



Report of the President

Robert "Bob" Richardson



Hello fellow carriers and members of the MaRLCA.

This is my first article submitted to the BRJ as your president. I would like to start off this article by letting you know how the new administration is doing. Your state officers have come up with a plan on how to approve and sign vouchers, approve bills and credit cards for payment, and how to reconcile bank statements. Please remember, the State Secretary / Treasurer is located down by the cape, I am located up in the North East corner of the state so getting together to do all of this is something that we have not had to do for a number of years. I believe this is a good system and will continue to work through any issues that may arise.

After being sworn in as President of the MaRLCA on May 7th, your Vice-President Jason Dole and myself were off to Washington D.C. for Legislative week. While we were in D.C., we scheduled appointments with all 9 of our states Congressman and Congresswoman, and our 2 Senators to go over three (3) important issues, or "House Resolutions" facing the Rural Letter Carriers. Those issues being: The Social Security Fairness Act of 2023 (H.R. 82 / S. 597), The Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R. 4268) or "buy back" as we call it, and The USPS Shipping Equity Act (H.R. 3287). Please note that the last two acts listed were introduced in the previous congress and stalled for lack of support. Now the first resolution that I listed was already co-sponsored by 7 of our 9 Congressman and Congresswoman, and both Senators so this was a good way to start off by just thanking them for co-sponsoring the resolution. Although we mostly met with the aides, we did get to meet in person with Congressman Ste-

... (continued p.3)

Inside this issue:

President, VP, and Sec/Treasurer Updates	1-6
Calendar of Events	2
Financial Report	5
District Notices	6-7
From the DR's Desk	8-10
From the Assistant DR's Desk	1-12
Correspondences	12
PAC Update	14

Future Dates to Remember

- Sept. 4—Labor Day
- Sept. 11—Patriot Day
- Sept. 12— District 1 Fall Meeting
- Sept 19—District 3 Fall Meeting
- Sept 21—District 2 Fall Meeting
- Sept. 24—Mother's Day
- Oct. 9—Columbus Day
- Oct. 31—Halloween
- Nov. 5—Daylight Savings
- Nov. 7—U.S. Election Day
- Nov. 11—Veterans Day
- Nov. 23—Thanksgiving

MARLCA EDITOR

Wyatt Aloisio
backroads.marlca@gmail.com

**BRJ WINTER EDITION
 DEADLINE
 November 7, 2023**

*Address Change:
 You can log on to
<http://liteblue.usps.gov>*

The Backroads Journal is a publication of the MARLCA. Opinions and views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect or represent those of the Editor or the State Officers of the MARLCA.

September 2023

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

October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	5	5	6	7 PP-22
8	9 Colum- bus Day	10	11	12	13 Pay Day	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 PP-23
22	23	24	25	26	27 Pay Day	28
29	30	31 Halloween				

November 2023

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



Report of the President

Robert "Bob" Richardson



... (continued p.1)

-phen Lynch. We did get to have a photo op with Mr. Lynch and it was posted in the National Magazine. This was by far the most informative meeting in comparison to all the rest. And here is why I say that. Congressman Lynch has 17 family members working for the USPS. So, he is knowledgeable of what is going on. I would love to hear the conversation at some of those family gatherings. Congressman Lynch informed Jason and I of why 2 of the other congressman and congresswoman have not co-sponsored the Social Security Fairness Act, that being because of their political position. As for the Shipping Equity Act, it is not that we (the USPS) cannot handle it, it is that there needs to be a hearing on this so that laws don't get broken or a law doesn't restrict something else. And lastly the "buy back bill", because that involves the government paying out money, there needs to be more voices, more noise, we need to make the phones ring so that the talk around Washington is regarding the Federal Retirement Fairness Act. So, when you are at your district meeting and the PAC person is telling you about pre-scripted letters, please take one or two and fill them out and send them to YOUR Congressman. Have your co-workers do the same thing. It is only going to get acted on IF there is a large amount of talk or concern. On a side note, the new Shipping Equity Act was re-introduced to congress on the Friday after we left. So once again it is back, and needs to get co-sponsors. Only 2 of our members of congress co-sponsored the previous years bill.

