

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fall District Meetings
See ohrca.org for listing

Fall Board Meeting
November 6-7, 2011 - 10 a.m.
Cherry Valley Resort
2299 Cherry Valley Road
Newark, Ohio

Booster Meeting
Date in Next Issue

State Convention
July 8-10, 2012
Marriott Dayton
1414 Patterson Blvd.
Dayton, Ohio

National Convention
August 14 - 17, 2012
Buffalo, New York

All dates and times are subject to change due to unexpected events. Please check our website OHRCA.org for changes to this schedule and the most current date information.


Thomas J. Gamble

Members
Send Address Changes to:
Penny Koren
104 Clay Road SW
Dellroy OH 44620-9757



Charlie Daniel's Band played at the National Convention banquet.

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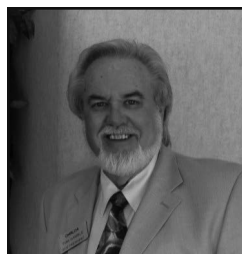


The Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Official Publication

OHIO RURAL LETTER CARRIER

Volume 78 Issue Number 5

October/November 2011



PRESIDENT
TOM GAMBLE

As I write this, it is the end of September and the turn of the season has begun. It seems as though I am always writing about change and this article will be no exception. The National Convention brought out discussions and debate about many issues affecting members and carriers from mail count items and standards to representational issues. The most notable of these was the passage of the National Steward System. The National delegates elected to have our members represented by Stewards and a Steward System chosen by and administered by the National Office. The details of this system can be found on the National Website www.nrlca.org. This system will be up for review at the 2012 National Convention and is not slated to be implemented until afterward. The process for setting up the system has already begun and the States will be making their selections for nominees to these new positions. The Steward System has gone through a realignment process and the State Board has appointed Delbert Hutchisson as the new State Steward, Mike Aitchison as Assistant State Steward in Ohio and David Heather of Missouri has been appointed by the National Office to be our new Executive Committeeman, (NRO); replacing Susan Knapp. Please join us in welcoming these people into their new roles with your cooperation and commitment to providing an atmosphere of Rural Carrier good will and support. Contact information can be found on the following page.

Also scheduled to take place this week are the Rallies to "Save the Post Office". I hope you got in on these congressional informational protests to stop the implementation of 5 day delivery. I have been asked to give an interview to NPR (National Public Radio) on what it means to be a rural carrier and I hope to be able to make our point about maintaining 6 day delivery. If you weren't able to take part in a rally you can still make your concerns heard, yeah you know how.

By now the mail count is over and the numbers are in. I hope you fell into the category of carriers that either remained the same or went up in evaluation. The board offi-

cers and stewards have been in the plants checking them for total volume and delayed mail. If you disagreed with the count, I hope you were in contact with your assigned steward and, if advised to do so, filed a mail count grievance.

Interest arbitration on our contract is scheduled to begin in 2 months and the National Office has begun it's final preparations to present evidence to the arbitrator. A recent trip to Headquarters in D.C. proved that the negotiations continue as National President Dwyer was receiving updates on negotiations during our meeting. It's going to be a matter of trying to undo the negative campaigning the Postal Service has done to convince, anyone who'll listen, that the only solution to our problem is to cut jobs, benefits and services in order to bring us out of this deficit. It was shocking to hear the Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe declare to our convention that he had "given up" on trying to get congress to redirect our future retirees overpayment to our deficit, ignoring the advice of the USPS inspector general, and focus on cuts. I don't think it takes a Harvard Business Degree to figure out that focusing on cuts, especially on service is not the total answer to our problem. We need revenue Mr. Donahoe and not by raising rates to first class customers!

I also hope that you took part in your district meetings, as this is the avenue to give you more details about the events and services available to you; the members. Remember: it takes all of us rowing together to keep the ship moving forward and on course.

Yours In Unity and In Service
Tom Gamble

Deadline for the December/January issue is November 15, 2011. Please have all articles to Editor Lori Todd by that date. loritodd@yahoo.com

COMMITTEEMAN POSITION VACANCY

As per board policy: The appointment of Mike Aitchison to the position of Assistant State Steward has created a committeeman position vacancy. This vacant position has a term that will expire at end of State Convention 2012. Persons interested in being appointed to fill this position need to send a resume, which should include Union experience, to Tom Gamble - P.O. Box 9 - New Middletown, Ohio 44442. Deadline: November 1, 2011



OHIO
NRLCA National Convention
Savannah, GA 2011

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ASSISTANT STATE STEWARDS, AREA STEWARDS, AND LOCAL STEWARDS REPORT DIRECTLY TO THE STATE STEWARD.

If you, as a carrier, do not have your office under any of the following Area Stewards or if you do not have a Local Steward, you will call the list on this page according to where your office is located.

Area Stewards:

Cathy Funderburgh (937-605-5200) – Cincinnati District Offices

e-mail Cfun70@aol.com
Bellbrook, Clayton, Eaton, Englewood, Enon, Franklin, Greenville, Jamestown, Medway, New Carlisle, New Paris, South Charleston, South Vienna, Springfield, Tipp City, Urbana, West Manchester, West Milton, Xenia, Yellow Springs

Miranda Rodgers (937-302-9956) – Cincinnati District Offices

e-mail mirandarodgers@frontier.com
Aberdeen, Amelia, Blanchester, Fayetteville, Felicity, Georgetown, Greenfield, Hamersville, Leesburg, Lynchburg, Milford, Mount Orab, Moscow, New Richmond, New Vienna, Pleasant Plain, Ripley, Sabina, Williamsburg, Wilmington

Sharon Short (740-493-2160) – Cincinnati District Offices

e-mail mshort57@yahoo.com
Bainbridge, Blue Creek, Crown City, Franklin Furnace, Gallipolis, Ironton, Kingston, McDermott, Millersport, Oak Hill, Otway, Patriot, Pedro, Piketon, Portsmouth, South Salem, South Webster, Vinton, Waverly, West Union

