The Good The Bad And The Ugly

Things that are not so obvious to be thankful for:
1. Bad relationships helping us to discover the power of recovery that we didn’t think was possible.
2. The disgruntled coworker who can make us realize it’s easy to put the blame on others but harder to look at one’s self.
3. Conversations with total strangers that convince us that no matter where we come from; we are all the same on the inside.
4. Plans that just didn’t work out, that led us down a great new path that we would have never taken.
5. The waitress at the deli comes to work every morning happy to serve her customers with enthusiasm and energy showing us that life’s purpose doesn’t have to be so great and can be as simple as making some else’s day.
6. The agitated driver who is always cutting us off or making rude remarks for making us realize we all have a few skeletons in our own closet and sometimes the best move is forgiveness.
7. The persons that didn’t give us a fair chance at our work place and forced us to look at other avenues for success.
8. The narrow roads of rejection we had to travel became the highways to our success.
9. Those that resist change because they teach us that letting go is hard to do but it’s still a choice. And while it’s easy to stay the same, we have to make the effort to change because that’s where real growth happens.
10. Kids who don’t listen to their parents because sometimes parents can just be plain wrong.
   So let’s be thankful for all that life offers, the good, the bad and the ugly.

Let’s take a good look at the ugly. The animosity toward unions fuels much of what’s going on with the Postal Service today. The leaders of the Postal Service want to get rid of the no-layoff clause in union contracts so it can cut hundreds of thousands of jobs. In a USPS white paper released last summer, the Postal Service stated explicitly that it wanted to reduce the workforce from 580,000 to 300,000, and since there is no way that happen through “attrition,” postal management wants to change the law preventing layoffs. The postal service also wants to increase the number of non-career employees from 38,000 to 125,000 – yet another way to undermine the unions.

The leaders of the Postal Service aren’t trying to reduce their labor costs just to deal with the postal deficit or to keep big mailers happy. The Corporate class as a whole does not like the good wages the unions make happen. Rural carriers average about $25.00 an hour, while the sales associates and cashiers at Walmart average about $8.50 an hour. Good wages at the post office help bring wages up across the economy, while poor wages at Walmart drive them down.

Since union contracts have made it difficult for the leaders of the Postal Service to reduce the size of the work force as drastically and rapidly as it would like, they have used other tactics. Outsourcing, for example, is a great way to shift work from postal employees to non-union workers in private industry. The Postal Service now contracts out $12 billion annually. In fact Fred Smith, founder and CEO of FedEx whose company is at the top of the list of corporations enjoying a profitable relationship with the Postal Service, testified before Congress “closing down the USPS . . . is an option that ought to be considered seriously.

There is no doubt big business controls politics in our country and if Americans continue not to get involved, the rich will continue to get richer, the poor to get poorer and the carriers next DUO could be at the closest Walmart Store.

I hope your holidays are happy and remember, united we stand divided we beg.

Floyd Edler
2014-2015 ASSOCIATION OFFICERS  

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For the 2014-2015 year, the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer are elected by the membership. The election is held in March.  

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  

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4780 Stony Creek, Urbana OH 43078  
Ph 937-869-4724 committeemanw@ohrlca.org

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APPOINTED OFFICES  

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If you, as a carrier, do not have your office under any of the following Area Stewards or if you do not have a Local Steward, you should call the DR or ADR assigned to your area.

ADR, AREA STEWARDS AND LOCAL STEWARDS REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE DR  

If you, as a carrier, do not have your office under any of the following Area Stewards or if you do not have a Local Steward, you should call the DR or ADR assigned to your area.

DELBERT HUTCHISSON  
Northern Ohio District DR  
P.O. Box 326, Fostoria, OH 44830-2767  
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Delbert.Hutchisson@nrlca.org

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Susan.Thayer@nrlca.org

CHRIS McCOY  
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Email: homebigmac@yahoo.com

AREA STEWARDS  

Tana Humphrey  
(440-224-1276) — Northern Ohio District Offices  
3434 Creek Road, Kingsville, Ohio 44048  
Email: humphrey44004@yahoo.com

Andover, Austinburg, Bristowville, Brookfield, Burghill, Conneaut, Cortland, Dorset, Farmdale, Fowler, Hubbard, Kingsville, Kinsman, Pierpont, Rock Creek, Rome, Vienna, Williamsfield, Windsor, Willoughby

Jason M. Zedaker  
(419-367-2834) — Northern Ohio District Offices  
P.O. Box 324, Stoney Ridge, Ohio 43463  
Email: jasonzedaker@gmail.com

Bellevue, Bowling Green, Clyde, Fremont, Huron, North Baltimore, ak Harbor, Perrysburg, Port Clinton, Rudolph, Sandusky, Sylvania, Walbridge, Waterville, Vickery

CATHY FUNDERBURGH  
Ohio Valley District DR  
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RANDY BURGER  
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Randy.Burger@nrlca.org

AREA STEWARD  

Philip Burnside  
(419-310-3817) — Ohio Valley District Offices  
8051 Township Road 165, Kenton, Ohio 43326  
Email: benzesrule@yahoo.com

Belle Center, Bellefontaine, De Graff, Huntsville, Jackson Center, Kenton, La Rue, Milford Center, Mount Victory, North Lewisburg, Ostrander, Prospect, Quincy, Richwood, Ridgeway, Rushsylvania, Russells Point, Upper Sandusky, West Liberty, Woodstock
HOT TOPICS

On November, 14 at 150 locations, in 50 states across the country, all four Postal Unions, and brothers and sisters from other unions came together to send a message to Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe and the USPS Board of Governors: STOP DELAYING AMERICA’S MAIL!

Turn outs were very successful, in both Dayton and Cincinnati. Check out the pictures in this issue.

Postmaster Patrick Donahoe announces his retirement shortly after he revealed on Monday November 10 that a cyber-attack had exposed the information of 800,000 employees.

The Board of Governors selects Megan Brennan as 74th Postmaster General and CEO.

