

Washington Rural Carrier

Official Publication of the Washington Rural Letter Carriers' Association

Fall 2025



Don't Get Caught in the Grift



- ★ **Second Trips**
- ★ **6-9 Play**
- ★ **Christmas Overtime**
- ★ **RCA/PTFs working over 12hours**

Zoom Informational



[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88018618313?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88018618313?pwd=l4mHaKkPWbXhnCe8SyRjEFMuYfFeCx.1)
[pwd=l4mHaKkPWbXhnCe8SyRjEFMuYfFeCx.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88018618313?pwd=l4mHaKkPWbXhnCe8SyRjEFMuYfFeCx.1)

Meeting ID: 880 1861 8313

Passcode: 214349

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Stronger Together, Connected Online

November 11, 2025 3:30-5:00 p.m.
One-hour presentation with a 30 minute Q&A

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Happy Veterans Day!!



Sign Up For Email Updates!

Need to know when the next training seminars are? Find out about upcoming political actions. Get news on contests and promotions!

Here's how:

1. Open your email program. Or, scan the QR code with your smart phone.

2. Send an email to webmaster@warlca.org

3. Include the following in your email:

Name

Office

Designation (Regular, Relief, Retired)

County Unit

Local Steward? (Yes/No)

4. Once your membership is verified, you will receive a confirmation email.



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2025 Convention in Orlando

By Dawn Ayers, WARLCA President

A View from the State President

What a difference a year—and a committee position—makes! The 119th annual National Rural Letter Carriers' Convention was held August 19–22, 2025, but for me it began much earlier thanks to an unexpected committee assignment. I arrived in Orlando on August 13 and started work with the Resolutions Committee the very next day.

To say it was an eye-opening experience would be an understatement. Our five-member committee met daily from 8 a.m. until after 7 p.m., reviewing 460 resolutions. Our task was to identify duplicates, remove those already passed, redirect items that belonged to the Constitution Committee, and determine which were binding. It was tedious but meaningful work, and I was honored to serve. Unlike last year's committee, we finished by Monday afternoon, giving me just enough time to attend part of the State of the Union meeting before hurrying to the Lady Carriers' Club. From there, it was straight into Flag Ceremony rehearsal—where I had to gently remind the presenter that I was from *Washington*, not *Wisconsin*!—and finally on to the Rally at City Hall.

Despite stormy skies, the rally went forward. This was my fourth anti-privatization rally (and third this year), and the energy from the crowd was contagious. We heard from union leaders, representatives of other crafts, two local members of Congress, and our own Michael Gan, whose voice and passion continue to inspire.

Day One - Parade of States The convention officially opened with the Parade of States, and as WARLCA President it was again my privilege to carry the Washington State flag. Our delegation this year included all 21 elected delegates and one alternate. Our two first-time delegates, Al Cortez and Sherry Cortez, represented our state admirably. Jeff Taylor proudly carried the Marine Corps flag, and we were delighted that David Hamilton and his

wife Valerie (our Auxiliary Secretary-Treasurer) were in attendance for the HERO Award ceremony.

Washington shined again during the awards presentations: we earned top honors in both PAC categories, received an Honorable Mention for our state publication, and celebrated Isa Lopez as **Outstanding Member of the Year**. Please take time to congratulate PAC Chair Christiana Lee, Editor Lisa Levitt, and Isa Lopez when you see them!

Day Two - HERO Award & Nominations Wednesday brought one of the highlights of the week—cheering on our HERO of the West-Pac area, David Hamilton. To our joy (and his surprise), he was selected as the **Overall Winner** of the HERO Award. Later that morning, nominations for national officers took place. As campaign manager, it was my honor to nominate Patrick Pitts for Vice President of the NRLCA. The afternoon was spent voting on Constitution changes. The evening's banquet provided great food, fellowship and dancing as much of the Washington delegation spent time on the dance floor!

Day Three - Resolutions & Caucus Night Thursday began with my committee back on-stage presenting resolutions. I can now say I know far more about the process than I ever imagined—and I hope to use that knowledge to help our members craft future resolutions. That evening was



WARLCA President Dawn Ayers.

Caucus Night where candidates visited the ten regional groupings. While most of our delegation met with the Western States Conference, I joined a group from Washington, Idaho, Oregon, and Wyoming to go with Patrick Pitts and his family to his stops. It was a long walk between sessions, but providing the support was worth it!

Day Four - Elections & Appeals Friday opened with the elections of national officers, followed by more time on stage with the Resolutions Committee as the votes

for each position were tabulated. By late afternoon, my committee work was complete. The Appeals part of convention was unlike anything I had ever seen in my thirteen years attending National Convention. In a rare move, the delegation overturned the committee's work after only brief debate, undoing hours of research and interviews. After that contentious session, the body chose not to hear additional resolutions and constitution changes under new business. The new National Board was installed:

- **President** – Don Maston
 - **Vice President** – Patrick Pitts
 - **Secretary-Treasurer** – Tommy Turner
 - **Director of Labor Relations** – John Adams
 - **Director of Steward Operations** – Nicky Philips
 - Executive Committee** – Kirby Rickets, Mike Merola, Bethany Small, and Natasha Patterson
- Following installation of the officers, President Maston adjourned the 119th National Convention.

I am proud to report that every Washington delegate you elected served with diligence and commitment.

For a comprehensive report of the 119th Convention proceedings, please visit the NRLCA website or app for details on how to request a full copy.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Ayers

Washington shined again during the awards presentations



WASHINGTON

2025 NRLCA National Convention

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Front Row, L-R: Kristian Granish, Alicia Peterson, Christiana Lee, Lisa Levitt, Delsey Reed, Lorrie Crow, Dawn Ayers, Dave Blackmer, Isa Lopez, Estee Javiniar, David Hamilton, Valerie Hamilton

Back Row: Jeffrey Taylor, Taralee Mohr, Phillip Bergman, Jim Hemrich, Kris Skewis, Patrick Pitts, Renee Pitts, Susie Hill, Sherry Cortez, Al Cortez, Lyndee White, Susan Durgan, Todd Greer









WA State Showcased in FL

By Dave Blackmer, WARLCA Vice President & Legislative Director

It's not often the Washington Rural Letter Carriers' Association outshines the other states at the NRLCA national convention, but this year was different. Patrick Pitts was reelected for another year as your national Vice President. While Patrick works for all members, it's advantageous to have one of our own at the national level. We look forward to hearing his words of wisdom and the direction of the craft in the future.

David Hamilton brought down the house (so to speak) when he was presented with the WesPac Hero of the Year award in Orlando at the 2025 National Convention. Of the four regional Heros of the Year, David had a well thought out and well delivered thank you speech to the national delegates. It was more than a quick thank you but a humble account of how he saved and shielded an elderly customer and her dog from an aggressive dog.

From the NRLCA 2025 Convention Issue Vol. 119, Issue 06, 08-20-2025

The judges were Jenna Goldstein, MSN, CRNP, PNP-PC, a nurse practitioner with the Emergency Department at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia; Charlie Salazar, Fire Chief at the City of Orlando Fire Department; and Dr.

Terry Flander, a family medicine physician in Scottsdale, AZ with over 35 years of experience in the medical field.

WesPac Area and Overall Hero of the Year: David Hamilton, WA. Rural carrier David Hamilton came to the aid of a woman and her small dog who had been attacked by a larger dog. The woman had already fallen, injuring her arm, and was helpless against the powerful animal. As time was running out, David hurled an empty tub at the attacking dog and continued to fight it off with his ice scrapper. He helped her into the back of his mail truck to keep her safe until neighbors and police arrived.

To everyone's surprise, especially David's, he was chosen overall as the NRLCA National Hero of the year by the judges. While David did have a prepared speech for his WesPac Hero of the Year, he had no idea of the overall award bestowed upon him. David rose to the challenge and thanked everyone for their vote of confidence in him and gave credit to the neighbors who assisted him during the aggressive dog incident. He went on to tell the national delegation that being awarded National Hero of the Year was the second-best thing to happen to him. What many others and I did not know is that David is

WesPac Area and Overall Hero of the Year: David Hamilton ... came to the aid of a woman and her small dog who had been attacked by a larger dog

actually a Canadian citizen. But in May he had applied for his US citizenship. As David put it, the day he receives his US citizenship will be the greatest honor bestowed upon him.

The WARLCA is proud to have David in our ranks. His dedication to the craft and his customers exemplifies rural carrier service and dedication. Well done, David, well done indeed.

Lastly, on the legislative front.

On July 16, Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) became the 218th co-sponsor of H. Res. 70, giving the resolution a majority of members

who feel the House “should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.” Currently, the total number of cosponsors stands at 221.

While we all must remain vigilant of those who wish to privatize the postal service as of today our combined effort has sent a strong message that the US Mail is NOT for sale.

Stay safe and look out for each other.

Famous Letter Carriers

This issue will depart from the history of unions and look at some of the more notable mail carriers over the years. In no way is this an exhaustive list but what I have found doing research over the years.

Postman

Enterprises attending mail equipment sales cultivate talented work forces. Ensuring the timely delivery of letters and packages often requires both ingenuity and determination. Quite a few famous figures in the United States have worked to help process and deliver mail, for example.

