

The Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Official Publication

# CHIORURAL LETTER CARRIER

Association Year 2023-2024 - Issue Number 1

# 2023 OHRLCA State Board



#### From left to right:

President Timothy Barker, Vice President Michael Aitchison, Secretary-Treasurer Penny Koren, 4-year Committeeman Diana Garner, 3-year Committeeman Lisa Heaton, 2-year Committeeman Nathan Acker, and 1-year Committeeman Teresa Slaughter.





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# WORSHIP CORNER

to accept the things I cannot change.

Courage to change the things I can,

and Wisdom to know the difference.



Rita Beedy State Chaplain

# Hello, Dear Brother and Sister Rural Carriers III

I took an English college class, (one semester, 46 yrs. ago) and I write like I talk... LOUD and A LOT!!! The poor professor told me the exclamations points and all caps meant I was yelling, and I should use less... I said, I AM YELLING!!!!

BOY, IF YOU MISSED THE STATE

CONVENTION YOU REALLY MISSED OUT! It is a time to meet our State officers, learn about our trade, what we need

to do to be ready to retire and how to have the money saved to do so, watch a parliamentarian in action, which is pretty cool, even if he is from "M" up north, be a part of the vote for who is our State Officers, have some crazy good brisket,

lots of fun at the banquet, and help PAC out with your money in the auction... I could go on and on and on... really, some of you know... I want to say I was one of you, didn't go to district meetings, get involved in State or National Conventions, and I really am kind of mad at me because of what I missed out on. Maybe you're like me and didn't think you had time, money, or babysitter. (Just so you know there is a JR. Auxiliary, and they do great things with your children when you're at convention meetings! Educational and fun!) Regarding \$\$, if you attended the convention as a delegate (which you sign up for in your district meetings...) the OHRLCA paid you \$100 per day that you attended the entire day of the sessions! My

district, 10, voted to give us \$50 a day for full days attended, so as a delegate from my district I got \$150 a day to cover my expenses!!! (which meant that I had money for the PAC auction! Lots of cool stuff to bid on! As soon as I get my swing chair hung up, I'll post a picture.) I can't change my history in the service of our Association, but I can encourage you to get active and not have regrets someday. This magazine you are holding and reading goes out to around 4240 members.... We only had 116 delegates, 8 non-delegates, 11 Auxiliary (Auxiliary is your spouses who also have meetings and support you in your craft!) and I don't know how many Juniors attend... Okay, I'll guit preaching....

I want to say how proud of the 23 "first-timers" we had, and I really want to shout out to the young blonde man who went to the mic with questions!!! (He's only young to OLD people like

me...) He seemed like a quiet, shy man, I didn't really get to talk to him (my kids call it 'interrogating' when I want to get to know people...) but I am crazy proud of him. If you work with him let him know he was heard and appreciated! If you're not

like me, (I just wanted to deliver mail, meet people, and party every day) but care about the future of the Rural Craft, please, come, get involved. Be counted and heard. Sorry, starting to get preachy again...

(P.S. The Parliamentarian and his wife are great people and I'm just picking on them.;) I'm quite fond of them.)
(P.S.S. I am VERY proud of and thankful for our State officers!)
LOVE YOU ALL! HUGS AND PRAYERS!







**Tilm Barker President** 

# 2023 Annual Convention Report

This past year has been a busy year for me as the President of the OHRLCA. It has been very humbling, and I have learned a great deal. I was elected President of the OHRLCA at the state convention in June 2022 and then I returned home, and the following week was promptly placed on 6 days a week on my rural route for the remainder of the year.

In August I participated in the new district officers training for all 14 districts in Ohio. This is when all the district presidents, vice presidents and secretary/treasurers are mandated to attend training and to fill out all the federal and state tax paperwork so that we all stay in compliance with the Department of Labor laws and IRS laws. We run mock district meetings which are used for training for all those in attendance.

All the district meetings have a state board member and a National Steward System member that speak at the meetings. The fall district meetings began in September and were well attended due the Rural Route Evaluated Compensation System (RRECS) being on the verge of implementation, which got pushed back as we all know. It was great seeing all the members come out with questions and concerns about our craft and the new system. After the fall district meetings, we had the fall booster at the end of October. The fall booster was full of information and fun! We had a retirement specialist and investment group which gave us information on planning for our future so we can have a sound financial retirement. We also had a costume contest Saturday evening at the banquet which provided good times and family fun.

Late fall I attended new President training at the national office in Alexandria, VA. This was very educational for me, and I was given all the proper resources and contacts to better represent the great people of Ohio. I learned what my duties are as President such as providing leadership, fair representation to all members and making sure that I comply with the national and state constitutions. After the fall events ended it was time for the Christmas season which feels like it starts earlier every year. It is hard for me to enjoy the real Christmas season with the overwhelming demand of the postal service. After the Christmas rush ended, I was then preparing for Spring district meetings which start in March. All 14 District spring meetings were well attended and were filled with information on RRECS and the mini mail survey. This is when the districts have election of district officers and members can submit their name to be a paid delegate at the state convention. Also, if any member would like to be on a committee at the state convention, they can sign up for this at the spring meeting as well. The first week of May I attended the Mid-States Conference in Wichita. KS. Mid- States is a small national convention consisting of 12 states from North and South Dakota to Ohio. Many of the national board

members were in attendance giving up to the minute information on RRECS and the launching of a new era in RRECS. The end of May I will be attending the legislative seminar in Washington D.C. along with the Vice President. We will attend training and travel to Capitol Hill to lobby for the USPS and the rural carriers of Ohio. The information we provide to our elected officials is very important since they will be voting on bills that directly affect us as rural carriers and employees of the USPS. We meet with all the Ohio congressmen and women as well as both Senators to update them on current issues such as RRECS, the need for new vehicles, more carriers, etc.

Aside from traveling to conferences, seminars, and meetings I also assist/attend a few new hire orientations a year where we give a 1-hour presentation of our union and all the great benefits it has to offer. There are also conversion orientations which I attend from time to time. This is when an RCA is becoming a career status employee and we review information on things such as insurance, benefits, TSP, retirement, and any other information that a new career employee may need. I am the presiding officer over several state board meetings throughout the year where we conduct the business of this great union here in Ohio. All board meetings are published in the state paper. A large role of the president and state board is preparing for and organizing the state convention. We must lock in the meeting place, meals, committees, entertainment, auxiliary, juniors' program etc. Being an active full-time carrier and managing a labor union is a big job that I do with a great deal of pride, commitment, and hard work. It has been a very gratifying year to help our membership in Ohio.

President.

Timothy Barker

# 2023 OHRLCA'S Member of the Year Timothy Barker





# **Busy Year**

President Barker, fellow State Board members, members of the Ohio Association, and guests: herein is my annual report as Vice-President of the Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

Michael Aftchison Vice-President As directed by the State Constitution, the Vice-President is an Ex-Officio member of the executive Committee and acts as the committee chairman.

The Vice-President is also the chairman of the Fall State meeting and the Spring Booster meeting if one is to be held. Additionally, the Vice-President is responsible to have a working knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order, preform any other duties as assigned by the president, and to be prepared to assume the duties of the President if it becomes necessary.

Following the State Convention of 2022, I participated in the State Officers' Training meeting that was held in Columbus. During this weekend we also held a Board Meeting, presented the District Officers' Training, held a training session for the orientation presenters, and helped the District Officers process their tax filings to be compliant with the Dept. of Labor requirements.

As the ranking officer to attend the National Convention in Orlando, Florida, it was my privilege and honor to carry our state flag in the procession of states during the opening ceremony. I was assigned the task of "mike monitor" for each day of the convention. The state delegation presented themselves well and are to be commended.

The Fall State meeting was held in Dublin. There were many presentations including topics on Alzheimer's, Insurance, Financial Planning, Address Information Management. There was also a presentation by the State District Representative and her Assistant District Representatives. A question-and-answer session followed.

# Legislative Seminar

In May, President Tim Barker and I attended the annual Legislative Seminar in Washington D.C. As directed by President Barker, I contacted each of Ohio's Congressman and arranged for us to meet with them or a member of their staff that deals with postal related issues. I was able to schedule appointments with fourteen of our representatives and one of our senators prior to our departure for Washington D.C. and fully anticipate getting the other two appointments before our visit to the "Hill"!

We are in anticipation of a well-attended State Convention and are making the necessary arrangements that are within our power to make it so.

I have attended assigned district meetings in the spring and fall, been to the State Board meetings that were in person and by Zoom, written articles for the state publication, and represented the Rural Letter Carriers' Association during new hire orientations.

Currently, we are embroiled in what is the most comprehensive change in the evaluated system that any rural carrier has ever seen! The genie is out of the bottle and will not be put back in. The evaluated system will never be what it was, and my heart is saddened by this. As we move forward, we will have to learn to work in this adulterated system. Learn how to ensure that we are being paid for what we do. We must hold the Postal Service accountable for providing all the information used to determine the evaluation of a route. What used to be a two- or three- or four-week ordeal is now a year long ordeal.

Remain vigilante, be active in your union. Stay true to your craft and be the best rural carrier you can be!!

