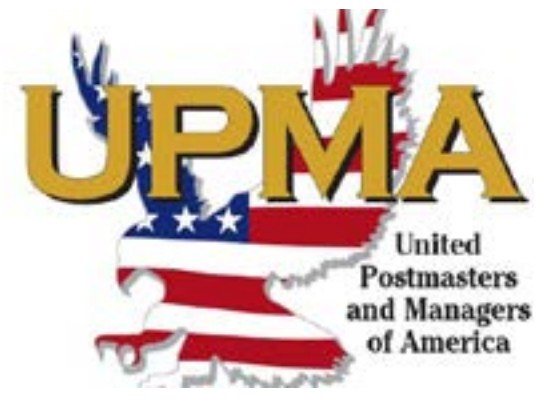




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FIRST EDITION

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Retired?  
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UPMA is not a union; it is a professional association. It is an organization of people who hold, or have held, a proud title for more than 200 years. It does not discriminate by race, gender, or salary level. It is, as a vehicle, an avenue, a method, a tool that can and does help assist, benefit, and encourage you to be a better Postal Manager

“Let us do  
together what  
we cannot do  
alone”

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[www.illinoisnapus.org](http://www.illinoisnapus.org)



## John Sertich ~ Illinois State President

### WE ARE U.P.M.A!!! NOW WHAT???

By the time you read this the election may be over and we will be looking forward to Thanksgiving. Besides being tremendously grateful that the incessant negative political ads have ended, we also will be planning to host turkey dinners or travelling to one with family and friends. We also will have passed the first milestone of our new organization and begin the co-leadership period. For those of you that have not been following the process, from November 1, 2016 through October 31, 2017 the Illinois Chapter of U.P.M.A. will have co-presidents, co-secretary/treasurers, co-presidents of retirees and two vice presidents elected from each association. At the 2017 State Convention in April, elections will be held to determine individual officer holders going forward on November 1, 2017.

I am sure we can all agree that is an important activity. But the most important activity we can all be engaged in is securing new members. Membership will continue to be my primary focus during the remainder of my term. While considering this priority, I am sure some of you might be wondering: How should I respond to a prospective member when they ask "What does U.P.M.A. have to offer me?"

First and foremost our National Presidents Sean and Tony will be assembling a team to meet with the Postal Service for our Pay Consultation sessions once the largest union has ratified their contract. Presently that is the NALC and while I am in no position to predict a closure date, negotiations continue. While qualified EAS employees will be eligible for NPA payouts based on 2016 report cards, the service has refused to discuss EAS salary changes going forward. In other words while the current EAS pay package actually expired in 2016 and salary levels remain static, because of the efforts of our leaders in NAPUS and the League NPA increases for eligible employees will happen in 2017.

Regarding NPA, our national leaders have participated in discussions about the pros and cons of it. Particularly the structure of the cell matrix and the threshold to qualify for any salary increase. Hopefully we will see some positive changes once consultation sessions begin. In the meantime they were able to obtain a very significant modification; the Mitigation Factor process will now be conducted through the NPA/PES network. Let me explain why that is good news. If, prior to this year, you filed a mitigating factor and asked for consideration of overall score due to circumstances beyond your control, it was a manual process. You submitted your appeal and supporting documentation to your next higher level manager. If he/she did not approve it, not only was that the end of the process, there was no record of the appeal. Our organizations could construe that thousands of unsatisfied EAS employees were denied due process but we had no proof. This year the process is web-based. There will be a record of mitigating factor appeals filed by EAS employees. I urge you to analyze your report cards and if you feel your score was affected by circumstances beyond your control and it resulted in lowering the score by one or more cells, be prepared to act within 6 days of the September scores being published. That's right you only have 6 days so see if you have case and begin preparing it now. Once your appeal is submitted the next higher level manager will be required to enter a decision and the reason for it and there will be a record of those actions.

Over the past few years our leaders were successful in securing multiple concessions for POSTPlan affected Postmasters. Level 6 Postmasters were allowed to choose to remain a Postmaster and protected from further action while they remain in those offices. The others were granted a one-time option to convert back to the clerk craft with liberal salary consideration.

We continue discussions going forward to solidify level 18 Postmaster positions by seeking postponement of upcoming office evaluations. While nothing has been decided it is our position and we have sought a moratorium on applying evaluations in FY 2017.

We continue to educate our members on proposed and pending legislation and lobby Congress on behalf of EAS employees to ensure our law makers hear our voices. We want them to realize that laws being considered with provisions that negatively impact Postal employees could have a residual effect on service and the confidence of the American public. (Note: Think plant closures and consolidations, DUO's, etc.)

Consider all the work that we have done and that we will continue to do at the national level and then add to that representation at the local, state, district and area levels. Many officers participate in quarterly management association meetings at the district and areas throughout the country at which we exchange information, ideas and problems. Many officers have "walk-in or call-in" privileges with district managers and department head. This is an invaluable resource.

We host conventions and training conferences at the state and regional levels. I personally would like to see us take greater advantage of technology and social media to communicate, inform and educate our members. Webinars, telecons and Skype sessions are economical alternatives to travel and lodging and could have a greater reach.

We have a national publication and an award winning state publication that members receive on a regular frequency throughout the year. Both are full of informative and entertaining articles, pictures and updates on future events.

We have a top notch financial service with Signature Federal Credit Union. I can personally attest to the value of this institution. I re-financed my sons' student loans several years ago and they greatly reduced my monthly payments and I saved \$1,000's on accumulated interest. It took less than a week from the time I completed and submitted the application to obtain approval.