We hope she will reverse Donahoe’s policies and stop diminishing a great American Institution.
Apathy

Let me first talk about apathy among our rural carrier members. I hate to bring this up, as it may be a sore subject, but it needs to be said again. Where are our members at the district meetings? I attended two meetings and the ratio of regular carriers to retirees was 5 retirees to one regular. At one meeting there were two regulars and eleven retirees. Retirees seem to care more about what is going on in the field than the people that are actually working. Do you not care about what is happening in the Postal service? Do you not care that in a few years you may not have a job? Does it not matter that after all the years you have worked hard towards retirement, it may not be there for you? Do you not realize that congress and the political machine is out to get your jobs? They want to change the postal service as we know it. How much do each of you get paid? Would you like to work for minimum wage and try to feed and clothe your families? What is going on in your individual offices? Is it getting harder to stay within your evaluation each day? Do you find yourselves hurrying to get out of the office on time and then hurrying to do your route to get back to the office by dispatch? Is there strife and stress everyday in your office? Are the carriers at each others’ throats and don’t have a kind word to say to each other? Have you given encouragement and a kind word to the NEW RCA in your office, or have you let it be known that they are not fast enough! Fast enough, what is that? What happen to being accurate and safe while delivering? How long did it take you to be FAST casing your route? If you see yourself here, why aren’t you at meetings learning and hearing some things that are beneficial to you and your job? I hope to see more of you around the state. We need YOU!

If you didn’t make it to the Fall Fling booster meeting, you missed a very informative meeting. We had some different vendors there to discuss different ways to help the rural carrier in mind, body and soul. We even had a Zumba instructor that gave a half hour demonstration, with all who wanted to join in. Let me tell you, we have some movers and shakers in our organization. OWCP specialists, the Watsons, were there and National General was there to answer any of your questions, along with many others. There were about 55 regular carriers there with spouses, retirees and guests. The free lunch of soup and salad was enjoyed by all.

Thanksgiving will be here soon, but really it is here everyday. There is a lot for us to be thankful for. If we just think of all the things in our lives, our family, children, friends, jobs, the sunshine, even the rain and snow (really). We would all have better days if only we would count our blessings at the beginning of our day and see if that helps get us through in a better frame of mind. I honestly wish you ALL a Blessed Thanksgiving and a most happy and bright Christmas season.

Blessings to all
Barb Pitts

Arlene M. Hoopes, 84, of Salem, died Sunday morning, Oct. 19, 2014.

She was born July 14, 1930 in Dog City, Ohio, a daughter of the late Ray O. and Sarah E. (Handel) Grim.

She was a loving farmer’s wife, mother, grandmother who enjoyed being a homemaker, gardener, cook, and liked to restore old furniture.


Arlene was a rural mail carrier for the Salem Post Office for 20 years. She worked at the Damascus Livestock Auction restaurant. She was a member of Lakeside Mothers Club, Columbiana County Farm Bureau, Damascus Historical Society, and Merry Widows Club. She was an assistant Girl Scout leader and served in the Damascus Friends Church nursery.

Survivors include three sons, Clark (Marva) Hoopes of Canton, Brian (Susan) Hoopes of Cortland, and Ralph Hoopes of Salem; one daughter, Mary (Dean) Egli of Hartville, Ohio; one sister, Mabel Keithley; four brothers, Bob, John, Paul, and Bill Grim; seven grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by three brothers, Louis, Lee, Roger; and two sisters, Susan and Ruth Grim.

Congratulations and Welcome
to Our New Chaplain
Rita Beedy!

ATTENTION OHRLCA MEMBERS
Please Go To ohrlca.org To Register Your Email Address If You Wish To Receive Future Legislative Updates And Important Notices
As we come upon the Christmas mailing season carriers will see a substantial increase in parcel volume with some estimates as high as 30% over this time last year. This increased volume poses the question, “Should I count or opt out of the upcoming February 2015 mail Count”.

I can’t make that decision for you but I can educate you on current market trends as they relate to shipping and package delivery. In its recent news release this past September the USPS announced they will be lowering package rates. The announcement of the lower rates has set the stage for continued growth in the package delivery service market this holiday season and into the New Year (2015).

Electronic commerce (e-commerce) has exploded over the past 3 years and is projected to show continued growth into the next decade. The USPS is strategically positioning itself to increase it’s market share and provide the mode of delivery for packages going the “last Mile” to the residential customer.

E-commerce (on-line sales) represents close to 10% of the retail sales market and projected to rise to 15% over the coming years.

Let us look at parcel volume in the recent past and compare it to the here and now. Christmas parcel volume has increased 421% since the year 2008, that’s right 421%. Parcel volume in 2013 was up 14% from 2012 and is projected to be up 22% in 2014. This trend has shown no signs of leveling off. The USPS set a record last Christmas with the volume of parcels it delivered. This did not go unnoticed by e-commerce giant Amazon.com which by the way got burned by their preferred shipping partners FedEx and UPS during last year’s peak shipping season.

Amazon is growing at a faster rate than UPS and FedEx, who until recently were responsible for shipping the majority of its packages. Amazon was hit with big shipping delays when these carriers became overwhelmed by the sheer number of packages in the delivery stream this past holiday season. The web base firm ended up handing out $20 gift vouchers to affected customers by way of an apology. One company stepped in to relieve the package log jam in the mail stream. That’s right, the United States Postal Service. It is not uncommon for a level 22 Post Office in Ohio to deliver 8,000 parcels on any given day during the holiday season.

Let us give a hand to those marketing boys over at headquarters that went to Amazon and pitched this new idea of devoting one full day of delivery to Amazons parcels. Sunday parcel delivery is here and here to stay. Amazon is currently paying a premium for Sunday delivery in some markets. The USPS is adding additional markets as they aim to deliver all the parcels shipped by the internet giant and their e-commerce associates.

The USPS is expected to deliver over 420 million packages between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Eve with December 16th being the busiest mailing day of the year.

EBay is expanding same day delivery to keep up with its competitors and is looking for a delivery mode that can guarantee the next day service. You guessed it that would be the United States Postal Service.

In the coming year American consumers will spend 55 Billion to ship parcels through the mail stream. This represents 78% of UPS revenue and 63% of FedEx revenue but only 12% of the USPS revenue. Here in lies a huge opportunity for expansion and growth and the USPS is going after it. Well it’s about time! The USPS is looking to increase its market share of approximately 10% of the total parcels delivered in the US of which the largest subgroup is parcels over 2 pounds. You read that correct rural carriers, over 2 pounds. Therefore, the 2 lbs. rule that we all live by at mail count will weigh heavily on future route evaluations. Now before you get excited let me tell you this largest growing subgroup is between 2 and 5 pounds.