Politicians

Benjamin Franklin, Abraham Lincoln, Harry Truman, and Adlai Stevenson all at one time served as Postmasters or Assistant Postmasters. When future President Truman received a Congressional appointment as the Postmaster of Grandview, Missouri in 1914, he reportedly turned over the position (and the \$530 annual salary that went along with the office) to the impoverished widow of a Civil War veteran. Ella Hall managed the Grandview post office for him.

Celebrities

Celebrities have sometimes worked in mail delivery, too. Typically, they filled jobs in mailrooms before gaining fame. Just consider some well-known individuals who worked in this field:

Bing Crosby (1903-1977) The late singer and actor Bing Crosby worked briefly as a substitute and regular postal clerk. He helped customers mail letters in Spokane, Washington in 1921.

Conrad Hilton, Sr. (1887-1979) Before he became a millionaire, 23-year old future hotel magnate Conrad Hilton served as the Postmaster of his home town of San Antonio, New Mexico. He held this position between 1910 and 1911.

Sherman Hemsley (1938-2012) The star of *The Jeffersons* and *Amen* spent several years working in mailrooms in Philadelphia and New York City during the 1960s. He used his position as a postal clerk to support himself while he auditioned for roles on Broadway early in his acting career.

Charles Lindbergh (1902-1974) The

daring aviator Charles Lindbergh successfully won a contract to deliver air mail for the U.S. government between Chicago and St. Louis during 1926 and 1927. He flew a de Havilland DH-4 (a biplane day bomber from the WWI Era) along the air route, with stops at airfields in Springfield and Peoria.

John Prine (1946-2020) Between 1964 and 1969, singer and songwriter John Prine worked as a letter carrier in Maywood, Illinois.

Walt Disney (1901-1966) During 1918 and 1919, the man who would later help bring a host of beloved animated characters to movie screens found employment as a substitute letter carrier in Chicago and a temporary Christmas mailroom worker in Kansas City.

And lastly, I'd be remiss if I didn't mention man's best friend...

At first, Owney stayed close to the Post Office, but he soon began riding mail wagons to the train depot and the railway mail car down to New York City and back to Albany. As Owney traveled farther, his friends at the Albany Post Office feared he might wander too far away to find his way home again, so they purchased a leather

collar with a tag reading "Owney, Post Office, Albany, N.Y." Railway mail clerks recorded Owney's travels by attaching metal baggage tags to his collar to identify the rail lines he traveled on. He was soon so weighed down by his collection of tags that Postmaster General John Wanamaker presented Owney with a jacket to distribute their weight more evenly.

Owney took to traveling farther and staying away longer, eventually visiting Mexico, Canada, Japan, China, Singapore, Suez, Algiers and the Azores.

One day, while being shown off to an Ohio newspaper reporter, Owney bit the clerk who was handling him. The postmaster had Owney put down on June 11, 1897. Railway mail clerks chipped in money to have a taxidermist preserve Owney's body, which then was sent to postal headquarters in Washington, DC, for exhibit. In 1911, the Post Office Department entrusted Owney to the Smithsonian Institution. Since 1993, Owney has been on display at the National Postal Museum in Washington, DC. In 2011, Owney was honored on a commemorative U.S. postage stamp.



———. "Historian Archives." Postal Facts - U.S. Postal Service. Last modified July 1, 2025. Accessed August 26, 2025. <https://facts.usps.com/source/historian/>.

WA Rural Letter Carriers' Association
Statement Of Activities Previous Year Comparison
July through September 2025

	Jul - Sep 25	Jul - Sep 24	% Change
Income			
4000000 · National General Insurance	6,664.28	0.00	100.0%
4100000 · Interest / Dividends	2,610.75	2,881.58	-9.4%
4200000 · Membership Dues	100,198.96	94,031.95	6.6%
4400000 · Reimbursements	435.41	2,236.75	-80.5%
Total Income	109,909.40	99,150.28	10.9%
Gross Profit	109,909.40	99,150.28	10.9%
Expense			
5000000 · Accounting and Banking Fees	425.00	782.90	-45.7%
5100000 · Awards & Recognition	120.94	651.74	-81.4%
5300000 · Employee Benefits	1,913.39	2,751.36	-30.5%
5400000 · Equipment	0.00	802.64	-100.0%
5600000 · Lodging	6,201.85	3,637.49	70.5%
5700000 · National Convention	86,097.80	19,881.97	333.0%
5800000 · Office Expense	526.09	559.43	-6.0%
5900000 · Payroll Taxes	3,374.75	2,417.16	39.6%
6000000 · Per Capita Dues	1,273.00	544.00	134.0%
6100000 · Postage	46.98	1,901.74	-97.5%
6200000 · Printing	359.35	121.37	196.1%
6600000 · Salaries and Wages	40,752.51	24,792.81	64.4%
6700000 · State Meetings	7,717.12	1,020.07	656.5%
6701000 · State Paper	4,889.31	4,182.03	16.9%
6900000 · Telephone & Internet	734.60	696.65	5.5%
7000000 · Travel	5,123.19	3,836.49	33.5%
7100000 · Website Expenses	522.70	1,198.28	-56.4%
Total Expense	160,078.58	69,778.13	129.4%
Net Income	-50,169.18	29,372.15	-270.8%

WA Rural Letter Carriers' Association
Statement of Activities - Compared to Budget
July through September 2025

	<u>Jul - Sep 25</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Income			
4000000 · National General Insurance	6,664.28		
4100000 · Interest / Dividends	2,610.75	22,630.00	11.5%
4200000 · Membership Dues	100,198.96	359,195.00	27.9%
4400000 · Reimbursements	435.41	0.00	100.0%
4500000 · Sales	0.00	5,000.00	0.0%
Total Income	<u>109,909.40</u>	<u>386,825.00</u>	<u>28.4%</u>
Gross Profit	109,909.40	386,825.00	28.4%
Expense			
5000000 · Accounting and Banking Fees	425.00	9,000.00	4.7%
5100000 · Awards & Recognition	120.94	6,000.00	2.0%
5300000 · Employee Benefits	1,913.39	7,000.00	27.3%
5400000 · Equipment	0.00	3,500.00	0.0%
5600000 · Lodging	6,201.85	16,600.00	37.4%
5700000 · National Convention	86,097.80	122,900.00	70.1%
5800000 · Office Expense	526.09	2,600.00	20.2%
5900000 · Payroll Taxes	3,374.75	12,500.00	27.0%
6000000 · Per Capita Dues	1,273.00	3,400.00	37.4%
6100000 · Postage	46.98	8,129.75	0.6%
6200000 · Printing	359.35	2,500.00	14.4%
6400000 · Rent	0.00	3,000.00	0.0%
6600000 · Salaries and Wages	40,752.51	125,291.36	32.5%
6700000 · State Meetings	7,717.12	83,050.00	9.3%
6701000 · State Paper	4,889.31	17,000.00	28.8%
6900000 · Telephone & Internet	734.60	2,270.00	32.4%
7000000 · Travel	5,123.19	17,120.00	29.9%
7100000 · Website Expenses	522.70	2,500.00	20.9%
7200000 · Western States Conference	0.00	21,150.00	0.0%
Total Expense	<u>160,078.58</u>	<u>465,511.11</u>	<u>34.4%</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-50,169.18</u></u>	<u><u>-78,686.11</u></u>	<u><u>63.8%</u></u>

WA Rural Letter Carriers' Association
Statement of Financial Position
As of September 30, 2025

	Sep 30, 25	Sep 30, 24	% Chan...
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Checking/Savings			
1010000 · Chkg - WA Trust Bank	4,143.65	7,972.39	-48.0%
1015000 · Savings - WA Trust Bank	182,468.86	41,480.26	339.9%
1020000 · Savings - APCU	132,296.60	274,220.07	-51.8%
1030000 · Chkg - APCU	-269.74	139.15	-293.9%
1220000 · CD#76 Emer Fund 4.879% 4/7/2025	26,536.90	25,419.82	4.4%
1240000 · CD#78 (APCU) 1.587% 6-24-2024	84,031.41	80,528.66	4.4%
1250000 · CD #79 (APCU) 4.6% 3-16-2024	140,559.92	134,654.80	4.4%
Total Checking/Savings	569,767.60	564,415.15	1.0%
Other Current Assets			
1500000 · Advance	40.21	0.00	100.0%
Total Other Current Assets	40.21	0.00	100.0%
Total Current Assets	569,807.81	564,415.15	1.0%
TOTAL ASSETS	569,807.81	564,415.15	1.0%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Credit Cards			
2000000 · Credit Card	0.00	2,387.24	-100.0%
Total Credit Cards	0.00	2,387.24	-100.0%
Other Current Liabilities			
2100000 · Payroll Liabilities	210.23	488.94	-57.0%
2500000 · Retirement Plan Payable	-309.75	0.00	-100.0%
2600000 · Nat Auxiliary Dues	0.00	2,037.94	-100.0%
Total Other Current Liabilities	-99.52	2,526.88	-103.9%
Total Current Liabilities	-99.52	4,914.12	-102.0%
Total Liabilities	-99.52	4,914.12	-102.0%
Equity			
3900000 · Net Assets	620,076.51	530,128.88	17.0%
Net Income	-50,169.18	29,372.15	-270.8%
Total Equity	569,907.33	559,501.03	1.9%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	569,807.81	564,415.15	1.0%



We Want You There

By Isabella Lopez, Region 1 Committeeperson & Webmaster

Years ago, one of our members worked in a small office located at the edge of King County. She belonged to the King-Snohomish County unit, and she frequently attended meetings. It meant the drive for her was onerous as she lived in Mutual County, especially any time the meetings were held in Snohomish County. If you've ever

driven northbound I-5 or I-405 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the worst kind of traffic is what she faced, so she submitted a

constitution change that would allow her and others like her to have a choice on which unit she could be a part of. The language that passed in the State Constitution Article III Section 4 reads:

Members in good standing shall have the option of being a member of the County Unit and Region in which he/she resides or in the County Unit and Region representing the office from which the route emanates. The member must provide in writing prior to the start of the fiscal year to the State Secretary that member's desire to be in a different county unit. A Retired Carrier shall have the option of being a member of the County Unit and Region in which he/she resides or in the County Unit and Region where previously employed as a regular rural carrier, at time of retirement.