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e-mail debiroe@windstream.net
Adamsville, Barnesville, Beallsville, Belmont, Bethesda, Beverly, Byesville, Caldwell, Cumberland, Dexter City, Lore City, Lower Salem, Newcomerstown, Norwich, Philo, Pleasant City, Roseville, Stockport Summerfield, West LaFayette

Susan Thayer (419-599-1855) – Northern Ohio District Offices

e-mail stthayer06@yahoo.com
Alvordton, Antwerp, Archbold, Berkey, Cecil, Delta, Edgerton, Edon, Fayette, Grand Rapids, Hicksville, Holland, Lyons, Metamora, Montpelier, Napoleon, Pioneer, Sherwood, West Unity, Whitehouse

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FIRST TIME NATIONAL CONVENTION ATTENDEES
Christine Eubanks, Dominic Crooks, Lori Todd

Christine Eubanks

I had the pleasure of accompanying the Ohio delegates this year to the 107th National Rural Letters Carrier's Convention held in Savannah, Georgia. With all of the proposed changes from the USPS, like 5 day delivery, it was important to me to become more involved with our union. I was very proud to sit united with all of my new friends from across Ohio as a memorial of our own Lester Miller was up on the big screen.

I'm very glad that I could be a part of this convention which not only was my first, but also was the first to elect a female president, Jeanette Dwyer, and the first address from an APWU President, Cliff Guffey. We also voted in a National Steward System and set a PAC convention record that was over \$108K. A special kudos to Ohio for being 2nd in the nation for PAC last year... way to go Mike Aitchison!

It was very impressive to me to see delegates from across the country coming together to vote on the various Constitutional amendments, as well as binding and nonbinding resolutions that effect us all as rural carriers. Also, we got to see both sides as we heard conflicting reports from both the Postmaster General Patrick Donahoe, and the Inspector General David Williams.

All in all I came home exhausted with tons of information for my office as we headed straight into a mail count. I do believe that I caught the convention bug and hope to attend many more in the years to come. Our union needs us now more than ever, so what are you waiting for? Get involved!! Hope to see you there!

Christina Eubanks

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Dominic Crooks

Our editor offered me the privilege to write the "First Time National Convention Attendee" article, so, here we go!

Traveling to any "family reunion" can be both exhilarating *and* exhausting for everyone. In knowing old and new faces from a variety of cultures and backgrounds would be uniting; my curiosity grew rampant. Fortunately, having some fellow Ohioans near made the introductions seemingly second nature. Some attendees whom I met across the nation through www.ruralinfo.net were also there. We carried on over issues we face as a union and possible solutions which may come as next year's resolutions.

The National PAC program had a presentation on how we can combat anti-union bills. Their "Call to Action! E-Network" was introduced. More info is on the National site (www.NRLCA.org) under legislative/PAC updates. Refuse to be an ignorant mushroom! Get educated! Get involved! That is, unless you *prefer* the unemployment line. Do you hear me fellow RCAs?

Debate is a stepping stone to excellence. If you attend any meeting or convention, step up to the mic! Yes, your ideas may be criticized, but never fear. Besides, what idea comes without some testing from its' opposition? This is best for ironing out any kinks. Look for me in Ohio's National Convention photo and my point is made. Be cold or hot; NEVER lukewarm!

Though I didn't get placed as Delegate this year, I plan to put my name in the hat for next year. I encourage all of you to do the same. Get involved! Remember, "Union" begins with U.



Lori Todd

I attended my first National Rural Letter Carriers Convention as the new editor of the Ohio Rural Letter Carrier. I was full of excitement and anticipation.

First on my agenda was to attend the Editor's Meeting. In a room full of fellow editors, I was supplied with the do's and don't's of editing.

Next four days of joint session packed with information and speeches. I listened to Postmaster Donahoe speak, APWU President Cliff Guffey and many others. I was able to watch the process of voting on issues that affect all my union brother and sisters. To have this many people in one room uniting to fight for issues such as 6-day delivery was amazing.

My nights were filled with meeting union members from many states, a wonderful banquet and a night of caucus.

When I left the convention I was exhausted, still excited and full of information to bring home to my co-workers. I hope to return to the convention every year and encourage everyone to join us!

The 2011-2012 Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Auxiliary

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Greetings! It has been great getting to attend the first round of Fall District Meetings. State Auxiliary Officers are looking forward to the remainder of your meetings to share with you about our new National Auxiliary President Lucretia Nobles' program. She has chosen as her Humanitarian Project: "A Program of Sealed With a Sound: Delivering Solutions to the Hearing Impaired". We will have information for you about the Cochlear Implant Awareness Foundation. Project items that we will have for sale are a pin with a mailbox, a carry-all tote bag, a leather money clip and a collapsible vase. We are looking forward to your continued generous support.

Again this year, there will be a Juniors Contest for children and grandchildren of Rural Letter Carriers. Information for the contest can be found in the pamphlets available at District Meetings. Scholarship forms have just arrived for the National and State scholarships for children and grandchildren of Rural Letter Carriers who are going to continue their education beyond high school and are under the age of 21. If you were unable to get forms or pamphlets at your District Meeting, please contact myself or a State Auxiliary Officer to receive copies.

As a spouse of a Rural Letter Carrier, we would love for you to participate in our Auxiliary Meetings. Thanks for your support.

