



# NORTH CAROLINA RURAL CARRIER



Official News Publication of the North Carolina Rural Letter Carriers' Association

Volume 29

Number 5

Circulation 5000

Edited Maiden, NC

March/April 2013

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State Convention  
June 23-26, 2013  
Cherokee, NC  
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*Derek Harpe*

## President's Message It Is A Start!!

On March 26<sup>th</sup> President Obama signed HR-933 into law. It funds the government through September 30, 2013. This bill also mandates that the USPS MUST continue to provide six-day delivery service. A recent U.S. Government Accountability Office opinion confirms this mandate saying that existing law requires "USPS to continue six-day delivery and rural delivery of mail at not less than the 1983 level." This puts PMG Pat Donahoe at odds with both Congress and existing law in his decision to slash six-day delivery this coming August. Please keep your eye on the NRLCA website and the NCRLCA website for the latest updates as we must continue to keep our Congressional Members and Senators feet to the fire HR-933 is only through September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Carl Kelly and I will be going to Washington, DC to the 2013 State President's Legislative Seminar in May to speak to all of the NC Congressional members and both Senators. I hope you, your family, and friends continue to let your representatives know we need six-day to continue!! We need your support and involvement!

Plan to come to Cherokee for the State Convention on June 23 through June 26. Our NRLCA President Jeanette Dwyer and NRLCA Auxiliary President Kay Carter will be in attendance along with some local officials. Thanks to all who contacted Legislative Officials. Keep it up!

### State Convention 2013

Many plans for the 2013 State Convention are being finalized at this time, and we hope that you are making your plans to attend also. The convention will be held June 23 through June 26 at the Cherokee Hotel and Casino located at 777 Casino Drive, Cherokee NC 28719. Reservations can be made by calling, 1-800-HARAHS (1-800-427-7247). Our room rate is \$99 + 7.5% Tribal Levy and 3% Occupancy tax. You must use the special code for our group, S06NRLA. That's S, ZERO,6NRLA. This is a 1,100 room luxury hotel with large sleeping rooms. Parking is free whether you choose valet or self-parking.

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Peach Belt	5	Ashe	6	Smokey Mountain	11
Roanoke Chowan	7	Foothills	10	Caswell County	14
Durham County	12	Five County	28	Tri County	25
Cumberland Hoke	20	Guildford County	30	French Broad	31
Sea Level	23	Person	41	Roaknoke	44
Cleveland/Gaston	29	Rockingham County	46	Rutherford/Polk	47
Tidewater	52	Watauga/Avery	57	Piedmont	50
Union County	54				

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Phone 252-771-8180

Alamance	1	Albemarle	2	<b>These Assignments Subject to Change</b>	
Wake County	24	Alleghany County	4	Brushy Mountain	3
Mecklenburg	38	Burke/Caldwell	9	Southeastern	8
Orange County	39	Harnett County	32	Catawba/Lincoln	15
Randolph County	42	McDowell/Mt. Mitchell	36	Central Carolina	16
Wayne County	56	Tar River	51	Yadkin River	26
				Johnston County	34

## Appointed Officers

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**MAIL NEWS ITEMS BY 10<sup>TH</sup> OF MONTH  
and Address Changes**

**TO:**

**RONALD L. LINEBERGER**

3668 Startown Rd.  
Maiden, NC 28650-8722  
Phone 704-732-1604  
FAX 704-735-9094

Please notify the officer assigned to your district four weeks ahead of your meeting so as to eliminate any conflict of meeting dates as much as possible. District Representatives Conley and Suttles are unassigned and will attend as many district meetings as their schedule permits.

## Obituaries

**Marlene Thomas Blake**, 78, of Lumberton, died March 4, 2013. She was born June 5, 1934, in Malad, Idaho.

She was preceded in death by her husband, **James David Blake who died on January 22, 2013**; a son, **John Thomas Blake who passed away on December 31, 2012**; a daughter, Lorelei; her father, Lamar J. Thomas; her mother, Emma Annabel Ashton; her brother, Elton; her sisters, Shirley, Donna, and DeAnn; and her stepmother, Margaret Thomas.

She is survived by her son, David Blake; a sister, Cheryl Atkinson; and a brother, Les Braker.

Marlene started her career as a rural carrier in Lumberton in December 1977 as a des 73, she made regular on RR 6 and then served several years on RR 5 the route she had started on as a sub. Marlene transferred to St. Pauls, NC between 1989 and 1991 where she served RR 1 until her retirement.

**Edd Archible Beaver**, 95, of Rockwell, died March 9, 2013. Edd was a 1935 graduate of Rockwell High School and a 1937 graduate of Pfeiffer College. After college he worked for Cannon Mills for 19 years. A Veteran of World War II, Edd enlisted in 1942 and was stationed in Washington, DC and Pearl Harbor. He was discharged in 1945 with the rank of Lieutenant J.G.

Edd was a Rural Letter Carrier until his retirement after 27 years, and was a member of NC Rural Letter Carriers Association, NCRLCA Carrier of the Year 1980, NCRLCA Chaplin 1998 and was awarded the Million Mile Safe Driving Award by the U.S. Postal Service.

Edd attended Immanuel Lutheran Church, where he was a Sunday School Teacher for 40 years, served as Vice Chairman of Church Council and as Chairman of the Building Committee. Edd served on the Rockwell School Board, was a former Rockwell Civitan, had served on the Rockwell Library Board, a former member of Miller-Russell American Legion Post 112 where he received the 60 Year Certificate, he received the 60 year award from Keller Memorial Masonic Lodge where he was awarded Life Membership, was Lodge Master in 1949 and 1951, and Mason of the Year in 1985. Edd was a member of the York Rite Bodies and Oasis Shrine Temple, and a former member of the Young at Heart Club of Rockwell serving as President in 1985.

