States Conference shall be to support & promote fellowship, good will and to improve ourselves on matters and affairs of the National Rural Letter Carriers’ Association.

Article III. *

The Mid States Conference shall be composed of the following states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

Article IV.

- 1) The Host State will be rotated alphabetically and annually. A state will not be considered a member until dues are paid as established by these guidelines. Dues not received by the Saturday morning opening sessions of this conference will be considered delinquent.
- 2) The president of the conference will be the current state president or designee of the Host State. Other officers will rotate on continuing alphabetical state bases in the following order: Beginning in 1998 with the State of Indiana—President, Iowa, Vice President and Kansas, Secretary.

Article V.

The governing officers of this Conference shall be President, Vice President, Secretary and a Treasurer.

- 1) President shall be from the Host State.
- 2) Vice President from the state next in line.
- 3) Secretary from the state next in line.
- 4) Treasurer shall run for election each year and serve as long as the membership continues to support him/her by a simple majority vote.
- 5) They shall be elected at the spring meeting by a simple majority of the Mid States Conference.
- 6) Duties of the governing officers shall be:
Association of all meetings and activities.

1995—CALL GOES OUT

And, It Began (dreams of 1995)...The Mid-States Conference was a dream of Emily Anderson (IL VP), Jerry Burley (IL Committeeman—(RIP) , Pete Harrington (IL Secretary/Treasurer) and Steven L. Traylor (IL Committeeman/State Steward). Emily contacted her counterparts across the Mid West to see about interest in forming a conference for the Mid West regional states.

And in the spring of 1996

Emily worked closely with NRLCA President, Scottie Hicks (RIP) and members of her IL state board to formulate a plan to get a Conference on the drawing board. In 6 short weeks that plan became a reality and the 1st Mid States Conference was held **May 3, 4, 5, 1996 at Jumer’s Hotel, Galesburg, IL**. The State of Illinois picked up all of the expenses.

Invited States: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, North and South Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin. Representatives from all states, but North Dakota, South Dakota, and Nebraska attended. Special National guests included: NRLCA President Scottie Hicks (RIP), Past NRLCA President, Wilbur Wood (RIP), Larry Waligora, RCHBP, Vilas Smith, NRLCA Executive Committeeman, and Ken Parmelee, Legislative VP from the national office.

A business meeting was held with questions on how to organize the conference. Illinois was asked to host a second conference to allow states to go home and discuss the possibilities with their memberships and boards. Emily was asked to continue as Coordinator and Moderator for the 2nd year. Pete Harrington was asked to handle any expenses and financial needs. The Illinois Auxiliary hosted an afternoon program and helped host a banquet that evening. No Junior program was held.

Another business meeting was held on August 4 & 7, 1996 at National Convention in Charleston, W. Virginia, and upon a motion by Paul Katzer of St. Dakota, Mid States became official with dues set at 5 cents per member, rotation of states confirmed and a committee to start on guidelines: Tom Demeritt (MI), Bill Jarzombek (WI), Bill Schoneberg (NE), Ken Kraft (IA), Emily Anderson (IL) and Mattie Cihak (IN).

1997—DECATUR, ILLINOIS

The 2nd Annual Mid-States Conference was held at the Holiday Inn in Decatur, Illinois on April 25, 26 and 27, 1997. National President Scottie Hicks (RIP) was present and led sessions throughout the day and evening. The banquet at this conference was highlighted with the Illinois delegation presenting a “hats off to you” evening with various nationally known members wearing a variety of hats for the occasion.

All National Officers were present and a large crowd gathered with much interest for this conference. Following the business meeting it was agreed that the Conference would continue. Official commitments were made by Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Wisconsin. North and South Dakota did not confirm their participation because of the distance and were the only 2 states not represented at the 2nd Conference.

It was agreed that each state would host a conference, rotating in alphabetical order beginning with this conference in Illinois. Officers would be determined on a rotating basis with the host state President being the conference President, the next host state, Vice President and the third host state in line would be secretary. A treasure would be elected annually. Illinois' Secretary/Treasurer Pete Harrington was asked to work with the money, get an account set up before the rotation began, accept dues and pay any bills for the next host state, and to continue acting as Conference Treasurer until one could be officially elected at the next years conference. He accepted this responsibility. Those members present thanked the Illinois delegation, especially Emily Anderson and Pete Harrington, for their continued willingness to assist in the formulation of the Conference. Illinois again met the costs of the 2nd Conference to help the Conference “get on its feet”.

Starting with the 1998 Conference, rotation order was confirmed: 1998, Indiana 1999, Iowa and 2000 Kansas. The deadline for states to pay their dues this year was by National Convention, and only dues paying states would be in the conference. Any state not establishing their membership would lose its place in the alphabetical rotation and would have to wait until the rotation was completed to be back in the rotation schedule.

THANK YOU CONFERENCE OFFICERS!

2007: 12th Annual: Gary Evensen (SD), President, Tom Bittner (WI), VP, Joyce Wilson (IL), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer.

