

The Illinois Rural Carrier

Birthplace of the NRLCA 1903

Volume 69 Number 1 August 2021



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Rewarding Essentiality



A little over a year ago most of the world came to a standstill. Schools, restaurants, and non-essential businesses were shut down and the only people allowed to leave their homes were essential workers. All postal employees are considered essential, including rural carriers. So, what did you do? You went to work. You took on the additional risks of possibly contracting COVID-19 or carrying it home to your families. You delivered the mail and the thousands of extra packages brought on by the discovery of on-line shopping by those tucked safely in their homes. It is this type of dedication and loyalty to our customers that has always made me proud to be a part of the rural carrier craft.

The pandemic also caused the cancellation of local and state meetings.

The cancellations left us with the funds that would normally be budgeted to cover the expenses for these meetings. Some of these funds were used to purchase neck gaiters (face masks) and mail them out to our members. The money that was budgeted for this years Booster was used to cover the cost of producing a virtual conference instead. The conference was viewed by over 200 members who otherwise may not have had access to the valuable information provided.

We have now “missed” two state conventions and two national conventions. Rather than sit on the money that was budgeted for these events the board has decided it should be rebated back to our hard-working members. Gift cards will be mailed to all members in-good-standing that were on

the rolls as of April 15, 2021. Regular carriers, PTFs, and RCAs will each receive a \$50 gift card and retirees will each receive a \$25 gift card. PLEASE NOTE!!! If your address has changed and you have not already updated it with the secretary/treasurer please do so ASAP!! Contact Secretary/Treasurer Christine De Nino at cdenino.ilrlca@hotmail.com or (815) 541-0430 with any address changes. All returned gift cards will be forfeited and used as future prizes/incentives. It is expected that members will receive their gift cards by September.

Some extra scholarships were also funded with this unspent money. Two additional \$500 scholarships were covered by the state and our state auxiliary covered six more. Thank you, Auxiliary! A total of ten scholarships were

awarded.

Rural carriers, in general, are a tough, resilient, and hard-working group of people. When the pandemic first began the media would occasionally give a shout-out to various groups of essential workers and often postal workers were left off that list. But you were there. You were delivering the groceries, the medicine, and the highly prized toilet paper. You kept on keeping on just like you always do. It did not go unnoticed. You were likely a small hero to someone on your route each day, even if you didn't know it. Give yourself a pat on the back. You did it!

Not that there was ever any question you would because hey, you're a rural carrier, and RURAL CARRIER'S ROCK!!

Member of The Year

By Southern Committeeman
Jesse Hodge

When it came time to select this years Member of The Year, there were several important things to take into consideration. You want to select someone who is exceptional, has dedicated their time to helping others, and exceeded expectations. This year's recipient is the daughter of Clarence and Jean Unkraut. The recipient's father Clarence retired as a rural carrier and

had the support of his wife in attending every county meeting. Our recipient was encouraged early on in the importance of Union membership and being involved. Our Member of The Year has also been supported by her family of 4 children, 8 grandchildren and loving husband of 37 years Randy Ruholl.

Jane Ruholl, our Member of The Year started as a rural carrier in 1988. If you've ever attended our state convention you have seen her smiling face there. She has worked at the postal service for over 33 years. She has worked as a local steward and chief steward for 13 years of steward experience. Her home town she grew up in also happens to be where her post office is too! Jane has worked on several different committees, including finance, rapid growth, constitution, ballot, and tellers committee. Mrs. Jane Ruholl was also the Chairman of the convention in 2013. Our recipient worked on the state board for the ILRLCA in the following capacities: 2013 Committeeman at Large, 2014 Committeeman at



Member of the Year Jane Ruholl with Southern Committeeman Jesse Hodge and Committeeman-at-Large Lisa Naas.

Large, 2016 Vice President and 2017 Vice President.

Well, the list doesn't stop there! Mrs. Ruholl has worked as her local county president since 2010 to current. Jane also worked as an academy instruc-

tor back in 2014 and did that job for 4 years traveling to different academies working where needed.

Keep in mind, these are just the things that Jane has done while being

Continued to page 2

H R 4268

On June 30, 2021, H R 4268 was introduced into the 117th Congress by United States House Representative Derek Kilmer (D- WA 6) and has a co-sponsor in Tom Cole (R-OK 4). Although it is in the first stage of the legislative process, and the exact language has not been formalized, this is the bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that civilian service in a temporary position after December 31, 1988 may be creditable service under the federal Employee Retirement System and for other purposes. In layman's terms, this is a reintroduction of the 'Buyback Bill'. This bi-partisan bill could benefit just about every carrier in one way or another. It is a proven fact that representatives listen to their own constituents more than any other form of communication. Your Illinois State Board is looking for carriers to help with this task in each Congressional District. Any carrier interested in helping in the support of this bill should contact President Lisa Grubar (815-257-0987) or Vice President Tim Sutton (309-275-3905). Please consider helping with this beneficial task. Remember a Union is only as strong as its member's participation! Please partake in this beneficial legislation!!! Thank You

2020-2021 Annual Report of the President



Lisa Grubar,
President of the
ILRLCA

This year continued to be a very unusual year with everything being cancelled due to COVID-19. The term business as unusual has taken on a whole new meaning. Instead of meetings in person we now meet via ZOOM on our phones and computers. Everyone has to wear a mask and keep 6-foot distance from everyone which is hard for me cause I'm a hugger. As I just finished my fifth term as President, I reflect on everything and everyone that I miss.

I missed seeing everyone at my county meetings and at all functions this year.

I have attended many teleconferences and ZOOM meetings with the National Board about where we stand on union functions and where the post office stands on COVID-19. I have also had many teleconferences and ZOOM meetings with the state board. We are conducting union business as usual just not in person. We did meet together the first week in March to conduct business that had to be done in person. All CDC guidelines were followed from taking temperatures, wearing mask, and having a room big enough to social distance.

I am proud to say that we put a virtual informational conference together in place of the booster and it went over very well, it was viewed by over 200 members. I was happy to have been able to be a big part of it. The conference consisted of information on TSP,

retirement, steward information, legislative updates, PAC, RCBP, National General, and APCU. It's nice when you can get information that can help you and not even leave your house. The best part of it was you could watch whatever part that interest you at whatever time you wanted to and in your jammies.

We did a test ZOOM meeting with Kendall County that went well. We were able to have a steward, two (2) National Officers (President Ronnie Stutts and NRO Jeanette Dwyer), and the State Board present to answer questions. We also did three (3) ZOOM meeting throughout the state, the counties were split into 3 sections. There were stewards, National Officers, and State Board members available for those meetings also.

I also attended a virtual training

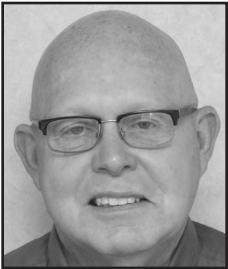
with the Department of Labor (DOL) on having meetings and/or elections during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The President's Conference was again cancelled this year. I miss going to DC to lobby for our jobs. I now make phone calls and send letters. I certainly hope that as we start a new year that we soon get back to some sort of normalcy and that we can start to meet in person again.

We sent out the gaiters to our membership, sent out some mailings to keep everyone informed on things going on such as the three (3) ZOOM meetings through out the state.

In, closing I want to thank my family for their continued support as I continue to serve this great association. I would also like to thank the membership for their continued support. Stay safe and I hope to see everyone soon.

2020-2021 Annual Report Of The Vice President



John Shrode
Vice President of
the ILRLCA and
Media Master

This is my annual report for the year 2020-2021 as your Vice President of the IL RLCA. Because of Covid restrictions the IL RLCA Booster, Mid States Conference, IL RLCA State Convention and National

Convention were all cancelled. The board used zoom meetings to safely communicate and stay informed when feasible. I was present for all scheduled zoom and in person board meetings.

I continued to serve as webmaster. It was decided there was a need for someone else to be trained on the website. Southern Committeeman Jesse Hodge was my student. I am happy to report Jesse caught on quickly.

I submitted a Legislative report for all issues of the IL RLCA newspaper.

The virtual conference was my first time to experience a green screen and be in front of a camera. Being on the board since 2013 I have got to experience many firsts.

As a board we decided to give gators to members since we could not have meetings. Also, we started having zoom meetings for the members to watch and submit questions to stewards and our National Representative Jeanette Dwyer and President Ronnie Stutts.

Because of the toxic work environment at the Macomb office, after 44 and a half years of service I decided it was time to retire on November 1, 2020. Since no election was able to be held, I was asked to finish the year out as Vice President. It has been quite the challenging but rewarding experience. I appreciate all the support I have received over the past seven years.

So I will end with the challenge I have often stated: Is it time for you to step up and serve your union?

2020-2021 Annual Report of the Northern Committeeman



Diane Herrmann
Northern
Committeeman

The following is my Annual Report as Northern Committeeman for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

This past year has been another unusual one. The board, however, has continued to work to get information out to the

members through various forms of communication. Letters were mailed, articles were published in our newspaper, a Virtual Conference was created and ZOOM meetings were held with NSS representatives and National Officers, President Ronnie Stutts and NRO Jeanette Dwyer.

The board continued to meet through numerous phone conference calls and ZOOM meetings to discuss ways to reach out to our membership.

One of those decisions was to purchase and mail out neck gaiters that could be used as face masks, to our members. The Virtual Conference that was created was viewed by over 200 members, many of whom were never able to attend an in-person booster or convention to get the information on retirement, TSP, and more that was provided.