Survivors include sons, Dale A. Beaver, Dan K. Beaver and Dean R. Beaver; a brother Hugh A. Beaver; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

**Geoffrey Allen Floyd**, Oxford died, Jan. 8, 2013. Geoffrey was a retired rural letter carrier with the U.S. Postal Service, a member of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees and a member of the National Rural Carrier Association. He was a member of

the Oxford United Methodist Church and a veteran of the U.S. Army.

Surviving are his wife, Christine Allen Floyd; son, Eric Floyd; daughters, Cindy Cash, Sharon Reavis and Angela Parrott; eight grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

**Carlton Aubrey Phelps**, 89 of Roper; died on January 10, 2013.

Carlton entered the Army July 21, 1944 at Fort Bragg, N.C. He attended training camp at Camp Wheeler Georgia with the Company I 18th Infantry 1st Division. Private First Class Phelps was Weapons and Platoon Machine gunner and later a 60m Master. While serving in Europe, PFC Phelps earned a combat Infantry badge, Marksman Badge with rifle bar, World War II Victory Medal, European African Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and 3 Bronze Stars for participation in the Battle of the Bulge, Ardennes-Absace, Central Europe and Rhineland Campaigns. On January 31, 1946 PFC Phelps was honorably discharged from Hospital Station at Fort Story, VA.

After serving in the military, Carlton continued to work in government service at U.S. Marine Corps. Edenton, N.C., U.S. Customs in Wilmington, N.C. and Richmond, V.A., U.S. Department of Agriculture, A.S.C. and Farmers Home Administration. Additionally, with the U.S. Postal Service he was Postal Clerk for two years, substitute carrier, and rural route 1 carrier 14 years, and Postmaster 14 years at Roper. He retired July 2, 1986 with a total of 35 years of service.

He was a member of Roper Ruritan Club and held all offices of the club. He was a member of the Creswell American Legion Post number 391 for 28 years. He served 8 years on Washington County Planning board and 5 years on the Washington County Community Resource Council. He was a lifelong member of the Washington County Republican Party and a member of the First Christian Church in Williamston, NC.

He is survived by his two daughters: Deborah Phelps Davenport and Carleen Phelps Steigerwald, three grandsons: two sisters and one brother.

**Billy Wayne Sellers, Sr.** age 63, of Whiteville died Friday, February 22, 2013. He was preceded in death by a son, Billy Wayne Sellers, Jr. and his parents, Eddie "Ed" and Johnnie Carmichael Sellers.

He is survived by his wife, Debbie Smith Sellers; three daughters, Holly Beth Sellers, Michelle Renee Tyler, and Tonya Edna Ray; a sister, Sara Hawes; three brothers, Leroy Sellers, E.J. Sellers, and Roger Sellers; and five grandchildren.

**Wade Hampton Powell Jr.**, 86, South Mills, died Friday, March 22, 2013. Mr. Powell was retired from the US Postal Service having been a rural letter carrier for 33 years. He was a member of Good News Baptist

Church where he formerly served as Sunday School Superintendent and Sunday School teacher; he was an avid hunter and a member of the National Association of Rural Letter Carriers and received his 60 year membership award at the State Convention in Nags Head in June, 2012. Mr. Powell was an U. S. Army veteran having served in World War II in Japan.

He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Marjorie Waller Powell; four daughters, Linda Temple, Lorraine Mizelle, Nancy Farmer, and Melissa Powell Linton; one brother, Marshall Leroy Powell; eight grandchildren; and a special caregiver, Johnnie Spence.

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### **Chaplain's Message** **Doug Byrum, Chaplain**

#### **Who is Sovereign?** **Read Matthew 16:21-26**

*Jesus said to his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me."*

*Luke 9:23 (NRSV)*

The doctor directed me to fast before my medical examination. When I went in for the exam, I was told that I needed to give up a few things and take up exercise. This reminds me of what we do during Lent. We give up something for six weeks and perhaps take up special spiritual exercises for our spiritual health.

Jesus' charge --- "let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me" --- shows one step leads to the other. If we can't deny ourselves, we also cannot take up the cross. If we are not willing to accept a cross, we cannot follow Christ. Self-denial is denying myself the right to do what I want and surrendering that right to Jesus as my Lord and Savior.

When Jesus asked his disciples to deny themselves, it wasn't for a season. It was to be a daily practice that lasted a lifetime. And such a commitment is not something we struggle with once and then effortlessly keep for the rest of our life. Each day we face choices to do what we want or what God wills. (See Luke 22:42.) Lent is a time for allowing the Holy Spirit to examine us and help us determine what we need to stop and what we need to start in order to follow Christ more faithfully.

**Prayer:** O God, help us to see where you are calling us to take up our cross, and give us power to obey. Amen.

**Thought for the Day:** What am I doing to improve my spiritual health?



*Brenda White and Ronald Linberger*

### **Allergies or a Cold?** **How to Determine if You Have a Cold or Allergies?**

Allergies and colds are often confused. They have similar symptoms and - if you aren't plagued by chronic seasonal allergies - can be difficult to differentiate.

#### **What are the Symptoms of Allergies?**

Different people have different reactions to allergens. The most common symptoms of seasonal allergies are:

- Clear runny nose
- Itchy or dry eyes
- Sneezing
- Headache

Some people may experience more severe allergic reactions which can include hives (red itchy rash) and difficulty breathing.

