

# OHIO RURAL 2014 LETTER CARRIERS'

Association



# March 16, 2014 9 AM - 5 PM

Informational Health Vendors and Exhibits

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Alternative Heath Choices, Medicare, Health Benefit Plans & More!







The NRLCA Cincinnati and Northern Ohio Stewards will be available the entire day

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FREE!! To OHRLCA Members

**Basic Biometric Screening** 

Four (4) Hour fasting and a

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**Total Cholesterol** 

Glucose (Blood sugar)

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Body Mass Index (BMI)

**Know your numbers for your Health Risk** 

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Takes only 15 minutes

**Immediate Reporting** 

Confidential Health Screenings.

Doubletree Hotel
Worthington 175 Hutchinson Ave.
Columbus OH

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PRESIDENT TOM GAMBLE

# The Slingshot Advantage

When I was a younger man I was told that it was important to set goals for myself and make sure that I followed through on them. You may have been counseled to do the same. However, as youth progresses and the freedoms that come from becoming an

adult begin to present themselves, we begin to set things aside and prioritize based on "wants" instead of "needs". One important thing to do is to provide protections for yourself. These protections can come in many forms and apply to both our physical and mental well-being.

On the mental or psychological side; our protections come from Knowing what our contract says and Knowing what our working rules permit or prohibit. Not only will we have the information we need to defend ourselves, but we will have the confidence to stand up in the face of bad decisions by leaders and management. We need to provide a voice that suggests a different way of thinking: should I say it ...the logical side of problem solving! The story of David vs. Goliath is a good example. Imagine having the confidence of knowing that no Giant could defeat you armed with a simple slingshot. I know what your saying: "but Tom, management will not listen to me." My answer to you is; that I know the current crop of postmasters and supervisors are not leaders, but "email readers". The fact of the matter is that they are listening to you or should I say... hearing you... and your knowledge and confidence makes an impression that they will transfer in some manner or form. Just imagine if every office had this going for it, from every carrier! I have seen it work and I know it can be done by rural carriers everywhere. Don't forget that we have a steward system that is presenting these concepts along with you. Without it, we subject ourselves to the stress and strain of trying to be superhuman, which leads to mistakes and self doubt.

For physical protection; the knights of the roundtable were provided suits of armor to help protect them from assault from swords and lances. In our "realm" I believe that our armor comes from knowledge about our bodies. The physical demands that we suffer in this career field suggest that we pay attention to what can be done to help our bodies cope. The sooner the better!

Again, I can relate to this physical awareness because at a young age I always felt I was invincible. Hardly ever sick, could tough it out under the most grueling of situations. While in the military I even believed that it was possible for me to be a "social or occasional smoker". Yup. I forgot that we are all human and stopped concentrating on being physically healthy and taking the steps necessary to provide a healthy environment for my body. I know I don't need to tell you how foolish this was. We also never plan on the toll "stress" will place on our bodies as we age and go through life's challenges.

As we enter a new year, it is not to late to realign our priorities and set up some protections for our minds and bodies. I urge you to study your mail-count guide, your contract and your National and Ohio publications and websites for the information that will give you that "slingshot" advantage. Another good place to start



VICE PRESIDENT FLOYD EDLER

# What have Representative Darrell Issa, Representative Blake Farenthold, Senator Tom Carper and Senator Tom Colburn have in common?

They have either written or sponsored bills that will cause the demise of the United States Postal Service.

First let's look at H.R. 2748, Issa first attempt to completely obliterate the Postal Service.

Title 1: Elimination of Saturday Mail Delivery, the Postal Services biggest advan-

tage over its competitors.

Title 2: Creates a costly new level of bureaucracy at the Postal Service. This bill cuts services and blue-collar jobs in favor of creating a \$10 million a year Governance Authority. Instead of fixing what is really broken, H.R 2748 creates a new body that will be tasked with cutting costs by aborting collective-bargaining agreements and dismantling the Postal Service's networks.

Title 3: Direct attack by Congress on collective bargaining. This section would unfairly codify into law the views of postal management. This kind of one-sided interference by congress is totally unjustifiable and is an attack on postal employees. Mandating the terms of future collective-bargaining agreements would completely undermine the process.

This section would also mandate the Postal service to establish its own injured workers program and force people into retirement when they reach retirement age. This change would reduce an injured workers benefit to 50 percent of their salary at the time of injury and eliminate augmented compensation for dependents.

Title 4: Fails to recognize the Postal Services flawed ratesetting model. H.R. 2748 does not give the Postal Service the flexibility it needs to adjust rates to ensure that products cover their costs. Instead the bill forces the Postal Service to cut services and eliminate jobs unnecessarily. It does not free the Postal Service to expand into new lines of business that would leverage its first and last mile networks.

Title 5: Fails to provide a long-term solution to the disastrous and unfair Pre-funding burden. The Committee is being asked to vote on a bill without cost estimates of the new pre-funding schedule. While the bill provides earlier access to the Postal Service's own money in the Retirement Health Benefit Fund and appears to defer pre-funding payments for two years, the remaining 40-plus years of scheduled payments will remain unfordable, and surpassing the \$5.6billion annual payments mandated by current law.

Title 6: H.R. 2748 Jeopardizes the Postal Services most important asset: Its brand for trusted universal service. The bill also mandates a destructive increase in sub-contracting.

S. 1486 The Carper –Colburn Bill: This unique and inadequate proposal, combined with the prospect of large postal hikes, the elimination of Saturday mail delivery and business door delivery, the phase-out of household door delivery, The establishment of a postal Service Health Benefits Program outside of the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (DONAHOE CARE) and the promotion of a moral-killing two-tier postal workforce would drive the Postal Service into a death spiral.

Now for the latest from Issa and Carper H.R. 3801 introduces legislation to implement a modified six-day delivery schedule ena-



Northern Ohio
District Representative
Delbert Hutchisson

# **Mail Count is over NOW WHAT!**

March 10, 2014 all PS Form 4241 data must be totaled and reviewed by the PM. The carrier must be provided a copy of PS Form 4241 for the two day review.

You the carrier should review the totals on PS Form 4239 against the totals on PS

Form 4241. Box count and stops should be accurate as of March 7, 2014 which may differ from that counted during the route inspection. Make sure mileage is correct and if you receive withdraw credit the appropriate box should be marked.

The PM must meet with each regular carrier to discuss the high/low option. There are several requirements for choosing the high option. Your routes evaluation must fall in more than one route classification (standard hours between 44:11 and 50:43). The regular carrier must have a minimum of ten years of service as a regular carrier and demonstrated no 2080 problems the previous year and commit in writing to use sufficient annual leave (not LWOP) so as not to exceed 2080 hours for the year. The high option means you are choosing higher pay, but less time off (J or H route). The low option means you are choosing lower pay but more time off (K or J route). The PS Form 4241 contains two signature blocks. One block per-

tains to the certification of the mail count totals. You should not sign this block if you disagree with the count totals. The second block is for the election of the high option and by signing, you agree to use sufficient annual leave during the guarantee period to assure that the total actual work hours will not exceed 2080. Failure to sign will result in the route being classified in the low option. Signing the leave commitment box does not signify that you agree with the mail count.

If you are in contention with the mail count and you have not been successful in resolving your issues locally during the mail count then do not certify the PS Form 4241 with your signature. You must provide the PM with written details as to why you are not certifying the count for his review and possible resolution. If you cannot come to an agreement on what is contractually yours or a fair and equitable resolution then make a copy of your disagreement contentions and mail to the

# **National Steward System**



State Steward before giving a copy to the PM. The PM will then forward your contention letter to the district office for review and possible resolution. The District will provide a written reply to your PM if they are going to allow or disallow credit. Local management will advise the carrier in writing as to the final position of the district. If you are not satisfied with the district's decision then file a grievance to protect your evaluation. Remember you only have 14 days from the time the district answers your contention letter denying you proper credit to file a grievance.

