



VOLUME 9 ISSUE 3

ZIP LINE

JUNE JULY 2025

UPMA 9th National Convention

August 9 – 15, 2025

Sheraton Dallas, Dallas, TX



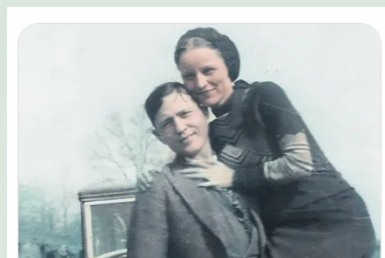
Sightseeing Trip in Dallas



John F. Kennedy Tribute Memorial



John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza



Bonnie and Clyde Historical Trip in Dallas

EXECUTIVE BOARD 2025



President
Melissa Tarlton
Shawano WI 54166
(o) 920 438-9480
(h) 920 598-1180
melisstarlton@gmail.com



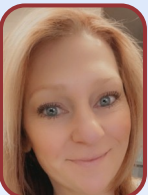
Executive VP (Membership)
Rachel Cayce
McFarland WI 53558
(o) 920 563-5881
(h) 608-566-7146
rmcayce12@gmail.com



Vice President (Legislative/PAC)
Paul Petrovich
Stoughton WI 53589
(o) 608 877-8690
(h) 608 577-8017
paul.petrovich1356@gmail.com



Vice President (Education)
Lisa Wojnarowski
Wisconsin District
Milwaukee WI 53201
(o) 414 287-2566
(h) 414 852-4921
upmawojo@yahoo.com

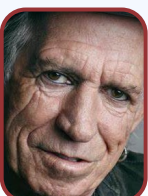


Secretary/Treasurer
Lisa Prochazka
(o) 262-251-6411
(h) 262-225-2553
lisa.wiupma@yahoo.com



President Retirees
Pauline Colamatteo
608 434-0647
pncolamatteo@gmail.com

COMMUNICATIONS

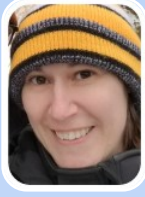


Editor
WI UPMA Zip Line
Rick Dama
262 719-1267
radpm3262@gmail.com



Website Administrator
Michael Simon
Coleman WI 54112
920 370-3469
mpsimon@me.com

MEMBER REP 2025



Member Rep.
Laurie Bue
612 720-8047
redgizzy555@gmail.com



Member Rep.
Jeannie McLaughlin
847 529-8067
JeannieMcLaughlin12@gmail.com



Member Rep.
Nancy Ackerman
Thiensville WI 53092
(o) 262-242-0955
(h) 414-544-7234
nortoniii@yahoo.com



Member Rep.
Scott Hughart -
Mauston WI 53948
(o) 608-847-5939
(h) 309-826-7254
scotthughartupma@gmail.com



Member Rep.
Angela Thurow
Sherwood WI 54169
(o) 920-989-1999
(h) 920-905-0136
arpunk@yahoo.com



Member Rep.
Natalie Price
Eau Claire P&DC
423-903-3633
natmcp@aol.com



Member Rep.
Thomas Zumpano
Madison
608-400-5378
thomas@zumpanos.com

WISCONSIN AUXILIARY



Wisconsin Auxiliary
Katie Hughart
715 630-8249
katiehughartupma@gmail.com

RETIREEES 2025



President Retirees
Pauline Colamatteo
608 434-0647
pncolamatteo@gmail.com



Executive VP Retirees (Membership)
Galen Freymiller
608 335-6830
galenfreymiller@yahoo.com



VP Retirees
Past President (2019)
Bill Tierney
608 697-5920
wctierney@charter.net

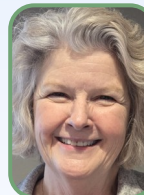


Sec/Treas Retirees
Marianne Zarling
920 420-3826
pm54947@gmail.com

COMMITTEES



Parliamentarian
Bill Tierney
608 697-5920
wctierney@charter.net



Scholarship Chair, Chaplain
Margaret Szymanski
608 296-3653
richi@palacenet.net
peggie131@gmail.com



Convention Chair
Rachel Cayce
McFarland WI 53558
(o) 920 563-5881
(h) 608-566-7146
rmcayce12@gmail.com



Memorial Service Chair
Linda Hobbs
715 435-3267
clhobb@wctc.net

Email address for Wisconsin UPMA, President and for Adverse action is wiupma@gmail.com



Melissa Tarlton, PM Shawano
President 2024~2025

RIGHT TO MEMBERSHIP



Way back when I was a rural office steward I worked with my mom who was also a rural carrier. I had plenty of animosity toward my Postmaster. My mom gave me a wise reminder not to burn my bridge with the Postmaster. Well, years later I had an interview with the Postmaster who was now the POOM for my dream job, Postmaster in the town I lived.

Getting that first EAS position or moving up in management often feels like a chess match. The choices we make in our career can affect our opportunities years down the road. And, then sometimes, our plans fall apart through no fault of our own.

Whenever I talk with a postal employee who has an issue with their manager I ask them to consider the possible negative ramifications with pushing back on that issue.

When I work with employees preparing to apply for a new position we review what could negatively sway a selecting official from choosing them. It could be an application with errors, weak KSA's, sick leave usage, not volunteering for projects/details or poor decision making in current or previous positions.

I also empathize with UPMA members that are concerned with risking a job promotion because of their membership. I do believe the vast majority of managers respect our right to join and participate in UPMA, and the ELM even references that:

ELM 912.1 Right to Participation

Postal personnel have the right, freely and without fear of penalty or reprisal, to form, join, or assist a supervisory or managerial organization or to refrain from any such



activity. Such personnel are protected in the exercise of such rights. Such rights include participation in the management of the organization and acting as organization representative and may include the presentation of the organization's view to Postal Service officials, officials of the Executive Branch, the Congress, or other appropriate authority.

ELM 912.2 Right to Membership No interference, restraint, coercion, or discrimination to encourage or discourage membership in such an organization shall be effected in the Postal Service.

So, if you are wondering if I got my dream job as Postmaster in my home town...YES I did! Years later I asked the POOM why he selected the smug, younger me and he said it was because I had fire in my belly! I am so glad I didn't burn that bridge.....



Wisconsin attendees
Legislative Summit
Washington D.C.
March 17-18 2025



Johnny Mendoza, PM Neenah
President Elect 2026~2027

Be Better



As I was deciding what to write about for this edition of the Zipline, I have to say that the topic changed quite a few times. There are so many things going on right now for all of us as Postal Leaders, and there is no doubt that we are in unprecedented times. New requirements, new reports, new guidelines, guidance and directives. The overall pressure is at an all time high in my opinion.

So, what we are we going to do about it?

The answers to the question that was just posed can go in a whole mess of directions. In my humble opinion, it is time to start something. Something simple, something special, something that is going to last, that will build or maybe just strengthen the foundation that we need to have in moving forward not only as an organization, but as individual leaders.

For me, an old friend once said "If you want a better tomorrow, you have to do something today." I have used that line countless times as a husband, parent and leader. Now, I am using it as my foundation to help me build on a line I got from a not so little brother not long ago telling me to "Be Better".

As USPS leaders and future leaders, our goal, is to serve the American People. The US Constitution calls on us to bind our Nation together, to serve as a part of something bigger than ourselves. We are citizens with a higher calling, not just to provide that service, but to subscribe to it. To protect it, and those in our charge that are the key elements in accomplishing such goals. How we do that matters.

It can be easy to sit around and complain, and often, the complaints are

warranted. Not that talking about things isn't good, it is a must to get things out. Further, to talk things through is therapeutic. However, complaining is not therapeutic by itself. Just complaining, changes nothing. It can be actually dangerous, as gripes should go up the chain, not down. When those in our charge know that we doubt our leadership and direction, they can start to doubt our system and our mission. This can spell trouble that we haven't even see yet. As leaders, we should never sow doubt, but provide direction. We are the ones that our employees look to for answers, for guidance, for assistance. We need to own that, and provide the very best we can, every day, every time.