#### **What Causes Allergies?**

Many factors contribute to allergies. Most are caused by environmental factors such as pollen, dust, mold, pet dander, smoke and pollution. Other people are allergic to foods and medications, which may cause more severe reactions than environmental allergens.

#### **Can I Develop Allergies as an Adult?**

Yes. Even if you have never had allergies, you can develop them as an adult. Many people find that when they move to a new area, they will develop allergies. It's usually related to different pollens or other allergens in the air in the new area. When your immune system is exposed to an allergen for the first time, you may not have a reaction. After that initial exposure, your body may begin to produce histamines when you encounter the allergen again. These histamines are what cause the symptoms of allergies.

Typically, adults will develop allergies to environmental allergens, but it is much less common to develop allergies to foods or medications in adulthood. This is because most people have had at least two exposures to foods and medications that commonly cause allergic reactions by the time they reach adulthood.

## How Can I Tell if I Have Seasonal Allergies or a Cold?

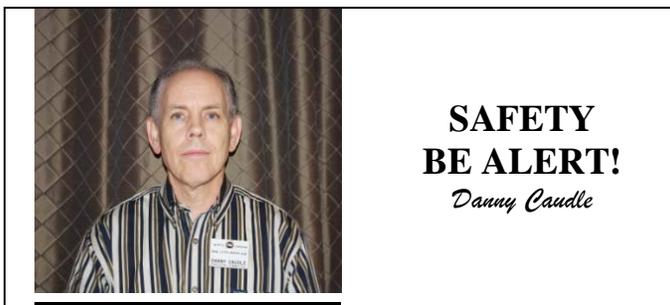
A cold will usually last two weeks or less. They can last longer, but typically clear up within two weeks. Seasonal allergies last until the allergen that you are reacting to is gone or you are no longer exposed to it.

Cold symptoms are also slightly different than allergy symptoms. They include:

- Runny nose - may be clear, green, yellow or white
- Sneezing
- Cough
- Headache
- Congestion

## What Can I Do if I Think I Have Seasonal Allergies?

If you think you may have allergies, or aren't sure, you should see your healthcare provider. They can determine whether your symptoms are caused by a virus (such as the common cold) or by allergies. They can also recommend medications or give you a prescription if you do have allergies. Some common allergy medications are Benadryl, Zyrtec, Allegra, and Claritin. They are all available over the counter and in generic forms. For people with more severe reactions or who do not respond to these medications, a visit to an allergist may be necessary. Allergists will conduct tests to determine the exact causes of the allergies and may prescribe allergy shots to alleviate symptoms.



Recently, I had an RCA approach me with an incident that happened to him on a route he was carrying. He said that as he was serving the route he noticed several young children playing in a yard close to the road. As he carefully approached the mail box, the children ran to the vehicle and asked for candy and gum. He spoke kindly to them and apologized for not having anything for them. He asked them to please step back from the vehicle so that none of them could possibly get hurt. He said

that as he was pulling away from the box he looked more closely in the pan mirror for the rear of the vehicle. There, sitting on the bumper, was a child hitching a ride. He stopped the LLV and got out to tell the child the danger of riding on a bumper that sticks out about 8 inches. The child ran and as he was getting back into the LLV, he noticed that there was a man standing at the door of the house in whose yard the children were playing. Not only was the man laughing, he had done nothing to keep the young people away from the mail vehicle.

Thankfully, in this situation, the only thing that happened was to give the RCA a greater sense of safety. It seems as if he was the only one to learn anything from this incident. If I was much of a gambler, I would say that the young people thought that the incident was fun, and that the man standing at the door saw no need for alarm.

This incident, as it was related to me, caused my brain to kick into high gear. Why did those children come to the mail vehicle and ask for candy? I've got no proof, but does the regular on that route give candy to the young people? Or did they want a hand out just this one particular time? Why was the man at the door not sensing the danger at the moment it was occurring?

Whatever the answer is to these questions, let's again rehearse the safety procedures concerning young people when they are near postal vehicles.

First of all, **never give children candy or gum.** I want to be kind to young people but this can only lead to trouble. What if the child chokes on the candy or gum? What if the child has an allergy and what is given to them aggravates that condition? **Don't give children rubber bands.** Where I work, the carriers have to ask a supervisor for rubber bands. We can only get a handful at a time. There will soon be a black market for rubber bands so don't be giving them away. A child could be injured with one by being hit in the eye.

Lastly, **be sure, as you are approaching a box with children around to count the children you see.** Never move until you are sure that all the young people are accounted for.

Please make this spring a safe one for the children on your route.

**State Convention  
June 23 thru 26  
Harrah's Cherokee Casino and Hotel  
Cherokee, NC 1-800-427-7247**



proposed switching federal employees' pensions to a high-five system, which would base pensions on their highest five annual salaries instead of the current three years.

The sequesters budget cuts also are likely to cause hundreds of thousands of federal employees to be furloughed.

The federal retirement wave is regaining steam — possibly due to the sequester — government retirement statistics released Tuesday suggest.

In February, 20,374 federal employees retired — the highest total for that month since at least 2010, the earliest year for which monthly statistics are available, and more than three times the number of feds who put in their retirement papers in February 2012, according to the Office of Personnel Management.

With the 22,187 retirements recorded in January, 42,561 federal employees have retired in just the first two months of 2013. That is more than half of the 84,427 feds who retired in 2010, and 40 percent of the 106,550 feds who retired in 2012.