This Christmas mailing season will set a new record for package delivery and volume and it will remain strong into the New Year and continue through the February three week mail count. The USPS is lowering package rates dramatically in an effort to capture e-commerce business and have partnered with Amazon to ensure its portion of the market share.

The question still remains, do I count or should I opt out if given the opportunity. Remember folks all routes will be counted unless management comes to you and offers you a opt out form. At that time you now have a choice, do you want to count or will you opt out. Here is the deciding factor. Increased package delivery is the first indicator of consumer confidence and that the economy is on a growth path. The past three years have seen double digit increases in package delivery. This will result in a total mail volume increase and should benefit any carrier who elects to participate in the 2015 February mail count.

Ohio carriers have an advantage here and are uniquely positioned to benefit from geography. Speed of delivery is the key when consumers purchase from the internet. The faster the new purchases arrive the more business the consumer will do over e-commerce. Ohio is the home to two major carrier hubs and within 100 miles of two more. The four major shipping hubs for the top 4 delivery companies are in Wilmington, Cincinnati, Louisville Kentucky and Indianapolis, Indiana, with a fifth in Memphis, Tennessee. Ohioans enjoy a faster turnaround time on their purchases and are more likely to repeat their business. The resulting e-commerce growth in Ohio should be at its peak this holiday season and overall mail volume above where it was last year. Good luck with your decision!

Thank you Kindly,
Delbert K. Hutchisson

CONTEST
Every issue of the Ohio Rural Letter Carrier will contain a name of a member in the body of one of the board members articles. Find your name in the article and win a $25 Visa Voucher from Atlanta Postal Credit Union. The name will be placed where it makes no sense (example: The USPS is a great place loritodd to work). Contact Penny Koren at 330-735-2727 to claim your prize.

Rebecca Nichols found her name in the last issue. Keep reading everyone!
CHRISTMAS OVERTIME: Last year, as rural carriers, we got the job done when our competitors couldn’t. The public does not forget and our parcel volume for this Christmas season will be even higher. Along with that is an increase in stress. Remember to take a deep breath, work safely and it is what it is. Regular carriers this is the one time of the year that we can be paid overtime. Unfortunately, management does not have to allow us overtime. If management wants to send you home early - they can do that. Management must allow you to work at least 2 hours on each of your scheduled days. If they tell you on Thursday that you will not be reporting to work on Friday then call a steward.

MAILCOUNT: Everyone will be counting unless you and management are in agreement to opt out of count. Although this is not set in stone, the district has said that they are planning on counting every route in the 2015 February mail count. This year’s count will be a three week count and will start on February 7th and end on February 28th but will include a holiday. Please check the state paper or the state website at ohrlca.org for the times and locations of mail count training classes. These classes will be offered to union members and are your golden ticket to ensure that you are getting credit for everything that you are entitled to have in your evaluation. Our competitors will be raising their prices on parcels in January and the USPS parcel business is not going away anytime soon. We deliver parcels, we pick them up and just about every parcel has a delivery confirmation on them. This is our future. At the end of mail count, take the two days and look over your 4241. Check every number from the number of boxes, number of miles, parcel lockers and all of the columns. If you agree with the numbers then you can sign the box that you have certified the numbers to be correct. If you find errors then bring it to management’s attention and hopefully they will correct the errors. If they do not correct the mistakes then do not sign the 4241 on the line that says certified count is correct. Write a letter with all of your written disputes and use details. For example, 5 rigid flats exceeding 5 inches and should have been counted as a parcel. Keep a copy of the letter. The second line to sign is the high-low option. Any carrier that has over 10 years of service in as a regular carrier and their route qualifies in more than one classification will be allowed to sign for high option. High option means that the carrier is willing to work more and receive more pay while low option means the carrier wants to have more days off. The carrier must be willing to use annual leave to stay under the guarantee 2,080 hours for the year.

FILING A GRIEVANCE: A carrier has 14 days to file a grievance from the day of the incident or when you became aware of the incident. The first step is for the carrier to have a discussion with management over their issue. If you can’t solve the issue then that is when you tell management that you are filing a grievance. Management can print a PS Form 8191 for you or you can go to the state website at ohrlca.org and click on forms. Fill out lines 1 thru 4 with line 4 being in a form of a question. For example: Did management violate the national agreement when I was denied annual leave? Once you have filed a grievance then give the original 8191 to your local steward or if you have no local steward then mail it to an upper level steward. DO NOT WAIT! You will need to include an authorization and release of information, a copy of your most recent Form 50, a signed statement of what transpired, and any other documentation that will be helpful.

SAFETY: Last year, the Ohio Valley finished in last place for motor vehicle accidents for the Eastern Area. The two biggest groups for the most accidents were the CCAs in the city craft and in second place were the RCAs in the rural craft. We know that management is placing a lot of pressure on our relief carriers to hurry up so they can help out on another route or be back by dispatch. The average motor vehicle accident costs the post office $14,000 but let’s look at the bigger picture. Yes, you may be disciplined but what if you wound up in a wheel chair for the rest of your life? We can do a million things right all day long but one mistake or what the public does could cost us everything.

WINTER WEATHER: My driving changes with winter. I slow down and allot more time to arrive at my designation. Many carriers will be driving for the first time in an LLV and here are some tips. Check the vehicle tire tread. If it looks bald then write it up for repairs as a tire with tread will give you a better chance to get up a hill. When stopping at a mail box with snow on the road remember that all four tires are off set from each other and snow will pile up in front of each tire. This will kick the LLV into the mail box. I was able to avoid this issue by slightly turning the wheel to the left as I was braking. Everyone should be checking the window wipers and head lights as visibility goes a long way in seeing what lies in front of you. Dress for the weather as the LLV during the winter months can have the air conditioner stuck on high.

Lastly, I want to take the time to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. May your hearts be filled with the joy and true meaning of the holiday season!

Cathy Funderburgh
Ohio Valley District Representative
Mail Count Training Dates

Mail Count: February 7th – February 28th

Mail count training dates and locations are subject to change so please check the www.ohrlca.org website for the most current up to date information as more classes may be added or cancelled due to inclement weather. If weather is bad please call the library to see if they are still open. Bring your mail count guide printed in the December edition of the National Rural Letter Carrier magazine. Plus there will be classes scheduled in Indiana and Kentucky as well. Check the state web site for locations and times.