I have attended all phone conference meetings and ZOOM meetings that were held. I also attended our in-person meetings where we audited the financial records and payroll. I have also done recruiting at orientations and in the academies. This was my first year as editor of the state newspaper and I spent some time training our new co-

editor, Sarah Erlenbusch. I also attended a webinar presented by the DOL on meetings and elections in the COVID era. And of course, I received phone calls from members with various problems or questions that I worked to assist them on.

This concludes my 2020-2021 annual report. I am hopeful that we have 'turned the corner' and are on our way back to a more normal lifestyle that will allow us to meet once again. I look forward to the coming year, the return of in-person meetings and a chance to see you all again!

Thank you for allowing me to serve our association as your Northern Committeeman.

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Member... Continued

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involved at work. She is just as busy helping out in her local community doing work as a Cub Scout leader and High School Religion teacher, etc. Phew, not enough hours in the day to get all this done much less raise a family of 4 children!

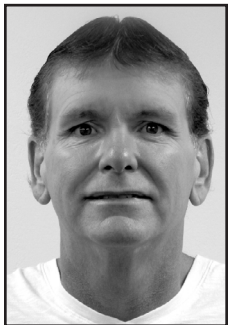
In getting to know Mrs. Jane Ruholl she obviously has a passion to work and work hard. She enjoys working on

the mail route, but still likes to challenge herself by helping others where needed.

In conclusion, she encourages others to be involved, push your limits and don't waste any moments in life. Family being the most important. She is an encouragement to us all. Thank you for your service and all you do Mrs. Jane Ruholl!

Congratulations!

Visit NRLCA.org



Tim Sutton
Central
Committeeman

stitution review committee.

With this year being another year under the pandemic, it was also another unusual year. I started off the year by attending our board meeting via conference calls. From there I was assigned to be a liaison to the con-

Since we were unable to have our usual winter booster, we decided to have our very first virtual conference. This was a very time-consuming event, as we had never done anything like this before. Low and behold we had great attendance and had over two hundred people view these seminars. To me this was a great success. We were able to have our first in person board meeting and were able to wrap up the seminar and exam the associations finances. As the spring rolled around, I attended various conference call meet-

ings and our new way of virtual meetings, ZOOM. We had multiple board meetings via zoom, which with the pandemic era worked very well. Also, besides our board meetings, we held our first virtual meeting with the good folks from Kendall County to test our virtual capabilities. With this success, we proceeded to have regional zoom meetings with our National President Ronnie Stutts, NRO Jeanette Dwyer, District Representative Julia Doggett, and other NSS employees. There was great discussion

had at these meetings and they were a great success. As I attend our last board meeting for this year, I truly hope that more normalcy will come back to our lives. I would like to thank all my fellow carriers for their fortitude and hard work during the last restrictive years. This will be my last article as your Central Committeeman, and I will continue to serve you as your Vice President. God Bless everyone and OUR UNION!!!

2020-2021 Annual Report of the Committeeman-at-Large



Lisa Naas
Committeeman
at Large

This is my annual report for the year of 20-21 as the Committeeman-at-Large for the ILRLCA. My assigned counties are-Jasper-Richland-Clay, Clark-Crawford, Effingham-Fayette-Marion, Ed-

wards-Wabash, Wayne-White-Hamilton, Saline and Gallatin. Unfortunately, no meetings were held due to the pandemic. I hope everyone has been healthy. I have attended all ILRLCA board meetings, conference calls, and ZOOM meetings. I also attended a virtual training from the (DOL) Department of Labor pertaining to holding meetings and elections during covid times. I would like to thank my family for their

support while I was fulfilling my duties and responsibilities for the ILRLCA. I along with my fellow board members voted to purchase and mail gaiters for the members of ILRLCA. I hope that you found them useful. I participated in the virtual conference. I hope that many of you took advantage of this opportunity. It was packed full of important and useful information. Over 200 members accessed the website. The TSP and Retirement

seminars were the most popular. Lastly, I am the National General Insurance Representative for the ILRLCA. Please, call for a no obligation quote! I am thankful for the opportunity to serve as the Committeeman-at-Large, it has been a privilege to serve you. I look forward to this coming year, hopefully we will have in person meetings, and I can see all your smiling faces!

2020-2021 National General Report

by Lisa Naas

Are you driving your personal vehicle on your route? If so, are you being insured properly? If you answer yes to the first question, but you are not sure about the second one; you definitely need to read this article. National General Insurance has been the insurance company of choice for the NRLCA for over 68 years. National General understands that you are covered, for bodily injury and property damage, while on your route by the

Federal Tort Claims Act. Because of this they do not charge you a commercial or business rate. "My agent knows that I drive my vehicle to deliver mail." Your agent may know you deliver mail; but are you being rated correctly? Here is what you should ask your agent: • How do you have my route vehicle rated? Many companies simply won't insure your route vehicle, and if they do, they charge you a higher *business use or commercial use rate*. • Will the company, you have me in-

sured with, going to cover me if I have an accident while I'm delivering mail in my personal vehicle? • Lastly, ask them to show you where you can see the rating of your vehicle. These are very important pieces of information to ask. Many agents don't seem to fully understand the Federal Tort Claims Act and the needs of government employees. That's why the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association recommends the NRLCA Insurance Marketplace – the same peo-

ple who have looked after the special needs and interests of Rural Carriers since 1953. First of all, the NRLCA Insurance Marketplace representatives understand the government's tort liability procedures. So, by placing a special exclusion on your NRLCA Insurance policy, you can be offered a *lower pleasure use or route car* rate on your auto insurance. Give them a call today at: 888-325-7727

2020-2021 Annual Report of the Southern Committeeman



Jesse Hodge
Southern
Committeeman

Committeeman. This will be my third report to you, as having the privilege to serve you as your Southern Committeeman over the past 3 years. This has been a great experience to serve you and work on the board this last year and a great privilege. I would like to start by thanking all of the delegates, county officers, members, ILRLCA Board and my family for their support this year, it has been a humbling and eye-opening experience for which I am thankful. It has been great getting to

ILRLCA President Lisa Grubar, State Board Members, Delegates, Stewards, Members, Auxiliary Members, Juniors and Guests, I am honored to be able to submit my report as your ILRLCA Southern

meet all the new faces that help make our union function and work, without all of you this would not be possible! This past year has been a challenging year for us due to Covid. I unfortunately did not have the opportunity to attend several great and informative meetings that we would normally have. The county meetings that I normally would have attended were Jefferson/Franklin/Williamson, Perry/Jackson/Randolph, Southern 7, Monroe, Madison, Bond, Washington-Clinton, and St. Clair-Monroe. During the past year it has been great making new friendships, sharing stories, and hearing your concerns while answering questions during these difficult moments, we have faced during this past year. Some of my additional duties have also been writing for the ILRLCA paper each month, attending academy recruitments, appeal meetings, service as a local steward, webmaster in training, website-contributions, sent gators to

membership, audited financial records, attending zoom meetings, participated on the state virtual conference, recruited carriers to the union, attended DOL training for meetings and elections during Covid era and I was assigned as your Provident Guild representative. It has been a pleasure getting to know and meeting everyone across our great state. I have also worked with members on issues of retirement, deaths in the family, insurance and the list continues. It was unfortunate that we were not able attend our National Convention in Florida this year. I had looked forward to seeing all the great people and smiling faces. If you've never been to a National Convention, I highly recommend and encourage you to go, it's informative and great to see how our processes work in action and I look forward to us meeting again soon! This year's virtual conference went really well. Thank you for all who

watched! Even with the current situation with Covid we had a good turnout for our virtual conference. I believe it gave a lot of people the opportunity to attend that have not attended some of our meetings in the past. We had great discussions on retirement and TSP to name a few. Our speakers were great, and it had a lot of good information that was shared. In conclusion, it has been a great honor to serve you as your Southern Committeeman for the ILRLCA. I am thankful for the opportunity to work on the board, thanks to the members support. I believe we truly have a strong, intelligent, and passionate board that cares about the needs of its members. I would also like to thank my family and friends who have supported and encouraged me, without you I wouldn't be here. I am proud to call this my union.

Remember PAC Is Your Job Insurance

2020-2021 Annual Report of the Secretary Treasurer



Christine M. De Nino
ILRLCA Secretary
Treasurer

I begin my report by thanking all of you who have showed up and stepped up to the formidable task of delivering as COVID continued to complicate our world. We are finally in a place where businesses are open with few or no restrictions in place. COVID infection rates are lowering, and vaccines are plentiful in our State. Inside the world of rural carriers little is, as it was pre-pandemic. Many carriers have seen parcel volumes increase drastically and remain high even as Amazon continues to increase their own delivery service. Many classes of mail have drastically fallen in volume. Leave replacements remain in extremely short supply. The Postal Service continues to use the “fast track hiring process” which is an admitted failure. A limited number of the new Metris vehicles continue to be deployed on rural routes of all types. We now have two Postal Districts in our State instead of four. The NSS has shifted to match the Postal District changes. Steward travel to represent members is limited but is hopefully beginning to open up. Local, State and National meetings were all canceled for the second year in a row. Virtual meetings began in an effort to provide information to our members. Workloads and stress levels are too high, in too many offices.

Recruiting struggled as the hiring process led to many no shows at orientation and academies. The pandemic

smaller class sizes and delays in getting through the academy. During the year we processed 748 new active members. Of those 296 have separated or left the rural craft. Of the 125 members who retired 55 joined as retired members. In FY 2019-2020 we managed to be among the few States in positive numbers, ending the year with 4310 members. We end FY 2020-2021 with 4234 members. In preparation for the gift card mailing 30 members were found to be deceased from many years ago. They are part of the 76 members lost during the year.