*Have a Great Fall,
Sandy Schwartz
Ohio Auxiliary President*



**President Lucretia Nobles
2011-2012 Auxiliary Program**

Project: Cochlear Implant Awareness Foundation
Motto: From Silence to Sound
Symbol: Cardinal on a mailbox
Safety: Safety behind the wheel
Inspirational Music: Written in Red
Americanism: American Red Cross
Song: Wind Beneath My Wings
Flower: Holly and Carnation
Inspirational: "You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it"
Margaret Thatcher



One of the ferries that took us from the Convention site across the river to the City of Savannah

Recent Retirees

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| Susan Estee | East Canton |
| Cheryl Gotschall | Minerva |
| Kathleen Leskovic | North Jackson |
| Calvin Mickey | Cadiz |
| Loretta Uunderhill | Newton Falls |
| Beatrice Aviles | Wellington |
| Larry Hagley | Ironton |
| Robert Medley | Newcomerstown |
| June Reighard | Burghill |
| Joyce Van Beveren | Sycamore |

National Convention

Savannah, Georgia



Penny Koren receiving a Membership Award from Don Cantrell



View of Savannah, Georgia - National Convention Site



Opening Flag Ceremony



Mike Aitchison Receiving a PAC Award



THE GOLF TEAM
Delbert Hutchisson, Eddie Moss (South Carolina),
Kathy Funderburgh, Mark Funderburgh



The Ohio Gang at Caucus

Sleeping Giant



**VICE PRESIDENT
FLOYD EDLER**

On December 7, 1941 while in friendly negotiations with Japan, a surprise military strike was conducted by the Imperial Japanese Navy against the United States naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

The lack of any formal warning, particularly while negotiations were apparently ongoing, led President Franklin D. Roosevelt to proclaim December 7, 1941, “a date which will live in infamy.”

The attack left the American People in profound shock, which led directly to the American entry into World War II in both Pacific and European Theaters.

Naval Marshal General Isoroku Yamamoto, commander of the Imperial Japanese Navy, after his attack on Pearl Harbor wrote this in a letter to one of his admirals, “I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant.”

Are we the Rural Carriers of America, the Postal Pearl Harbor?

And if we are, are we ready to wake up and fight?

The Postal Service began a series of sneak attacks against the NRLCA and it's members when it began blaming the economy entirely for its billions of dollars in lost revenue. On the contrary, it was the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, passed by congress in 2006.

This act required the Postal Service to pre-fund the Future Retiree Health Benefits (FRHB) at a rate of over 5.6 billion dollars a year through 2016. THIS is what has kept the Postal Service from making a profit four of the last six years.

Why isn't congress addressing the issue of overpayments into the Civil Service and Federal Employees Retirement System? Should congress address this issue favorably the Postal Service would be relieved of huge payments to the FRHB and would remain solvent for years to come. That's right; YEARS to come

Here's their problem:

- 1) Congress HAS the money (at least on paper).
- 2) The Postal Service needs the money it's paying in overpayment to its health and retirement systems to make up for lost revenue.
- 3) Congress doesn't want to give the money back because it would make their financial situation look even worse.

And here is their solution:

Congress and the Postal Service unite and begin

blaming the postal workers and their Unions!

Last month the Postal service asked congress to allow it to unilaterally reduce employee health and pension benefits and lay off 120,000 employees, obliterating a collective bargaining process that has been in effect for more than four decades.

If the Postal Service is successful, postal employees will lose their layoff protections and be removed from the health insurance program and CSRS and FERS retirement systems. The Postal Service says it can run these programs more efficiently and cost effective.

Is it a coincidence that Republican Representatives: Jason Chaffetz of Utah; Darrell E. Issa of California; and Dennis A. Ross of Florida, to name a few, have come on board to support the Postal Service by making false claims based on data that is skewed, outdated or doesn't tell the full story? I think the answer is very clear.

It's also very clear that the carrier is being attacked on both sides. These attacks are carefully orchestrated to eliminate benefits already paid for, and replace them with poorer quality benefits at a higher price. Reduce wages, eliminate the right to negotiate, and turn the carrier jobs into the sweatshop jobs of the 1940's.

Today I want to call on that *sleeping giant*. Today I want to call on the 107,380 NRLCA members to wake up! Show their congressmen and senators that the pen and a vote are mightier than their sword.

In conclusion, let me leave you with this thought: “UNITED WE BARGAIN, DIVIDED WE BEG”.



**PAC AWARD
2ND IN NATION FOR MONEY COLLECTED**

**Front Row: Mike Aitchison, Floyd Edler
Back Row: Mary Conti, Robin Rowland, Tim Barker,
Barb Perkins, Lori Todd**

0 – \$49 Continued

Swihart, June
Tenney, Alton
Vahalik, Robert
Walker, Brackie
Wank, Paul
Wetzel, Alan
Wiemken, Virginia
Wills, Judy
Woodring, Richard
Yoder, Hubert

Achor, Judith
Brown, Diana
Canales, Rita
Crooks, Dominic
Dewey, Homer
Elder, Nathan
Ford, Phyliss
Gibbs, Karen
Humphrey, Tana
Lavender, Jeanne
Madden, Catherine
Milo, Stephanie
Porter, Harold
Reese, Robert
Runtas, Marilyn
Sorensen, Denise
Tedrick, Donald
Wildman, Melinda

Aitchison, Tuwana
Barton, Arlene
Briggs, Ronald
Cochenour, Clarence
Evangelista, Virgie
Gardner, Rosella
Huffman, Shirley
Klotz, Brenda
Martin, Roger
Palm, Norma
Richardson, Gail
Shellhouse, Sharon
Thomas, John
Weinstock, Paul

Anderson, Dixie
Conti, Mary
Gamerdinger, Misty
Laramie, Sandra
Satterfield, Debbie
Thayer, Susan

Cox, Diane
Gamble, Thomas
Miller, Larry
Rowland, Robin

Aitchison, Michael
McIntire-Millhone, Connie

Bowers, Joyce

Tabor, Diana
Thomas, Joyce
Van Beveren, Joyce
Wallis, Michael
Weller, Tracy
White, Alice
Williams, Rebecca
Wilson, Frederick
Wooton, Angela
Zubko, Gloria

Archambeault, John
Buck, Delbert
Chaffee, Joyce
Crouch, Melva
Dillow, Donna
Elmore, Lisa
Fravel, Leo
Gilbert, Paul
Huskin, Deborah
Leschinsky, Thomas
Marker, Audrey
Mulder, Margery
Preston, Janet
Rickard, Deborah
Scott, Kay
Stoll, Richard
Tooms, Carol
Wills, Jill