It has been an honor and a pleasure to be.... In your service;

Michael D. Aitchison





Penny Koren Secretary-Treasurer

# Annual Convention Report

Union Brothers and Sisters, it is a privilege to present my annual report as Secretary-Treasurer of The Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association.

## Membership

The 2022-2023 membership year began with 4,248 members

and as of June 30, 2023, our total membership was 4,217, a decrease of 31 members. The decrease is contributed to many factors. Weekly we lose the newly hired relief carriers to another craft or an outside job. Full-time regular carriers are resigning their positions. Carriers are retiring at an alarming rate. Many retirees are electing NOT to remain a member.

A comparison of the membership for the years of 2016 – 2023 is printed at the bottom of this page.

#### Financial

The Financial report is for the Association starting July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. The Financial Report is presented in this issue showing expenses greater than income resulting in a loss. The loss is contributed to many factors the largest being the increased orientation presentations to recruit new members.

#### **Activity Report**

In the past year I trained the District Secretaries, Treasurers, President, and Vice Presidents on the procedures of conducting a district meeting and proper completion and filing of the LM-4 reports. I completed and electronically filed the Labor Department required LM-2 for the State Association. After completion, the report must be reviewed and signed by both the President and Secretary-Treasurer. Each November, I completed and file, via the Internet, the IRS 990 for the State Association and 14 IRS 990-e, one for each of Ohio's Districts. These 990 forms are the equivalent of

a business IRS tax return. If the 990 are not filed with the IRS, the Association / District would lose their non-profit status.

I work an average 58 hours weekly, each year to properly perform the Secretary/Treasurer duties as charged in the OHRLCA Constitution and to perform the additional duties assigned by the National Office. This past year: I attended all the board meetings, wrote the minutes, wrote state paper articles, presented financial reports, wrote checks, balanced the checking and savings accounts, reconciled, and paid the credit card charges, wrote pay roll checks, sent retirement letters. I also provided numerous hours of assistance and consultation to the President, and members on the State Board, the District Officers, and members. I have also spent many phone hours speaking with Senators and Congressional Representatives to pass the Postal Fairness Act, and to purchase all relief time toward retirement.

Along with the trainings, Fall Conference, and Board Meetings, I was a guest speaker at Fall and Spring District Meetings, designed and printed district meeting postcards, sent membership recruitment letters, and assisted with the OHRLCA Web-site.

As a Secretary-Treasurer I am also a board member, I make decisions in the best interest of the Association and its members, consistently following the OHRLCA Constitution and the Department of Labor's Laws. Making decisions is not an easy task, but it is a task that I take seriously. My decisions are lawfully driven and are not clouded by politics or driven by opinions or my own agenda.

I would like to take personal privilege to sayl am very grateful to be your Secretary-Treasurer. I enjoy the position because it is challenging but rewarding.

Everyone has heard the saying "It is what it is" I would like to expand on that saying, "It is what it is .... but it will become what we make it." Let's work together to make this Association the best it can be.

# Comparison of the Membership for 2016 - 2023

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	
Regular Carriers & PTF	2171	2175	2153	2167	2197	2186	2127	2271	
Relief Carriers	1331	1421	1412	1444	1263	1258	1097	995	
ARC		7	12	17	5	10	5	5	
Retired Carriers	910	918	938	948	954	948	1015	941	
Associates	_7_	6	6	7	6	5	4	<u>5</u>	
	4419	4527	4521	4583	4425	4407	4248	4217	

# **OHRLCA Editor's Report**

The Editor, Dominic Crooks, resigned as of January 1, 2023. A big thanks to Dominic for the great job he did on the Ohio Rural Letter Carrier State Paper! The Secretary-Treasurer, Penny Koren, is performing the duties until the new editor takes the position.

The expenses generated by our publication are at the bottom of this report. The cost variance in the December/January issue resulted from printing the OHRLCA State Constitution which resulted in the printing more pages.

There is a significant increase in cost for producing and sending the paper this past year. The cost of the paper products has almost doubled, and postage prices have increased.

The Ohio Rural Carrier publication is available on the state website. You may read it from your home computer and most cell phones. Go to www.ohrlca.org, click the "State Paper" link, then select the issue you wish to view or download. Keep reading your contract, constitutions, and other union-focused publications to get even *more* out of *your* Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association membership!

Ohio Rural Carrier Publication Expense Report 2022-2023										
Issue	Pages	Data	Lettershop	Printing	Taxes	Postage	Issue Total			
	in	Processing	Cost	Cost			Cost			
	Issue									
Post-	28	\$104.55	\$387.27	\$6052.00	\$461.74	\$1910.34	\$8915.90			
Convention										
Fall	20	\$103.77	\$276.32	\$5324.00	\$407.08	\$1945.35	\$8056.52			
Dec/Jan	36	\$109.22	\$256.86	\$6220.50	\$474.74	\$2084.46	\$9145.78			
Spring	24	\$103.81	\$297.78	\$6150.00	\$469.04	\$2074.71	\$9093.34			
Pre-	24	\$108.75	\$318.75	\$6677.25	\$508.95	\$2063.85	\$9677.55			
Convention										
Totals	120	\$530.32	\$1,536.98	\$30,423.75	\$1,898.51	\$9,677.55	\$44,889.09			

Respectfully submitted by,





Nathan Acker
Executive
Committeeman

# A Year Well Spent

If I'm honest, it doesn't really seem like a year has passed since last year's convention in Fairborn. Time flies when you're having fun, or just when there's a whole lot of meetings happening, and your head is constantly spinning trying to keep dates straight and deadlines from coming and going.

I've been to district meetings in all corners of the state, from Cincinnati to Canton and Toledo to the Hocking Hills. I am half expecting to be assigned to cover a meeting in Canada this coming year; or at least West Virginia, I'm not sure either would surprise me at this point. I've met carriers with similar personal interests to mine, like Leslie Rece from District 12 who may like horses even more than

I do, and carriers at every stage of their career from RCA to retiree.

When I ran for office in 2022, I promised to do two things, and I would like to think that I've followed through on both in my first year.

The first promise was that I would work to increase outreach to help and better attendance at both our district meetings and the state convention, with a specific focus on districts 7 and 10. I made phone calls to carriers in offices across the districts and worked to recruit new attendees. One even became a new vice president in his district at his very first meeting! At the 2022 state convention these two districts had just a combined total of 19 delegates, and though not all who signed up to be delegates this year could attend due to the RCA shortage that is now entering what seems like it's 43<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year, I am pleased to report that the number of state delegates this year between the two districts nearly doubled! The second promise I made was that I would be a good steward of the member's finances. I know how hard we work for that money every week and I am a believer in good budgeting as well as investing in our future.

I am pleased to report that the budget for the OHRLCA remains on solid ground, and that there will be no need for any increase to the state portion of your dues. I have worked with state secretary-treasurer Penny Koren to find the best possible investments to take advantage of historic short-term interest rates, and I believe we will achieve a nearly 10% return on those investments over the coming year thanks to record inflation levels. This return will help to bolster the state's finances against any possible downturn in membership and enable your state board to continue to fund all the events that educate our members in the coming year.

This includes multiple district meetings close to every member in the state, fall booster, Mid-States conference, legislative conference, and district officer's training. The state convention will also continue to

be an annual event. In addition, all delegates to both the state and national conventions will continue to be compensated to help defray the costs of attending and representing the state of Ohio. Speaking of the national convention, I wish to thank all of those who voted for me to represent them at this year's national convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan! I had never run to be a national delegate before, and I was pleasantly surprised when the results were announced.

When running for any office the best thing any individual can really hope to accomplish is to follow through on the things they promise. I feel as though I am keeping my word to the voters of the OHRLCA and will continue to try and do so in the remaining two years of my term. It has been an honor to serve with the other members of the board and I hope that all of them can say the same. I want to welcome our newest board member, Diana Garner, and say that I am looking forward to working with her as she begins her own personal rookie year as a member of your state board. Best wishes to all for a fun and safe summer, stay cool out there!

Until next time, yours most sincerely,

# Nathan Acker Executive Committeeman

# Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Statement of Financial Position As of June 30, 2023

	Jun 30, 23
ASSETS	
Checking/Savings	
APCU Checking	\$ 29,744.73
APCU SAVINGS	278,819.19
Total Checking/Savings	308,563.92
Other Assets	
Ally Bank - 6mo CD 5.3% 12/23	250,000.00
American Eqty Annuity 3.1% 2023	100,000.00
American National 2.10% 2024	250,000.00
Athene 5yr 2.75% 2025	250,000.00
F & G Annuity 3.7% 2027	250,000.00
North American 3.25% 2027	250,000.00
United 2.4% 2027	250,000.00
Total Other Assets	1,600,000.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,908,563.92
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	
Payroll Liabilities	\$ 56,730.06
Total Liabilities	56,730.06
EQUITY	
OPENING NET ASSETS	303,287.48
RETAINED EARNINGS	1,626,905.62
Net Income	-78,359.24
Total Equity	1,851,833.86

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** 

\$1,908,563.92



Lisa Heaton Executive Committeeman

# Annual Convention Report

It is a huge honor and a personal privilege to welcome you to the 119th Ohio Rural Letter Carriers Association Annual State Convention. It is with much respect I present my report as Executive Committeeman for the OHRLCA.