If you live in a different county unit from where your route emanates, you can still attend the meetings nearer to you

The Washington State Board would like to encourage you to attend a county unit meeting whenever possible. If you live in a different county unit from where your route emanates, you can still attend the meetings nearer to you even if you are not yet a member of that county unit. You will not be able to vote or attend as a State

Convention

delegate for that County Unit until the change has been made with the State Secretary-Treasurer.

It is not difficult to find out when other counties are going to be having a meeting. Go to warlca.com, click on the meetings tab, at the top is a calendar and the meetings will be listed when the webmaster is notified. Or you can contact a county officer of the county unit you are interested in attending. Participation from our members makes us a stronger union. Remember, united we stand, divided we beg.

Respectfully submitted,
Isa Lopez



WE WANT YOU



Open Season

By Estee Javinari, Region 2 Committeeperson

Round and round we go. Open season is upon us and there is nothing you need to do if you wish to stay with your current insurance provider. For members of the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association, NRLCA, I want to let you know that there is a unique insurance plan just for Rural Carriers, annuitants, and their families: massage therapy coverage; wellness incentives for members over 18; \$20 co-pays for in-network primary care provider office visits; **100%** coverage for in-network cancer treatments, preventive care, and maternity care. To find more details of this program visit the **OPM.gov** website.

When making changes to your health insurance benefits it can be done during **OPEN SEASON = November 10-December 8, 2025.** Or if you have a Qualifying Life Event, QLE. The more common events are the birth or adoption of a child and marriage. For complete details of **ALL** QLE visit opm.gov for more details.

Will you be making changes this open season? Be sure you register with the Postal Service Health Benefits Program (<https://health-benefits.opm.gov/>). This took me several minutes to do because, if this is your first time you will need your driver's



license, state ID, or passport. It will also ask for your social security number and phone number. Yes, you will need a two-step authenticator as well to log in. I did it and it was painless but if you prefer not to submit it online, you have the option to mail it in. Given the time limit, it may take longer than you wish. Remember Open Season is from **November 10- December 8, 2025.** You

can also call the Human Resources Shared Service Center 877-477-3273.

Plan to spend some time on the computer if you are not familiar with any of the websites. Do not wait until the last minute when making any changes to your benefits. Get online do your research. Ask questions. And most importantly please have all your login information, details, credentials, whatever up to date ahead of time.

Respectfully submitted by: Estee Javinari



National General

By Delsey Reed, Region 3 Committeeperson

National General Insurance Co offers specialized auto insurance coverage specifically designed for rural carriers, in partnership with the National Rural Letter Carriers' Association (NRLCA). These policies are tailored to meet the unique needs of rural mail delivery drivers, including coverage for both on-route and off-route incidents, which many standard insurance providers won't cover or will charge higher business/commercial rates for. Key points about National General's rural carrier coverage:

- The NRLCA endorses NGIC as the preferred provider for rural carriers, thanks to their deep familiarity with the Federal Tort Claims Act (FTCA) and the specifics of government liability procedures.

- National General offers preferred rates to rural carriers for their route vehicles and covers non-route personal and family vehicles, plus homes and other property.

- If you're involved in an accident while working your route, National General helps coordinate with the USPS process (FTCA) and provides coverage if the government denies your claim due to deviation from route or other reasons.

- You qualify for coverage even if you only drive your route occasionally, such as once or twice a week as a Rural Carrier Associate (RCA).

- National General Insurance agents are trained to understand rural carriers' work, making them notably easier to work with compared to other insurance companies that may not grasp the liabilities or coverage needed for rural delivery work.

To get a quote or more information, rural carriers are encouraged to contact National General Insurance directly by

calling their dedicated line of **888-325-7727** (often with a referral code for perks like e-gift cards).

Other insurance companies may cover rural carriers, but usually with added complexity or higher costs, and not all agents are familiar with the nuances of rural mail delivery insurance needs. National General is considered the only insurer with a long-standing, specialized relationship with rural carriers and the NRLCA.

In summary, if you're a rural mail carrier, National General Insurance Co is a trusted choice for vehicle and related coverage, tailored to your occupation and endorsed by the NRLCA.

National General is considered the only insurer with a long-standing, specialized relationship with rural carriers and the NRLCA

In order to get your e-gift card, you must use the above-mentioned number. When I called to get a quote, it only took about 6 minutes. Delsey Reed Region 3 Committee person



GET A \$10 VISA REWARD CARD WITH A FREE QUOTE¹

You made a great decision when you joined the Rural Letter Carrier craft. Here's another opportunity to make a great decision while saving time and money! Whether you are new to the RLC craft, or a tenured carrier, this applies to you. **Having the proper auto insurance coverage is essential for your safety and the safety of others when you are on or off the route.**

All carriers and their family members have easy access to exceptional insurance products and services. Provided by the only insurance company, National General Insurance, an Allstate Company, that has been fully endorsed by the NRLCA for over 68 years.

You won't find a more knowledgeable and dedicated staff of insurance professionals to handle all your insurance needs. Here's how to find out how National General's auto insurance plan designed specifically for Rural Letter Carriers will benefit you! **Simply call 1-888-325-7727.** Get a quote and mention code RRP, and you'll receive a **FREE \$10 Visa Reward Card.**¹

By making the call now, you are moments away from learning why thousands of your fellow carriers have taken advantage of this special benefit. Besides receiving great coverage, it is common to save hundreds of dollars by making the switch. The \$10 Visa Reward Card is **FREE** and there is no obligation to buy anything. As a Rural Letter Carrier, here are some questions to consider when purchasing auto insurance for your craft:

Will you be driving your personal vehicle to deliver mail? If yes, call 1-888-325-7727 immediately to ensure you are properly covered.

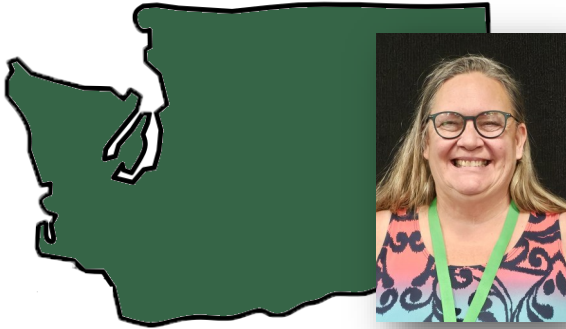
Do I still need special insurance if I only drive a route once or twice a week as an RCA? Yes! Even if you only drive your personal vehicle, one hour, one day, or one week a year, you need coverage with National General.

Do I need coverage through National General if I will be driving an LLV? Yes! Even if you only use your personal vehicle just one time to deliver mail or parcels. If you don't have coverage with a program designed specifically with the RLC craft in mind, you don't have the right coverage and you may be overpaying.

Can I insure more than just my route vehicle? Of course, you can insure your other vehicles! We can also insure your home, provide an umbrella or flood policy, renter's insurance, and even coverage for motorcycles, RVs, and more.

IMPORTANT: Make the call today to 1-888-325-7727 and speak to one of National General's specialized Rural Letter Carrier agents to discuss the right coverage for you. Make sure to mention "RRP" when you get your quote, and you will receive a FREE \$10 Visa Reward Card!

¹No purchase required. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. \$10 Visa Reward Card only available with auto insurance quote from National General. Offer valid while supplies last. Must be at least 18 years of age. Limit one per household. National General reserves the right to cancel or modify this offer at any time. Void where prohibited.



State Convention 2026

By Dawn Anderson, Region 4 Committeeperson

The 2026 State Convention is in June 2026, so it's time to start gearing up. To be a state convention delegate, you need to attend your annual county unit meeting or inform a county unit officer in your county in writing of your desire to be nominated. These meetings usually take place in March or April, depending on your county unit. Members who attend their annual meeting can nominate themselves as delegates. Members who attend the meeting usually cast three votes, and the delegate who receives the highest vote is the delegate-at-large. Remember to vote for yourself!

Just because you're elected as a state convention delegate doesn't mean you have to attend the convention. Even if you don't think you'll be able to attend, it's still important to put your name in. Members who aren't state convention delegates are not eligible to receive the \$400 allowance or mileage reimbursement.

The duties of state convention delegates include attending all business sessions of the three-day State Convention. During these sessions, you'll hear from various speakers, including your NSS representatives and even a national officer. You'll also vote on resolutions or constitution changes that have been

proposed by the various county units.