**Tuesday, January 6, 2015**
Putnam County Library, 136 Putnam Pkwy., Ottawa, Ohio 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Jackson Library, 21 Broadway St., Jackson, Ohio 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (740) 286-4111

**Wednesday, January 7, 2015**
Bucyrus Public Library, 200 E. Mansfield St., Bucyrus, Ohio 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Upper Arlington Library, 2800 Tremont Rd., Columbus, Ohio 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (614) 486-9621
Brooksville Library, 310 West Main St., Brooksville, Kentucky 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (606) 735-3620

**Thursday, January 8, 2015**
Akron Bath Library, 3101 Smith Rd., Akron, Ohio 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Symmes Township (Cincinnati), 11850 Enyart Rd., Loveland, Ohio 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (513) 369-6001

**Sunday, January 11, 2015**
Holiday Inn, 12989 Frogtown Connector Road, Walton, Kentucky 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, January 13, 2015**
Newark Library, 101 West Main St., Newark, Ohio 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (740) 349-5500

**Wednesday, January 14, 2015**
Tipp City Library, 11 East Main St., Tipp City, Ohio 5:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. (937) 667-3826

**Thursday, January 15, 2015**
Salem Public Library, 821 E. State St. Salem, Ohio 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 18, 2015**
Senior Center, 510 South Mulberry Street, Rising Sun, Indiana 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Hello Ohio Rural Carriers,
As of October 31, 2014 the Membership Analysis prepared by the National Office has Ohio’s total membership at 4268. On October 31, 2013 the total membership in Ohio is 4149. Ohio had an increase of 119 members within the past year. However Ohio has 1041 carriers who are not members. We need to continue our efforts to recruit new members. If your office has received a new RCA recruit them to become a member of the NRLCA. If you recruit a new member the NRLCA will pay the recruiter an incentive for each new member who remains on the rolls for at least 90 days. Help make our Association strong by recruiting a non-member today, the 1187 is available on the ohrlca.org website.

Recent retirees you have 90 days of retirement to sign up as a member or you will become a non-member. The $7.33 dues maybe taken out of your annuity check each month or you may elect to pay cash dues yearly. You must remain a member to continue benefits of insurances and programs sponsored by the NRLCA. Even if you do not elect the Rural Carrier Health Benefit Insurance now, you may elect the Rural Carrier Benefit Plan in the future or add dental or vision programs. Do not let your membership lapse, sign and return the 1187-R to keep your membership.

A big “Thank You” goes to all of Districts’ Secretaries for completing and filing the LM-4 via the Internet with the Department of Labor. As per the OHRLCA Constitution Article III, Section 5 B.2 upon completion of all District reports and elections of officers deposits were made into each District’s Share Account. The deposit was calculated on the formula of $5.00 per each regular carrier and $1.00 per relief carrier members as of June 30, 2014.

Please contact me of a Rural Carrier who passes way. I will send the family information of whom to contact within 30 days of the death of the carrier.

So, please email or call if you know of any rural carrier who passes away.

2015 is fast approaching and it is time to reassess your retirement investments. Contributing to the TSP is an absolute must for FERS employees who wish to retire and maintain their same standard of living. Many postal employees contribute 5% to their TSP because this allows them to get the full matching amount. This isn’t enough. The “old” rule of “saves 10% and you’ll be able to retire comfortable” is only true if you plan on working for the full 30 years. If you didn’t become a regular carrier until age 40, you probably aren’t planning on working until you have 30 years, you must boost your TSP contributions. In 2015 you can contribute up to $17,500 to the TSP program. If you are 50 or older you can add $5,500 on top of that. This is assuming that your postal job is your only source of income and that you have saved no money other than through the TSP program. I urge you to visit the www.lifeblue.usps.gov website and go to POSTALEASE where you can request an annuity estimate for yourself.

NATIONAL CONVENTION
August 18 – 21, 2015, Reno Nevada
NATIONAL DELEGATE NOMINATING BALLOT
The National Magazine’s February, March, April and May issues will have the nominating ballot for delegates to the National Convention included. If you desire to have your name placed on the ballot for consideration as a delegate to the National Convention, or you may nominate another member, fill out the nominating ballot and mail it to my office. The Secretary-Treasurer must receive the nominating ballot by US Mail no later than April 27, 2015. Upon receipt of the nominating ballot, a confirmation notice will be sent to the nominee. IF THE NOMINEE DOES NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION NOTICE, PLEASE CONTACT - Penny Koren, Secretary-Treasurer, 104 Clay Rd SW, Dellroy, OH 44620-9757 (330-735-2727).

Spend Christmas with your loved ones and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by giving to those who are not as fortunate. Remember the troops away from home and donate items to assist in their needs.

May the warm glow of Christmas be with you and may you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Your Secretary/Treasurer,
Penny Koren

Penny Koren
Secretary/Treasurer

NEW MEMBERS

JOHNNY ACAMPORA
LISA ADKINS
PLENNI ALMENDINGER
LINDY BAILEY
EVAN BELL
JANET BOWMAN
JACKLYN CAIRNES
JEAN PIERRE CLAUDIO
JESSICA CLENDENNING
MONICA CLINE
REBECCA DILBONE
JOYCE EDMISTER
LAUREN EDWARDS
GARRETT ERWIN
REBECCA FLETCHER
STEVEN GEAR
WILLIAM GODDARD
ALYSON HAMM
ERIKA HANKS
BRYAN HANNA II
MELISSA HAUER
MARCELLUS HAYES
ALEXIS HILYARD
JAMES HINTON
TRACY HOLT
ALVIN HORNE III
ALEESHA HOSKINS
DEREK HUBBARD
KARA HUMPHREY
MARK HUNTSMAN
SHANTELLE HUTCHINSON
ERICA JOHNSON
HEATHER JONES
TORREY KERSHAW
NICOLE KOCHER
JAMES LARSON
JAMES LEGARTH
AMANDA LOONEY
JOYCE LYLE
AMBER MAHAN
REBECCA MAHood
MATTHEW MARVICH
MICHELLE MATHISON
CORY MCCLELAND
GINA MCMahon
JAMES POPE
EVELYN PYLES
JENNIFER QUEEN
MEGAN RADALIA
ANGELA RUCKMAN
JENNIFER RUNYON
THOMAS SHANNON
RANDALL SHERRETS
JESSEE SPILLMAN
JORDAN SCHERRETS
DARCY SHUMERGE
STEPHANIE STORRIDGE
TONYA THARP
NICOLE TODD
JERRICA WALLACE
SAMMY WALTHER
DURSTEAN WEBB
RICCARDO WHITTED-POND
GEORGE WOOLEY
JENNIFER YATES
KARA HUMPHREY
DANIELLE ZIMMERMAN