Congratulations to the nearly 500 carriers that attended mail count training classes across the state in the past six months. Education is powerful and an educated Rural Carrier during Mail Count will always receive a proper count of his route. The new route evaluations go into effect on April 19, 2014.

The two District Representative offices of the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association have left no stone unturned to ensure that you received a fair and proper mail count. Cincinnati District Representative Cathy Funderburgh was instrumental in the combining of our two offices to oversee the mail count.

I would like to thank every union official in the Northern Ohio District for their tireless support and help during this mail count. I could not have completed this mail count season without the dedication and professionalism of the stewards, district officers and the OHRLCA Board. Thank you President, Tom Gamble and Secretary Treasurer, Penny Koren for giving up your Friday nights to inspect the mail Distribution Centers.

Thank you ADR, Chris McCoy and ADR, Susan Thayer for all your help in answering phone calls till late in the evening and for giving up your Friday nights to inspect mail Distribution Centers. Thank you Area Stewards, Tana Humphrey and Jason Zedaker for all the technical support you provided carriers while answering more than 300 phone calls. You are all simply **THE BEST!** 

Thank you kindly, Delbert K. Hutchisson

# **Recent Retirees**

Mark Earnhart Urbana Kathryn Cowperthwaite Pataskala Robert Chaffin New Albany Don Fulton Londonerry Karen Fulton Wellston Susan Bennet East Sparta Susan Burns Kent Robin Clagg South Point

# OHRLCA Requests Your Help

We are organizing our Grasstops campaign in Ohio. Who do you know that has political influence or clout? Call me and lets talk about how you and your friends can help us with our plans to **Save The Post Office!** Lori Todd, Grasstop Coordinator - 234-567-4222 or email loritodd@yahoo.com.



# President Report Continued from Page 3

will be the 2014 Union Booster and Health-fair that is being provided for Union Members. Here is an opportunity to learn where your strengths are and what can improve your physical state, your mental state and what opportunities and advantages you have at your disposal as a Union Member. If you know someone that is not a member, bring them with you, they can join on the spot. Look for the details in this paper and come take part in a terrific program designed to help you the Rural Carrier.

Yours' In Unity and In Service Tom Gamble

# Vice President Report Continued from Page 3

bling Congress to use that savings, to repeal reductions in military pensions and restore Cost-of-Living Adjustments for military retirees. Cuts to the military pensions and cost-of-living were brought about by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013.

Congress cuts and Postal Employees pay.

Now more than ever we must contact our Representatives and let them know postal workers have paid their fair share and that H.R. 2748, S. 1486, and H.R. 3801 are nothing more than bills that will destroy or privatize the Postal Service.



Cincinnati DR
Cathy
Funderburgh

# Runners Take Your Mark, Get Set, GO

Its mail count time so what do I need to do to protect my salary? First of all – KNOW YOUR NUMBERS. Every rural carrier should know how many active boxes and the number of stops they have on their route. Is the 4003 up to date with your correct mileage? You may think that when management rides with you and they see the difference in the mileage then it will automatically be updated. The answer is no, the

official mileage on the 4003 is what will be used. If you have added mileage to your route then get the 4003 updated. Do you know how many collection boxes, parcel lockers, and dismounts that you have? You need to know these numbers because if you do not know then how can you verify the accuracy of the count.

Think of mail count as a marathon and not a sprint as it is a 12 day endurance test of paying attention to your numbers each and every day. Spot check your manager on his count. On items that you do not agree on then voice your disagreement with management but do it in a calm manner. Try to get the issue resolved before you deliver the mail piece. However, sometimes that is not possible and in that case Document, Document, Document. We have to prove our case and documentation is our best offense for proving your case. So what kind of documentation do we need? The mail piece and how it was counted and what you think it should be counted as, the quantity, the address (133 Main St), cell size on the case for that address, the number of rows in the case and the type of casing equipment, number of pieces of mail in that cell (4 flats, 12 letters) and how that mail was cased (rolled or standing up), the dimensions of the disputed mail piece, get the manager's signature or initials that it was in dispute. Do not copy or take pictures of the disputed mail piece unless you have management's approval and then document that you had their approval and in writing would be better. Get yourself a notebook or make 12 copies of the 4239 daily count sheets and write down your numbers and times each day and then compare them to management's copy. You can use the back of the 4239 to write down your daily disputes or you can go to ohrlca.org website and you will find a mail count dispute sheet with all the necessary information on it. (I created the dispute sheet up and shared it with our national office who in return has shared it with the country) I would even round date those pages. If and when you find disagreements then bring it to your manager's attention as soon as possible.

Count is over and management gave me a copy of PS Form 4241. You have 2 days to look over ALL the numbers. Check everything on the sheet from miles, your box total as of March 7th, number of collection boxes, number of parcel lockers, daily totals for each column, government vehicle, withdraw time, high/low option, etc. Management should be having a meeting with you to discuss your high/low option but your route must fall into more than one route classification. Article 9.2.C.7.a of the national agreement states that a carrier must have 10 years of service from his/her retirement date in order to select the high option. High option means more work, more pay and are willing to use annual leave to stay under 2080 hours for the year. There are two boxes to sign: one for the high/low option and the other box verifying that you agree with the count. Discuss with management any errors that you find and try to get them corrected. I looked over my 4241,

discussed it with management, signed my high/low option but I did not sign the block "Count Data Certified To Be Correct" At that time you will need to write a letter to your Postmaster outlining why you did not certified that the count is correct. For example: Dear Postmaster Smith, I do not agree with the 2014 national mail count for the following reasons: 1. I was not credited with 25 soft sided parcels that would not fit into my case 2. On 2/22, I was not given the 2 minutes for the proper time to go to the throw back case. Sincerely, Jane Doe RR06 Anywhere PO Be very specific in your letter - give exact numbers or times as to what you think it should have been. Mail a copy to your District Representative, give a copy to your Postmaster and keep one for yourself. Once again the marathon runner should take the time to have them round dated. Your Postmaster will forward your letter to the district office for review of your disputes. When to file your mail count grievance: Everyone wants to file a grievance as soon as mail count is over but you are still running your race. After all, the district may agree with you and give you a proper credit for your contentions in your dispute letter (that is why you need to be very specific in that letter) Your Postmaster will provide you with a written reply to any contentions on your dispute letter. Upon receiving that letter then you will have 14 days to file your mail count grievance. The steward will need from you the grievance form, authorization and release of information, Form 50, a signed statement from you as to what happened, your dispute letter, the letter from the Postmaster, and all of your mail count documentation such as post it notes, daily count sheets, the notebook or sheets of paper in which you wrote down your disputes, and any other form of documentation to prove your case. Congratulations as you have just crossed the finish line for your marathon!!

**SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS:** In case you did not attend your fall meeting, I let it be known that if you bring a first timer to your assigned district meeting then I will not only buy the first timer's dinner but yours as well. Bring your co-workers and lets work together to get the carriers in your office informed about what it going on with their jobs, how to resolve issues and more importantly how to protect their salary, benefits, and retirement. In the next issue, I am hoping to report that I bought a large amount of dinners and what district had the largest attendance for their spring district meetings. Don't know what district you belong to? Check this edition of the Ohio Rural Carriers' newspaper as the information will be printed.

Looking forward to seeing you at your district meeting,

Cathy Funderburgh



# **SPOTLIGHT PAGE**

In every issue we would like to have a Spotlight Page. Anyone knowing of a person or post office they feel should be spotlighted please send information to: Editor Lori Todd at loritodd@yahoo.com.