2008: 13th Annual: Lisa Wojnarowski and Mary O'Herron, (WI), Co-ordinators: Don Strobel (WI), President, Joyce Wilson (IL), VP, Dana Klipsch (IN) Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL) Treasurer.

2009: 14th Annual: Jerry Burley (RIP—IL), President, Ronald Keith (IN) VP, Gary Cummings (IA), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2010: 15th Annual: Ron Keith (IN), President; Peggy Gaul (IA), Secretary; Sandy Borne (KS), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2011: 16th Annual: Peggy Gaul (IA), President; Sandy Borne (KS), VP, Cyndi Parks (MI), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2012: 17th Annual: Sandy Borne (KS), President; Cyndi Parks (MI), VP; Robert Sturtz (MN) Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2013: 18th Annual: Ron Smaltz (MI), President; Robert Sturtz (MN), VP, Danny Kemerling (MO), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2014: 19th Annual: Brandy Sanford (MN), President; Danny Kemerling (MO), VP, Donna Haugland (NE), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

2015: 20th Annual: Danny Kemerling (MO), President; Donna Haugland (NE), Vice President; Gary Thompson (ND), Secretary and Pete Harrington (IL), Treasurer

A special thank you to all those officers who helped host our 20 Conferences! Your membership is to be congratulated on a job well done!

THANK YOU CONFERENCE OFFICERS!

1995: Planning Begins: Emily Anderson, Jerry Burley, Pete Harrington, Steven Traylor and the Illinois membership committee.

1996: 1st Annual: Emily Anderson Moderated, Pete Harrington, Treasure

1997—2nd Annual: Emily Anderson Moderated, Pete Harrington, Treasure

1998—3rd Annual: Don Zent, IN, Pres, Pete Harrington, Treasure

1999—4th Annual: Greg Casey, Iowa, President, Frankie Hunt, Secretary, Pete Harrington, Treasure

2000—5th Annual: Joe Ney, Kansas, President, Frankie Hunt, Kentucky, Vice President, Tom DeMeritt, Michigan, Secretary, Pete Harrington, Illinois, Treasurer

2001—6th Annual: Frankie Hunt, KY, President, Tom DeMeritt, MI, Vice President, Jim Riess, MN, Secretary, Pete Harrington, Treasure

2002—7th Annual: Tom DeMeritt, MI, President, David Heather, MO, Secretary, Pete Harrington, Treasure

2003—8th Annual: Jim Michel, MN, President, David Heather, MO., Vice President, Eddie Park, NE, Secretary, Pete Harrington, Treasure

2004—9th Annual: David Heather, MO, President, Robert Short, NE, Vice President, Sandra Laramée, OH, Secretary, Pete Harrington, IL, Treasure

2005—10th Annual: Robert Short, NE, President, Sandra Laramée, OH, Vice President, Mildred Dieball (SD), Secretary and Pete Harrington, IL, Treasurer

2006: 11th Annual: Sandra Laramée (OH), President; Pete Harrington, (IL) Treasurer

1997—DECATUR IL CONTINUES

After much debate and many motions, the members voted to have the states pay the 1997 dues based upon the 3rd quarter membership remittance which ended March 31, 1996 at 5 cents per member to get started, and the conference was off and running!

Those present also voted to have each state nominate a representative to meet at national to draw up guidelines for the conference to bring back to the conference for approval in 1998. The following members would represent their respective states:

Indiana—Jim Broyles, Iowa—Greg Casey, Kansas—Kenneth Keely, Kentucky—Glen Olson, Michigan—Tom DeMeritt, Minnesota—Lowell Meeker, Missouri—Jeanette Bartles, Nebraska—Billy Schoenberg, North Dakota—Ohio—John Aichholz, South Dakota—Roger Delaney, Wisconsin—Bill Jarzombek and Illinois—Walt Clevenger.

Walt Clevenger and Jim Broyles were appointed to act as Chairs for this organizational meeting. Don Zent proposed the sending of drafts of all guidelines which Emily Anderson had formulated from the last meeting to the three officers in line, and to the co-chairs of this committee, which she did.

The committee of members met at the National Convention in 1997 and the Guidelines contained in the back section of this history book are those originally passed by the membership in 1999 at the conference in Ames, Iowa. Any amendments made since the original guidelines were passed are located at the end of the Guidelines at the end of this history booklet, noted with a “*” on the original, and noted in respective minutes from the conference where action was taken.

The Treasurer is responsible for keeping all minutes from the Conference meetings as well as the financial records and receipts. A checking account for the Mid States Conference is held with the Atlanta Postal Credit Union and the account is audited every three years for accountability purposes.



1998 — FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

Carriers gathered in Fort Wayne, Indiana for the 3rd Mid States Conference at 7:00 PM on Friday to a mixer where carriers gathered to fellowship and receive information on the weekend schedule.