Even if you don't think you'll be able to attend, it's still important to put your name in. Resolutions or constitution changes may be allowed to be presented on the state convention floor, and your voice will be heard.

You'll also be voting on next year's state officers, who represent you. Take the time to consider all the candidates and what they represent. You can find out which positions are up for re-election. If you're interested in becoming a state board officer, you can

nominate yourself or a fellow delegate for any position that's up for re-election.

Additionally, you'll be assigned to serve on a committee. Each committee has a different task, such as auditing the financials of the organization.

The State Association is seeking volunteers to serve on the tellers committee, which assists with voting. Each committee plays a crucial role in our convention. To be eligible for the allowance, you must attend all business sessions and complete your duties, which include attending a county unit meeting and providing a summary of your learning from the state convention. Don't miss out on the opportunity to be a part of the 2026 State Convention in Pasco

Even if you don't think you'll be able to attend, it's still important to put your name in

2026 WARLCA State Convention

Red Lion Hotel Pasco Airport

2525 N. 20th Ave, Pasco, WA 99301

509-547-0701 redlion.com/pasco

June 14-16, 2026

Use Group Code WRLC0612 When Registering

Register on or before May 12, 2026

All Credentialed Attendees Will Receive a \$400 Stipend
Plus Round Trip Mileage.



Room Rates \$130.00

Double Queen or King

Includes: Hot Buffet Breakfast

Complimentary Shuttle Service to and from Airport

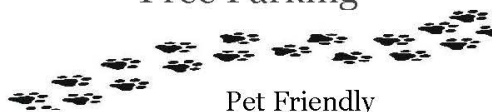
Free Wi-fi

Flat screen TV

Mini Fridge

Microwave

Free Parking



Pet Friendly

Washington, which will take place from June 14 to 16, 2026. We have exciting plans to make this the best convention yet, so stay tuned for more updates!

Thank you
Dawn Anderson



Services For Our Customers

By Lisa Levitt, Editor

In the fast-paced world of e-commerce and the need for instant gratification, consumers are always looking for ways to make their shopping experiences faster, easier, and more convenient. The Postal Service has been working towards becoming more competitive in the field of package delivery in the face of declined First Class mail volume. To that end, we offer a multitude of business features and services often at no cost or competitive prices. However,

our customers can't utilize these services if they don't know about them. And if they don't know about

However, our customers can't utilize these services if they don't know about them

them, let's use our interactions with our customers to inform them.

As you obviously know by now, Ground Advantage is our newest package service. What you may not know is that Poshmark sellers can order free Ground Advantage branded shipping products by calling 800-610-8734 or emailing uspsposhmark@victorypackaging.com. A Poshmark seller's closet name will be

required for confirmation, as these shipping supplies are exclusively for Poshmark sellers. And in order to make shipping with the Postal Service as easy and convenient as possible, make sure to also push free carrier pickup and Click-N-Ship services.

Another lesser-known service we offer is the package intercept. There are a variety of reasons why a sender may need to have a package they've shipped rerouted to a different final destination or even held at a

post office. This service is also available for a moderate fee.

There are also additional services when it comes to

receiving mail. Hopefully you're aware of Informed Delivery, our automated mailbox-to-inbox service, and you also offer information about this service to your customers. But did you know that from Informed Delivery, customers can also sign up for the USPS Electronic Signature Online (USPS eSOL) service? This service allows for certain signature-required items to be delivered to the mailbox. It must be signed

up for in advance and each eligible package must be individually approved in advance as well.

Many of our available services can be self-utilized directly from our website, www.usps.com. Services like Click-N-Ship, forwarding mail, holding mail, Informed Delivery, eSOL, renting PO boxes, package redelivery requests, package intercept, ordering stamps and free shipping supplies, and much more are all available from the website. Be sure to direct your customers to usps.com first. And make sure you are also familiar with our products and services so as to always provide exceptional service with a smile!



Washington brings home ANOTHER Honorable Mention in the publications contest!



Year One, Done!

By Christiana Lee, PAC Chair

My first year as PAC chair and all of you came through with flying colors. I appreciate all the help I received, you are amazing. At our national convention, our members who were present raised a total of \$4,980 which is awesome. Our state convention goal was \$10,000 and all of you crushed it with a total of \$10,707.38. Our total for the last PAC year with our sustaining donors was: \$29,317.88. Now looking forward to this year in PAC, we have a bigger goal of \$15,000 for our state convention so we can top the \$30,000 total mark. To ensure that our voices are heard, NRLCA-PAC must begin preparing now. If

you are already a PAC member, thank you for your contribution and please keep contributing. If you are not yet a PAC member and would like to be, or would like more information on PAC, please feel free to contact me so I can help you get involved. The following are ways to contribute to PAC:

PAC Withholding

Become a supporting member of the NRLCA-PAC by signing up for withholding or EFT! Both of these donation methods provide an easy way to automatically contribute to PAC each month. Additionally, knowing how many

contributions are coming in advance, withholding and EFT donations provide an invaluable guideline for the Governmental Affairs Department when budgeting for campaign donations. You can choose to donate as much as you would like, while continuing to donate at local and state meetings. Withholding deducts donations from each paycheck using a payroll allotment through the PostalEase system. This is a biweekly contribution and is available to all active NRLCA members.

Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

EFT uses a checking account to make a once monthly donation to the PAC. This option is much like using a debit card at the store and will be deducted from your account on the 5th of each month (Unless the 5th happens to fall on the weekend or a holiday). All you need to sign up is a voided check (no business or farm account checks can be accepted). EFT is available to all active and retired members.

Credit Card Donations

We are able to collect credit card donations.

You can also donate items for our silent auctions for our state convention.

We all know the political climate has changed a lot and we need to continue to step up in big ways so we can get our foot in the door and be heard. PAC plays a vital role in helping us educate Congress on our jobs and issues that concern the rural craft.

We have new drawings available this year. We have tickets for a free room night at our state convention. We also have a

drawing for a mini massage gun. Tickets for each of these are one ticket for \$5 or five tickets for \$20. Those tickets will be available at your county meetings from myself or a representative.

Some of the issues we need congress to step up and pass:

H.R. 3011 - USPS Shipping Equity Act. Legislation that would allow USPS to ship alcoholic beverages to consumers. This would allow the Postal Service to gain a financial boost in revenue.

H.R. 1522 -Federal Retirement Fairness Act. Legislation that would allow rural letter carriers to buy back their time spent as an RCA. We all need to get our congressmen involved to back this so we can get credited for our service.

H. Res. 70/S. Res. 147 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress

should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

H.R. 1065/S. 463 -the Protect Our Letter Carrier Act.

Please contact your congressmen and let them know we need them to cosponsor these and they are in the best interest of the carriers and the Postal Service as a whole.

So step up, get involved, and **THANK YOU** for all you do.

Sincerely,

Christiana Lee, WARLCA PAC Chair
Christl647@comcast.net

PAC plays a vital role in helping us educate Congress on our jobs and issues that concern the rural craft

PAC HAPPENINGS

Win a Room Night!

Win a room night at the PASCO Red Lion Hotel.

(Only good for your stay during convention dates June 14th-16th, 2026)

Raffle tickets are
1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20



Who wants a massage?

Win a handheld massage gun.

Raffle tickets are
1 for \$5 or 5 for \$20



Silent Auction at State Convention!

As in past years, PAC wants your silent auction items! Get together with your county unit, your office or even just your own to create a one-of-a-kind basket or something unique. All donations benefit PAC! The best basket (as decided by our national officer in attendance) will receive a special prize.

Please bring all your donations directly to State Convention in June 2026.

Cannot wait to see what your creativity brings!

Meet and Greet!

Meet and greet your fellow carriers at our Dessert Auction!

Bring your favorite homemade or store-bought sweets. Proceeds will benefit NRLCA PAC. Prizes for items receiving the highest bid.



Support NRLCA-PAC

Sign up for Electronic Fund Transfer

A monthly deduction from your checking account on the
5th of each month

(Unless the 5th happens to fall on the weekend or a Holiday)

Visit the
WARLCA PAC
website by
scanning QR
code --->



Questions?
Please contact **Nicole Dunn**,
Assistant to the Director of
Governmental Affairs
ndunn@nrlca.org
703.684.5545 Ext. 216

I hereby authorize my bank to deduct from my checking account the
monthly sum of:

\$45 \$25 \$20 \$15 \$10 Other: \$_____

Date: _____

Name (print): _____

Signature: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Employee ID Number: _____

State: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Please attach a voided check

Send to NRLCA-PAC

1630 Duke St, Floor 2
Alexandria, VA 22314

By making a NRLCA-PAC
Electronic Fund Transfer
Authorization, you are doing so
voluntarily with the
understanding that your
monthly contribution is not a
condition of membership in the
National Rural Letter Carriers'
Association or employment by
the Postal Service nor part of
union dues and that NRLCA-
PAC will use the money it
receives to contribute to
candidates for federal office as
permitted by the law.

You are also making this
Electronic Fund Transfer
authorization understanding
that the NRLCA-PAC
contributions are not tax
deductible, and your selection
shall remain in full force and
effect until you cancel by
notifying the NRLCA-PAC in
writing.

