



The original Hawley mailbag last carried by Roy Wicker.

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TRADITION. COMMUNITY. EXPERIENCE.

In the lobby sits an old ballot can that probably hasn't held a ballot since the Eisenhower/Stevenson election. A spittoon with a sign asking post office patrons not to spit on the floor which was a common sign you'd see around town during a tuberculosis outbreak; America's Most Wanted posters featuring Bill the Kid and random WMSTR members hang on the wall.

Beyond that antique screenline is the employee workroom, set up like a functioning post office. It is full of old treasures such as a typewriter, an old money order machine, and a cancellation machine. You can smell the years in the wood and see the age in the dingy linoleum floor that will have you reaching for your pocket watch or pulling off your cloche hat.

As you know, the American flag flies in front of every post office across the country including the Rollag Post Office. The flag pole at the Rollag Post Office was cemented in front of the Colfax Post Office. After it was knocked over by a fire truck, Deb had it hauled to the hill. As for the flag, "My daughter was in the Air Force and the

flag out front once flew over Afghanistan," Deb explained.

The guest book is full of names; addresses from all across the country and sea, Europe, Kenya, Norway, Austria—yes folks, come from across the pond to Rollag MN. Care to venture a guess as to what the Norwegian man's comment in the guestbook was?

"Uff-dah!"

Deb and Anne enjoy visiting with the guests and sharing with them the history of the Post Office. One of the most common asked questions, "People always ask about the Pony Express," Anne said.

"Wanted Pony Express Riders"

Qualifications for this job didn't require a high school diploma nor did you need to be eighteen and armed with references. In fact, the qualifications were pretty grim: young, not over 18, skinny, wirey, expert rider, willing to risk death daily, orphan. Can you imagine applying for a job like that?

"They took an oath on the Bible of honesty and devotion to duty and went on, despite --POST OFFICE PAGE 23

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