Embassy Suites worked with us on Convention and Booster cancelations. We were able to move those contracts to 2022 without penalties outside of committing to a board meeting being held at the facility in June if restrictions allowed. The Board has continued to hold both Zoom and in person meetings throughout the year and the June meeting was held. We will try again in 2022 for the Late Winter Booster. It will be held Friday night February 25 & Saturday February 26 of 2022. The Booster and State Convention will be held at the East Peoria Embassy Suites 100 Conference Center Dr. Single and double room rates are \$109, Triple \$119 and \$129 for quad. Breakfast and evening reception is included with the rooms. This centrally located venue is one of the finest hotels we have used in recent years.

Bonding reports were completed in July of 2020, and we have four county units requiring a bond. This is likely to increase, as little or no funds were spent, and we are set to disburse another \$34,184 to local units this fall. Every County unit filed the LM 4 with

the DOL on time. The State audit was completed by an outside accounting firm, and the State’s LM 2, 990 and county 990-Ns were also filed on time.

As the pandemic continued in the fall, our Booster planning shifted to virtual. With National’s approval to have DR Tracy Panepinto participate, a virtual conference was planned and produced. Seminars on retirement, TSP, contractual information, legislative and more were incorporated. Over two hundred members made use of the seminars which were posted online during March, April, and May. Most participants had not attended in person meetings but found the flexibility of online events worked for them. Other members struggled with the technology. The website development, hosting, studio space, A/V equipment use, and editing services cost the Association \$16,675. This is in line with the costs for hosting an in-person Booster. For many years Booster attendance has hovered around 100, so hitting the 200-participant mark suggests it was a relatively good value to the members.

As meetings were canceled in the

spring of 2021, the NRLCA made the offer that stewards and NRLCA officers would make themselves available for approved Zoom® meetings. These meetings had to be live and could not be recorded for future use. Meeting notices were mailed to members, with three meetings being held on weekday evenings. NRLCA President Ronnie Stutts and NRO Jeanette Dwyer took part along with DR Julia Doggett, giving a lot of information to participants. Although the cost for these meetings was low, less than 100 unique participants took part in these three meetings.

The 2020-2021 FY Statements provided here are unaudited and also incomplete as some of the June bank statements were not released yet.

We will first address the Statement of Financial Position. This is a snapshot of our finances as of June 30, 2021, in comparison to the same date in 2020. You will note that the combined value of our checking, savings and investment CDs are down \$81,970.51. This is due to a purchase of Visa gift cards that were ordered at a cost of \$193,025.

Continued to page 5

DBA Illinois Rural Letter Carriers Association Statement of Activities

July 2020 through June 2021

Cash Basis

	Jul '20 - Jun 21	Jul '19 - Jun 20	\$ Change
Income			
Incentive Program	0.00	0.00	0.00
National General Insurance	9,536.80	9,756.38	-219.58
Interest / Dividends	7,645.36	14,010.14	-6,364.78
Membership Dues	482,613.40	478,294.90	4,318.50
Miscellaneous	250.00	507.50	-257.50
Reimbursements	0.00	3,980.00	-3,980.00
Sales	-25.00	5,752.00	-5,777.00
Total Income	500,020.56	512,300.92	-12,280.36
Cost of Goods Sold			
Cost of Goods Sold	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total COGS	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gross Profit	500,020.56	512,300.92	-12,280.36
Expense			
Incentive	3,480.00	0.00	3,480.00
Accounting & Legal Fees	8,585.63	6,795.00	1,790.63
Awards & Recognition	200,583.12	8,414.79	192,168.33
Depreciation Expense	0.00	320.42	-320.42
Education & Training	900.49	2,513.12	-1,612.63
Employee Benefits	21,589.54	20,443.39	1,146.15
Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00
Equipment Rental	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lodging - Admin	14,354.22	12,574.87	1,779.35
National Convention	611.65	72,813.48	-72,201.83
Office Expenses	15,650.58	35,603.96	-19,953.38
Orientation Reimbursement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Payroll Taxes	13,345.70	13,376.95	-31.25
Per Capita Dues	47,409.59	56,187.94	-8,778.35
Postage - Admin	19,814.95	12,305.39	7,509.56
Printing	7,553.86	8,536.89	-983.03
Reconciliation Discrepancies	0.00	0.00	0.00
Regional Conference	1,166.50	3,720.81	-2,554.31
Rent	6,000.00	6,000.00	0.00
Repairs / Maintenance	0.00	30.00	-30.00
Salaries and Wages	163,703.79	165,854.71	-2,150.92
State Meetings	17,625.00	15,869.42	1,755.58
State Paper	14,761.25	17,420.91	-2,659.66
Telephone	1,020.12	1,103.43	-83.31
Travel - Admin	15,362.68	25,922.92	-10,560.24
Uncategorized Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00
Website	1,513.95	313.95	1,200.00
Worker's Compensation	2,415.00	2,225.00	190.00
Total Expense	577,447.62	488,347.35	89,100.27
Net Income	-77,427.06	23,953.57	-101,380.63

DBA Illinois Rural Letter Carriers Association Statement of Financial Position

As of June 30, 2021

Cash Basis

	Jun 30, 21	Jun 30, 20	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings	170,920.30	259,781.46	-88,861.16
Other Current Assets	555,341.82	548,451.17	6,890.65
Total Current Assets	726,262.12	808,232.63	-81,970.51
Fixed Assets	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	726,262.12	808,232.63	-81,970.51
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
Dues Payable	513.39	364.78	148.61
Employee Benefits Payable	7,377.98	7,537.54	-159.56
Payroll Liabilities			
Fed 941 Payable	0.00	3,919.30	-3,919.30
FUTA Payable	351.39	309.90	41.49
IL 941 Payable	0.00	732.54	-732.54
SUTA Payable	181.34	103.49	77.85
Total Payroll Liabilities	532.73	5,065.23	-4,532.50
Total Other Current Liabilities	8,424.10	12,967.55	-4,543.45
Total Current Liabilities	8,424.10	12,967.55	-4,543.45
Total Liabilities	8,424.10	12,967.55	-4,543.45
Equity			
Retained Earnings	32,639.66	8,686.09	23,953.57
Temporarily Restricted	9,409.50	9,409.50	0.00
Unrestricted Assets	753,215.92	753,215.92	0.00
Net Income	-77,427.06	23,953.57	-101,380.63
Total Equity	717,838.02	795,265.08	-77,427.06
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	726,262.12	808,232.63	-81,970.51

Secretary Treasurer *continued...*

Continued from page 4

These gift cards will be mailed to members as a dues rebate. Recipients must be members in good standing at the time of the mailing, and as of April 15th, 2021. Fifty-dollar cards will be sent to active members and twenty-five-dollar cards will be sent to retired members. Due to canceled meetings and other savings, the Association had a net income of almost \$24,000 last year and was set on June 28th to end this year with \$116,000 in net income. It is predetermined that the 2021 National Convention is canceled, producing an approximate savings of \$70,000. The State Board determined returning funds to the members in appreciation of their support during the pandemic was appropriate. Gift cards will be mailed in the month of August or September as they arrive. Other specifics may apply as determined by the State Board. In the Liabilities Section you will see Employee benefits payable is 7,377.98. This includes the estimated employer portion and employee funded retirement, health insurance, life insurance and TSP benefits from the 4th quarter. Federal and State withholding tax deposits were made leaving a tax liability

of \$532.73. The Lorene Maher and Carol Bowen Scholarship had assets of \$9,409.50 at the beginning of last year and is shown as Temporarily Restricted. This will be adjusted for donations and expenses and will start next year with an unaudited amount of \$7,959.50 with \$700 in funds yet to be paid out for scholarships already awarded. The Statement of Activities is an overview of funds taken in and spent during the year. Interest rates have decreased, and June interest has not been entered leading to a decrease of \$6,379.57. Membership dues have increased slightly as dues increase with wage increases. There was no Reimbursements or Sales income. These items account for the loss of income of \$12,295.15. In expenses the Incentive account is money paid out for the RAFT program during the period the NRLCA RAFT stopped. Nearly all the RAFT payments were paid to academy trainers. The accounting and legal account had an increase of \$1790.63 which was incurred with \$1,995 in fees to close a VOYA retirement account that was a holdover from the period when the stewards were State employees. The awards account con-

tains the \$193,025 gift card purchase. Training is down as most was done virtually and only when necessary. The employee benefits increase would be due to increases in insurance costs and TSP. Lodging was up \$1,779.35 over the previous year which also saw the convention canceled. The Board and Finance Committee continued holding meetings as necessary. Only a few expenses for the PO Boxes were incurred in the National Convention Account. Office expenses are down substantially as Gaiters purchase for \$21,000 last year, were included in the supplies account in Office Expenses. Per Capita Dues are also down as last year there was a final direct payment to the Auxiliary of \$8,666. Postage increased due to extra mailings including the Gaiters. Printing is down as a printer maintenance contract ended saving about \$1,500. Salaries and wages are down \$2,100 even though there were contractual and COLA increases. This is compared to a year that also saw meetings canceled. Travel was down as in-person meetings were canceled or less frequent. The website is being updated, manuals are being created, and training provided for our webmasters costing \$1,200. Although the year has a loss of \$77,441.85 the multi-year cancellations will provide a savings to offset most,

or all of the money distributed back to the members. During the last year I was assigned to the Big Four, Boone Winnebago, McHenry, Lake, Kane-DuPage-North Cook County units. I attended all of the virtual meetings held and participated in creating the Virtual Conference. I assisted in mailing neck gaiters to our members, supplied materials to orientations and training locations, held virtual trainings as needed for local officers, mailed officer and steward gifts, attended three in person Board meetings and ten virtual meetings. I attended various committee meetings and meetings with the NRLCA Board. I have covered countless remote orientations and academies throughout Illinois and Southern Wisconsin. I have completed my duties as Secretary Treasurer and strive to make improvements in our operations. I have made myself available for carriers in need of assistance on weekends, holidays and outside of normal office hours. I am honored to serve this Association and its' members. Thank you to my family for their support. I would also like to thank my fellow Officers, County Officers, Committee Members, and members of the Association. Without a team effort we would never achieve our goals.