Signing up for Withholding

Active carriers may elect to use one of their three payroll allotments to donate every two weeks. You must sign up for withholding exclusively through PostalEase.

Have readily available your **8-digit Employee ID Number** (on your paycheck stub) and your **4-digit USPS PIN or password**. If you don't have your USPS PIN, you will need to call PostalEase at: 877-477-3273. Press #1 for PostalEase. When prompted, enter your employee identification number. When prompted for your pin, pause, and then press #2. Your PIN will be mailed to your address on the next business day.

Steps for signing up online:

1. Add your Employee I.D. number to the end of the 9-digit NRLCA-PAC account (**163055555**) to create your PostalEase account number.
2. Now you are ready to log into: **liteblue.usps.gov**.
3. Enter your employee I.D. number and password, then click "log on."
4. Click on "PostalEase."
5. Click on "I Agree."
6. Enter your Employee I.D. and password again and log in.
7. Click on "Allotments/Payroll NTB."
8. Click on "Continue."
9. Click on "Allotments."
10. Enter the following Financial Institution routing number: **051400549**.
11. Enter your NRLCA account number: **163055555**_____ followed by your Employee I.D. (No hyphens, No breaks, 17 digits total).
12. Enter account type as "Checking."
13. Enter the amount you want to be taken out **every two [2] weeks** — not the amount you want to give yearly.
14. Click on "Validate."
15. Click on "Submit."
16. Click on "print page" to see and print your confirmation number for your records.

Steps for signing up by phone:

1. Dial 1-877-477-3273 (1-877-4PS-EASE).
2. Press "1" for PostalEase.
3. When prompted, enter your Employee ID Number.
4. When prompted, enter your USPS Pin Number.
5. When prompted, choose option #2 to select Payroll Allotments.
6. When prompted, choose option #1 to select type of Allotment. When prompted, press "2" to continue.
7. When prompted, press "3" to continue to 'ADD' the allotment.
8. When prompted, add routing number: 051400549.
9. When prompted, add the NRLCA-PAC account # followed by your Employee ID Number. It should look like: 163055555_____. No hyphens, 17 digits total.
10. If correct, Press "1." When prompted, press "1" for checking.



Adjustments & Frozen Routes

By Renee' Pitts, District Representative

There have been multiple questions concerning carrier's rights during route adjustments under Rural Route Evaluation Compensation System (RRECS). Article 30.1.J states; "the regular rural carrier assigned to the route shall be notified in advance of any route adjustments and afforded the opportunity to submit comments in writing. The comments will be considered as a factor when such adjustments are under consideration and before any decision is made".

When the route is frozen and there is growth, ... a carrier must keep track of the new deliveries

When providing written comments for consideration, one must articulate information such as what routes you and another route's travel is on the same streets, which part of that route you could pick up and service, or which portion of your route could be used for the other route; don't simply say I don't want to be adjusted. You can, however, state "I want it to be reduced to 45K due to the loss of Amazon deliveries in July 2025" or something to that effect. We all know that management gives little to no concern about our written requests, but in the event there is an issue, the carrier input is looked at and utilized, and questions are asked why management didn't do this or that.

Once management has completed the interims, you should be given a copy of the interim to review and there is also a place to sign that you reviewed it. It is important that you review the information for your adjustment. I understand that the form is hard to follow and seems complex, but you can verify the information if you take the time to do so.

Look at everything; does your route have the correct boxes listed and other accurate information on the top lines of each

sheet? These are the starting numbers of your route's current route data; do they all match the information on your current PS Form 4241A? If your route is overburdened, look at the items being removed from your route and the totals on the bottom of each Excel for what management is saying should be your final numbers. Ask questions if you have any, now is the time to make changes if any are needed before the adjustment goes into effect. Find out did they physically drive the new line of travel to obtain the mileage on the route. If management cut and paste the mileage, request an official route remeasurement or demand they utilize accurate miles as indicated in management's training. Did

they count the actual traffic control points (TCP)?

Below is the side section on the adjustment program so you can review your information accurately using the route's PS Form 4241A and 4241M. Please ensure that management is doing all things necessary

to make an accurate interim adjustment, this is your pay, and management should be placing high importance on making sure it is accurate, utilizing the training given to them. Route adjustments shouldn't be pencil whipped to be completed.

Instructions

Section 1	1	Enter Unit Name as reflected in RMSS
Section 1	2	Enter City, State and Zip Code + 4
Section 1	3	Enter the AMS Zip Code being adjusted
Section 1	4	Enter the Unit Manager Name
Section 1	5	Enter Facility Finance Number as reflected in RMSS
Section 1	6	Enter Route number
Section 1	7	Enter Adjustment Effective Date
Section 1	8	Enter unit Manager phone number
Section 2	9	Identify if this is a new route (Y/N)
Section 2	10	Identify if this is an auxiliary route (Y/N)
Section 2	11	Identify if the delivery unit received mail withdrawal (Y/N)
Section 2	12	Obtain the bundle type from Form 4241-M, page 1 (Bundle type 1,2 or 3)
Section 2	13	Enter Rural Route Evaluation Dispute Process (RREDP) settlement, if applicable, in minutes
Section 2	14	Identify if the route has a Gov't vehicle, use Form 4241-A (Y/N)
Section 2	15	Identify if the route received credit for DPS Letters, use Form 4241-A (Y/N)
Section 2	16	Identify if the route received credit for DPS Flats, use Form 4241-A (Y/N)
Section 3	17-29	Enter data from Form 4241-A from route being adjusted; and information from deliveries being added to the route
Section 3	30	Auto calculation to set the Drive Speed of the route with the most accuracy
Section 3	31	column 31 is auto calculated based on data entries in Section 3
Section 4	32	Current route information will auto populate; Enter route number for route where territory is being added to the current route.
Section 4	33-38	Enter data from Form 4241-A from route being adjusted; and from any route in which territory is being added
Section 4	39-43	Enter data from Form 4241-M, DAILY AVERAGE column - and information from territory being added to the current route, if applicable
Section 4	44-46	Auto calculation based on data entry
Section 5	47	Current route information will auto populate; Enter route number for route where territory is being added to the current route.
Section 5	48-56	Enter data from Form 4241-M, DAILY AVERAGE column - from route being adjusted; and from any route in which territory is being added
Section 5	57-58	Auto calculation based on data entry
Section 6	59-87	These are auto calculations based upon data entry
Section 7	88	Enter new mileage of the proposed route
Section 7	89-94	Enter traffic control points identified for the proposed route
Section 7	95	Identify if turn by turn was obtained and entered on the Submission Form (Y/N)
Section 7	96	Enter the number of stops for the proposed route
Section 7	97-101	These are auto calculations to set actual time of the standard hours and minutes
Section 8	102-103	Enter the current standard hours and minutes of the route; leave blank if new route
Section 8	104-105	Auto calculation of new standard hours and minutes of the route
Section 8	106	If applicable; enter carrier's option election. (Form 4015-A required for High option)
Section 8	107	Auto populated to reflect evaluation at low option
Section 8	108	Auto populated to reflect evaluation at high option, if applicable
Section 8	109	Signature of person preparing the document
Section 8	110	Review changes with carrier and obtain carrier signature. If carrier refused to sign, enter "carrier refused to sign", date and in
Section 8	111	Signature of person completing the final review of the adjustment package
Section 8	112	Signature of the person entering the adjustment into RMSS for processing

Once your route has been adjusted, it will be frozen for 52 weeks or more, depending on when your route was adjusted and when the next Mini Mail Survey (MMS) occurs. When the route is

frozen and there is growth, new deliveries being activated, a carrier must keep track of the new deliveries. Knowing if the route has gained 60 minutes in evaluation is harder than in past. Once you believe you

have enough growth to add 60 minutes and increase your route evaluation, give your higher-level steward a call. We will run a program to determine if you need to file a grievance for the increase to be implemented. We will need you to send us a copy of your interim from your adjustment and the total number of boxes added. Please make sure you track regular boxes added and central boxes added, they receive different time standards to assist us in making the calculations.

It is important to remember to continue completing your hotkey entries and all other duties to continue to ensure your 52 weeks of data is correct for your next MMS and new route evaluation. Once your route is unfrozen, the evaluation of the route will go into effect upon completion and

implementation of that MMS.

The NRLCA website is woefully underutilized by many carriers. Educate yourself on all things involving RRECS, it is your responsibility to ensure that you are properly compensated for your route. We have more control over our route evaluations than we have for the 31 years I have worked for the USPS. Make the investment in yourself and learn what you need to do to get all the credit the route deserves.

Knowledge is power, ignorance is not bliss. Don't cheat yourself!

Respectfully submitted,

Renee' Pitts

Washington/Alaska District
Representative



Darline Kendall, 50-Year Membership Award

By Kurt Eckrem, WARLCA Historian

Darline Kendall was born into a rural carrier family, and she learned early on that women did not have to accept society's predetermined roles. Her mother's sister, Mae, was married to a rural carrier who died at a young age. Mae, who was 25 years old at the time with a 5-month-old son, applied for the vacant position. She scored higher on the test than the 43 male applicants for the position, was hired, and served for 30 years.