Don Zent, IN, was President of the Conference. National Auxiliary Secretary, Carol Bowen (RIP) was present along with NRLCA President Steve Smith (RIP). Information was received from IL carrier, Robert Picklesimer, on the Appeals Process, Wilbur Wood (RIP) for Atlanta Postal Credit Union and Larry Waligora for the Rural Carrier Health Insurance Program. All interested members who were interested in becoming a national candidate for the offices at the NRLCA were announced.

The afternoon session brought reports from Jim Matthew, National General Insurance, OWCP/Retirement, Linda DeCarlo and William Peer, (RIP) NRLCA Attorney. A Question and Answer Forum was conducted, moderated by Gregory Casey, IA RLCA with a panel of participating State Stewards, NRLCA President Steve Smith (RIP), NRLCA Executive Committeeman, Randy Anderson and William Peer, Attorney.

Saturday evening a banquet was held with the key note address from Steve Smith (RIP), NRLCA President and NRLCA Auxiliary Secretary, Carol Bowen (RIP).

Sunday morning Ken Parmelee brought information on PAC and the Legislature followed with remarks from Randy Anderson, NRLCA Executive Committeeman.

Immediately following Mr. Anderson's remarks, a business meeting was held with the State Presidents and/or Designees and anyone interested in attending. Guidelines were presented, but not passed, for more work to be done. Pete Harrington was asked to continue as Treasurer.

The Indiana Auxiliary hosted events for all Auxiliary members attending. No Junior activities were scheduled.



2015—BRANSON, MISSOURI

The 20th Annual Mid States Conference was held May 1—3, 2015 at the Hilton Branson Convention Center, Branson, Missouri. This year's conference marks the first full day on Friday and included additional assistance from the national office who helped Missouri finalize this year's agenda.

A retirement seminar began the morning followed with a seminar on the Thrift Savings Plan, Insurance and Stewards. The Secretary/Treasurers held a luncheon meeting. The afternoon session included a workshop on "The Grievance Process" followed with a "Meet and Greet" for the evening.

Saturday morning was called to order by Conference President Danny Kemmerling and the normal opening protocols and greetings were given. Following greetings from local chamber people and the auxiliary, greetings were given by the RCBP, APCU and NGIC followed with reports on Governmental Affairs and Communications/Pac. The afternoon session featured Jeanette Dwyer, NRLCA President, who gave the President's Address followed by Don Matson who gave the Committeeman's Address and Legal Affairs presented by Attorney Michael Gan.

The annual Saturday banquet was hosted by Danny Kemerling as Master of Ceremonies. Following dinner PAC drawings were taken and the presentation of the annual "traveling trophy" was given to Wisconsin for the highest membership attendance.

Steve Traylor gave the final business session Address on Sunday morning followed with the annual conference business meeting. Pete Harrington was absent from his first business meeting in 20 years due to an eye injury. Action was taken as follows: State membership dues were raised from 5 cents to 25 cents per member. Host states reimbursements was approved to increase from \$2,500 to \$5,000. A new history booklet was approved and Pete Harrington will be asked to update the 20 year conference history. Ohio has volunteered to print the booklet for free, and approval was given for 300 copies to be made. Jim Obermoller (MN) was elected conference Treasurer for 2016.



2014—DULUTH, MINNESOTA

The 19th Annual Mid States Conference was held May 2—4, 2014 at Convention Headquarters, Holiday Inn and Suites, Duluth, Minnesota.

Friday night offered seminars from Thrift Savings Plan and Insurance followed with a Retirement and Steward's Seminar. A special Secretary/Treasurer meeting was held late afternoon just prior to the annual Meet & Greet Friday evening.

Saturday's agenda included the welcome from MN Convention Chair, Brandy Sanford, followed with the normal protocols and greetings. Late morning a Legislative Update/PAC/Grassroots report was presented to the membership followed with an afternoon of addresses by National President Jeanette Dwyer and NRLCA Committeeman, Steven L. Traylor. Jean Marc Favreau presented the NRLCA Legal Counsel Address followed with a Q & A presentation by the NRLCA Officers and Headquarters Staff.

Saturday night Mark Glatzel, MN Chaplain, served as Master of Ceremony. Following the invocation and recognition of dignitaries, dinner was held. Brandy Sanford held a PAC Drawing and made presentation of the Attendance Traveling Trophy to the State of Illinois followed by a basket auction. Tim Eggebratten, Musician, provided entertainment for the evening.

Sunday morning began with a devotional service and final business session with addresses by Anthony Williams, Northland District Manager, Announcement of NRLCA Board candidates, and an address by NRLCA Committeeman Don Maston. Brandy Sanford gave closing remarks followed with the benediction by Mark Glatzel, MN Chaplain.

The annual Mid States Conference Business Meeting was held prior to adjournment of the conference at noon. Election of the Mid States Conference Treasurer was held. Pete Harrington was re-elected to serve as Treasurer. The states of North and South Dakota requested to consolidate as one state. The membership agreed. They will host prior to Ohio in the rotation to follow.