Alexander, Thomas
Baus, Deborah
Butcher, Joe
Densmore, Michael
Ferguson, Elaine
Guk, Christina
Humphrey, Norman
Kromer, Michelle
Mull, Donna
Petty, Daniel
Riffle, Andrew
Smart, John
Thomas, Sharon
White, Kelsey

Anderson, Patsy
Daniels, Carla
Garlitz, Charlotte
May, Connie
Schardt, Colleen
Todd, Lori

Dedden, Carla
Greene, Dawn
Nichols, Raymond
Vaughn, Eleanor

Funderburgh, Catherine
Pitts, Barbara

Tackett, James
Thompson, Michael
Villasenor, Andrea
Walters, Joseph
Wells, Jack
White, Susan
Williams, Ruth
Wilson, Tim
Wymer, Lisa

Beman, Luther
Burkhart, Arlene
Chandler, Bill
Crutcher, Ruth
Dunfee, David
Farver, Opal
Fries, Harold
Hook, Richard
Irvin, James
Lockhart, Bess
Mason, Karen
Mulder, Richard
Randolph, Edith
Robinson, Daniel
Slane, Cindy
Strickland, Dennis
Walker, Gerald
Wittler, Jane

Altizer, Elizabeth
Belen, Betsey
Chapman, Robert
Dunaway, Teresa
Frame, Catherine
Hausfeld, Roland
James, Ronald
Lehmann, David
Otermat, Samuel
Piatt, Eileen
Rodgers, Miranda
Stewart, Teresa
Wargo, Edward
Witte-Stewart, Carlene

Balbaugh, Julie
Elliott, Susan
Hickle, Patsy
Perkins, Barbara
Schuler, Jody
Wilson, Shawn

Edler, Floyd
Heaton, Sandra
Noble, Thomas

Koren, Penny

Taymans, David
Tuttle, Mary
Vinski, Carol
Walton, Jaclin
Wenrick, Elizabeth
Whiteman, Galen
Williamson, Leslie
Withers, Jerry
Yoder, Gary

Brielmaier, Paul
Burrer, Charlene
Cook, Valerie
Devine, Karl
Eckstein, Clarence
Feikert, Sandra
Garner, Diane
Hughes, Brenda
Kelly, Judy
Lowe, Kimberly
Millisor, Clyde
Nagel, Donna
Rausch, Mary
Roe, Ralph
Smith, Barbara
Synodinos, Suzanne
Weis, Charles
Woodward, Maria

Armbruster, Sandra
Borland, Billie
Cline, Helen
Ellis, Ronald
Funderburgh, Mark
Heddleson, Rodney
Johnson, Mardee
Lipscomb, Jill
Owen, William
Potochnik, Karen
Sanders, Sharon
Sweet, Gayle
Webb, Robert

Barker, Timothy
Foos, Darlene
Hill, Mary
Richmond, Rona
Stull, Jane

Ferneding, Peggy
Hirschfeld, Janna
Ortiz, Shirley

McIntire, Judith

\$50 – \$99

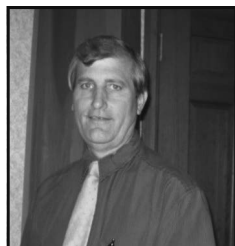
\$100 – \$249

\$250 – \$499

\$500 – \$999

\$1000 – \$1499

\$1500 –



PAC Report

Michael D. Aitchison

The State of Ohio has a lot to be proud of. Among honors, the state won the second place award with contributions of over \$45,000. Thank you to the many people who helped over the past year and to everyone that contributed in any of the many different ways.

We thank you in advance for your support this upcoming year as we tackle many of the same issues along with some new ones. Our craft is in a critical time and needs the help of all of its members, NOW!

0 – \$49

Adams, Debra
Alge, Joan
Atwood, Penelope
Balbaugh, Raymond
Bates, Gary
Bennington, Jennifer
Blake, Glenn
Bowser, Debra
Bretz, Martin
Brooks, Michaela
Burnside, Philip
Campbell, Paul
Clagg, Robin
Cummings, Lynn
Dennis, Ronald
Dierksheide, Lee
Dulin, Joseph
Englehart, Roberta
Finkel, Mildred
Frankart, Lawrence
Frost, Thomas
Gillespie, Angela
Goubeaux, Daniel
Green, Peggy
Hackworth, Edrie
Harris, Robert
Hawkins, Janet
Hazelett, Karen
Hickman, Donna
Hoover, Monte
Hubbs, Marcia
Jackson, Leslie
Jones, David
Jozwiak, John
Keller, Judy
Klotz, Brian
Laconey, Loren
Leslie, Suella
Lowe, Joann
Mann, Thomas
Mastroianni, Douglas
Mcafee, Carl
Mckain, Sandra
Moore, Cecil
Morrison, Richard
Myers, Donna
Pacer, Laura
Pfeffer, Paula
Prenger, John
Rahach, Texanne
Riley, Carlton
Robinson, Robert
Schehl, Daniel
Schnieiders, Cletus
Scribbs, Rita
Shipe, Dalton
Siembida, Tad
Smith, Scottie
Specht, Whitney
Stark, Beverly
Stidd, Doris

