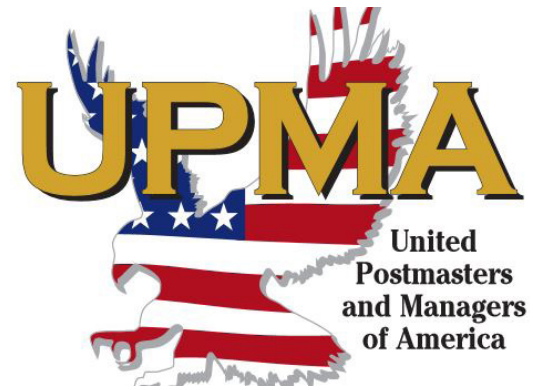


Illinois Postal News Leader



Oct/Nov 2023

United Postmasters and Managers of America ~ Illinois Chapter ~ est. November 1, 2016

The Workhorses of USPS Delivery



Parcel Post wagons, 1924
Horses pull Parcel Post wagons in New York City in 1924. The horses, wagons, and drivers were supplied by the Ajax Trucking Company under contract with the Post Office Department. By August 1926, the company had switched its entire delivery fleet to motor vehicles, 96 percent of which were electric.
collection of United States Postal Service



IN THIS ISSUE:

- PG 3 - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
- PG 4 - LEGISLATIVE REGISTRATION
- PG 5 - SECRETARY'S NOTES
- PG 6 - TREASURER REPORT /
VP EDUCATION

- PG 7 - AUDIT REVIEW REPORT
- PG 8 - RETIREE PRESIDENT MESSAGE
- PG 9 - EDITOR'S MESSAGE
- PG 10 - SPOTLIGHT
- PG 11 - 1187 FORM

- PG 12 - 1187R FORM
- PG 13 - VP LEGISLATIVE
- PG 14 - SIGNATURE SECRETARY
- PG 15 - CARES & CONCERNS
- PG 16 - SAVE THE DATES

POSTAL RELATED PHOTOS COURTESY OF SMITHSONIAN POSTAL MUSEUM, AND US POSTAL HISTORIAN

ILLINOIS CHAPTER OFFICERS

President

Earl Husbands, Mgr. Consumer Affairs, IL2 Dist.
(708) 785-1253
earlhusbands@gmail.com

Exec. Vice-President / Membership

David Clark, Postmaster Whiting, IN 46394
(708) 674-7984
dsclark08@hotmail.com

V.P. Education

Tenia Thompson, Postmaster Lombard, IL 60148
(630) 885-7956
teniacolon@yahoo.com

V.P. Legislative

Jennifer Longo, Postmaster Harvard, IL 60033
(708) 666-0011
jennie.longo@gmail.com

V.P. Political Action Committee (PAC)

Cleveland Williams, Postmaster O'Fallon, IL 62269
(618) 310-4199
comanche618@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Cindi Cotton, HQ Training Content Editor
(309) 363 2609
cindicotton@mail.com

Secretary

Nikata Adams, Workforce Planning Spclst, IL1 Dist.
(773) 240-0604
its4nikata@gmail.com

Editor

Marianne Miller, Postmaster Winnebago, IL 61088
(815) 908-9565
upma1@aol.com

**Article submissions to: IPN_Editor@yahoo.com

Retiree President

Roger Roten
(309) 253-1121 mighty282002@yahoo.com

Retiree Exec. Vice-President

Shelley Zellers
(217) 836-2675 shelzel2@yahoo.com

Auxiliary President

Virginia Chalifoux
(847) 873-5564
upma.il.aux@gmail.com

STANDING COMMITTEES

Articles & By-Laws: TBD

Signature Federal Credit Union Secretary: Carol Sue Carnes
(618) 883-2333 carnes2@frontiernet.net

State Convention: Chairs: Patty Sadnick & Bev Freehill
April 5-7, 2024, Pres. Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL
Scholarship: Shelley Zellers (217) 836-2675 shelzel2@yahoo.com

UPMA NATIONAL OFFICERS

President Edmund Carley, Postmaster Lincoln, IL
(217) 899-9256 ecarley@unitedpma.org

National Exec V.P. Greg Nors, Postmaster Hillsboro, TX
(254) 744-2241 g-nors@msn.com