Finally, and let's hope it does not come to this, who are you going to call when your manager is considering administrative or corrective action for an alleged or perceived infraction? Ghostbusters??? I think not. You will be looking for any one with a title for advice, defense and reassurance. As one of the 9 members of the U.P.M.A. National Adverse Action Committee I am certain you will want and need someone with knowledge and experience who is recognized as authorized representative of the organization of which you are a member.

I am sure those of you reading this can think of a myriad of other reasons to belong to U.P.M.A.; networking, friendships, career advancement, etc. I cannot think of one good reason not to. Spread the word. Sometimes all it takes is for you to make the first move and ask the question; "We want you. Will you join us?"

I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving. May your travels be safe and you enjoy family and friends wherever you may be.

Until next time.

John



## Patti Sadnick~Illinois State President

### Goodbye and Hello!

I would like to introduce (re-introduce) myself to the NAPUS half of UPMA. My husband Jim and I have 2 sons, Justin and Jason plus a daughter in law, Tori. We have been blessed with 4 grandchildren, Morgan, Chase, Olivia, and Aubrey. I came up through the ranks as a Postmaster Relief, then a PTF clerk. I served as OIC in the Utica Post Office and then became the Postmaster of LaMoille, IL where I planned to stay until I retired. However, when that office was hit by Post Plan, I was very thankful to receive a promotion to the Utica IL Post Office where I continue to serve today.

In September, as we returned home from a week at convention in New Orleans, Bev & Rick Freehill and I spent some time reflecting on our time away. We wrote down everything we did so we could keep it fresh in our minds. We had a fabulous week with many good times to remember. But the one thing that sticks out in all our minds is the fact that we said goodbye to our beloved Postmaster organizations. Here's the good news though, all the friends that we love so much will be going on to UPMA. We are making new friends with NAPUS who said goodbye to their organization as well. Through the hiccups along the way, I will keep in mind that you loved your organization as much as I loved mine. Going forward together, we will make this association as near and dear to us as League and NAPUS are to us right now! I look forward to seeing you all at the State Convention in April and in Louisville next summer!

Patti Sadnick  
Co-President, Illinois Branch, UPMA



## Pam Bardell~ Past State VP

### Stay connected!

Managers and Postmasters do you feel connected to your job? I feel disconnected a lot of days. I had the opportunity to attend training in Champaign IL over Columbus Day weekend. I want to thank Marianne Miller for all her hard work putting together a great training weekend. I truly did not want to go to the training. I have so much work to do at home; I can't afford to lose a weekend. But, I am so glad I attended the training. I really needed this training weekend to help me run my office.

With all the new reports and programs, I need all the training and the networking I can get to stay connected to my job. We have the new (PET) Performance Essential Tool, (RFS) Remote Forwarding System, (RSD) Rural Street Database, new (eWIS) pay process and for 8127 Scanning Integrity, package failure, SPM work orders, SSRD (F4 Tool) Care program, safety toolkit, DMS tool, need990090990- to use daily to manage all carriers. How to teach clerks on new passport process and revenue improvement.

I learned a lot of new stuff about our computer, we use daily. Make sure you log off daily, so you can get your daily updates, thanks Rich Springer for your great computer stuff tips. Ginni Vermillion explained the new RSD and what we had to do to get prepared to populate the routes. Patty Hart went over new ways to submit claims and other very informative information on financial reports. Every month we have new changes. Now I know why I needed the training. I realized I need to stay connected, and be in the know. Now it is time to put the training to use. So glad I took time to stay connected!  
Have a blessed fall. Pam



## Edmund Carley~Area 1 National Vice Pres

“There are 3 types of accountants - those that can count and those that can’t!” – Anonymous

I live in the real world, apparently Postal Service budgets and District Finance Departments do not.

When our National Presidents Anthony Leonardi and Sean Acord sat in on a Headquarters Kaizen Project, earlier this year, to correctly fund level 18 offices who did not earn “opening door hours” it was an historic occasion. Never before had Management Organizations been included in the first steps of Postal Fiscal Policy making. The result of the project was the assurance that every level 18 APO that did not “earn” enough hours to fund the clerk operation, in light of the APWU global settlement, would be funded “opening door” or “key in key out” hours or earned whichever was more. That is, of course, minus the 15 hours a week that a Postmaster or OIC can work in the craft. This number of “management involvement hours” is not something Postmasters negotiated it is something the Postal Service and the APWU negotiated; we just have to live with it, every day.

However, a funny thing happened on the way to FY16 and FY 17 budgets; (at least one) District is not funding it correctly. Let us assume a level 18 office is open (“key in key out”, not window hours, service hours or any other magical description of open) 8 hours a day and 3 hours on Saturday. In FY 16 there were 304 delivery days, 52 of which were Saturdays so opening hours are:

$$(M-F) 8 \times 252 \text{ Days (2016 hrs.)} + (\text{Sat}) 3 \times 52 \text{ Days (156 hrs.)} = 2172$$

$$\text{PM Bargaining Unit Work } 52 * 15 = 780 \text{ hours. So Opening door hours are } 2172 - 780 = 1392$$

So, 1392 hours must be in your Clerk budget, no less!!!!

Then there are 252 days when the Postmaster must be there also  $252 \times 8 = 2016$ . Some Districts are funding only 1816 hours in Postmaster hours, using a formula that we earn 5 weeks of leave. In the real world, you should be back filled in your position, the same as anyone else; these hours should and must be funded.