Jul '22 - Jun 23

# Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Statement of Activities July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Income INTEREST-DIVIDEND MEMBERSHIP DUES REIMBURSEMENTS RURAL CARRIER AUTO SALES Total Income	\$	37,339.02 565,948.64 7,185.77 16,785.26 3,320.00 <b>630,578.69</b>
Expense		
ACCOUNTING FEES	\$	880.00
AWARDS & RECONGNITIONS	Ψ	19,585.28
EDUCATION & TRAINING		5,673.69
EQUIPMENT RENTAL		519.70
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES		2,997.53
LODGING		6,962.67
MID-STATES DUES		1,049.25
NATIONAL CONVENTION		103,092.37
OFFICE EXPENSE		14,212.13
PAYROLL TAXES		21,614.95
PER CAPITA DUES		42,707.00
POSTAGE		6,675.87
PRINTING		9,885.42
RENT		10,576.21
SALARIES / EARNINGS OTHERS		53,257.24
Salaries And Wages Admin		207,758.73
STATE MEETINGS		114,610.01
STATE PAPER		44,889.09
TELEPHONE		1,787.21
TRAVEL - ADMIN		31,269.12
TRAVEL - Other		8,934.46
Total Expense	\$	708,937.93
Net Loss	\$	(78,359.24)

During last year's convention, I was reelected for a committeeman position. I would like to thank everyone who placed faith in me to continue to work on the State Board, and to help assist in all board functions for our members.

With my Committeeman position, my duties include to attend new hire orientation for RCAs and ARCs, along with writing articles, assisting with committees, and speaking at district, state, and booster meetings. I attend quarterly board meetings where we discuss and organize for upcoming events, by bringing speakers and information to our members. It is the Board's hopes that you gain information and knowledge to help you with your career, and into your retirement.

It is a team effort to complete all the many tasks that it takes to be part of the State Board. The Board conducted State and District Officers training and state-based enrichment trainings. Every year, the board must complete State Officers training issued by the NRLCA. Then we bring that training to each of the districts. We discuss and distribute all needed and updated materials that are needed to conduct a successful meeting. I helped assist the district officers file their LM-4 tax filing requirements to be compliant with the Department of Labor. The new hire orientation presenters were also trained on recruiting and given useful handouts to educate our new RCAs.

I would like to thank the board for allowing me to train for current and upcoming assignments. I have received training to assist the Secretary/Treasurer in duties that are required for our state association. I have really enjoyed learning and experiencing the complex duties of being the assistant to the Secretary/Treasurer.

I was elected Midstate Conference Treasurer in 2022 and reelected again for 2023. This position has really been a growing experience. Along with the treasurer training that I received from the NRLCA, the training I received with the OHRLCA Secretary/Treasurer, and the support that I felt from the Secretaries from all 12 states from the Conference, it gave me the needed confidence for this position. I appreciate you all.

I would like to thank District 5, 2, 1 and my home district of 10 for allowing me to be part of and visit their district meetings. I was appointed Secretary/Treasurer for District 5, until one has been trained and placed into the position. Also, I would like to thank all the districts for the kindness they have extended to me over the years.

I would like to thank the Board and the members for this opportunity and putting trust in me as a Committeeman. I am humbled by your generosity. I appreciate the guidance and confidence you have shown me in this position. Going forward

I will continue to represent the OHRLCA with honor and respect. It truly has been a pleasure to serve the rural carriers of the OHRLCA. Proudly serving,

Lisa Heaton
Executive Committeeman



**Diana Carner Executive Committeeman** 

# You Must Keep Moving

As your current PAC co chair and newly elected Executive Committeeman, I can say I am very honored to represent Ohio's rural carriers.

Speaking to each of you and traveling the state from one corner to the other is a reminder to me of how strong we are, even when we may not feel it.

I am proud to see a rural carrier delivering on the rural roads of

our state and I think back to the days I started my career in 1999. I spent the first few weeks wondering what kind of horrible decision I had made accepting this job. My hands, shoulders, back, and neck hurt and I had a toddler to keep up with when I made it home after my 12 hour shift. That shift consisted of delivering out of a mini-van, sitting in the middle of the vehicle, and hoping I could reach the pedals safely, while not hitting mailboxes or other cars! What fun!! 24 years later, when I do a new hire orientation class, I tell them to 'hang in there.' I tell them to keep moving, persist, roll up their sleeves and put the work in, and eventually it will get better, and one day they too can look back and be glad they didn't give up!

My challenge to all of you is this: I DARE YOU TO MOVE What does this mean??

These words are the title to a song recorded by the band, Switchfoot. It's a song that I love to listen to for encouragement when I feel uncertain about the path I am on, or unsure of the right decision. These words will mean something different to each one of us so I will leave you with this:

~ LIFE IS LIKE RIDING A BICYCLE. TO KEEP YOUR BALANCE, YOU MUST KEEP MOVING. ~ Albert Einstein

Diana Garner
Executive Committeeman





Teresa Slaughter Executive Committeeman

# Very Imformative Year

I have just returned from our 2023 Ohio State Convention and I am pleased to say that it was very informative and productive. Along with all the work we did there was time for socializing and fun after session every day. Saturday evenings meet and greet had corn hole and bingo. Sunday evening had a USFL championship game at the National Football Hall of

Fame and another round of bingo back at the hotel. Monday evening was our banquet and auction. The facility was great and I would like to thank our 2023 Convention City committee for their efforts to find this amazing area for us.

Once again, I would like to thank you for the opportunity you have given me to serve on your State Board, it has been a privilege. President Barker appointed me the task of representing the Provident Guild in our state and I have tried to get the information to members at district meetings and the fall booster.

During this past year I attended the fall district meetings with Districts 4 and 7. Your district meetings are a great place to get the newest and most accurate information you need for your job. I encourage everyone to attend a district meeting. I also attended my own district 6 meeting where I am the secretary/treasurer.

I attended the fall booster. We had some very informative sessions throughout the weekend and the evenings of socializing were great.

I attended New Hire Orientations for recruitment of new members and provided information about our union and the benefits of being a member.

This spring I attended spring meetings with Districts 11 and 12. Both meetings had a good turn out as the new Mini Mail Survey was right around the corner.

In early May I attended the Mid-States Conference in Wichita, Kansas. We had the opportunity to listen to our National Board speak about the RRECs system and the work they continue to do to get our problems resolved. It was a pleasure meeting board members from other states and comparing notes on how things are going in our home states.

In late May I attended legislative seminars in Washington, DC. It was an honor to represent our craft. We met with our state representatives to discuss our need for their support in congress. Some were very familiar with the issues facing the rural craft and others were eager to hear of our need for their support. I look forward to returning in the future.

This has been an informative year and I look forward to serving you in the future.

7eresa Slaughter Executive Committeeman

# OFFILEA 2025 National Convention Delegate Poll Results

Below are the tallied results of the 2023 National Convention Delegate Poll.

Delegates, please return your postcard marking your intentions as soon as possible so that our alternates have adequate time to change their schedule if you choose not to attend the convention.

Name\	Votes Received		_		
Penny Koren	223	Rita Beedy	124	Elaine Ferguson	83
Catherine Funderburgh		Nathan Acker		Lee Tipple	
Delbert Hutchisson	184	Thomas Noble	122	Katlyn Tipple Thomas	
Michael D Aitchison	183	Patsy Hickle	122	Peggy Ferneding	81
Carla B Dedden	176	Barbara L Pitts		Darlene Stewart	
Mark Funderburgh	175	Norman Humphrey	116	Michelle Lewallen	79
Timothy Barker		Randy C Childers		Pamela Frey	78
Lori Todd		Teresa Slaughter		Mike Crawford	
Diane M Cox	154	Barbara D Perkins		Kelly Hoffee	77
Shirley Ortz	154	Diana Garner	103	Mary L Conti	74
Lisa Heaton	153	James D Julian	102	Chery Wheeler	
Gayle J Sweet	153	Dale L Schwartz	100	Samuel A Raver	
Janna Hirschfeld	146	Diana (Dee) Brown	99	Holli Mosley	70
Misty Gamerdinger	145	Dominic Crooks	97	Brenda Klotz	70
Joyce Bower	134	Helen Cline	95	Shannon Guess	64
Sandy Laramee	133	Carla Daniels	93	Shelia Hattan	63
Ron Ellis Jr	132	Jody A Schuler	92	Rick Troxell	61
Tuwana K Aitchison	131	Misty Akers	91	Lisa Wymer	59
Joe D Butcher	131	Scot Sample		Susan Minnich	58
Matt Burke		Laura Bailey		Sara Perkins-Munyan	55
Erik Hirschfield	130	Robert Chapman		Loren Laconey	54



# OHRLCA 2023 District Meetings

# Below are your 2023 OHRLCA District's Fall Meeting Schedule.

**District 1** Thursday, October 5, 2023. Dinner at 5:30 PM and the Meeting at 6:30 PM. Roby Lee's, 425 Ridge Rd, Newton Falls OH 44444. Members' Buffet Meals \$15.00 each. RSVP by September 28th to Matt Burke 216-382-3031 papertong@yahoo.com

**District 2** Tuesday, September 26, 2023. Dinner at 6:00 PM and the Meeting at 7:00 PM. The Heights Church, 528 Grandview Ave, East Liverpool OH 43920 Cost of \$20/pp. Prepay by September 20th to Beverly Booth, 2441 Township Road 289 Box 153, Irondale OH 43932. Questions call Beverly @ 304-224-5094.