1999 — AMES, IOWA

Greg Casey, IARLCA President, served as President at the 4th conference in Ames. Friday night Iowa rural carriers hosted a mixer in the poolside area. Saturday greetings, reports and updates were given by: Larry Shown, NRLCA Auxiliary President, Steve Smith, NRLCA President, Wilbur Wood (RIP), Atlanta Postal Credit Union Representative, Larry Waligora, Health Insurance Program Manager with an announcement by interested national candidates seeking national offices.

The Saturday afternoon session reporting was give from Shirley Corno, National General Insurance, OWCP/Retirement, Linda DeCarlo, Legal Counsel, William Peer and a Question & Answer Forum moderated by Gregory Casey with panel members: Steve Smith (RIP), NRLCA President, Randy Anderson, NRLCA Executive Committeeman, William Peer, Attorney and Participating State Stewards.

A banquet was held Saturday evening with remarks by Auxiliary President Larry Shown and NRLCA President Steve Smith (RIP).

The Iowa Auxiliary hosted activities for all auxiliary members. No Junior activities were held.

Sunday morning's events included an opening devotional, update by Ken Parmelee for PAC and the Legislature followed by closing remarks from Randy Anderson, NRLCA Committeeman.

An open business meeting followed Sunday morning remarks which included approval of the previous year's minutes, treasurer's report, announcement of next hosting state and a discussion to have the Mid-States meet together for caucuses at the National Convention. Officers were appointed and Pete Harrington was officially elected to continue serving as the Conference Treasurer.

Guidelines were approved with all states being asked to review them for any script errors to be brought back to the Conference the next year, 2000.

2000 — TOPEKA, KANSAS

Kansas President, Joe Ney hosted the 5th conference at the Holiday Inn West in Topeka, Kansas.

The Agenda for the meeting included a mixer on Friday evening, activities for the Auxiliary on Saturday, with the conference hosting greetings from Betty Goodrich, NRLCA Auxiliary President and Steven Smith (RIP), NRLCA President. Both also spoke at the annual Saturday night banquet. Other participants included Wilbur Wood (RIP), APCU, Larry Waligora, Program Manger and an announcement time for interested national candidates. Saturday afternoon presenters included: Shirley Corno, NGI, Linda DeCarlo on OWCP/Retirement and William Peer (RIP), Legal Counsel.

A question & Answer Forum was moderated by Frankie Hunt, Kentucky with a panel of State Stewards and national officers Steve Smith (RIP), Randy Anderson and Attorney William Peer (RIP).

The annual banquet was held with entertainment including a comedian which highlighted the evening.

Sunday morning Ken Parmelee talked about PAC and Randy Anderson updated members on national concerns, followed with the annual business meeting of the conference.

The Sunday business meeting noted scribe errors in the guidelines which needed correction. Approval was given for the Treasurer to purchase a binder for minutes/treasurer's reports and conference agendas.

Discussion was held around changing the agenda of the conference with the group agreeing to leave the agenda up to the hosting state. Again, the members discussed having a "quick" meeting of the Mid-States members at National Convention.

Kentucky will be the next hosting state, officers were appointed and Pete Harrington was re-elected treasurer.

2013— TRAVERSE CITY, MICHIGAN

The 18th Annual Mid-States Conference was held May 3-5, 2013 in Traverse City, Michigan.

Breakout sessions were held Friday evening as follows: State Secretary-Treasurers, Retirement/OWCP and Director of Labor Relations/Director of Steward Operations.

Following the breakouts a "Meet and Greet" reception was held for all in attendance.

Saturday session included a general session with addresses and remarks by USPS Greater Michigan District Manager Charles Howe, President Jeanette Dwyer presented the Keynote Address and other greetings were given from other national board members and headquarters staff.

The annual Mid-States banquet was held on Saturday night with a cash bar, dinner and entertainment. The annual "traveling trophy" was presented to the state of Illinois.

Sunday morning included a devotional service with the general session immediately following. Candidates announced they were running for national offices before the closing.

The annual business meeting was held following the closing session. Pete Harrington (IL) was re-elected Treasurer. NRLCA Secretary/Treasurer Clifford Dailing presented information in reference to other conferences and DOL regulations as far as Mid States being an informational meeting.

Discussion was held on expanding the conference. A motion was made and carried to have the 2014 Mid States Officers and Co-Chairs work with the National office to work out the agenda and discuss break out topics and extension of the conference to an all day Friday session. No other business was approved.

2012 — TOPEKA, KANSAS

The 17th Annual Mid-States Conference was held May 4—6, 2012 at the Holiday Inn—Holidome, Topeka, Kansas.

A special Secretary/Treasurer Seminar kicked off the Friday evening festivities followed with Robert Horne, Joey Johnson and Michael Gann from the national office hosting a Steward Seminar. Following an “Open Mic” forum, a mixer was held for all members present.