This means that to be fully funded, in the real world, this office would need 3408 hours in their plan. Some Districts are claiming that offices earn more than opening by then subtracting the Postmasters hours out again with some convoluted logic and underfunding offices. If this is happening in your office, please let your State President know so we can file a resolution log but also, put it in your comments on your NPA at every available opportunity, use language like “due to contractual obligations beyond my control and not funded by Finance...”

Please feel free to contact me if you need any help with this or any other issue.

Edmund A Carley  
Postmaster Lincoln IL



## Shelley Zellers ~ Secretary/Treasurer

As we begin a new fiscal year as Postmasters, it's important to be aware of the budgets we've been allocated. I want to encourage managers and postmasters to print their 2017 week 53 flash today if you haven't already done so. Take a few minutes to determine if you've been given sufficient hours for your operation. If so, file the report for future reference. If not, contact your finance manager.

In FY2016, my hours were doing great at week 26. It was half way through the fiscal year and my hours were under plan. I thought I was managing my operation well. Then came the big cut...575 hours in function 4 for the year. Although I was under plan at that point, how does someone recover from a reduction of that magnitude at midyear? Here's the kicker...if I hadn't been printing and saving my flash reports each week, I might have never known because the changes were made to all flash reports, week 1 through week 53. This is the information you may need at the end of the year to prove a mitigating factor. Be diligent, it may make all the difference.

October 31, 2016 marks the end of Napus as we know it. November 1st we join The League to become UPMA. For the next year, I will be a co-secretary/treasurer with my League counterpart, Beverly Freehill. I'm hoping she loves to write articles!!

As I wrap up my final Napus IPN article, I want to thank all of the members of my Napus family. You welcomed me with open arms, (literally...thanks Nancy & Gail !) and offered me the opportunity to make many lasting friendships. It's been an awesome experience and I'm very grateful!

Borrowing the words of a very dear departed friend... BIG LOVE to one and all!



## Bev Freehill~ UPMA Secretary / Treasurer

### Great Members All United

Hello! Happy New Fiscal Year 2017! Hopefully we will all be in the money and thanks so much to the efforts of NAPUS and League Postmasters to help us get more of what we deserve! How awesome is it that we are now united under a new name UPMA! Great members all united!

Let me introduce myself for those who don't know me. My name is Bev Freehill and I am the Postmaster of my hometown level 18 post office Tremont IL 61568 with one level 6 RMPO newly being staffed by a NTFT. My level 6 Postmaster just retired. I have worked for the post office for 23 years and have been a Postmaster for 13 years all of which previously I was a member of League and most lately the State secretary. I have truly learned so much by networking with other association members and have made so many great friends

My husband and I have 4 sons. The oldest, Jeff, is married and lives in Naperville with his wife, Dimitra, their daughter Neve who is 1 and a new baby due this coming month! Our second son, Justin, lives in Washington with his wife, Shana and their 2 year old daughter Adelyn, one year old son Harrison and newborn baby girl Annabelle! Our third son, Father Jeremy is a Catholic priest serving in the Rock Island area as chaplain for Augustana College and Allerman High School! Our fourth son, Josh is married to his wife,

Lauren, and they live in Peoria with their 3 year old son Parker and 1 year old daughter Sawyer! Needless to say, my husband Rick and I enjoy all these little grandchildren!  
Rick drives a charter bus for Peoria Charter and attends our postal functions when he can.

I look forward to hearing your story and celebrating your milestones! Get excited as we embark on a new era and become stronger and better!  
May God bless us as we join our families and become one! Amen



Marianne Miller~ IL State VP

## ATTITUDE

by: Charles Swindoll

*The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.*

Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home.

The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it.

And so it is with you... we are in charge of our attitudes.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Welcome to UPMA! I am truly excited for this new organization, and the future that lies before us. I look forward to working with each of you; forming and molding our new organization into a cohesive team that represents and enhances the lives of Postmasters, Managers, and postal employees alike.

My former role within the NAPUS organization was Region 1 V.P., representing the northern Illinois area. My new role within UPMA is that of V.P. at large, co-representing all of Illinois with my fellow V.P.'s. Additional roles I held were that of Legislative Representative, and Training Coordinator.

No matter your past position or sentiments, I encourage everyone to become involved and participate in the new organization. The past is no longer important; it is gone and cannot be changed. A clean slate is being presented to each and every one of us to write our new story upon it. Step up. Step out. Take a chance. Be a 90%-er!

God Bless You and Yours This Thanksgiving,  
Marianne Miller





## Jerry Thixton~IL State VP

### Thixton's thoughts/Onward & Upward

At the October fall training conference held in Champaign, the introductory meeting of the new Illinois UPMA (United Postmasters & Managers of America) board was held. Co Presidents John Sertich and Patti Sadnick led the meeting and the initial bylaws were presented, reviewed, and will be submitted for approval after some minor adjustments to account for the transition into the new combined UPMA. It was encouraging to notice how easily the blending of the two organizations went, it was obvious that the two boards were both willing to compromise and move forward in tandem to best represent all Postmasters. The new UPMA organization will take effect November 1st and if you currently are a member of either Postmaster organization, you will automatically be enrolled in UPMA. Your dues will remain the same, but the billing will change to every pay period instead of once a month. Look for more changes in the coming months as we move forward in UPMA. The current UPMA board will be in effect until April when we will have our first Illinois UPMA State Convention and there we will have our first elections as one Postmaster organization. All journeys begin with the first step, and if the first step is any indication, we are going to enjoy great success together. If you have any questions, get ahold of anyone on the UPMA Illinois state board and we will help anyway we can.