**District 3** Thursday, October 12, 2023. 6:00 – 6:45 PM Meal. 6:45 – 7:30 PM Business Meeting. 7:30 – 9:00 PM Steward Time. Comfort Inn & Suites, 2024 SR 39 NW (just off I-77 Dover exit SR 39 NW) Dover OH. No Cost for the meal if you RSVP October 9th to Patsy Anderson, (740-630-7306) ponyexpress52@yahoo.com.

**District 4** Saturday, August 26, 2023. The meal is at 6:00 PM. The Meeting at 7:00 PM. at Lori's Restaurant, 17020 McConnelsville Rd, Caldwell, OH 43724. We will order from the menu, however, to plan how many to expect please RSVP by August 22nd to Rebecca Roe 740-567-3102.

**District 5** Saturday, October 14, 2023. Dinner at 6:00 PM and meeting at 7:00 PM. Place to be announced. NRLCA Steward will be at the meeting. Non-members are welcome to come and become a member of District 5. RSVP by October 10, 2023 to Ron Ellis 304-654-1938 - leave a message.

**District 6** Saturday, October 14, 2023. Dinner 6:30 PM and the Meeting at 7:30 PM. Central Trinity United Methodist Church, 62 South Seventh St, Zanesville OH 43701. Free meal to members. RSVP by October 4th to Teresa Slaughter 740-624-2734 or Amy Stanton 740-624-3224.

**District 7** Saturday October 21, 2023. The meal is at 6:30 PM and the Meeting is at 7:00 PM. Pizza Hut, 820 Harding Way W, Galion OH 44833. Meal will be free to members. Questions contact; Carla Daniels (740-504-4797) carladaniels60@icloud.com

**District 8** Thursday, October 19, 2023. Meeting 5:00 - 9:00 PM Sharp. Meal 6:00 PM Lorain Co Metro Parks Wellington Reservation, 535 Jones Rd, Wellington OH 44090..Members will pay \$10 for dinner and guest will pay \$15 for dinner. RSVP by October 12th to Whitney at 330-347-4196

**District 9** Wednesday, October 18, 2023. 6:00 PM Meal, 7:00 Meeting. Danny Boys, 6207 Milan Rd, Sandusky OH. Come and visit with friends and support your PAC. Learn what's new, know your rights and talk to stewards. Encourage the best in yourself and others – we are all in this together. RSVP by October16th to Michelle Lewallen 419-822-7228.

**District 10** Tuesday, September 26, 2023. Dinner at 5:30 PM and the Meeting at 6:30 PM. Free Meal for member and one (1) guest. Der Dutchman, 445 S Jefferson Route 42, Plain City OH 43064. Gift Cards will be drawn as door prizes. All First Time Attendees will receive a gas gift card. RSVP by September 17, 2023 to Debbie Wix, 937-206-5244 robanddebwix@aol.com

**District 11** Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Dinner at 6:00 PM and the Meeting 7:00 - 9:00PM. Order from the menu. El Dorado Mexican Restaurant, 220 Washington Sq, Washington Court House OH. First time attendees' meals will be free. Gift card will be given away as door prizes. RSVP by September 15th to Jennifer Bennington district president, text 937-217-0198 or Shelia Hattan, district vice president 937-544-3553.

**District 12** Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Dinner at 6:00 PM and the Meeting at 7:00 PM. Monroe Community Center, 6 East Ave, Monroe OH. Meal is Free. First time attendees will receive a \$25 gift card. Gift cards as door prizes. RSVP by September 16th to District 12's President Diana Garner 513-594-1478, djgarner4@gmail.com or District 12's Secretary Carla Dedden 513-683-4664, carla.dedden@aol.com

**District 13** Tuesday, August 29, 2023, Meal at 6:15 PM and the Meeting at 7:00 PM. Earl's Island Pavilion, Lake Loramie State Park, 12440 St Rt 362, Minster, OH. The meal will be provided free. Come and be a voice in your union and enjoy beautiful Lake Loramie! RSVP by August 22nd to Pam Frey 937-726-2296 pamfrey8@gmail.com.

**District 14** Thursday, September 28, 2023, Dinner 5:45 PM and the Meeting 6:30 PM. Downtown Restaurant, 301 N Defiance St, Archbald OH. Enter on Holland St. The meal is free. Bring PAC ideas. RSVP by September 24th to; Debra Towers text or call 419-237-3071.

# 2023 - 2024 District Officer's Directory

Dist	Office	First	Last	Address	City	St	Zip	Phone
1	PRES	BRITTANY	LEVENSKY	3405 LEIBY OSBORNE RD	SOUTHINGTON	ОН	44470-9729	3309808393
1	VP	CRYSTAL	RAYMOND	1636 HYDE OAKFIELD RD.	BLOOMFIELD	ОН	44450-9721	2342014383
1	SEC/TRE	MATT	BURKE	4822 DELEVON DR	LYNDHURST	ОН	44124-1016	2163823031
2	PRES	SHANNON	GUESS	230 3RD ST SW	CARROLLTON	ОН	44615-1538	3309049364
2	V P	STEVE	ADAMS	217 COLUMBIANA ST NE	NAVARRE	ОН	44662-1244	3302804440
2	SEC/TRE	BARBARA	PITTS	12914 WASHINGTONVILLE RD	SALEM	ОН	44460-9247	3305336274
3	PRES	PATSY	ANDERSON	74765 DRY RIDGE RD	FREEPORT	ОН	43973-9717	7406583666
3	VP	JONI	SCHONAUER	785 HIGHLAND HILLS DR	HOWARD	ОН	43028-8401	3302310386
3	SEC/TRE	JODY	SCHULER	7951 EUGA RD	NEWCOMERSTOWN	ОН	43832-9518	7406108221
4	PRES	REBECCA	ROE	30320 SKIN CREEK RD	LEWISVILLE	ОН	43754-9474	7402389313
4	V-P	CHRISTINA	HILL	17944 PLANTSVILLE RD	AMESVILLE	ОН	45711-9311	740-541-2757
4	SEC/TRE	EILEEN	PIATT	38641 STRAIGHT FORK RD	GRAYSVILLE	ОН	45734-9749	7409342849
5	PRES	RONALD	ELLIS JR	67 TOWNSHIP ROAD 1145	PROCTORVILLE	ОН	45669-8557	3046541938
5	VP	MISTY	AKERS	567 PRIVAYE RD 4460	PEDRO	ОН	45659-9092	7404421435
5	SEC/TRE	COURTNEY	STEVENS	515 PRIVATE RD 4460	PEDRO	ОН	45659-9092	7406469387
6	PRES	AMY	STANTON	370 ROBIN HOOD LN	ZANESVILLE	ОН	43701-9216	7404523235
6	VP	KATLYN	TIPPLE-THOMAS	3275 WALTER LANE SW	LANCASTER	ОН	43130-9786	7406520930
6	SEC/TRE	TERESA	SLAUGHTER	5670 COTTAGE HILL RD	NASHPORT	ОН	43830-9790	7406242734
7	PRES	CARLA	DANIELS	19980 CROOKED RD	BUTLER	ОН	44822-9488	7405044797
7	VP	JOSEPH	SHALOSKY	1254 BERMUDA DR	MARION	ОН	43302-1669	7408162942
7	SEC/TRE	SUSAN	MINNICH	4343 OSBUN RD	MORRAL	ОН	43337-9339	7402625213
8	PRES	KELLY	HOFFEE	253 S CLAY ST	MILLERSBURG	ОН	44654-1325	3302750279
8	VP	CHRISTINE	WILLIAMS	1475 HOMEWOOD AVE	BARBERTON	ОН	44203-3810	3306122641
8	SEC	WHITNEY	KURTZ	4105 VALLEY RD	WOOSTER	ОН	44691-9121	3306010012
8	TRE	HENRY	TONHAEUSER	PO BOX 921	WADSWORTH	ОН	44282-0921	4192621014
9	PRES	MICHELLE	LEWALLEN	2780 COUNTY ROAD 5	DELTA	ОН	43515-9664	4198227228
9	VP	CHRISTINE	GERKENSMEYER	20130 W PORTER RIV S	WOODVILLE	ОН	43469-9405	419262-1014
9	SEC/TRE	FRED	SCHMITS II	2008 EASTVIEW DR	FINDLAY	ОН	45840-6538	4193048036
10	PRES	NATHAN	ACKER	194 LONG TRAIL	OSTRANDER	ОН	43061-7511	7403618934
10	VP	RITA	BEEDY	5318 SPRINGFIED - URBANA PIKE	URBANA	ОН	43078-9420	9373605633
10	SEC/TRE	DEBORAH	WIX	2226 MEADOWBROOK DR	SPRINGFIELD	ОН	45506-3214	9372065244
11	PRES	JENNIFER	BENNINGTON	45 OLIVE ST	PEEBLES	ОН	45660-1129	9375873039
11	VP	SHELIA	HATTAN	87 CONNIE DR	WEST UNION	ОН	45693-9637	9375443553
11	SEC/TRE	GAYLE	SWEET	1385 RUSSELVILLE RD	WINCHESTER	ОН	45697-9013	9376950282
12	PRES	DIANA	GARNER	1 SUTTON BROOKE COURT	MIDDLETOWN	ОН	45044-3249	5135941478
12	VP	KIMBERLEY	DAKIN	4272 N STATE ROUTE 42	WAYNESVILLE	ОН	45068-9261	5138360001
12	SEC/TRE	CARLA	DEDDEN	742 WARDS CORNER RD	LOVELAND	ОН	45140-8740	5136834664
13	PRES	PAMELA	FREY	126 E PARK ST	FORT LORAMIE	ОН	45845-9302	9377262296
13	VP	DARCY	SCHMERGE	19410 METZ RD	BOTKINS	ОН	45306-9617	9375380492
13	SEC/TRE	LAURA	DILTZ	5704 TROY FREDERICK RD	TIPP CITY	ОН	45371-9645	9376678935
14	PRES	TINA	SCHWAB	9025 COUNTY ROAD J	MALINTA	ОН	43535-9728	4199667333
14	VP	TAMMY	ADDINGTON	11172 DEFE HENRY CO LINE RD	HOLGATE	ОН	43527-9613	4194381944
14	SEC/TRE	DEBRA	TOWERS	13875 COUNTY ROAD 27	FAYETTE	ОН	43521-9573	4192373071
						_		