Board Approved Financial Impact Items

Sutton/Naas
Order 5500 2022 pocket calendars

Naas /Hodge
Reorder 300 updated 2021 pocket calendars

Naas/Shrode
Motion to approve interim decisions

- Tokens for possible internet overages \$75 Hughes.net (Member Zoom Meetings)
- Order envelopes along with check order from Deluxe
- Mailings for Zoom meeting postage, mailing supplies and some printing
- Retirement award VP Shrode
- Appreciation award Departing NRLCA Administrative Assistant

Herrmann/Shrode
Fund an additional \$800 to Scholarships so all 4 winners receive \$500. No additional alternates awarded for 2021 drawing only

Sutton/De Nino
Purchase PAC shipping supplies Bubble wrap, tape, tape gun, pin boxes & an IRLCA PAC donor Pin

De Nino/Naas
Donate \$1,000 to be used for book scholarships to be paid directly from the State Association. Sutton & Hodge abstain.

Hodge/ Naas
Motion to send board members to orientation as needed for recruitment

De Nino/ Hodge
Move to change per diem from \$40 to \$50

De Nino/Shrode
All part time board members will be reimbursed **\$125** per month for phone, internet & **office equipment**.

Sutton/Naas
Purchase retirement appreciation award for Tracy Panepinto & Emmett Bennett

Sutton/Naas
Contingent on cancelation of the NRLCA Convention; Regular, PTF & RCA members in good standing will be sent a \$50 appreciation gift card & retirees \$25 provided that funds, fees & postage do not exceed \$200,000. Specifics to follow*

Shrode/ Sutton
Hire Scott Herrmann (Son of Committeeman Diane Herrmann) to update the IRLCA website, create training manual and provide 8 hours of training for \$1,200. Herrmann abstains

Herrmann/ Naas
Do a mailing for the virtual conference

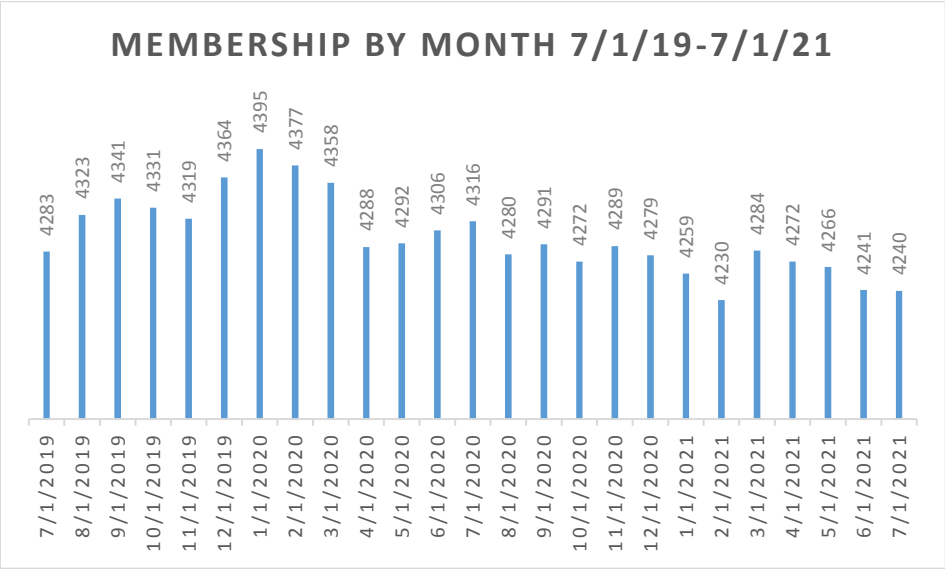
Report of the Finance Committee Chair June 2021

By Terry Ulmer

The other committee members are Pam Shumard from the Central League and Jane Ruholl from the Southern League. The Finance Committee is to review all finances of the Association and to provide a check and balance system for all financial operations of the Association including recommendations, corrective action, and information to the Board regarding the financial accounting of the Secretary/Treasurer. The Committee worked very closely with Chris DeNino, the Secretary/Treasurer and Tim Sutton, the Executive Committee Chair.

Because of the pandemic we were

only able to meet twice this year. Our first meeting was at the Eagle Ridge Resort in Galena, IL on March 4-5, 2021. At this meeting we reviewed all of the finances from June 2020 through January 2021. The second meeting was held at Embassy Suites in East Peoria IL, on June 13-15, 2021. At this meeting we welcomed Matt Flood who will be the incoming representative from the Central League, and we went over the finances from February 2021 through May 2021. We found the finances to be in good order and we have no concerns.



Your scanner is your lifeline, keep it with you always.

Provident Guild Annual Report 2020-2021

By Jesse Hodge
Southern Committeemen

Good afternoon everyone! This is my third annual report of my activities and duties as your Provident Guild representative. I was assigned this duty from President Lisa Grubar. It's been an interesting year with all the cancellations that we have had due to COVID. In addition, many people have

faced several challenges in our country, state and counties. This in turn has not helped with our participation or membership for Provident Guild.

Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the National Convention in Florida this year, due to it being cancelled because of COVID, as your Provident Guild Representative along with many other great representatives from other

states across the nation. This year we have struggled adding new members. I believe we have a lot of great members currently in our state.

Provident Guild is a fellowship of rural carriers that provides an immediate death benefit to the survivors of their members. If you know of anyone who is not a member of Provident Guild, I encourage you to share some

of the great things about it or feel free to have them give me a call. I appreciate it.

If you don't know what Provident Guild is, or would like to know more, you can reach me at (618) 944- 0433 or by email at Jessecolehodge@gmail.com.I would be happy to assist you in any way possible.

Newly Appointed Central Committeeman



Pam Shumard
Central
Committeeman

little bit about myself.

Hello my fellow ILRLCA members, my name is Pam Shumard and I have the honor to be appointed as your new Central Committeeman. For those of you that are not familiar with me, here is a

I started with the Post Office in Belmont, IL in 1984 as an RCA, 30 years later I transferred to Monticello IL. In 2016, I finally became a regular carrier. I currently am serving RR#2 (45k) in Monticello, IL. As of July, 2021 I have been with the post office a grand total of 37 YEARS!

I currently reside in Piatt County where I have been Secretary-Treasurer since 2017. I have also served as Vice-President of my county. I have been attending State and County meetings

for the last several years. I have served on committees at State Conventions in both Constitution and Finance Committees. I was elected as a delegate to the National Convention in Grapevine, TX. 2019. In March 2021, I received Million Mile Club award for 30 years of safe driving.

I have been married for 46 years to my husband Randy. We have 2 wonderful daughters and 2 son-in laws, 4-beautiful granddaughters, 2 of the best great-grandsons I could ever ask

for. In our spare time, we love spending time with them. Just the little things in life are so special.

I've been very active in my community. Girl Scouts, PTA, Volunteer EMT with fire department for 17 years. I also serve at our church from VBS to Food Bank and serving meals for funerals to helping with nursery.

I look forward to the new challenges ahead of me. I will serve this association to the best of my ability. I am here for YOU!

Convention Report 2021- Illinois 1 & Illinois 2 Districts

By Julia Doggett District
Representative Illinois 1 & Illinois 2

To the NRLCA National Board, the Illinois State Board and all the hard working, dedicated Rural Letter Carriers in the Illinois 1 & Illinois 2 Districts, this is the 2021 Convention report from the districts.

This is how the 2020 Lakeland District convention report began.

“Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds.”

In this year of vast uncertainty, the words ‘nor pandemic nor riots, violence nor looting’, should be added to the Postman’s creed. You all have risen to the unprecedented challenge that has befallen us as a country; our world. Your dedication to your customers is seen every day, your presence on your routes in the face of the turmoil, gives everyone a sense of normalcy. Thank you for being the face of the United States Post Office; you all, are doing such a great job.

And this sentiment reigns yet again in the first half of the year 2021.

But there is hope, with multiple vaccines available and better awareness about how COVID-19 is spread, we have hope that although not what we were used to but close to the way we used to live, is getting closer to reality. Stay strong.

Early 2020 things were starting to ramp up for the mapping process of RRECS, and it is only recently that 1000 routes were chosen for the pilot test of this project. At the writing of this article, the deadline of June 11th to have all the test routes mapped has been extended another week to June 18th. NSS Stewards have been welcomed into the pilot offices to observe the procedure as we all look forward to the success of this major event in the making. It was in 2012 when the seeds of the Rural Route Evaluated Compensation System were planted after that contract year arbitration.

Over the last year, NSS Stewards

have held video meetings with management as well as with the membership through Zoom meetings set up by the Illinois state board; we have processed grievances, attended arbitrations, pre-disciplinary investigative interviews and participated in labor management meetings. We fielded calls, conducted Local Steward Certification trainings, and now will be resuming enhancement trainings, using a hybrid model of in-person and virtual options. We are continuing to make alterations to the way we operate as things open back up.

For the whole of this convention reporting period, we have had to change the way we conduct business, but we continue to persevere. In 2020/2021 there were changes in delivery operations; previously DUOed delivery zones were planned and relocated back to their original office and of course the most current shake-up that prompted the NRLCA to realign NSS assignments to better align with the changes to the USPS Districts. The process for the USPS is still in flux, but for the NRLCA we have migrated and are getting on with business.