## Rhonda Hitchcock~ IL State VP

**Welcome to UPMA, fellow managers.** I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself.

I am Rhonda Hitchcock; I started in the USPS in December of 1983 as a PTF clerk in a level 15 office in the Central Illinois District. I transferred to a level 20 as a clerk-carrier (remember that position?) A year later, I became a PTF in a level 22, and was a 204-B.

I then transferred to the Gateway District as a city carrier in a suburb of St. Louis. Those were the days before scanning and DPS, and even computers. We were allowed to do the "one clock ring rule". If we clocked in and took all of the mail, we didn't have to clock out or take a lunch but got paid for 8 hours. And we had a lot of mail, back then! Remember Christmas catalogs? Boy, have times changed in both regards.

After 8 years, I transferred to a level 20 on the Illinois side of Gateway as a PTF clerk. I worked the early morning shift, sorting mail and running the CSBCS machines. Later, I went on a year detail as a finance clerk.

I transferred to the Hawkeye District and was a PTF distribution clerk for almost a year, when UPS went on strike. Remember that challenge? We didn't have any alliances with them at that time, so we took on a large percentage of their parcel market. I think all I did was shrink-wrap pallets of parcels that summer. I made my way back to CID when the hiring freeze of '97 was over, and got my first Postmaster position in a level 11 in '98. Over the years, I moved to a level 13, 15, and 18. I have detailed several times as a Customer Service Supervisor and a Delivery Supervisor.

The USPS has evolved and changed with the times. The "me" of 1983 would hardly recognize us now, in 2016. And now, as our management organizations come together to keep their members strong, I will be happy to serve the members of the UPMA. See you at the next convention!



# Meta Belford ~ IL State VP

Finally it's here.....UPMA!

I've never been involved in an organization that is just forming. I have been looking forward to the merger of the League and NAPUS for 18 months. I hope you all have been also, and you will encourage fellow employee's to join and be part of this inaugural year of UPMA. I am not only a member, but I'll be serving as a Region VP. I will also still be helping keep membership up and I hope you all will send me or another office names of people who you think would be interested in joining UPMA. I'd also like to thank Marianne for all her hard work on the training conference which was held in Oct. Again this year we had great training from experts in their fields. I'd also like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and encourage everyone to be share the holidays with people they love whether they are blood family, UPMA family or friends. Remember, keep those names coming for new PM's you know who are being promoted or anyone who would like upwards mobility! Meta Belford UPMA Region VP.

**Next articles will be due**  
**Jan 5th 2017**  
We will need state convetion info ready  
At least Dates and and a registration form

Hello Everyone,

I wanted to share some information with you concerning an event which will be taking place next week, as well as provide an update concerning Jim Taylor's family. As you may recall, the past couple of years were difficult ones for his family. His daughter was severely injured in an accident (she has since healed fully), and his son encountered degenerative problems from a progressive illness. It took many trips to different facilities, but they were finally able to diagnose Ryan's illness as Wilson's Disease, which is a rare genetic inherited disorder that causes too much copper to accumulate in the organs (in Ryan's case it centered in the memory portion of his brain).

While incurable, the disease can be contained, and some of the effects can be reversed. Jim, his wife Kay, and Ryan are all leaving later this month for an extended stay at the Vanderbilt Hospital in Nashville, TN, where specialists will treat Ryan. On November 11th there will be a benefit held at the Lake Ridge Christian Church in Paris, IL for the family to help defer expenses. If you can attend, a \$10.00 donation is suggested, which includes a roast pork dinner and dessert.

If you can't attend but would be willing to donate towards this cause, checks may be sent to the First Bank & Trust, POB 880, Paris, IL 61944. I am sure that Jim and his family would appreciate the support of our UPMA family, including prayers for Ryan's speedy recovery.

Thank you for your attention, and count your blessings during this wonderful season of the year. God Bless!

Morrie





# Carol Sue Carnes ~ Credit Union

## Signature Federal Credit Union

It's hard to believe that Christmas is just a few weeks away. I'm sure your little ones already have their "Wish List" all ready for you. Now if your budget seems to be spreading a little thin this time of the year, why not put a Signature Holiday Loan at the top of your wish list.

To apply for this loan, up to \$5,000. for a 36 month term, as low as 5.90%, you need to either visit the Signature FCU.org website or call 800-336-0284.

Have you heard about the Magic Number 2? Well, our Signature VISA cards definitely have something special about them. From a great rate to the many extra benefits, this card was already a cut above the rest. And now we've enhanced the rewards programs even more. This is where the magic number 2 comes in. You can choose between earning 2 points per dollar on the Signature Points VISA Card OR earning 2.0% cash rebate on your Signature Rebate Card.

With exceptional rates and great rewards programs, our Signature Platinum VISA credit cards outshine most other cards. And just think, these additional benefits to your cards are at no cost to you. Check out a few of the new benefits we have added below.

### SIGNATURE VISA CARDS

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- Trip Cancellation/Trip Interruption
- Personal Identity Theft
- Cell Phone Protection

### PLATINUM VISA CARDS

- Roadside Assistance
- Personal Identity Theft
- Cell Phone Protection

Now you can also enroll your credit and debit cards so you get text alerts on purchases, allowing you to know right away if a transaction is legitimate. If a purchase comes through that is not yours, you can reply to the text with a special code to alert our fraud department that it is unauthorized. In a time when fraud continues to rise, why not protect yourself in every way possible. Enroll your Signature FCU cards today at [bit.ly/SignatureFCUcardguard](http://bit.ly/SignatureFCUcardguard).