# Secretary/ Treasurer Penny Koren

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

As of January 12, 2014 the Membership Analysis prepared by the National Office has Ohio's total membership of 4162. Ohio has experienced an increase in membership. The increase is contributed to newly hired RCAs becoming members. The NRLCA has a new campaign to pay a bonus to each member who recruits a nonmember to join the NRLCA. Detail about the campaign in detailed in the January 2014 issue, page 6, of the National Magazine.

# **OWCP OR LWOP negative affects!**

If you are not receiving a check from the USPS your life insurance may lapse

because of nonpayment, contact Human Resources on this issue.

Also, if you are on Worker's Compensation dues payments are not deducted from your check or if you are on LWOP and have not paid dues, you are not a member in good standing. A "member in good standing" is a member who has made payment of dues and has not voluntarily withdrawn or been expelled or suspended by the Association. Only members in good standing may be nominated and elected as a delegate to the State or National convention. If you are on OWCP or LWOP make sure that your union membership remains current contact Secretary-Treasurer Penny Koren.

### **Spring Booster Meeting**

The OHRLCA Spring Booster Meeting will be held March 16, 2014 at the Doubletree Worthington, 175 Hutchisson Ave, Columbus OH. The Booster Meeting will be a Health Fair, plan to attend and participate in the health screening and informational seminars.

### STATE CONVENTION

The State Convention will be held June 29 – July 1, 2014, at the Doubletree Newark, 50 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Newark OH. Plan to attend the State Convention, come and exercise your Union Rights. Listen to the concerns of fellow members, stand and speak, let your voice be heard on the issues. Attend the State Convention as a delegate and vote on the issues. How do you become a delegate to the State Convention? Be nominated during your District Meeting.

#### **DISTRICT MEETINGS**

At your District meeting District Officers are nominated and elected and delegates representing your district are nominated and elected to the State Convention. "According to our State Constitution both of these elections are to be by secret ballot." The elected delegates from your district will represent your interests on actions taken at the State Convention. If you wish to be a delegate to the State Convention from your District and cannot attend the meeting, send a written request to your District Secretary and ask for your name to be nominated when elections for District delegates are held. Names cannot be added to the delegate list after the district meeting has ended.

I hope that every member will plan to attend his or her District meeting. The date and location of the District Meetings are listed in this issue. You are a member of the district that includes the county in which your employing office is located.

# NATIONAL CONVENTION August 12 – 15, 2014, Grapevine TX NATIONAL DELEGATE NOMINATING BALLOT

The National Magazine's February, March, April and May issues will have the nominating ballot for delegates to the National Convention included. If you desire to have your name placed on

the ballot for consideration as a delegate to the National Convention, or you want to nominate someone else, fill out the nominating ballot and mail it to my office. The nominating ballot must be received by US Mail in the State Secretary-Treasurer's office no later than May 16, 2014. Upon receipt of the nominating ballot, a confirmation notice will be sent to the nominee. IF THE NOMINEE DOES NOT RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION NOTICE, PLEASE CONTACT - Penny Koren, Secretary-Treasurer, 104 Clay Rd SW, Dellroy, OH 44620-9757 (330-735-2727).

Celebrate February 14th, Valentine's Day, by letting your family and friends know they are appreciated and loved.

On March 17, I would like to bestow on you this Irish Blessing;

May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you, and
May you be in heaven a half-hour before the devil knows
you're dead.

Hope you will plan to attend your District Meeting.

Denny Koren

Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Doubletree Worthington
175 Hutchinson Ave.
Columbus, Ohio

Present was President Gamble, Vice President Edler, Secretary-Treasurer Koren, Committeemen, Bower, Funderburgh and Cox.

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

1:40 p.m. Call to Order

The minutes of October 20-21, 2013 were read. Committeeman Bower made a motion to accept the minutes, the motion passed.

**Membership:** The Association's membership is 4147 members. This is an increase of 7 members for the same time period last year.

The Board Officers have been presenting the Union to newly hired RCA at the USPS orientations. There are 6 locations for orientations, Cincinnati, Citigate, Dayton, Akron, Cleveland and Toledo. The handouts for the orientations were updated and given to each officer.

A motion was made by President Gamble to send the State Paper to all non-members, motion passed. The 103 reasons to join the NRLCA were updated for printing in the state paper.

A motion was made by Vice President Edller to send an invitation to all non-members to attend the Spring Booster if they join the NRLCA, motion passed.

**Treasurer Report:** The Association's Detailed Financial Position was distributed and reviewed.

**Editor:** Editor Todd sent a report to the meeting. The deadline for the February/March issue of the State Paper is January 12,

# **Minutes** Continued from Page 7

2014. President Gamble has not received the Editor's computer in order to research the problem with the hard drive.

Adjourn 7:30 p.m.

### 9:00 a.m. Resume Wednesday, November 13, 2013

The entire Board met with the Doubletree Sales Representative for a tour of the facility.

A motion was made by Vice President Edler to have the Spring Booster Meeting on March 16, 2014 at the Doubletree Worthington. Motion passed.

The Spring Meeting agenda was prepared.

A motion by was made by Vice President Edler to request OWCP Specialist Watson to be present during the Meeting and for the Association to pay for the expenses of travel and hotel for his services. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Vice President Edler to compensate for Health Screening, for members, during the Spring Booster Meeting. The motion passed.

Provident Guild: Committeeman Cox will present the Provident Guild at the Spring Booster.

National General: New handouts were received with the new name for the Rural Carrier Auto Insurance and the new handout

will be available at the Spring Booster.

State Convention Reverse Raffle, up to the amount of \$2,250. The motion passed. 5:00 p.m. Committeeman Funderburgh made a motion to ad-

journ the meeting was adjourned.

**Next Board Meeting:** February 6 - 7, 2014 **Doubletree Hotel** 15 Hutchison Ave., Worthington Ohio

Respectfully Submitted

Denny Koren Secretary-Treasurer

# COA

Change of Address can now be done on the National Web Site at nrlca.org

# District Meetings: A list of Spring District Meetings were reviewed, there are more meeting dates to be received.

Officers Training: The Officers received their Officers' Training Manual. Each officer is to complete the test and send it to President Gamble and Vice President Edler.

PAC: Committeeman Bower made a motion to compensate the PAC and Legislative Representatives mileage for the mail count trainings and district meetings. The motion passed.

PAC support letter with raffle ticket enclosed are to enter the mail stream within the next few days.

The drawing for the PAC Raffle will be during the Spring Booster.

Secretary-Treasurer Koren made a motion for the association to purchase, at a cost of up to \$550.00, a tablet for the Legislative Officer's use on Legislative Issues and PAC contributions. The motion passed.

Committeeman Funderburgh made a motion to give 10 - \$25 visa gift cards as door prizes to members during the Booster Meeting. The motion passed.

