



The Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Official Publication

OHIO RURAL LETTER CARRIER

Association Year 2023-2024 - Issue Number 2



OHIO's Attendees at the 2023 NRLCA National Convention in Grand Rapids MI

Special PAC Raffle
Prize to be drawn at the Fall Booster

Limited Edition Pony Express
Ticket Coupon on page 13

2023 Fall Booster

November 4-5, 2023

Retirement Seminar

RRECS Information

Update on Healthcare

Free Lunch

Registration coupon on page 12



Table Of Contents



Page 3	Worship Corner
Page 4	We no longer have a Union?
Page 5	Back to Business
Page 6-7	Membership Report - Upcoming Events
Page 8	You are the Union
Page 9	Take care of yourself
Page 10	Call to Action
Page 11	Electronic Fund Transfers
Page 12	Fall Booster Information
Page 13	Fall Booster Raffle

Page 14	National Convention Delegates
Page 15	Veterans Club
Page 16	DR Stewards Report
Page 18	RRECS Training
Page 19	District Meeting Details
Page 20	Board Minutes
Page 21	In Memory
Page 22	New Members & Recent Retirees
Page 23	Auxiliary
Page 24	Upcoming events and A Word from the Editor

Established in 1929 by H. I. Carpenter. Published in Ohio. Entered as Non-Profit mail at the Post Office in Youngstown, Ohio.

Non-Profit Postage is paid in Youngstown, Ohio. Subscription Price - \$10.00 per year.

Contributions may, at times, be opinions expressed by the writers and do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the State Officers or Editor of the Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association.



Send change of Address for all Association mailings to:

OHLCA Secretary-Treasurer Koren

104 Clay Rd SW

Dellroy OH 44620-9757

OHLCA State Board

President

Timothy Barker

4395 Cook Road
New London, Ohio 44851
Phone: (419) 901-0900
president@ohrlca.org

Executive Board

Lisa Heaton

705 Drury Lane
Troy, Ohio 45373
Phone: (937) 215-0262
lisa.heaton@ohrlca.org

Nathan Acker

194 Long Trail
Ostrander, Ohio 43061
Phone: (740) 361-8934
nathan.acker@ohrlca.org

Teresa Slaughter

5670 Cottage Hill Road
Nashport, Ohio 43830
Phone: (740) 624-2734
teresa.slaughter@ohrlca.org

Diana Garner

1 Sutton Brooke Ct
Middletown OH 45044
513-594-1478
djgarner4@gmail.com

Vice-President

Michael Aitchison

7805 Lafayette Plain City Rd
Plain City, Ohio 43064
Phone: (614) 623-5878
maitchison@ohrlca.org

Secretary/Treasurer

Penny Koren

104 Clay Road SW
Dellroy, Ohio 44620-9757
Phone: (330) 735-2727
secretary@ohrlca.org

PAC Co-Chairs

Mark Funderburgh
7450 N River Rd
Springfield OH 45502
937-605-4067
funge63@yahoo.com

PAC Co-Chairs

Fred Schmits II
2008 Eastview Dr
Findlay OH 45840
419-304-8036
fredschmits@gmail.com

State Editor

Kyle Parsells
4810 Elyria Ave
Lorain OH 44055
editor@ohrlca.org

State Chaplain

Rita Beedy
5318 Springfield Urbana Pk.
Urbana, Ohio 43078-9420
Phone: 937-484-3671
happy.maillady.chaplin@gmail.com

WORSHIP CORNER



Rita Beedy
State Chaplain

Fall Greetings

DEAR Brother and Sister Carriers!

Hi! I just want to say, "I love you and am praying for you"! As I'm sitting here typing this, I am a bit chilly, the air conditioning is off, and the windows open with a nice cool breeze. My favorite time of the year is coming, FALL! The colors,

the smells, the flavors (any other pumpkin spice lovers out there?) the crops being taken in, (the corn especially so we can see around corners...) the cooler weather... I Love It!

This article is my place to encourage you.

Encourage verb give support, confidence, or hope to (someone).



Similar: hearten, cheer, buoy up, uplift, inspire, motivate—give support and advice to (someone) so that they will do or continue to do something.

My advice to you is to keep on keeping on. The days ahead are the hardest of our year, but You Have Got This!! We are a rare breed, Rural Carriers. There is no other group I would be prouder to be part of, and I am not kidding. We are strong, steady, perseverant, capable, **helpful, caring... I could go on and on...! It would thrill my heart if I could motivate you to remain strong and sure.

Similar: persuade, coax, urge, press, push, pressure- help or stimulate (an activity, state, or view) to develop

I would like to persuade/coax you to become more active in our Association. I won't pressure you, just **strongly recommend...** :) There are so many opportunities to learn and serve others. Please, encourage others to join if they aren't and to participate in events like District meetings, Fall Booster, State Convention, and even National Convention!

Speaking of National convention, it was good to see so many first-time people at National Convention! There were 153 this year! There is a daily newsletter put out and you can put in ads like this one from Ohio...

"The OHRLCA would like to welcome our first-time Delegates, Cheryl Wheeler, Samuel Raver, Nathan Acker, Misty Ackers, and Holli Mosley. We also welcome our three first-time non-delegates Angie Bettinger, Darci Schmerge, and Chris Lochard, all from District 13."! (I forgot one name in the one at National but remembered you this time.) I sure would like to do another next year with all your names!

** I would just like to thank all who were so helpful at the convention. Things like explaining things to new ones, and sometimes old ones who still don't know everything; opening doors for each other, making people comfortable, sharing snacks in the long days.. so much caring! Thank you. Well, I better quit rambling on. Please, know you are loved and prayed for, for your safety, strength, patience, kindness, and that you would also receive all the fore mentioned from others!!

HUGS AND PRAYERS

Rita



State's Chaplains Seminar at the NRLCA National Convention





We No Longer Have a Union? What??

**Tim Barker
President**

Hello Ohio,

Yes, my brothers and sisters there are a couple of people that think our union does not do anything for them. Really?

They think we would be better off to decertify the NRLCA and look for another union.

Ladies and gentlemen, that would be the worst thing that could happen. We would lose everything that our union forefathers have provided us with, and I mean everything.

Everything is at risk, meaning the national agreement would be nullified and everything would have to be re-negotiated without any assurance that it would be reinstated.

Some examples of things at risk are salary rates and guaranteed increases, including twice a year COLA adjustments, EMA rates, grievance and arbitration provisions, just cause protections for discipline and termination, no layoff provisions, seniority rights, scheduling rights, protections from subcontracting, all your benefits including health insurance, life insurance and retirement benefits, work rules, and representation from your union stewards.

Management will have all the power to set wages and working conditions and there is no guarantee that you will be represented by another union. Teamsters have already released a statement that they are not interested in representing rural carriers.

If you don't think there are serious conditions out there that need addressed, just ask the 45,000 people that didn't receive payroll checks for pay period 18.

We need our union members to step up, not out. Step up and help fight the USPS. Fight to keep and better our contract and work conditions.