At the end of July, the District Presidents along with the District Secretary / Treasurers met in Franklin, MA. for a day of training and to complete the two financial reports required by the Department of Labor. I will say that completing these two reports went very well with only minor aggravation logging into the web site. On day 2 of this meeting, it was an executive's board meeting and a budget meeting with only the District Presidents and the State Officers. Just prior to closing the meeting, the District Presidents reviewed the State Secretary / Treasurers' books which were right on point with NO errors. Great job Lorraine!! We are so privileged to have you.

One of my big talking points during this two-day meeting was "Recruiting". Our membership numbers are down and continue to decline. It feels like I am watching a yo-yo. The numbers go up from the Academy recruiting, and next week they are going down. Ladies and gentlemen, we all need to come together now more than before with all the RRECS issues. So please, let's work together to recruit. Inform that co-worker why it pays to belong to the union, what the union can do for them, what they are missing out on if they don't join. And finally, the money they can save if they join today. "Recruit, Train, Mentor & repeat as necessary".

As I type this article, and get it ready to send to the editor, it is the week before the National Convention in Grand Rapids, MI. At the next round of District meetings, I will give you an update on the proceedings and tell you about YOUR new National Board. Also at this time, we are a few weeks away from our second round of the mini mail survey. This will all have passed by the time you have the BRJ in your hands. Saying something positive to you at this point will be worthless, so just do the right thing. Please come to your district meeting, and bring that non-member with you and have them sign up!! THREE MONTHS FREE!! You have questions? Well, we have the answer to that and many other questions.

Until we see each other in September, stay safe, stay healthy, and make good decisions.

Robert G. Richardson, MaRLCA President



Report of the Vice-President

Jason Dole



Hello fellow union members,

For those of you that don't already know my name is Jason Dole, I am the newly elected MARLCA state Vice President. First of all I would like to thank the union members that took the time to vote and mail in your ballots. It is important to participate in your union business. I realize there were no other members running against Me for this office, however it is still important to be active in your union and send in your ballots. My hope is that in the future we will have multiple members running for each office so that members can choose the best candidate. Please keep in mind that State Officers are just Rural Carriers that stepped up and showed a willingness to serve their union and its members. Keep in mind that any union member in good standing can run for state or district office. If interested, simply come to a district or state meeting and we can explain how to be nominated and then run for an office. Instructions are also on the notification for spring district meetings.

After being sworn in at the spring state meeting my first duty as Vice President was to go to Washington D.C. with State President Bob Richardson to visit with the Congress men and women from Massachusetts as well as the two Senators to discuss legislative issues concerning the Post Office. I would like to take a moment to recognize President Bob Richardson for the incredible job he did of organizing all 11 meetings in just a two day period and also adjusting meetings on the fly to accommodate the schedules of the congressman's offices. It took a lot of prior planning and a lot of phone calls/emails to get it done so job well done Bob. In the two days of meeting we met with the aids of 9 congressmen/women that all seemed to express the representatives were pro Post Office interests and the aides would pass on our information and concerns to the Representatives. We were able to meet face to face with congressman Steven Lynch, He was a wealth of information and very happy to met with the NRLCA because congressman Lynch has many family members working for and retired from the Post Office. We also met with Senator Ed Markey's aide for Postal issues who was very educated on all the issues which was nice to know Senators are listening also. All this being said the congress people seem to be on our side but members should still call their representative to express postal concerns. They do care. For the Legislative issues we discussed please see the PAC article in this issue of BRJ.

I am hoping to meet a lot of members at the upcoming September district meetings and the State meeting in November. Please be on the lookout for your meeting notices in the mail. Also, even though we mail notices to all members, spread the word around your office. Try to get other members involved. We would enjoy seeing new faces and hearing members' concerns, questions and comments at the meeting. Recruitment of members and meeting goers by carriers is a great way to get new faces at the meetings. Most importantly meetings are the best place to get information(THE CORRECT INFORMATION). Information is power for our members, the more the better. So please come to the meeting, grab some free dinner and hopefully learn.

I hope to see you there. Stay well.