Secretary/Treasurer

The National Magazine’s February, March, April and May issues will have the nominating ballot for delegates to the National Convention included. If you desire to have your name placed on the ballot for consideration as a delegate to the National Convention, or you may nominate another member, fill out the nominating ballot and mail it to my office. The Secretary-Treasurer must receive the nominating ballot by US Mail no later than April 27, 2015. Upon receipt of the nominating ballot, a confirmation notice will be sent to the nominee. IF THE NOMINEE DOES NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION NOTICE, PLEASE CONTACT - Penny Koren, Secretary-Treasurer, 104 Clay Rd SW, Dellroy, OH 44620-9757 (330-735-2727).

Spend Christmas with your loved ones and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas by giving to those who are not as fortunate. Remember the troops away from home and donate items to assist in their needs.

May the warm glow of Christmas be with you and may you have a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Your Secretary/Treasurer,
Penny Koren
Minutes: The minutes of September 6-7, 2014 were opened in drop box and reviewed. Committeeman Barker made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected, the motion passed.

Membership: The Association’s membership is 4268 members. This is an increase of 119 members for the same time period last year.

Committeeman Cox made a motion to accept the membership report, the motion passed.

Treasurer Report: The Association’s Detailed Financial Position was opened in drop box and reviewed.

Budget: The budget was adjusted to reflect current cost of new hires orientation.

Grass Tops: Grass Tops are contacts that have influence on our congressional representatives. Examples are large businesses that use the USPS to sustain their business, schools, sheriff, churches, and mailers. Rural Carriers should contact these businesses and share our positions to keep the plants open and maintain 6-day mail delivery.

Board Policy:

Vice President Pitts made a motion to amend the board policy, newspaper and the motion passed.

Amended Board Policy: Board Policy for Newspaper Content

It is the desire of the governing body of the OHRLCA to establish a board policy that will facilitate the publication of a newsletter that is in compliance with the National Guidelines. The State Board, State Steward—National Steward District Representatives, Editor and those with an appointed position required to submit articles for publication in The Ohio Rural Letter Carrier magazine will follow the guidelines listed below when preparing materials for submission. In order to abide by the labor laws, the OHRLCA will follow the National Guidelines for publications as set forth by the NRLCA.

All information or articles submitted by State Board members or requested by members for print in The Ohio Rural Letter Carrier magazine must be approved by the State President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and State Editor, OHRLCA Managing Editor and State Steward—National Steward District Representatives. The editor and OHRLCA Managing Editor and the State President have the final authority for print.

Information submitted for print must be absolutely true and factual without statements that could be libelous (containing material that is defamatory or leaves an unfavorable impression).

The Ohio Rural Letter Carrier is not free press in that it is not open for publication of all members’ views. It is a Union funded, regulated paper and materials contained within the paper must meet the prescribed criteria.

Inspirational type articles may be included in the paper but cannot contain any quoted or referenced passage or verse from any religious material.

Union funds cannot be used to promote any individual candidate. Therefore, any article submitted for publication may not contain any type of campaign material, thank you, or listing of a person’s accomplishments. In the same manner, attacks of a personal nature are also forbidden. This is the accepted procedure at all times.

A generalized thank-you, such as to a district or committee, with no personal gain acknowledged or intended is permissible.

The OHRLCA Auxiliary will be fiscally responsible for the space used in the magazine at a rate equal to the costs incurred as outlined in the Affiliation Agreement that was adopted by the OHRLCA and the OHRLCA Auxiliary. Amended November 8, 2014

Equipment: The equipment brought to the September Board Meeting was accessed and all the non-useable equipment was recycled.

A new wireless microphone was purchased to replace the non-working microphone.

Legislative: The 2014 Congressional Elections will bring new committee appointments to the postal reform committee. There may be bills brought out of postal reform committee that are not in the better interest of the Rural Craft.

Provident Guild: Committeeman Cox reported there are 5 new members this year. Three one year Provident Guild Memberships will be given away during the Fall Fling.

National General Insurance: Committeeman Barker reported that Ohio has 11 new quotes and that Ohio is tied for second place for quotes. The National General Insurance is being presented to all new hires during orientation.

PAC: The raffle of a shorthorn beef will be drawn at three intervals during the Fall Fling Booster meeting. The next fundraiser may be a night for lovers in February; the details are still being worked out.

New Relief Carrier Orientations: The Officers are continuing to present the benefits of membership during the new RCA Orientations every other week. Our membership is growing because of new hires becoming members at the orientations.

District Meetings: Officers attended all of the District Meetings as speakers for the State Board and representing PAC and Legislative Issues. The attendance during the District Fall Meetings was down.

National Convention: The nomination to be a National Convention Delegate must be received via US First Class Mail in the Secretary-Treasurer’s Office by April 27, 2015. The name draw will be on April 28, 2015.

National District Representative Report: Northern Ohio and Ohio Valley District Representatives reported grievance activities. They also talked about the upcoming mailcount and scheduled mailcount trainings. Both districts are experiencing increased Sunday parcel delivery.

Mailcount Trainings: A list of dates and locations for the mailcount trainings will be published in the state paper and listed on the website. PAC will be present at each mailcount training to present the legislative issues and receive contributions to PAC.

The entire board had additional computer training. Each board member made a list of concerns. The computer technician gave individual attention with each board member. Vice President Pitts made a motion to compensate the certified computer technician.

Continued On Page 10
Minutes (Continued from Page 9)

$250 for continued tech support and additional computer training, the motion passed.

Vice President Pitts assigned each officer tasks to be carried out during the Fall Fling Booster Meeting.

7:30 P.M. Committeeman Funderburgh made a motion to adjourn, the motion passed.

7:00 A.M. Sunday November 9, 2014
The board members met to set-up for the Fall Fling Booster Meeting.

6:00 P.M. Sunday November 9, 2014
Editor’s Report: The December/January State Paper will be completed on the Editor’s new computer. The paper articles are due on November 12, 2014. The paper will be sent to the printer on November 20, 2014. The next state paper article deadline will be January 12, 2015.