# RRECS Mini Mail Survey Training Presented by NSS Stewards

Sunday August 27, 2023 - 2:00 PM

Hampton Inn & Suites 5980 South High Street Columbus OH 43137

Room rate ORL room block Saturday Night \$169 Sunday Night \$119 614-491-3800

# Last day to make a reservation a room is August 11, 2023.

Hotel is attached to the Eldorado Casino.

Come in early, Stay late and enjoy adult entertainment.





# REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 12, 2023

# 2023 OHRLCA Fall Booster Retirement Seminar

November 4-5, 2023 Embassy Suites 5100 Upper Metro Place Dublin OH, Ohio

Last Day to Reserve a room is

Reserve early there are a limited number of rooms available.

\$126 daily suite rate Made to order breakfast included.

Reserve at: https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/orlcafallneeting23-91e/

Reserve by phone by calling: **1-800-220-9219** 

Group Name: ORLCA Fall Meeting 2023 Group Code: 91E



# You must register for each events!

11/4 6:00 - 10:00 pm Welcome Reception 11/5 9:00 am - Noon - Retirement Seminar Presented by Joni Montroy Noon - 1:30 pm Lunch 1:30 Informational Meeting begins 4:45 pm Henry Rifle drawing. IN ORDER TO
HAVE SUFFICIENT
FOOD AND
RETIREMENT BOOKS
YOU MUST REGISTER BY
OCTOBER 12,
2023



# FILL THIS COUPON AND SEND IT TO:

Lisa Heaton 705 Drury Lane Troy OH 45373

# OHRLCA 2023 FALL BOOSTER REGISTRATION

**O**NE MEMBER PER REGISTRATION COUPON

MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 12, 2023

Name		
Address		
		Phone
Welcome Reception	Lunch	Retirement Seminar



Do you want your sub time credited toward retirement?

Mark Funderburgh PAC Co-Chair

was introduced again this year.

PAC what is it and why should you give?

The Political Action Committee, PAC, is your insurance policy to get things done in Washington D.C.

we the Rural Carriers can get out with everything credited towards our retirement that we possibly can. The more years you can get the better off you will be.

Prior to State Convention, we did some brainstorming about the next big-ticket item for the Fall Booster raffle prize. Boy, do we have a doozie. A "Numbered Limited Edition Ohio Pony Express" American made Henry Golden Boy .22 caliber rifle.

We are selling tickets just like the reverse raffle, \$25.00 per ticket or 5 for the low price of \$100.00. please make the checks out to "NRLCA-PAC" not to me. The Winner will be drawn out at the Fall Booster meeting.

How many of you Ohio Rural I have a new PAC Co-Chair and we will be planning all fall long as to Carriers like to have ALL, of your RCA time count towards your ways to regain the top spot in our division for the next year for PAC. We retirement? I think that would be everyone. We can get this done Need your help. We can't get there without you.

Ohio PAC Co-Chair with your help. Every dollar raised goes for the lobbying of bills

When all of the State Presidents go to the legislative conference in May, this is one that all of them lobby the representatives to support, so that

iust like H.R. 3063. Retirement Firness Act, the buyback bill that

# Mark Furshburgh

# OHRLCA/PACHENRYRIFLE RAFFLE NUMBERED LIMITED EDITION

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN



Congratulations to our 2023 PAC reverse raffle winners!

> **Angie Bettinger** Sandra Laramee **Sheila Hattan** Lori Todd **Deb Towers Connie Mihone Shirley Ortz Diana Garner** Joni Schonauer **Carla Daniels Elaine Ferguson Tim Barker** Jamie Love Prichard

Drawing to be held November 5th at the



OHRLCA PAC 2023 FALL BOOSTER RAFFLE DRAWING OCTOBER 12, 2023

Tickets: 1 FOR \$25 5 FOR \$100

Make Checks Payable TO: NRLCA-PAC

Your Name:

FILL THIS COUPON AND SEND IT WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO:

Mark Funderburgh 7450 N River Rd Springfield OH 45502 Your Address:

Your Phone Number:

Amount Enclosed:

How Many Tickets Are You Purchasing?

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE PRESENT TO WIN THIS PRIZE.



# Welcome 2023 First Time Convention



## First Time Attendees in alphabetic order;

Wyatt Acker, Misty Akers, Danyelle Au, Angie Bettinger, Anne Bongalis, Elliot Browning, Katherine Buckley, Stephanie Downing, Todd Ferguson, Lidiette Hackett, Kristina Handshey, Amanda Herron, Olive Howard, Veronica Jolley, Kayla Kemmerling, Krista Kilburn, Sonya Klein, Brandon Kucharek, Whitney Kurtz, Christine Lochard, Holli Mosley, Kyle Parsells, Amy Salyers, Darcy Schmerge, Joseph Shalosky, Heather Stupecki, and Deborah Virgin.

# Below is a Letter From a First Time Attendee to the 2023 OHRLCA State Convention!

This year was my first year attending State Convention. I am a little embarrassed to say that this was my first year. I have been a rural carrier and a member of the NRLCA since 2006. I was an RCA for 10 years and have been a regular for almost 7 years now. In 2018 I took on the role of local Steward in my office: Since then, I have been trying to learn more and become more involved. With all the changes our craft has been facing and with a little push from my district President, I signed up to be a delegate to State. To say I was a little apprehensive to go would be an understatement. I guess you could say it was just the fear of the unknown. I have to say though, I am very glad I went. Everyone was so welcoming and it was great to see other carriers and hear their questions and concerns. It was also great to see how much our union leaders care and how hard they have been working for our craft.

I have realized over the last few years that if I just sit back and complain about the way things are, and I don't get involved that gets me nowhere. If I truly want to make a difference, I need to put in the effort to learn as much as I can. All of that being said, I urge anyone who wants to learn more to attend convention next year if you can. Attend district meetings if you are not already attending. I have found that even if you only learn one new fact about our craft or the contract that is one fact you didn't know before that could help you. Knowledge is power and right now we all need as much information as we can get to help us navigate through the changes we have and will continue to be facing.

I look forward to seeing everyone next year!

Sincerely, Amanda Herron



# **Board Meeting Minutes**

Embassy Suites 7883 Freedom Ave NW North Canton OH 44720

# **Pre-Convention Board Meeting**

Friday, June 9, 2023, 1:00 PM Present was President Barker, Vice President Aitchison, Secretary-Treasurer Koren, Committeemen Heaton, Acker, Slaughter, and Dedden.

**Vouchers:** The entire Board reviewed and approved all the vouchers submitted for payment.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the March 31 - April 2, 2023, meetings were reviewed.

**State Convention:** The program for the convention was distributed and reviewed. Each Board Members task were reviewed.

Convention Report Booklet: The entire Board reviewed the Convention Report Booklet. The Convention Report Booklet contains the Board Officers Activity reports, the Association's Detailed Financial Position, Membership totals with comparison to past year, the 2023 OHRLCA Constitution and the State Board Policy.

The Convention Report Booklets are to be distributed to every member during the state convention.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer's report was reviewed.

**Constitution Changes:** The entire Board reviewed the constitution changes submitted from the Board and members.

**Resolutions:** The entire Board reviewed the resolution that was submitted by members.

Committeeman Dedden made a motion to accept the Secretary-Treasurer report, the motion passed.