Jason Dole, MaRLCA Vice-President



Sec-Treasurer's Two Cents

Lorraine Pacheco



8:15 PM

08/13/23

Cash Basis

MaRLCA

Statement of Financial Position

As of August 13, 2023

	Aug 13, 23	Aug 13, 22
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
1100000 · APCU Savings Account	195,551.93	184,133.95
1100500 · APCU Checking Account	40,922.73	48,385.41
1200000 · APCU CD's		
1200080 - CD #80	12,130.05	11,793.95
1200070 - CD #70	29,838.17	29,258.96
1200075 - CD #75	24,373.63	23,891.22
1200077 - CD #77	24,121.78	23,733.09
1200079 - CD #79	30,987.23	30,399.60
Total 1200000 · APCU CD's	121,450.86	119,076.82
Total Checking/Savings	357,925.52	351,596.18
Total Current Assets	357,925.52	351,596.18
TOTAL ASSETS	357,925.52	351,596.18
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Liabilities	3,042.53	703.41
Equity		
3900 · Net Assets	331,384.28	330,376.48
Net Income	23,498.71	20,516.29
Total Equity	354,882.99	350,892.77
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	357,925.52	351,596.18

USPS EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
A Program You Can Trust



800-327-4968

(800-EAP-4-YOU) TTY: 877-492-7341

www.EAP4YOU.com



Sec-Treasurer's Two Cents

Lorraine Pacheco



Hello everyone,

I have been working non-stop since our Spring State meeting. I've had to prepare for the national convention, district officer training, and budget board meeting.

In July, we held our required district officer training. This training is the perfect opportunity for presidents and secretary/treasurers to file their annual LM-4 and 990N. The state board then met on the following day for our annual budget/board meeting. Following the meeting, all my financial information was audited.

Recruiting is my priority. Membership continues to be an uphill battle. As of today, we have 1210 members. The RAFT program is still in effect and new members receive the first three months free. If anyone would like me to send them recruitment booklets, please feel free to contact me at 774-244-0837.

All three fall district meetings will take place in September. Meeting notices should be in the mail by the end of August. Please make every effort to attend your meeting.

Stay Safe Out There,

Lorraine Pacheco, MaRLCA Secretary / Treasurer

District Dialogues

District 1

Greetings Everyone,

I am your District 1 President Bruce Lackey. I have been a regular at the Belchertown Post Office since 2017.

Having the opportunity to attend National Delegation in 2022 was truly an experience.

The District 1 Fall meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept 12 at Wyckoff Country Club in Holyoke. Doors will be open at 5:30 p.m. and dinner at 6 p.m. with the meeting to follow.

I encourage you all to join us for our fall meetings this year so that we can learn, grow, and adapt to the new changes that we face daily

I hope to see you there!

Bruce Lackey, District 1 President



District Dialogues

District 2

Greetings Everyone,

The District 2 Winter meeting was held on Thursday Feb 15, 2023 at the Mitchell Memorial Club in Middleboro, MA. Following dinner the district elections were held. Dianne Daley was re-elected as President, Matthew Barrett was elected as Vice-President and Dawn Makrinikolas was re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer.

State officers: President: Bill Piwowarski, Vice-President: Robert Richardson and Secretary/Treasurer: Lorraine Pacheco, District 3 President, Cliff Morris as well as District Representative Art Courcy were also in attendance. Art took many questions many of which focused on the upcoming Mini-Mail Survey.

The next District 2 Meeting will be held Thursday Sept 21, 2023 and will again take place at the Mitchell Memorial Club at 29 Elm Street in Middleboro. Doors will be 6 p.m., Dinner at 6:15 p.m. and a meeting start time of 6:45 p.m.

Dianne Daley, District 2 President

District 3

Greetings Everyone,

Wow. WHAT A YEAR.

I submit my report as follows. I've made all 3 of my executive board meetings Jan/April/July, Attended District meetings for District 1 and District 2 not to mention my own meeting last February, and enjoyed them all, which of course the main concern was the implementation of the new RECCS system.

I've Attended the Eastern Conference which was held in Portland, Maine, which again the main subject was the new RECCS system. I was also elected as National Delegate this year by the members of the state and was truly honored to be elected. I took my responsibility to the National Conference, and knowing my responsibility to the membership voted on 14 Constitution Resolutions and 334 Resolutions, and finally we voted on members of the executive board.