Committeeman Bower made a motion to purchase items for the

# **NEW MEMBERS**

William Airhart Thomas Ames Erica Baican Terrell Banks Justin Bishop Deborah Blair Erica Booth Heather Briner **Emily Byrd** Eric Capetillo **Bethany Carpenter** Kristina Carpenter Heidi Carpenter Renee Cartwright Peter Cassells Juanita Chandler Dawn Derenberger John Dible Teresa Dible Arleen Duncan Franklin Ellis Chantal Furr Karen Garner Dawn Grant Melinda Hammontree William Hodosko David House Paula Huck Allison Irons Gena Johnson Nicole Jones Gena Johnson

Amy Keckler

Coolville Akron Norwalk Chagrin Falls Petersburg Genoa Shreve Montpelier Marion New Riegel Ashley **Paulding** Glenford Plain City West Salem Dexter City Orrville Howard Carev Martin Ferry Sardis Atwater Marion Defiance Whitehouse Lima Jackson Lowell Swanton Nelsonville Salem

Nelsonville

Mount Victory

Isaac Kilgore Sandra Kistler Tyler Kochensparger Mary Lankford Brandi Little Jessica Lowry Joni Lutseck Carol Marshall Tiffany Martin Donald McQuay Gilbert Mendoza Rhonda Moore Chad Oldham Kristine Perkins Marshawn Peyko Annette Plotner Kimberly Ouillen Alisha Rau Melissa Roberts Aubrey Robinson Janine Rouch Regina Rummes Joyce Siedler Shari Somogyi Sandra Stephens Teresa Stephens Jennifer Stuck John Swaver Sally Swisher Sarena Toadvine Rebecca Willis Johathan Winans

Thomas Wisener

Kevin Zeallear

Plymouth Bristolville New Richmond Tipp City Waynesfield Uniontown Cortland Defiance Cygnet Pataskala North Baltimore Lower Salem Richwood Beallsville Leavittsburg Swanton Hilliard Fayette Steubenville Springboro Urbana Massillon Canal Fulton Wakeman Clarington Orrville Utica Southington Dalton Delta Galion Marysville Fort Loramie Hilliard



Joyce Bower
Executive
Committeeman

# What A Winter!

I would like to thank my retired friends for their kind phone calls to see how I am doing in this horrible weather. I love to hear the happiness in their voices as they say they look out the window and and know they don't have to go out. Thank you for your service to the Postal Service and the Association in both good and nasty weather. You deserve to be able to stay in and not have to be out in this chill factor of -44 degrees.

I am probably repeating something you already know and have heard over and over. Dress in layers to keep warm and have a scarf or gauze medical mask over your mouth and nose. We have experienced winds that could freeze your breath and be very harmful to your lungs and heart.

Safety first in delivering the mail. If it looks unsafe to pull into an approach, it probably is unsafe. If a road has drifts and looks like you would get stuck in that drift, you probably will. If you have a turnaround in a drive and you can not see the edge of the drive, find a safer turnaround. We are responsible for our safety in delivering the mail. Do not take chances. If you can not make a safe delivery, let the Postmaster know that you could not make some deliveries because of the conditions.

Those of us who provide our own vehicles are responsible to have them in good running condition. I have found that studded snow tires are a help. They can be put on Nov. 15 and must be removed by April 15. I also put weight at the right rear tire for better traction and have a shovel and kitty litter. I have not been stuck for many years, but I am prepared for anything. We are responsible to get ourselves out if we are stuck, so do what you can to prevent the problem in the first place.

We have enough to keep ourselves safe, but watch out for the other drivers. Many do not slow down and drive for the road conditions and will still be on their phones or have other distractions.

I hope everyone is planning to attend a mail count training. It doesn't matter if you are a new RCA or a seasoned carrier, please attend. In all the years I have been with the Post Office, one thing I'm sure of, is that there are always changes. Please go to a meeting and make sure you are getting all the credit you should have. Your pay depends on it.

I have enjoyed meeting new RCA's at the orientations. We welcome you and hope to see you at the meetings and that you will become full time carriers in the future.

This issue will have your district meeting dates and information about the Spring Booster. See you then.

Commiteeperson Joyce Bower

Under the provisions of Ohio Rural Letter Carrier Constitution Article 6 Section 2 Site Selection C The Executive Board met and toured Holiday Inn Eastgate, Embassy Suites, Doubletree and Crowne Plaza hotels for the 2015 State Convention site. Holiday Inn Eastgate was not given all the information they needed to make a correct bid at the past state convention. The executive board has selected Crowne Plaza as your 2015 State Convention location in Blue Ash.



Mark Funderburgh
Executive
Committeeman

# **Vacation Time**

We are almost through another winter season and that means mail count is not far away. Time to get down to the nitty gritty of why I do this job. I love to "discuss" with management and I am not afraid of mail count because I take the time to educate myself to the new changes, and I WILL get credit for all that I am entitled to!

Be sure to check this magazine for

the dates and times of the closest count training location in your area. Remember to bring your National Mail Count Guide located in the January edition of the National Magazine. Also, check the state website (www.ohrlca.org) for possible calamity days with the libraries due to inclement weather.

If you are feeling ill or have a nagging health issue, your State Board has just what the doctor ordered—a Health Fair at this years' Spring Booster Meeting! There will be health plan providers, natural healing solutions, chiropractic adjustments, massages, and, possibly, help with your new year's resolution to stop smoking and drop a few pounds! We are still waiting on the confirmation for the smoking and weight loss sessions.

With the warmer weather approaching and thoughts of vacations, don't forget to fill out your 3971's early! If you do not have an RCA, get your request in to management ASAP, don't get shut out of your vacation time! Use your vacation days when you want, NOT when management can work you into their schedule.

Spring meetings will start the last of March and go through the end of April. Check this paper for dates and times of your district meeting—come out and get involved in YOUR union!

Spring meetings are for the election of officers and nomina-



tion of State Delegates to the State Convention in Newark, Ohio. Come out and get involved in your state conventions and meet one of the National Officers. This is a great opportunity to let your concerns be heard! There will also be information from the Stewards at every meeting to answer any and all of your questions.

Enjoy the remaining winter weeks and stay safe and healthy!

Take Care, Mark Funderburgh, Executive Committeeman

# **CONTEST**

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

Stephen D. Turner found his name in the last issue. Congratulations Stephen! Keep reading everyone!



Diane Cox Executive Committeeman

# **Be Informed**

An informed carrier is a prosperous carrier. The more you know about your rights and your benefits, the happier and more fulfilled in your career you will be. Many times RCA's wait until they become regular to learn about the contract and what rights and benefits are available to them. Sometimes, as a result of waiting, RCA's and regular carriers alike miss out on critical opportunities. Our contract is very involved and takes time to learn and understand; even at that it might need interpreted to fit your

particular situation. That is why having the tools you need is so very important. Many Officers and Stewards have worked hard to provide these tools and information you might need. As a member of the Rural Letter Carriers Association, you have access to the tools you need and to answers on questions you may have concerning your career.

A steward is your access to answers about the contract and how it applies to you and your job. If you don't have a local steward I urge you to elect one. There are election forms on the website: OHRLCA.org and you can get information on the process by calling one of the stewards listed in the front of this magazine. Besides yourself, a duly elected steward that has been trained, with certification sent to your post office, is your best line of defense. Take time to learn and stay current by reading the information that you receive on a regular basis from this Union.

As I said previously, our contract is complicated, throw in the many MOU's, the contract analysis and the outcome of arbitrations and you can see that you may need some help understanding it all, or applying it all to your situation. It can be just as confusing to your management, especially when they haven't read our contract or managed a rural office before. That is why we have so many people working everyday to help you. You should be well enough informed to be your own advocate, but I would caution against trying to be your own counsel; that is what our Stewards are for. It is not beyond the realm of possibility that some managers make up rules and directives to suit themselves. It has also been proven that they can misinterpret directives from higher authority; such as trying to apply a directive meant for city carriers to rural or even intentionally violating the contract in an effort to make a point. You need to be familiar enough to recognize when this is happening and at that point notify a steward. The stress you save may be vour own!