Help solve the problem, don't be the problem.

We need to be more unified now then ever before!

Together we are 127,00 strong fighting for a better tomorrow, divided we are no more than an at-will employee that will take whatever scraps the USPS feeds us or go elsewhere for employment.

We could lose it all.

Your President a proud union member,

Timothy A. Barker

**Decertification of the NRLCA
will end all the benefits you enjoy today!**



**President Barker proudly carrying the Ohio State Flag
during the Parade of the States
at the NRLCA National Convention**



Michael Aitchison
Vice-President

Back to Business

Over the years during my career, rural carriers often queried why a yearly average of certain items couldn't be managed rather than taking the number from a mail count period. A more accurate yearly average could be derived for certain items that were already recorded, such as accountable mail, and others that could be easily recorded, such as clearance slips and

box holders. These particular suggestions were never codified into the negotiated contract, but things change, and technology really can change things. What with the scanner, GPS, automated mail, and the computer with extraordinary memory capabilities, there is very little in our duties that cannot be tracked for a year. And so, the pendulum swings to the complete opposite end of the spectrum.

All this, combined with rural routes not having been counted in the last five years, and even longer for some, creates a condition where the evaluation of most routes does not accurately reflect the route. Consequently, as a result of the mini mail survey, most routes' evaluations changed.

Some went up, some went down, and some went substantially down. Had these changes been reflected as they occurred over time, the drastic changes would have been more gradual and easier to adjust to rather than such a major shift all at once.

When surveyed, rural carriers who have experienced this dramatic loss of evaluation, i.e., Income, have expressed to me that though they would still be angry and disappointed, this change would be easier to accept if they could just verify the numbers.

It is my opinion that prior to the RRECS, most rural carriers were able to take the numbers that they were able to verify and have the evaluation of the route computed to within a minute or two before the USPS could get them done! The Rural Letter Carriers' Association even provided a "mail count calculator" on its website for rural carriers to use to this end.

Apparently, the concept of transparency did not rate as high as getting the project functional and in place.

It may have taken longer to initiate if the ability to verify the numbers and that the reports would match the circumstances of each day were a priority. I think it would have been worth the extra time.

While there are bugs in the system to be worked out, the USPS cannot neglect or ignore the importance of transparency in the RRECS process and the ability to verify the numbers that determine our paychecks.

On another note:

My congratulations to the new Executive Board of the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association!

Don Maston was elected our new President; Patrick Pitts was elected our new Vice-President; Thomas Turner was re-elected as our Secretary/Treasurer; Bridget Boseak was re-elected unopposed as our Director of Labor Relations; Shirley Baffa was re-elected as our Director of Steward Operations. On the National Executive Committee, Nicky Phillips was re-elected Executive Committeeman (one year); Jeanette Dwyer remains Executive Committeeman (two year); John Adams remains Executive Committeeman (three year), and Kirby Ricketts was newly elected Executive Committeeman (four year)!

As the National Board will be preparing for contract negotiations with the USPS to begin early next year, there were a large number of resolutions to be considered at the National Convention in Grand Rapids, MI, this year. To explain the importance of resolutions, which are sent up through a States' Districts and the State Conventions, resolutions express to the National Board what the membership wants to see in a contract.

There were seventeen Constitutional Amendments submitted for consideration, with five additional amendments to be considered if an amendment to go to a biennial convention was passed. It was not necessary to consider the five additional amendments.

The Appeals Committee reported on four appeals. Of the four, two were from a carrier in Ohio. All four reports were approved by the conventioners.

The Fall Board and Booster meeting is slated for November 4th and 5th at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, OH. This fall, we will be hosting a retirement seminar presented by Joni Montroy. Her presentation will be on Sunday morning. It will be followed with a provided lunch for those who have sent in their pre-registration coupon. After lunch, we will have the NSS stewards available to entertain questions concerning not only RRECS but also any other issues that may be pressing at the moment. The afternoon will conclude with any other business that needs to be addressed and with the drawing of the winners for the Henry rifles. Tickets for the drawings will be available at the Saturday evening reception up until the drawing. The reception on Saturday evening will include Bingo and a re-gifting silent auction. Bring along something that you plan on re-gifting to donate to PAC. It will be used in a silent auction and possibly as prizes for the bingo games.

Remember. Bring your re-gifting items to donate to PAC and be prepared to bid!!

In your service,

Michael D. Aitchison



Penny Koren
Secretary-Treasurer

Membership Recruitment Incentives

OHRLCA Brothers and Sisters, Ohio has 854 non-members. If your office has received a new RCA or ARC, recruit them to become a member of the NRLCA. The NRLCA is paying an incentive to any member who recruits a non-member. The incentive is \$50 for a Regular carrier and \$15 for a

Relief carrier. The recruiter must write their name, address, and EIN on the 1187 to receive the incentive. Help keep our Association strong by recruiting a non-member today. The 1187 authorization for dues withholding form is available on the ohrlca.org website.

As of August 30, 2023, the Membership Analysis prepared by the National Office has Ohio's total membership at 4173. We have a decrease of 61 members from this date last year. Our union is only as strong as the number of members we have.

FALL CONFERENCE / SEMINAR

November 4 – 5, 2023, at the Embassy Suites, 5100 Upper Metro Pl, Dublin, OH. Saturday evening, a welcome reception is planned with Bingo for PAC. Sunday will start with a retirement seminar presented by retirement specialist Joni Montroy. Register for the free lunch for members (coupon included in this paper). The NSS Steward will be on hand to present and answer questions. The winner will be drawn for the limited-edition pony express rifle at the end of the seminar. The agenda has something for every member. Please register to attend.

OPEN SEASON WILL BE HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW IT

Each year, Open Season runs from the Monday of the second full workweek in November through the Monday of the second full workweek in December. This year's dates are November 14 – December 12, 2023. If you wish to make a change to your healthcare, this is when you must do it. Compare the different Federal Employees Health Benefit Plans and rate and choose wisely. While the 2024 FEHB premiums are made public in October every year, at the time this article was prepared, the new rates had not been published. Please check the NRLCA website, The OPM website, and your mailbox for the announcement of the 2024 Rural Carrier Benefit Plan RCBP premiums!

OPEN SEASON IS ALSO A TIME TO OPEN A FLEXIBLE SPENDING

What is a flexible spending account (FSA)? FSA are tax-advantaged accounts that let you use pre-tax dollars to pay for eligible medical expenses. You can use an FSA to save, on average, 30 percent on healthcare costs. Don't think of it as money deducted from your paycheck – think of it as money added to your wallet. Read all about the advantages at <https://healthequity.com/learn/flexible-spending-account>.

RETIREES AND HEALTH INSURANCE

Are you planning on retiring soon? Keeping Health Insurance coverage into retirement has a few requirements to remain eligible. You must be enrolled in a Federal Employee Health Benefit Program for five years immediately before retiring. For the Rural Carrier Health Benefit Plan, you must also either pay your retiree dues in cash or fill out Form 1187-R for retired dues withholding. Retirees have 90 days after retirement to sign up as a member. The dues withholding form 1187 that you signed when you joined the union as a carrier does not transfer into retirement. Form 1187-R will be sent to you after your retirement by the state secretary. Complete this form as soon as possible after you retire, making sure to include your CSA number and forward it to the State Secretary. Dues of \$7.83 will be deducted once a month from your annuity check, or you may elect to become a cash dues member and pay \$94 cash yearly.

