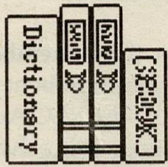


WASHINGTON RURAL POSTMAN

53rd Year

APRIL 1989



State Steward

Karen De Bella and I attended steward training in Alexandria, Va. near our National Headquarters and near Washington, DC March 5-7, 1989.

It was a tremendous meeting. Steve Smith, our Labor Relations Officer had invited about a dozen headquarters people to come and address us. He asked us not to record the Postal Officials and not to quote them by name so that they could speak candidly. They did speak candidly. Some of the statistics I made note of are:

The number of rural routes remained almost constant from 1960 to 1977 and then began to climb. Some of the factors causing this growth are:

1. The capped COLA we got stuck under
2. The acceptance of the L-Route concept.

Those two things have made rural delivery the postal services choice and cause for growth since 1977. The reason it became the choice are two-fold. First these cost containment measures made rural delivery again cheaper than city delivery. Secondly, since approximately 1978 we have leaned hard on PMG Bolgers promise that if we would accept the L-Route concept, the growth in delivery would be on rural routes.

If there are no drastic changes in the way we do business (such as converting rural delivery to contract delivery (star routes)) then by the year 2004 we should have as many routes as city delivery has now. Smoke on that for a while!

Along with these projections on growth our legal council Bill Peer warned us that we as a union will self destruct unless we give up this Mom and Pop style of operation where we lean so hard on volunteer labor. We have got to refinance. We have got to professionalize from top to bottom. He went on to say that our win loss record against the Postal Service in the grievance arbitration and in court is phenomenal by percentage and far above the other crafts. However, he declared we haven't won these cases, the Postal Service has lost them and if the Postal Service is to survive it will have to improve dramatically and if it does improve, we must also or go by the wayside.

If I heard Scottie Hicks NRLCA Sec.-Treas. correctly we have spent \$200,00 more than we have taken in so far this year. There will have to be a dues increase voted in Buffalo this August. In my opinion this is 2 years late. The good news is that by the time this dues increase goes into effect the WRLCA should be able to absorb the increase without raising our own dues.

If you have been reading your National magazine lately you know that we have outgrown our national headquarters building in Alexandria, Va. The delegates in Buffalo will be asked to vote to buy a new office building, costing in excess of 4 million dollars. We will have the present building to sell and it has appreciated well since we bought it.

We got a commitment that the intent of the new M-38 language and the Walker letter will be followed hereafter in the Seattle Division. A copy of both follows this article. It is up to you and me to police this language and commitment. I'm asking someone in every office to call as soon as you learn that route adjustments are contemplated in your office.

We hope to establish an unofficial Step 2a & 1/2 in the grievance procedure in in Washington, in an effort to get good awards without appealing to the Region. Washington has been appealing more grievances and there is finally a concerted effort to reduce the number. Welcome news I hope. I feel recharged, enthused, and full of information as a result of the Steward training we attended. I hope to see each one of you soon to share.
Neil M. Buchanan, State Steward

THANKS!!!

OREGON STATE PRESIDENT

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness in sending me the lovely basket of flowers. They cheer my room and my heart. So far I've been in the hospital for a month since my accident. I was hit head on by a drunk driver. I expect to be here for another week or so, then in a nursing home for 6-8 weeks, then recuperating for 6-12 months. The many cards and messages from my rural carrier friends are greatly appreciated. God bless,

Alice Hardy, President
Oregon Rural Letter Carriers Association
1825 NE Noble
Corvallis, Or. 97330



Washington State held a Special Centennial first day cancellation ceremony at the State Capitol Building in Olympia on February 22, 1989. The Washington Statehood Stamp is one of the most beautiful stamps issued this year. The following is reprinted from the first day of issue programs received at the ceremony from the Postal Service:

PRESIDING: Michael A. Loe- Postmaster Olympia, Wa.
INTRODUCTIONS: Ralph Munro-Secretary of State Washington Centennial Commission

REMARKS: Jean Gardner (Booth's spouse) Washington Centennial Commission; Putnam Barber-Washington Centennial Commission; The Honorable Booth Gardner, Governor State of Washington.

ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION OF ALBUMS: John G. Mulligan, Senior Assistant Postmaster General
HONORED GUESTS: Craig G. Wade, Division General Manager/Postmaster Seattle, Wa.; George A. Boettger, MSC Manager/Postmaster Tacoma, Wa.

"Until recently, Washington has been thought of as a frontier wilderness accessible only to the rugged and adventurous. This robust picture of the state was derived in part from its location at the northwesternmost corner of the continental United States. Adding to the image were its historical association with Indian wars and romantic accounts of rough and tumble pioneers and grizzled lumberjacks.

Though no longer a vast, untamed wilderness, the Evergreen State remains a rich and diverse outdoor wonderland, from desert to rainforest, sagebrush plain to sea coast. Recreation, hydroelectric power and transportation industries provide a base for prosperity, and the state's agricultural success with apples and wheat have helped thrust it into a position as a leading port of world trade.

Growth came slowly for Washington, largely due to its remote location. But gold discovered in the northeastern corner of the state in 1855, brought a rush of new prospectors into the country. Population began to boom in earnest in 1883, with completion of the first railroad. And, on November 11, 1889, Washington became the 42nd state in the Union.

The Postal Service is pleased to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the only state named for a president by issuing this commemorative stamp designed by Howard Rogers."
Con't. page 2.

THE WASHINGTON RURAL POSTMAN is published quarterly: February-April-June-November. Deadlines for articles, ads and notices is the 5th day of the previous month of issue. Share your news and view with all the members throughout the State Paper. Your editor is always open to constructive criticism. Please feel free to submit your thoughts and ideas.
Icelia (Butch) Peterson
Po Box 730
Eatonville, Wa. 98328
(206) 531-0579

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PAC/RETIRED REP.
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(509) 928-9253

**State Steward
Con't.**

The following is a re-typed copy of the official letter from the Postal Service dated 4/28/87 on the Subject of: Providing Relief on Rural Routes 48 Hour Adjustment Policy.

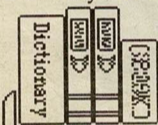
To: Field Division General Managers/Postmasters
Attn: Field Directors Operations Support

On June 15, 1985, this office issued a rural route relief policy which stated that it was generally desirable to adjust evaluated routes to as near 48 standard hours per week as practicable. The NRLCA recently met with members of my staff and discussed an increase in grievances dealing with the route adjustment policy. Specifically, they have found that several offices are unaware of the revision to Section 823 of the M-38 Handbook, Management of Rural Delivery Services, and are adjusting routes in accordance with the former policy. I have attached a copy of the current rural relief policy for your review. I am requesting that this policy be reissued to all MSCs in your division to ensure that it is being correctly administered.

The revised relief policy allows us to adjust only those routes that require adjustment. Additionally, an adjustment to 48 standard hours allows carriers to maintain "J" or "K" route status (26 or 52 nonscheduled days annually), while improving our ability to control annual work hours. By keeping relief days, we are also able to continue to provide work to the substitute or rural relief employee.

Questions regarding this policy can be directed to Robert West at PEN 268-3551

Andrew S. Walker
Assistant Postmaster General
Delivery Services Department



**For Your
Information**

Regarding adjusting rural routes

The following revision of Section 823 of the subject handbook was issued on June 15, 1985

***823 PROVIDING RELIEF**

823.1 General

11 When providing relief to one or more routes in an office, all rural routes in that unit should not be adjusted simultaneously unless it is in the best interest of the unit operation to do so.

12 When considering rural route relief in a delivery unit, elimination of relief days for rural routes in that unit should be considered only if obtaining relief carriers is causing operational problems for that unit.

13 Generally, it is desirable to adjust evaluated routes to as near as 48 standard hours per week as practicable, i.e., the route should be adjusted to the 44J/40K option category. However, in some cases this may be impractical. There is no prohibition against reducing a route below 48 hours per week when it is operationally advantageous. However, documentation must be supplied with the route adjustment documentation as to why it is not practical to adjust the route to 48 hours. (Sections 823.14 to 823.18 - NO CHANGE)

PRESIDENTIAL NOTES



Where is everybody? The membership numbers are improving but you are not attending your union meetings in very large numbers. I am mostly disturbed by the fact that some county units may not even have enough people to run for office and represent their unit as delegates to the state convention.