OPM had predicted about 5,600 feds would retire last month. The unexpected surge caused its backlog of unprocessed pension claims to swell by about 5,000, to 41,103 claims. OPM had hoped its backlog would be down to slightly more than 33,000 by last month. February was the first month in which OPM fell behind its backlog goals since it began tracking those statistics in January 2012.

But OPM showed progress in its efforts to process more retirement claims. Its employees processed 15,333 claims in February, which smashed its previous monthly record of 12,563 claims processed. That previous high was set in September.

OPM has struggled for years to speed up its processing of retirement claims, which has caused some retirees to wait six months or more for their full pensions. OPM Director John Berry unveiled last year a sweeping plan to fix the problem, which included hiring new employees to process claims and an overhaul of its customer service and pension processing systems.

Federal experts say that the constant stream of bad news for federal employees in recent years is likely driving this retirement wave. Federal employees' pay scales have been frozen for more than two years and are likely to stay frozen for the rest of 2013. President Obama, lawmakers and deficit reduction committees have proposed increasing federal employees' retirement contributions. Some lawmakers and others recommending ways to reduce the deficit have also

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## State Convention 2013

Many plans for the 2013 State Convention are being finalized at this time, and we hope that you are making your plans to attend also. The convention will be held June 23 through June 26 at the Cherokee Hotel and Casino located at 777 Casino Drive, Cherokee NC 28719. Reservations can be made by calling, 1-800-HARAHS (1-800-427-7247). Our room rate is \$99 + 7.5% Tribal Levy and 3% Occupancy tax. You must use the special code for our group, S06NRLA. That's S, ZERO,6NRLA. This is a 1,100 room luxury hotel with large sleeping rooms and great dining. Parking is free whether you choose valet or self-parking.

Cherokee is not the same place that you remember from your childhood (at least my childhood), but in some ways it hasn't changed at all. There are new stores, restaurants and museums. The small town of Cherokee with its Native American souvenir shops and totem poles are still there with the Indian Chief in full head dress. This portion has not changed very much, but the casino brought many more tourists to the area and improved the lives of everyone in the area.

Some attractions available in Cherokee and surrounding areas are; Oconaluftee Village to experience Native American life, Unto These Hills at the Mountainside Theater, Great Smoky Mountain Railroad from Bryson City to Nantahala Outdoor Center where you can take a picnic lunch, and tour the Great Smoky Mountain Train Museum at Bryson City depot. There are outdoor sports available also, such as, white water rafting or trout fishing. These can be arranged for you from the hotel. A short drive to Franklin and you can find gem and mineral mines and gem stone museums. Find that precious stone and get it set in a ring at one of the shops in town.

As you can see there are many things to do in Cherokee and surrounding area. Many will enjoy the Casino but others who are not interested in this can also find fun things to do and see.

So come, bring your family and enjoy the Western North Carolina Mountains. You might also learn something about your job from our own Jeanette Dwyer, President NRLCA.



# Are You Paying Attention?

If you have been paying attention since your last issue of the NC Rural Carrier you know that our Political Action Team has been very busy on Capitol Hill and if you are signed up for the E-Activist Network you have received several calls to action. If you are not signed up for the E-Activist Network, **WHY NOT?**

Back in early March the House passed a Continuing Resolution (CR) which included language to require the continuation of 6-day delivery. Darrell Issa (R, CA) Chairman of the powerful House Oversight & Government Reform Committee has been working very hard to eliminate 6-day delivery. For now, he lost this one but this is nowhere near the end. The CR goes on to the Senate. The Senate was expected to take up the CR on Friday, 15 March. They adjourned and planned to address it when they reconvened on Monday, 17 March. Paul Swartz sent out an E-Activist asking us to call both of our Senators to **urge your member to vote No on Coburn Amendment #68.** I hope that all of you did just that.

On Wednesday, 20 March, the Senate passed their budget continuing resolution (CR) by a vote of 73-26. Included in this bill was the language which mandates the Postal Service provide six-day delivery. There are several provisions the Senate bill included that the House bill did not have, so the bill will still need to be passed by the House. They are expected to pass the Senate version and send it to the President to sign within the next week. By the time this article finds its way to your mail box the bill should have passed the House and have been signed into law by the President.

I want to thank everyone that took the time to call and/or email their members of the House and the Senate. If you are not one of those, Why NOT?

Again, if you are not signed up for the E-Activist Network, sign onto [www.NRLCA.org](http://www.NRLCA.org), go to the bottom left of the Homepage and click on the

**“BECOME AN E-ACTIVIST MEMBER TODAY!”** link. It will only take a moment and Paul Swartz will not be a pest like some websites. When Paul sends out an Alert it is something we need to act on and we need to do it NOW.

This applies to all members, Active, Retired and especially to RCAs. If we lose 6-day, how many of you will still be needed. How many of you will stay around if every route is an H-route and the only days you work are Sick and Annual Leave days? The Auxiliary is already doing their part. The Auxiliary has always had our backs. Now we all need to stand up and fight for our jobs and the service that we provide for the people that we all serve.

## **CONVENTION RAFFLE AND AUCTION**

As in previous years we are having a PAC Raffle again this year. We have a total of \$500 in prizes. You cannot buy a chance in the raffle; but, you will automatically be entered once for each multiple of \$25 you have donated to PAC since last July. No matter where you made your donation you will be included. The three prizes are \$250, \$150 and \$100. You do not have to be present to win but it is sure a lot more fun if you are. I will mail the prize immediately after the convention to any winners that are not present for all the fun.

The winners will be chosen on Tuesday evening just before the PAC Auction. If you have never had the chance to attend one of our auctions you need to “come on down,” donate items for the auction, bid on items, have a lot of fun and help raise money for your PAC.