Will your spouse have health insurance if you pass away before them?

Surviving Spouse Health Insurance Coverage also has requirements:

- Elect a Survivor Annuity Benefit. The premium is deducted from the Survivor Annuity Benefit. (You must maintain NRLCA membership to be in the RCBP.)
- Be Enrolled in Self Plus One or Family Coverage when retiree dies

Take time to sit down and review all that is afforded to you and make adjustments as needed for you and your family's needs.

OHRLCA DISTRICTS

A big "Thank You" goes to all the 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 officer's deposits will be made into each District's Share Account in mid-October. The deposits will be calculated on the formula of \$10.00 per each regular and relief carrier member as of June 30, 2023.

2024 NATIONAL DELEGATE NOMINATING BALLOT

The National Magazine's December - April 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 want to nominate someone else, fill out the nominating ballot and mail it to the Ohio PO Box listed in the National Magazine.

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 MY OFFICE at 330-735-2727.

RURAL CARRIER WHO PASSES AWAY

Please contact me regarding any Rural Carrier who passes away. 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.

DO YOU HAVE A NEW ADDRESS?

If you have moved or are planning on moving, you must contact your state secretary with your new address. You must supply your new address to the USPS if actively employed or OPM if retired.

VETERANS' DAY NOVEMBER 11, 2023

Veterans Day is a time for us to pay our respects to those who have served. For one day, stand united in respect for our Veterans. This holiday started as a day to reflect upon the heroism of those who died in our country's service and was originally called Armistice Day. It fell on November 11 because that is the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice that ended World War I. However, in 1954, the holiday was changed to "Veterans Day" to account for all veterans of all wars.

Please celebrate and honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Union Proud
Secretary-Treasurer



Cost of Living Raise Effective August 26, 2023

Pursuant to the release of the July 2023 Consumer Price Index - Urban Wage and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), and in accordance with Article 9.1.E, the fifth COLA adjustment of the 2021-2024 National Agreement will result in a \$999.00 increase for eligible rural carriers.

This COLA adjustment will be effective August 26, 2023, (PP 2023-19). All COLA adjustments are based on a 40-hour evaluation with proportional application to those route evaluations over 40 hours.

The increase should have appeared on paychecks dated September 15, 2023.

In accordance with Article 9.1.E.3, full COLA adjustments will apply to Table One and new Step 15 of Table Two.

COLA adjustments to Steps 1 through 14 of Table Two will be adjusted proportionally to each step's percentage of Step 15. This will serve to bring Table Two schedule (Step 15) employees to the same pay level as Table One (Step 12) employees, thereby eliminating the pay differential between Table Two and Table One employees at the top step and for the rest of their careers.

NOTE: All leave replacement employees will receive an additional 1% salary adjustment annually in lieu of COLA adjustments.

Updated pay schedules will be posted in a future edition of the *National Rural Letter Carrier Magazine*.

Do you need to be off work due to an illness or injury that is not related to Workers Compensation?

If you find you have a health issue or an injury that will require you to be off work for an extended length of time Please contact me before you use all of your earned leave. I may be able to assist you..

OHRLCA Secretary-Treasurer
Penny Koren
330-735-2727



You Are the Union

You are the union. We hear that all the time. But what does it mean? It means knowledge is power, and as an informed craft, we are a more influential craft.

Lisa Heaton
Executive
Committeeman

Attendance is up at state, special events, and district meetings, proving our craft wants to educate themselves on workplace issues

and RRECS training. Our members want to be more involved in strengthening and learning our contractual rights. Being informed is not only an important part of our career, but it is essential now with all the changes happening with the rural craft.

Highlights and upcoming events:

*State Convention had 27 first-timers attend. Each stated they learned much and will attend more state and local meetings. Many were seasoned carriers who took information back to their office to share with other carriers.

* In August, the NSS Stewards spent a Sunday Afternoon answering questions about the RRECS system. Hopefully, we can facilitate this again as the RRECS process evolves.

*Our 14 local districts will be having their fall meetings. Watch your mailbox for your district's meeting details. Each local meeting has a steward attend to bring education and assist carriers with issues and questions.

*Our last large informational event of the year will be the Fall Booster. This year, we will be hosting the Retirement Specialist Joni Montroy. Joni has presented seminars for National, State, and Area Conferences and has helped rural carriers transition into retirement stress-free. Since this is such an in-demand topic our members request, we are designating the entire morning for her to educate us on what we need to be doing today so that we can retire with the lifestyle we would like to enjoy in the future. The previous time we had Joni in for a retirement presentation attendance was very high. In the afternoon, we will have the NSS stewards available for more RRECS updates and will be available for carrier questions and concerns. Information and reservation information are included in this issue.

Please consider attending the many educational opportunities your state and local organizations have set up for our members, this is how and where we learn and network together.

Lisa Heaton



National Convention Experiences

I've recently returned from our National Convention, and it was an honor to represent our district six members.

Teresa Slaughter
Executive
Committeeman

Although we were there on business, it felt like a family reunion. We saw our brothers and sisters from around our

state, as well as nationwide. We conducted the business we were there for and luckily had evenings for socializing.

We voted on constitutional changes, as well as hundreds of resolutions. National officers were elected. Congratulations to the newly elected officers.

Grand Rapids is a beautiful city, and I enjoyed walking around town admiring the architecture.

On one venture out exploring, I came across an ice cream shop that also had handmade chocolates. There were several museums within walking distance for everyone to enjoy, and the beautiful river walk for some quick relaxation between sessions.

Think about becoming more involved in YOUR union, come to your fall meetings, the fall booster or consider being a delegate to your state or national convention next year.

Union proud,

Teresa Slaughter





Diana Garner
Executive
Committeeman

Take Care of You

After many years of repetitive movements during our work days (bending, grabbing, lifting, twisting), our bodies may need extra care that was overlooked in the past. Stretching is a quick and easy way to take care of you and hopefully improve your overall well-being. I know the last thing you may want to do before or after work is more “work”, but the time put into any exercise routine or just some simple stretches may improve your quality of life and prolong your career!

Please seek medical care if you experience an unusual amount of pain with any exercise. I hope to see my fellow Ohio rural letter carriers at future district meetings, but in the meantime.....

Take care of your body, its the only place you have to live.
Jim Rohn

BENEFITS OF STRETCHING

Injury prevention and less muscle soreness

Stretching before and after physical activities help warm the body up, thereby decreasing the risk of injury and muscle soreness.

Increased flexibility and joint range of motion

Flexible muscles can improve your daily performance. Tasks such as lifting packages and bending down become easier and less tiring.