I once had a conversation with our former District Manager Jeff Drake about the difference between reasons and excuses. At the time, I was working in a large office, and as I was explaining why I could not take 2-3 minutes to address each carrier as is the goal. Not long into it, he stated that he didn't



want to hear any excuses. I humbly asked that he hear me out, and allow me to finish, which he did. In the end, what he wanted me to do was physically impossible as it would take me longer than the 60min office time to get around to everyone, and he agreed. Which became the 'reason' what was being asked was impossible. An 'excuse' I reminded him, would be if I could get it done and chose not to.

I share that last story, because we have to be careful with how and what we do. The decisions we make as leaders should get us to where we want and need to be. When not thought through, they can also cause unintended consequences that can be detrimental, damaging, and career ending. Decisive decisions are a part of our job, it is a must not a maybe. We need to make them proudly, and stand behind them. I have to admit that it took me way too long to figure out, that making better decisions can make life easier. I got it now, just took a while. However, if we make bad decisions, we need to own them, learn from them and move forward. Working diligently not to repeat the past.

I truly believe that the time is now to form a path, a plan, for a better tomorrow. For today, join me in taking a step. A single step with resolve is a step to 'Be Better'. Tomorrow another. Because each step, is a step in the right direction. It may take a minute to get to where we are going but rest assured, we can get there.

There is strength in numbers. If we choose a 250 year old path that is paved by hard work, lined with honesty, integrity, and firm resolve, I cannot see how we can not be successful. It will be hard, but it will be right. I will leave you with this. Every single one of us, took an oath. Those of us that are Postmasters took an additional one. We have to live that, execute our duties and responsibilities, and for every single one of us, we have to...

BE BETTER.

(Continued on page 6)

NPA What-If Tool Instructions

Introduction: This is a simple tool that allows you to enter your current **cell** values (0-10) for each indicator from your NPA scorecard (green cells) and then enter a "What-if" cell value (light yellow cells) to see the impact to your overall score. This tool also allows you to follow the calculations to see how the final score is determined.

Step 1

Navigate to the www.npa.usps.gov

Locate your scorecard using the drop-down selections across the top, starting in the upper left corner:

Time	Report	Type	Finance Number Search
Select Time ▼	Report Card Detail ▼	Search ▼	<input type="text"/> <input type="button" value="Q"/>

**For additional instructions on locating your scorecard please view the 'Frequently Asked Questions' section on the NPA Home Page under 'Quick Links'.*

Step 2

Then navigate to Quick Links: Supporting Documents: What If 2025

Enter ALL current cell values (0-10) from your scorecard in the green cells on the 'What If' sheet in this document.

Enter the hypothetical cell values in the yellow cells. (Only changes need to be entered, otherwise it defaults to current)

Compare the outcomes in the bright yellow cells.

Gray cells have formulas that will calculate based off entries

Additional Information:

To convert scores to cell values there are two options:

1. Each indicator has very detailed indicator information sheet located under 'Quick Links' on the NPA Home Page, select 'Indicator Information' and choose the indicator you would like to review. The top of this document contains the goals for each of the 10 cells.
2. On the NPA Home Page, under 'Quick Links' and 'Supporting Documents' select the 'Targets, Weights and Depths' file. This contains a list of the goals by indicator.



Don Flak
Executive Director
Performance and Field Operations Support



Monthly Training Session





50:07

PFP and NPA Goals and Mitigation FY23

307 views • 2 years ago

<https://www.youtube.com/@UnitedPMA>



32:04

UPMA FESA Sponsored CSV Training

336 views • 2 years ago

<https://www.youtube.com/@UnitedPMA>



Wisconsin District

uspsnewsbreak

June 13, 2025

Promotions and New Assignments

I am pleased to announce the following selections for management positions in the Wisconsin District for the period of April 20, 2025, through May 17, 2025. Management appointments are important career milestones that deserve recognition. Please join us in congratulating these employees and give them your full support.

OFFICE	LAST	FIRST	JOB TITLE	EFFECTIVE	LEVEL
PEWAUKEE CARRIER ANNEX	ENK	TIMOTHY	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	4/19/2025	17
PEWAUKEE CARRIER ANNEX	BARTZ	KRISTIN	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	4/19/2025	17
ELKHORN PO	DONNELLY	JILL	POSTMASTER	5/3/2025	20
BLACK RIVER FALLS PO	MOURADIAN	ANGELA	POSTMASTER	5/3/2025	20
CLINTONVILLE PO	NAWY	ABRAHAM	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/3/2025	17
TOMAHAWK PO	THROM SR	PETER	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/3/2025	17
PHILLIPS PO	COOK	JENNIFER	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/17/2025	17
WKA-NEW BERLIN BR	CAFLISCH	RYAN	MGR CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/17/2025	20
WATERFORD PO	CRAWFORD	CHARNISSA	POSTMASTER	5/17/2025	20
MOUNT HOREB PO	SHUCK	NICHOLE	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/17/2025	17
SOMERS PO	SABROWSKIE	KEVIN	POSTMASTER	5/17/2025	18
EDGERTON PO	DANIELSON	DYLAN	POSTMASTER	5/17/2025	20
PARDEEVILLE PO	SEEKAMP	CANDRA	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/17/2025	17
GREEN BAY PO	FITZGERALD	TYLER	SUPV CUSTOMER SERVICES	5/17/2025	17
MADISON WI P&DC	HESS	BRIAN	MGR MAINTENANCE	5/3/2025	22
MADISON WI P&DC	BERNARD	ROBERT	SUPV MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS	5/17/2025	17
OAK CREEK WI P&DC	SIDNEY	KEWANDA	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (FLD)	5/3/2025	15

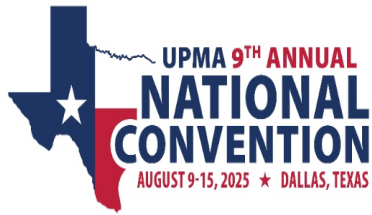
Wanda Prater
District Manager

(Continued from page 4)

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

In Solidarity,
Johnny Mendoza
President Elect



Sheraton Dallas

Program of Events as of 5/30/2025

This Program is Tentative and Subject to Change

Saturday, August 9, 2025

12:00 PM	5:00 PM	Registration Open
3:00 PM	5:00 PM	Vendor Marketplace & Sponsor Area Open
4:00 PM	10:00 PM	UPMA Hospitality Suite Open
7:30 PM	10:30 PM	Texas Country Welcome <i>Start the week of with a night of fun with a live country band!</i>

Sunday, August 10, 2025

7:30 AM	5:00 PM	Registration & Information Open
7:30 AM	5:00 PM	Vendor Marketplace & Sponsor Area Open
8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Church Service/Memorial Service
9:30 AM	10:30 AM	Fellowship Coffee & Donuts
10:30 AM	12:00 PM	UPMA Town Hall
1:00 PM	4:30 PM	UPMA Retired Meeting
1:00 PM	6:00 PM	UPMA Hospitality Suite Open
1:30 PM	4:30 PM	National Member Reps Meeting
1:30 PM	4:30 PM	Breakout Meeting <i>Presidents Editors Legislative & PAC Membership Chairs Education Chairs</i>
4:30 PM	5:00 PM	Executive Board Area Coordinator Meeting
5:00 PM	6:00 PM	Active First Timer's Orientation Reception
5:30 PM	6:30 PM	Sponsor Recognition Reception
8:00 PM	10:30 PM	Showdown at the Ivory Saloon & Chapter Night <i>Join us for a fun evening featuring chapter tables and dueling pianos!</i>

Monday, August 11, 2025

7:30 AM	3:00 PM	Registration & Information Open
8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Vendor Marketplace & Sponsor Area Open
7:30 AM	9:30 AM	Sponsored Coffee Break <i>Sponsored by: APCU</i>
7:45 AM	8:00 AM	Door Prize Drawing
8:00 AM	12:00 PM	General Business Session
12:00 PM	1:30 PM	UPMA Retired Voting Precinct
1:30 PM	3:00 PM	Area Coordinators Meetings
4:00 PM	8:00 PM	UPMA Hospitality Suite Open
2:00 PM	5:00 PM	UPMA Retired Business Meeting
8:00 PM	12:00 AM	Brims & Boots Barn Dance <i>Join us for a fun evening of country line dancing and live band! Line dancing lessons will be provided for the first hour.</i>