I thank all the members who allowed me to speak for them at this year's National Conference.

The next District 3 Meeting will be held at the VFW in Pepperell, MA located at 55 Leighton Street on Sept 19. Dinner will be held at 5:30 with a meeting start time of 6 p.m.

Clifford Morris, District 3 President





From The District Rep's Desk

Art Courcy, MA-RI and CT DR



Rural Route Evaluation Dispute Process (RREDP)

I would like to describe the Rural Route Evaluation Dispute Process (RREDP), but please keep in mind that this process was agreed to for the initial RRECS mini-mail survey. It may continue into the next or it may change with the second mini-mail survey, but I will try to explain the good and the maybe not so good with the process.

RREDP is used in lieu of the grievance process for disputes arising from the initial route evaluation changes under the Rural Route Evaluated Compensation System (RRECS). RREDP is a more streamlined approach to try and resolve disputes. The grievance process would require much more work, more documentation, and more meeting time along with many contractual processing rules that we would also have to adhere to. The RREDP, while it took a lot of time due to the volume of disputes that we received, was much more efficient, ending with the exact same result that a grievance would have. The MOU for the RREDP defined that there would be a team of two at the district level to review and adjudicate the disputes. I was the representative for the NRLCA and the MA-RI District assigned Sr. Labor Relations Specialist, Jonathan Mischel. We also had rural coordinator Carl Zagame attend our meetings as a resource to pull data as needed in order for us to make appropriate calculations for a route's standard hours adjustments. We met several times per week beginning on June 5, 2023, and we signed off on the final 438th dispute on July 28, 2023. Yes, this was an immense task, that took us nearly 8 weeks to complete. As this was a new process that no one had experienced until now and, as frustrating as it was for each of us at times, we remained committed. There was a tremendous amount of attention and co-operation within this district to get as many disputes resolved at our level as possible.

From the May 6, 2023, effective date of the first mini-mail survey, we received and adjudicated 438 RRECS disputes from MA-RI District rural carriers. This was a daunting task and took many weeks of research and meetings to complete. Of those 438 disputes, more than 130 disputes resulted in additional time of over 100 hours being added to the standard hours of our routes. Some received as little as 1 minute and several that had substantial time added due to legitimate RRECS disputable issues. I never diminish adding 1 minute to a route evaluation because as we all know, 1 minute could result in an evaluation change. When adjudicating disputes, we do not look at a route's current evaluation to determine if it will change or not by adding time. I solely based my decisions on the basis that a change is warranted.

The RREDP MOU identified subjects that could be disputed through the process. Items that could be disputed were:

- An entry of zero (0) or a questionable number in any data field on PS Form 4241-A that would otherwise expect to have a time credit
- Office Walk
- Route Length
- Regular, Centralized, or Total Boxes

... (continued p. 9)



From The District Rep's Desk

Art Courcy, MA-RI and CT DR



... (continued p.8)

- Daily Dismounts
- Daily Dismount Distance
- Daily Activities
- Miscellaneous Time
- Option Election

Carriers that followed the process within its criteria of the MOU and had legitimate errors that warranted additional time received adjustments to standard hours.

If the team at the district level is unable to agree to resolve or take no action on a dispute, we then agree to reach an impasse and the dispute is forwarded up to the area level for review and possible resolution. Of the 438 disputes received, we resolved or took no action on 388 of them. This left a total of 50 disputes that we forwarded to the area level. Of the 50 impasses, 45 of them were for coverage factor disagreements, leaving just 5 non-coverage factor related disputes forwarded. More than half of the total disputes received had a disposition of no action taken. Why so many? I attribute this to being the first time that we had this very formal dispute process with detailed guidelines so many did not understand what they could or could not dispute. The majority had to do with carriers not agreeing with the time standards that were implemented by the engineering panel that devised the standards. RRECS time standards are not something that can be disputed, nor could I have them changed. While I fully understand that some may not feel that a certain time standard fairly represents what a particular individual may actually be doing on a daily or weekly basis, the time standards are what they are. We received some disputes that were not actually disputes, but rather questions. For example, "Why is my fuel credit lower than what I think it should be"? Or "Where can I find out how my coverage factor is determined? As you can see, these are not disputes in accordance with the aforementioned disputable items. I am hoping that rural carriers, as frustrated as you may be, refrain from submitting these types of disputes which in essence backlogs the processing of legitimate disputes. Even the improperly submitted dispute forms must be reviewed, assigned a control number, entered into a log, signed off on, sent to the office etc... etc....Again, I understand that this is a learning process for all of us. However, I am hoping that if we utilize this process again, that most of the submitted disputes will be resolved with additional time added to a route due to a proper dispute submission.