Chaplin: Vice President Pitts made a motion to appoint Rita Beedy as the OHRLCA Chaplin, the motion passed.

7:30 P.M. Committeeman Bower made a motion to adjourn until Monday, November 10, 2014 at 9:00 A.M., the motion passed.

9:00 A.M. Monday, November 10, 2014
Booster Meeting: The Fall Fling Meeting was a great success there were 14 presenters presenting health information. Two of the three PAC Beef Raffle winners were present at the meeting; the winners will receive their beef the first week in December.

Vice President made a motion NOT to have a Spring Booster Meeting due to district meetings, mailcount trainings and the early State Convention, the motion passed. NO SPRING BOOSTER.

Vice President Pitts made a motion to pay $60 for the gift that was presented to Mike and Linda Watson during the Booster Meeting, the motion passed.

Committeeman Funderburgh made a motion to purchase items for the PAC raffle at the State Convention in the amount of up to $2500, the motion passed.

Mid-States: The Mid-States Conference will be held in Branson, Missouri on May 1-3, 2015. Committeeman Bower made a motion to send President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer to the Mid-State Conference and to compensate the ADOP, Lodging, per diem and travel expense, the motion passed.

The entire board reviewed the answers to a test on Parliamentary Procedures. A new test will be e-mailed to each board member; the answers will be reviewed at our next meeting.

Committeeman Funderburgh made a motion to compensate hotel, travel and $240 per diem to OWCP Specialist Inc for presenting and giving consultations during the Fall Fling Booster Meeting, the motion passed.

Training of the National Officer’s Resource Manual was concluded and the test was handed out for each officer to complete and return to Vice President Pitts.

Committeeman made a motion to send Matt Wilson $100 for singing during the Fall Fling Booster Meeting, the motion passed.

11:00 A.M. Vice President Pitts made a motion to adjourn, the motion passed.

President Edler, Committeeman Funderburgh, Cox and Barker will visit the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati at 1PM.

Next Board Meeting
January 20 – 21, 2015
Crowne Plaza Cincinnati
5901 Pfeiffer Road, Cincinnati OH 45242

Season Greetings
Ohio Rural Carriers!

Tis the season where we all earn our salaries and then some. Is it me, or are parcel volumes really up this year? Additionally, carriers are working even more this year with the added Sunday parcel delivery in some areas. Scanning is a real priority. Some carriers are getting used to the new scanners as well as having an increase in items to be scanned. This is a stressful time of year for us, and for our customers too. I hope everyone can take time to take a breath and enjoy this blessed season.

I am happy to report that we are gaining RCAs and as a result our membership numbers are climbing. Even though we are adding leave replacements, we are still very short in a lot of offices. If you know someone that may be looking for a good part time job, please refer them to the careers link at the usps.com website.

I tell new RCAs at the orientations that they are starting their new postal career at a great time, especially now when good career opportunities are scarce. They are the only ones that can become regular rural carriers thanks to the NRLCA contract negotiations. Recently a new RCA told me they didn’t think they could join our association until after their probation period. This is not true. You are eligible for NRLCA membership immediately with no waiting. Conversely, the offer to be a member of our great association does not expire. Whether a new hire or a seasoned carrier, don’t wait--join today!

Telling new carriers about the many benefits of becoming a member of the NRLCA is something I am proud to do as a member of our state board. A lot of them are surprised that they have so many benefit opportunities even though they are part time. One thing they are very interested in is the free 90 day membership right now as a part of the RAFT (Recruit A Friend Today) Program offered by the National Office right now. They are eligible for full benefits now, but pay no dues for 90 days. As an added bonus, benefits continue uninterrupted even when a leave replacement doesn’t work in a pay period. The best part about the RAFT Program is that any member can participate in recruiting a leave replacement or regular carrier in joining the NRLCA. Every member that successfully recruits a new member (and the new member stays a member for 90 days or more) is eligible for a recruiting bonus from the national office. With mail counts and mail count meetings and all the information available to members, I can’t see any reason not to be a member.

I want to take this opportunity to thank our new PAC co-chairs and Legislative Representative for Ohio. Mark Funderburgh and Tim Barker are doing a great job for Ohio and all rural carriers. They have come up with a lot of innovative ways to raise funds for PAC. This isn’t an easy feat since they are following behind some really big footprints. Though they work hard, they know how to have fun too and that makes things fun for everyone. Thank you to everyone that has and is involved with PAC and the legislative agenda in any way.

Continued On Page 11
Do Things Ever Change?

I think not. I received a letter, dated 1980, why he did not sign the PS Form 4241, that expressed some of the same issues we face today in our mail counts.

He was concerned about some of the office functions that he had been preforming since the last mail count that he did not receive credit for in the mail count. He was also concerned about the even flow of mail, that we are fortunate to have the stewards check at the mail processing plants to insure that we are receiving all our mail during the mail counts now.

The dates for the mail count training meetings are listed in this paper, please plan to attend and have the knowledge going into the count. We need to know what credit we are to get for every piece of mail and any extra duties we are to do and not be changed while we are in a count.

Do you have a Local Government Official, State Senator or Representative, or a business that relies on the USPS on your route? If so, please make a contact with them and ask if they would contact a Senator or Representative in Congress on behalf of the Post Office. We would like to have a list of those who will write and call on Congress as issues come up. Please let me know and we will add them to our list and I will contact you when an issue comes to the floor.

May you have a blessed Thanksgiving and a joyous Christmas with family and friends. Please remember those who do not have family close by and the angel trees at the malls for those less fortunate.

Commiteeperson: Joyce Bower

Seasons Greetings (Continued from Page 10)

A brief note about Provident Guild. Provident Guild is available to all members (and their spouses) under the age of 56. This means that RCA’s, as well as regular carriers, are eligible to join. If you are a new RCA and a new member of the association, there is no waiting period required for joining Provident Guild. Although you must be under age 56 to join, benefits continue no matter your age. Yearly dues are from $10-$50 and your loved ones never get back less than you have paid in. Benefits are paid, according to the dues classification you are paying into, twice yearly. Regular carriers, a Provident Guild membership for your sub would be a great Christmas present! For more information, please call me at 937-869-4724 or email at diane_rlc@yahoo.com.

Please be safe and may God Bless YOU!