We have a large need for the members of this association to become more active, especially the stewards. There is too much going on such as changes in the steward system and contracting out to name a few, for the stewards not to be in the know.

The recent east side steward was well attended, but still only a fraction of the stewards were there. The west side was very poorly attended. Weather has been given as an excuse, but we are mail carriers, and the weather had moderated greatly.

One of the complaints heard over and over at QWL/EI work team training sessions is that the members are tired of being uninformed. These complainers were new faces to me. How can you possibly be informed if you do not avail yourself of the opportunities to learn. Your work team training should be teaching you that there is strength and information in numbers. The meetings scheduled are meant to spread the word on current happenings.

Where have you been when the seminars and meetings to inform you have been held? Come one and all to the meetings and seminars and become informed about your craft. You could be pleasantly surprised!!! Get involved!!! We need you all!!! To better help you plan, the

President Con't.

following functions have been arranged.

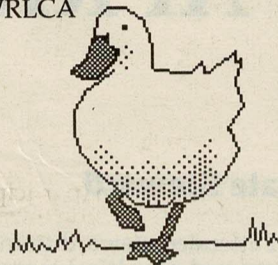
APRIL 27TH - 29TH	WESTERN STATES CONFERENCE AT COLORADO SPRINGS
JUNE 25TH - 28TH	STATE CONVENTION AT KENNEWICK
JULY 23RD	MAIL COUNT SEMINAR IN SPOKANE
JULY 30TH	MAIL COUNT SEMINAR IN YAKIMA
AUGUST 6TH	MAIL COUNT SEMINAR IN TACOMA
AUGUST 14-18TH	NATIONAL CONVENTION IN BUFFALO, NY
SEPT. 5-OCT. 2ND	NATIONAL MAIL COUNT
OCTOBER 28-29	FALL BOOSTER

Stewards, especially should be attending count seminars and booster meetings. If your steward is not attending, why not find out why? If it is the cost, take up a collection to help out! See you at the next meeting, OK?

Dorothy Iannucci, President, WRLCA

VICE PRESIDENT

Dan Snyder



In the past five years temporary jobs accounted for half of the overall increase in US employment. It is estimated that 25% of the entire workforce can be classified as temporary. These workers earn half the pay of their full time counterparts, and more than 75% of them receive no pensions or health benefits. The use of a temporary (part-time) workforce takes away full time, permanent job opportunities and undermines existing employment security.

Contracting out could become a problem and a reality at some time in the future. A contract carrier would earn half what we currently are paid plus the USPS would not have to pay into any benefits for them. NO HEALTH COVERAGE - NO RETIREMENT PLAN!!!

We had some snow and bad weather conditions in the Bellingham area in February. The SPO in my office told another manager to give a safety talk about driving in the snow, then if anyone has an accident "We've got 'em!" What a no good lousy attitude to take! That's about as bad as that statement from the MSC level that all accidents are preventable. Who keeps coming up with this bull? Are they only interested in discipline and "getting you"?

The carriers in my hometown of Ferndale are having a few problems with their postmaster again. He's one of those who love to use strict discipline as a toll to keep people in line and fearful of him. He practices this method often. All but one carrier was given a letter of warning recently. God, do these people need QWL/EI!!!

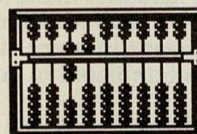
I spent the week of Feb. 13-17 in the Portland area learning how to be a QWL/EI Facilitator. Looks to me like a good process to get involved in and I can't wait to get active.

If anyone runs into a carrier from Goldendale name Tom, give him your sympathy. He was also at QWL/EI training in Portland and one night suggested we play a few rounds of crib. I beat him so bad he must've cried all the way back to Goldendale. Oh well, can't win 'em all! Shouldn't have challenged a crib master, Tom!