Remember to stay connected by subscribing to our email updates. Get the latest Credit Union news and information delivered right to your inbox. Don't miss out on our monthly digital newsletter. Visit our website at Signature FCU.org and sign up to subscribe to our email updates. It only takes a few seconds!

Until next time, Carol Sue Carnes  
Secretary, Signature FCU  
Brussels, IL 62013



## Morrie Smith ~ human interest story

### “Taps on the Walls”

#### “Taps on the Walls”

When I was still a boy, the Vietnam War was in progress. While I may not have understood the full impact of the war, I did have family members who were serving, and I did realize how dangerous a situation it was that our soldiers were in. When I was ten (in 1970), our church participated in a program to support the POW/MIA mission. For a \$10 donation, you would receive an ID bracelet with the name of a missing soldier, and the date of his/her capture. My aunt purchased a bracelet for me, and I wore it for three years (in fact, it broke at one point from a stress fracture in the center of the bracelet, and I had it soldered so I could continue to wear it). My bracelet bore the name of Captain John Borling, USAF, captured 6/1/66. The idea was to support the POW/MIA cause, and to also remember to pray for the safety and release of “your” soldier, so he/she would come home safely. I recall adding Capt. Borling to my nightly prayers, and seeing a newspaper clipping in 1973 showing his safe arrival home to the Chicago area after seven years of imprisonment at the “Hanoi Hilton” (see picture below).

For some reason, I never got rid of either the bracelet or the newspaper clipping, and I still retained them nearly 45 years later in 2016. In late September, as I was leaving the office for lunch, I heard on the local news that the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield was hosting a program by an ex-POW from Vietnam, which would feature the poetry he wrote while imprisoned. The speaker was identified as Major General John Borling, retired USAF. I couldn’t believe my ears! While I was sure that Captain Borling was the POW on my bracelet, I couldn’t recall for sure since over four decades had passed since I had last thought of him. I called my wife at home and asked her to check in my jewelry box, and she confirmed that I was correct. What were the odds that I would listen to the only local radio station promoting the program, and that the speaker would be “my” POW, within 45 minutes from where I lived?! I was truly amazed, and felt that it was a sign that I had to meet him in person. So I attended the event the next evening.

There were around 150 people in attendance at the program, which included a book-signing by the General. The premise of the evening included a poetry reading by the General, as well as a discussion of his POW experience. During his incarceration, the prisoners were not allowed to verbally communicate or they would suffer severe physical and/or psychological pain. A “tap” system was devised, where the prisoner would tap out an individual letter on the wall (the code used a 5x5 square numbered from 1 to 5 horizontally along the top, and then again vertically down the left side, with the letters of the alphabet running order across each row of boxes. Each letter was tapped with two numbers. The first tap was from the horizontal row, and the second from the vertical row. The letter “A” was 1 tap, pause, 1 tap. The letter “O” was three taps, pause, four taps, and so on). It was a long and tedious process, but it filled their days. Not only did this manner of communication keep their minds active and their spirits up, it also shared information so that if one of them survived, he could share the message of the others with their loved ones. Captain Borling composed poems to his wife and daughter, Lauren (who was only three months old when he was captured), which he memorized in order to stay sharp through the long, slowly passing years. Upon his release, he obtained a tape-recorder to memorialize them, and after sharing them with his family upon his return home, put them into safe-keeping.

Captain Borling never intended to share his poems with the outside world, as they were intensely private reflections of his inner soul. He continued his service to our country in the U.S. Air Force, eventually obtaining the status of Major General. Through his travels he became a close acquaintance with Senator John McCain, who also was a POW in North Vietnam from 1967-1973. In 2013 Senator McCain convinced the now retired Major General Borling that his story needed to be shared, as it was the 40th anniversary of their release from captivity. Mr. Borling followed his advice, and wrote "Taps on the Walls, Poems from the Hanoi Hilton", dedicated to his wife Myrna, and their two daughters. The book became a popular item with Vietnam Veterans, and a book tour soon developed. It was on this tour that I had the opportunity to meet an American Hero.

After patiently waiting in line behind many others interested in speaking with the General, I finally met him face-to-face. I introduced myself, and stated "it was nice to finally meet the person behind the name". Then I produced both the bracelet and the newspaper article, which surprised General Borling. I offered them to him (should he want them for a grandchild or family member), but he declined, stating that they had meant so much to me during my life that I should keep them. He did sign the newspaper clipping, with the message "Morrie, you make us proud. Thank you, John Borling". He also endorsed the copy of his book that I purchased, with the entry "Morrie-special-connection-so moving. Thank you-John Borling". I believe that I was as moved by the moment as he was!

The General then spent nearly two hours sharing his story and poems with the crowd, and at the end very eloquently addressed the Vietnam Veterans in attendance. He shared with them how Vietnam was affected by the American presence, and that while the war may have been "lost" in might and fight, our cause actually "won" since the war ended and Vietnam became much more democratic following Western ideals. He also spoke about the change in attitude of the American public towards Vietnam Veterans, and noted the support he had gotten upon his return home in 1973. He reminisced about strangers contacting him to let him know they had prayed for him, and then turned to me in the audience to give an example of someone who as a boy gave him silent support. I was astounded to be recognized during the program!