Tuesday, August 12, 2025

All Day	All Day	Free Day
---------	---------	----------

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

7:30 AM	3:00 PM	Registration & Information Open
8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Sponsor Area Open <i>No Vendor Marketplace</i>
7:30 AM	9:30 AM	Sponsored Coffee Break <i>Sponsored by: APCU</i>
7:45 AM	8:00 AM	Door Prize Drawing
8:00 AM	12:00 PM	General Business Session
12:30 PM	3:30 PM	UPMA Retired Luncheon
1:30 PM	3:00 PM	Training Seminars
3:00 PM	4:00 PM	Convention First Timer's Check-in <i>All Active First Timers Should Check In</i>
3:30 PM	5:00 PM	SFCU Annual Meeting
3:30 PM	5:00 PM	Training Seminars
4:00 PM	10:00 PM	UPMA Hospitality Suite Open
7:30 PM	10:30 PM	Boots, Bulls & Boogie Night <i>Sponsored by UPMA Retired Come dance to DJ music and show off your rodeo skills on the mechanical bull!</i>

Thursday, August 14, 2025

8:00 AM	11:00 AM	Registration & Information Open
8:00 AM	11:00 AM	Sponsor Area Open <i>No Vendor Marketplace</i>
7:30 AM	9:30 AM	Sponsored Coffee Break <i>Sponsored by: APCU</i>
7:45 AM	8:00 AM	Door Prize Drawing
8:00 AM	12:00 PM	General Business Session
1:00 PM	5:30 PM	UPMA Hospitality Suite Open
5:15 PM	6:00 PM	President & Board Reception
6:00 PM	10:00 PM	Lone Star Send-Off Dinner & After Party

Join us in Dallas at National Convention. First-Timer Registration is free plus receive a \$750 stipend to help cover travel expenses. Contact President Melissa for more information at 930 598-1180.





UPMA PAC CONTRIBUTION CARD

Mail to: United Postmasters and Managers of America Political Fund
 8 Herbert Street
 Alexandria, VA 22305-2600

Date _____

☐ \$ _____ ☐ Check Enclosed ☐ Credit/Debit Card (one time) ☐ Credit/Debit Card (recurring monthly)

Member ID: (if known) _____

Credit/Debit Card Contributions:

Name: _____

Acct.# _____

Address: _____

Exp. Date: _____ / _____ CVV: _____

City St Zip: _____

Signature: _____

UPMA PAC will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of contribution,
 or the decision not to contribute to the non partisan political action fund.



PS 1187



PS 1187
 (on line fill and
 submission)



PS 1187r

UPMA New Members 1/1-6/15/25

Elizabeth Baker	Tiffany Mendini	Silvia Hapke	Samantha Gilmore
Phillip Bouthilet	Renee Penzkover	Akmal Abdallah	Jeri Jewel
Zina Burrell	Michelle Priest	Shelly Conrad	Bianca Kostrova
Angel Carr	Yanoris Rivera	Kevin Sabrowskie	Vashia Gordon
Angela Catron	Elijah Israel	Aisha Arthur	Babbel Towne
Lindsey Curtis	Nancy Simonis	Cheryl O'Connor	Melissa Lorang
Peter Engle	Stephanie Varner	Joshua Shmieder	Lindsay Hensley
Dawn Goebel	Jessica Viken	Abraham Nawy	Elizabeth Basina
Tracy Goetsch	Sharon Von Thun	Carla Hernandez	Keesha Fields
Dorothy Gonzalez	Raymond Williams-Fesko	Jean Smyth	Kenneth Wilinski
Kendra Gray	Pearl Wright	Kevin Serrosa	Audrine Taylor
Andrew Hauser	Makeisha Young	Timothy Drozd	Warren Berg
Brandy Heyden	Josh Patzen	Jennifer Cook	Daria Ratliffe
Jonathan Hughes	Katie Tiedemann	Steven Heins	Christopher Maksimik
Ashley Kirshenber	Damon Carroll	Tia Posey	Lynn Swiggum
Tara Lohrentz	Janice Roe	Rhea Lilly	Angela Mouradian
Whitney Martina	Peter Throm	Kristina Stuckey	Harold Fiene

Wisconsin District Career Conference

The Wisconsin District Career Conference held in June was a huge success. UPMA refunds Career Conference registration to all UPMA members including the 30 new UPMA members that joined that day! The new nationwide UPMA eCareer Assistance program was also a big hit.





Matt Golke,
PM Shell Lake

The annual UPMA Legislative

POLITICAL ACTION
PAC
COMMITTEE

Back in March when we had our annual summit, Congress was fighting to pass a spending bill to keep the government open. With passes in hand for various museums, my personal interest was on if the park service would be open for my tours. Do not forget that executive orders, DOGE, DEI hires and tariff talk were all the rage on the evening news. As for the Postal Service, talk about us going private was the main talking point. Fast forward a couple of months and Elon is gone, taco's are more than just for Tuesdays and we have H.R.1, the Big Beautiful Bill.

I support UPMA PAC and attended the UPMA Legislative Summit for three things. One, UPMA PAC supports those who support UPMA legislative issues. Two, UPMA PAC educates those who are not up to speed on UPMA legislative issues. Three, UPMA PAC reminds those who do not support UPMA issues that we vote. It's pretty simple. The only meaningful change that can be made to our job,

retirement or benefits has to be made legislatively by congress. Our PAC has worked very hard over the years to work with those who work with us. This means that our friends network is very bi-partisan. Because of those diverse relationships, UPMA is in a better position than other PAC groups when party control changes. The annual UPMA Legislative Summit allows our organization to thank those who help us. It allows us to educate those who are not familiar with our issues and it gives us a chance to meet with those who could care less about us and remind them that we are real people. Making sure that we as employees have a voice is why UPMA PAC exists.

**"ONE BIG,
BEAUTIFUL
BILL"**

Back to that Big Beautiful Bill. Did you know what parts of the bill that UPMA PAC is fighting. Did you know that the bill will increase your FERS contribution requirement to a least 5% (Senate is discussing 10%) unless you willing choose to become an "At Will" employee. "At Will" meaning you can be fired

at will without appeal. Did you know that the Social Security bridge from retirement to age 62 will be eliminated for those who qualify to retire prior to age 62. This basically requires all of us to work until 62 regardless of service years. Did you know that they want to charge a 10% service fee for electronic payroll deductions to CFC charities and to ePAC. Did you know that they want to sell off our new electric vehicles and infrastructure and give the money to the Treasury Department and not the Postal Service. Did you know that they will charge a service fee for pursuing MSPB due process rights. This means when you are removed from your job without cause, you will have to pay the Government money up front to have the Government hear your case. They say that you will receive your money back if you win.

This is why it is important to contribute to the UPMA PAC. You never know when your job, pay, benefits and quality of life will be challenged by your elected leaders.

CALL THE POLICE - WHEN YOU'RE OLD, AND YOU DON'T MOVE FAST ANYMORE.

George Phillips, an elderly man from Walled Lake, Michigan, was going up to bed when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go turn off the light but saw that there were people in the shed stealing things.

He phoned the police, who asked "Is someone in your house?"

He said "No," but some people are breaking into my garden shed and stealing from me ."

Then the police dispatcher said "All patrols are busy. You should lock your doors and an officer will be along when one is available."

George said, "Okay." He hung up the phone and counted to 30. Then he phoned the police again.

"Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed. Well, you don't have to worry about them now because I just shot and killed them both; the dogs are eating them right now," and he hung up.

Within five minutes, six Police Cars, a SWAT Team, a Helicopter, two Fire Trucks, a Paramedic and an Ambulance showed up at the Phillips' residence, and caught the burglars red-handed.

One of the Policemen said to George, "I thought you said that you'd shot them!"

George said, "I thought you said there was nobody available!"

Don't mess with old people.