Darline started carrying mail at the age of 40 as a sub on a contract route in Pasco, but it wasn't long before she realized she

should apply for a rural carrier position. Darline told me that, as a single mother at the time, being a rural carrier was one of the very few jobs a woman could hold that paid the same as a man. When the Richland post office requested help from the Pasco office, Darline was the one they sent. She stayed on, first subbing on a regular route and carrying an auxiliary route as the first female carrier in the office, and then eventually going regular. She faced a great deal of criticism from the male city carriers, who felt the route should have been given to one of them. What was worse in her

mind, though, was when she attended her first WARLCA state convention. The male delegates were shocked and surprised that she was there as a delegate, and a member of the Auxiliary, upon learning Darline was actually a rural carrier and not the wife of a carrier, stated from the podium that Darline “had no business working on a man’s job” and that “if this continues, we soon won’t have an Auxiliary”. Darline also caused a stir when she wrote a letter to the editor of the *Washington Rural Postman* questioning why her daughter was seemingly ineligible for an Auxiliary scholarship, simply because Darline was single.

Being the independent woman she is, one of her earliest mail delivery vehicles was a bright red Dodge Dart, which many of her customers thought looked like the Starsky and Hutch car, and on which she put personalized license plates reading “FEMAIL”. During the snowy winters in Richland, she regularly carried two chained-up wheels in her delivery vehicle, and when needed, she would pull into a driveway and change the wheels. She also remembers writing to *Readers Digest*, complaining about how the magazine jackets would catch on to other mail, and not long after, seeing them changed to plastic covers.

Following in their mother’s footsteps, two of her daughters subbed for her on her route, with one of them becoming a regular rural carrier. Darline served our Association as a Yakima Valley (now Apple Valley) county unit officer, WARLCA District 4

Representative, and was the Chair of the 1989 WARLCA State Convention in Richland. Darline retired from the Post Office in 1997 with 20 years as a regular carrier and currently lives in Arizona. She told me she would love to hear from other retired rural carriers. Her

address is 1657 E. Carolyn Way, Casa Grande, AZ 85122-6012 and her phone number is (520)858-1657.

Congratulations, Darline, on your 50-year membership award, and thank you for being a trailblazer for all of the women rural carriers who have come after you.

Thank you for being a trailblazer for all of the women rural carriers who have come after you

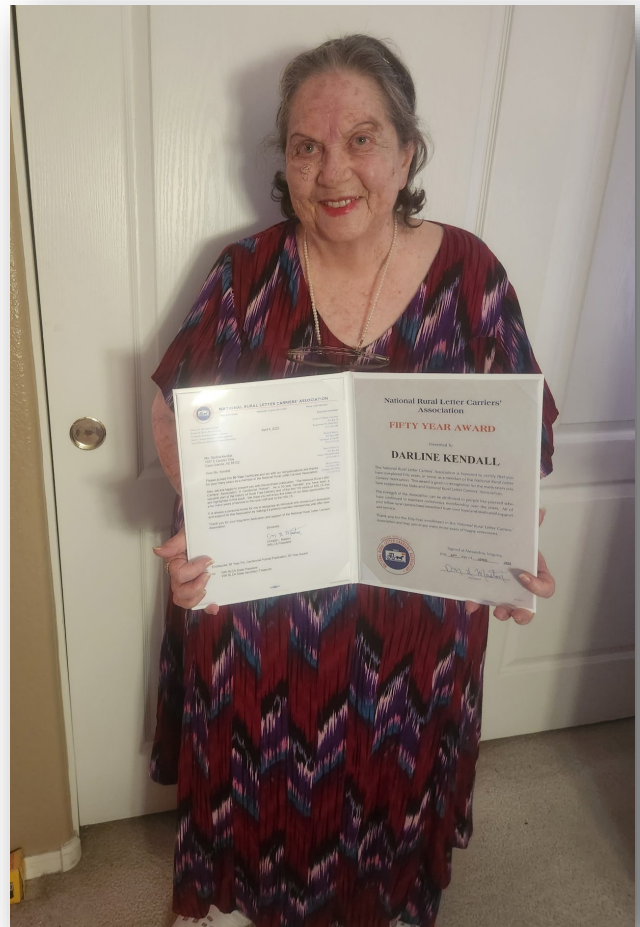


PHOTO WASHINGTON RURAL LETTER CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION CONTEST



Send us your best postal related photo.

Prizes for first, second and third place.

Email one photo per member to webmaster@warlca.org

All entries must be received by April 15, 2026.

Members vote (thumbs up 'LIKE') on the WARLCA Facebook page no later than May 5, 2026 at *WA RURAL LETTER CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION*

Photos cannot be more than 1200 X 600 DPI, must be submitted by members in good standing & must include the member's name and home office you currently or have worked in. Questions: Contact any WARLCA State Board Member

2026 WESTERN STATES CONFERENCE



SUNSET STATION RESORT

APRIL 15-17, 2026

**1301 WEST SUNSET ROAD
HENDERSON NV 89014**

Room Reservations: 702-867-4397

**\$126.00 per night
(Booking Code: NVRLCA)**

Rates good APRIL 13, 2026—17, 2026

**It is the hope of the NVRLCA that you will all plan to attend this event with
your families in the entertainment capital of the World. If you go on the internet to**

Sunset Station Hotel.com

**You will find a list of offerings to places nearby to entertain yourself and family
members before or after the meetings.**

2026 WESTERN STATES CONFERENCE

APRIL 15-17, 2026



SUNSET STATION RESORT

1301 WEST SUNSET ROAD
HENDERSON NV 89014

Room Reservations: 702-867-4397

\$126.00 per night

(Booking Code: NVRLCA)

Rates good APRIL 13, 2026—17, 2026

The registration fee is \$85.00/person, add \$10.00/person after March 1, 2026

Includes breaks, Lunch on Thursday and Seminars

Number of people _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

Please Print:

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip _____

Please enclose your check payable to NVRLCA for the total.

Mail to Attn: NVRLCA c/o Jamie Martinez, at 4307 Stardust Moon Ave, North Las Vegas, NV 89084

Questions: Contact Ginny Simer at ginnyssimer@yahoo.com or call 775-910-4318 and leave a message.

HOTEL AMMENITIES

ACCESSIBILITY

- Wheelchair Accessible—may have limitations

BREAKFAST SERVICES

- Breakfast Services – Extra Charge

BUSINESS, CONFERENCE & MEETINGS

- Meeting Room Facilities; Banquet hall on site; Ballroom on site; Meeting Rooms on site; Wedding & banquet services

ENTERTAINMENT & ACTIVITIES

- Sportsbook; Concerts live performances; Pool table or billiards

FITNESS SERVICES

- 24/7 fitness facility

GAMES & SPORTS

- Bingo; Arcade—Game Room

GENERAL AMENITIES

- Dry Cleaning & laundry Service;

Fron Entrance ramp; Braille or raised signage; Assistive listening devices available. Visual alarms in hallways; Electric vehicle charging Station; Bowling alley on site; Elevator & lift on property; Vending machine available; Wheelchair-accessible path to entrance; Pool host on suite; Well lit path to entrance; Elevator door width 36 inches; Hiking/biking trails nearby

- No accessible shuttle

- ATM & banking on site

INTERNET

- Free internet

KIDS & CHILDCARE SERVICES

- Babysitting or childcare—Extra charge; Supervised childcare & activities—Extra chg

LOBBY LEVEL SERVICES

- Luggage storage facilities; Express check out; Bellhop & Porter Service

- 24/7 front desk; Safe Deposit box at front desk

OUTDOOR

- TV in common areas

PARKING SERVICES

- RV, bus & truck parking—Free; Covered parking; Uncovered parking; Self Parking—Free; Valet Parking—Free

POOL FACILITIES

- Pool Umbrellas; Outdoor swimming pool; Pool Cabanas—Extra Charge; Pool sun chase loungers

PROPERTY FEATURES

- VIP ROOMS; Assigned smoking areas; Multilingual staff

RESTAURANT & BARS

- Bars & lounges; Pool bars; Coffee shops and cafes; Hotel restaurant; Snack Bars & deli

WARLCA Board Meeting Hampton Inn Ellensburg WA. July 13-17, 2025

Sunday July 13, 2025

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. with President - Dawn Ayers, VP - Dave Blackmer, ST - Lorrie Crow, RCP1 - Isa Lopez, RCP2 - Estee Javinier, RCP3 - Delsey Reed, and RCP4 - Dawn Anderson all in attendance.

Ground Rules: The Ground Rules were read by the Secretary-Treasurer and approved without change.

Correspondence: Dawn Ayers has two letters she has received that will be discussed in a closed session.

Minutes: The minutes were reviewed and approved

Assignment and Appointed Positions:

Dave Blackmer - Legislative

Isa Lopez - Webmaster

Estee Javinier - RCBP

Delsey Reed - NGIC

Christiana Lee - PAC Chair

Editor - Lisa Levitt

Historian - Kurt Eckrem

Dawn Anderson has volunteered to be PAC Co-Chair the board is in agreement. It was suggested that part of her duties would be to try to recruit county PAC Chairs. We do not have a State Chaplain and Dawn has sent an email to Patrick to see about having a member attend the Chaplains Lunch at National Convention. We have had two members show interest in this position. Having a Retiree Liaison was discussed there are some concerns about bad information being given out unintentionally, which could cause charges being brought against the Association.