Improved circulation

Stretching increases blood flow to your muscles. Blood flowing to your muscles brings nourishment and gets rid of waste in the muscle tissue thereby shortening recovery period.

Better posture

Frequent stretching can help keep your muscles from getting tight, allowing you to maintain proper posture.

Stress relief

Stretching relaxes tight, tense muscles that often accompany stress.





Fred Schmits II
PAC Co-Chair

My Call to Action

Hello, my fellow Ohio rural carriers!

After the State Convention in June, I received a phone call from President Tim Barker and the state board while on my route. He asked me to be your new Ohio PAC Co-chair. I chuckled and said, 'Absolutely!' with a

smile.

Now, Mark Funderberg and I are leading the charge to raise money for NRLCA PAC.

Why do we raise money for PAC? Well, to give PAC Funds to our leaders in Washington for the betterment of Rural Carriers. Would you like to buy back all your RCA time or get more money when you retire from the Postal Service?

There are two bills:

H. R. 4268, the Federal Retirement Fairness Act - This bill would allow eligible employees to once again "buy back" their substitute time towards retirement.

H. R. 82, the Social Security Fairness Act - The repeal and elimination of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) has enjoyed large bipartisan support in Congress. GPO and WEP unfairly reduce Social Security benefits rural letter carriers earn upon retirement. These bills will help our careers and give us more money in our pockets...we all want more money, right?!

My goal is to increase our Ohio PAC contributions; some of the places to contribute to PAC are our district meetings, state conventions, and fall boosters, where PAC has items for purchase. Another way to contribute money is via Payroll Allotments or Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT). On the next page are instructions for doing an Allotment or EFT from your bank checking account.

If you contribute, thank you for your donations, and please continue your support! I look forward to meeting you at a district meeting or state function.

Until the next state paper, be safe!!!

Fred Schmits, II
Ohio PAC Co-Chair

Signing up for Withholding (Allotment)

Active carriers may elect to use one of their three payroll

allotments to donate every two weeks. You must sign up for withholding exclusively through PostalEase.

Have readily available your 8-digit Employee ID Number (on your paycheck stub) and your 4-digit USPS PIN or password. If you don't have your USPS PIN, you will need to call PostalEase at: 877-477-3273. Press #1 for PostalEase. When prompted, enter your employee identification number. When prompted for your pin, pause, and then press #2. Your PIN will be mailed to your address on the next business day.

Steps for signing up online:

1. Add your Employee I.D. number to the end of the 9-digit NRLCA-PAC account (163055555) to create your PostalEase account number.
2. Now you are ready to log into liteblue.usps.gov.
3. Enter your employee I.D. number and password, then click "log on."
4. Click on "PostalEase."
5. Click on "I Agree."
6. Enter your Employee I.D. and password again and log in.
7. Click on "Allotments/Payroll NTB."
8. Click on "Continue."
9. Click on "Allotments."
10. Enter the following Financial Institution routing number: 051400549.
11. Enter your NRLCA account number: 163055555, followed by your Employee I.D. (No hyphens, No breaks, 17 digits total).
12. Enter the account type as "Checking."
13. Enter the amount you want to be taken out every two [2] weeks — not the amount you want to give yearly.
14. Click on "Validate."
15. Click on "Submit."
16. Click on "print page" to see and print your confirmation number for your records.

Support NRLCA-PAC

Sign up for Electronic Fund Transfer

A monthly deduction from your checking account on the
5th of each month

(Unless the 5th happens to fall on the weekend or a Holiday)



Questions?

Please contact **Nicole Dunn**,
Assistant to the Director of
Governmental Affairs

ndunn@nrlca.org

703.684.5545 Ext. 216

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

\$45 \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 Other: \$ _____

Date: _____

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Employee ID Number: _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

By making a NRLCA-PAC
Electronic Fund Transfer
Authorization, you are doing so
voluntarily with the
understanding that your
monthly contribution is not a
condition of membership in the
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association or employment by
the Postal Service nor part of
union dues and that NRLCA-
PAC will use the money it
receives to contribute to
candidates for federal office as
permitted by the law.

You are also making this
Electronic Fund Transfer
authorization understanding
that the NRLCA-PAC
contributions are not tax
deductible, and your selection
shall remain in full force and
effect until you cancel by
notifying the NRLCA-PAC in
writing.

Please attach a voided check

Send to NRLCA-PAC

1630 Duke St, Floor 2
Alexandria, VA 22314

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
October 12, 2023*

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/orlcafallmeeting23-91e/>

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

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



Fall Booster Agenda

11/4 6:00 - 10:00 pm Welcome Reception, food, beverages, bingo for PAC

11/5 9:00 am - Noon - Retirement Seminar

Presented by Joni Montroy

Noon - 1:30 pm

Lunch

1:30

Informational Meeting begins (Stewards & Speakers)

4:45 pm

Henry Rifle drawing.

**IN ORDER TO HAVE
SUFFICIENT FOOD AND
RETIREMENT BOOKS
YOU MUST REGISTER BY
OCTOBER 12TH**

**You must check each event you are planning on attending
reception, lunch and retirement seminar!**

OHRLCA 2023 FALL BOOSTER REGISTRATION

ONE MEMBER PER REGISTRATION COUPON

**MUST BE RECEIVED BY
OCTOBER 12, 2023**



**FILL THIS COUPON AND
SEND IT TO:**

**Lisa Heaton
705 Drury Lane
Troy OH 45373**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone _____

Welcome Reception ____ Lunch ____ Retirement Seminar _____

REGISTRATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY
OCTOBER 12, 2023



Mark Funderburgh
PAC Co-Chair

**Do you want your
sub time credited
toward retirement?**

Ohio, we need your help. One way to get our voice heard in Washington, D.C., is to contact our Senators and Representatives; the best way is to have a face-to-face meeting. How do we do this? We need money and lots of it.

If you wish to get credit for all or part of your substitute time with the Post Office, you need to contact your Representatives and Senators to push the buyback bill that is still in Committee (hopefully, it will be re-introduced in mid-September). Contact the House of Representatives at (202)-224-3121 and ask for your representative.

You will have to be vigilant as they remove all voicemails on Mondays and start over. Leave a message asking your representative to support the bill and that you are a rural carrier and you want your sub time to be credited for retirement.

We will have a drawing at the fall booster for all sustaining donors on the rolls by November 3, 2023. The drawing is for \$500.00, and the second is for \$250.00 cold hard cash.

PAC will have a BIG announcement after the Fall Booster for the next big items at the State Convention and the reverse raffle. We are raising the bar and shooting for the stars this year; we can't do it without your help. This is your job insurance, so please donate!