If this process or some form of it is agreed upon again, what else can we do better?

I will give a prime example of an actual dispute that we received. A route was missing one dismount. The reason annotated on the dispute form 1 by the carrier stated, "*Daily dismounts are inadequate to low*". This is all that we initially had to work with while discussing this dispute at the district level. Please keep in mind that we cannot just take someone's word for it that there is an error and think that a Labor Specialist at the District Office will signoff of on something like this. We must prove it. A carrier submitting a dispute form also

... (continued p. 10)



From The District Rep's Desk

Art Courcy, MA-RI and CT DR



... (continued p.9)

has more that they need to do and not just filling out the form. Every carrier submitting a dispute also has to provide us with information (describe exactly what it is that you are looking for as a reason for the dispute) and request from their manager any documentation that may be pertinent to prove that there is an error. Local management is obligated to provide you with the documentation when requested. In this same dispute example, a better statement for the reason would have been, "My route is missing one daily dismount and 114 feet of daily dismount distance". This would be spelled out to us, plain and simple, right? Now, what documentation would support this dispute? We would need the route's PS Form 4241A from the effective date of the mini-mail survey. The PS Form 4241A would show how many dismounts and how much distance the route was credited with. Also requested and submitted should be a copy of the Line of Travel Manager (LTM) printout from the route's mapping program showing each dismount and distance length for each. We received many, many disputes that if some of the carriers had contacted me or an ADR or Area Steward, we could have advised and helped them understand a little better of what is disputable and what is not. I cannot stress this enough; especially if you may be one that received a form 2 back dispositioned as "no action".

Again, this is new to all of us and can seem overwhelming at times. I am hoping that this article sheds a little better light on the RREDP and that we all know there are still many issues out there with the RRECS system that are being worked on.

But stay strong, let's all stick together with this, we will get through it and most of all, stay safe!

Art Courcy, MA-RI and CT District Rep

From The Assistant District Rep's Desk

Joan Tenerella, MA-RI and CT ADR

Greetings,

It's hard to believe that we are almost through our first round of evaluations under RRECS, and that we are about to begin the next round with the second mini mail survey beginning on August 25, 2023, and new evaluations implemented on October 7, 2023. After the first set of evaluations were implemented, The Postal Service saw a dramatic increase in scanning by the rural carriers, as many of you became more aware of the many new aspects of this system and just how important it is to scan appropriately to get the most for your routes evaluation and your compensation.

As we are all aware by now, this is our new normal. This is how our evaluations will be measured for years to come. Many of you have asked where to find this information and training. A magnitude of RRECS related in-

... (continued p. 11)

From The Assistant District Rep's Desk

Joan Tenerella, MA-RI and CT ADR

... (continued p.10)

formation can be found on nrlca.org. The National office has recently updated all the questions and answers to include any changes that may have been implemented since they were first published. There are numerous training courses, videos and power point presentations related to mapping, edit book maintenance, Mini Mail Survey and many other RRECS related information.