PAC: Nicole from the National office had not communicated at all with the PAC Chair. The PAC information on the website is still accurate and can be used by the RCPs at meetings. We are still waiting for information from the national office on year-end totals. It was suggested that PAC do more than one room night. Members were not happy about not having a "sit with your National Officer table" this past year. Having another dunk tank was discussed as well as a dunce cap. Having a county basket was discussed, doing a better job of

advertising for these functions is important. RCPs should be advertising or discussing this at their local meetings.

Adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Monday July 14, 2025

Meeting called to order at 8:08 a.m. with all in attendance.

SORM (Officers' Training): The morning was spent reviewing the State Officers' Resource Manual (SORM). On page 6 of the SORM it says the ST will provide an outline of the duties of each elected officer position and agreed that this should be included in the paper.

Broke for lunch at 12:00 p.m. Returned from lunch at 1:00 p.m. with all in attendance.

Completed reviewing the SORM.

Board Policy: The Board Policy was reviewed and after a few changes were made and approved.

WRC: Dawn Ayers will send a reminder that articles are due, and all members will send their submissions in that email thread.

Fall issue will be

Dawn E - National Convention Recap

Dave - notable and famous rural carriers, article on member of the year.

Lorrie - Financial

Isa - TBD

Dawn M - State Convention

Estee - Open season

Delsey - NGIC

Articles to Board on October 5, to editor October 10, to printer October 24. Winter Articles to Board on January 11, January 16 to editor, January 30 to print. There will be a blurb on both the website and Facebook advertising the County Corner. We are still researching different printers, not sure if the one we are using is going to be able to meet our needs.

2025 State Convention Recap: Overall, it was agreed that the Convention went well without many snags. There were a few members that wanted to be able to sit with the national officer, but it was not possible due to the cruise ship's limited seating. Everyone was happy with the cruise and felt the food was good. It was agreed that President Ayers will send out both emails and letters to the

committee chairs next year. Lorrie received two undeliverable ballots sent to her from the PO instead of returning them to sender as box closed. Since President Ayers has the election information stored at her home, Lorrie handed them off to her for safe keeping for one year with the rest of the undeliverable ballots.

Tuesday July 15, 2025

Meeting called to order at 8:03 a.m. with all in attendance.

2025 National Convention: Delegate Cap? \$90,000.00. Delegates elected 21 with one paid alternate. It was decided by consensus that we will pay any elected delegate \$75 to attend the Monday seminars. The delegate will have to contact either the ST or President once onsite, either in person or electronically. Flag bag, banner, and chair backs, the State banner has been located. President/designee to take roll call each session. Delegate Duties: Attend all business sessions, at least one seminar, and Western States caucus. The question was asked; Do we need to add something or look into what we can do if delegates do not fulfill obligations? There is already language in the WARLCA Constitution in regard to this issue.

Patrick Pitts VP Candidacy and Delegates Walking: Dawn and Alicia are Patrick Pitts' campaign managers, any member walking with Patrick Pitts will be excused from attending the Western Area caucus.

2026 State Convention: Spoke with Seleste at the Red Lion via phone to verify what our needs would be for the convention: she will go over the changes and get a new proposal to us soon. The contract for the Red Lion was signed by Dawn Ayers and Lorrie Crow at the board meeting and sent to Seleste Reyes at the Red Lion in Pasco. Dates: June 14-16, 2026; Room rates at \$130 per night; June 12 board meeting, June 13 set up, June 17 board meeting; delegate cap set at \$56,000; Speakers: RRECS Specialist, EAP, NARFE, Auxiliary; Banquet: Game show night, do county competitions, trivia game slide with friends, family feud type of game, bingo, no host bar; meet and greet, dessert auction, possibly outside depending on weather. Sunday training or informational meeting, possibly retirement seminar, Joni Montroy or John Embleton from the national office.

2027 State Convention: Great Wolf Lodge June 13-15, 2027

2028 State Convention: Delsey Reed is still doing her research, a possibility is the Campbells Resort on Lake Chelan.

New Hire - Orientations and Academies: Vancouver and Yakima are becoming active: we need someone in those areas willing to do orientation recruitment. Dawn Ayers suggested that we put out a letter via email and/or on Facebook seeking recruiters. Both Dawn Ayers and Lorrie receive orientation notifications, Dawn will be the one to share the information with the recruiters. Dawn Ayers suggested that we put a video together in case we cannot make an orientation. Health benefits and contact information is already provided to the new hires in the blue book they receive from the PO.

Broke for Lunch at 12:02 p.m. Returned from lunch at 1:06 p.m. with all in attendance.

Region Committeeperson Reports:

Region 1 Isa Lopez: King Snohomish and Whatcom are scheduled ISSJ has tentatively scheduled their meeting for August 6th. There are some carriers that would like to attend county meetings in a county that is not theirs and would like to change to a different county unit. It was explained that any carrier can attend any meeting, but they can also change their preferred county unit, they need to send the ST a written request.

Region 2 Estee Javinari: Estee has nothing going on right now

Region 3 Delsey Reed: Nothing going on right now.

Region 4 Dawn Anderson: Has been working on 2026 State Convention.

RCPs should be covering legislation, PAC if there is no liaison, dates of convention, state and national, EAP, Member of the Year, contact your Congressperson. Social events could be a way of getting members attending meetings, how much should, or could the board reimburse the county for having social events? This will continue to be discussed at the next board meeting.

Budget: The budget for 2025-2026 was reviewed, completed, and approved. A brief discussion was had regarding what should be handed out at orientations, we already have bank bags, pens, and lanyards.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Wednesday July 16, 2025

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. with all in

attendance. We will have the DR here via Zoom and will stop and start as needed for their portion of the agenda.

Future Meetings: October 12-15, 2025 Red Lion Pasco; January 25-28, 2026 Ellensburg; March 29-April 1, 2026 Ellensburg; May 5, 2026 last day for annual meetings; Western States Conference April 15-17, 2026 Henderson, Nevada.

Equipment: The equipment list was updated and verified. It was decided that Dawn Ayers needs to purchase a new President's computer and will recycle the old one.

New Hire Orientation/Academies: It was decided that Kurt Eckrem will continue to attend orientations and that Delsey Reed will continue attending in the Spokane Area. Lorrie will attend in Spokane when Delsey is unavailable and roll it into her day. We are still looking for someone to attend in the central area.

Vouchers: Updated voucher at board meeting and sent the new ones to the board. All members deleted the old ones.

Broke for lunch at 12:01 p.m. Returned from lunch at 1:05 p.m. with all in attendance.

District Representative Report: Dawn Ayers read ADR Peterson's annual report to the board; Dave Blackmer read his annual report to the board; Dawn Ayers read DR Pitts' annual report; Dawn Ayers read ADR Lopez's annual report; Dawn Ayers read ADR Anderson's report; Dawn Ayers read Area Steward Ayers' annual report

Zoom Meeting Prep: The board reviewed the previous county officer training agenda and what we will be covering for the county officer Zoom meeting. Met with editor Levitt via phone, covered publication dates for the upcoming year and computer software renewals.

Website and Social Media: We spent some time reviewing the website and suggested changes and corrections. Dawn Anderson has sent the board a flyer for the 2026 Convention and some suggested changes were discussed.

County Units: It was suggested that we have the county officers training in July and include the LM-4 filings in conjunction with it. It was discussed whether or not we should have a statewide officers training next year. No definite decision was made; we will ask to see what the county officers think they would like.

A member put together a group for a parade,

and the question was asked whether or not she should be reimbursed for the parade fee. It was decided that since it was not approved by the board prior to the parade, we would not do a reimbursement. It could set a precedent that opens the door to anyone planning an event outside of the normal approved gatherings could ask for financial reimbursement.

Broke at 4 p.m. until the start of the Zoom meeting; Zoom meeting county officer training review started at 6 p.m.

Thursday July 17, 2025

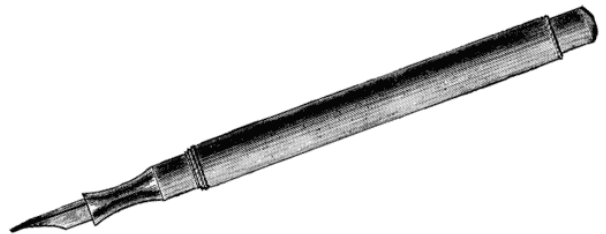
Meeting called to order at 8 a.m.

Cards for First Timers: Dawn Ayers is going to send thank you cards to the first timers at the state convention.

Voya Trustees: Lorrie will have the names of the trustees changed to herself, Dawn Ayers, and Dave Blackmer before the next board meeting.

Unfinished Business: We revisited the recommendation of the auditing committee and by majority vote, we will no longer require maps with our vouchers, it was agreed that we will submit only the 4240 or 1314 with the submission of the vouchers. It was agreed that we would put an announcement on the webpage and in the County Corner that a member has the right to change their preferred location, in the hopes of getting more members active. Lorrie will continue working on splitting Apple Valley into two county units. Dawn Anderson will have the county officers provide a map of how they want the split to be done and proposed county unit names. At the next board meeting we will put together a binder for each RCP for putting together their state convention.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:01 a.m.