After he was done speaking, a large number of people approached me to see his bracelet and the newspaper clipping. The Director of Oral History for the Lincoln Museum requested that I meet with him in October to record my story and incorporate it with the tape of General Borland's program. It was a remarkable evening I won't soon forget, with someone who has been a part of my life, even without being present in it. I think it is appropriate to close this article with Captain Borling's nightly sign-off to his fellow prisoners: "GBU" 2,2 1,2 4,5: God Bless You.

And God Bless Our Troops!

(Note: Morrie's Interview will be at the Abraham Lincoln Museum Nov 16th , 2016)



# RETIREEES CORNER



## Alice Wellen ~ Retiree President

**Welcome fall!** What wonderful weather we are having. The fall harvest is busy.

At the state convention in May, the retirees voted to take stewardship of the scholarship program. At that time, we had asked for volunteers to be on the committee. The committee includes Steve Hall, Rob Stier, Pat Luna, Mary Ford, Sharon Stolte and myself. Thank you to the volunteers! If you would like to be part of the committee, please let me know. The scholarship committee (without Rob, missed you there) met in October and came up with the new by-laws. We have decided to give out more than one \$1000 scholarship. The amount will be determined by the committee. This scholarship is open to any child, grandchild, step child or step grandchild (regardless of which state they live in) of any active, retired or associate member of Illinois Chapter UPMA. Past applicants and/or recipients are eligible to reapply. They can apply as long as they are attending college. Check out the application in this issue or on the webpage. Remember the deadline to apply is March 1, 2017. This gives the committee time to look over the applications before the state convention. Hand this application to your child, step child, grandchild or step grandchild. We would like to see many, many applicants. Looking forward to reviewing these and awarding the scholarship(s).



## Kathy Yager ~ Retiree President

Dear UMPA Members and Retirees,

As an introduction & reintroduction to many, my name is Kathy Yager; and I currently serve you, as Co-President of the Illinois UPMA Retirees for this year.

History: Served USPS from 1974 (PTF) thru 2012 (33 Years as Postmaster.). My first PO was a 4th class, level II and I applied for it so I could avoid working every Sunday. I have OIC'd thru Level 20, 18, and 15's Served as Postmaster in Dundas, Palestine, Toledo, and Sainte Marie. I was fortunate to serve on many MSC, District, and Region assignments - so I had a wide variety of experiences and met many wonderful postal people.

Thru NAPUS I served as State Sec. Treas 1984 & 1985, then elected President in 1986; National PM Rep, Legislative Rep. and many other jobs from 624 area thru National.

Thru LEAGUE I served as State V.P, President, Retiree V.P. and Retiree President. National V.P. and National Legislative Co-Chairman and member for 7 years. Currently I am serving on the National level as a Legislative member for UPMA for this year. I have made 36 trips to Washington, D. C. to support Postmasters and advocate for our causes.

During all these years, I have been lucky to have a wonderful family - husband, Lorraine (Boozer) for 48 years, children: Darla of Nashville, Tn.; Brian of Campbellsville, Ky. We have three grandblessings, Seth (25), Heaven (20), and Devan (4 3/4).

Communications still seems to plague me so here is my contact information for anyone who needs it:

Kathy Yager

10978 N 1325th St, Newton, Ill. 62448; kathyager@Yahoo.com, (618) 783-2918 house, (217) 508-3133 cell.

(If you email me, I will reply, being old school and living in country, still have times I don't get them).

Many others and I predicted 25 years ago that someday we would all unite for the common good, and here we are. Build on the knowledge and hard work of those who preceded us; add your ideas and we will all become stronger. God Bless us all as we venture forward.

It was wonderful to see everyone in NOLA, looking forward to State Conv. and L'ouiville.

ILLINOIS CHAPTER UPMA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

FULL NAME \_\_\_\_\_
HOME ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_
HIGH SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_
NAME OF PRINCIPAL \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF GRADUATION \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Students in
your class (High School) \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR RANK IN CLASS (High School) \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE POINT AVERAGE (High
School) \_\_\_\_\_ Based on a 4.0 or 5.0 SCALE (Please circle)
ACT Score \_\_\_\_\_ and/or SAT Score \_\_\_\_\_
COLLEGE NAME, city & state (if attending now) \_\_\_\_\_
Full name, work location (city, zip code) and Relationship of your UPMA member sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF 2 year or 4 year COLLEGE or VOCATIONAL COLLEGE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR ADMISSION? (requirement) \_\_\_\_\_
HAS YOUR APPLICATION BEEN APPROVED? (requirement) \_\_\_\_\_
DO YOU CURRENTLY WORK? \_\_\_\_\_ IF YES, FOR WHOM? \_\_\_\_\_ AVERAGE HOURS
WORKED PER WEEK \_\_\_\_\_ DO YOU PLAN TO WORK WHILE ATTENDING
COLLEGE? \_\_\_\_\_ THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THIS
COMPLETED APPLICATION

OFFICIAL HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT AND CURRENT COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT (if applicable)

-COPY OF ACT AND/OR SAT SCORE

-TWO CHARACTER REFERENCE LETTERS WRITTEN BY A NON-RELATIVE

-COPY OF LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE FROM THE COLLEGE OF CHOICE (not required if attending college) -A SUMMARY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL / COLLEGE COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, AWARDS AND HOBBIES. List by name and year Membership and other Participation and approximate time commitment for each school, community and volunteer activities. Example: Yearbook Staff (10,11, college) 25 hrs. per month for 6 months / basketball (9,10,11,12, college) 40 hrs per month for 3 mos.