Mark Funderburgh

**For the Fall Booster
bring along something
that you plan on
re-gifting to donate to
PAC and be prepared
to bid!!**

**It will be used in a silent
auction and possibly
as prizes for the bingo
games.**

OHRLCA / PAC HENRY RIFLE RAFFLE

NUMBERED LIMITED EDITION

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN



Henry .22cal Rifle Golden Boy Edition

**OHRLCA PAC 2023 FALL BOOSTER
RAFFLE DRAWING
OCTOBER 12, 2023**

Henry Rifle Raffle

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

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO:**
NRLCA-PAC

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



**FILL THIS COUPON
AND SEND IT WITH
YOUR PAYMENT TO:**

Mark Funderburgh
7450 N River Rd
Springfield OH 45502

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

How Many Tickets Are You Purchasing? _____

*Drawing to be held November 5th at the
Fall Booster Meeting*


Holli Mosley

First National Convention

In the past, I have gone to my local union meetings but didn't get too involved. This year, I challenged myself. If I'm going to complain about the way things are going, I had better do something about it. In the spring, I signed up to be a delegate and a teller at my first State Convention. Seeing how the resolution process worked prepared me for the National Convention. As a teller, I learned a little about the ballot counting process and why it takes so long. Those things sure do like to stick together!

On to National Convention! Grand Rapids was my first, but not last, National Convention. I was lucky enough to become a delegate, meaning my voice would be heard. Social media did not prepare me properly for this. I was looking forward to an easy ride and vacation, as they promised. Instead, I was met with long hours in session. Don't get me wrong, I did enjoy seeing the inner workings, but I think I put in more hours there than I do on my route. Fun fact: The golf tournament is not funded by the NRLCA. It is funded by the participants and takes place before the convention begins.

I broke bread with fellow carriers at the Lady Carriers Luncheon and the Banquet, which are meals for which I purchased tickets. During these meals, we talked with carriers from other states and discussed our thoughts on upcoming issues. I made friends with other first-timers, but I did not golf or dance. Most nights, I returned to my room to read over resolutions, appeals, and constitutional amendments. I also attended a TSP and retirement seminar.

It was neat to see the resolutions and changes we set forth at State be heard and voted upon on the National floor. As each item is brought in front of the body, carriers get to speak their piece. I listened to people from around the country and heard things they were facing that I would have never thought of because my small town is not affected by such things. Anyone can submit these resolutions to make a change.

On the final day, we held elections for National Officers. This is a big undertaking. These people are the future. We are the future. At both conventions that I attended, I noted which delegates had the same views as myself or had the good of the craft in mind. Delegates are the people YOU elect to stand up and be YOUR voice when you cannot attend. Did you know that when the last contract was voted on, only 28% of Ohio members in good standing voted? I can only imagine the percentage that voted for delegates. I know not everyone can attend conventions. I encourage you to go to a local meeting to get to know the people running. Find the people who most closely align with how you would vote. Those are the people you want to send to vote in your place. Voting is won by a majority. WE are the Union. We need to be the majority in order to make the change.

To quote Ralph Chaplin, "In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold, greater than the might of armies, magnified a thousandfold. We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old, for the union makes us strong." Please step up and be the change! I have so much to learn, but I look forward to the adventure. Thank you to everyone who encouraged me to become a delegate.

Solidarity Forever,
Holli Mosley

43 Regular Delegates who Represented Ohio at the NRLCA National Convention

Penny Koren
Catherine Funderburgh
Michael D Aitchison
Carla B Dedden
Mark Funderburgh
Timothy Barker
Lori Todd
Diane M Cox
Lisa Heaton
Janna Hirschfeld
Misty Gamerdinger
Sandy Laramie
Ron Ellis Jr
Tuwana K Aitchison
Matt Burke
Erik Hirschfield

Rita Beedy
Nathan Acker
Patsy Hickie
Norman Humphrey
Randy C Childers
Teresa Slaughter
Barbara D Perkins
Diana Garner
Dale L Schwartz
Diana (Dee) Brown
Helen Cline
Carla Daniels
Jody A Schuler
Misty Akers
Scot Sample
Laura Bailey

Elaine Ferguson
Lee Tipple
Katlyn Tipple Thomas
Peggy Ferneding
Darlene Stewart
Michelle Lewallen
Pamela Frey
Mike Crawford
Chery Wheeler
Samuel A Raver
Holli Mosley

Alternate Delegates

Shannon Guess
Shelia Hattan

First-Time Delegates

Nathan Acker
Misty Akers
Chery Wheeler
Samuel A Raver
Holli Mosley

First-Time Non-Delegates

Darcy Schmerge
Angie Bettinger
Chris Lochard



Lee Tipple
Veterans Club
President

Scholarships

The Armed Forces Veterans Club is proud to announce that we have given away a total of \$1,500 in scholarship money this year. We would like to congratulate those recipients and wish them good luck in their studies!

As we move forward if there is anyone individually or any district that would like to donate to our program in order to help keep it running smoothly and allow us to keep helping others, please feel free to reach out to us at any time.

In other news we had a change in one of our officers. Please welcome Katlyn Tipple-Thomas as our new Secretary Treasurer who replaced our former Secretary Treasurer Diane Cox.

The 2022-2023 Armed Forces Veterans Club Officers are as follows:

President Lee Tipple,
 Vice President Kim Dakin
 Secretary Treasurer Katlyn Tipple-Thomas.

If you are interested in joining the Armed Forces Veterans Club, or if you would like more information, like to make a donation, or just have questions in general, please feel free to reach out to President Tipple. You may contact Lee Tipple at 740-438-3910, but please leave a message if there is no answer.





OHIO NRLCA STEWARD DIRECTORY

Ohio 1 & Ohio 2 Districts

Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number
Catherine Funderburgh	PO Box 96	Clifton	OH	45316	C: 937-471-0491 O: 937-265-5477
Assistant District Representatives:					
Name	Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone Number
OH 1 Lori Todd	PO Box 1281	Salem	OH	44460	O: 234-284-5233
OH 1 Scot Sample	PO Box 941	Uniontown	OH	44685	O: 330-224-0199
OH 2 Ronald Kelhoffer	PO Box 862	Springboro	OH	45066	O: 937-902-5310
OH 2 Misty Gamberdinger	PO Box 6036	Chillicothe	OH	45601	O: 740-503-0295
Area Steward					
Robert Scherer	Chesapeake, Crown City, Gallipolis, Piketon, Portsmouth, Ripley, South Webster, West Union, and Wheelersburgh				PH: 740-250-3123



Ohio 1 and Ohio 2 Steward Report

Overburdened Routes:

In accordance with Article 9.2.C.8.b overburden routes are entitled to auxiliary assistance if the regular carrier work hours exceed 48 hours in a work week or the difference in standard hours above 57:36. Both scenarios are the lesser of the two. In most cases, the actual work hours are the deciding factor. For example, if the carrier works 50 hours in 5 days - he/she would be

entitled to two hours of auxiliary assistance for that week. If the carrier only works 47 hours - there is no entitlement to assistance since the carrier is being compensated for 48 hours. Note working the assigned relief day is already paid at the overtime rate. This question has come up a lot in the last few months.