I have included in this newsletter the complete guide to Edit Book maintenance, DPM and LTM maintenance and the timelines for all (see p. 12). Please remember it is extremely important that all mapping for both DPM and LTM must be done in the presence of the carrier and that you are entitled to view your mapping every month. This is a review not a complete mapping. Mapping reviews should be completed as soon as possible once your edit books are returned from AMS. Management along with the carrier will download the information from AMS into the mapping program. The review process does not take too long as the program will take you to the items that have been added, deleted, or changed in any way. You should review the changes to ensure accuracy. Be sure to mark the points for any new deliveries. Once the DPM is complete it will be downloaded into the LTM, and you will have the opportunity to review that the data is correct.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone to please contact your local steward, area steward, ADR or DR as soon as an issue arises. In some cases we can resolve issues quickly. Any issues related to the Mini Mail Survey should be addressed immediately so that we can work toward a resolution before the Mini Mail Survey ends. Issues related to MMM can be resolved much easier if we learn about them the day that they happen. Please remember that all items being counted do need a post-it-note with the date, number of pieces, what the pieces are classified as (letters, flats, etc.) and the initials or signature of the official doing the counting.

As always, I can be reached at 401-536-8697 or via email at Joan.Tenerella@nrlca.org.

Joan Tenerella MA-RI and CT Assistant District Rep









From The Assistant District Rep's Desk

Joan Tenerella, MA-RI and CT ADR

Rural Route AMS Edit Book Maintenance SWI



Visual	Important Steps	Key Points
	1. Days 1–10: All AMS Edit Books must be updated by the carrier each month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrier AMS Edit Books should be located at the end of the case Once reviewed and updated, Carrier signs and dates the summary page of the AMS Edit Book and initials the AMS activity log by Day 10 of each month
	2. Days 2–11: Supervisors/designees must submit verified AMS Edit Books to district AMS office via mail (or) WebEES by Day 11 of each month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supervisors/designees should note that rural delivery submissions in WebEES must be completed by Day 11 each month
	3. Days 12–20: District AMS office will process changes by COB on Day 20 of each month a. District AMS office will mail processed AMS Edit Book back to delivery unit by Day 21 of each month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AMS will print and mail case labels AMS will provide new printed carrier edit books as needed
	4. Days 23–30: Supervisor/designee, in the presence of the regular rural carrier, is required to log into Delivery Point Manager (DPM), click "Download," plot missing deliveries, view/clear issues, and submit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Log into Delivery Point Manager (DPM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Select ZIP Code and route Download AMS Edit Book Plot incomplete delivery and make necessary updates Clear errors and review warnings/thresholds Submit/Certify
	5. Allow 10-15 minutes for DPM processing. 6. Supervisor/designee logs into Line of Travel Manager (LTM) in the presence of the regular rural carrier, selects "Partial Review," verifies/plots Traffic Control Points (TCPs), then submits and certifies each month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Log into Line of Travel Manager (LTM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enter the ZIP Code Select the route for review Select "Partial Review" Plot/update Traffic Control Points (TCPs) Submit
	7. Once DPM and LTM are finalized, supervisor/designee must initial the DPM and LTM portions of the AMS Edit Book Activity Log	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrier and manager must initial/date as appropriate

Last Revision Date: 3/16/2023

Celebrating Our Membership Near...



At the Annual Spring State Meeting held in Marlboro on May 7, 2023 dozens of MaRLCA members turned out in attendance to have their questions heard by their representatives, including guest speaker and NRLCA Executive Committeeman John Adams. The day-long meeting also saw accolades given to those including State President Robert G.

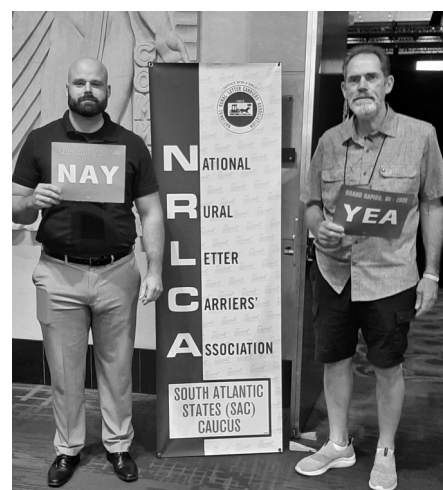
Richardson, who was named member of the year, and to many of our officers who were sworn into their duties for the coming year by Adams



... and Far



Venturing to Grand Rapids, MI from August 15-18 members of the MARLCA delegation were present for this year's National Convention. Here delegates had the opportunity to have their voices heard in shaping policies for the NRLCA.