**Chris Kulke,
PM Cambridge**

Privatization like the Grim Reaper

As I reflect on my latest trip to Washington D.C. for the UPMA Legislative Summit, I can't help but wonder why more Active Postmasters don't go on this trip. After decades of fighting, we experienced last year's victorious passage of the Social Security Fairness Act, otherwise known as the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset (WEP/GPO), which was signed into law by the previous Administration, UPMA set its sights on its next set of targets. Those targets include Title 39 Reform, Federal Retirement Fairness Act, Privatization, as well as several others. One of the items included in



Title 39 Reform is Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) rights and who these rights are afforded to. Did you know that not all EAS employees have MSPB rights? UPMA is asking that all EAS employees have these rights, putting everyone on the same footing.

One of the other targets, and probably more important for all USPS employ-

ees is backing the passage of the Federal Retirement Fairness Act. What this legislation sets out to accomplish is the include ALL USPS employment to be included in an employee's Retirement computation. If you were an RCA for 9 years before becoming a career employee, this time would be included. Doesn't this sound like a great idea? The biggest selling point we can use when speaking about this to our elected leaders is that there would be NO COST to the government. That to me would be the biggest selling point, especially in today's political environment! The cost would fall to the employee, in that you would have to make "catch-up" payments for this time, much like our employees that are Veterans must make to ensure that their military service time would be included with their USPS employment for Retirement Computation. You can go to any Post Office, and you will encounter employees that worked three, five or even ten years in a non-career status that essentially "doesn't count" towards their employment. This would be another positive to make working for USPS more attractive to prospective applicants.

The last item I will touch on is Privati-



zation, which is something that shadows this organization like the Grim Reaper. If the Privatization crowd gets their way, USPS would be chopped up into pieces and wouldn't resemble anything as it does today. This would further threaten our service standards, the affordability of our services and many of our jobs. Luckily, most of our elected officials from Wisconsin represent large swaths of rural areas, which would be affected by this act, and don't appear to have the stomach to upset their constituents in that way.

If you value your employment and want to do something to further your career, as well as ensure the further viability of USPS, think about attending a Legislative Summit. You will also get to meet and spend some time with fellow Postmasters, Managers and Supervisor from across the state.

OLD PEOPLE, TRYING TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE OUT WITH THEIR PROBLEMS

Two guys, one old, one young,
are pushing their carts around Wal-Mart
when they collide.

The old guy says to the young guy,
"Sorry about that. I'm looking for my wife,
and I guess I wasn't paying attention
to where I was going."

The young guy says, "That's OK, it's a coincidence.
I'm looking for my wife, too...
I can't find her and I'm getting a little desperate."

The old guy says,
"Well, maybe I can help you find her...
what does she look like?"

The young guy says, "Well, she is 27 yrs. old, tall,
with red hair, blue eyes, is buxom...wearing no bra,
long legs, and is wearing short shorts.

What does your wife look like?"
To which the old guy says, "Doesn't
matter, --- let's look for yours."



Banking Sick Leave Benefits You While You're Working and When You Retire.



Hello fellow UPMA members, this is Jeff Arment, retired Postmaster from Conrad IA and Iowa UPMA Chapter member. I wrote an article in the last Zip Line about understanding your postal benefits and also helping you prepare for retirement. I was asked if I would write an article in the next few upcoming Zip Lines dealing with these topics and I said I would be happy to. My main goal is to educate everyone on what your benefits are and help answer any questions you might have. This article will deal with your sick leave and why it's important to bank it.

There are couple of reasons to bank your sick leave. First and most important is so you have it when you need it in case something unexpected happens. You may have or get into an accident where you will be off work for an extended period of time or have a prolonged illness that keeps you off work as well. Having that sick leave helps you to continue receiving a check while you're off without having to dip into your annual leave or not receiving a check at all.

The other reason to bank your sick leave is to use it when you retire to credit additional time onto your time in service. You can view the chart that I have attached to see how your sick

leave is calculated when you retire. Basically, for every 2081 hours of sick leave you have, it will add one additional year to your years in service when calculating your annuity payment. For example, if you have 2500 hours of sick leave banked, you would have 1 year 2 months and 13 days added to your annuity payment calcu-

lating your annuity payment though. It will still count towards your total years of service when calculating your annuity payment though.

I've heard some people say that I'll just use it up before I retire but here are a couple things to think about. One, staffing is already an issue and if you are just using it to use it, how will that affect your office and what message are you sending to your employees. By all means if you have something that needs taken care of before retirement, get it done while you can still receive a check and get the full payment for those hours. One other reason not to just burn it all up before retirement is those extra months and years that will be added to calculate your annuity payment is for life. That extra income added to your annuity may benefit you for years to come.

I hope this article was informational and if you are approaching retirement or have a question on your retirement benefits such as FEGLI, PSHB Health Benefits, Annuity Estimates, TSP contributions or what the different TSP funds are, please call me at 641-751-9141 or send an email to jeff@postalbluebookhelp.com and I'll make sure to get your questions answered.



POSTAL BLUEBOOK HELP.COM

Offering **FREE** In-Person Seminars, Online Webinars and One-on-One Phone or Video Consultations

866-692-8702

info@postalbluebookhelp.com

www.postalbluebookhelp.com

CONTACT RETIRED POSTMASTERS TO ASSIST YOU WITH ALL YOUR RETIREMENT QUESTIONS!



JEFF ARMENT
641-751-9141



RICH SPRINGER
563-249-4242

LET THE TEAM OF POSTAL BLUE BOOK SPECIALISTS HELP YOU WITH:

- PENSION CALCULATION
- FEGLI – LIFE INSURANCE OPTIONS
- PSHB – HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN
- SOCIAL SECURITY & SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT
- TSP REVIEW AND TOP 4 OPTIONS
- 1 ON 1 REVIEW AND COMPLETION OF YOUR BLUE BOOK RETIREMENT PAPERWORK

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SCHEDULE YOUR FREE 1 ON 1 CONSULTATION



SCAN ME

RETIRING POSTAL EMPLOYEES, ONE BLUE BOOK AT A TIME!

WWW.POSTALBLUEBOOKHELP.COM

lation. One important thing to know is that you CAN NOT use your banked sick leave to meet eligibility requirements for retirement. That just means if you have 29 years of service and need 30 years to meet one of the re-



As you are, I once was As I am, you will one day be . . .





**Anne Harcus-Casey,
PM Kimberly**

2025 UPMA Legislative Summit



Another great legislative summit! This year I had the pleasure of riding on the train with fifteen other attendees, and it was an even better experience than going solo. Katie put together a train Murder Mystery for us, and it was not only fun for those participating but also our fellow train travelers.

Once in DC it was great to see all the UPMA members from across the country and for us to celebrate the win with



WEP/GPO. There were so many wonderful stories about those that had already received lump sum payments from this legislation. It was also a great feeling to be able to thank our Senators and Representatives for supporting the bill.

We were one of the last groups to hear PMG Dejoy speak and he was much more subdued than the previous year. At the time he was talking to us his plans were to stay until July to ensure the new PMG started off on the right foot. However, by the following week we now know something changed his mind.

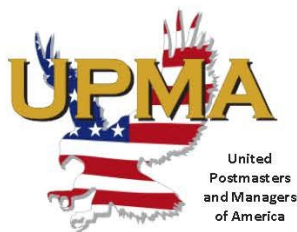
With the political climate towards government employees and postal workers we had a lot to discuss with our Senators and Representatives. We of course met with their aides, but the

reality is that those are the people that keep our representatives current on topics. The meetings I attended went well, and some aides were more informed than others, but whether we are providing new information or additional information it is important to have these conversations to ensure that UPMA and USPS matters are on their radar.

I encourage my fellow UPMA members and USPS employees to stay vigilant in calling and contacting our representatives to ensure we continue to stay at the forefront of their discussions and for them to see how personal the decisions they are making are to the people they represent.