Adams, Donald
Allen, Sandra
Austin, Gwendolyn
Balduf, Carleen
Beck, Beverly
Bethel, Gloria
Blakeley, Denise
Boyle-Wilson, Barbara
Brink, Burdette
Brown, James
Busch, Donald
Carlson, Colleen
Cole, Patsy
Dannemiller, Joseph
Devore, Theresa
Diltz, Beverly
Edinger, Charles
Evans, Joan
Fitzsimons, Ralph
Freundner, Heather
Fulton, Anita
Glassburn, Genevieve
Graef, Jerry
Greenwalt, Marilyn
Hagstrom, Anna
Harrison, Richard
Hawkins, Kimberly
Heller, Cynthia
Hillier, Harry
Hostetter, Shirley
Hughes, Diana
Jasnoch, Garry
Jones, Mary
Kazmierczak, Leo
Keller, Linda
Kovalski, James
Lacy, David
Locker, Tina
Lugabihl, Sheri
Mansfield, Harold
Matthews, Donna
Mcallister, Betty
Mckinney, William
Moore, Jay
Motzer, Sue
Noll, Carol
Parker, Silvia
Piatt, Ruth
Pullin, Ivan
Rahrig, Charles
Rinehart, Grove
Rupp, Ronald
Schloneger, Helena
Schroeder, Lois
Seavolt, Phyllis
Shortland, Dixie
Sipe, Doyt
Smith, Sheryll
Stanley, Darrell
Starkey, Shirley
Stiles, Darlene

Addington, Tammy
Antill, Nancy
Baker, Santa
Baranyai, Kristine
Behrensmeyer, Robert
Bickel, Lillian
Bohl, Kevin
Brand, Linda
Brinkman, Randy
Buchanan, Joseph
Butler, Greg
Cayhoe, Earl
Coy, David
Davis, Iva
Dewitz, Judy
Dingey, Lorraine
Edmonson, Edward
Eyerman, Paul
Flinner, William
Frey, Pamela
Gerak, George
Gordin, Deborah
Graham, Diann
Griffith, Roy
Harris, Joel
Hastings, Patsy
Hawkins, William
Herbster, Roger
Hirschfeld, Erik
Houston, Margery
Hutchisson, Delbert
Jeanie, Vaughn
Jones, Shari
Keener, Beth
Ketola, Sara
Kreider, Margaret
Lanning, Margaret
Lonser, Franklin
Lumpp, Daniel
Mason, John
Maurer, Kathleen
Mccoy, Joy
Meyer, Nancy
Moore, Mary
Mowen, Shelly
Organ, Lucinda
Pendergrast, Elaine
Pieren, Molly
Pyers, Paul
Rietschlin, Debra
Ring, Charles
Rus, Dorothy
Schnarre, Elaine
Schwarzman, Linda
Seiter, Wayne
Shroyer, Fred
Smith, Diane
Spears, George
Stanton, Amy
Stentz, Beth
Stout, Sharon

Alford, Penny
Ashworth, Karen
Baker, Timothy
Barnes, Jean
Bennett, Boyd
Bishop, Rita
Bolen, Benjamin
Brester, Pamela
Brinkman, William
Burke, Matthew
Campbell, Janet
Christy, Michael
Coyne, William
Davis, Nina
Dickson, Bonnie
Dukes, Patricia
Ellerbrock, Rhonda
Farrister, Dorothy
Fowler, Clarence
Frombaugh, Rebecca
German, Virgil
Gosden, Brand
Graham, Karen
Hackathorn, Trudy
Harris, Martha
Hatcher, William
Hayward, Sandra
Heydinger, Stanley
Honsberger, Larry
Hoy, Connie
Isbell, Bradley
Jenne, Beth
Jordan, Stanley
Keeran, John
Kleemeyer, Harriett
Kunka, Peter
Lecount, Victoria
Lorance, Bobbi
Mann, Alicia
Massie, Marcia
Mayberry, Rodney
McDermitt, Brenda
Montavon, Gerald
Morris, Beci
Murphy-Vogt, Debbie
Otto, Michelle
Peter, Max
Preece, Rebecca
Radsick, Janet
Riffle, Maurice
Ring, Jill
Sadler, Carol
Schneider, Nancy
Scott, John
Shields, Roberta
Sickinger, Diane
Smith, Marie
Spears, Mark
Starcher, Patricia
Stewart, Larry
Straits, Dayle

The Root Canal Is Over



STATE STEWARD
DELBERT HUTCHISSON

evaluations on October 19th. Remember your route evaluations will take effect on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

I would like to thank all of the stewards that stayed up late and into the early morning inspecting the mail processing plants across the State. President Tom Gamble, Penny Koren, Robin Rowland, and Susan Thayer in the Northern Ohio District, with Mike Aitchison in the former Columbus District, and Cathy Funderburgh in the Cincinnati District. I know some of you were up until three and four o'clock in the morning working hard to ensure an even flow of mail and that all available mail was processed and shipped out to the offices by the end of the Mail Count.

Spending so much time in the PD&C for the last two weeks we could not help but feel the anxiety of our fellow union brothers in the Mail Handlers and APWU unions as they waited for the Postal Service to release a list of mail Processing Facilities under consideration for consolidation. All the Ohio plants will undergo a Area Mail Processing (AMP) feasibility study. An AMP study involves the review of mail processing and transportation operations at a Postal Facility. The reason for the studies is to review mail volume and determine capacity needs in order to increase efficiency and improve productivity.

The Postal Service wants to consolidate 300 of its' 608 processing facilities. The plant closings are expected to affect some 35,000 employees.

I'm getting used to press releases from the USPS with numbers that just don't add up. So I wasn't surprised when these projections raised an eyebrow.

The Postal Service says it expects to save \$3 billion a year from its consolidation effort, with less than 1 percent coming from rent and building costs, and 99 percent coming from savings in salary and benefits for the 35,000 postal workers who will be losing their jobs. It's hard to see how even that many positions would save \$3 billion — that's \$85,000 per worker. Perhaps even more than 35,000 workers will be losing their jobs.

The Postal Service seems to be focused entirely on cutting costs, and saving \$3 billion a year is certainly considerable. But we haven't heard much about slowing down delivery times, which impact revenues. First-class mail accounted for about \$34 billion in 2010. If that amount were to

drop 10 percent as a result of declines in service, it would wipe out the entire \$3 billion in savings.

The Postal Service seems to be sending itself into a downward spiral that could be impossible to stop. It's not the "crisis" of the current deficit that should be feared because as we all know, the deficit is almost entirely due to overpayments to retirement funds. What people should really be worrying about is how continuous declines in service will lead to yet further declines in revenue, which will, in turn, necessitate even more cuts, which will cause further erosions in service.