Revised 4/25/2024
NRLCA Form 1187

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AUTHORIZATION FOR DEDUCTION OF DUES

RURAL CARRIER
CLASSIFICATION

☐ Regular ☐ PTF ☐ Relief ☐ ARC

(USPS EMPLOYEE I.D. NUMBER)

LASTNAME

FIRSTNAME

MI

MAILING ADDRESS — INCLUDING APT# IF APPLICABLE

CITY

STATE

ZIPCODE+4

EMAIL ADDRESS

POSTAL INSTALLATION WHERE EMPLOYED

ZIP CODE OF INSTALLATION

INSTALLATION FINANCE NO.

SECTION A - AUTHORIZATION BY EMPLOYEE

I hereby assign to the **National Rural Letter Carriers' Association**, from any salary or wages earned or to be earned by me as your employee (in my present or any future employment by you) such regular and periodic membership dues as the union may certify as due and owing from me, as may be established from time to time by said Union. I authorize and direct you to deduct such amounts from my pay and to remit same to said Union at such times and in such manner as may be agreed upon between you and the Union at any time while this authorization is in effect.

This assignment, authorization and direction shall be irrevocable for a period of one (1) year from the date of delivery hereof to you, and I agree and direct that this assignment, authorization and direction shall be automatically renewed, and shall be irrevocable for successive periods of one (1) year, unless written notice is given by me to you and the Union not more than twenty (20) days and not less than ten (10) days prior to the expiration of each period of one year.

This assignment is freely made pursuant to the provisions of the Postal Reorganization Act and is not contingent upon the existence of any agreement between you and my Union.

Contributions or gifts (including dues) to the NRLCA are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. However, they may be tax deductible under other provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE

DATE

PHONE

SECTION B- FOR USE BY STATE ASSOCIATION

R - NATIONAL RURAL LETTER CARRIERS' ASSOCIATION

SIGNATURE OF ACCEPTING UNION OFFICIAL

DATE

I hereby certify that the dues of this organization for the above-named member, for the applicable designation, are currently established at \$ _____ per pay period.

\$35.35 for Regulars and PTF \$12.46 for Relief and ARC

LOC #	STATE
	WA
DATE	REMIT #

Lorrie Crow WARLCA, STATE SECRETARY

SECTION C- FOR USE BY NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Date of Delivery to Employer (For National Office use)

ANNIVERSARY DATE TO BE USED
AT USPS PERSONNEL OFFICE

Send to:

LORRIE S. CROW
WARLCA STATE SECRETARY-TREASURER
1208A SLIDE CREEK RD
COLVILLE, WA 99114

Recruiter EIN:

Name:

Address:

WARLCA Membership Status

Member Totals by Class		Nonmember Totals by Class	
Regular	1,185	70-5 — ARC	149
PTF	171	71 — Regular	241
Retired	270	76 — PTF	67
Associate	14	78 — RCA	189
RCA	270	79 — RCA AUX RT	12
Recently Retired	6	Total	658
ARC	28		
OWCP/LWOP	37		
Cash-Paid	23		
Total	2,004		

*In fond remembrance of the
following rural carriers who have
left us:*

*Dwight Bond
Peter Hougardy*

*The WARLCA Membership wishes
to honor them for their dedication
to our Union and the Rural Craft.*



Congratulations Retirees!

Lorrie Crow, Colville
Kelly Dunlap, Stevenson
Rod Lafrance, Greenacres
Jeffrey Taylor, Greenacres
Jessica Whitmore, Otis Orchards

Do You Know Someone Who Deserves The Membership Longevity Award?

Have you reached the 50 year mark yet? We honor all those members who have reached 50 years and 60 years as a member in the WARLCA/NRLCA. If you think you have or are near, please contact the State Secretary-Treasurer for the official form. You will receive recognition from NRLCA and an article and picture in a future issue of the *Washington Rural Carrier*.

Please Welcome Our New Members!

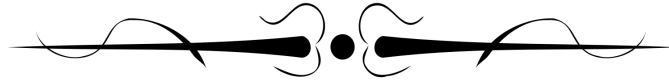
7 - RCA	ARLINGTON	MCKALYNN	FRYER	7 - RCA	PASCO	MIGUELITO	SINTOS
7 - RCA	AUBURN	DERRICK	KIM	7 - RCA	PASCO	NATHAN	ITTER
1 - Regular	BATTLE GROUND	JEROME	CHIONG	7 - RCA	PORT ANGELES	MOSES	LOPEZ I
7 - RCA	BELLINGHAM	KYLE	SHARP	7 - RCA	PORT ORCHARD	TIMOTHY	JOHANSEN
1 - Regular	BLAINE	MICHAEL	STEWART	7 - RCA	PORT ORCHARD	KYLE ANN	HEPPENSTALL
7 - RCA	BLAINE	BRETT	EATON I	7 - RCA	PORT ORCHARD	JACOB	LEE SR
7 - RCA	CASTLE ROCK	DUSTIN	MANNING	7 - RCA	PUYALLUP	DANIEL	ANDERSON
7 - RCA	CATHLAMET	JASON	LAROCHE	7 - RCA	RAVENS DALE	JONATHAN	MCNEELEY
7 - RCA	CHEHALIS	PETER	HAMMER	7 - RCA	RAYMOND	MORGAN	MACDONELL
7 - RCA	CONCRETE	RENEE	ROCHA	7 - RCA	RIDGEFIELD	ANNA	LINDER
1 - Regular	ELMA	ROBERT	SULLIVAN JR	7 - RCA	ROY	HILLORIE	SMITH
C - ARC	ELMA	MEGAN	CAMPBELL	2 - PTF	SELAH	DAWN	MC FARLANE
7 - RCA	EVERETT	AKOSITA	KOTOIVATOA	7 - RCA	SPANAWAY	ZACHARY	VANDER VELDEN
7 - RCA	GRANDVIEW	JACOB	MARTIN	1 - Regular	SPOKANE	CHRISTOPHER	MILENDER
7 - RCA	GRANDVIEW	ALIZSA	VARGAS	7 - RCA	SPOKANE	ALISHIA	FRY
7 - RCA	GRANDVIEW	ANJANETTE	BELLONI	7 - RCA	STANWOOD	JAYLEN	HANSEN
7 - RCA	ISSAQUAH	MAXWELL	MCKENNA	7 - RCA	SUMNER	GABRIEL	BENNINGTON I
7 - RCA	KELSO	TANNER	BERGSENG	7 - RCA	SUMNER	DARIUS	FOX
7 - RCA	KENT	CONNOR	FOLEY	7 - RCA	VANCOUVER	RAYMOND	SALANOA
7 - RCA	LAKE STEVENS	RONEEL	PILLAY I	7 - RCA	VANCOUVER	MELISSA	NAEOLE
7 - RCA	LAKE STEVENS	KAREN	KUMEROW	7 - RCA	VANCOUVER	LARRY	SIZEMORE
7 - RCA	LONG BEACH	KRISTOPHER	SOLEIM	7 - RCA	VASHON	PEPPER	GUERRERO
C - ARC	LONG BEACH	SUZANNA	KRUGER	7 - RCA	WALLA WALLA	ALEXANDER	QUESNEY
7 - RCA	LONGVIEW	DOUGLAS	HOLMES	1 - Regular	WENATCHEE	AARON	AYALA
7 - RCA	MAPLE FALLS	JAMES	QUINLAN	7 - RCA	WILBUR	ALITA	STEWART
7 - RCA	MONROE	NANCY	BALIN	7 - RCA	WINLOCK	JERMEY	WILLIAMS
7 - RCA	NINE MILE FALLS	CRAIG	LASHORNE	7 - RCA	WOODINVILLE	FENCHURCH	ALEXANDER
7 - RCA	NORTH BEND	JEFFREY	STOCKAND	7 - RCA	WOODINVILLE	DREW	WILKES
7 - RCA	OAK HARBOR	HENRY	WILSON	7 - RCA	WOODLAND	TRAVIS	THOMPSON
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	TANYA	WURL	7 - RCA	YAKIMA	MAI	NGUYEN
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	DAVID	MWNYI	C - ARC	YELM	ASHLEY	MULGADO
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	KOBE	DENNIS				
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	LADY MYRTH	DELA PENA				
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	WILL	HOSEA SR				
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	BRANDON	MCKINNEY				
7 - RCA	OLYMPIA	CANDICE	MATHIS				
7 - RCA	OTIS ORCHARDS	TIMOTHY	KECK				

Washington Rural Carrier
1208A Slide Creek Rd
Colville WA 99114-8766

Address change? Please let your State
Secretary-Treasurer know to keep your
WARLCA and NRLCA magazines coming!

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Mount Vernon, WA
Permit #34

Change Service Requested



Special Delivery For:



Upcoming Dates to Remember

Nov 10-Dec 8 2025: PSHB Open Season
Dec 6-26 2025: Christmas OT Period
Jan 11 2026: New Leave Year Begins
Jan 25-28 2026: WARLCA Board Meeting, Ellensburg WA
Feb 2-7 2026: Relief Carrier Appreciation Week
Feb 4 2026: Thank A Mail Carrier Day
Mar 29-Apr 1 2026: WARLCA Board Meeting, Ellensburg WA
Apr 15-17 2026: Western States Conference, Henderson NV
May 9 2026: Letter Carriers' Food Drive



www.warlca.com



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