Dan Snyder, State VP

**SECRETARY-
TREASURER**

Dexter Nesmoe



The State Board has authorized a breakfast for those county secretaries attending the state convention in Richland. This meal will be in appreciation for all the great work the secretaries have done and will be doing in the future. There will be instructions on filling out LM forms, and dues structure, and deadlines for remitting dues to the state secretary.

The state's financial condition is in good shape now. We anticipate a raise in National Per Capita either this or next year. We do not believe we will have to raise dues at the state level, but should be able to absorb the increase with our present dues structure.

Hoping to see many of you in Richland at the state convention in June. Have a nice spring if it ever gets here!

Sincerely,
Dexter A. Nesmoe

Stamp Ceremony Con't.



The ceremony gave the Postal Service some much needed publicity and was very impressive. Representing the Olympia Post Office as ushers were rural carriers, Penny Martin, Sonja Johanson, and Dave Bush. Neil Buchanan attended as our union's representative.

AUTO INSURANCE

Ed Koschalk

Since being appointed insurance director I have not attended any county meetings except for Spokane County. I have received a few invitations though. I do plan on making all the District meetings in March.

Information I have received from the latest Rural Carrier Auto Ins. update is that new advertising for the NRLCA magazine and state newsletters is in the works. A homeowners insurance campaign is now under way and a current Auto Insurance policyholders should have received a letter from Dalls Fields, NRLCA President, promoting the homeowners insurance plan.

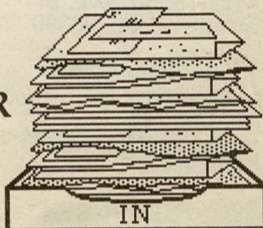
For those members who were not aware of it, our state association benefits financially as a result of those who have the RLC Auto Insurance. Our state had 519 members carrying the RLC Auto Insurance at the end of 1988, an increase of 16 policyholders from 1987's total of 503. This amounts to 49% membership participation rate resulting in income to our state association of \$3,930. The top state in the country in members participating in the RLC Auto Insurance Plan was Florida with 1,260 insured (50.2%) resulting in an income to that state in the amount of \$11,810. Not only is it financially rewarding to the state treasury, but consider the savings in premium to these who are insured with the RLC Auto Insurance plan, plus the peace of mind you enjoy knowing you are covered both on and off the route. Give it some thought.

Hope to see all of you soon, either at a District Meeting and/or the state convention in June.

Ed Koschalk
Insurance Director

**PRIVITIZATION OR
PROFITABILITY**

by Karen De Bella



Service has entered into a controversial 15 month contract with Sears Inc. The contract allows Sears to set up a postal retail counter in their store. Four outlets were chosen for this experiment, each one located in a major mall complex. This experiment has raised many issues as to whether this is a profitable undertaking by the postal service or whether this is just one more step toward privatization of the postal service.

Here are some of the facts: Sears pays for the costs of the labor, facilities(overhead), utilities and advertising in exchange for only 7% of the revenue. The postal service pays to train the Sears' clerks and thus receives a whopping 93% of the revenue. Some of the services, such as money orders are not available at the Sears outlet. Initially there was some controversial radio advertising by the APWU but they have since dropped their campaign to stop the project. Customers can buy granny's birthday present and have it gift wrapped and mailed all in a matter of minutes. The long line at the post office and the rude postal clerk won't be a problem for the consumer who chose to do their shopping at Sears.

Here are two different opinions on the subject:

1. With Mail Box Ect. and other retail mailing outlets in malls, the postal service needs to stay competitive in the market. In order to prevent privatization we must expand our services in retail stores even if it means subcontracting some of those services.

2. This project is one subtle way of inching open the door to privatization of the postal service. Sears has their own insurance company, retail outlets all over the country, trucks, drivers, and clerks. Just imagine Sears taking over the postal service OVERNIGHT.