This is a good way to put yourself right out of business. The real mystery is whether the leaders of the Postal Service are driving off the cliff simply because they are bad drivers or if they are being directed to crash the postal system so that FedEx, UPS and others can pick up the pieces for privatization and carve out a piece of that \$70 billion dollar postal revenue pie.

Thank You Kindly,
Delbert K. Hutchisson
State Steward, OHRLCA

Delegates To National Convention

John Aicholz	Patsy Hinkle
Michael Aitchison	Janna Hirschfeld
Tuwana Aitchison	Erik Hirschfeld
Patrica Arnold	Shirley Huffman
Julie Balbaugh	Norman Humphrey
Joyce Bower	Delbert Hutchisson
Ronald Briggs	Penny Koren
Diana Brown	Sandy Laramie
Matt Burke	Judith McIntire
Joe Butcher	Raymond Nichols
Robert Chapman	Thomas Noble
Diane Cox	Shirley Ortz
Carla Dedden	William Owen
Floyd Edler	Barbara Perkins
Ron Ellis, Jr	Barbara Pitts
Elaine Ferguson	Miranda Rodgers
Peggy Ferneding	Robin Rowland
Anita Fulton	Debbie Satterfield
Mark Funderburgh	Gayle Sweet
Catherine Funderburgh	Floyd Tackett
Thomas Gamble	Susan Thayer
Rolly Hausfeld	

ALTERNATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

Mildred Finkel
Raymond Balbaugh
Lori Todd
Misty Gamerdinger
Christina Eubanks
Carlton Riley
Helen Cline
Dominic Crooks



SECRETARY/TREASURER
PENNY KOREN

Membership:
Currently, the membership for Ohio is 4,360 total members
2183 Regular Carriers 5 PTFs
1228 RCAs 2 RCRs
925 Retired 17 Associate Members

Since June 30, 2011 we have lost 61 members. There are 535 rural carrier non-members in Ohio. We need to continue our efforts to recruit new members to join our union. The strength of our union is our members; to remain strong we need to increase our membership. Do your part and invite a non-member to join our membership.

Ohio had 44 Delegates at the National Convention in Savannah, Georgia. These delegates made decisions that will directly affect your work life and paycheck. Please take time to speak to a delegate and ask how they voted and why they voted on the issues brought forth on the Convention Floor. Ohio also had 8 alternate delegates attend the convention. Thanks to all who represented Ohio at the National Convention. A list of the attendees is published in this issue.

Open season begins Monday November 14 and runs through Monday December 12, 2011. During the "Open Season" you may enroll and make changes in the Federal Benefit Plans. You may also enroll in the Flexible Spending Plan. Health insurance changes made during the Open Season will take effect January 14, 2012. The 2012 premium rates will be reflected in a carrier's paycheck on February 3, 2012. Retirees who make health insurance changes during the Open Season will have those changes effective on January 1, 2012. The premium rates will be included in retirees' checks on February 1, 2012.

The OHLCA Executive Board has decided to hold a Booster Meeting in the spring of 2012. Additional information will be forthcoming.

Fellow members, there is an assault on labor happening today in this country. We must stay strong and unite together to ensure the future of our jobs. We need to fight with our voices, call your Congressman and Senator ask them to preserve the Postal Service by preserving Six Day Mail Delivery and cosigning HR 137 and voting to allow the Postal Service to use the overpayment to make it's commitment to health care funding cosigning on 1351.

Veterans Day is November 11th, take time to thank a Veteran for keeping the United States of America safe and free.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather and most especially, support our Union.

*Penny Koren
Secretary-Treasurer*

Fall Board Meeting Minutes
Dayton Marriott
1414 Patterson Blvd., Dayton OH
September 9, 2011

Present: Tom Gamble, President; Floyd Edler, Vice President; Penny Koren, Secretary-Treasurer; Committeemen: Mike Aitchison, Joyce Bower, Barb Pitts, Robin Rowland.

Friday September 9, 2011 - 2:15 p.m.

This Board Meeting will be Committeeman Aitchison's last meeting as committeeman.

As per board policy: *September 19, 2010, No member shall be appointed to serve simultaneously as an Assistant State Steward and an Executive Board Member.*

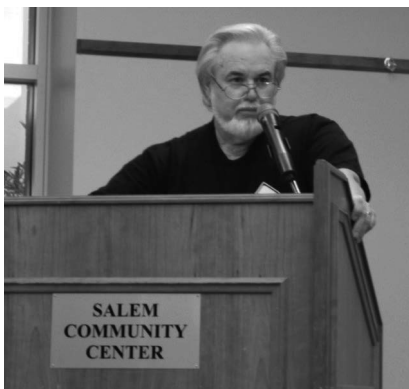
Vouchers: Completed Vouchers. Reviewed all vouchers submitted to the State Board for payment. The Board approved the vouchers after a lengthy discussion on telephone expenses. The board reviewed a sample of a new voucher. Changes will be made to the new voucher format before implementing. The new voucher will be able to be downloaded from the website onto your computer and completed on the computer, printed and submit for payment.

Minutes: Minutes of the July 8, 9,13 and 23 were read and approved as corrected.

Treasurer Report: The Financial Position was presented and reviewed. Committeeman Rowland made a motion to accept the report of the treasurer, the motion carried.

Credit Cards: Credit Card itemized charges for July and August 2011 were reviewed and discussed. Committeeman Pitts made a motion to approve the credit card itemization reports, the motion carried.

Activity: The National Office has contact us requesting we organize rallies with the other Postal Unions at our Congress and Senate Representatives home office on September 23, 2011. The National office will supply signs and shirts for the members who participate. September 30 at Salem, Community Center there will be a rally for members and retirees to save the USPS. President Gamble will be a guest speaker followed by Congressman Bill Johnson.