NC Membership	4714	
NC PAC Donors	142	(3.01%)
Members missing in action	4572	(96.99%)

3.01% of our members are carrying a lot for the rest of us. Please send in your PAC donation today.

Just imagine the power this organization would have if the numbers above could be reversed. UPS would no longer be the largest lobbying organization, it would be US.

You don't have to break your bank account to support PAC. We have members that have donated \$5 this year and we will have members that will hit \$500 or \$1000 or \$1500 by the end of the State Convention. Every donation helps. Make your donation today.

Thank you.

**Send PAC Donations to:**

**Van Heath**  
**25722 US HWY 64**  
**Jamesville NC 27846-9272**

**Phone: 252-792-6614**

**Cell: 252-809-2144**

**Email: [vheath@embarqmail.com](mailto:vheath@embarqmail.com)**

**For internet security; when emailing,  
Subject line should read "PAC"**

## **2012-2013**

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Danny Caudle

### **DIAMOND Level (\$1000+)**

Jeanette Dwyer

### **RUBY Level (\$500-999)**

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### **ELITE Level (\$250-499)**

#### **(continued)**

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Robert Black  
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Cynthia Bunch  
Mack Caudell  
Dawn Chambers  
Rebecca Cockrell  
Terry Cook  
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Karen Davis  
Lula Davis  
Chris Derrick  
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Odessa Elliott  
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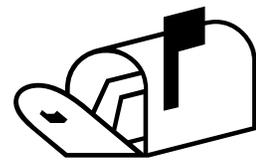
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Jesse Metcalf  
Norbert Mildner  
Ivy Monger  
Sharon Moore  
Kathy Nicholson  
Nancy Odham  
Etta Palmer  
Virginia Patterson  
Edward Pearce  
Roberta Rauen  
Ellen Reavis  
Laura Ruiz  
Sharon Rush  
Latoya Shine  
Tracy Spencer  
Ricky Stafford  
Carlene Staley  
Patricia Stanley  
Charles Stone  
Phermela Tann  
Jack Thome  
Graham Turlington  
Ann Voliva  
Arnold Williams  
Ernest Young

**Sustaining Members**

Mack Caudell  
Sally Corriher  
Chris Derrick  
Jeanette Dwyer  
Ken Frazier  
Van Heath  
Priscilla Hyatt  
Bonnie Johnson  
Mary Josewitz  
Janet Kight  
Christine Laney  
Sara Leonhardt  
Sue Ligon  
Melissa Liverman  
Jadwiga McClelland  
Norbert Mildner  
Jim Morrison  
Reggie Neal  
Terry Neutze  
Kim Ranker  
Mitch Reece  
Laurie Ross  
Laura Ruiz  
Mike Shue  
Dianna Valente  
Betty Westbrook  
Joseph Whitley  
Ernest Young



**You've Got Mail**  
**Let's keep it**  
**6 Days A Week.**  
**Donate to Your PAC.**

## North Carolina District Representatives

### Mid-Carolinas

Dennis Conley  
PO Box 2136  
Franklin, NC 28744-2136  
828-369-3847

### Greensboro

Frank Suttles  
PO Box 745  
Carrboro, NC 27510-0745  
919-932-7835

## Assistant District Representatives

### Mid-Carolinas

Barbara Smith  
PO Box 14985  
Raleigh, N C 27620-4985  
919-212-1564

Sally Corriher  
PO Box 460  
China Grove, NC 28023-0460  
704-855-2629

Tracy Davidson  
PO Box 277  
Matthews, NC 28106-0277  
704-821-8016

### Greensboro

Barbara Smith  
PO Box 14985  
Raleigh, N C 27620-4985  
919-212-1564

Sally Corriher  
PO Box 460  
China Grove, NC 28023-0460  
704-855-2629

Bryan W. Hudgins  
PO Box 21  
Eure, NC 27935-0021  
252-357-2406



### New Step 4 on Waiting for Mail

On March 26, 2013, Director of Labor Relations Joey Johnson signed a Step 4 providing more clarification on where carrier are required to wait on any mail, which may or may not include DPS letter mail. The Step 4 states if we are required to wait for mail due to late arriving transportation appropriate compensation will be provided. Waiting time will not be compensated until all rural carrier duties are completed, to the extent possible, including the casing of all available mail. Compensation can be in the form of auxiliary assistance equivalent to the waiting time, or by utilizing PS Form 8127 for regular carriers and Form 1314-A for leave replacements. I have included the Step 4 for your reference.

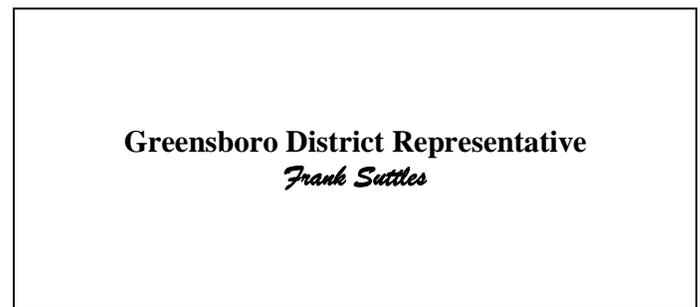
### State Convention

We are doing some things different at this year's convention concerning training and seminars. Normally we have a labor relations seminar on Sunday afternoon prior to the convention beginning. This year Frank and I have asked the State Board to allow us to make a presentation on Monday or

Tuesday afternoon to fill any "dead" time. We anticipate the majority of the seminar to be on Tuesday afternoon. We invite every carrier to come to this not just the stewards, this is open to everyone.