There are currently 656 routes in Illinois 1 and 1977 rural routes in Illinois 2, with an average volume factor of 2.27. Rural carriers assigned to these routes collectively deliver to 1,347,707 customers, while traveling over 135,615 of miles a day throughout the great state of Illinois.

972 of all the routes in Illinois are POV routes, the remaining have LLVs, or Metris’ assigned. These numbers will most likely change by the publication of this article, as it is the intent of management to pur-

sue providing a vehicle to (most) all routes...

In the last year, there have been 1058 grievances entered into our national database for the purpose of this report, with NSS Stewards attending 276 investigative interviews. These numbers derived from separate reports, an amalgamation of grievance totals by NSS level Stewards (current and recently retired grievance activities) in (old) Lakeland District, Illinois 1 and Illinois 2 within a range of dates before and after the re-organization.

There were 718 individual contractual grievances processed, the most common reasons were compensation and scheduling issues. In addition, 203 disciplinary grievances and 137 class action cases were worked on between June 1 last year and May 31 of this. These cases consist of those processed and settled at step 1 by the NSS stewards, and any case processed by Local, Area, ADR or the DR that was appealed to step 2. As of the time of writing this report for the whole of Illinois 1 and Illinois 2 districts, there are 4 open cases at step two with 24 currently open at step one. There are 2 open cases pending decision at step three, 2 at step four and one each at the Area and National arbitration level. Combined we have 68 grievances in abeyance pending the

outcome of a lead case, regarding subject matter between the National Reassessment Process phase from the year 2010 to the current issues of Unusual Conditions, the 9.2.C.3.b grievances filed for the influx of parcels due to COVID 19 and Amazon.

Both districts together within the state of Illinois currently have 76 Stewards, this includes 6 Assistant District Reps, 5 Area Stewards and the DR. We have an upcoming Local Steward Certification training expected to occur soon and enhancement trainings are expected to resume the latter half of this year. It is an honor and privilege to work with these fellow carriers who are so dedicated to advancing the rights of the Rural Craft. I am grateful for the assistance of Jessica Petty, Karen Brown, Nicole Deaton, Chelcee Owens, Sarah Erlenbusch, Janice Jenkins, Vince Laino, Jonathan Morrero, Donna Beaird, Stephanie Wallace and Brian Ulrich. All our Local and Chief Stewards who are willing to represent carriers in their office and the members beyond the Steward system who work diligently to enhance the rural carrier craft.

I look forward to the future, to be working again with the membership and the Stewards in the great state of Illinois.

2021 Delegate Nominees for the cancelled National Convention

1 O BILL BAKER	15 O CHRISTINE DE NINO	29 O EMILY ANDERSON
2 O PATRICK HALM	16 O DIANE HERRMANN	30 O CAROLYNN CREWS
3 O KRISTIN CASSAN	17 O PETE HARRINGTON	31 O JOEL KAHLING
4 O BRIAN ULRICH	18 O BLAKE JURASICH	32 O JANE RUHOLL
5 O JESS PETTY	19 O GEANINE ORAM	33 O SARAH ERLENBUSCH
6 O ALLEN DUCAT	20 O SARAH KINCADE	34 O PAUL MEDERNACH
7 O PATTI HURLEY	21 O LISA GRUBAR	35 O JENNIFER BOL
8 O DAVID GENTRY	22 O TIMOTHY SHAW	36 O CONNIE BAKER
9 O JULIE WILLIAMS	23 O JORRIE MAGRUDER	37 O MARGARET SIEGRIST
10 O PATRICIA J DWYER	24 O LEANNE MEINERS	38 O PATRICK BOWEN
11 O KAREN BROWN	25 O JESSE HODGE	39 O PAM SHUMARD
12 O JANICE JEREMIAH	26 O BETTY POPELKA	40 O CHRISTINA FRUIT
13 O TIM SUTTON	27 O SANDY BRUCE	41 O LISA NAAS
14 O JULIA DOGGETT	28 O BUD BRUCE	42 O GERALD FRUIT

ILLINOIS AUXILIARY ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

Respectfully submitted by
Stefany Ulrich, ILRLCA Auxiliary
Secretary/Treasurer
Greetings, Everyone!

We can all agree at this point that the past couple years have proved trying at the very least. We trust that everyone finds themselves in good health with high hopes for the future, as we can see some glimpses of normalcy returning on the horizon. With the cancellation of our state convention for the second year, we have been left with very different looking financial statuses as well as agendas. Due to a binding resolution reached at National Convention in 2019, all dues monies are transferred directly to the state auxiliaries and then roughly half of those monies are then transferred by the state to the national auxiliary. Please keep this in mind when reviewing these numbers. Nearly half of all monies deposited then goes directly to the national auxiliary board for their portion of the family plan dues.

Here are the five general divisions of expenditures as set forth by our national auxiliary board. These figures are also reported to them at the end of each fiscal year.

Fiscal Year Beginning Balance as of 7-1-2020, \$16,935.41
Total Deposits, \$31,278.03
Total Expenditures, \$17,447.28

Breakdown of expenditures are as follows:

Office Supplies and Insurance, \$706.24

Board Meeting Expenses (annual officer compensation), \$1,199.00
Dues paid to National Auxiliary, \$15,542.04
Junior Expenses , \$0.00
Delegate/Convention Expense, \$0.00

Leaving the ILRLCA Auxiliary with a fiscal year-end balance of \$30,766.16 on 6-30-2021.

APCU requires us to have a savings account with a minimum of \$25 balance and due to deposits being made from NRLCA into our savings account rather than our checking account, we get some odd balances even after transferring into checking because of interest and timing, primarily, so we ended the fiscal year with a \$25.20 balance in the state auxiliary savings account.

Our board voted at our last in-person meeting to allow the Juniors to have a certain amount of petty cash on hand, which the Secretary/Treasurer of the State Auxiliary Board keeps in holding for them. This allows for cash prizes for their projects, change for fundraiser items, charity donations, etc. The Juniors end the fiscal year with a balance of petty cash in the amount of \$180. These funds are derived directly from registration fees at conventions and booster to allow them some freedom to exercise the parliamentary procedures they are learning by making motions, casting votes, etc.

As can be deduced by the facts, we are ending the year with a significant surplus but that will be helpful for

future planning of upcoming conventions, etc. Since there was such a surplus, the auxiliary decided to sponsor six \$500 scholarships to be awarded in the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Thank you for considering your Illinois Juniors worthy of a quality program where ev-

eryone is welcomed regardless of their differences. It is a wonderful program, enhanced by the many unique Juniors who participate. Here's looking to the future and hoping to see everyone at the Winter Booster or State Convention, 2022!

JUNIOR CONTEST 2020, 2021, & 2022

This is the information we received from National Auxiliary regarding Junior project guidelines for the last year, current, and upcoming year.

All essays and posters must be on, or attached to, a letter-size manila folder. There is no requirement as to how many sides of the folder you use, but you must be able to fold the folder. Each entry must have the following information legibly written on the back of the folder:

- Name and address
- Date of birth and age as of 8/1/20, 8/1/21, or 8/1/22 (Depending on year of entry—Please indicate year of entry.)
- Name of parent or grandparent that is the rural carrier
- State in which dues are paid

Entries with incomplete/incorrect information will be disqualified. All entries will be judged on originality, neatness, grammar and spelling.

Due to the pandemic and continuation of the Program of Cooperation, each Junior will be allowed up the 3

entries (one per year). Please prepare a poster or essay according to appropriate age group in 2020, 2021, or 2022 and INDICATE THE YEAR OF ENTRY.

- Age 6-7: Design a poster: "How my family recycles"
- Age 8-9: Design a poster: "How Donating Items Helps Others"
- Age 10-11: Design a poster: "Make Your Home Poison Safe"
- Age 12-14: Design a poster: "Be a Volunteer"
- Age 15-17: Write an Essay: "Poison Proof Your Home"
- Age 18-20: Write an Essay: "How Volunteering Makes a Difference"
- Special Education: Design a Poster: "Items to Recycle"

Please hold onto all projects and bring them to the next Illinois State Convention and we will be sure to submit them at the next National Convention. Good luck!

PAC NEWS

By Jen Bol, PAC Chair
Congratulations to our 2021 Raffle winners! Even though our state convention was once again cancelled, the Winners were pulled on June 16th in Peoria, Illinois.

- RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS**
- Tervis cup w/\$25 – Chris De Nino – Galena, IL
 - Tervis cup w/\$50 – Sarah Erlenbusch – Minier, IL
 - Tervis cup w/\$100 – Tina Fararre – Seneca, IL
 - Elite Ear Buds – Tricia Biernat – Oddell, IL
 - Napio Massager – John Shrode – Macomb, IL
 - Apple Watch – MaryBeth Kinsella – Yorkville, IL
 - Nintendo Switch – Diane Herrmann – Bolingbrook, IL
 - Arlo Security System – Joyce Gatz – Polo, IL

Congratulations again to all our winners! Without county meetings, Booster and State convention sales, I am very proud to say that the raffle brought in over \$8,700 to donate to PAC. Thank you to all who purchased tickets to help support PAC!

The PAC fiscal year does not end until the end of July, which is after this paper will be published. As of June 30th, with your generous help, we have raised over \$21,000 and are currently in 2nd place in the nation for the year. We

have also raised over \$2,700 with our PAC Auctions on the IRLCA Facebook PAC auction group page. WAY TO GO ILLINOIS! YOU GUYS ROCK!!!