Tom Gamble speaking at a rally in Salem.

Committeeman Pitts made a motion to send the six-day tee shirts to each of Ohio's Representatives a total for 20 shirts. The shirts will be purchased from PAC @ a cost of \$15 per shirt. Letters will accompany the tee shirts stating the shirts value and asking the representative for their support to save the USPS and keep 6-day mail delivery. Motion passed. The shirts will be mailed to each representative before September 22, 2011.

Equipment: The monthly charge for the cell phones



From the Desk of

COMMITTEEMAN
ROBIN ROWLAND

Right about now everyone is starting mail count. This can be a very critical time for some. It can be the stress of just knowing how to count and what to count. It could mean route adjustments going down enough that it can cause a financial hardship. Or that you just have management breathing down your back over every little thing in this count! If you are a RCA I'm sure you are worried about us going to five day delivery. I know that this is a very critical time for a lot of us. It would be nice if everyone could have a happy ending, but I also know that is not a reality. Just remember that the Employee Assistance Program is there for you whether it's personal, private, or your home life. So with that in mind, please remember that Postal Service employees and their families can have 24 hour access 7 days a week. Everything is done immediately and is personalized, private and is done in a highly professional manner. If you feel the need please contact them at www.EAP4YOU.com or at 1-800-327-4968.

Since I have been assigned to be your committeeperson for this year it is one of my duties to talk to you about the GMAC Insurance Program. At the National Convention in Savannah I attended the GMAC Seminar. During this time Shirley Corno, spoke about how they have lowered the rates! So if you are looking for good car insurance rates please give them a call and get a quote today! With that in mind I would like to put a challenge out to everyone. Anyone that brings me a quote from GMAC from now till the end of this year will receive a gift from me to you. So let's see those quotes!

Please attend your District meetings this fall. Let's keep up with what is going on with the mail count and 6 day delivery plus all of the other legislative issues that we have before us. Let us **Unite** be as one and come together to make us a strong organization. **TOGETHER** we can make a difference. Please contact me if you feel the need.

Respectfully yours,
Robin Rowland



Happy
Halloween!



RON BRIGGS CHAPLAIN

BE AN OVER-COMER

How nice it is to celebrate with any person who has been successful in spite of a handicap. One such person was Tom Dempsey who was born with only half a right foot and yet became a kicker for the New Orleans Saints football team. His sixty-three yard kick in a game against Detroit in 1970 won the game and set a record at that time for the longest field goal.

Most rural carriers will not go down in history as 'record breakers' but many continue to be over-comers in different ways. It may be a physical handicap, possibly a troublesome boss, or for others a difficult home environment. Let us say along with the Apostle Paul, "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken..."



Happy
Thanksgiving!

IN MEMORIAM:

KENNETH E. CHANEY



KENNETH E. CHANEY passed away at his residence on Sunday, Aug. 14, 2011.

He was born on Dec. 15, 1932, in Darwin, Ohio, to the late Frank and Letha (Will) Chaney. He was employed as a welder at Jaeger Machine Company in Columbus, Ohio, for over 25 years, along with being a chief steward as well as being a member of the United Steelworkers. He was a member of the Harrisonville Masonic Lodge, and coached little league baseball and grade school basketball teams. Prior to his final retirement, he was a rural postal carrier in the Athens-Meigs County areas for 26 years.

He is survived by his daughter, Kenda Williams; son William and Sarah Chaney; granddaughters Melissa, Alexa and Ashley; grandsons Phillip and Brandon; brothers Robert and Gary Chaney; sisters Shirley Church and Sharon Lippert; sister-in-law Anna Pullins; special friends Tim Lawrence and James Will; beloved dog Snooks, and several other loved pets.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 59 years, Dorothy Chaney; and two infant sisters.



COMMITTEEMAN
BARB PITTS

FALL SAFETY

It seems that summer is over and fall is here again, so guess what? It is time to check our vehicles and get them ready for winter. We all know that with fall comes rain and falling leaves and those leaves get wet and slippery, so when you are pulling away from those boxes, step lightly on the gas and you won't spin your wheels. Speaking of wheels, it is a good time to check those tires and make sure that they have enough tread on them and that they are filled properly with air. The best way to do this of course, is to fill out a vehicle repair tag 4565 for those of us who drive an LLV. All fluids and wipers need checked also and get those sand bags ready to put in the cargo area. Those who drive a POV, either do this yourself or have it done at your favorite garage. Beware of your surroundings and know what is coming up behind you. Our jobs mean we have to have eyes everywhere.

If you are like me, you hate dirty windows, so a good thing to remember is to wash the outside of the windows every time you get gas, especially in this weather. A good cleaning of the inside will make your visibility so much better and don't forget the windshield wipers. Sometimes they dry out and get brittle and replacing them is a good idea.

On a brighter note the state and national conventions this year were well worth going to and all who attended enjoyed the experience. A lot of changes are coming to the postal service and our own jobs, we need to stick together in the office and with our congressmen. I hope I will see a lot of you at your district meeting and any other meetings that require our presence. I do hope also that we all make out better in our mail counts than the postal service anticipates.

*Have a HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
Barb-Committeeman*

COMMITTEEMAN POSITION VACANCY

As per board policy: The appointment of Mike Aitchison to the position of Assistant State Steward has created a committeeman position vacancy. This vacant position has a term that will expire at end of State Convention 2012. Persons interested in being appointed to fill this position need to send a resume, which should include Union experience, to Tom Gamble - P.O. Box 9 - New Middletown, Ohio 44442. Deadline: November 1, 2011



COMMITTEEMAN
JOYCE BOWER

Have you written a letter to your Senators or Representative recently. If not, I encourage you to do so. We have two very important issues at hand.

We could see as many as 50,000 leave replacement jobs go away if the Postal Service is allowed to go to a 5-day delivery. I for one would like to see my RCA become a full time employee. If our RCAs loose these jobs, where would they find work? I have read that e-bay customers are very concerned about the delivery of their items if Saturdays are eliminated. We have heard that there are other companies who will look for other means of delivery if we go to a 5-day delivery. It seems that we have more to loose than save.