SURVEY:
The Washington Rural Letter Carriers Association would like to know just how you feel about the Sears Experiment. Please write to the address below and tell us just how you feel or simply state whether you support opinion #1 Yes I am for the Sears Experiment or

#2 "No Way No How"

SEARS EXPERIMENT SURVEY
C/O KAREN DE BELLA
PO BOX 400
SPANAWAY, WA 98387

#1 YES _____

#2 NO _____

NAME _____

TOWN _____

CARRIER-OF THE YEAR

Carrier of the year nominations are now due for convention. Now is the time to place your favorite carrier's name in contention for this coveted award. The form below is self-explanatory and should help you make your choice. Do it now so the selection committee will have ample time to consider all candidates.

OUTSTANDING CARRIER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

I nominate (Name) _____

Address _____

to be outstanding carrier of the year of the State of Washington for the year 1989.

Guidelines:

1. Candidates may be nominated by individuals, or Local, County or District units.
2. Consideration will only be given for service rendered during the preceding 12 months.
3. Application must be presented to the State Secretary before noon on the first full day of convention.

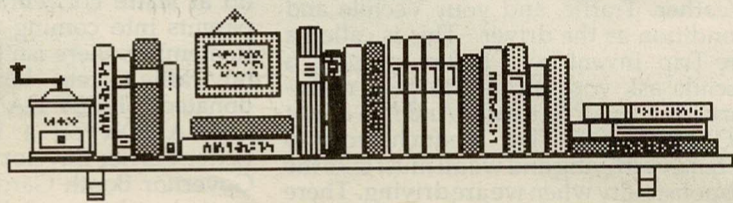
List service rendered by candidate to the Rural Letter Carriers' Association (participation in Local, State and National meetings, willingness, dedication and attitude toward responsibility). List any other service (civic or community) performed by candidate which reflects favorably upon the Rural Carrier Craft and Postal Service. Please attach a separate sheet describing the above services that were rendered.

Nominated by: _____

Address _____

Date _____

PAC MAN



I would like to send my appreciation to those who have contributed to PAC so generously thus far. To those of you who haven't given to the PAC Fund, I would greatly appreciate those funds also. A \$5.00 gift or more will get you a receipt and a donor pin. \$50.00 will bring you a leadership pin from National Office.

Some of the things you might want to consider are President Bush's Budget Priorities in the Feb. 25th National Paper. In the area of Federal-Postal employees his budget proposals are:

1. Freeze the postal subsidy at 1988 levels
2. Increase beneficiary premiums on Medicare
3. Eliminate COLA for retirees in 1990
4. Make COLA -minus 1% in future years
5. Eliminate lump sum option for Retirees
6. Reduce Federal Employees Health Benefit Plan contribution
7. Transfer FEHBP annuitant costs to USPS

If any of these should be passed they will make a reduction in your and my take home pay. We need to guard against this happening.

In the Feb. 4, 1989 National Magazine there is an article on Postmaster Frank's message to the National Press Club. He talked about contracting out. The postal service is going to be looking at a report on this area. "He says that he has no illusions, and if contracting out makes sense for our customers and for the long term good of the postal service we will have to have the courage to make that difficult decision." He also said in this article that he does not agree with the President's commission to privatize the postal service, but he also goes on to say that there are some aspects of privatization that do make sense. We spend about 10% of our revenues on private services mainly transportation.

As a postal service we handle 40% of the world's mail and are larger than eight postal systems combined, handling 500 million pieces of mail a day. I think as a postal service we do a good job. Help our PAC fund today.

Write call or even visit your congressman. Let them know how you feel on these areas of concern, that affect you as a carrier or retiree. Please call or write to me if you have any questions about PAC.

Sincerely,
Bob Lange, PAC Director

Contributions are needed for the NRLCA lobbying effort. The Political Action Fund is used to maintain friendly relations with members of congress to preserve your fringe benefits, work practices and policies affecting the welfare of each rural carrier, substitute and retired carrier and their families. Make your check payable to the "Political Action Fund" and send to:

Bob Lange
724 Loomis Trails End
Lynden, Wa. 98264

Upon receipt of \$5.00 or more you will receive a membership pin and a receipt. Please return this form with your contribution.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