**Budget:** The OHRLCA annual expences have increase mostly because of the orientations being done every week at more locations than a year ago. The upcoming year's budget will need adjusted to compensate for the increased wages.

Committeeman Dedden made a motion to accept the Budget report, the motion passed.

**Legislative:** The fair retirement Bill has enough signers to be brought out of committee. We need to telephone our congressman in support!

PAC: The #1 Pony Express Henry Rifle will be auctioned at the National Convention in Grand Rapids. The rifles will be presented Tuesday morning, to Ohio's members, as our next PAC Raffle item. The chamber will be locked. We have also purchased locking Shadow boxes to display the rifles, this will be added security to the firearms.

The winning raffle ticket for a rifle will be drawn at the Fall Booster on November 5, 2023.

**District Officers' Training:** The District Officers will be trained on Sunday August 27<sup>th</sup> at Cherry Valley Hotel. All the District's Officers will be required to attend. The LM-4s must be completed the day of the training.

RRECS Mail Survey Training: NSS DR Funderburgh has agreed to conduct a training for the RRECs mini survey on August 27th at 2:00pm.

Committeeman Heaton made a motion to adjourn until Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am, the motion passed.

Adjourned 7:00pm

8:30 am Saturday, June 10, 2023, Resume Board Meeting

National General Insurance: Insurance Representative, Linda Foran, will attend and speak during the State Convention.

**State Convention Committees:** Committee Guideline booklets were reviewed, and all supplies were assembled for the committees. Committee Guideline Books were distributed to each Board Member assigned to the committees.

Convention Committee Assignments:
Tellers – Committeemen Heaton and Slaughter
Law and Constitution – Committeeman Acker
Resolutions – Committeeman Dedden
Audit – Secretary-Treasurer Koren and Committeeman Heaton

Secretary-Treasurer Koren went to the Post Office with Election Chair Anderson to pick-up the ballots for delegates to the National Convention.

President Barker made a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting and to set up the Convention Meeting Hall, the motion passed.

Adjourned 11:30 AM until Sunday at 7:00 am

# **Post-Convention Board Meeting**

Wednesday June 14, 2023 - 9:00 AM
Present was President Barker, Vice President Aitchison,
Secretary-Treasurer Koren, Committeemen Heaton, Slaughter,
Acker and Garner. The PAC Co-Chair, Funderburgh, members
Michelle Lewallen, Lee Tipple, Katlyn Tipple-Thomas, Rita
Beedy and Ron Ellis also joined the meeting.

The OHRLCA Board welcomes new committeemen, four-year Diana Garner.

**Vouchers:** The entire Board reviewed and approved all the vouchers submitted by the State Board Members for payment.

**Convention Review:** It was an amazing convention, the attendance was good, first time attendees increased and the meals was very well received by all attendees.

President Barker made a motion to order business cards and name pins for Committeeman Garner and to include PAC Cochairs and the Editor, the motion passed.

**State Paper:** Newspaper articles are to be received by June 26, August 28 and October 2, 2023.

Fall Booster: November 4-5, 2023.

The Agenda for the Fall Booster was discussed. Joni Montroy will present retirement during the seminar starting at 9:00 am. Saturday evening will be a welcome reception with PAC fundraising.

# President Barker's Appointments for the 2023 – 2024 Association Year.

<b>Rural Carrier Insuranc</b>	eTeresa Slaughter
Editor	Kyle Parcells
PAC Co-Chairs	Mark Funderburgh & Fred Smitts
Provident Guild	Diana Garner
Chaplain	Rita Beedy

Committeeman Slaughter made a motion to distribute the myretirementwerks scholarship, among the non-delegtes who attended the state convention, and to roll over all unused funds till next year, the motion passed.

Ready Set Go Conversation training will be made into a video and made available on the OHRLCA.org web site.

New Hire Orientation Presenters will be changed up at a few locations.

## **National Convention Assignments:**

National General – Committeemen Heaton Editor – Vice President Aitchison and Kyle Parsells Provident Guild - Committeeman Slaughter Registration – Secretary-Treasurer Koren PAC – Committeeman Garner, Mark Funderburgh and Fred Schmitts.

Committeeman Acker made a motion to send Kyle Parcells and Fred Schmitts to attend the seminars for their board appointment at the National Convention and to compensate them ADOP, Travel, lodging and per diem, the motion passed.

Committeeman Acker made a motion to compensate Eric Koren \$800 plus travel for programing and running the ballot scanner at the State Convention, the motion passed.

Vice President Aitchison made a motion to adjourn, the motion passed.

Adjourned 12:50 PM

Submitted by Penny Koren

# **Next Board Meeting**

August 26, 2023, at 11:00 AM Cherry Valley Hotel 2299 Cherry Valley Road SE Newark OH 43055

ARE YOU IN THE PROCESS OF RETIRING?

Do you want to keep your Rural Carrier Benefit?

If yo, You must remain a first A member!

There is no need to contact the OHRICA

Secretary. Within 5 weeks after you retire you will receive a letter with important benefit information and instructions on how to remain a first of member.

# **OHRLCA Constitution Amended**

Below are 2023's newly adopted constitutional amendments. Red indicates newly inserted language. Strikethrough indicates deleted language.

#### **ARTICLE V Section 5 A**

All elected State Officers who are required to fulfill the duties of their office-using LWOP, anunscheduled workday, or holiday, shall be paid an Association Day of Pay (ADOP). (An ADOP is equivalent to the rate of pay for a TABLE ONE, 46-hour, rate of pay at STEP 12 ROUTE (less statutory required deductions). THIS **WOULD ALSO PERTAIN TO UNSCHEDULED WORKDAYS OR A HOLIDAY. LEAVE** PERMITTED WOULD BE ANNUAL, "X" DAY (pre-approved by management), OR LWOP. This is to be on an as needed basis, subject to the approval of the Executive Board. The Editor shall receive his/her daily or hourly rate of pay less statutory required deduction, subject to the approval of the President with review by the Executive Board.

#### Art V Section 4D

An active regular rural carrier who is serving as the Secretary-Treasurer on a full-time basis shall receive an annual salary of a TABLE ONE, 46-hour evaluated route at the carrier's attained step STEP 12 ROUTE. The salary shall be payable on a biweekly basis. Annual Leave: 26 days per Association fiscal year. Be granted annual leave days equal to attained annual leave level with the Postal Service per Association fiscal year. Annual Leave requires the approval of the State President. Any unused annual leave shall be payable at the current cash equivalent at the end of each fiscal year (June 30). ROLLED OVER TO THE NEXT YEAR WITH A MAXIMUM OF 55 DAYS.

#### Art V Section 4F

A retired rural carrier craft member who is serving as the Secretary-Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of a **TABLE ONE**, 46-hour evaluated route in Step 12. The salary shall be payable monthly. **BIWEEKLY.** 

# Art V Section 4, F 1

A retired rural carrier craft member who is serving as the Secretary-Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of a table one, 46-hour evaluated route in Step 12. The salary shall be payable biweekly.

1) Annual leave: 26 days per Association fiscal year. All annual leave requires the approval of the State President. Any unused annual leave shall be payable at the current cash equivalent at the end of each fiscal year (June 30). ROLLED OVER TO THE NEXT YEAR WITH A MAXIMUM OF 55 DAYS.

#### Art V Section 4, F 2

A retired rural carrier craft member who is serving as the Secretary-Treasurer shall receive an annual salary of a **TABLE ONE** 46-hour evaluated route in Step 12. The salary shall be payable bi-weekly.

2) Sick Leave: 13 days per Association fiscal year. Sick leave days will be carried over from year to year. Any THE unused sick leave WILL BE PAID OUT at end of the employee's tenure as Secretary-Treasurer. will be handled in accordance with the method used by the retirement system in which the employee was enrolled. No payments are payable for fringe benefits such as retirement, health insurance, life insurance etc. As are payable for an active rural carrier on a full-time basis. The State Board shall set aside annually an amount equal to the value of any unused sick leave at the end of the fiscal year. THE SECRETARY-TREASURER MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE NRLCA SPONSORED 401K RETIREMENT.

# OHRLCA 2023 Adopted Non-Binding Resolutions

# Below are adopted resolutions to obstacles perceived by your fellow members.

# **Courtesy Resolution:**

Be it Resolved: That we thank our Savior for allowing us to assemble and transact the business of our craft.

Be it Resolved: We thank Districts 1, 2, and 8 for their wonderful hospitality they have extended to the body.

Be it Resolved: We thank NRLCA President Ronnie Stutts, for taking time to address our association.

Be it resolved: We thank the Embassy Suites personnel for their hospitality.

Be it resolved: We thank all Association members for attending this convention.

# **Non-Binding Resolutions:**

# 1. Whereas:

The Christmas period begins on the first Saturday of December.

#### Be it Resolved:

The Christmas period begins on the Saturday following Thanksgiving.

# Intent of / Reason for Change:

Change Christmas overtime period to include Thanksgiving Weekend to catch all the Black Friday Thanksgiving Weekend to catch all the Back Friday and Cyber Monday.