Committeeman Diane Cox

Let's Get Involved

First, I would like to thank all the members that came out and supported their local districts at the fall meetings. Attendance seemed to be down this past fall, which is a concern throughout the state. We need more members to step up and become involved in their union, which directly affects their career.

We have some newly elected officials that will be making decisions on bills that directly affect the USPS and our rural craft. One of the main officials is Ohio Republican Jim Jordan, Ohio 4th district. Please take a few minutes to write a short letter to Mr. Jordan. Let him know how much we enjoy our careers as rural carriers and what an essential service we provide to our rural communities. We need Republican Jim Jordan on our side when he is voting on bills that effect the USPS. Mr. Jordan is a top contender to become the replacement for chairman of the United States House committee on oversight and government reform which is currently held by Darrell Issa of California who is very well known for trying to privatize the United States Postal Service. This is why it is so important to contact Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio.

The holidays are upon us, a time for family, friends and parcels. Holidays can be overwhelming Cynthia Heller. Sometimes we concentrate on the negatives in our lives more than all the great things in our lives. This holiday season be sure to give that extra hug, smile and kiss to your loved ones. Slow down and truly enjoy some family time.

Business is really great this time of year as parcels are expected to be up from last year. Managers will be asking a lot out of the rural craft this season because we are some of the most efficient employees in the United States Postal Service. Please be safe, work hard and smile with every parcel delivery. We sell customer service. Just imagine with every parcel your delivering a Spiderman costume to a young boy who wants nothing more than to be Spiderman. You are delivering hours of fun and thousands of smiles in every parcel.

Take care of yourselves this holiday season, stress will be up and you must try to stake care of yourselves before you can care for anyone else. Your family wants you to return home safe every night.

Save some money this holiday season by calling National General Insurance to get a free quote and receive a $10.00 visa gift card just for calling. National General knows our rural craft and how demanding our jobs can be. They have been working with rural carriers for many years. Please give them a call at 888-325-7727 and use code R-46 Ohio to receive a $10.00 visa gift card with no obligation.

Union Proud,

Timothy Barker.
Our Post Office

The post office was founded on July 26, 1775, after the second Continental Congress debated for two days. Congress appointed a Postmaster General to oversee the colonies and bring the newly formed colonies together to support the growth of commerce and ensure free flow of ideas and information.

In 1830, the post office started delivery in 454 post offices. If you lived in one of the 40 big cities, your mail was delivered to your door for an extra 1 or 2 pennies. Free city delivery was instituted in 1863, in 49 of the largest cities across the united states. Postage stamps were introduced in 1847 and had the portrait of Benjamin Franklin and George Washington. The denominations were for five and ten cents.

Rural free delivery was not introduced until around the turn of the century and was started in Charleston, West Virginia. John Wanamaker, of Pennsylvania, was the postmaster general who advocated the R.F.D. and had the funds allocated before he left office in 1893. The following postmasters after him did not implement the first rural routes until 1896. Hmmmm sounds familiar.

Now that I have given you some history on the beginning of the post office, let’s talk about the future of the postal service.

The elections are over and the Republicans have control over Congress and the House, look for some movement on the postal reform bills after the new Senators and Representatives are sworn in January 2015. We need you to sign up for the E-activist alert from the NRLCA website. This alerts you when a bill is going to be acted on and you need to contact your Congressperson immediately. If you don’t care about the future of the postal service and your paycheck, then by all means sit back and do nothing, Congress will privatize the postal service, remove you for anything they can dream up, hire someone else to deliver the mail, pay them as little as they can, all while becoming multi-millionaires in the process at the expense of the middle class jobs that we have come to know as our livelihood.

The time to act is now before it’s too late to save the post office that was founded almost 240 years ago by our founding fathers.

Contact your Congressman/Representative in January and let them know we are going to need them to vote for H.R. 630 and S. 316. This will let them know that more and more people are standing up to the takeover from management in the postal service.

Call the congressional switchboard at 202-224-3121 to let your voice be heard.

PAC

Thank you to Tom Noble. He was so gracious to donate the beef and processing for the raffle this year. It was a huge success. He has entertained the thought he will again donate another, if possible for next year. The three winners were: Susan Thayer, Shirley Ortz and Connie Milhouse. Congratulations to all of them and thank you to all who supported this great event.

At this year’s Fall Fling we had new merchandise for sale, and we received over $3,600.00 for PAC, just on that one day. If we reach our goal of $75,000.00 for PAC this year Shrek and Spiderman will wrestle at state convention, regardless of the $5,000.00 separate fund for that event. (There is $50.00 already donated for it.)

As of November 1st we have just over $10,000.00 donated for PAC this year, after all the money and gift credit is sent to national this month we should be getting close to 30 % of our goal.

We will again be attending every mail count meeting and selling our merchandise for PAC and informing everyone there about the legislative news. We will also have the reverse raffle tickets available for sale. Raffle drawings to be at the state convention in Blue Ash. This year we will again have multiple prizes available and auction items as well.

We are in the process of launching a website for the purchase of products online and getting more credit for the State of Ohio PAC.

We look forward to serving you and once again putting Ohio on top in money collected.

Mark Funderburgh
Executive Committeeman

Worship Corner

Bless us Lord this Christmas with quietness of mind,
Teach us to be patient and always to be kind.
Please, Lord bless our New Year too,
and draw us ever close to You.
Happy Holidays!!
SPRING 2015 DISTRICT MEETINGS

**District 1** Saturday, March 21, 2015. Dinner at 5:30 p.m. – Meeting at 6:30 PM. Best Friends Restaurant, Interstate 90 and State Route 534, Geneva OH. Questions contact Dawn Greene 440-759-2777, Matt Burke 216-382-3031 or Roger Herbst 440-437-8259.

**District 2** Wednesday, March 11, 2015. Meal at 6:00 p.m. at the American Legion Post 76, 395 W California Ave, Sebring OH. Details will be forthcoming on the notification postcard. Questions contact Barbara Pitts 330-533-6274.

**District 3** Thursday, April 2, 2015. 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. The Manor Restaurant, 753 S Wooster Ave, Strasburg OH 330-878-9809, Three (3) Meat Meal with all the fixings. RSVP by April 2nd and receive $5.00 off the price of your meal to Jody Schuler, 7951 Euga St, Newcomerstown OH 43832 (740-610-8221) jodyschuler@yahoo.com or Patsy Anderson, 74765 Dry Ridge Rd, Freeport Oh 43973 (740-630-7306) pontexpress52@yahoo.com.