List by name and year Leadership Positions and Offices held, and approximate time commitment for each of school, community and volunteer activities. Example: Student Council Representative (9,10,11,12) 12 hrs. per month for 5 months / 4-H Leader (11,12, college) 5 hrs. per month for 4 months.

List by name and year the Honors and/or Awards you have received. Example: All Conference Basketball (11, college) / Boys/ Girls State (11) / Jr. Rotarian (10).

List any volunteer work positions you have had. Example: Candy Striper (11,12, college) 20 hrs per month for 3 mos / Farm helper (11,12, college) 24 hrs. per month for 4 mos.

List any paid work positions you have had. Example: Grocery Store (11,12, college) 16 hrs per month for 2 mos / Café work (10,11,12, college) 20 hrs per month for 4 mos.

-YOUR RESPONSE TO THE QUESTION "WHAT ARE YOUR CAREER GOALS AND HOW WOULD THIS SCHOLARSHIP HELP YOU TO ATTAIN THEM?"

PLEASE NOTE:

APPLICANT MUST BE A CHILD, STEPCHILD, GRANDCHILD OR LEGAL WARD OF A MEMBER OR RETIRED MEMBER, OF ILLINOIS CHAPTER UPMA.

PAST APPLICANTS/RECIPIENTS MAY APPLY

ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED BECOMES PROPERTY OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AND WILL BE HELD IN STRICT CONFIDENCE

APPLICATION MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 1st

THE NUMBER OF \$1,000.00 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

SEND COMPLETE APPLICATION AND ALL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO: IL Chapter UPMA Scholarship Committee

c/o Steve Hall, 8906 Burton Rd, Wonder Lake IL 60097-8202

If you need clarification on any point, contact Steve at the above address, or by telephone 815-575-2255, or email to schall8906@comcast.net

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_



## Steve Hall~ Scholarship Chair

### Scholarship News

Announcing the 2017 Illinois Chapter UPMA Scholarship Awards:

We encourage all members to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to provide some financial advantages to prospective students. Scholarship applicants must be a child, stepchild, grandchild, or legal ward of a member in good standing of Illinois Chapter UPMA or Illinois Chapter UPMA, Retired.

Applications for Scholarship Awards must be submitted and Postmarked by March 1.

The Scholarship Committee will review and evaluate all applications and will announce the winner(s) at our State Convention. Eligibility factors considered for the award include the following: Official High School Transcript and Current College Transcript (if applicable); Copy of ACT and/or SAT score; Two character reference letters written by a non-relative. Please visit the ([illinoisnapus.org](http://illinoisnapus.org)) to download the Application in its entirety. If you have any questions, please e-mail Steve Hall at [schall8906@comcast.net](mailto:schall8906@comcast.net), or call/text 815-575-2255.

At our last State Convention, the Executive Board rendered oversight for the Scholarship Fund to the Retirees. The Retirees accepted this responsibility and are now custodians of the Fund. A Scholarship Committee was formed, and has since made recommendations regarding the By-Laws. These recommendations were adopted, and the current amended By-Laws reflect this transfer of oversight. **The By-Laws are also posted on this website – [illinoisnapus.org](http://illinoisnapus.org)**

I would like to express my appreciation to the following Scholarship Committee members for their time and commitment: Alice Wellen, Sharon Stolte, Mary Ford, Patricia Goffinet-Luna, and Robert Stier. The teamwork displayed by all was a key ingredient towards making this a smooth and successful transition. Thank you!

Good luck to all applicants,

Steve Hall

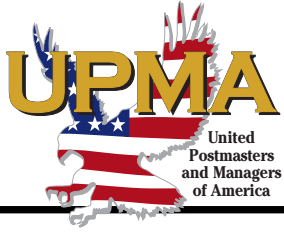
Scholarship Committee Chairperson



## Cheryl Quaka ~ State Editor

My first UPMA Newsletter. When I realized the mailing list was going to be combined I changed gears and decided to put out a first edition UPMA News and not the last NAPUS Newsletter . I hate Goodbye's anyway! Instead it is Hello! I'm looking forward to all the new friends I will make as well as the challenges we face ahead. From our first Board meeting this fall I can see that everyone is willing to work together. I know there will be differences but change can add value. We made a quick decision on what to call our new Newsletter.at our board meeting. I think we basically made it so we could keep an existing permit and save some money. Sara Martin helped design the front cover using our new logo. I must admit I really stressed over this whole paper. I had to be mean and make everyone write articles! I did not want to leave anyone out! Plus I stressed about how to put everyone's article in and in what order. I put them in by title and then I put them in by who sent me an article first.. Hopefully it is not a bad first effort? I look forward to your feedback and suggestions. I believe this is my 7th year as Editor. I guess I am either good at it or Nobody else wants the job! Have a wonderful and safe Holiday Season.! Stay safe and sane in that





# Form 1187

Request and Authorization for Voluntary Allotment  
of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues

*Fill Out Form On-line, Print it out, and Return to  
UPMA National Office at the Address Below for Processing*

## Section A: All New Members Complete

Your title determines whether you also complete Section B or C

|                                               |                        |                       |                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| USPS Employee Identification Number (EIN)     | Social Security Number | Date of Birth         | Gender<br>Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Name of Employee (PRINT Last Name, First, MI) |                        | Home Telephone<br>( ) |                                                                         |
| Home Address (Street and Number/Box)          | City                   | State                 | ZIP+4                                                                   |
| Personal E-mail Address                       |                        |                       |                                                                         |