If you would like to make a donation to PAC, please make your personal check (no business or farm checks can be accepted) payable to NRLCA-PAC, and send it to me, Jennifer Bol at 9224 Boardwalk Terrace, Orland Hills, IL 60487. You can also become a sustaining donor. If you are interested in becoming a sustaining donor, email me at Jennjeans@gmail.com and I will get you the information you need. You can also join our IRLCA PAC auction Facebook Group. Just go on Facebook and search IRLCA the group will come up. Request to become a friend, and after your union membership is verified, you will be added to join in the fun.

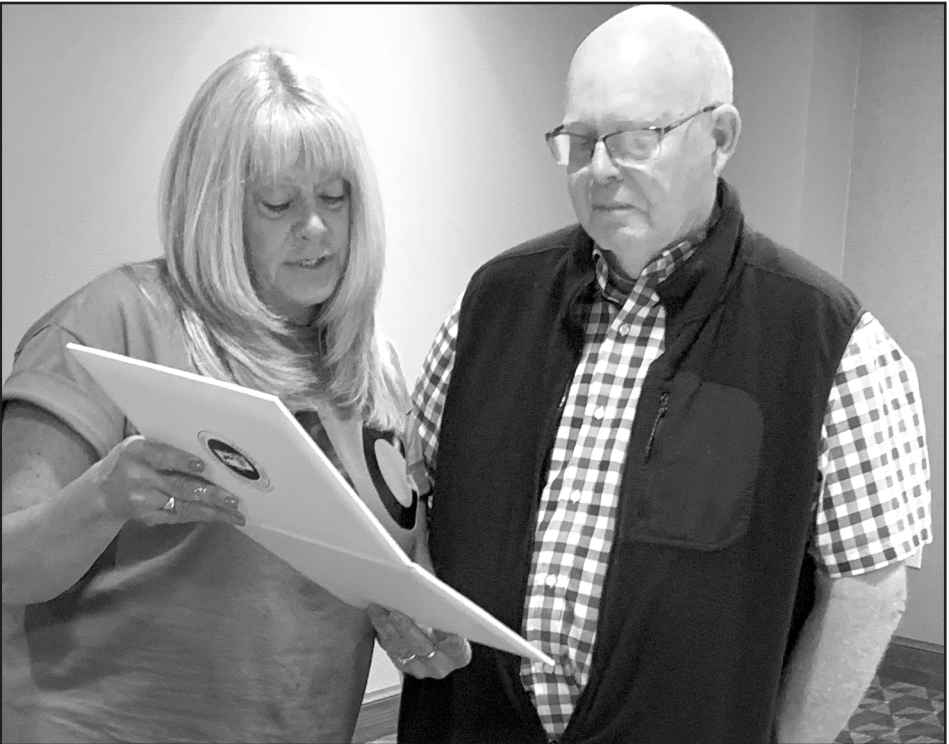
I would like to thank John Shrode for all of his contributions to PAC over the years. National and the IRLCA presented him with a certificate thanking him for all he has done for PAC in so many different aspects. I did ask if he would stay on as our PAC auctioneer, and he accepted. Thanks John!!!

And lastly, I would like to thank our member of the Year, Jane Ruholl. She has helped me so much with PAC. From helping to keep things organized at events, stuffing envelopes, her constant smile, her calmness, and even for being my voice. Thank you so much Jane!

Stay safe and Healthy!

2021 Scholarship winners

2021 scholarship applicants	PARENT/GRAND PARENT	Prize #	Sponsor
CAMERON, CARLY LYNN	STACY CAMERON	500	State
DOUGLAS, RENEE	JENNIFER DOUGLAS	500	Auxiliary
HARNETIAUX, BLAKE	JULIE HARNETIAUX	500	State
HEDDEN, BRIANA	ED LAWSON	500	Auxiliary
HILL, MATTHEW	MALANIE HILL	500	Auxiliary
MITOFSKY, NICK	STEVE MITOFSKY	500	Auxiliary
MITOFSKY, ROSA	STEVEN MITOFSKY	500	State
ROWDEN, DON IV	BETTY POPELKA	500	State
SAGLE, HAYLEE	LOLLIE SAGLE	500	State
UNKRAUT, WILLIAM RUSSELL	CLARENCE UNKRAUT	500	Auxiliary



PAC Chair Jennifer Bol presents John Shrode with a Certificate of Appreciation from the NRLCA and ILRLCA, for his generous donations of time and money throughout his career.



Retiree Pamela Hernandez

Rural Carrier Pamela Hernandez retired May 31, 2021, after 21 years of dedicated service. Pamela, mother of 5, plans on engaging in her favorite pastime, spending time with her children and grandchildren. As a member of the Aurora, IL rural carrier family, Pamela received the ‘traditional’ gift of a hand drawn portrait from co-worker/artist Mitch Bagalanon. The portrait is drawn in the center of a large canvas with space left around the edges where her co-workers can write a memory (possibly about the birthday cakes Pamela would make for her work family members), a send-off, and/or sign their names. And by special request, made a decade ago but never forgotten by Mitch, Pamela was also given a unique stamp plaque done in a Norman Rockwell-esque fashion, depicting herself in her mail truck delivering the mail. The stamp plaque and portrait drawing were presented to Pamela by Aurora Postmaster Holly Burrell on May 27, 2021 during a ceremony held to celebrate her retirement. Congratulations Pamela and Happy Retirement!

Say What? A Partial List of Postal Acronyms

- ACS Address Change Service
- AMS Address Management System
- AO Associate Post Office
- AUX Auxiliary Carrier or Route
- BBM Bulk Business Mail
- BMC Bulk Mail Center
- CFS Computerized Forwarding System
- COD Collect on Delivery
- COLA Cost of Living Adjustment
- CSRS Civil Service Retirement System
- DDU Destination Delivery Unit
- DMM Domestic Mail Manual
- DPS Delivery Point Sequence
- EAP Employee Assistance Program
- ELM Employee and Labor Relations Manual
- EMA Equipment Maintenance Allowance
- FCM First Class Mail
- FEHBP Federal Employees’ Health Benefits Program
- FERS Federal Employees’ Retirement System
- FSS Flat Sequencing System
- HCR Highway Contract Route
- LLV Long-life Vehicle
- LOT Line of Travel
- LWOP Leave Without Pay
- MOU Memorandum of Understanding
- NALC National Association of Letter Carriers
- NDCBU Neighborhood Delivery Collection Box Unit
- NLRB National Labor Relations Board
- NRLCA National Rural Letter Carriers Association
- OIC Officer in Charge
- OPF Official Personnel Folder
- OPM U.S. Office of Personnel Mgmt.
- OWCP Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs,
U.S. Dept. of Labor
- P&DC Processing and Distribution Center
- PAC Political Action Committee
- PDC Postal Data Center (Eagan, MN)
- PMG Postmaster General
- POOM Post Office Operations Manager
- PTF Part-time Flexible Carrier
- RCA Rural Carrier Associate
- RCBP Rural Carrier Benefit Plan
- RR Rural Route
- SPR Small parcel and Rolls
- TSP Thrift Savings Plan
- UAA Undeliverable as Addressed
- UBBM Undeliverable Bulk Business Mail
- USPS United States Postal Service

CONGRATULATIONS RECENT RETIREES!	
BRENDA ATWOOD	MARSHALL
EMMET BENNETT JR	BRIGHTON
JUDY BESLER	CRYSTAL LAKE
WILLIAM DAVIS	BLOOMINGTON
RONALD ENDRESS	LACON
LAURIE ETTTELBRICK	TOLEDO
TINA FAIRCHILD	SESSER
KAREN GUNTER	WEST FRANKFORT
PAMELA HERNANDEZ	AURORA
MARY HERNANDEZ	STERLING
CHARLES HOVERMALE	LAWRENCEVILLE
EDWARD HOWES	WAUKEGAN
BARBARA HOWLAND	MAHOMET
DAVID HUTTON	MOWEAQUA
LINDA KALHAMMER	MANITO
LOUISE KNOLL	GURNEE
YANCHUN LEWIS	WARRENVILLE
KATHLEEN MAGGIORE	NORTH AURORA
DENNIS MCKINLEY	COULTERVILLE
LEANNE MEINERS	KEWANEE
MARSHA NANCE	BRIGHTON
TRACY PANEPINTO	ROMEOVILLE
LAURA PEPIN	BARRINGTON
JANICE POLLARD	ROMEOVILLE
KENNETH RHEA	NEW BERLIN
LAURA SCALES	BLOOMINGTON
KATHLEEN SIMMERING	RIVERTON
SVETLANA SLOBODYANYUK	SPRINGFIELD
JOHN STOB	TINLEY PARK
ROYCE TJADEN	GRIDLEY
KEVIN TRINE	PARIS
LINDA UPTON	GALENA
DEBRA WILSON	CLINTON
ROGER ZWILLING	SUMNER




Lisa Grubar with recent retirees LeAnne Meiners and Carol Grieves

FRIENDS WE HAVE LOST

IN OUR LIVES FOR A MOMENT... IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER

DONNA DELAND	RETIREE	NAPERVILLE
EUGENE SCHUTTE	RETIREE	QUINCY
JEAN YATES	RETIREE	COBDEN
LAWRENCE PEARSON	RETIREE	SHELBYVILLE
ROLAND SCHENDEL	RETIREE	CALEDONIA



Judy Sharkey

Judy A. (nee Metter) Sharkey, 60, of Modoc, formerly of Columbia, died May 16, 2021, at St. Clare Health Care Center, Fenton, Mo. She was born June 9, 1960, in Belleville, daughter of the late Clemence J., and Jean Marie (nee Toenjes) Metter. She was married to Mark Sharkey, who survives her.

They were married June 13, 2000, in Belleville.