**District 4** Saturday, March 28, 2015. The meal is at 6:00 p.m. Meeting to follow at Lori’s Restaurant, 17020 McConnelsville Rd., Caldwell, OH 43724. Noble County is the Host County. We will order from the menu but in order to plan how many to expect please RSVP by March 25th to Judy McIntire 740-458-1464

**District 5**

**District 6** Saturday March 21, 2015. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. the Meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. Central Trinity United Methodist Church, 62 S 7th St, Zanesville OH 43701. Cost of the meal is $5.00 per person. First time attendees will eat free. RSVP by March 11, 2015 to Sandy Heaton 740-408-3958.

**District 7** Thursday, March 26, 2015 Ryan’s 2227 Marion Mt Gilead Rd, Marion OH. (740-725-9101) Meal at 5:30 p.m., Meeting at 7:00 p.m. The cost of the meal for members is $5.00. Contact Autumn Cramer, 4444 Locust Grove Rd, Bucyrus OH 44820. 419-563-1184 or autumnbcramer62@yahoo.com.

**District 8** Thursday, March 19, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., Maries Italian Restaurant 130 E Smokerise Dr, Wadsworth OH. (330-334-1030) Details will be printed on the notice postcard. Contact Chrissy Putz 330-606-7448.

**District 9** Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Grand American Buffet 2170 N State Rt 53, Fremont OH (419-355-8800) RSVP by March 18th to Tim Barker 419-901-0900 or tbark9@gmail.com.

**District 10** Wednesday, March 18, 2015, 5:45 p.m. The Stables @ the Windy Knoll Golf Course 500 Ross Commons Ave, Springfield OH 44503. Order from the menu. RSVP by March 15th to Diane Cox 4780 Stony Creek Rd, Urbana OH 43078-9454 or call 937-869-4724.

**District 11** Thursday, March 26, 2015. Buffet 6:00 p.m. the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., The Rusty Keg Tavern, 1801 Columbus Ave, Washington Court House OH 43160. RSVP to Emilee Arthur 937-205-8642 or emileearthur@yahoo.com.

**District 12** Tuesday March 24, 2015. Meal at 5:30 and Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Damon’s Grill, 1045 East Side Dr, Wilmington OH 45177. Order from the menu. Five (5) $20 gift cards to be awarded. Non-Members are welcome. Please plan to attend and add your name to the delegates for the State Convention. RSVP by March 20, 2015 to Miranda Rodgers 937-302-9956.

**District 13** Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Meal at 6:00 p.m., meeting to follow at 6:45 p.m. Days Inn Sidney Conference Center, 400 Folkert Avenue, Sidney OH 45365. Contact Pam Brester 937-845-2295 or pbrester@woh.rr.com.

**District 14** Thursday, March 12, 2015, Meal at 5:30 Meeting to begin at 6:30 p.m.. Fricker’s 1005 N Clinton St, Defiance OH 419-782-9464. Bring you postcard for a discount on your meal. RSVP by March 2, 2015 to Susan Thayer 567-264-4520 or Debra Towers 419-237-3071.

Now In This Corner...

We have Shrek, in the white shirt...
And opposing him we have in this corner, in the red outfit...Spiderman

Come on down to the State Convention in Blue Ash, Ohio to see who will win between the two contenders for the Ohio Wrestling title. It will sure be a whole lot of laughs to say the least.
“Member of the Year”

The Ohio Rural Letter Carriers’ Association will honor one of our rural carriers again this year.

The OHRLCA Junior Committeeman will chair the Member of the Year Committee and the remaining members of the committee will be comprised of the most recent member of the year honoree and 4 district officers from the host convention site.

The committee will review all entries and announce the name of the selected individual at State Convention. This individual will also be recognized at the National Convention.

Please submit this form to the 2015 Committee Chairman Timothy Barker (see address below) prior to the 2015 Ohio Rural Letter Carriers’ State Convention at Cincinnati Ohio, June 7 – 9, 2015.

I/WE, ___________________________ (INDIVIDUAL/DISTRICT) phone number ___________________________

would like to place the name of

_______________________________________________________ Phone Number ___________________________

to be considered as “Member of the Year”.

Please give a brief history of the nominee’s personal and postal life as the basis for this nomination.

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(If more space is needed, please attach additional sheets)

Please send this form by first class mail, by June 1, 2015 to:
Timothy Barker
4395 Cook Rd
New London OH 44851-9357
Dear friends,

We just came back from the Fall Fling at the Doubletree Worthington. You missed a good meeting if you weren’t there. It was very informative about your health. Some people are really getting into the health kick. Seems like the more times we hear about changing our eating habits, eating the right food and exercising we should be all healthy. I myself find it very difficult to eat healthier foods and change my lifestyle, since I have done it so long. I left the meeting thinking I would change but I enjoy the junk food such as ice cream, cookies and candy and it has me hooked. I do need to change some of my habits.

Also, Mr and Mrs Watson were there on OWCP. You all need to know what you are entitled to under OWCP. If you ever are hurt on the job, or are on Workers Comp now please, please call him and make sure you fill out the proper papers. His number is in the National Magazine or call one of your officers for his number. He is very caring about you and knows what he is doing.

Our humanitarian project is Alzheimer’s Research. Almost every family has had this touch them or they know someone it affects. Shirley’s Aunt lived with us during the last few months before she went into a home, very hard dealing with this disease on a day to day basis. One thing our doctor said, was to remember this, today this is your Aunt, but another day this is a different person. Helps to put it into a little different light. Enjoy the good days.

On another subject, we are fast approaching another Holiday Season. It looks like our carriers are going to be very busy this holiday season. As auxiliary members we need to do everything we can to help our carriers. I remember when Shirley was so busy during this time of year how much she appreciated all the little things I’d do (wash the dishes, cook a meal or wash some clothes). Whatever we can do means a lot.

Please remember the reason for the season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and may God richly bless you in the coming days.

Paul Ortz
Members
Send Address Changes to:
Ohio Rural Letter Carriers Association
104 Clay Road SW
Dellroy, OH 44620-9757

DEADLINE
for the February/March issue is January 12, 2015. Please have all articles to
Editor Lori Todd by that date. editor@ohrlca.org.