Tony Kruse, KSRLCA Conference Co-Chair welcomed the membership on Saturday morning followed with the normal protocols and a special recognition of States and National Officers. Shirley Corno, Director of GMAC made a special presentation and Diane Yost, Senior Vice President, Marketing, addressed the membership regarding updates from the Atlanta Postal Credit Union. NRLCA President Jeanette Dwyer gave the Keynote Address. Other Saturday presentations included: PAC, Health Insurance and Legal Department presented by national office staff. Lucretia Nobles, NRLCA Auxiliary President, gave greetings from the Auxiliary followed with a Legislative Presentation by Kevin Talley, NRLCA Assistant Director and remarks from Steve Traylor, NRLCA Executive Committeeman. The afternoon hosted a special National Steward System Update by Robert Horne, NRLCA Director of Steward Operations and an introduction of candidates running for National Office. A special Q & A was also held.

The annual Saturday night banquet was hosted by Bob Penn, KSRLCA Chairman of the Board, auction & drawings were held after dinner and “Spin Master” entertained the members with a special “yo-yo” treat. The annual presentation of the traveling trophy was won by the state of Michigan.

The annual business meeting was held Sunday morning prior to the final business session. The only business was the election of the treasurer. Pete Harrington (IL) who was re-elected to serve as Treasurer.

After a brief morning session and Q & A continued followed with a wrap-up of speakers from the national office.

2001—OWENSBORO, KENTUCKY

Frankie Hunt was Conference Chairman for the 6th conference held in Owensboro. The Auxiliary was hosted by the Kentucky Auxiliary with activities on Saturday which included a Kentucky Derby celebration.

Friday night a mixer was held to greet all participants. Saturday was packed with information which included: Recognition of States, Greetings from Danny Wright, NRLCA Auxiliary President, and Buford White, Kentuckian District Manager. Steve Smith (RIP), NRLCA President, Wilbur Wood (RIP), APCU and Larry Waligora, Rural Carrier Health Insurance Program Manager. All interested national candidates were announced with the afternoon session information: Shirley Corno, NGI, Mike Watson, OWCP Specialist and Legal Counsel, William Peer. John Edmonds, KRLCA State Steward, moderated a Q & A Forum with: Steve Smith (RIP), Randy Anderson, William Peer (RIP), Mike Watson, Larry Waligora, Ken Parmelee and Shirley Corno.

The banquet included remarks from Randy Anderson followed with entertainment by Travis Miller, a local singer.

A first-ever “traveling trophy” was awarded to Illinois by the Kentucky membership for having the most members present. Kentucky began this “traveling award” at this conference noting that the host state would not be eligible for the award, and that the award would be given to the state with the most members present, including auxiliary members and guests. This tradition has continued since this first presentation.

The Kentucky delegation also held a very successful fund raiser for PAC.

Sunday morning Ken Parmelee talked to the membership about the importance of PAC and the legislature followed by remarks from Executive Committeeman, Randy Anderson.

The annual business meeting followed the close of the conference. Pete Harrington was again elected to serve as Treasurer of the Conference.

2002—BATTLE CREEK, MICHIGAN

The 7th Annual Mid States Conference was held in Battle Creek, Michigan. Sandy Bishop served as Conference Chair and opened the conference with a mixer on Friday evening where the carriers met for fellowship and a variety of good food and drinks.

Saturday morning followed the usual welcome opening, and all states present were recognized. Joyce Harrison, NRLCA Auxiliary President and Greg Chanski, Greater MI District Director of Finance gave greetings.

Auxiliary members left the meeting to attend their own activities followed with a museum tour in the afternoon. No Junior activities were held.

NRLCA President, Gus Baffa gave opening remarks followed with Larry Waligora on our Health Insurance Program. All interested national candidates announced their intentions. The afternoon session included: Tom Tilton, Greater MI District Rural Analyst, Shirley Corno, GMAC, Megan Lew, OWCP/Retirement Specialist and a Q & A moderated by Bridget Boseak, MIRLCA State Steward and the following panel: Gus Baffa, Brady Porth, Executive Committeeman, Michael Gan, Attorney, Megan Law, Larry Waligora, Ken Parmelee and Shirley Corno.

The annual banquet included remarks from NRLCA Committeeman, Brady Porth, the award of the traveling trophy, which once again went to Illinois, followed with entertainment from The Macomers from the Macomb Community College Goodwill Ambassadors.

Following the devotional on Sunday morning, Tom DeMeritt, MI President gave opening remarks followed by Ken Parmelee, Brady Porth and Danny Jackson, Great Lakes Area Vice-President.

The annual business meeting followed. There was no action taken regarding the conference. Pete Harrington was again re-elected as Treasurer.

2011—DES MOINES, IOWA

The 16th Annual Mid States Conference was held May 6-8, 2011 at the Airport Holiday Inn in Des Moines, Iowa. Friday night kicked off with a Secretary/Treasurer Seminar, Steward Seminar and an Open Mic Forum followed with a Mixer to greet all the conference attendees.

Auxiliary members received an individual schedule which included a meeting, lunch and tour of the Des Moines Botanical Center on Saturday. No Junior activities were scheduled.