Judy was a 1978 graduate of Columbia High School. She was a retired rural letter carrier in Monroe County with the U.S. Postal Service. She was a beloved wife, mother, “Ma Ma,” sister, aunt, and friend to all. She was the ultimate crafter, whose works were always creative and artistic. Judy made the world’s best homemade pizza and fed all who came to her table, her door was always open, and she was always there when needed. Judy loved unconditionally with all her heart.



Lawrence H. Pearson

Lawrence H. (Larry) Pearson, 94 years old, was born July 2, 1926 and passed away May 16, 2021 in Pana, IL.

Larry served in the U.S. Navy from 1944-1946 as a radarman on LST-842 in the Pacific during World War II. He started with the U.S. Postal Service in April, 1949, first as a city letter carrier and then as a rural letter carrier; he retired in December, 1993. He recently received recognition as a 60-year member of the Rural Letter Carriers Association.

Larry was preceded in death by his wife of 68 years, Wilma (Shuman) Pearson, and daughters, Paula Dial and Brenda Beck. He is survived by his son, Bradley Pearson, daughter, Rhonda McAfee, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mccrackendeanfuneralhome.com.



The 4003 is your paycheck,
not the edit sheet,
have you seen it lately?



For Sale!

2012 Transit Connect

RHD conversion

150,000 miles

\$3,5000

Macomb, IL (309) 318-0515



1972 (Annual count of mail on rural routes)

Welcome New Members

MARCO ALEGRIA	RCA	CHANNAHON	JASON HAMILTON	RCA	MOMENCE	MARLENE PERKINS	RCA	SULLIVAN
ANTHONY ALONZO	RCA	ROCKFORD	STARSHAWN HARRIS	RCA	JOLIET	RIVER POLLITT	RCA	CANTON
GEORGE AMARO JR	RCA	SAINT CHARLES	STEPHANIE HASCALL	RCA	WASHINGTON	NASIR PREYOR	RCA	MC HENRY
SARAH ANDERSON	RCA	WATERLOO	ELIZABETH HESTER	RCA	QUINCY	MICAH PRICE	RCA	NORRIS CITY
DONNA APPLEQUIST	RCA	SOMONAUK	KENNETH HICKMAN	RCA	PEORIA	ALISIA PRICE	RCA	WHEATON
TRISTIAN BALL	RCA	HARVEY	LATRICE HICKS	RCA	TINLEY PARK	ESPERANZA RAMOS	RCA	SHERIDAN
JEFFREY BALLENGER	RCA	BELLEVILLE	CHRISTINE HODGIN	RCA	HERSCHER	LYNN RAY	Reg	GREENUP
ALAIN BALUCATING	RCA	SAINT CHARLES	DAWNNE HOLT	RCA	ROCKFORD	MICHELE REID	RCA	NAPERVILLE
ANTHONY BAXTER II	RCA	BELLEVILLE	ANGELA HOLTZ	RCA	RAPIDS CITY	JOSHUA RENDLEMAN	RCA	BELLEVILLE
TREVA BEAVERS	RCA	GOLCONDA	ELIZABETH HUGHES	RCA	SPRINGFIELD	FLORIDALIA RODRIGUEZ	RCA	ROMEOVILLE
THOMAS BEEVE	RCA	SPRINGFIELD	MARIA HURST	RCA	BELLEVILLE	MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ	RCA	AURORA
NATALIE BENNETT	RCA	NAPERVILLE	HYKEEM JACKSON	RCA	BLOOMINGTON	NATALIE RODRIGUEZ	RCA	NAPERVILLE
RICHARD BINGHAM	RCA	ROCHESTER	STEVEN JAROL	RCA	MUNDELEIN	HEATHER ROMAN	RCA	BATAVIA
LEAH BJORK	RCA	BELVIDERE	CHRISTOPHER JENKINS	RCA	FRANKFORT	YADIRA ROSALES	RCA	HUNTLEY
DOUGLAS BLY	RCA	SPRINGFIELD	LARHONDA JOHNSON	RCA	WHEATON	MELISSA RUBIO	RCA	CARPENTERSVILLE
SIERRA BOOKMAN	RCA	WOODSTOCK	AARON KELLY	RCA	AURORA	SAMANTHA RUSHING	RCA	METROPOLIS
DAVID BOYD	RCA	O FALLON	JASON KOSKI	RCA	RAMSEY	TIMOTHY RYAN	RCA	HUNTLEY
BRIDGETT BRACH	RCA	FAIRFIELD	MICHAEL LAKE	RCA	LINCOLN	HEATHER SCHLEMMER	Reg	WATERLOO
MICHAEL BROUILLETTE	RCA	HUNTLEY	SAMANTHA LAMBRIGHTSEN	RCA	WATERMAN	ERICA SCHMIDT	RCA	ELBURN
JERRY BROWN	RCA	FRANKFORT	CIERRA LEFLORE	RCA	BELLEVILLE	JAJUAN SCHOOLER	RCA	JOLIET
CORBYN BROWN	RCA	METROPOLIS	KAM KEUNG ER LI	RCA	AURORA	AMBER SCHUSTER	RCA	ROCKFORD
ALMA CARRILLO	RCA	BOLINGBROOK	KIMBERLEE LIBRICZ	RCA	ELGIN	ALICIA SEXTON	RCA	HAMPSHIRE
BRANDY CASTILLO	RCA	BOURBONNAIS	CODY LYBARGER	RCA	MONMOUTH	TYLER SIEGEL	RCA	HILLSBORO
CHIEN CHANG	RCA	YORKVILLE	DANIEL MALO	RCA	PRINCETON	JAMES SITZ	RCA	SAINT CHARLES
TIMOTHY CHAPMAN	RCA	RUSHVILLE	GLORY MASON	Reg	COLLINSVILLE	CARLEIA SMITH	RCA	PLAINFIELD
JASMINE COOPER	RCA	EAST ALTON	SARAH MASON	RCA	WATSEKA	CAROLINE SMITH	RCA	O FALLON
DANIELLE COWGER	RCA	YORKVILLE	PEGGY MATELSKI	RCA	SCHAUMBURG	ERIC SMULL	RCA	HANNA CITY
JERRETT CROSBY	RCA	PLAINFIELD	CYNTHIA MATTHEWS	RCA	LINCOLNSHIRE	FRED SPENCE IV	RCA	BARTLETT
DUSTIN DAHL	RCA	OGLESBY	EMANUEL MAYFIELD JR	RCA	JOLIET	TAMIYA SPENCER-MIMS	RCA	O FALLON
CATHERINE DALE	RCA	CARBONDALE	RANDALL MCCOY	RCA	CHESTER	HEATHER STAYNER	RCA	BLOOMINGTON
LAQUISHA DAVIS	RCA	BLOOMINGTON	JOSHUA MCMURTRY	RCA	CARTERVILLE	ALESIA STEIN	RCA	VIENNA
RAJA DAVIS	RCA	ROCKFORD	APRIL MELKA	RCA	ROMEOVILLE	MIRIAH STEVENSON	RCA	BELLEVILLE
BIANCA DAVIS	RCA	NAPERVILLE	GARY MICHALISKA	RCA	WHEATON	CYNTHIA STOB	Reg	WHEATON
CASSIE DAVIS	RCA	ABINGDON	KYLE MIKOLAJEWSKI	RCA	ROMEOVILLE	AVONLEA STRAIT	RCA	FARMINGTON
IVAN DE LA ROCA	RCA	LAKE ZURICH	BRIAN MILLER	Reg	YORKVILLE	JORDAN STUTSMAN	RCA	WATERLOO
COURTNEY DE PREZ	RCA	LAKE ZURICH	BRANDON MILLER	RCA	EL PASO	JASMINE TAYLOR-GWIN	RCA	SULLIVAN
JEFFREY DEAN	RCA	WARRENVILLE	CARRISSA MILLER	RCA	EARLVILLE	CHERMAINE THOMAS	RCA	YORKVILLE
KAREY DEARBORN	RCA	SYCAMORE	GRANT MITCHELL	RCA	EDWARDSVILLE	DRAKE TRIBBLE	RCA	TINLEY PARK
KYLE DEEN	RCA	CARTERVILLE	REX MONTGOMERY	RCA	CHILLICOTHE	JARED UNDERWOOD	RCA	GALENA
JEAN DESCOLLINES	RCA	O FALLON	DEIDRE MOORMAN	RCA	OQUAWKA	DWAYNE VARNER	RCA	PAWNEE
LADONNA DRAKE	RCA	BOLINGBROOK	JILL MOSELEY	Reg	MANTENO	AUSTIN VEAL	RCA	PLAINFIELD
TATIANNA EASON	RCA	CHAMPAIGN	BEN MOYERS	RCA	MACOMB	AMELIA VILLA	RCA	ROCKFORD
WILLIAM ESTRADA	RCA	BIG ROCK	NATHANIEL NEACE	RCA	SMITHTON	JULIAN WALKER	RCA	SOUTH BELOIT
DARREN FADLER	RCA	WATERLOO	DAVID NEVINSKI	Reg	HUNTLEY	D ANDRE WALLACE	RCA	ORLAND PARK
RYAN FEELY	RCA	AURORA	MIKE NICHOLSON	RCA	HARVARD	MARLON WEATHERS SR	RCA	PLAINFIELD
TABITHA FLOWERS	RCA	STREATOR	DANIEL OSBORNE	RCA	GALVA	JOHN WEST JR	RCA	CRETE
SHELBEY FRAILEY	RCA	HARVARD	KATHERINE OVERBECK	RCA	CENTRALIA	TONY WILDER	RCA	YORKVILLE
RONNEL GARDE	RCA	YORKVILLE	ZACHARY PALMER	RCA	PEOTONE	ARMANI WILLIAMS	RCA	ORLAND PARK
MALISHA GIBSON	RCA	BLOOMINGTON	ANGELA PARKS	RCA	KEWANEE	CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS	RCA	BARTLETT
TRACY GRUBB	RCA	ABINGDON	JESSICA PATTI	RCA	ROMEOVILLE	ARIELLE WILLIAMS	RCA	JOLIET
KATHLEEN GUNDERSON	RCA	SAINT CHARLES	NICHOLAS PATTON	RCA	HAMPSHIRE	ALLAN ZWICK	RCA	MARYVILLE
NATHANIEL HAHN	RCA	SAVOY	PEDRO PENA	RCA	AURORA			

Illinois Rural Letter Carriers Association 2021-2022

Events
For Members

Fall County Unit Meetings

Fall County meetings may be held but please use good judgement and follow any guidelines that may be in place. Contact your assigned State officer & District Representative Julia Doggett for availability.