I want to talk about the Provident Guild Program available to all members and their spouses under the age of 56. Provident Guild was started by a group of Ohio members many years ago as a way to help families at a time of real need in the event of the death of a rural carrier. Probate can take a long time when an estate needs to be settled. In the meantime, spouses and families need to be able to carry on in the absence of there loved one. Being able to buy groceries or pay the electric bill, etc. may be difficult while waiting for insurance and such. In the event of a death of a Provident Guild member, the survivor needs to send a copy of the death certificate to President Diana Hausfeld and an immediate benefit check is sent. At the end of the year an additional check(amount is based on the number of deaths and the membership category) is also sent to the designated survivor. This is a great program that every eligible member should take advantage of as soon as they can. The yearly membership dues are very affordable considering the great benefit it provides. You may choose the category that you want to enroll in as long as you are under the maximum age for that category. Please consider becoming a member of the Provident Guild. During the months of January, February and March dues for the rest of this year are half the yearly dues for your category. Example: if you are 55 and sign up before April, yearly dues is \$10.00, so you would only pay \$5.00 now which would take you to June. There is a \$2 application fee which I am going to pay for any new member signing up this year. If you would like to join and need an application or more information, please call me or write to me and I will send one to you. Diane Cox, 4780 Stony Creek Rd, Urbana,OH 43078-9454;ph:(937)869-4724. You will also be able to obtain an application at the Spring Booster Meeting in Worthington and at your district meetings this spring. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meetings this spring and very excited about the Heath Fair at the Spring Booster Meeting. This free Health Fair is a good opportunity for members and nonmembers alike to find out more about what the association can and does do for carriers. I hope everyone took advantage of the many mail count trainings available. This is a very invaluable resource conducted by your very capable District Representatives in the National Steward System, Cathy Funderburgh and Delbert Hutchison. I am looking forward to spring and warmer weather as I'm sure you all are as well. Happy Easter!

# MAILING LISTS

Department of Labor regulations related to using the Association mailing list to promote a candidacy for an elected state office or position.

A union must honor all reasonable requests by a candidate to distribute campaign literature at his expense to all members in good standing, whether the distribution is by mail or some other means. The union may not censor the contents of campaign literature it is requested to distribute.

It must treat all candidates fairly. If its distribution of campaign literature for one candidate is without charge, then its distribution for all candidates must be without charge. Treating all candidates the same by refusing to honor any and all reasonable requests for distribution of campaign literature at the candidates' expense is not permitted, however. To avoid charges of unequal treatment among candidates, the union should inform all candidates in advance of the conditions under which it will distribute literature and should promptly advise them of any change in those conditions."

To comply with the last sentence of the above paragraph the board has established that any candidate wanting a mailing to be made should prepare the mailing for entry into the mail stream. Once it is prepared it should be forwarded to the State Secretary-Treasurer's office where labels will be prepared and affixed for either the entire state membership or a specific requested area, based on county lines, desired to be covered and the labels will be affixed. The cost will be the cost of the labels and the cost to affix them to the mailing. If you have questions, please contact me

Penny Koren, Secretary-Treasurer 104 Clay Rd SW Dellroy OH 44620-9757 330-735-2727



Barb Pitts Executive Committeeman

# The Saga Continues

Well here it is going on six months and I am still on workers compensation. Little did I fathom that I would be off work this long and still counting. Workers comp has changed my status from filling out CA7 and CA7a's ( two week pay periods, like that of the Post Office) to intermittent pay which is

every 28 days. They change your status when your injury substantiates a longer recovery time, as I had rotator cuff surgery at the beginning of December. At least I think I'll know when to expect a pay, as it was not always the case the other way. However, you need a lawyer to figure out if they are paying you properly and hope to God that you still have health insurance. The Postal Service in Cleveland told me that they would be paying my health insurance for up to a year, however, that is not the case for some reason. When I think of all that I have lost because of an accident, for example: I couldn't sign up for FSA and have lost my TSP matching fund including what I always put into the fund. Add to all that, months of inactivity and I've become a bit frustrated. It's also frustrating and confusing when you would just like a simple answer to a basic question. I don't understand the need to fill out

paper work to ask a question. This organization asked for a person to take charge of the Workers Comp program and provide guidance through the process. My experience is that we do not have that yet.

On a happier note, your state board is hosting a booster meeting on March 16 (details are in this paper) where we will have some of these questions answered about OWCP and learn more on how to fight some major health problems. Please make every effort to attend if at all possible, your board has worked very hard to get speakers that will be of interest to Also, attend your count everyone. meetings, this is very important for all carriers, don't fall by the wayside because you are not informed of all you deserve in a mail count. Lets' stick together as the great rural craft we are and get a descent mail count. See you at your district meetings, which are fast approaching also.

> Stay Safe Barb Pitts-Committeeman

District 1 - Ashtabula, Geauga, Lake, Portage, and Trumbull.

District 2 - Carroll, Columbiana, Jefferson, Mahoning, and Stark.

District 3 - Belmont, Coshocton, Harrison, and Tuscarawas-Holmes.

District 4 - Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, and Washington.

District 5 - Gallia, Athens-Meigs-Vinton, Jackson, and Lawrence.

District 6 - Fairfield, Hocking, Licking, Muskingum, and Perry.

District 7 - Ashland, Crawford, Delaware, Knox, Marion, Morrow, and Richland.

District 8 - Cuyahoga, Lorain, Medina, Summit, and Wayne.

District 9 - Hancock, Lucas, Ottawa, Erie-Huron-Sandusky, Seneca, Wood, and Wyandot.

District 10 - Champaign-Union, Clark-Madison, Franklin, Hardin, and Logan.

District 11 - Adams, Brown, Fayette, Highland, Pickaway, Pike, Ross, and Scioto.

District 12 – Butler-Hamilton, Clermont-Warren, Clinton, Greene, and Preble.

District 13 - Allen, Auglaize, Darke, Mercer, Miami-Montgomery, and Shelby.

District 14 - Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Paulding, Putman, Van Wert, and Williams.