Saturday's opening session was called to order by Gary Cummings (IA) and Conference Co-Chair. Following the usual opening events remarks were made by Don Cantriel, NRLCA President followed with Auxiliary Greetings from Barbara McAdams, NRLCA Auxiliary President. Other presentations included the Health Insurance Program, EAP Presentation, Remarks from committeeman Steve Traylor and Susan Knapp, Legislative, PAC and Legal Department. Ronnie Stutts, NRLCA Director of Steward Operations and Joey Johnson, NRLCA Director of Labor Relations presented a "rollout" of the Proposed National Steward Program. Candidates running for national office were introduced and a Q and A Forum was held.

The annual Saturday banquet offered a delicious buffet dinner, recognition of officers and guests, a History of the Mid States Conference by Pete Harrington, and presentation of the "traveling trophy" for most in attendance to the state of Missouri. Entertainment was given by Murphy's Law, a classic rock band.

The annual business meeting was held prior to closing session. The minutes and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Pete Harrington was re-elected conference treasurer.

The final session followed devotions, a presentation by APCU and a Q and A forum continued from Saturday's session. Steve Traylor gave closing remarks and administered the Oath of office to the new year conference officers, which was the first time this was done.

2010 — INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

The 15th Annual Mid States Conference was held May 7-9, 2010 at the Embassy Suites Indianapolis North, Indianapolis, Indiana. The Indiana membership hosted a mixer on Friday evening to welcome all conference members to the conference. Pete Harrington, Conference Treasurer, hosted a secretary/treasurer seminar; Ronnie Stutts moderated a Steward Seminar and Ron Keith moderated an Open Mic Forum.

Saturday's conference was called to order by Conference President, Ron Keith followed with the normal presentations and recognition of states. Opening remarks were delivered by Don Cantriel, NRLCA President and a "Rollout" of the Proposed National Steward Program was given by Dennis Conley, NCRLCA State Steward and National Steward Exploratory Committee. The Auxiliary gave greetings followed by presentations from APCU, GMAC and RCA/Long Term Disability specialists. The afternoon session included presentations on: Legislative, PAC, Legal Department updates, introduction of candidates for national office and an open Q & A hosted by the Indiana State Steward, Roger Taylor and the national board members present.

The annual banquet was held Saturday evening with a delicious buffet dinner followed with a recognition of officers and guests, presentation of the "traveling trophy" to the state of Michigan followed with a reading of the History of the Mid States Conference by Pete Harrington, Conference Treasurer. Entertainment following the banquet included the Hickory Hollow Bluegrass Band.

Following a devotional service, the annual business meeting was held before the closing session. Conference minutes and treasurer's reports were read and approved. Peggy Gaul from Iowa presented a video inviting the Conference to Iowa for the 2011 Conference. A motion was made to change Article 8 of the guidelines to read: "The Mid States Conference shall meet on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday on the weekend of the 1st Sunday in May." This allows the conference to not be held on Mother's Day weekend. Pete Harrington was re-elected Treasurer.

The final session remarks were given by Steve Traylor, NRLCA Committeeman.

2003—ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

The 8th Annual Mid States Conference was held at the Holiday Inn South, Rochester, Minnesota hosted by Conference Chairman, Lowell Meeker. For the first time, Wisconsin was missing representation at the conference.

A mixer was held at poolside on Friday Evening for carriers to fellowship and enjoy food and drinks following a long travel day.

Lowell Meeker opened the conference Saturday morning and a recognition of states present was held.

Greetings were given by Joye Bodie, NRLCA Auxiliary President. The auxiliary members then moved to their own meeting and took an afternoon tour of the City.

The Association continued with Opening Remarks by Gus Baffa, NRLCA President, Larry Waligora, Program Manager, Shirley Corno, GMAC and an afternoon with: Wilbur Wood (RIP), APCU, Megan Lew, OWCP/Retirement, Michael Gan, Legal Counsel, and Danny Jackson, Great Lakes Area Vice-President. A Q & A Forum was held with Chris Fruechte, Moderator and Gus Baffa, Jeanette Dwyer, Michael Gan, Megan Lew, Larry Waligora and Ken Parmelee.

The annual banquet was held on Saturday evening. Jeanette Dwyer, NRLCA Executive Committeeman, addressed the membership at the banquet.

Illinois again won the Attendance "Traveling Trophy". The Uncalled Four Barbershop Quartet provided entertainment.

Sunday Morning was opened by James Michel, MNRLCA President. Ken Parmelee gave an update on PAC followed with remarks by Committeeman Jeanette Dwyer.

The annual business meeting followed. Pete Harrington was again reelected as Treasurer.

2004—ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

The 9th Annual Mid-States Conference was held at the Sheraton Westport Plaza Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri.

David Heather was the Conference President. A mixer with entertainment was provided on Friday evening with a time for fellowship and snacks.