Table of Converting Unused Sick Leave Into Additional Service

Months Days	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
0	0	174	348	522	696	870	1,044	1,217	1,391	1,565	1,739	1,913
1	6	180	354	528	702	875	1,049	1,223	1,397	1,571	1,745	1,919
2	12	186	360	533	707	881	1,055	1,229	1,403	1,577	1,751	1,925
3	17	191	365	539	713	887	1,061	1,235	1,409	1,583	1,757	1,931
4	23	197	371	545	719	893	1,067	1,241	1,415	1,589	1,762	1,936
5	29	203	377	551	725	899	1,073	1,246	1,420	1,594	1,768	1,942
6	35	209	383	557	731	904	1,078	1,252	1,426	1,600	1,774	1,948
7	41	215	388	562	736	910	1,084	1,258	1,432	1,606	1,780	1,954
8	46	220	394	568	742	916	1,090	1,264	1,438	1,612	1,786	1,960
9	52	226	400	574	748	922	1,096	1,270	1,444	1,618	1,791	1,965
10	58	232	406	580	754	928	1,102	1,275	1,449	1,623	1,797	1,971
11	64	238	412	586	760	933	1,107	1,281	1,455	1,629	1,803	1,977
12	70	244	417	591	765	939	1,113	1,287	1,461	1,635	1,809	1,983
13	75	249	423	597	771	945	1,119	1,293	1,467	1,641	1,815	1,989
14	81	255	429	603	777	951	1,125	1,299	1,473	1,646	1,820	1,994
15	87	261	435	609	783	957	1,131	1,304	1,478	1,652	1,826	2,000
16	93	267	441	615	789	962	1,136	1,310	1,484	1,658	1,832	2,006
17	99	273	446	620	794	968	1,142	1,316	1,490	1,664	1,838	2,012
18	104	278	452	626	800	974	1,148	1,322	1,496	1,670	1,844	2,018
19	110	284	458	632	806	980	1,154	1,328	1,502	1,675	1,849	2,023
20	116	290	464	638	812	986	1,160	1,333	1,507	1,681	1,855	2,029
21	122	296	470	644	817	991	1,165	1,339	1,513	1,687	1,861	2,035
22	128	302	475	649	823	997	1,171	1,345	1,519	1,693	1,867	2,041
23	133	307	481	655	829	1,003	1,177	1,351	1,525	1,699	1,873	2,047
24	139	313	487	661	835	1,009	1,183	1,357	1,531	1,704	1,878	2,052
25	146	319	493	667	841	1,015	1,189	1,362	1,536	1,710	1,884	2,058
26	151	325	499	673	846	1,020	1,194	1,368	1,542	1,716	1,890	2,064
27	157	331	504	678	852	1,026	1,200	1,374	1,548	1,722	1,896	2,070
28	162	336	510	684	858	1,032	1,206	1,380	1,554	1,728	1,902	2,075
29	168	342	516	690	864	1,038	1,212	1,386	1,560	1,733	1,907	2,081



Form 1187

Request and Authorization for Voluntary Allotment
of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues
**Fill Out Form and Send to UPMA National Office
at the Address Below for Processing**

Section A: New Members Complete All Applicable Sections

USPS EIN (8 digits)	() () () () () () () ()	Date of Birth
Personal Cell Phone #	Gender (Circle One) Male Female Other	
First Name (Form 50)		
Last Name (Form 50)	Suffix (If applicable circle one) Jr. Sr. II III	
Other Preferred Name (If applicable)		
Home Street Address		
City	State	ZIP Code
Personal E-Mail Address (not @usps.gov)		
Form 50 Pay Level	Form 50 Finance Number	

Section B: From your current PS Form 50 (Check One):

Postmaster _____ Manager _____ Supervisor _____ Other EAS _____
PCES _____ 204B _____ Associate (Craft) _____ PMR _____

Mail completed form to: **United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA)**
8 Herbert Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22305-2600

Visit the UPMA website unitedpma.org for membership benefit information.

Section C: Authorization by Employee

I hereby authorize the above-named agency to deduct from my pay each pay period the amount certified above as the regular dues the (UN-P) United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA) and to remit such amounts to that employee organization in accordance with its arrangements with my employing agency. I further authorize any change in the amount to be deducted that is certified by the above-named employee organization as a uniform change in its dues structure.

I understand that this authorization is a pay periods deduction. It will become effective the first pay period, following its receipt in the employee organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600.

I further understand that revocation forms Standard Form No. 1188, "Revocation of Voluntary Authorization for Allotment of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues" are available from my employing agency and that I may revoke this authorization at any time by filling such a revocation form or other written revocation request by "Certified Mail" directly to the employee organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600. Such revocation will not be effective, however, until the first full pay period following March 1 or Sept. 1 of any calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation is received in the employee organization's headquarters office.

☐

Check this box to signify you've read and understood the terms in Section C of this form

New Member's Signature: _____

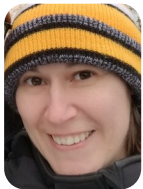
Date: _____

Who most influenced your decision to join UPMA?

Person's Name: _____

Revised 4/1/25 EAH

Wisconsin UPMA Chapter Member Representatives



Member Rep.
Laurie Bue
612 720-8047
redgizzy555@gmail.com



Member Rep..
Jeannie McLaughlin
847 529-8067
jeannie9966@sbcglobal.net



Member Rep.
Nancy Ackerman
Thiensville 53092
nortoniii@yahoo.com
(o) 262-242-0955
(h) 414-544-7234



Member Rep.
Scott Hughart -
Mauston WI 53948
scotthughartupma@gmail.com
(o) 608-847-5939
(h) 309-826-7254



Member Rep
Angela Thurow
Sherwood WI
arpunk@yahoo.com
(o) 920-989-1999
(h) 920-905-0136



Member Rep
Natalie Price,
Eau Claire P&DC
natmcp@aol.com
423-903-3633



Member Rep
Thomas Zumpano
Madison
thomas@zumpanos.com
608-400-5378

CLIP AND SAVE THIS NOTICE.

The OIG or Postal Inspectors show up at your door! What should you do?

If you are questioned by the OIG or Postal Inspector about your conduct, even if you believe you are not guilty of any wrongdoing, it is suggested you do the following:

- ◆ Remain calm
- ◆ Correctly identify yourself if requested to do so
- ◆ Do not physically resist an arrest or a search of your person or property
- ◆ Read aloud to the OIG Inspector(s) the statement below
- ◆ Remain silent until you have consulted with your UPMA Representative or an attorney
- ◆ Be Your Own Protector – Take No Lie Detector –
- ◆ Do Not Sign – Get on the Phone

STATEMENT

If this interview is part of a criminal investigation, I request the presence of an attorney before any interview takes place. Until my attorney is present, I will not agree to sign any document or answer any questions. Furthermore, I will not make any written or oral statements. I do not consent to any search without a warrant. If you provide me with a search warrant, I will not resist the search while preserving my legal objections to it.

However, if this interview is not part of a criminal investigation, I request the opportunity to contact my UPMA representative for advice and to have them present during the interview. In such a case, I will be willing to orally answer questions but decline to provide any written statements. It is important to note that I retain my legal right to decline to answer any questions that could potentially incriminate me. I am committed to full cooperation, but I want to emphasize that I do not waive any of my rights, including the right to remain silent. I will not sign a waiver-of-rights form, admit or deny any allegations, or make any written or oral statements unless my attorney and/or UPMA representative is personally present to provide counsel.

Your manager informed you that they are doing a PDI or I&I. What should you do?

If at any point your manager instructs you to undergo a PDI or I&I, please remember that you have rights under ELM 650. You are entitled to choose a representative of your preference, and it's your prerogative to have your UPMA representative present during the investigation. In such circumstances, promptly get in touch with one of the UPMA Chapter Member Representatives. They will assist in coordinating with Postal management to schedule a suitable time for the interview where all necessary parties can be present to ensure a fair and just process.

Remember, remain silent until your UPMA Chapter Member Representative is present. If they ask any questions prior to your representative being present, answer all questions with "I am more than happy to answer any questions once my UPMA representative is present."



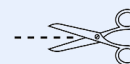
Virtual 3 digit Wisconsin Chapter Meeting

7:00-8:00 PM Tuesday July 22nd

Zoom Meeting ID: 810 9210 4574



- Hear from WI Chapter UPMA leaders on issues that affect you.
- Upcoming UPMA events
- Q & A (anonymous questions welcome)



UPMA WISCONSIN CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP DONATION

Member ID: (if known) _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City St Zip: _____

Date _____

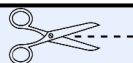
In Memory of: _____ \$ _____ ☐ Check Enclosed

Mail to:

WI UPMA
Scholarship Fund
PO Box 1
Shawano WI 54166

Thank-you for your donation!