Exec. Director Daniel Heins

(507) 438-2676 dheins@unitedpma.org

Secretary/Treasurer Susan Rice, Wedowee, AL

(256) 589-3211 sueleerice@aol.com

President Retirees Mandy Heslep-Whitten

(662) 721-0151 mandywhitten@yahoo.com

UPMA NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS NORTH

Kerry Nichols, Workforce Planning Spclst, HQ

(309) 948-4133 kerrysh12@gmail.com

James Maher, Labor Relations HQ, St. Louis, MO

(314) 680-9909 jmaher300@aol.com

Mari Beth Kirkland, Employee Development Mgr., OH1

(440) 821-4667 mari_kirkland@yahoo.com

CENTRAL AREA COORDINATOR

Jason Hirschvogel

(573) 353-2122 hv1975@hotmail.com



UPMA is not a union. It is a professional association.

It is an organization of people who hold proud titles. It does not discriminate by race, gender, or salary level. It is a vehicle, an avenue, a method and a tool that can and does help, assist, benefit, and encourage members to be better Postal Managers.



Earl Husbands ~ President

Division and Multiplication to Assist Members

Greetings UPMA Family,

To better support the members' needs of the UPMA Illinois Chapter, I have recently decided to divide up the state of Illinois by zip codes and assign a UPMA Executive Board member as the first point of contact for our member's questions, issues, and concerns.

In the past, I attempted to handle numerous responsibilities as it seemed the most efficient way. With the increased telephone calls and emails I receive on a day-to-day basis with concerns, questions, and needed advice, I feel it is crucial for the chapter's overall success and growth for me to start delegating responsibilities amongst the board. I have realized, one person handling multiple responsibilities can lead to burnout, and the feeling of being overwhelmed, which puts our members at risk of receiving less than exceptional care. Delegating responsibilities also gives the Executive Board the opportunity to develop new skills and become better leaders. It promotes personal and professional growth, empowering individuals to expand their knowledge and experience, and better serves all our members!

Short term, it may seem efficient for one person to handle multiple responsibilities, but delegating territory amongst board members is essential for long-term success and the overall growth of the UPMA Illinois Chapter. Delegating tasks increases efficiency, fosters collaboration, mitigates risks, promotes personal and professional growth, and again, and most importantly, better serves all members.

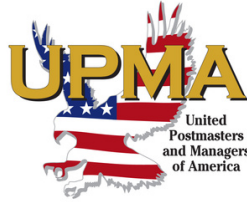
We are laying a solid foundation for UPMA's future success by delegating responsibilities and territories. Below is the State of Illinois breakdown by zip code for the member's duty station contact.

I have the utmost confidence in every member of the Executive Board, and you should as well. I will remain the escalation point for all matters, and as valued members of the UPMA Illinois Chapter, everyone should still feel free to reach out to me whenever needed.

Earl Husbands
UPMA Illinois Chapter President

| ZIP CODES | UPMA REPRESENTATIVE | CONTACT NUMBER | CONTACT EMAIL |
|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| 600, 602 | CLEVELAND WILLIAMS | (618) 310-4199 | COMANCHE618@HOTMAIL.COM |
| 601, 603, 611 | CLEVELAND WILLIAMS | (618) 310-4199 | COMANCHE618@HOTMAIL.COM |
| 606, 607 | DAVID CLARK | (219) 951-1547 | DSCLARK08@HOTMAIL.COM |
| 610 | CINDI COTTON | (309) 363-2609 | CINDICOTTON@MAIL.COM |
| 604,605, 613 | TENIA THOMPSON | (630) 885-7956 | TENIATHOMPSONUPMA@GMAIL.COM |
| 612, 614, 623,626 | NIKATA ADAMS | (312) 669-5649 | ITS4NIKATA@GMAIL.COM |
| 615, 616, 617, 625,627 | MARIANNE MILLER | (815) 908-9565 | UPMA1@AOL.COM |
| 609, 618, 619 | CINDI COTTON | (309) 363-2609 | CINDICOTTON@MAIL.COM |
| 624, 628, 629 | NIKATA ADAMS | (312) 669-5649 | ITS4NIKATA@GMAIL.COM |
| 620, 622 | JENNIFER LONGO | (708) 475-3895 | JENNIFER.LONGO.UPMA@GMAIL.COM |
| ESCALATION | EARL HUSBANDS | (708) 785-1253 | EARLHUSBANDS@GMAIL.COM |