The Saturday morning session was opened by David Heather followed with the usual greetings, recognition of states and opening remarks by Dale Holton, NRLCA President and John Jewell, NRLCA Auxiliary President. Shirley Corno, GMAC Insurance and Wilbur Wood, (RIP), Atlanta Postal Credit Union brought information followed by Mike Watson, OWCP and Ken Parmelee, PAC & Legislative Issues.

The afternoon session included information on Financial Planning by Bill Judge, NRLCA Financial Advisor, Larry Waligora, Program Manager, Megan Lew, NRLCA Specialist for OWCP/Retirement, Steve Sbarbaro, Operations Programs Analyst from the Great Lakes Area, Alexander Lazaroff, USPS Eastern Area Vice-President and Pat Conrad, USPS Western Area Operations Programs Analyst. Michael Gann spoke on legal issues and a Q & A Forum was moderated by David Heather with the following panel: Dale Holton, Jeanette Dwyer, Michael Gan, Megan Lew, Larry Waligora, Ken Parmelee and Mid-States State Stewards.

The annual Saturday night banquet was held with entertainment and the Attendance “Traveling Trophy” once again went to the State of Illinois.

Sunday morning following a devotional service and Jeanette Dwyer gave closing remarks followed with national candidates announcing their candidacy with a Q & A wrap-up.

The Conference officers held a Mid-States Business Meeting following the close of session. Pete Harrington was re-elected Conference Treasurer.

The Auxiliary hosted activities for those Auxiliary members present. No Junior activities were held.

2009—PEORIA, ILLINOIS

The 14th Annual Mid States Conference was held at the Holiday Inn City Centre, Peoria, IL May 1—3, 2009.

Friday night’s events included a special roundtable for all stewards and secretary/treasurers of the conference. An open mic session followed with music and karaoke enjoyed by all.

President Jerry Burley (RIP) called the Conference to order Saturday morning. National Officers presented updates to the conference membership along with headquarters staff members who reported on the Rural Carrier Health Insurance Program, PAC and the Legislature, Provident Guild, OWCP and new steward updates.

The Saturday evening banquet was themed, “Building on the Best”. The “traveling trophy” was awarded for best attendance to the state of Michigan. A brief history of the conference was given by Steve Traylor, NRLCA Committeeman, as the Illinois delegation presented a new updated history booklet to each member present with additional copies being made available to any state that wished to have additional copies to take home to other members.

Entertainment was provided by the “Covered Bridge Chorus” following dinner and presentations.

Sunday morning the annual business meeting was held during breakfast followed with an open conference session with the keynote address given by Steve Traylor, NRLCA Committeeman.

This was the first time the conference held its annual business meeting prior to the Sunday morning conference session. This change was discussed as a possibility for having more members present for business sessions. No additional action was taken on the matter.

The Minutes of the 2008 business meeting were approved. Conference Officers were appointed and Pete Harrington was re-elected conference treasurer.

2008—BROOKFIELD, WISCONSIN

The 13th Annual Mid States Conference was held at the Brookfield Suites Hotel, Brookfield, Wisconsin May 2-4, 2008.

All member states were represented at the conference. Coordinators for the conference were Lisa Wojnarowski and Mary O'Herron. North Dakota had been asked to rejoin the conference and President Ida Volesky (ND) was present and stated she would be recommending to her membership at state convention to rejoin the Conference. Conference members thanked Ida for attending and asked her to let the North Dakota membership know how welcomed they all were to this Conference.

An introduction of candidates for national office committee was announced: Sue Knapp, Terry Leeper, Don Maston, Barbara Williams, Bridget Boseak, Bob Horne. The announcement was made that Bill Gordon and Joey Johnson were running for Director of Labor Relations, Jeanette Dwyer for VP, Don Cantriel for President and Clifford Dailing for Secretary/Treasurer.

The Auxiliary had a short meeting prior to a tour of Sprecher Brewery for anyone interested in attending. No Junior activities were scheduled.

The annual Saturday night banquet included a speaker, Corliss Olson, School of Workers, and Karaoke with Deb Sievert from the WIRLCA. Michigan won the "traveling trophy" for the 4th year in a row.

Sunday morning's keynote was given by Bill Gordon, NRLCA Executive Committeeman, followed with the annual conference business meeting.

Conference minutes were read and approved. The membership voted to increase the reimbursement to the hosting state from \$1,800 to \$2,500. Indiana requested the conference consider changing the weekend for 2010 due to the beginning of the Indianapolis 500 race. Conference voted to keep the first weekend of May schedule. Next Years Conference Officers were appointed. Pete Harrington was re-elected conference treasurer.

2005—OMAHA, NEBRASKA

The 10th Annual Conference was held May 6-8, 2005 at the Double Tree Hotel, Omaha, Nebraska. Robert Short was Conference President with Karen Kopecky as Conference Chair. A mixer was held on Friday evening with food and karaoke. An Open Forum for informal discussions was also held along with a Steward's Seminar conducted with Don Cantriel, Director of Steward Operations.