WISCONSIN UPMA will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of contribution,





**Robert (Bob) Mayer, PM Retired
Neenah, Wisconsin,**

How was your career??

Robert (Bob) Mayer's Postal Career

I started my career in the postal service on June 11, 1960 as a "Temporary Indefinite". That was a hire off the postal register with no ending date. Some people in this category would have been in this classification forever, as before the hiring got to their score a new test was given, and they would never have been reached. Luckily Congress passed a procedure that any of these employees still working after 5 years would be converted to career. I was lucky, after 9 months I was converted to a career PTF clerk.



As a PTF you were not guaranteed any amount of hours, but at the start were

usually working 80 hours a week. My starting wage was \$1.85 per hour, which was increased to \$2.00 per hour almost immediately. As stated earlier there was no guarantee of hours. You could work 4 hours, be sent for lunch and when came back from lunch would be sent home. At that time we had to learn the City and Outgoing schemes. The outgoing scheme consisted of learn to what SCF that all the cities and towns in Wisconsin were under to sort the outgoing mail accordingly.

At that time there were also more SCF's (Ashland, Sheboygan and others).

The City Scheme consisted of learning which of the 73 carriers delivered what streets or parts of streets. These schemes had to be learned at home on your own time. Beside the outgoing scheme the city scheme consisted of over 1,000 streets or parts of streets.

You had packs of flip cards with streets on one side and carrier number on the other side. You sat at a table or on the bed learning these cards and flipping them over to see if you were right. The test was a sample of 100 cards on which you were tested. You had to have a minimum of 95 of the 100 cards correct to pass.

We moved from our downtown post office to the new office on Packerland Drive in 1974. At that time there were still catalogs (Spiegel's Montgomery Wards, Sear's and others), on any day we could get up to 8 semis of catalogs. Remember, no pallets, fork lifts or dock leveler's. Sacks were 80 pounds of catalogs stacked to the roof of the semi. We had to unload them onto knotting trucks, after dragging them from front to back of the semi. After all 8 semis were unloaded we then had to resort from these knotting trucks to break the sacks down to the various SCF routes to associate offices.

In 1962 I was promoted to fulltime clerk and worked from 3:30 P.M. to midnight.

At that time we did not have any mechanization or automation. All mail was sorted by hand. Also at that time there was a lot more letter mail. The collection mail was dumped on a large table where about a dozen clerks would face it up so all the stamps were facing in the same direction. Then it would be taken to 1 or 2 manual cancelling machines. A clerk would take a handful and feed it into the machine. The cancelled mail would then be taken to about 30 manual cases where clerks would sort it to the



various SCF's or large cities. Beside the regular clerks and PTF's we had some temporary clerks and some 4 hour college students who helped. These college students were limited to 4 hours a night and 20 hours a week. This went on until about 10:00 P.M. each night. At that time the mail would have to be pulled from each hole in the cases and tied out. This was either done by hand using a ball of string sitting on top of the cases or with a manual tying machine. Tying the long end first and then the short side. These bundles then went down to the pouch rack, which had to be pulled for the 10:30 P.M. dispatch of semis. In 1963 a new type of sorting came into existence. It was called the Zone Improvement Program (ZIP CODE).

In 1967 I worked as a supervisor during the heavy Christmas period. Remember, there were no pallets, fork lifts or other equipment. Sacks of parcels stretched to the ceiling in the Downtown Green Bay Post Office. Large gurneys were filled from bottom to top with trays of letter mail. After the outgoing mail was done at 10:30 we took our lunch break. Then at 11:00 we started manually sorting the letters to the SCF cities and villages. Some

clerks who started at 2:00 went home at 10:30. A new crew came in at midnight. They continued sorting the SCF mail and a few started sorting the Green Bay city mail, sorting this down to the carrier routes.



(Continued on page 18)

(Continued from page 17)

In 1968 I became a permanent supervisor on Tour 3 (3:30-Midnight). I was the only supervisor on Tour 3, with over 100 employees. Since the clerks started at the same time as I did, I had to prepare the assignments at home, so I could assign them their duties when they clocked in to work. I had to do the retail schedule, the PTF schedule and the holiday schedule. After a year a 2nd supervisor was hired to assist on Tour 3. In 1971 I became Director of Mail Processing. At that time we also added a 3rd supervisor on Tour 1 & 3. One of the supervisor's was a Level 16 and in charge of the two Level 15's.

In 1988 I was promoted to Director of

City Operations.

That meant I was in charge of the entire operations of the city of Green Bay. This included: Clerks, Mail handlers, Maintenance, VMF, City Carriers and Rural Carriers. We also had a MPLSM to sort letters. This machine needed about 15 clerks to operate. This machine used 12 sorters, a mail loader a sweeper to empty bins and another that moved between loader and sweeper. Then we also received 2 Flat Sorting machines. During this period I also filled in for the Postmaster when he was on vacation or traveling to the various SCH cities and towns.

In 1992 the PMG eliminated all these Director positions. I then became a

POSTMASTER

"saved grade" postmaster at Neenah, Wisconsin, which I held until I retired on January 3, 2003. During this period I did many Function 4 audits at offices and city stations. I was also the PM Rep. for NAPUS (UPMA) for many years.

I have now been retired for over 22 years and am enjoying life. I bowl during the winter and golf during the summer. To keep me busy I am Secretary, Statistician and treasurer of these functions. I also serve on several Boards.

I hope everyone can enjoy life to the fullest extent like I have done.

Postal history

Postmaster Finder

Research. Search. Discover. Uncover.

<https://about.usps.com/who/profile/history/postmaster-finder/>

[Home](#) [City](#) [Where served](#) [County](#) [State](#) [Est. date](#) [Disc. date](#) [ZIP Code](#) [FAQs](#)

What you will find: Most postmasters appointed after 1986 and some postmasters appointed before 1986, back to the 1700s.

Presently, we offer complete information on more than 17,000 Post Offices, and the number increases weekly.

Postmasters

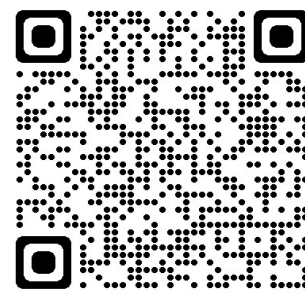
- [Postmasters by city](#)
- [Postmasters by where they served](#)

Post Offices

- [Post Offices by county](#)
- [Post Offices by state](#)
- [Post Offices by established date](#)
- [Post Offices by discontinued date](#)
- [Post Offices by ZIP Code](#)

[FAQs about Postmaster Finder](#)

[Contact the USPS Historian](#)



Postmaster Finder

When older people say, "Enjoy them while they are young." They are talking about your knees and hips not your kids.

Brain cells die, skin cells die, even hair cells die.

But FAT CELLS... must have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior because they seem to have eternal life.

I don't think I get enough credit for the fact that I do all of this unmedicated.

Never seen anyone jogging and smiling, so that's all I need to know about that.

THE ONLY MYSTERY IN LIFE IS WHY THE KAMIKAZE PILOTS WORE HELMETS



**Pauline Colamatteo, PM Retired
President, Wisconsin Retirees**

National Convention in Dallas

This not so spring-like weather has caused my brain to freeze up, or I have encountered writer's block for the first time ever, it also could be that the topic at hand is very difficult to approach. UPMA, both on the State and National level have been working hard with both the active and retired members addressing the issues facing us in this new administration.

Your legislative committee and their D.C. counterparts are walking the halls of Congress, attending events, and making the phone calls to protect our earned retirement benefits, and promised protection rights from becoming a part of a new budget bill. I hope that all of you retiree's are aware of these provisions that have been introduced, and have contacted your Representatives in the House and the Senate, or even better visited their local offices and made yourself heard. Keep calling and

talking to these folks that we have elected, they represent us and should listen to what you have to say. If there was ever any doubt as to one of the main reasons to be a member of this UPMA organization, what we can do, and have done on the legislative front should stress the importance of belonging. We fought for forty years (yes I have been around that long) to repeal the WEP/GPO legislation, and that battle was finally won, now we have this new challenge and I know we are up to it, but we need all of us to be unified in this fight to retain the rights that we have.