#### 2. Whereas:

Static Route created at peak and delivered by RCAs cheating carriers out of parcel counts and deliveries wasting time and energy. Essentially having 2<sup>nd</sup> trip given away.

#### Be it Resolved:

No Static Routes for parcel delivery except for Sunday/Holiday delivery

# Intent of/ Reason for Change:

To allow carriers to deliver all parcels assigned to the route and be credited to RRECS.

# 3. Whereas:

Currently PM casing used for 2<sup>nd</sup> trips where PM casing indicates office time not street time. Delivery functions are only street time.

#### Be it Resolved:

2<sup>nd</sup> depart to route/return to DU should be used in addition to mileage scan to add actual time/miles for second trip and time to clear actable (Express) parcel scans

# Intent of/ Reason for Change:

To include 2<sup>nd</sup> trip for any reason in our evaluation, deviate key should be utilized.

#### 4. Whereas:

We have RCAs working multiple days before a day off and sent to multiple offices with no extra benefits.

Be it Resolved :After 24 months of service from their hire date. All RCAs be converted to career with career benefits. This would include current RCAs.

Intent of / Reason for Change: It is unfair RCAs are being manadated to go to other offices and working as much as PTFs and CCAs who become career in 24 months. RCAs should also be given these benefits.

# Welcome New Members

**KEVIN ABBOTT** JAGA ADHIKARI **AMANDA ADKINS ALISHA ARBINO** HALEY BEDNARCZUK ANGELA BEECHLER KAITLIN BENEDUM TRACY BENNETT MICHAEL BERNAUER MATTHEW BIERMAN JAMES BLACKMON **COURTNEY BOSTWICK** AMANDA BOWLING **COURTNEY BOYER RONICA BRADLEY** JONATHAN BRANDENBURG ASHLEY GORDON **EVAN BROWN TINA BROWN CHRIS BUSSE** JORDAN BUTLER MEREDITH BUZZI **KELSSIE CAMPBELL** JESSICA CARRINGTON **BRANDI CLARK EVAN CLOUD** JOHN COLAGIOVANNI **EMILY CONGO LEHUA COOKE** 

**REBECCA CORDER** 

**BONNIE CORNELL I** 

SARA COULTER MARKUS DAVIS TAYLOR DUNCAN MEGAN DURAN **APRIL EICK** DONNA EVANS **AILYNBESA FARMER** KATELYN FLETCHER HAYLEY GARLAND **EIRINN GASTINEAU** JOSEPH GAUDEN PAMELA GELSINGER LANE GIBSON SONYA GODFREY RICHARD GONZALES III **CARY GRAHAM** DAN HARDWICK **DEVIN HARRIS** MATTHEW HARTMAN JAMES HECKER CHRISTIAAN HELTON MICHAEL HENDERSON II LINDA HENSON MICHELLE HOEHNE RICHARD HOLLINS III **ARIAN HOPES ISAIAH HUMBLE** ROBERT HUTCHINSON RICKY HUTSELL

KIMBERLY JOHNSON AARON JOHNSON JESSIE JONES **DEENA JONES** JAMES KING JR **JODY KLEIBER** DANIEL LEVORCHICK DEVIN LOUDERMILL JILLIAN MALAVE LORI MANGER KENZIE MCDONALD TARA MILLER BRADEN MILLER I MARK MILLIKEN JR **ALIAH MILLS** JOSHUA MITCHELL MALIA MITCHUM **ANNELIESE MUZZY LORRI NABB** SARAH NEARON **CHRISTINA NEELEY** JESSICA PAGE I JACOB PETTET **DENNIS POOL** MICHAEL PRICE NATHAN PROVINCE RALPH RAMBY **CARLA RAMEY** RYAN RATLIFF CADENCE RAULSTON DANA REYNOLDS SIERRA RIGGS **NICOLE RITCHEA** JAMES ROMAKER II **JAMES ROSS** TIMOTHY SANATORE JUANITA SCHLEGEL **RACHEL SCHUSSLER BRIANNA SHOCK KERRY SIEK REBEKAH SKIDMORE KAYLA SLUSHER** JAKE SMITH SAMANTHA STEPHENS **JOSHUA STEPHENS** MICHAEL STEWART II **DANIELLE STILES NARESH SUNDASH LORI THOMAS ARIEL TUCKER NOAH TUCKER** MICHAEL TURNER **CLINTON VALENTINE EMILY WATERS** LADARIUS WILLIAMS JEFFREY WILSON **ASHLEY WOLF** JOSHUA YOUNG MOHAMED ZAGHLOULA

# Our Union gains it's strength from it's members. **Help make our Union Stronger!**

Recruit a non-member today and receive an incentive paid from the NRLCA directly to you.

Incentives are \$15.00 for Relief Carrier and \$50 for Regular and PTF Carriers.

# If you missed the Convention · You missed a great Time!





# OHIO NRLCA STEWARD DIRECTORIES



(August 2022)

# Ohio 1/Ohio 2 Districts

	District Representative:								
	Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number			
	atherine iderburgh	PO Box 96	Clifton	ОН	45316	<b>C</b> : 937-471-0491 <b>O</b> : 937-265-5477			
			<b>Assistant Distric</b>	t Representatives	:				
District	. Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number			
OH 1	Lori Todd	PO Box 1281	Salem	ОН	44460	<b>O:</b> 234-284-5233			
OH 1	Scot Sample	PO Box 941	Uniontown	ОН	44685	<b>0</b> :330-224-0199			
OH 2	Ronald Kelhoffer	PO Box 862	Springboro	ОН	45066	<b>O</b> : 937-902-5310			
OH 2	Misty Gamerdinger	PO Box 6036	Chillicothe	ОН	45601	<b>0</b> :740-503-0295			
	Area Stewards								
Rob	ert Scherer	PH:740-250-3123							



@atherine Funderburgh District Representative Ohio 1 and Ohio 2 Districts

# Ohio 1 and Ohio 2 Steward Report

Greetings to President Ronnie
Stutts, OHRLCA President Timothy
Barker, State Officers, District
Officers, Delegates and all members
and guest of the Ohio Rural Letter
Carriers Association at the 119<sup>th</sup> state
convention in North Canton.
This is my annual report for Ohio 1
and Ohio 2 districts from the time
frame of July 1, 2022, through May 15,
2023. After dealing with COVID for

many years it is nice to slowly get back to a somewhat normal life.

Although just like 9-11 changed our lives so hasn't COVID. I want to personally thank everyone that played a successful role this past year starting with the full time Assistant District Representatives Misty Gamerdinger, James Julian, and Lori Todd. These representatives are dedicated, hardworking and worked late in the evenings, early mornings, weekends, while on annual leave and Holidays for the betterment of the rural craft in the great state of Ohio. Ron Kelhoffer and Scot Sample were converted to Part time Assistant District Representatives in the Fall of 2022. The position of being a PT-ADR is one of the hardest positions in the National Steward System as they are still carrying their routes and conducting the business of the NSS. I know these two ADRs have

worked early in the morning before going to service their routes and in the evenings as well. Both are an asset to the steward program in Ohio. I would like to thank Area Steward Robert Scherer for his help in the Portsmouth area of the state. More area stewards will be added in the coming months.

The local stewards are the most important steward as it takes a special person to stand up for their fellow rural carriers and let management know that today is not the day you are going to violate our contractual rights or belittle my carriers. They take the blunt of the frustrations from all sides including their own carriers in the office. With the implementation of RRECS, unfortunately several local stewards decided to step down from the abuse of their own carriers. On the flip side, more carriers have been willing to step into the role of the local steward. I have a great deal of respect and admiration for all my local stewards.

Thank you, team as a good steward is the only one between the carrier and management and stopping carnage in your home office. Being a steward does take up your free time and unfortunately, it is their families that suffer from it. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed as every steward makes me proud of your accomplishments.

Grievance Activities: As of May 14, 2023, the upper-level stewards have conducted a total of 385 Pre-Disciplinary Interviews (PDIs). It is important to have steward representation as we have seen management yelling at carriers, lecturing carriers, and changing answers. We should always exercise our Weingarten rights by requesting a steward to be available for the PDI. Sometimes stewards are successful in

getting management not to issue any discipline to the carrier. Carriers should always grieve all discipline that is issued to them.

Listed below are some charts for the grievance activity of both Ohio 1 (Northern Ohio) and Ohio 2 (Ohio Valley) districts.

	Class Actions	Contractual	Discipline	Total
Ohio 1	30	236	53	319
Ohio 2	29	214	60	303

Some of the grievance issues involve RRECS, forced to work relief day, forced to work another rural route, RDWL violations, Matrix violations, letters of demand, crossing crafts, denied annual leave, denied sick leave, implementation of the formula, failure to implement a previous settlement to name a few. A lot of grievances were prevented just from the steward making a few phone calls.

	Notice of	14 Day	7 Day	Letter Of	Emergency
	Removals	Suspension	Suspension	Warnings	Placements
Ohio 1	8	6	7	27	5
Ohio 2	13	8	11	20	8

In addition, of the 622 grievances, only 13 grievances were appealed to Step 3. That means that the stewards in Ohio are settling 98% at either Step 1 or Step 2. Great job!!