Note: The Postal Service is currently testing the program to adjust routes. An overburden route will be cut to 53:00 standard hours (43K) unless the office has gone formula and the carrier selected a Tues, Wed or Thursday as their relief day. If that situation applies, the route may be adjusted to 55:00 standard hours (45K). That language may be found in Article 9.2.C.5.d(1)

RCAs affecting Evaluation: Under the old mail count system, the leave replacements would work the normal relief days on your route twice in a two-week mail count period (K routes). This would be roughly 17% of the yearly route evaluation. Under RRECS, unfortunately, we have very few K routes left. So, let's use a

J route as an example. There would be 26 relief days in a one-year period. That is less than 9% of the yearly evaluation in which a leave replacement was on the route. If we add two weeks of vacation in addition to the 26 relief days, the percentage of the leave replacement affecting your route evaluation will increase to 12%. In other words, the leave replacement affecting the route evaluation is less under the RRECS standards than in the old mail count system.

However, this does not excuse anyone (regulars or leave replacements) from doing all the scans. I have had carriers tell me that the leave replacements are not doing the scans. Upon receipt of the MDD scan report, I'm finding that the regulars are missing just as many scans as the leave replacements. Please ensure that the 26 available scans are being done when it is appropriate to be used.

Dispute Process: Other District Representatives, along with myself, were pushing for a service talk explaining the Dispute Process, and it was quickly rejected by the Postal Service.

Catherine Funderburgh
District Representative
Ohio 1 and Ohio 2
Districts

Yes, the disputes were supposed to be done by June 30th. Yes, the deadline was extended several times. Yes, the dispute process was changed on how they were to be handled at the district level. Yes, the DRs were finally given permission to seek help from their Assistants. Since the state convention, I have spent very little time at my house. If I was meeting in Ohio 2 district, I usually left the house around 4:30 AM and did not return until sometime after 6:00 PM. Ohio 1 district, I literally would spend a week in the hotel while camping out in their cramped labor office. I literally packed up printers, office supplies, and computers, along with several file boxes. In fact, the week before the national convention, I was only home for 18 hours while trying to finish up the disputes. In other words, my assistants and I worked a lot of long hours, and I want to thank them for all their help. So why did it take so long? As previously mentioned, I had two districts to juggle.

Secondly, most disputes came with no information. Even though it was not our job, we tracked down the 4241As, the 4241Ms, the DPM summary pages, dismount worksheets, office walk worksheets, and the MMS survey sheets. Some managers were very uncooperative in providing the information, while others were more than happy to give us the requested information.

Common Disputes:

Mathematical Errors: A lot of disputes over math or comparing numbers from the various 4241As. The 4241As were not for comparison. The Postal Service realized that they had mathematical errors on them. For instance, instead of rounding the final number, the number was rounded, then multiplied by six days and rounded again. Most 4241As did not drop in total standard hours. The other main dispute was that the numbers did not add up correctly. The 4241M is in hundredths, while the 4241A standards are in hours and minutes. DPS letters/office time – If the office did not receive the withdrawal credit, there was no time credit here. Just like under the old mail count system, we are not compensated for casing DPS mail. It's still our option. Credit for DPS mail is under street time – verifying mail. If the office is a withdrawal office, the credit was for retrieving the trays of letter mail.

Service/Safety Talks: In this evaluation period, service/safety talks were recorded under miscellaneous time since a lot of managers across the country had failed to enter the daily or weekly minutes in MSS. The NRLCA and the Postal Service agreed to enter the time during the MMS (mini-mail survey). Apparently, most of the managers (not all) cannot complete the one duty of entering service/safety talks in RMSS. Our union has filed a national Step 4 on this issue. Once again, service/safety talks should be entered under miscellaneous time. **Lack of Training:** This was a no action. Yes, management did not train carriers, but management didn't understand the system. The NRLCA website had information on RRECS since April 2022. Numerous articles were published in the national and state magazines.

My stewards and I have covered RRECS for years at district and statewide meetings. The opportunity was there. Sometimes, we must bite the bullet and train ourselves. Knowledge is power. Please get the

most accurate information from the NRLCA website – not Facebook, as there is a lot of misinformation going around.

To quote one post I saw – stop giving out information/opinions as you are going to get someone fired. No truer words have been spoken. With the data collection, scanners, and cameras – management can track everything that we do or don't do. Don't like the new system: This was a no action. Arbitrator Jack Clarke made that decision for us back in 2012. Numerous meetings (district, state, and national) had made it very clear that this would be implemented.

Data Collection: This was no action. The data collection is not based on the internet service but on satellite. Information will show up. If you are having problems or think that there is a problem with your scanner – have management change the batteries. If that doesn't correct the issues, then have the scanner cradle replaced. **Route Length:** The old 4003 would round up on every number. For instance, instead of being credited with .7 of a mile, the old 4003 would round up to .10 miles. Over the course of several lines, miles could very easily be added. The data collection was tested by the NRLCA, and it was determined that it was only off by a few feet. Carriers may request that they remap their routes. If you are not happy with the results of the mileage, then an official route remeasurement may be requested. However, before an official remeasurement is requested, my suggestion is to go drive your route. Do not pull into driveways and drive down the road normally, meaning not pulling into boxes. One national officer was not happy with their mileage, drove their route, and found out that the RRECS system gave them more miles.

The first round of disputes was a nightmare as I wanted to win every one of them. But it quickly became quite clear that was not going to happen. It is a learning process, and I am hoping that the next round of disputes will come with better documentation.

All disputes should have at least the basic information of 4241-A, the complete 4241-M, and depending on what issue is being disputed – the LTM summary page, edit book summary page, MDD scan report for your route (not the whole office), RADAR report, etc. Several stewards spent the last 2.5 to 3 months tracking down basic information.

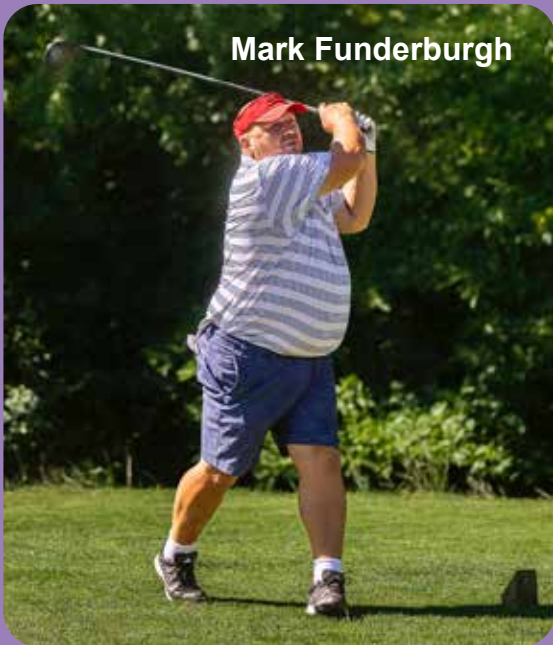
We will get through this TOGETHER.

Learning a new system is never easy, as I am still learning various aspects of it each day. Not to mention, issues/positions are changing daily. I encourage you to call if you are having issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine J. Funderburgh
District Representative

Thanks to all who came to the RRECS Mail Survey Training in Columbus!!