116th National Convention

September 6-9, 2022

Rosen Shingle Creek Hotel

9939 Universal Blvd.

Orlando, FL 32819

Illinois Rural Letter Carriers
Association State Convention

June 15,16,17, 2021

Embassy Suites East Peoria

100 Conference Center Dr.

East Peoria, IL

(309) 694-0200

Room Rates \$109 Single & Double

\$119 Triple \$129 Quad

Plus tax

- Seminars
- NRLCA Officer Presentation
- Association Business
- Caucus
- Elections



Winter Booster

Tentative Agenda

Friday February 25, 2022 - Meet & Greet

Saturday February 26, 2022 – Meetings

Embassy Suites

100 Conference Center Dr., East Peoria, IL

Room rates: \$109/double, \$119/triple, \$129/quad

(309) 694-0200 Group Code ILRLCA Booster

-Retirement presentation by Tag Gambatese

-Officer training

-Resolution Workshop

Tentative Menu:

Friday Dinner & PAC Auction meal:

Chicken or Beef, potato and vegetable

Entrée includes iced tea, bread, house salad and desert

Saturday Lunch:

Chicken Breast or Beef Tips over noodles

Entrée includes house salad, bread, potato, vegetable, and
desert, iced tea, coffee and assorted herbal tea

Saturday light supper:

Cheeseburger, chips & cookie

*Hotel guests receive full breakfast

*If you would like a vegetarian meal selection please note that on
your registration form so we may accommodate you.

Send your name, contact information and a Check payable to the
ILRLCA to:

Sarah Erlenbusch PO Box 922 Minier, IL 61759

- Registration, all meals listed above, & “upgraded ditty bag”
\$25 per person
- Registration only is \$10 per person which will be refunded
at the registration table.

Pre-Registration is required!

Questions? Please contact Christine De Nino at (815) 541-0430

CHECK THE CALENDAR
PAGE at ilrlca.org for
EVENT TIME & LOCATION



Spring County Meetings

Delegate Elections

Officer Elections

Proposed Resolutions & Amendments

Steward & Officer Presentations

Question & Answer Session

ilrlca.org

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS'
BENEFITS

Mid States Conference

May 6, 7, & 8, 2022


Council Bluffs, Iowa

2021 State Officers and County Assignments	
President Lisa Grubar 886 N 2401 Rd Oglesby, IL 61348 (815) 257-0987 lisagrubar.ilrlca@yahoo.com	Bureau-Putnam-Stark, DeKalb, LaSalle-Grundy*, Livingston- Ford, Knox, Peoria 4, Tri County (Mercer- Henderson-Warren)
Vice President Tim Sutton 18502 E 600 North Rd Bloomington, IL 61705 (309) 275-3905 ruralsteward1@gmail.com	Adams-Brown-Pike, Calhoun-Jersey- Macoupin, Central 9 (Sangamon- Morgan-Scott-Cass-Greene- Schuyler-Mason-Logan-Menard), Christian, Hancock-McDonough- Fulton, McLean* & Montgomery
Secretary Treasurer Christine De Nino PO Box 98 Galena, IL 61036 (815) 541-0430 cdenino.ilrlca@hotmail.com	Boone-Winnebago, Big Four (Carroll-Jo Daviess-Ogle- Stephenson)*, Kendall, Rock Island-Henry, Whiteside-Lee
Northern Committeeman Diane Herrmann PO Box 1313 Bolingbrook, IL 60440 (630) 278-2004 DHerrmann.ilrlca@yahoo.com	Iroquois, Kane-DuPage-North Cook, Kankakee, Lake, McHenry, Will-South Cook*
Central Committeeman Pam Shumard 100 E Sprague Bement, IL 61813 (217) 898-2399 pshumard.ilrlca@gmail.com	Champaign, Coles-Cumberland, Douglas-Edgar, Macon-DeWitt, Piatt*, Shelby-Moultrie, Vermillion
Southern Committeeman Jesse Hodge 17747 New Ohio Coal Road Pittsburgh, IL 62974-1537 (618) 944-0433 jessecolehodge@gmail.com	Bond, Franklin-Williamson- Jefferson, Perry-Jackson- Randolph*, Southern 7 (Johnson- Massac-Alexander- Pulaski-Union- Pope-Hardin), Madison, St Clair- Monroe, Washington-Clinton
Committeeman-at-Large Lisa Naas PO Box 211 Norris City, IL 62869 (618) 967-4375 naaslisa.ilrlca@yahoo.com	Clark-Crawford, Edwards- Wabash, Effingham-Fayette- Marion, Gallatin, Jasper- Richland-Clay, Saline, Wayne- White-Hamilton*

IL RLCA CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST	6	PAY DAY
	14	PP-18
	17-20	NATIONAL CONVENTION CANCELLED
	20	PAY DAY
SEPTEMBER	28	PP-19
	3	PAY DAY
	6	LABOR DAY-POSTAL HOLIDAY
	11	PP-20 PATRIOT DAY
OCTOBER	15	RURAL CARRIER REMEMBRANCE DAY
	17	PAY DAY
		SPECIAL MAIL COUNT BEGINS
	18	RDWL & HOLIDAY/SUNDAY SIGN UP
	22	AUTUMN BEGINS
	25	PP-21
	28	DOL LM FILING DEADLINE
	30	MAIL COUNT ENDS
	1	PAY DAY
		RDWL & HOLIDAY/SUN SIGN UP ENDS
	8	GUARANTEE PERIOD ENDS
	9	PP-22
		GUARANTEE PERIOD BEGINS
		RDWL & HOLIDAY/SUNDAY LIST
		EFFECTIVE
	11	COLUMBUS DAY/INDIGENOUS
		PEOPLE DAY
		POSTAL HOLIDAY

Please Note the New Officer and Steward Area Assignments

PAC Chair Jennifer Bol (708) 510-5559 jennjeans@gmail.com		Chaplain LeAnne Meiners LeAnneMeinersILRLCA@yahoo.com (815) 830-7317
Scholarship Chair Emily Anderson 1405 Wayne Rd Galatia, IL 62935 (618) 927-1973 DLVR76@gmail.com		Veteran's Club President Ed Lawson Secretary Treasurer Tim Shaw
Retired Carriers' Club President Janice Jeremiah Secretary Treasurer Becky Payne		

Illinois Districts 1 and 2 Steward Assignments

Julia Doggett FT District Representative
PO Box 503, West Chicago, IL 60186
(217) 622-3820 Julia.Doggett@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 600, 610 & 611

Karen Brown FT ADR
PO Box 777, Yorkville, IL 60560
(630) 273-2490 Karen.Brown@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 604, 605 & 613

Jessica Petty FT ADR
PO Box 71, Oakland, IL 61943
(217) 280-3137 Jessica.Petty@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 618, 619, 620, 624, 625, 626 & 627

Nicole Deaton PT ADR
PO Box 165, Columbia, IL 62236
(618) 340-1671 Nicole.Deaton@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 622, 628 & 629

Sarah Erlenbusch PT ADR
PO Box 922, Minier, IL 61759
(309) 857-4838 Sarah.Erlenbusch@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 609 & 617

Janice Jensky PT ADR
PO Box 385, Hinckley, IL 60520
(779) 777-2335 Janice.Jensky@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 601

Chelcee Owens PT ADR
PO Box 54, Galva, IL 61434
(309) 276-7219 Chelcee.Owens@nrlca.org
Assigned Zip Codes: 612, 614, 615, 616 & 623

Donna Beaird Area Steward
(815) 978-5919 donnabeaird251@yahoo.com
Assigned Offices: Byron, Davis Junction, Dixon, Lindenwood, Monroe Center, Oregon, Rochelle, Rock Falls, Savanna & Sterling

Vince Laino Area Steward
(618) 554-7388 Littleman_68@yahoo.com
Assigned Offices: Albion, Carmi, Centralia, Flora, Louisville, Marshall, McLeansboro, Mt Carmel, Mt Vernon, Oblong, Olney, Paris, Salem & Vandalia

Jonathan Marrero Area Steward
(630) 977-9783 jonathan193@sbcglobal.net
Barrington, Buffalo Grove, Lake Zurich, Lombard & Wauconda

Brian Ulrich Area Steward
(815) 742-7091 brian.ulrich.2018@outlook.com
Assigned Offices: Belvidere, Kilburn Station, Rockford Loves Park Branch & South Beloit

Stephanie Wallace Area Steward
(815) 919-0474 swwilkes@hotmail.com
Frankfort, Joliet, Orland Park & Tinley Park

Contractual Questions...
Discipline problems...
Who should you call?
Your Steward!

For updates check the website
www.ilrlca.org