### Released Routes

While we have a few routes left to release, the majority of the routes being held due to DPS flats have been released to be filled. As soon as all route adjustments are done in these offices the remaining will be released. It certainly has taken longer than any of us anticipated, but at least now we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.



Well, the mail count is over. We will soon know what our new evaluations will be. Out of the 1,014 routes that were counted in the Greensboro District we lost an average of 38 minutes per route. Any loss is not good for the rural carrier, but as I look back to the mail count trainings before the mail count, I remember none of the rooms were full. As a rural carrier we have to stay on top of changes because mail count is not the same as it was in years past. There are different standards that we have to go by and there are many things that a carrier may

forget. Mail count trainings were held across the state so that everyone would have the opportunity to be made aware of new things and remind us of some things we might have forgotten. I know several instances where during the first two or three days of mail count where carriers forgot to get letters pulled from DPS counted as raw letters. Those two or three days could have made a difference in the evaluation of those routes. We are going to have to take the time to attend these trainings so that we can get credit for what we deserve.

I want to talk about some of the issues that have come up recently.

### **RCA Transfers—(Andrea Wilson letter, September 1, 2000)**

I have had several carriers call concerning RCA transfers. The Andrea Wilson letter of September, 2000 covers the subject.

“RCA’s who have completed their probationary period may request a transfer in accordance with article 30.2. F. If the gaining office accepts the employee’s request for transfer, the losing office must release the RCA. The transfer will be effective within 30 days of the notification to losing office”.

If you should have problems, you need to contact a steward. If you don't have a steward in the office you need to check and see which steward is assigned to your office and contact them. But always remember to check into the office that you want to go to carefully.

### **Relief Day Work List**

The relief day work list, sometimes called the overtime desired list mistakenly is where a carrier volunteers to work his relief day. Once you sign this list you have made yourself available to work all of your relief days. Prior to using the carriers on the relief day work list management has options available, including splitting routes. A regular carrier on the relief day work list must be utilized prior to other regulars to work on their relief day. Use of the relief day work list is by seniority, on a rotating basis. Management must provide three working days’ notice to a regular rural carrier when assigning an X day, except from the beginning of the guarantee year through the end of the designated Christmas period.

Regular carriers on the relief day work list have three options on how to be paid for working their relief day.

1. A regular rural carrier on the relief day work list, works his or her relief day and selects option code 1, a form 3971 will be completed for the mutually agreed X days. This scheduled X day will be given the same consideration as approved annual leave.
2. A regular rural carrier on the relief day work list who works his relief day and takes an option code 3 will receive ½ days’ pay, plus a day off at management's discretion.
3. A regular rural carrier on the relief day work list who works his relief day and takes the option code 5 receives one and a half days pay with no relief (X) day.

Carriers can be skipped on the relief day work list if there are potential 2080/2240 issues.

I hope that all of the rural carriers are paying attention to the things going on in Congress. We need to check the website [nrlca.org](http://nrlca.org) on a daily basis paying special attention to the Legislative and What's New pages. You can also find this information on our North Carolina website [ncrlca.com](http://ncrlca.com). When our legislative people ask us to contact our members of Congress we need to follow through if we want our jobs to remain as they are. (While I’m talking about the website I would like to applaud our new webmaster, Jeff Essick, for the job he has done. If you haven't seen it you need to make the effort to go there.)

One last thing I want to remind all carriers that you need to be careful and make sure you're doing the right thing while in the delivery of mail. We have members of management riding the streets daily looking for mail carriers. They are following carriers and giving discipline on a daily basis, so make sure that when you're out, you follow all safety rules and regulations.

**Remember, Rural Carriers don't RUN the route, we CARRY the route.**



Mr. Joey Johnson  
Director of Labor Relations  
National Rural Letter Carriers'  
Association  
1630 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314-3467

Re: G06R-4G-C 11295109  
Class Action  
Little Rock, AR 72202

Dear Joey:

On several occasions, the most recent being March 14, the parties discussed the above- captioned grievance at the fourth step of our contractual grievance procedure.

The issue in this grievance concerns a district policy regarding compensation for rural carriers required to wait for mail due to late arriving transportation.

In case# GOOR-4G-C 02231754 the issue was providing additional compensation to rural carriers in instances where carriers were required to wait for only DPS letter mail. The instant case pertains to waiting for any mail, which may or may not include DPS letter mail.

During our discussion, we mutually agreed that the following will constitute full and complete settlement of this grievance:

The parties agree that when a rural carrier is required to wait for mail due to late arriving transportation, appropriate compensation will be provided. Waiting time will not be compensated until all rural carrier duties are completed, to the extent possible, including the casing of all available mail.

When a carrier is required to wait for only DPS letter mail or other mail that does not require casing, including, but not limited to, parcels or boxholders, has no other rural carrier duties to perform, including the strapping out of all cased mail; and is prepared to depart the office to effect delivery, the carrier will be compensated for the time the carrier is required to wait.

Compensation in both instances above would be in the form of auxiliary assistance equivalent to the waiting time, or by utilizing Form 8127 for regular rural carriers. Compensation for leave replacements would be made utilizing Form 1314-A, or by providing auxiliary assistance.

Accordingly, we agree to remand this case to the parties at Step 3 for application.

The time limits were extended by mutual consent.

Please sign and return the enclosed copy of this letter as your acknowledgment of agreement to settle this case.