Mark Funderburgh

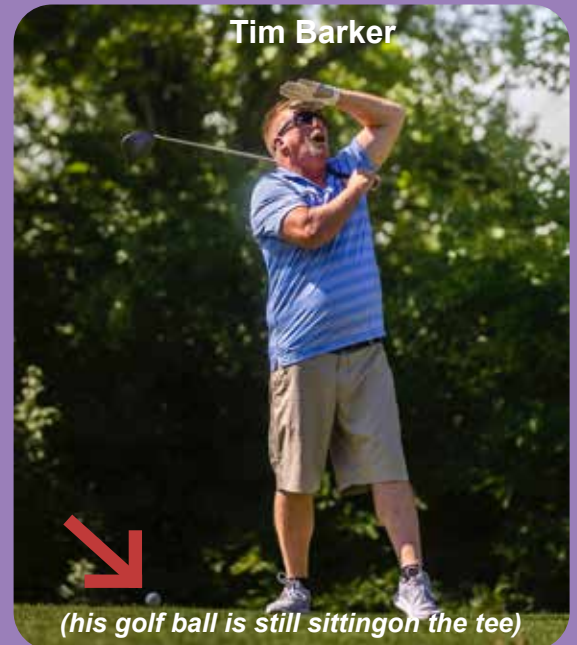
Delelgates

Represented

Ohio

in the

Golf



Tim Barker

(his golf ball is still sitting on the tee)



Michael Aitchison

National

Convention

Tournament



Diana Garner

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. 5:00 - 6:00 PM Q&A with Steward, 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 McConnelville 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 October 16th 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 robandedbwix@aol.com

District 11 Tuesday, September 19, 2023. Dinner at 6:00 PM and the Meeting 7:00 - 9:00 PM. 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.

How do you stay informed about your job?
Answer - Attend your District Meeting!



Board Meeting Minutes

Hampton Inn
5980 S High St
Columbus OH
August 26, 2023

Saturday, August 26, 2023, 11:00 AM

Present was President Barker, Vice President Aitchison, Secretary-Treasurer Koren, Committeemen Heaton, Acker, and Garner. Committeeman Slaughter was not in attendance.

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

Minutes: The Pre and Post Convention minutes were reviewed.

Financial Reports: The financial status of the Association was presented.

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

Budget: Committeeman Heaton presented the budget. Membership is continuing to decrease which will result in lower membership dues. We may need to adjust our future budget or revisit the procedures of the new hire orientations.

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

Fall Booster: The Fall Booster agenda was discussed, Joni Montroy will present Retirement and it was decided to have a Saturday Evening Welcome Reception with refreshments being served to our members. Bingo will be played, and the proceeds will be donated to PAC. Members will be encouraged to donate white elephant items to PAC at the Fall Booster.

National General Insurance: Ohio has not received additional quotes for the insurance. The insurance is being presented during new hire orientations.

Legislative: The fair retirement Bill (HR3721) has enough signers to be brought out of committee. We need to telephone our congressman in support!

PAC: PAC Co-chair Funderburgh joined the meeting. He reported that the #1 Pony Express Rifle brought \$5,000.00 during the auction at the National Convention. He also added that two (2) winning raffle ticket for the Pony Express Henry Rifle will be drawn at the Fall Booster on November 5, 2023. The next raffle item was

presented to the board.

District Officers' Training: The District Officers will be trained on Sunday August 27th.

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

National Convention Review: Ohio had 43 delegates and 2 Fully paid Alternate Delegates in attendance. Ohio also had 5 non-delegates attend the convention. It has been reported several convention attendees became ill with the co-vid virus. The virus may be a normal happening in our future.

State Paper: Newspaper articles are to be received by August 28 and November 13, 2023. Ohio's new editor will do the next paper and Secretary-Treasurer Koren will assist.

Ready Set Go: Conversation training was discussed, very few members are taking advantage of the program. It may be better served as a video, that would be available on the OHLCA.org web site.

Committeeman Heaton made a motion to compensate Koren Enterprises for the designing and printing of the rifle banner which will be taken to each district meeting, the motion passed.

New Hire Orientations: President Barker spoke with NRLCA Vice President Pitts about the new hire orientation and has requested to do the new hire presentation at each Rural Carrier Academy. NRLCA Vice President Pitts will consider the request.

Recruitment of Non-Members: As per the NRLCA Contract State Board Members may go into post offices to recruit new members. President Barker will assign board members to offices for the purpose of recruitment.

Adjourned 4:30 PM

Sunday, August 27, 2023, 8:00 AM

The OHLCA State Board met to set up the Ball Room for the District Officer's Training.

5:30 PM

The Board recapped the day's events. The District Officers Training had 38 of the 43 officers in attendance. Each officer received a new training booklet. The booklet has instruction on how to conduct a meeting, how to record minutes, how to keep accurate funds records, how to hold an election, retention of district record and the total deposit amount their district will receive from the state association. The LM-4 reports were filed for 11 of the 14 districts. The remaining districts must file their report within the next week to receive their annual deposits from the state association.

The Mini Mail Survey Training had 87 in attendance. DR Funderburgh, ADR Gamerdinger and ADR Sample conducted the training.

All in attendance received handouts. Many questions were answered. The OHRCA State Board was very pleased with the training and hopes to hold more trainings in the future.

Committeeman Acker made a motion to adjourn, the motion passed.

6:00 PM the meeting was adjourned.

Next Board Meeting
November 3, at 11:00 AM
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin, OH

Submitted by Penny Koren

Next Board Meeting

November 3rd, 2023, at 11:00 AM
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin, Ohio 43017

EMA s will increase 3.0¢ to 98.0¢ per mile.

On September 13, 2023, the Bureau of Labor Statistics released the August Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which established the Private Transportation Index at 279.590, an increase from the May 2023 Index of 271.037. Therefore, based on the August 2023 CPI-W release, the Equipment Maintenance Allowance (EMA) for rural carriers will increase 3.0¢ to 98.0¢ per mile. This EMA rate will be effective October 7, 2023 (Pay Period 22-2023).

Rural Carriers

In accordance with the provisions of Article 9, Section 2.J.3 of the USPS/NRLCA National Agreement, effective October 7, 2023 (Pay Period 22-2023), the Equipment Maintenance Allowance (EMA) will increase to 98.0¢ per mile, or a minimum of \$39.20 per day, whichever is greater.

Auxiliary Rural Carriers, Rural Carrier Reliefs, Rural Carrier Associates, Rural Carrier Part Time Flexibles, and Auxiliary Assistance

Employees providing auxiliary assistance or serving auxiliary routes under the provisions of Article 9, Section 2.J.5, will receive EMA of 98.0¢ per mile or \$10.40 per hour, whichever is greater. This EMA should not exceed the amount provided in the special EMA chart for route stops and miles.



Gayle Sweet

Gayle Jean Ryan Sweet Was born on October 1, 1952, in Peebles, Ohio, where her parents, Charlie and Millie, resided.