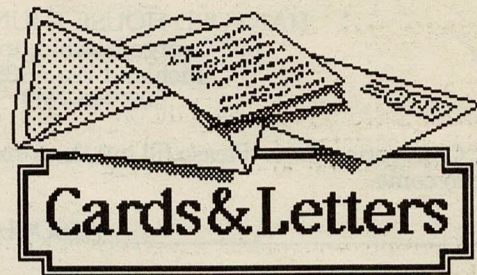
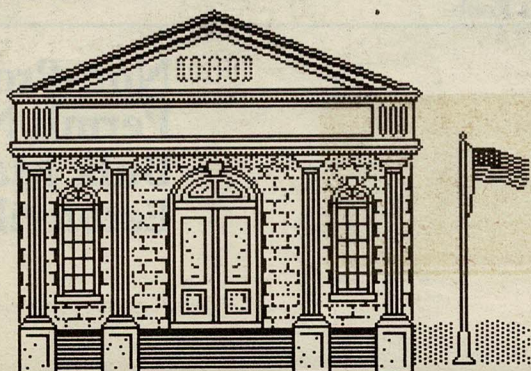
CITY, ST. _____

ZIP _____ CHECK ONE:

REGULAR

RCR/RCA/SUBSTITUTE

RETIRED



EDITORIAL

ICELIA PETERSON

I often hear the question "What does the union do for me?" Well here are a few things: First: The NRLCA is the sole bargaining unit for our contract. You don't really believe the Postal Service gives your contractual raises out of the goodness of their hearts, do you?

Second: The "NO LAYOFF CLAUSE", "FREE SATURDAY" & "ANNUAL LEAVE AT OUR OPTION" are a direct result of the NRLCA bargaining unit. The other crafts do not enjoy many of the things we as rural carriers do.

If you should ever have the misfortune to have disciplinary action taken against you—you can thank your lucky stars you have Neil, Karen and the whole NRLCA working for you.

Our legislative representative, Ken Parmalee is one of the most well known and effective in Washington DC. With his help we were able to have the EMA Bill passed.

Washington State has Mike Watson working with us on our OWCP claims. Please write for more information about his services to Mike Watson & Associates Inc.
PO Box 42158
Portland, Or. 97242-0158
(503) 232-2375

In closing I have a question for all of you. "What have YOU done for your union?"

Send for an application for membership in the WRLCA to:
Dexter Nesmoe, WRLCA Sec.-Treas.
1809 7th St.
Marysville, WA 98270
(206) 659-4923

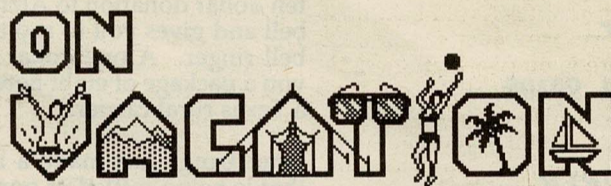
CONVENTION NEWS!

HELLO RURAL CARRIERS!!!

This year District IV is hosting our 83rd Annual Convention. As an inexperienced Convention Chairman, I'd like to personally invite everyone to attend. There need not be a lot of extra activities planned for you, because it will be very simple for you to do your own planning. Try to come early or stay late as we do have a lot to offer along with our SUNSHINE. The Hanford House is located on the banks of the Columbia River, so bring your boat or just your fishing pole. Just one block away is the Hanford Science Center. I know you won't want to go home without touring it. Do you play tennis, well well bring your tennis rackets with you. There is plenty of shopping nearby, also wineries within driving distance, should you choose to tour one while in the area. By all means bring your swimsuit with you, as there is a swimming pool. Let's mix business with pleasure.

See you June 25 at the Hanford House in Richland!

Cindy Norman
1989 Convention Chairman



HANFORD HOUSE REGISTRATION

To assure accommodations, please mail directly to motel

Room Type Requested

	2 Queen Beds	1 Queen Bed	1 King	Courtyard
1 Person _____	\$45	\$40	\$54	\$59
2 Persons _____	\$45	\$40	\$64	\$69
3 Persons _____	\$45			
4 Persons _____	\$45			

Cut off date SUNDAY JUNE 4, 1989

DATE OF ARRIVAL _____ NO. OF NIGHTS _____

COMPANY OR GROUP NAME _____ WASHINGTON RURAL LETTER CARRIERS ASSOC.