# 2013-2014 DISTRICT OFFICERS

Dis 1	Office President	First Matthew	Last Burke	Address 4822 Delevan Dr	City Cleveland	St. OH	<b>Zip</b> 44124-1016	<b>Telephone</b> 216-382-3031
1	Vice Pres Sec-Tre	Roger Dawn	Herbster Greene	2770 Windsor Rd 12918 Chillicothe Rd	Orwell Chesterland	OH OH	44076-9510 44026-3116	440-437-8259 440-759-2777
2	Pres Vice Pres	Barbara Tamye	Pitts Simms	12914 Washingtonville Rd 10257 Seacrist Rd	Salem Beloit	OH OH	44460-9247 44609-	330-533-6274 330-831-3849
2	Sec-Tre	Thomas	Noble	6110 Weaver Rd	Berllin Center	OH	44401-9748	330-853-0636
3	Pres Vice Pres	Patsy Gladys	Anderson Dunlap	74765 Dry Ridge Rd P.O. Box 86	Freeport Freeport	OH OH	43973 43973-0086	740-658-3666 740-658-3209
3	Sec-Tre	Jody	Schuler	7951 Euga Rd	Newcomerstown	OH	43832-9518	740-492-0608
4 4	Pres Vice Pres	Judith Helen	McIntire Cline	49290 Beautiful Ridge Rd 30310 Bracken Ridge Rd	Clarington Lewisville	OH OH	43915-9732 43754-9408	740-458-1464 740-567-3496
4	Sec-Tre	Eileen	Piatt	3864 Straight Fork Rd	Graysville	OH	45734-9749	740-934-2849
5	Pres Vice Pres	Ronald John	Ellis Jr Thomas	67 Township Rd 1145	proctorville	OH OH	45669-0801 45680-7826	304-654-1938 740-867-8450
5 5	Sec-Tre	Elizabeth	Altizer	95 Township Rd 1361 615 Centerpoint	Chesepeake Thurman	OH	45685-9726	740-245-5193
6	Pres Vice Pres	Sandra Betsy	Heaton Belen	PO Box 194 748 Lexington Ave	Zanesville Zanesville	OH OH	43702-0194 43701-5239	740-408-3958 740-454-2341
6	Sec-Tre	Patsy	Hickle	3141 Beaver Run Rd	Hebron	OH	43025-9571	740-929-2816
7 7	Pres Vice Pres	Daniel Carla	Robinson Daniels	17700 N Liberty Rd 19980 Crooked Rd	Fredericktown Butler	OH OH	43019-9784 44822-9488	740-694-9397
7	Sec-Tre	Darlene	Foos	3378 County Road 31	Galion	OH	44833-9686	419-468-5666
8 8	Pres Vice Pres	Barbara Melvin	Perkins Riffle	22389 West Rd 136 East Henry St	Wellington Wooster	OH OH	44090-9473 44691	440-647-5341 330-264-3184
8	Secretary Treasurer	Diana Robin	Brown Rowland	405 Township Rd 150 49945 Bursley Rd	Sullivan Wellington	OH OH	44880 44090	440-225-7101 440-647-7630
9	Pres	Timothy	Barker	4395 Cook Rd	New London	OH	44851-9357	419-901-0900
9	Vice Pres Sec-Tre	Jason Brenda	Zedaker Klotz	P.O. Box 324 155 E Fourth St	Stony Ridge Fostoria	OH OH	43464-0324 44830	419-367-2834 419-437-5278
•								
10 10	Vice Pres	Mark Norman	Humphrey	n 7450 N River Rd PO Box 12	Springfield Sedalia	OH OH	45502-9448 43151-0012	937-605-4067 740-874-3121
10	Sec-Tre	Diane	Cox	4780 Stony Creek Rd	Urbana	OH	43078-9618	937-788-2537
11 11	Pres Vice-Pres	Jennifer Tera	Bennington Young	45 Olive St 1824 Moores Run Rd	Peebles Manchester	OH OH	45660-1129 45144-9233	937-587-3039 937-549-3120
11	Sec-Tre	Emilee	Arthur	190 Mathias Rd	Winchester	OH	45697-9200	937-205-8642
12	Pres	Miranda	Rodgers	610 South Broadway St	Blanchester	OH	45107-1416	937-302-9956
12 12	Vice Pres Sec-Tre	Jeff Christina	Holley Eubanks	4875 Crosskey Dr #303 South 249 Hartford Ct	Lebanon Mainville	OH OH	45065 45039-7944	513-407-1444 502-320-4592
13	Pres	Janna	Hirschfeld	00577 Southland Rd	New Bremen	OH	45869-9715	419-629-3830
13 13	Vice Pres Sec-Tre	Ryan Pam	Campbell Brester	17161 Tecumseh Dr E 8433 Mill Rd	Wapakoneta Troy	OH OH	45895-8075 45373-9673	419-738-5621 937-845-2295
14	Pres	Deb	Towers	13875 County Road 27	Fayette	OH	43521	419-237-3071
14 14	Vice Pres Sec-Tre	Laura Susan	Pacer Thayer	417 Fernwood St PO Box 309	Delta Liberty Center	OH OH	43515 43532-0309	419-344-4948 657-264-4520

# **OHRLCA 2014 SPRING DISTRICT MEETING SCHEDULE**

- **District 1** Saturday, April 12, 2014, 5:30PM at Best Friends Restaurant, Interstate 90 and State Route 534, Geneva OH. We will order from the menu upon arrival. Questions contact Dawn Greene 440-759-2777, Matt Burke 216-382-3031 or Roger Herbster 440-437-8259.
- District 2 Tuesday, April 29, 2014. 6:30 PM at Church of The Nazarene, 7 Liberty St, Dellroy OH. Dinner will be \$13.50 per person. RSVP by April 15<sup>th</sup> to Penny Koren, 104 Clay Rd SW, Dellroy OH 44620 330-735-2727.
- District 3 Thursday, April 3, 2014, 6:00 9:00 p.m. The Manor Restaurant, 753 S Wooster Ave, Strasburg OH 330-878-9809, Three (3) Meat Meal with all the fixings. RSVP by March 28<sup>th</sup> and receive \$5.00 off the price of your meal to Jody Schuler, 7951 Euga St, Newcomerstown OH 43832 (740-610-8221) or Patsy Anderson, 74765 Dry Ridge Rd, Freeport Oh 43973 (740-630-7306) pontexpress52@yahoo.com.
- District 4 Saturday, March 29, 2014 6:00PM at Lori Restaurant, 17020 McConnelsville Rd., Caldwell, OH 43724. Morgan County is the Host County. We will order from the menu but in order to plan how many to expect please RSVP by March 26th to Judy McIntire 740-458-2464
- **District 5** Saturday, April 19, 2014 Golden Coral, 307 Upper River Road, Gallipolis OH 45631. Buffet 6:00pm Meeting 7:00pm. RSVP to Ron Ellis 304-654-1938 or Elizabeth Altizer 740-245-5193.
- **District 6** Saturday, April 12, 2014. Utica United Methodist Church, 105 Utica Rd, Utica OH. Dinner at 5:00PM the meeting will start at 6:00PM. Dinner will be \$5.00 per person. First time attendee eat FREE. RSVP by April 4th to Sandy Heaton at 740-408-3958.
- District 7 Thursday, April 10, 2014 Dominos Pizza, 221 W High St, Mt Vernon OH 740-397-3336. Meal at 5:45 PM, cost of \$5.00 for members. Meeting at 7:00 PM. Contact Darlene Foos 419-564-2796 or rafferty910@aol.com
- **District 8** Thursday, April 17, 2014 Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:00 PM, Weymouth Country Club Ballroom, 3946 Weymouth Rd, Medina OH. Dinner cost \$12.00. The District will reimburse member \$5.00 toward the purchase of the meal if RSVP by April 10th to Barb Perkins 440-647-5341 leave a message.
- District 9 April 2, 2014, 6:00 PM Shawn's Irish Tavern, 105 South Third St, Waterville OH, 419-441-1081 RSVP to Tim Barker 419-901-0900.
- District 10 Wednesday, April 23, 2014 Dinner 6:00 pm, Meeting 7:00PM Der Dutchman, 445 S Jefferson Ave, Plain City OH. Cost of meal \$16.99 or RSVP by April 19th and the cost of the meal will be \$15.00 each. RSVP to Diane Cox 4780 Stony Creek Rd, Urbana OH 43078-9454 or call 937-869-4724.
- District 11 Thursday, March 27, 2014 Dinner at 6:00 PM meeting to follow the meal. Golden Coral 4140 Gallia St, New Boston OH 45662 (740-456-8306). RSVP by March 25th to Emilee Arthur 937-205-8642 or emileedarthur@yahoo.com
- **District 12** Tuesday, April 15, 2014. Dinner 5:30PM Meeting 6:30PM. Eastgate Golden Corral, 4394 Glen Este Withamsville Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45245. Buffet dinner, pay at the door. Free dinner to all fist time attendee and member who brought the first timer. RSVP to Christina Eubanks 502-320-4592
- District 13 Tuesday, April 8, 2014, Dinner 6:00pm the meeting to follow. New Bremen Pizza Hut, 4575 State Route 66, New Bremen OH 45869. A buffet style meal consisting of pizza, pasta, breadsticks, wings, drink included. District 13 members please watch your mail in March for more details. Contact Pam Brester at pbrester@woh.rr.com or 937-845-2295.
- District 14 Thursday, April 3, 2014 Dinner at 5:30 PM the meeting starts at 6:30 PM. Asian Grill Buffet, 8959 N State Route 66, Defiance OH 43512. Please bring items for the PAC Basket for State Convention theme is Bath & Body Fruit Scents, peach & blue colors. to the meeting. RSVP by March 28th to Deb Towers or Susan Thayer 567-264-4520.