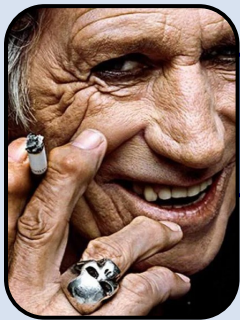
Now it's on to the National Convention in Dallas, Texas in August, in our retiree meeting we will be voting for a new National President and National Vice President, plus several bylaws that have been introduced that affect us as retirees. While at WI UPMA State Con-



vention we received a presentation by our National Board member Anita Piefer concerning the bylaws, a vote was taken by the members present there, and I will vote accordingly at the National Convention. It's so important to be involved and aware of what is going on with UPMA. Stay tuned.



Congratulations to our new and recent retirees! Sarah Repinski, Douglas Arnold, Michael Wyngaard, Renee Jordan, and Gweneth Zeithaml.



**Rick Dama, PM Retired
Zip Line Editor**

Don't sweat the small stuff.

In the end, It's all small stuff.

I recently had another eye opener, a morning visit to the ER and the same day a late afternoon visit to the ER, turning into an overnighiter. They never did find out what was causing the sever abdominal pain. I guess my point with the headings is to take care of yourself in the end you're just a number to the Postal Service and your BOSS.

While I was still game fully employed with the Postal Service I did a lot of

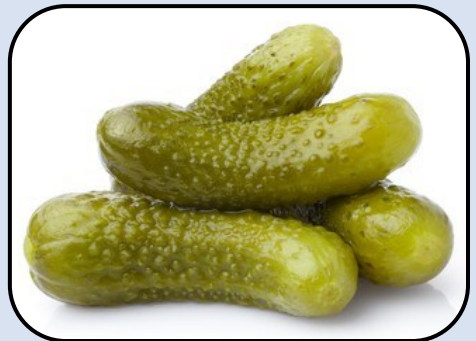
extras for my POOM, including Saturday night telecoms and a boat load of other extras that I don't remember any more nor do I want to. I was awarded great merits and extra awards, but like others we paid for it by longer hours, sometimes being away from home and taking time away from our family's. I guess the point I'm trying to make is take care of yourself and family first. The Postal Service and your bosses will forget you as soon as you walk out the door. Even with all the extras I did

over the years. On my last day I though I would at least get a phone call, well it's been 16 years now and I stopped holding my breath for that call. Today I could care less about getting that call.



yourself and family first

As for my picture this issue, can you tell which one is more pickled?





Bill Tierney, PM Retired
 **Bill's Buzz**

Hello Everyone



Well, don't we live in interesting times. Not a day goes by that I don't wonder what next. The next PMG is coming over from the FedEx Board.....hum. Keep your eyes and ears open.

Speaking of interesting times, as I am writing this article Federal employees are in the cross hairs of Congress re-

garding a number of benefits.....stay informed.....it's your money.

I am looking forward to summer, it has been a crazy spring weatherwise. Hot, cool, cold, rainy, sunny.....you name it, we have had it. So I thought for this edition I would share some information that I pulled from the Wisconsin DNR website. I hope you enjoy

BOATING SAFETY TIPS

BOATING IN WISCONSIN



Keep the fun on the water coming -- whether it's a fishing boat, a canoe, or a personal watercraft that "floats your boat," operator inexperience, inattention, recklessness and speeding are the four leading causes of tragic watercraft crashes and the leading cause of death is drowning.

Crash statistics indicate boaters who wear life jackets and take boater safety courses are most likely to stay safe on Wisconsin waters. Follow these basic safety tips and enjoy Wisconsin's great lakes and rivers with family and friends.

LEAVE ALCOHOL ONSHORE

- Never use drugs or alcohol before or during boat operation. Alcohol's effects are greatly exaggerated by exposure to sun, glare, wind, noise, and vibration.



ALCOHOL DOUBLES RISK OF ACCIDENT



USE AND MAINTAIN THE RIGHT SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket for each person onboard and one approved throwable device for any boat 16 feet and longer. The DNR recommends that everyone wear their life jackets while on the water.
- Have a fire extinguisher.
- Have operable boat lights - Always test boat lights before the boat leaves the dock and carry extra batteries.
- Emergency supplies - Keep on board in a floating pouch: cell-phone, maps, flares and first aid kit.

PADDLE BOARD SAFETY TIPS

- Wear a life jacket! - More than 90% of boat fatalities related to drowning involve victims not wearing life jackets. You need one for your safety. You also need one because Wisconsin law, as well as U.S. Coast Guard law, treats paddleboards the same as kayaks and canoes. This means there must be a personal flotation device for each person on board. However, the

best way to obey this law and to ensure your safety is to just wear the life jacket.

- Carry a whistle
- Be a competent swimmer
- Know how to self-rescue
- Know how to tow another board
- Know the local regulations and navigation rules
- Understand the elements and hazards -- winds, tidal ranges, current, terrain
- Know when to wear a leash
- Be defensive -- don't go where you aren't supposed to be and avoid other swimmers, boaters, paddleboards
- Use proper blade angle to be the most efficient paddle boarder
- And, take a safety course, Paddling Safety Course [DNR]

BE WEATHER WISE

- Regardless of the season, keep a close eye on the weather and bring a radio. Sudden wind shifts, lightning flashes and choppy water all can mean a storm is brewing. If bad weather is approaching, get off the water early to avoid a long waiting line in inclement weather.

(Continued on page 21)

(Continued from page 20)

TAKE THESE STEPS BEFORE GETTING UNDERWAY

- Tell someone where you are going and when you will return.
- Open all hatches and run the blower after you refuel and before getting underway. Sniff for fumes before starting the engine and if you smell fumes, do not start the engine.
- Check the boat landing for any local regulations that apply. If boating on the Great Lakes or Mississippi River, review the federal regulations for additional requirements.

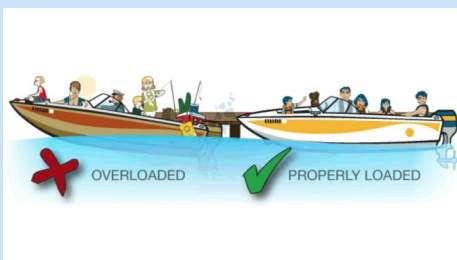
LOADING AND UNLOADING YOUR BOAT

- Overloading a boat with gear or passengers will make the boat unstable and increase the risk of capsizing or swamping. Abide by

the boats capacity plate which located near the boat operators position.

FOLLOW NAVIGATION AND OTHER RULES ON THE WATER

- Never allow passengers to ride on gunwales or seatbacks or outside of protective railings, including the front of a pontoon boat. A sudden turn, stop or start could cause a fall overboard.
- After leaving the boat launch, maintain slow-no-wake speed for a safe and legal distance from the launch.
- Follow boat traffic rules.



In closing let me remind retirees of some ways you can stay informed:

UPMA GOLD:

Send an email with your name, email address and office of retirement to our Email Coordinator, Linda Carter, at lhcarte@hotmail.com. Linda publishes UPMA GOLD as she receives information from various sources with no set frequency. If you would like to share newsworthy info with her, just send her an email once you have joined our network.

IN THE MAILBOX:

This is our official publication/newsletter that is printed and mailed bi-monthly. If you would like to get on the mailing list, please send your name and address to our Editor, Eva Finley, P O Box 500, Graford, TX 76449-0500, or email to IntheMailboxEditor@usa.net. This publication is also posted on the UnitedPMA.org website by clicking the link below:

<http://www.unitedpma.org/resources/publications/retirees---in-the-mailbox>

USPS Retiree Quarterly Newsletter available at <https://www.keepingposted.org/>

Until next time, be sure you mail something today.....

you know I will!!!



UPMA

United Postmasters and Managers of America

Career Development Benefit

- **eCareer Assistance** – UPMA has initiated a new national program to coach members on the development of an eCareer profile for beginners and will provide mentoring and critique members current eCareer profiles. The Career Development section on the National website provides the USPS guidelines and UPMA advice. Provide your name, contact information, and current job location to be connected with a personal assistant. Next answer the questions, “Have you created an eCareer profile?” and “Have you ever applied for an EAS position?” so the level of assistance you need can be determined. You will receive contact via phone or email to discuss the next steps.