Gayle was the fourth generation of postal employees following her father, Charles Ryan, his father, Will Ryan, and his father, Christian Ryan. Gayle's daughter, Jennifer Lynette Johnson Bennington, is the fifth generation of rural carriers in Gayle's family.

Gayle was very proud of her postal heritage and passed this on with her pristine work ethic.

In 1977, Gayle began her 34-year career with the United States Postal Service. On Christmas Eve, she gave birth to Jennifer, the true love of her life. Many years later, Jennifer gave birth to Tanner. Gayle put Tanner on a pedestal, and he lived up to this by showing his love for Gayle.

Gayle started her postal career in Peebles, then transferred to Seaman, and finally to Winchester. Gayle served on all levels of the Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association State Board from President, Vice President, and Executive Committeeman. Gayle served many times on all committees that had duties to perform at each state convention. When Gayle was President of OHRCA, she helped initiate the College Book Grant program, which helped supplement tuition and scholarships for students.

Gayle also served many years on the District Joint Steering Committee, involved in the QWL/EI process meetings, and as an academy trainer. Gayle also held each office in Adams County OHRCA and later each office in District 11 OHRCA. She was the local steward at Winchester when she retired. Gayle's involvement in the above activities encouraged her daughter, Jennifer, to become involved. Jennifer has been District 11 President for many years and attends state conventions.

Gayle loved to travel, sing, and cook. She was active in West Union TOPS (she would give the Amish women rides to these meetings) and served in positions in the Peebles Alumni Association.

Gayle fought the cancer battle for years. She was in the care of the Ohio Valley Hospice of Hope at Adams County Regional Medical Center, where she was surrounded by her family and friends when she passed peacefully on July 19, 2023.

**Zachary Allen
Kaleb Anderson
Angie Ashcraft**

**Katie Gorman
Jacob Greene
Thomas Griffith
Caroline Hackney
Al Nisha Hayes**

**Graham Nielsen
Randy Nihart
Taylor Paynter
Sonda Perkins
Jennifer Pettry
Jalen Portis**

**Parker Topelin
Ulrich Truck
Abbigale Tufts
Allison Tyree
Ralph Vorys Jr
Douglas Walker
Rebecca Webb
Michael Wencel**

**James Ater
Melissa Baumbick
Alexander Bielskis
David Blaack
James Blazy III
Bruce Bosely
Mark Boyer
William Bryant
Austin Campbell
Charlie Collins
Paul Corney
Jennifer Dart
Timothy Davis
Joseph Eifort
Beth Finley
Kara Fite
Nathan Gainer I
Jonathan Gaydos**

**Kendra Hines
Kyle Holycross
Alayna Jones
Quincie Kehoe
Tasha Kenerly
Sheldon Kidd Sr
Helen King
Jacob Krauss
Rodney Matlock
Chad McCoy
Carrier McIntosh
Paige Mickley
Justin Miracle
Rick Moore
Melissa Munyan
Nick Neira
Issac Newman**

**Michelle Rasor
Bonnie Reynolds
Myranda Roberts
Alexis Rominger
Kayla Rowland
Chris Ruddy
Emma Saltsman
Jennifer Salyer
Tabbitha Senig
Glenn Sparks Jr
Carlleia Starks
Tiffany Steele
Lisa Stroup
Jesse Tinlin
Parker Topelin**

**Angelia Willoughby
Timothy Yauger
Shaye Young**

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

**Mary Amato..... Powell
Beverly Diltz..... South Charleston
Denise Drake New Vienna
Shellie Eickholt Delta
Rhonda Ellerbrock Findlay
Virgie Evangelista Sunbury
David Evans..... Eaton
Catherine Frame..... Louisville
John Higbea Defiance
Sherry Jarrett Bellevue
Robert Jones Newark**

**Selia Kabbaz Mansfield
Carolyn Kise Delaware
Robin Mendoza Richfield
Sharon Reece..... College Corner
Cindy Slane Paulding
David Spangler..... Chesapeake
Milton Spreng Loudonville
Doreen Teeter..... Bellbrook
Charles Timmons... East Liverpool
Jerry Withers Waynesburg**



Ohio Auxiliary News

Jodi Burke
Auxiliary President

NRLCA program: The HERO Company

Website: <https://theherocompany.co/>

Many, many Veterans returned home with serious trauma from war. This POST Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) drastically changed their lives and way too many have taken their lives battling this force alone. With no VA funding for service animals, many Veterans just cannot afford the cost of the trained dogs that they need.

With this in mind, The HERO Company was launched to fund service and companion animals for these Veterans suffering with PTSD at ZERO cost to them.

The Auxiliary will be selling raffle tickets for a quilt.

Drawing to be held at the 2024 National convention in Reno, NV. You do not need to be present.

Auxiliary members: I mailed you the meeting dates and the assignments. Please let me know if you get them.

SEPT MEETING Schedule

District	Meeting date	Aux Member
11	Sept. 19 (TUES)	Sandy
12	Sept 19 (TUES)	Diana
2	Sept 26 (TUES)	Jodi
10	Sept 26 (TUES)	Jerrica
14	Sept (THURS)	Sandy
1	Oct 5 (THURS)	Jodi
3	Oct 12 (THURS)	Diana
5	Oct 14 (SAT)	Jodi
6	Oct 14 (SAT)	Ron
9	OCT 18 (WED)	Sandy
8	OCT 19 (THURS)	Sandy
7	OCT 21 (SAT)	Jodi

OHRLCA 2023-2024 AUXILIARY BOARD

President

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

Secretary/Treasurer

Diana Hausfeld
P.O. Box 105
Minster, Ohio 45865
Phone: (419) 628-2433
diana@nktelco.net

Vice-President

Sandy Schwartz
10 Eastmoor Court
New Bremen, Ohio 45869
Phone: (419) 305-3800
skschwartz@nktelco.net

Board Member

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 26 – October 21, 2023
OHRLCA District Meetings

November 1, 2023
OHRLCA Spring District Meeting
details are due.

November 3, 2023. 11:00AM
OHRLC State Board Meeting
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin OH 43017

November 4, 2023. 9:00AM
OHRLC State Board Meeting
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin OH 43017

November 4-5, 2023
OHRLCA Fall Booster
Retirement Seminar
Rifle Raffle Drawing
**Bring a white elephant
item for PAC!**
Embassy Suites
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin OH 43017

November 13, 2023
State Paper Articles are Due.

December 2023 - April 2024
Nomination for Delegates to the
2024 National Convention

August 27- 30, 2024
NRLCA National Convention
Peppermill Resort and Casino
2707 S Virginia St
Reno NV

Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association
104 Clay Road SW
Dellroy, Ohio 44620-9757

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit #225
Youngstown, OH



A Word from the Editor



Kyle Parsells
State Editor

Hello everyone! I am your newly appointed editor and looking forward to being more closely involved with our union. I've met many of our union brothers and sisters at state and national convention. Also, I will be attending our fall booster. I hope to see many of you there! Working on this first state paper has been a learning process, so please bare with me. I am always open to any suggestions. You can email them to editor@ohrlca.org and I will try to read them all.