We also need to get our Representatives on board with House Bill 1351. In 2006, under the Bush administration, Congress passed a bill that would require the Post Office to create an endowment for health care expenses for retirees. No other branch of the government is required to do this, nor do I know of any businesses that are required to do as such. Not only is it required to do this, but it has to pay for 75 years of health care by the year 2016. Since 2007 the Post Office has paid \$21 billion into the fund. It will take an act of Congress to fix this.

The Post Office has paid an excess of 55 to 75 billions dollars into the retirement funds and have asked Congress to transfer money from that account into the one for health benefits. The newly elected members to Congress say that they will not bail out the Post Office. It is not a bail out! What the Bankers and Wall Street received from the government, under the Bush administration, was taxpayers dollars used to fund it. What the post office is asking for is the transfer of our overpayment into the health care fund. NO taxpayer money involved.

I would like to know why the Post Office has to pay up to 75 years worth of benefits, when most of the employees hired in the past few years have been non-career. After about 30 years, no one will be eligible to receive benefits from this endowment.

Members of Congress think that Postal employees make too much money and have benefits that are unfairly better than the private sector. Sorry it does not compare to theirs, and if they walked a mile in a city carriers shoes or drove on the snow covered icy roads the rural carriers drive, they may think differently. As a matter of fact, if it weren't for Union negotiated contracts, the private sector would not have it as good as they do. Unionism has raised the standards for all Americans.

Are your pens ready NOW!
Committeeperson
Joyce Bower

must be received by the association. The contract must be in the association's name. The cell phones will belong to the association. The phone acquired recently will be addressed with the phone company.

Executive session 7:30 pm - Recessed 9:30pm.
September 9, call to order 9 a.m.

Also present State Steward Hutchisson and Editor Todd.

Membership: Letters were sent in July to all non-members inviting them to join the NRLCA. Also enclosed in the mailing was information on mail count trainings, Rural Carrier Health Benefit Plan and the Relief Carrier Health-care. Ohio has fourteen new members as a result of the mass mailing.

Suggestions for acquiring new members;
Do face to face solicitation for new members by having our Assistant and Area Stewards stop by post offices, in the area while doing association business, to speak to carriers. The stewards can share grass routes with non-members.

Many of the Districts are sending postcards and inviting the non-members to the meetings and soliciting at the meeting.

Build a possible network within the state to canvass the state post office to post office to recruit members also to strengthen the membership and answer questions.

Further discussion on the suggestions will be addressed at the next board meeting.

Web Site: The web site should be utilized more, possible use of the web site to purchase PAC items and the site could be used for training aspects. The new page and steward page is information furnished to the web master. The web master does not enter any posting without approval. Postings will be removed after 10 days, it may leave a blank page with no information. We must encourage or assign members to have information for posting.

A new page will be created for training; the page may be creative with a learning experience. The Subscribe on the web site is for a email contact list which will be used to sent e-mails of recent news.

Budget: The Budget Committee assignments are, Vice President, Edler and the Committeemen. The assign-

ment of the committee is to compare last year's budget and create this year's budget. The committee is to report to the Board the new budget and also the cost of additional Full-Time Stewards.

We would like ideas of fundraising to offset the cost of the State Convention. One idea is to offer to businesses in the State Convention city an advertising space on a flyer to be placed in the ditty bags or an advertising space on the program cover.

National is suggesting the state have one year's operating expenses in a separate account.

District Meetings: The assignments for the District Meetings were revised, District 2 board assignment will be Committeeman Pitts and District 6 will be Sec-Treasurer Koren..

Handouts for the district meetings were reviewed; high-n-low option, pay schedule, relief buy back time and route classifications, notice 38, GMAC Insurance and Provident Guild.

Editors report: Welcome to the new Editor, Lori Todd. Lori would like to make a few cosmetic changes and the Board agreed to allow Lori the freedom to make changes. State paper articles are due September 20th. Quotes from printers in the area closer to Lori are being sought. The deadline for the Winter State Paper's articles will be Nov 15th.

PAC : Mike Aitchisson presented Pac Report. PAC will be at each district meeting. 100 Tee shirts were ordered and printed with, "America needs 6 day mail delivery". An additional 150 shirts were ordered. The profit is going to PAC. The tee shirts were sold at the National Convention in Savannah for an income of \$1012. The tee shirts were sold at the mail count meetings and will be sold at the Fall District Meetings as well.

A PAC raffle will be held again in the near future. The raffle prize has not been determined. The raffle should be announced in the state paper and a separate mailing to each rural carrier. Another fund raising idea is the E Bay trading and contributing through the web site using a credit card.

The position of Pac chair is still available to an interested member. A Pac network of many members working together is also an alternative.

A motion was made by Committeeman Edler to continue the practices of raising PAC funds during the district meeting. The association will compensate mileage roundtrip to the meeting and hotel stay when approved. Motion carried.

State Steward Report: Newly elected Steward training for November has been postponed. The training will be done on site for the two newly elected local stewards. The area stewards training will be also done one on one basis. The one on one permits additional training for problem area for each person. The training will be on the grievance forms, steward references, MOUs and learning the database.

NEW MEMBERS

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| RCA Elaine Fortney | New Washington |
| RCA William Moreland | Freeport |
| RCA John James | Harrod |
| RCA Kathryn Sidhu | Gates Mills |
| REG Diane Salmon | Fairlawn |
| RCA Cheryl Miebling | West Chester |
| RCA Richard Mcilvain | Germantown |
| RCA Shanna Jackson | Elyria |
| RCA Susan White | Burbank |
| REG Joyce Sheppard | Galloway |
| REG Marsha Porter | Uniontown |
| REG John Grabans | Orient |
| REG Sandra Egbert | Uniontown |
| RCA Amy Bane | Gates Mills |