“You don’t have to be great to start, but you have to start to be great.” - Zig Ziglar

To access the material or request assistance, go to Unitedpma.org and from the **Career Development** drop-down, select the **Guidelines** or **KSA assistance** links.

There are two choices under this tab. **Guidelines** will provide you with 3 USPS documents that contain instructions on creating an eCareer profile and submitting an application for promotion.

The **UPMA Advice** booklet is also located in this section. We suggest that you read it first as an overview of what the USPS specifically addresses. This information will allow you to set up your eCareer profile and prepare you to complete your profile when you are ready to apply for an EAS position. The requirements for Supervisor positions or Postmaster positions may be similar for practicing your KSAs, but you **MUST CHECK THE QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS FROM THE SPECIFIC JOB POSTING BEFORE APPLYING, AS SOME DO VARY.**

The **KSA Assistance** portal will connect you to a qualified assistant who will coach, guide and mentor you through the eCareer process. Integrity is a priority, so assistants do not create or write your KSAs. They educate, suggest, encourage, and support your work to help you develop a quality eCareer profile. Quality KSAs give you the best chance to reach the interview level.

When you are ready to take advantage of this benefit, enter your information in the portal (EIN, Name, Phone, Email, Current Job Position and State) and answer the questions. There is also a space available for comments. Here you may request a quick review, enter your work hours for contact availability, or add any other beneficial comments. An Assistant will contact you to coach you through this accomplishment.

It is recommended, though not required, that you use the (STAR) **Situation, Task, Action, and Result** format, to write your KSAs to address each qualification. It may require several edits to get the best results. Together, you and your UPMA assistant can make your STARS shine!

Follow the Career Development path on the back of this card to the **eCareer/KSA Assistance Program**. Scan the QR code to go directly to the web page.





Linda Hobbs, PM Retired
Memorial Committee Chair, 2023

Memorial Committee

Hello Everyone,

Please let me know if you hear of a death, or see an obituary of an active Postmaster, Retired Postmaster, Supervisor, Manager, Associate Member or Spouse. If I get the information in time, the funeral arrangements can be sent out by email. To join the email network, contact Rick Dama at radpm3262@gmail.com.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the 2025 Memorial Service at the State Convention.

Thank you, also, to everyone who notified me this last year of deaths and obituaries.

Enjoy the summer.

Linda Hobbs
 PO Box 65
 Rudolph WI 54475-0065

Phone # 715-435-3267 or email address clhobb@wctc.net



2025 UPMA CONVENTION MEMORIAL SERVICE REMEMBERED

JUDITH A. AZMITIA – LAKE NEBAGAMON, WEST SALEM
 FRANK JOSEPH BESTEEN – KEWASKUM *
 DONALD A. BRUNELLE – WINNEBAGO, MANAWA, CLINTONVILLE, NEW LONDON *
 ESCANABA MI, GLADSTONE MI
 EILEEN FERN FINGERSON – COBB
 EUGENE L. HOFFLING – POPLAR *
 JOHN A. JALINSKI – HARSHAW *
 DEBBE K. KASSIE – STETSONVILLE
 WENDY SUE KNUTSON – DOWNSVILLE, ELEVA, ALTOONA

GERARD J. MENEAU – CLEVELAND *
 DIANA MARGARET MULLIN – MINERAL POINT
 DONNA JEAN HOLT RUMPF – SPRINGBROOK
 KRISTINE S. SCHMIT – RANDOM LAKE, FREDONIA
 BRUCE E. VOLDEN – OAKDALE *
 SANDRA JEAN WALSH – SPARTA, TOMAH
 CATHERINE “MIKE” ANN WENZEL – SULLIVAN
 MARK A. ZIPPERER – BROKAW, GLEASON, ROTHSCHILD, LAND O LAKES

STAR INDICATES MILITARY VETERAN



Alice Jane Olson
July 25, 1936 - May 15, 2025

Alice J. Olson, age 88, of Oshkosh passed away peacefully on May 15, 2025. She was born on July 25, 1936 in Iowa a daughter of the late Harold and Edna (Meier) Kuethe. She married Melvin V. Olson. Alice was a long time member of Zion Lutheran Church in Oshkosh. She had worked as a Postmaster for the US Postal Service and was a member of the NARF (National Association of Retired Federal Employees), NAPUS, (National Association of Postmasters United States) and the Elk Ladies of Oshkosh Lodge # 292. She greatly enjoyed golf and time spent with family and her grandchildren.

Alice is survived by and her memory will be cherished by her husband, Melvin of 42 years; a daughter, Laura Lee Martin of Oshkosh; two grandchildren, Aaron (Stephanie) Martin and Ian Olson; five great-grandchildren, Mariah and Hailee Harris, Chase Martin, Elijah and Esmond

Martin. She is further survived by a sister-in-law, Rochelle Kuethe, other relatives and friends. She was preceded in death by a son, Jonathan Martin; a brother, Wendall Kuethe; sisters, Donna Sauerbrei and Gladys Rettig; brother-in-laws, Gerhardt Rettig and Leo Sauerbrei.



Send Obituaries To:

Linda Hobbs
 PO Box 65
 Rudolph WI 54475-0065

Phone # 715-435-3267, email clhobb@wctc.net





AMERICAN VETERAN STYLE

By Herb Barnhard (Deceased)

TEXAS AMERICAN LEGION POST 163 PAST COMMANDER

“Two hundred fifty years ago, the settlers in this country decided that there were enough hardships to face building a new land without the added taxes and unfair treatment by a demented King and his government in a land across the ocean. They “revolted” and thus it was referred to as the “Revolutionary” War. To the English King it was a “rebellion.” The result was a war.

Many times, since the beginning of our United States, the result has been war. After the wars, governments have given the “veterans” of these wars certain rights that other citizens don’t have. They have earned the hard way: Facing death, loss of limbs, disfigurement, starvation and torture.

Those that have faced wars have a bond that others can’t comprehend. It is bad enough to be in the horrors of war, but it adds to the factors when it is done in some far-off country, and to make things worse, a country that considers us a “intruders.”

Never feel that Veterans rights weren’t earned! Never be ashamed that you wore the uniform of the Armed Forces. Too many died wearing from for any citizen of the country to feel that we don’t deserve to be recognized as “special.”

Find out who those running for office feel toward Veterans. Take an active interest in the politics and see how they feel about the men and women who served our country.

General Sherman said, “War is Hell.”

I don’t know about hell, but I know that war must be a close second.

Army

Navy

Air Force

Marines

Coast Guard

Our liberty is their legacy

Thank You

UPMA Zip Line
N6196 County Road F
Sullivan WI 53178-9733

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
Paid



How did doctors come to the conclusion that exercise prolongs life,
when a rabbit is always jumping but only lives for around two years and a
turtle that doesn't exercise at all lives over 100 years.

So, rest, chill, eat, drink, and enjoy life!



~ MOVING ~

Send your **Change Of
Address** Information to:

Rick Dama
N6196 County Road F
Sullivan WI 53178-9733

Snow Birds log into
unitedpma.org or email me at
radpm3262@gmail.com

Zip Line

next issue submission cutoff:
August 15th 2025

Submit **Zip Line** articles to:
radpm3262@gmail.com
subject line (Zip Line UPMA)

Submit **Website** articles
and updates anytime to:
mpsimon@me.com
subject line (UPMA Website)
wiupma.org

Submit **Facebook**
articles and updates anytime to:
melissatarlton@gmail.com
subject line (Facebook)
UPMA Wisconsin Chapter

DATES TO REMEMBER

2025

**Virtual 3 digit
Wisconsin Chapter Meeting
Tuesday July 22nd
7:00-8:00 PM**

**National Convention
Dallas
August 9 - 15, 2025**

**Central Area
Officers Conference
Oak Brook, IL
September 26th - 28th 2025**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRESIDENT	3
PRESIDENT ELECT	4
NATIONAL CONVENTION AGENDA	7
WISCONSIN DISTRICT CAREER CONFERENCE	9
CLIP AND SAVE THIS NOTICE	15
BILL'S BUZZ	20
OBITUARIES	22