	Pay outs	Penalties	Totals
Ohio 1	\$21,848.60	\$ 8.518.74	\$30,367.34
Ohio 2	\$23,215.64	\$26,652.93	\$49,868.57
Totals	\$45,064.24	\$35,171.67	\$80,235.91

Some of the reasons for penalties pay outs would be forced to work their relief days, forced to carry other routes, full day of reliefs, denied annual leave, crossing crafts just to name a few.

Steward Trainings: Local stewards recently completed their required enhancement training with the assistance of my five ADRs. The local stewards watched a video of a PDI and then worked a discipline grievance through the Step 2 appeal process including putting the file in the correct order. Every steward learns differently but I truly believe the hands-on approach generates the most benefit.

ADRs and area stewards attended a training in the fall after I returned from Kansas City District Representative training. Material from the DR training was assimilated at that training.

One of the most important jobs of an ADR/DR is mentoring the local stewards. This may involve helping them understand their research, filing out the 8191, developing questions for the step 1 meeting, and attending their step 1 meeting to encourage them.

Meetings: With taking over the whole state, the plan is that the same information will be covered at all district meetings. The fall and spring meetings, RRECS was covered and how to read the reports. As the District Representative, I try to attend as many meetings as I can squeeze in.

In addition, I attended the National Convention in Orlando, FL, as a nationally paid delegate. This convention was a marathon experience lasting late into the night. As a delegate, I voted on constitutional changes, resolutions, and helped to elect our current national officers. I recently attended the Mid States conference in Wichita, Kansas where a lot of good information was passed along.

Numerous meetings were conducted with the two district managers to discuss topics of mutual concern to head off potential issues as well as to discuss concerns of the rural craft.

RRECS: This spring the rural craft saw the biggest impact on route evaluations. RRECS was the result of a 2012 arbitration decision by Jack Clarke that took the Postal Service eleven years to implement. Unfortunately, or fortunately depending on how you want to look at it, most rural routes have not been counted since 2018 and some even longer. Nation wide 40% of regular carriers have never been through a mail count. The drop in mail volumes were reflected in most route evaluations.

Ohio 1 had 1,208 routes that were counted under the new system. The total number of combined standard hours before RRECS implementation was 57,783. After implementation that combined number dropped to 55,406 for a loss of 2,377 hours. The average loss per route for this district was 1.97 hours.

Ohio 2 District had 1,520 routes counted. The total number of combined standard hours before RRECS implementation was 77,652. After RRECS implementation the combined standard hours dropped to 72,949 which is a loss of 4,704. The average loss per route for this district was 3.09 hours.

Obliviously, some routes did increase in evaluation while other routes not only loss evaluated hours but days off. RRECS is a work in progress, and we all need to learn as much as possible on this new system.

Lastly, I would like to thank NRO Jeanette Dwyer, and Regional Representatives Bridget Boseak (now Director of Labor Relations) and Terry Miner along with the National Board for their help and guidance in the past year. I could not do this very stressful job without their assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine 9. Funderburgh District Representative

# I REQUEST UNION REPRESENTATION

Whenever talking to management, if the conversation starts to indicate disciplinary action OR you believe disciplinary action could result, STOP the conversation and ask:

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined, terminated, or affect my personal working conditions, I respectfully request that my union representative or steward be present at this meeting. Without representation present, I choose not to participate in this discussion"

THE STATEMENT ABOVE COULD SAVE YOUR JOB!



Sandy Schwartz
Past Auxiliary
President

# OHRLOA 2028-2024 AUXILIARY BOARD

## **President**

Jodi Burke 4822 Delevan Dr Cleveland OH 216-382-3031 goofyjlb@yahoo.com

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Ron Frey, Jr 126 E Park St Ft Loramie, Ohio 45845 Phone 937-507-2687

# Board Member Secretary

Jerrica Shalosky 180 Henry St Ostrlander, OH 43061 jhoffman0791@gmail.com Hello! Our Ohio RLC Auxiliary 2023 State Convention was a success! Thank you all for your continued support of our worthy national project of

"Give Kids the World" this year.

We were honored to have National Auxiliary Officer Michelle Wertz and her husband participate in our Ohio convention. She was able to install our newly elected Auxiliary and Junior officers and also participate in our auxiliary tours and meetings in North Canton.

The Auxiliary toured Harry London's Chocolate Factory and participated in an Escape Room activity - and by working together we won the challenge! Along with enjoying delicious meals, our group also has a few new members. We also increased the number of book grant applications and awarded over \$2,800 in book grants this year.

I would like to thank our very capable Junior Sponsor, Shaelyn Anderson, for taking excellent care of and keeping our Juniors busy, safe, and happy during our convention. They enjoyed their fun and educational tours (Pump It Up and the McKinley Museum) along with a pizza and pool party this year!

I extend my appreciation to the Auxiliary and Association boards for all their support during the years of my presidency. I truly enjoyed working with all of you in this worthy organization, but it was time to step down and let someone else take over.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of you at our 2023 National Convention in Grand Rapids.

Fondly,

# Sandy Schwartz

Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Auxiliary, Past Ohio Auxiliary State President

Auxiliary Member of the Year
Diana Hausfeld



# Ohio Auxiliary News

Greetings All!!
My name is Jodi
Burke and I am
your new Auxiliary
President.

We just wrapped up our state convention in Canton, Ohio. We were privileged to have Michelle Wertz from South Carolina join us this year. 2022 President Sandy Schwartz did a fantastic job in planning some activities for

us to do this year. Michelle



Jodi Burke Auxiliary President

and the rest of the Auxiliary members absolutely loved the Escape room and the Harry London tour. We completed the Escape room in about 48 minutes and walked out with very large bags from Harry London.... Hmmm.. chocolate.

The Juniors went to the McKinley President Museum/ Planetarium and Pump Up. My son LOVED Pump Up. "Can we go back there... Do you know where it is?, was his response for that place. Pump Up was filled with large bounce house-like structures and he came back really tired. As for the Planetarium, he stated "It was cool, I really like it". Congrats to this year's King, Queen, Prince and Princesses as they are listed below. The Association and the Auxiliary loved your song done at the Banquet. Lastly, we wrote out many checks for the project posters. Matthew won \$25 and it is on its way to National in Michigan to possibly win more.

Next June we will be at Cherry Valley in Newark, Ohio. PLAN to come JOIN us!! Also, look for next year's book grant applications in the fall newsletters and on the website. Here are this year's winners.

# **Congratulations to the \$500 Book Grant Winners**

Carone Frey— Ohio University, Physical Therapy Sidney Shipp— Charleston Southern University, Healthcare Administration
Ashton Sipe— Wright State University, Elementary Education
Kennedy Sipe— Butler University, Finance
Mallory Swords— Marshall University, History

# **Congratulations to the \$500 Book Grant Winners**

Alexandra Laws—- Bowling Green State University Firelands, Biology

Daniel Hinajosa— Ohio State University, Agriscience Education

Elizabeth Potts— Mount Union Nazarene, Marketing/ Engineering

Front: Princess Ashlyn Mosley, Prince Elljan Drisket Rear: Queen Daisy Cyrus, King Timothy Hopkins

# **OHRLCA 2023-2024 JUNIOR BOARD**



President Mariah Schuler, Vice-President Daisy Cyrus, Secretary Piper Mosley, Treasurer Rileigh Mosley, and Chaplin Lucy Hopkins

PUMPITUP









# OHRLCA 2022-2023 JUNIORS BOARD

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# Treasurer

Rileigh Mosley 4725 North St Mineral City OH 44656 330-859-5072

# Chaplin

Lucy Hopkins 4343 Ospban Rd Morral OH 43337 740-262-5213

# UPCOMING EVENTS

August 15-18, 2023

NRLCA National Convention DeVos Place 303 Monroe Ave NW Grand Rapids MI 49503

**August 27, 2023** 

RRECS Mail Survey Training Hampton Inn & Suites 5950 South High Street Columbus OH 43137

August 26 - October 21, 2023 OHRLCA District Fall Meetings

August 28, 2023
State Paper Articles are due.

October 2, 2023
State Paper Articles are due.

November 4-5, 2023

OHRLCA Fall Booster Retirement Seminar Rifle Raffle Drawing Embassy Suites 5100 Upper Metro Place Dublin OH 43017 \$126.00 / nt.

Do you have a change of address or name change?

CONTACT SECRETARY-TREASURER
PENNY KOREN
104 CLAY RD SW
DELLROY OH 44620-9757

Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association 104 Clay Road SW Dellroy, Ohio 44620-9757 Non-Profit Org. U. S. Postage PAID Permit #225 Youngstown, OH

# And now, the moment you've all been waiting for! Happy Retirement!

Mark Lee ... Newark
Sherry Linson ... Sherrodsville
Gary Ludwig ... Columbus
Michael Polen ... Sherrodsville
Robert Quillen Jr ... Hamilton
Phyliss Wagner ... Masury
Julie Zimmer ... Howard