Saturday morning President Short hosted a breakfast meeting of the Presidents/Vice Presidents.

President Short welcomed everyone at the Opening Session, the colors were presented, Pledge of Allegiance and Opening Prayer were given before the Recognition of States. Opening Remarks were given by Dale Holton, NRLCA President and Diana Hausfeld, Auxiliary President. Other speakers for the day included: Larry Waligora, Program Manager, Shirley Corno, GMAC, Wilbur Wood (RIP), APCU, Ken Parmelee, PAC & Legislative issues and Lewis Linkugel, Linkugel Financial Services on Retirement and Financial Planning.

The Auxiliary met separately at the break and left for a tour of the Laurentzen Gardens in the afternoon.

Additional speakers: District Manager, Central Plains, Joleen Baxa, USPS Easter Area Vice President, Alexander Lazaroff and candidates interested in national offices were given an opportunity to announce. Michael Gan gave a legal update followed with a Q & A moderated by Robert Short and a panel including: Dale Holton, Jeanette Dwyer, Michael Gan, Ken Parmelee, and Conference State Stewards.

An evening banquet was held with a presentation by Robert Short, Mid-States Conference, a brief History of Mid States Conference by Pete Harrington and the "Traveling Trophy" was presented to Michigan, followed by entertainment including the infamous skit "The Streak"! The other entertainment was the choir from Doane College.

Following a devotional on Sunday morning, Jeanette Dwyer gave remarks and wrapped up with a Q & A. The annual business meeting followed with Pete Harrington being re-elected Conference Treasurer.



20 YEAR HISTORY—MID STATES
CONFERENCE

2006—WORTHINGTON, OHIO

The 11th Annual Mid-States Conference was held at the Holiday Inn Worthington, Columbus, Ohio.

Sandra Laramie served as Conference President. A tour to Longaberger Basket Factory & Shopping Tour was held Friday afternoon, followed with Open Steward Training with Ronnie Stutts and a Mid States Network Session with Thomas Frost, Ohio VP as Moderator.

Saturday morning NRLCA President Donnie Pitts along with Ronnie Stutts and Joey Johnson, spoke followed with a Q & A open forum with national officers and state stewards. Larry Waligora (health care), Shirley Corno (GMAC) and Wilbur Wood (RIP) (APCU) also presented. A tour for those interested was taken at Ohio State University in the afternoon.

Saturday evening the annual banquet was held with a 50's, 60's theme, poodle skirts and all. There was a buffet meal followed with karaoke for the evening.

The annual "traveling trophy" was awarded to Michigan for the 2nd year in a row with 18 members present.

Sunday morning a devotional was held followed with Joey Johnson, NRLCA Committeeman, who presented additional information followed with a Q & A.

The annual Mid States Business meeting was held at the close of Sunday's session. The 2007 conference will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Announcement was made that Kentucky had withdrawn from the Conference and joined SAC. Members were encouraged to contact North Dakota to get them to join.

A handout with the next 5 year's hosting states and officers was distributed. Next year's President: South Dakota, VP: Wisconsin, Secretary: Illinois. Pete Harrington, Illinois, was elected again as Conference Treasurer.



20 YEAR HISTORY—MID STATES
CONFERENCE

2007—SIOUX FALLS, SO DAKOTA

The 12th Annual Mid States Conference was held at the Sioux Falls South Dakota Sheraton Hotel with registration beginning Friday, May 4 at 4:00 PM. Following a Steward Seminar and Mid States facilitation meeting a Carnival was held for all those present.

Saturday morning Conference President Gary Evensen (SD) welcomed the membership to South Dakota and called the meeting to order. Dan Strobel (WI President) led the Pledge and Jeannie Gustad (SD Chaplain) opened with prayer. The recognition of states was led by Paul Katzer (SD VP).

The usual representatives from national included: Larry Waligora for health insurance, Wilbur Wood (RIP) for APCU, Christine Baker, Legislative Affairs Assistant Director, Mark Giseler, Legal Counsel and remarks from Donnie Pitts, NRLCA President, Leanne Cook, National Auxiliary President and other national officers. This year many others brought information including from USPS Human Resources, Postal Inspection Service, Long Term Disability, etc.

It was a very informational meeting followed with a Q & A led by Paul Katzer and a Panel including: Donnie Pitts, Ronnie Stutts, Joey Johnson, Mark Giseler and Christine Baker.

An evening banquet was held with a social hour, banquet and entertainment by "Sweetwater". Michigan again won the "traveling trophy" for most in attendance.

Sunday morning 6 candidates announced for National Committeeman: Steve Traylor, Gareth Settle, Terry Leper, Gil Steaves, Bridget Boseak and Tom Keys.

Following remarks from Joey Johnson the annual business meeting was held. Members voted an increase to the host state of \$1,800, which is a \$200 increase from the past reimbursements. Pete Harrington was again re-elected Treasurer. The Guidelines will be amended to add the increase in host reimbursement monies.