The Illinois Postal News Leader is printed 4 times a year by the Illinois Chapter of UPMA, 701 Broadway, Lincoln IL 62625-2367. Periodical postage paid at Lincoln, IL 62625 --.Postmasters receive the Illinois Postal News Leader as part of their membership. Non- members subscription price is \$18 per year. POSTMASTER: Please send address labels clipped from undeliverable copies, along with form 3579 to: Marianne Miller PO Box 1, Winnebago, IL 61088 Illinois Postal News Leader, PO Box 1, Winnebago, IL 61088



UPMA Legislative Summit
March 17th - 19, 2024 Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington VA

Registration and information available at www.unitedpma.org

Legislative Summit Information:

The 2024 UPMA Legislative Summit will be taking place at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, March 17 - 20, 2024.

Every member wishing to attend must register.

Training sessions will be held on Monday, March 18 beginning at 8:30 AM and are expected to conclude by 5:00 PM. Tuesday, the 19th, will be spent on Capitol Hill. Necessary materials will be provided Monday, March 18th.

Full Name:

Address:

City, State: **Post Office You Represent:**

Postal Code: **Phone Number:**

Email:

Chapter:

Title (check one) :
 Postmaster
 UPMA Retired
 Associate Member
 Manager
 Supervisor
 PMR
 EAS Professional
 Guest

U.S. Representative :

REGISTRATION: The registration fee is \$100 per person on or before February 15, 2024. February 16, 2024 and after, the registration fee is \$150 per person. Payment is due at the time of registration. Online registration is strongly encouraged.

[CLICK TO ACCESS ONLINE REGISTRATION](#)

Name on Card:

Card Number: **Security Code:**

Signature: **Expiration (MM/YY):**

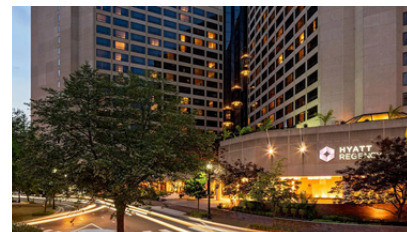
I prefer to pay by check. I have enclosed check # _____ payable to UPMA.

HOTEL INFORMATION :

Contact the Hyatt Regency Crystal City to book your hotel room and mention that you are attending the United Postmasters and Managers of America Meeting. UPMA rates are available until February 23, 2024 or until the room block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City Phone Number: 877-803-7534
GROUP CODE: G-POST

Hyatt Regency Crystal City
2799 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA 22202
CLICK TO BOOK YOUR HOTEL ROOM



| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Please return this form to Devan Reid by 2/16/2024 to : Executive Assistant to the National President 8 Herbert St. Alexandria, VA 22305 dreid@unitedpma.org 703-683-9027 | Questions? More information to come at www.unitedpma.org or call 703-683-9027 | |
|--|--|--|



Nikata Adams ~ Secretary

No Regrets, Only Opportunities

Hello All,

For those of you who do not know me yet, my name is Nikata Adams. I am your new secretary for UPMA Illinois Chapter! How did I become secretary in such a short time you ask? Well, my first experience with UPMA was going to the national convention in St. Louis last year. It was eye opening; from the classes, to the talent, to meeting new people...it was a great time! Next, I went to Washington, DC for the Legislative Summit in March this year, where I got a taste of rubbing elbows with our political leaders. Then I had the pleasure of going to my first Illinois Chapter convention this past April. It was another great experience, whereas I wanted to be more involved with UPMA. I felt I could help, and I really enjoy participating in organizations. It was there at the Illinois Chapter convention that I found out the secretary position was vacant. I put on my campaign hat and got elected.

I have been a member of UPMA for a year, and it has been great! In this short amount of time, I have found that UPMA and the Illinois Chapter to be a monumental force for EAS change, job improvement, and financial security. From the Illinois Chapter President, Earl Husbands, to the National President, Ed Carley, everyone has been very supportive of our needs. It's refreshing to have an association and someone who will listen and bring our concerns to the top of the ladder. And, if you want to experience what I have, come out to the National Convention being held in Orlando, Florida in August 2024 and/or stop by when we schedule our 3-digit meetings. We would love to hear from you. Come on out and bring a new member with you. You will not regret it!