NAME _____

ADDITIONAL NAMES IF APPLICABLE _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

Please guarantee YES NO Credit Card # _____

Room held until 6pm unless guaranteed by major credit card, or advance deposit. If requested room type is not available, reservations will be made in alternate accommodations. Rates subject to change without prior notice.

June 25-28, 1989

HANFORD HOUSE THUNDERBIRD
802 George Washington Way
Richland Wa 99352
509-946-7611

It's State Convention time. Please fill out the form below and let us know if you are planning to come.

NAME _____ ASSOCIATION _____

NAME _____ AUXILIARY _____

JRS. NAME _____ JRS. NAME _____

JRS. NAME _____ JRS. NAME _____

Registration- Sunday June 25th, 2-7pm Monday, June 26, 8-10am

Highlights and events you may wish to attend:

Sunday evening mixer-6pm () Yes No() (including juniors)

Monday- County Secretaries' Breakfast _____ No. attending
Need not be a county secretary to attend. Cost is free to county secretaries.

Monday Evening-Retirees Banquet @ \$12.50 5:30 pm _____ No. attending
Need not be a retiree to attend.

Tuesday Evening- Annual Banquet @ \$15.00 - 7pm _____ No. attending

Wednesday Morning- Armed Forces Breakfast @ \$7.25 7am _____ No. Attending

Although you may register upon arrival, we appreciate your early registration if possible.

The juniors' program is being planned, and permission slips from parents will be required for some events.

Please send this completed registration to:

CINDY NORMAN
905 WEST 47TH AVE.
KENNEWICK, WA 99337



PRESIDENT

Inez Nesmoe
1809 7th St.
Marysville, Wa 98270

VICE PRESIDENT

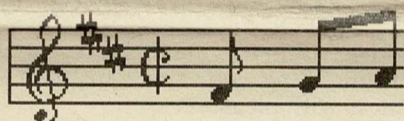
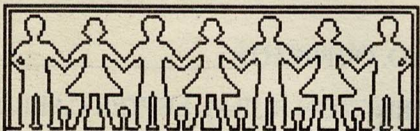
Donna Walker
Rt 2 Box 114
Chewelah, WA 99109

SEC.-TREASURER

Myrtle Buchanan
2030 Steinmetz Rd.
Chewelah, WA 99109

SUNSHINE

Delores Robb
6213-208th St. NE
Arlington, WA 98223



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Time for another article so here goes.

Of course we are all supporting our national president's program for the auxiliary. The bells and notes are going well. A ten dollar donation to Alzheimers get's a bell and gives you to right to be called a bell ringer. A one dollar donation gets you a package of eight notes designed by a Texas rural carrier.

Janet Lange has made a beautiful quilt that is being raffled at our state convention for our health project and PAC. I'm sure ther will be other items to raffle but don't know just what they are yet.

We are also having a county store and looking for items to sell to support our scholarship fund. The more items we have the more we can make for this fund.

I'm sorry that I have not been able to make alot of meetings since national convention. I came home to working 10 hours a day, 7 days a week which does not leave much time for anything else.

I would like to urge all auxiliary members to attend meetings and be active in our association. Like anything else, the more you put into it the more you get out of it.

Thanks for your time and patience with me.

Inex Nesmoe, Auxiliary President

**Defensive Driving—
by Delores Robb**



Greetings to everyone across the state. Trust all is well with one and all. Our National President, Joyce Griffin has a program of "Participation" for this year and has also chosen "Defensive Driving" as our safety emphasis this year. With more and more cars and drivers taking to the highways each year and with traffic laws changing every year it is to our benefit to polish our driving skills. A "Defensive Driver" is a safe driver. Defensive driving should be a practice for everyone. This means you drive to save lives, money and time in spite of conditions around you and the actions of others. It's a skill you master through study training and practice. It requires KNOWLEDGE of traffic laws, behind wheel procedures and hazards and how to avoid them. ALERTNESS to conditions around you and your vechile that affect your driving. FORESIGHT FOR ANTICIPATING immediate and long range developments and preparing for them. JUDGEMENT is knowing what choices you have and making the right decision. SKILL at handliung your vechile effectively in basic and emergency conditions. A defensive driver recognizes the changing conditions and makes the necessary allowances for them. Before beginning any trip consider six conditions you always face:Light, Road, Weather, Traffic, and your Vechile and Condition as the driver. This is called a Pre-Trip inventory. Before passing a vechile ask yourself, is this pass necessary? Is it legal? Is it safe? And if in doubt DON'T PASS!! Ther is much more to defensive driving and we all must take the responsibility when we are driving. There are defensive driving courses available in your community. Harley and I will be taking a driving course in March called ""55ALIVE"". This is an 8 hour course. We are both looking forward to attending this course.