	<u>2014 O</u>	HRLCA SPR	ING DISTRICT	MEETING ASSIGN	MENT LIST
District	Date	City	Officer	Steward	Auxiliary
1	April 12	Geneva	Tom Gamble	Chris McCoy	Paul Ortz
2	April 29	Dellroy	Penny Koren	Chris McCoy	Paul Ortz
3	April 3	Strasburg	Penny Koren	Chris McCoy	Diana Hausfeld
4	March 29	Caldwell	Floyd Edler	Randy Anderson	Jodi Burke
5	April 19	Galipolis	Floyd Edler	Mike Aitchison	Jodi Burke
6	April 12	Utica	Diane Cox	Cathy Funderburgh	Ed Cox
7	April 10	Mt. Vernon	Diane Cox	Cathy Funderburgh	Ed Cox
8	April 17	Medina	Tom Gamble	Delbert Hutchisson	Sandy Schwartz
9	April 2	Waterville	Joyce Bower	Susan Thayer	Ray Mull
10	April 23	Plain City	Diane Cox	Mike Aichison	Ray Mull
11	March 27	New Boston	Floyd Edler	Cathy Funderburgh	Sandy Schwartz
12	April 15	Cincinnati	Mark Funderburgh	Cathy Funderburgh	Sandy Schwartz
13	April 8	New Bremen	Tom Gamble	Delbert Hutchisson	Diana Hausfeld
14	Āpril 3	Defiance	Mark Funderburgh	Susan Thayer	Paul Ortz

# **2014 OHRLCA CONSTITUTION CHANGE**

The	following		hange is submitted by (Individual, or District) Committee of the 2014 Annual Convention of the Ohio Rural
Lette	er Carriers' Ass		nsideration and appropriate action.
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# **RESOLUTION - 2014**

■ BINDING		NON-BINDING
The following Resolution is submitted	by (Individual or District)	to
the Resolutions Committee of the 2014 Newark, Ohio for consideration and app		al Letter Carriers Association at
Newara, Omo for consideration and app	ropriate action.	
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LEAVE REPLACEMENTS	☐ TIME STANDARDS	CONSTITUTION
LEAVE REPEACEMENTS		
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# **PAC Stats**

Aggregate total Per Capita total	<b>District 1</b> \$4499.00 \$ 7.56	District 2 \$7546.00 \$ 12.99	District 3 \$2443.00 \$ 8.01	<b>District 4</b> \$2723.00 \$ 9.94	District 5 \$1196.00 \$ 3.58
Aggregate total Per Capita total	<b>District 6</b> \$4028.00 \$ 8.20	District 7 \$2090.00 \$ 3.65	District 8 \$1632.00 \$ 3.33	District 9 \$5153.00 \$ 8.52	<b>District 10</b> \$5829.00 \$ 7.36
Aggregate total Per Capita total	<b>District 11</b> \$2764.00 \$ 5.43	District 12 \$5039.00 \$ 6.15	District 13 \$2323.00 \$ 4.54	<b>District 14</b> \$2642.00 \$ 6.97	



Mike Aitchison

Hello fellow OHIO Rural Carriers! As you can see by the chart above District 2 remains the powerhouse in the aggregate total and the per capita totals in PAC donations for last year. The PAC year runs from the beginning of the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association's annual convention through the end of July of the following year. Congratulations to all of the regular rural carriers, retired rural carriers, and rural relief carriers in District 2.

This year, District 10 was able to unseat District 12 for the second highest aggregate total. District 12 held that position for at least the last two years. District 10 and District 12 have also been competing to be the district with the most members. District 12 continues to be the largest district in the state, but District 10 has been making a push toward recruiting new members in an effort to become the largest district.

District 4 repeats as second highest in per capita total this year, but District 9 continues to be hot on their heels.

This report is interesting to look at and hopefully encourages a little friendly competition between the districts, **PAC Chairman** but it is a look at what we have already done. And THANK YOU for what you have done in the past. We have been able to head off some devastating reforms that would have hurt every craft employee.

But as you are hopefully all aware of, our challenges remain great and the battles coming are many. We not only have to battle with Congress and the destructive legislation they want to impose on the backs of the hard working postal employees, but a determined Postmaster General that apparently wants to collapse the **United States** Postal Service from the inside.

You noticed correctly that I highlighted United States. The Postal Service belongs to the citizens of this great country and I believe there is an effort to market this great institution to the highest bidder!

Please, let each one of us do our part in these challenges that face us. In addition to your calls, cards, letters, e-mails, petitions, and dollars, pray for your National legislative staff and your National Officers as they lead the way in the battle to preserve, protect, and enhance our careers with the **United States**' Postal Service.

> Keep up the good work!! Michael D. Aitchison

# **\$1,000** Raffle

\$20 each or 6 for \$100—Winner Drawn At Health Fair—Winner Need Not Be Present Send This Coupon For Additional Raffle Tickets To: Mike Aitchison, 7805 Lafeyette PC Rd., Plain City, OH 43064-8873 Or Call 614-873-4114

Name	Phone
Address	





# Sunday, March 16th

**Doubletree Hotel Worthington**175 Hutchinson Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43235

614-885-3334

Rooms available at Hotel
Ask For Ohio Rural Carrier Rate of \$89.00

Free Health Screening Is Limited Register Now!



Space is limited: Members Register for Free Health Screening Phone: 855-778-8378 or www.healthfair.com/ohiomail





**"Earl" Robert Earl Gladden,** 85, of Port St. Lucie, passed away on Monday, December 30, 2013 at the St. Lucie Medical Center.

Earl was born July 3, 1928 in Bethesda, OH to Robert Virgil and Mabel (Scatterday) Gladden. He had been a life long resident of Ohio, and a seasonal resident of Port St. Lucie for 28 years.

Prior to his retirement he worked as a second generation Postal Clerk and Rural Route Carrier for the United States Postal Service for 34 years in St. Clairsville, OH.

He enjoyed hunting, bowling and was an avid billiards player.

Earl attended the Thoburn Memorial Methodist Church in St. Clairsville, OH, and was a former choir member of the church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert Virgil and Mabel Gladden; step-mother, Violet Ennis Gladden Nethers; brother, Roger Gladden; sister, Mary A. Wilson.

Earl was a devoted and loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Mildred (nee Raicevich) Gladden; daughters, Dr. Mary Ann Gladden of Morehead, KY; Dr. Erla Gladden Mowbray (Dr. John) of Alpharetta, GA and Marcia Gladden Lucas (Kevin) of Bethesda, OH; grandchildren, Dr. John Gladden Mowbray (Dr. Erin) of Milton, GA; Adam A. Mowbray (Dr. Amy) of Dunwoody, GA; David J. Mowbray (Tiffany) of Roswell, GA; K. Jason Lucas, ESQ. (Carrie) of Bethesda, OH and Bethany Lucas Cooley (Nate) of Upper Arlington, OH; eight greatgrandchildren and one great-granddaughter that is due in May 2014.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Arrangements are under the direction of Yates Funeral home and Crematory in Port St. Lucie. An online guestbook is available at www.yatesfuneralhome.com.

**Priscilla Ann "Pat" Moore,** 70, of Nashport, Ohio died at 3:33pm on Thursday, January 9, 2014 at Heartland of Centerburg, Centerburg, Ohio after a battle with ALS; her friend Mary Mann was with her holding her hand.

Born October 24, 1943 in Mt. Perry, Ohio, the daughter of the late Bonnie Lee Leckrone.