Thank you,

Nikata K. Adams
Workforce Planning Specialist

3rd Annual Membership Academy and Kickoff Meeting

January 14, 2024

Caribe Royale, Orlando FL

The 2024 UPMA Membership Academy training will be held at the Caribe Royale Orlando on Sunday, January 14, 2024.

A light breakfast will be available beginning at 7 AM. Lunch and all necessary materials will be also provided on Sunday. The training sessions will begin at 8:30 AM and are expected to conclude by 5 PM.

Schedule coming soon!

Every member wishing to attend must register. Scan QR Code to register online.





Cindi Cotton ~ Treasurer

Leader Engagement

I would like to thank everyone that voted for me for treasurer, even though I was unable to attend the Chapter convention due to illness. I missed everyone at convention. This got me thinking about what it means to be engaged. We hear a lot about employee engagement, but what about leader engagement. What does it take to be an engaged leader?

In an effort to lose weight, last month I downloaded an exercise app to my phone. I went in to the app every day and watched the videos. I didn't lose a pound! Of course that's a joke. How can I be expected to get any benefits if I don't actually participate. While this seems obvious in the context of an exercise video, why does it not seem so in other

While showing up is the first step, you also need to make some kind of contribution, a gift.

things. In my office, with my employees, and in UPMA, am I expecting to see benefits without participating?

Participating means to show up – and bring gifts.

While showing up is the first step, you also need to make some kind of contribution, a gift. What this is, is going to vary depending on what you want to accomplish. No one can tell you what your contribution should be. Maybe it's taking over one service talk a month in the facility, or attending a training

session given by the national office. Maybe it's attending the National Convention or running for a board position. Maybe it's just reading this entire newsletter. Once you decide to be engaged rather than passive, you will see greater benefits in everything.



Tenia Thompson ~ V.P. Education

Timely Responses to Requests for Information

Hello UPMA members,

I am Tenia Thompson and your current Vice President of Education.

I would like to focus this article on RFI - Request for Information. As EAS, when we receive a Request for information from a Union Steward, no matter what craft, the first thing we should do as management is sign and date the request, indicating that we received it. Always make a copy for yourself and the EAS member that will be providing the information.

It is imperative that we respond to these requests in a timely manner. In the Chicago installation, I know they have the 48-hour rule, better known as the OBEE AWARD for the Carrier Craft. Always remember nothing in the Post Office is a secret. Provide the information that the union is requesting. If you cannot provide the

information within the timeframe, always provide the union notification that you are still working on the request and additional time is needed to satisfy the request. Use Outlook to create a meeting or reminder to all your EAS staff regarding the union request so it is not left unanswered or not addressed.

Communication is key and we must adhere to the RFI deadlines. Unions are making a great deal of money due to management's lack of action; they know management is either too busy, or do not take the RFI seriously, and with no accountability nothing is going to change. Money will continue to flow into their accounts unnecessarily. Be the change for your office and provide the information that is requested.

Tenia Thompson
V.P. Education

AUDIT REPORT
12/31/2022
UNITED POSTMASTERS AND MANAGERS OF AMERICA

CHECKING ACCOUNT

| | | |
|------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 1/1/2022 | BEGINNING BALANCE | \$90,187.81 |
| | DISBURSEMENTS: | \$92,347.25 |
| | DEPOSITS: | \$108,048.20 |
| | <u>DIVIDENDS:</u> | |
| 12/31/2022 | ENDING BALANCE: | \$105,888.76 |

SAVINGS ACCOUNT 00

| | | |
|------------|-----------|-------------|
| 1/1/2022 | | \$95,055.41 |
| | DEPOSITS | \$0.00 |
| | DIVIDENDS | \$142.66 |
| 12/31/2022 | | \$95,198.07 |

ASSESSMENT CHECKING 04/12

| | | |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1/1/2022 | | \$22,523.98 |
| | WITHDRAWALS | \$10,929.51 |
| | DEPOSITS | \$12,031.00 |
| | DIVIDENDS | \$0.00 |
| 12/31/2022 | | \$23,625.47 |

TOTAL ASSETS:

| | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | CHECKING | \$129,514.23 |
| | SAVINGS | \$95,198.07 |
| 12/31/2022 | GRAND TOTAL: | \$224,712.30 |

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Beginning Balances | \$207,767.20 |
| Dividends | \$142.66 |
| Deposits | \$120,079.20 |
| Disbursements | \$103,276.76 |
| Ending Balance | \$224,712.30 |

WE CERTIFY THAT ALL THE FUNDS ARE ACCOUNTED FOR AND IN BALANCE WITH THE BANK STATEMENTS AND THE CHECK BOOK.