## Section B: To Be Completed by Postmaster

|                   |                                                  |          |                            |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Post Office       | City/State                                       | ZIP code | Post Office Finance Number |
| Post Office Level | Postmaster's Direct Post Office Telephone<br>( ) |          |                            |

## Section C (Check One): Manager/Supervisor Associate PMR-Only Complete

|                                    |                             |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Employee Title                     | PO/City/State/ZIP           |
| Post Office Telephone Number       | Employee Pay Schedule Level |
| Home Payroll Office Finance Number | Employee Designation Code   |

## Section D: For Use by the Employee Organization

**P**

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

## Section E: 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 "Certified Mail" directly to the employee organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22350-2600. 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.

|                       |      |
|-----------------------|------|
| Signature of Employee | Date |
|-----------------------|------|

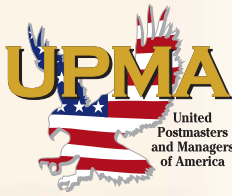
## Section F

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

Who/what most influenced your decision to join UPMA?

---

UPMA NATIONAL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING



# 1st UPMA National Convention

Aug. 5-10, 2017

## Official Registration Form

Please complete one form per registrant. Photocopy the form for additional registrations.

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** First Name (for your badge): \_\_\_\_\_

Postmaster  
 Supervisor Post Office You Represent City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager  
 OIC Your Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Associate  
 PM Retired City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP+4 \_\_\_\_\_

**First-Timer/PM Retired** Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**First-Timer?**  Yes  No E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Convention Registration *(only one person per form):*

| Please circle the appropriate fee:                                                 | 9/1/16-12/31/16 | 1/1/17-3/31/17 | 4/1/17-7/15/17 | After 7/16/17 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Postmaster/Manager/Supervisor/OIC/Associate                                        | \$190           | \$215          | \$240          | \$265         |
| Postmasters Retired or Guest*<br><i>(PM Retired Luncheon included)</i>             | \$167.50        | \$186.25       | \$205          | \$223.75      |
| Auxiliary/Spouse/Postmaster Guest<br><i>(Does NOT include PM Retired Luncheon)</i> | \$142.50        | \$161.25       | \$180          | 198.75        |

Children (17 and under) \$75; includes child's meal at the Grand Banquet.

\*PM Retired member may have one guest (not an active PM) register for the same price.

Grand Banquet: Aug. 9, 2017

### Payment Information

Convention Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional tickets for Postmasters

Retired Luncheon @ \$25 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check payable to UPMA

Visa/MasterCard

Card number \_\_\_\_\_

Card security code: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(3- or 4-digit code imprinted on card)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail with full payment to UPMA National Convention Registration, 8 Herbert St., Alexandria, VA 22305-2600.**

**Questions? Call 703-683-9027**

### Hotel Reservation

UPMA has a special rate at the convention hotel beginning Sept. 1, 2016. You must call the hotel directly to make a reservation. The National Office will not handle room reservations. **To make a reservation, you must make a deposit to the hotel in the amount of your first night's lodging; this deposit is non-refundable after May 1, 2017.** All room cancellations must be made directly with the hotel. To secure the special UPMA rate, you must identify yourself as part of the UPMA convention. The rate is available only until July 1, 2017, or all rooms in the block are sold, whichever comes first.

### Galt House Louisville

1-800-THE-GALT  
 (1-800-843-4258)  
 \$119—single/double/triple/quad

**Be sure to request the Postmaster convention rate.**

### Registration Cancellation Refund Policy

Requests for cancellation refunds must be made in writing to the UPMA National Office. Requests must be postmarked by April 1, 2017, for 75 percent refund; and by July 1, 2017, for 50 percent refund. No refunds after July 1, 2017. These dates will be strictly adhered to; exemptions may be made with approval of the UPMA co-presidents.



# Bowling after Training Conference



# Illinois Postal News Leader

Cheryl Quaka  
PO BOX 577  
Marseilles IL 61341

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Permit No.2

## POSTMASTER REPS

JOHN SERTICH CHAIRMAN  
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ST CLAIR COUNTY  
CELL: 618 830 6535  
JMSERT@HOTMAIL.C

RUTHIE CAUBLE  
RETIRED PM  
FRANKLIN COUNTY  
CELL: 818 435 3222  
HOME: 618 218 5608  
NAPUSPM@HOTMAIL.COM

EDMUND CARLEY  
PO BOX 1  
LINCOLN IL 62656  
CELL 217 899- 9256

MORRIE SMITH  
RETIRED PM  
MORGAN COUNTY  
CELL 217-473-0650  
MORRIESMITH60@GMAIL.COM

PAM BARDELL  
POSTMASTER DIXON IL  
815 -284-6015 WORK  
815 291-9726 CELL

## UPMA PAC FOR POSTAL MANAGERS MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

I'll do my share. Enclosed is:

\$10                      \$25                      \$50                      \$100  
Other \_\_\_\_\_                      Cash                      Check

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this with your contribution to:

LARRY WIENEKE  
HC 61 Box 13B, Hardin, IL 62047-9702.

### SCHOLARSHIP DONATION FORM

Make a tax deductible contribution today.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(OPTIONAL)  
IN MEMORY OF

Please include name and address of  
family so I can send them notification  
of the memorial donation.

IN HONOR OF \_\_\_\_\_

Please include address

Mail completed scholarship form to:

Illinois UPMA Scholarship Fund  
Steve Hall  
8906 Burton Rd.  
Wonder Lake IL 60097-2255

## Upcoming Event

State Convention  
TBA

UPMA Convention  
Aug 5-10th  
Louisville, IL