Pat attended the Rushing Wind Biker Church in Zanesville; she was a rural letter carrier for the Zanesville Post Office for many years, where she made many friends on her route. She enjoyed the country life, where she raised Hay and Cattle; she was an animal lover and always carried dog treats in her car on her route for her animal friends.

She will be loved and missed by many family members including 8 brothers, 5 sisters and many friends.

Obituary and online register book at www.robertsfuneralhomenewlex.com

*Homer E. Dunham*, 92, of Fifth Street, Piketon, Ohio, died 9:23 a.m. Friday 25 October 2013 at Adena Regional Medical Center, Chillicothe, Ohio.

He was born 2 September 1921 in the Camp Creek Community, Lucasville, Ohio the son of the late Earl Dunham and Minnie (Mercer) Dunham.

Homer's first wife, Anna M. Dawson Dunham and his second wife Mildred Ruth (Redilla) Dunham preceded him in death.

Surviving are seven children, Teresa Johnson and husband, Ron of Piketon; granddaughter, Erin Snodgrass and husband, Luke and great grandson, Layton, of Waverly; Paula Doan and husband, Hung of Franklin County; grandson, Alex and granddaughter, Kamryn; Duane Dunham and wife, Barbara, McDermott, Ohio; Marilyn Stone and Carolyn Cannon both of Jackson, Ohio; Mary Beth Collinsworth of Waverly; and Joyce McClay of Lucasville; sister, Norma VanDyke of Cambridge, Ohio; and several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

# The 2013-2014 Ohio Rural Letter Carriers' Association Auxiliary

# **Auxiliary Officers**

## PRESIDENT PAUL ORTZ

11696 Youngstown Pitts Rd. New Middletown OH 44442 Phone 330-542-9496 orlcasjo2001@comcast.net

#### VICE PRESIDENT ED COX

4780 Stony Creek Urbana OH 43078 Phone 937-869-4724 diane rlc@yahoo.com

# SECRETARY/TREASURER DIANA HAUSFELD

P. O. Box 105 Minster, OH 45865-0105 Phone 419-628-2433 diana@hktelco.net

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN**

#### Jodie Burke, Chairman

4822 Delevan Dr. Lyndhurst OH, 44124 Phone 216–382-3031 goofy16jb@yahoo.com

### Ray Mull, Secretary

9235 Wayne Trace Rd. Camden OH, 45311 Phone 513-543-3766 zxtomcat@aol.com

#### Sandy Schwartz, Board Member

10 Eastmoor Court New Bremen, OH 45869-1101 Phone 419-305-3800 skschwartz@nktelco.net

#### JUNIOR SPONSOR

### Pat Singelyn

18991 Munn Rd. Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 Phone 330-562-8886 plsteacher207@yahoo.com

#### JUNIORS 2013-2014

President: Abby Hausfeld

733 Oakwood Drive, Minster, OH 45865

VP: Riley Hausfeld

733 Oakwood Drive, Minster, OH 45865

Secretary: Samantha Fernandez,

Defiance, OH 43512

Treasurer: Nate Hausfeld.

733 Oakwood Drive, Minster, OH 45865

# **AUXILIARY NEWS**

Hi Friends.

I hope you all had a Merry Christmas and have a healthy Happy New Year. I hope you are all ready for the New Year. Please keep in mind the upcoming dates and events listed in this newspaper.

We have several scholarships available thru the National Auxiliary. The forms are available on the National website or call me or any Auxiliary officer for the forms. They must be postmarked no later than March 1, 2014. Also we have two state scholarships that need sent to me by June 29, 2014. Please have your seniors apply. Applicants must be a child or grandchild of a rural letter carrier (regular, retired, or relief) who is in good standing with the NRLCA and whose spouse is a member of the NRLCA Auxiliary. Membership will be verified.



Paul Ortz, President

The mail count meetings for your spouses are NECESSARY to attend to learn what they are ENTITLED to. Please, please encourage them to attend. They are missing out of money, in your family budget, if they do not get credit for the things they need to get credit for. I hear of so many people losing money in their paycheck because they are not informed. ONLY YOUR SPOUSES CAN FIND OUT FOR THEMSELVES, don't listen and rely on others, your spouse needs to attend meetings and learn all they can. Do they know who their steward is that represents them??? THEY NEED TO KNOW. This week we received a call from an RCA in a neighboring town and I left my wife talk to her about calling the steward that represents her. You want to get your information from the stewards, not other carriers or other people. Here is the reason, the stewards are always going to meetings and trainings and they are the ones who have the latest information on your job, as it is constantly changing. Don't you want the best knowledge that is available?

Come to the meeting on Sunday, March 16, 2014 at the Doubletree Hotel Worthington,178 Hutchinson Ave, Columbus, Ohio. Your time and money will be well spent to gain a world of knowledge. My wife and I are always learning and she has been retired for 10 years. We enjoy the fellowship of our rural carrier family and also keep up on what she is entitled as a retiree, some day you will be one and there is nothing like having a nice retirement.

Next please attend your District Meetings, a list is in this paper. Here your spouse can sign up to be a delegate to the State Convention June 29- July 1, 2014. Also they can learn how to be a National Delegate. The more meetings you and your spouse attend the more knowledge you have. You as a spouse are automatic a member of the Auxiliary. We also have meetings and take care of the Juniors when the carrier's meetings are in session. We are here to help the carrier. Please join us and help your spouse.

As I sit here in mid January we have been trying to do some ice fishing. My oldest son and grandson caught 40 fish the first day. Please remember ice safety. This weather is not the best when -20 below and next week 50 degrees and raining. No more fishing till it gets colder.

I'm always thinking of spring though it seems so far away, like a dream.

Here's hoping I find you in good health when we see you. Also, a big thank you for the carriers who braved this frigid weather to do your job. Stay safe and warm.

Thank you, Paul Ortz

# **PROGRAM OF FINDING A CURE 2013-2014**

MOTTO: Improving Lives Curing Type 1 Diabetes

SYMBOL: Horse Drawn Mail Wagon

AMERICANISM: Washington DC Know Your Capitol

SAFETY: Preventing Cyber-Bullying

INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC: On Eagles Wings PATRIOTIC SONG: God Bless The USA

FLOWER: Pink Sweetheart Roses and Shamrock

INSPIRATIONAL VERSE: "The Purpose Of Life Is To Contribute In Some Way
To Making Things Better" Robert F. Kennedy

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## **Board Meeting**

Doubletree Hotel Worthington 175 Hutchinson Ave Columbus OH February 6-7, 2014 10:30 AM

### **Board Meeting**

Doubletree Hotel Worthington 175 Hutchinson Ave Columbus OH March 15, 2014 10:30 AM

### **Booster Meeting**

Doubletree Hotel Worthington
175 Hutchinson Ave
Columbus OH
March 16, 2014

### 2014 State Convention

Doubletree Newark 50 North 2nd St Newark, Ohio June 29-July 1, 2014

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

# **DEADLINE**

for the April/May
issue is
March 12, 2014.
Please have all articles
to Editor Lori Todd
by that date.

#### **ATTENTION**

Please note that if you have news of the death of any member let Secretary/ Treasurer Penny Koren know. She can then put it on the web site and send it on to the paper.

**Secretary/Treasurer, Penny Koren**104 Clay Road SW, Dellroy OH 44620-9757
Ph 330 735-2727 Fax
330-735-2535

pennykoren@yahoo.com

#### Members

Send Address Changes to: Ohio Rural Letter Carriers Association 104 Clay Road SW Dellroy OH 44620-9757 Non-Profit U. S. Postage PAID Permit # 225 Youngstown, OH

# You May Have Won A Prize

Please See Page 9 for Details!
Stephen D. Turner found his name in the last issue.

Congratulations Stephen!