AUDIT COMMITTEE:

NAME (SIGNED): _____ DATE: _____
NAME (SIGNED): _____ DATE: _____
NAME (SIGNED): _____ DATE: _____



Roger Roten, Retiree President

Speak Up to Make a Difference

Hello everyone,

I want to share an inspiring story of how one person's idea made a difference. A Peoria supervisor had a question about the Postal Service's scanners, and I took it with me to the National convention in Denver, CO. Unfortunately, I had to work during the convention, so I asked the Honorable Postmaster Padric Fisher from Oregon to ask the question on my behalf. Mr. Fisher asked Dr. Joshua Colon, the vice president, and chief retail and operations officer, if the scanners could be programmed to scan parcels of a split route and tell the carrier which split the parcels go with. This would be a huge time saver, especially in larger offices with inexperienced carriers splitting up routes. Dr. Colon responded that he would contact engineering and do a cost study on the feasibility of this new program.

I am happy to report that Dr. Colon has already responded with the news that the program will be introduced in a future scanner update. This is incredible news! The convention was only at the end of August, and the field should see this update soon.

This all started with one person, Shawn Songer of Peoria, who could not attend the convention but made a difference by speaking up. Headquarters is listening, and acting, on the field's suggestions. I encourage you to attend the Chapter, Central Area (CAOS), and National conventions and experience how you can make a difference.

Best regards,
Roger Roten
Illinois Retiree President

SIGNATURE FCU PROMOTIONS

Our gift to you this season...a low-rate holiday loan!

Start (or finish!) your holiday shopping with the help of our low-rate Holiday Loan.

Our Holiday Loan Features:

- UPMA members receive an exclusive 0.50% APR discount off their approved rate
- No payments for 60 days
- Rates from 7.25% - 9.75% APR*
- Terms from 24 – 84 months

Apply today at www.SignatureFCU.org/HolidayLoan

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. Your actual APR will be determined at the time of application and will be based on your application and credit information. Not all applicants qualify for the lowest rate. Rate quoted assumes excellent borrower credit history. Rates are set by the Board of Directors and may change without notice. Estimated payment is \$44.90 per \$1,000 financed and is based on the lowest rate and a term of 24 months. Payments will vary based on the rate and term you qualify for. Interest accrues daily. Delaying your first payment will result in several months without a reduction in your principle balance.

Say "yes" to paying less!

Transfer your high-rate credit card balances to your Signature FCU Visa® card and receive an introductory 0% APR* for 12 months on all new balance transfers!

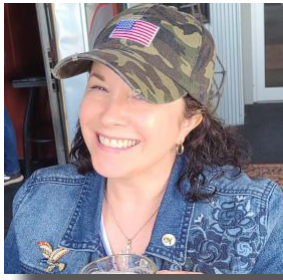
After the 12-month intro-period, your rate will be 10.99% - 17.99% APR.

Take advantage of this opportunity today! The introductory 0% APR balance transfer promotion ends on March 31, 2024.

Complete your request online at www.SignatureFCU.org/BalanceTransfer

Don't have a SFCU Visa card? Apply for one today at www.SignatureFCU.org/Visa

*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. This promotion is valid from 10/1/2023 - 3/31/2024. The introduction rate of 0% is for 12 months and will apply to balance transfer(s) amount only. After the introductory period, your regular APR of 10.99% - 17.99% APR will be applied to the remaining balance, new purchases, and new balance transfers. Interest will begin charging on the remaining balance at 12 months from the transaction date. Balance transfer(s) do not earn points or cash rebate.