Political Action Committee (PAC)

Chrissy Chamberland, PAC Chair

Greetings,

What a great State Convention! We raised almost \$500, that's the largest we've raised so far. Well at least since I've been PAC Chair.

I wanted to share some information on PAC (Political Action Committee) and why its important to donate.

PAC is a lobbying tool that accepts voluntary contributions to support our (Rural Carrier) causes. PAC is Bi-Partisan and will support any candidate that supports our causes. Last year PAC raised \$793,366.46, which is amazing. But...it was only 3% of our total, nationwide, membership that contributed to that total. Think of how much more power and influence we would have if 10% or even just 5% of our membership donated.

For our state of MA with a membership of 1,215 less than 100 people donate to PAC each year. Bit disappointing considering all that PAC does for us.

The Postal Reform Act was passed just last year, and that was due to our efforts lobbying congress and making them aware of issues that are important to us. We have 3 more that directly effect us, and several others dealing with federal employees in general sitting on capital hill.

Some important things to note about PAC donations. These are all federal regulation. We cannot accept more than \$100 a day from an individual person. If you want to donate more than \$100, or win an auction item for more than that, you must write a check or pay by credit card. There is no limit to how much you can donate if you pay by credit card or by check. If you wish to donate anonymously the maximum amount we can record per slip is \$50.

You can also become a sustaining donor and have any amount deducted from your pay check (bi-weekly) or from your checking account (monthly). More information on that can be found on the NRLCA website or grab a form at any state or district meeting.

If you ever have any questions about PAC, or would like to donate anything to our silent auctions please do not hesitate to reach out.

See you at the fall district meetings!

Chrissy Chamberland, PAC Chair



Thank You Bill!



The MaRLCA would like to thank long-time member and outgoing State President William Piwowarski for his many years of dedicated service to our union.

At the Spring State Meeting held on May 7, 2023 Bill was presented with a placard by incoming President Robert G. Richardson and was thanked by those present for his unwavering leadership and commitment while serving over the course of many roles during his tenure with the MaRLCA.

We wish Bill all the best as he begins the next leg of his journey into retirement!

Who Ya Gonna Call? Stewards at a glance

District Representative, MA-RI and CT (*Full Time DR*)

Art Courcy, Arthur.Courcy@nrlca.org
508-761-6870

Full-Time Assistant District Representative (MA-RI and CT)

Joan Tenerella, Joan.Tenerella@nrlca.org
401-536-8697

Full-Time Assistant District Representative (CT)

Michael Merola, Michael.Merola@nrlca.org
860-921-7643

Part-Time District Representatives:

Dan Cote (Massachusetts)
Daniel.Cote@nrlca.org
978-237-2625

Matthew Barrett (Massachusetts)
Matthew.Barrett@nrlca.org
508-443-7383

Area Stewards:

Ed Knight
Edward.Knight@nrlca.org
413-323-7392

Theron Boudakian
Theron.Boudakian@nrlca.org
774-266-7056

Thomas Gorman
Thomas.Gorman@nrlca.org
774-319-0788



Backroads Journal

Wyatt Aloisio, Editor

12 Fox Street

Palmer, MA 01069

EMAIL ADDRESS:

backroads.marlca@gmail.com

First Class Mail

Presorted
First Class Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Holliston, MA
Permit No. 72

Inside This Issue:

Officer Reports—p. 1-6

Calendar —p. 2

Financial Report —p. 5

District Notices—p.6-7

DR Report —pp. 8-10

Recognitions—p. 13

PAC Update — p. 14

State Executive Officers:

President: Robert Richardson (978) 314-4449

robert.richardson@nrlca.org

Vice-President: Jason Dole

jdole27@yahoo.com

Sec-Treasurer: Lorraine Pacheco (774) 244-0837

Lorraine.pacheco@nrlca.org

District Presidents:

#1: Bruce Lackey

#2: Dianne Daley

#3: Clifford Morris

Appointed Positions:

Assistant

Sec-Treasurer: Chrissy Chamberland

chrissyasm163@gmail.com

PAC Chair: Chrissy Chamberland

Editor:

Wyatt Aloisio

EMAIL ADDRESS:

backroads.marlca@gmail.com