475 L 'Enfant Plaza SW  
Washington DC 20260-4101  
www.USPS.com

**Note:** This letter was signed on separate page by Gail L Sattler, Labor Relations Specialist Contract Administration (NRLCA) and Joey C Johnson, Director of Labor Relations National Rural Letter Carriers' Association. On 3/26/2013.

## To Contact Your NC Senators and Representatives:

### NC Senators:

Richard M. Burr ([burr.senate.gov](http://burr.senate.gov))  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202)224-3154

Kay Hagan ([hagan.senate.gov](http://hagan.senate.gov))  
521 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
(202) 224-6342

### National Legislative Representatives

#### Congressional District 1:

G.K. Butterfield ([butterfield.house.gov](http://butterfield.house.gov)) 2305  
Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3101

#### Congressional District 2:

Renee Ellmers ([ellmers.house.gov](http://ellmers.house.gov))  
1533 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-4531

#### Congressional District 3:

Walter B. Jones ([jones.house.gov](http://jones.house.gov))  
2333 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3415

#### Congressional District 4:

David E. Price ([price.house.gov](http://price.house.gov))  
2162 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1784

#### Congressional District 5:

Virginia Foxx ([foxx.house.gov](http://foxx.house.gov))  
1230 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-2071

#### Congressional District 6:

Howard Coble ([coble.house.gov](http://coble.house.gov))  
2188 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3065

#### Congressional District 7:

Mike McIntyre ([mcintyre.house.gov](http://mcintyre.house.gov)) 2133 Rayburn  
House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225- 2731

#### Congressional District 8:

Richard Hudson ([hudson.house.gov](http://hudson.house.gov))  
429 Cannon House Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3715

#### Congressional District 9:

Robert Pittenger ([pittenger.house.gov](http://pittenger.house.gov)) 224 Cannon  
House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1976

#### Congressional District 10:

Patrick McHenry ([mchenry.house.gov](http://mchenry.house.gov))  
2334 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-2576

#### Congressional District 11:

Mark Meadows ([meadows.house.gov](http://meadows.house.gov))  
1516 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-6401

#### Congressional District 12:

Melvin Watt ([watt.house.gov](http://watt.house.gov))  
2304 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-1510

#### Congressional District 13:

George Holding ([holding.house.gov](http://holding.house.gov))  
507 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515 (202) 225-3032

**NOTE:** You may reach any of your legislators by calling the Capital Switchboard at (866) 220-0044 and ask for your Congressional Representative by name. You may also use the toll free hotline at (877) 217-8234.

## GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION OF OUTSTANDING CARRIER

### **Method of Selection**

1. Nomination of candidates for the award shall be made prior to the State Convention. Nominations may be made directly from the members inviting such nominations. Also, local, county or district units may select candidates for the award.

2. In either event, the name of the candidate should be submitted, with a brief resume of accomplishments, to a Selection Committee to be named by the State Board, or by any other means, which may be the prevailing policy in the State Association.

### **Eligibility for Award**

1. Any MEMBER of the Association may be nominated as a candidate for the Outstanding Carrier of the Year Award.

2. State Association Officers should not be arbitrarily selected for the award nor should they be eliminated from consideration. Officers have been chosen to lead and serve, but it is frequently demonstrated that their services go far beyond the routine duties of the office and, thus may be worthy of selection.

### **III. Criteria for Selection**

1. The primary consideration of the Selection Committee shall be:

- The service rendered by the candidate to the Rural Letter Carriers' Association;
- Attendance and participation in local, state and national meetings;
- Willingness to accept responsibilities and dedication in performing those duties;
- Fraternal Attitude to others of the Rural Carrier Craft.

2. The Selection Committee should also consider, as a secondary matter, other service which the candidate may have rendered, such as civic and community activities, which reflect favorably upon the Rural Letter Carrier Craft and the Postal Service.

3. Consideration shall be given for services rendered in the immediately preceding twelve-month period, but not completely limited to this period of time. New carriers should be encouraged to seek to achieve this award.

### **IV. Presentation of Award**

When each State Association has made its selection, the name of the candidate shall be reported to the National Office by the State Secretary on the regular Annual Report. An appropriate award will be presented by the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association at its National Convention.

### **V. Other**

These guidelines are not intended to be binding and a State may use any other selection procedure that is suitable for each State.

The announcement of the recipient of the award will be made at the State Convention. The State Secretary shall report the name to the National Office and the award will be presented at the National Convention with State presentation at the Fall Booster.

This year the State Board has appointed the immediate past three recipients of the award to serve as the Selection Committee.

Please mail the name of the candidate, along with a resume to ALL members of the Selection Committee listed below, prior to the State Convention.

Sandy Wilson  
594 Motsinger Rd  
Thomasville, NC 27360-8183

Ronald L Lineberger  
3668 Startown Rd  
Maiden, NC 28650-8722

Van Heath  
25722 US Hwy 64  
Jamesville, NC 27846-9272

## NORTH CAROLINA AUXILIARY OFFICERS

### PRESIDENT

**MR. L. E. WHITE**  
1336 Schoolhouse Road  
Elizabeth City, NC 27909-9596  
252-771-8180

### VICE PRESIDENT

**MR. BARRY CORRIHER**  
445 Corriher Gravel Road  
China Grove, NC 28023-9497  
704-855-2629

### SEC./TREAS.

**MRS. SUE KELLY**  
7661 Wilkins Drive  
Fayetteville, NC 28311-9361  
910-488-5424

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**MRS. PEGGY SIMMONS**  
5418 Seven Creeks Hwy.  
Nakina, NC 28455-9073  
910-642-3754