In District 1 we are selling notes and bells and getting information out about Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders. State convention is not too far off. Plan to attend. By the time the Postman comes out it will be springtime again for us all to enjoy.

Delores Robb

Auxiliry District 1 Representative

Special Note! The WRLCA sends best wishes and prayers to Delores for a speedy recovery from her broken ankle.

SUNSHINE

Our journey through winter is over and now it is springtime, a season of hope and renewal. I know we are all ready and ther's just something about spring that's special. Sunshine cards are being delivered across the state nearly every day. Indirectly these cards are like visitors coming into you home and tells you—YES, we are a caring family and want you to know this.

I am encouraging everyone to be my helper please. This is the only way I know that cards need to be mailed. Our rural carrier family is special and we want to continue to reach those who are ill, in the hospital, have lost their loved ones, retired and for other needs as well. So, keep the information coming to me and you know that I'll mail the cards. I do appreciate all the help I get.

Easter was early this year, I trust you thought about the meaning of Easter and how it is a special part of our lives. Keep smiling, be happy and don't forget to let me know the needs of pur Rural Carrier Family!

Your friendly sunshine frined,
Delores Robb

Junior Survey

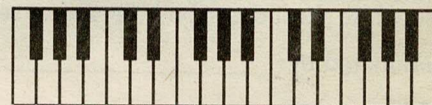
By: Melissa Norman

Are you a Junior? Do you like any of these activities: roller skating, ice skating, bowling, movies, waterparks, science centers, picnics, tours? If so, plan on attending our State Convention! Write and let me know which are your favorites so that activity can be considered for our 1989 Convention. See you in Richland!!!

Melissa Norman
Junior Vice President
905 West 47th Avenue
Kennewick, Wa 99337

Dear Melissa, I would like to participate in the following activities:

Name _____ Town _____



Junior President

Hi! It sounds like Melissa Norman has been finding out some fun things for us to do at statre convention. So, talk your parents into coming and bringing you. Remember, there isn't much time left to buy raffle tickets. We have a new prize donated.. FIRST DAY OF ISSUE CANCELLATION on a Washington Rural Letter Carrier Envelope and its signed by Governor Booth Gardner professionally matted and framed. Undoubtably a collectors item. Look for an ad in this issue of the Postman to order raffle tickets by mail.



Raffle by mail

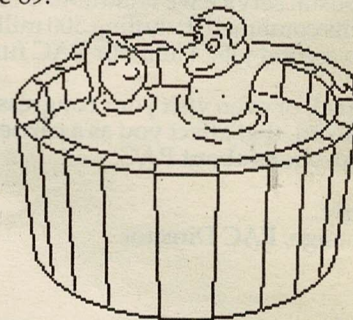
Auxiliary Raffle tickets for the hand made quilt can be purchased by sending \$1.00 to:

Janet Lange
724 Trails End
Lynden, WA 98264

Junior Raffle Tickets for the for the Stereo and First Day Cancellation signed by Governor Booth Gardner can be pruchased by sending \$1.00 to:

Alicia Peterson
PO Box 730
Eatonville, WA 98328

Drawing for both the auxiliary and junior raffle will be at the annual banquet held during state convention in Richland this June '89.



Candidates for state office and delegates to the national convention in in Buffalo, NY,, may submit an article about themselves to the editor by May 5th, 1989. Articles should be no longer than 50 words and will be printed in the June issue of the Postman, providing there is sufficient space available

Washington Rural Postman
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