**MRS. NORMA WILLIFORD**  
511 Old Goldsboro Road  
Newton Grove, NC 28366  
910-594-0433

**MR. LINWOOD SMITH**  
1008 Dowling Road  
Raleigh, NC 27610-4419  
919-212-1564

### CHAPLAIN

**MRS. CAROLYN WARD**  
3951 Virginia Rd  
Tyner, NC 29780-9797  
252-221-4683

### PROVIDENT GUILD

**MR. CHARLES ADAMS**  
1940 Shawtown Road  
Glade Valley, NC 28627-9161  
336-657-8962

### HISTORIAN

**HARRIET P. LINEBERGER**  
3668 Startown Road  
Maiden, NC 28650-8722  
704-732-1604

### JUNIOR SPONSOR

**MRS. SARAH STEWART**  
251 Cedar Drive  
Stoneville, NC 27048-841  
336-427-3675

### PAST PRESIDENT

**MR. BARRY CORRIHER**  
445 Corriher Gravel Road  
China Grove, NC 28023-9497  
704-855-2629



## Auxiliary News

Hello everyone – Association, Auxiliary and Juniors (yes, I expect you to be reading this!). I would say Happy Spring but at my place, we have had some sunshine, rain, sleet, and snow all this week so I am not sure spring has really arrived!

I am eagerly anticipating the Easter Season & Spring Break. We are also eagerly anticipating the upcoming State Convention and hope you are

planning to be there.

**SAVE THE DATE:** June 23 – June 26 at Harrah’s Hotel & Casino in beautiful Cherokee! I really love the beach - didn’t we have a great time at the Outer Banks in 2012? The next best place to be in NC is the mountains, so come and join us. Tentative plans are:

**Sunday** - Registration, Hospitality, and Memorial Service

**Monday** - Joint Session, Junior Business Meeting, Lunch with family, Junior Outing to Oconaluftee Village to experience Native American life.

**Note:** Hotel pool closed for renovation = Outing for Juniors

**Monday pm** - Unto These Hills at Mountainside Theater – attend independently with family members. This is a great historical drama for all ages.

**Tuesday** - Day Trip on Great Smoky Mountain Railroad from Bryson City to Nantahala Outdoor Center with picnic lunch, tour Great Smoky Mountain Train Museum at Bryson City depot. Time permitting a stop at Fun Park or mining on return trip to hotel!

**Note:** This trip is for both Juniors and Auxiliary members.

**Wednesday** - Junior Meeting, Program for Auxiliary and family time.

**Entire Convention:** Support “Miss Kay’s” Program of Love – DEBRA!

Now: Juniors, parents and grandparents, I need some help from you. First, please prepare your entry for the Junior Contest – contact any Auxiliary member if you need the information again. Next, this year, our trips will be a little different. **I need to have a “close” number for the Village prior to arrival.** Also, to receive group rates, we have to reserve and pay for the train tickets one month in advance, so **we need a count for that by May 17<sup>th</sup>.** I hope we have an even larger crowd of Juniors than last year. Thanks to all the districts that support the Juniors with monetary donations and the Auxiliary for helping fund our activities, we don’t have to worry about planning great experiences. Please send me names (Juniors and Auxiliary) & children’s ages for the Oconaluftee Village on Monday and/or Great Smoky Mountain Railroad train trip on Tuesday. Please contact me if you have any questions. You may mail me the information, phone me (evenings), or email me at: [stew4art4@gmail.com](mailto:stew4art4@gmail.com).

I look forward to hearing from you AND seeing you in the mountains,  
Love, “Miss Sarah”

## NCRLCA Dues for 2010-2011

- Regular...Cash.....\$559.00
- 1187...Bi-Weekly.....\$21.50
- Retired.....Cash.....\$97.00
- 1187R...Monthly.....\$8.08
- 73, RCA, RCR.....Cash.....\$188.00
- 1187.....Bi-Weekly.....\$7.23

The membership year begins July 1, ends June 30. Please make checks payable to **NCRLCA**. Checks or membership form should be mailed to Ronald L Lineberger, Secretary/Treasurer. The address is listed on page two.

**NOTE:** "Dues, assessments, contributions or gifts to NCRLCA are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes."

## POLITICAL ACTION FUND

Contributions are needed for the NCRLCA lobbying effort. The fund is used to maintain friendly relations with members of Congress, to preserve your fringe benefits and work practices, affecting the welfare of each rural letter carrier, substitute, PTF, RCA, RCR, retired carrier and their families.

Make checks payable to the NCRLCA PAC Fund and mail to:

Van Robert Heath  
PAC Chairman

Address in on page two

Upon receipt of \$5.00 or more, you will receive a membership card.

Please return this form with your contribution.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_

**CIRCLE ONE**

REGULAR                  RETIRED                  SUBSTITUTE

### MEMBERSHIP

If you have forgotten to pay your membership dues for the next year, please do so immediately. If your dues are delinquent, it could affect your Rural Carrier Benefit Plan. The most convenient way to pay is to sign a "dues withholding" form (1187 or 1187R for retirees). If you need a form, please contact a board member. Regular and substitutes can sign a form NOW.

### May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	PP-11
5	6	7	8	9	10 Pay Day	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18 PP-12
19	20	21	22	23	24 Pay Day	25
26	27	28	29	31	31	

### June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 PP-13
2	3	4	5	6	7 Pay Day	8
9	10	12	11	13	14	15 PP-14
16	17	18	19	20	21 Pay Day	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 PP-15
30						

## TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL



NON-PROFIT  
 ORGANIZATION US  
 POSTAGE PAID  
 VALE, NC  
 28168  
 PERMIT NUMBER  
 41