Marianne Miller ~ Editor

Postal Service Delivery Modes: From A Wild Ride to an Electrifying Experience

The history of the United States Postal Service (USPS) vehicles and delivery methods is a fascinating journey that spans several centuries. Over the centuries, many modes of transportation were utilized to transport mail efficiently and reliably. Postal service vehicles are closely tied to the evolution of mail delivery services in the United States. Below is a brief overview of delivery methods over the years:

- 1. Horse and Rider (1775-1820s):**
 - In the early days of the United States, mail was transported by horse and rider.
 - Post riders carried mail between post offices, covering long distances and delivering letters and packages.
- 2. Stagecoaches (late 1700s-1800s):**
 - As the nation expanded, stagecoaches became a common mode of transportation for mail.
 - The Postal Service contracted with private stagecoach companies to carry mail on established routes.
- 3. Railroads (1830s-1900s):**
 - The development of the railroad system in the 19th century revolutionized mail transportation.
 - Railroads allowed for faster and more efficient mail delivery over longer distances.
 - Mail cars were introduced to carry mail on trains.
- 4. Rural Free Delivery (RFD) (1896):**
 - RFD transformed rural mail delivery by bringing mail directly to people's homes in rural areas.
 - Horse-drawn carriages and later motorized vehicles were used for RFD.
 - Rural carriers initially used their own vehicles, such as bicycles and even boats in some cases.
- 5. Motorized Vehicles (early 20th Century):**
 - With the advent of automobiles, the Postal Service began experimenting with motorized delivery vehicles.
 - In 1905, the first mail truck, a Cadillac, was used in a trial in Cleveland, Ohio.
 - In the 1920s, the first purpose-built trucks were introduced. One of the earliest vehicles was the Ford Model T.
- 6. Airmail (1918-Present):**
 - Airmail service was inaugurated in 1918, using airplanes to transport mail across longer distances, including overseas.
 - A variety of aircraft, including biplanes and later jet planes, were employed for airmail.
- 7. Jeeps and Military Surplus Vehicles (World War II) (1930s):**
 - WWII surplus military vehicles, particularly Jeeps, were repurposed for mail delivery, which were well suited for traversing rugged terrain.
- 8. The Grumman LLV (1980s):**
 - In the 1980s, the USPS introduced the Grumman Long Life Vehicle (LLV), a purpose-built mail truck that became the standard for mail delivery.
 - The truck has an iconic look, with a squared-off body style.
 - It is still in use today throughout the country.
- 9. Next Generation Delivery Vehicle (NGDV) (2015 to present):**
 - In 2015, the USPS launched the NGDV program to replace the aging LLVs with more modern and fuel-efficient vehicles, including all-electric.
 - The contract for the new vehicles, which are being built by Oshkosh Defense, was signed in February 2021 by PMG Louis DeJoy.
 - Delivery of the first of the 165,000 vehicles is anticipated in 2024.



SPOTLIGHT

Pamela Bardell



I began my USPS career on Feb 18, 1987, as a part-time flexible city carrier at the Freeport Post Office. In 1990 I became a city carrier and held that position for 11 years. I became an acting supervisor in 1997, and in 1998 I became a titled supervisor at the Freeport Post Office. I enjoyed carrying mail, but after having three children while being a mail carrier, I decided to make an upward move.

In 2006 I landed my first Postmaster job at the Lanark Post Office. Back in the day, we interviewed in front of a board of three postmasters. I was so nervous! Never in my wildest dreams did I see myself being a Postmaster. What an honor! Becoming a postmaster was an accomplishment and a prestigious job. I had a POOM who was a great mentor, Judy Carlson. She took the time to teach people the nuts and bolts of running a post office. Thank you, Judy, for your guidance and wisdom! I also joined NAPUS in 2006. Two ladies stopped in and visited me at the Lanark Post Office, one being Elizabeth Schnitzler, who took me under her wing. She encouraged me to attend the State and National conventions and become more involved in the organization. Thanks, Liz! You are a truly amazing person, and friend.



postmasters, and managers which I now call friends. I have had the opportunity to attend 23 national conventions and my biggest memory is having my picture taken with three different Postmaster Generals over the years. What a great experience!

I have served as Postmaster in seven post offices and was honored to return to my first office, Freeport Post Office, a Level 21 to conclude my postal career. What a great feeling to be back home! After 37 years of service, I felt a need for a new chapter of my life. So, onward to the next adventure. I am so blessed to have worked in many cities and to have made friends in each office.

No, I am not bored! Being involved in an organization makes the transition into retirement easier. I have my church family, my boating D Dock family, and my UPMA family. And most of all, *my* family. I now have 11 grandkids to keep me busy. I plan on being a very involved grandma.

Yes, the post office kept me busy, but now all I have is time, and it is wonderful! I would like to send a big “Thank You” to all the UPMA members who helped me through the years; most of all Marianne Miller, Anne Balsley, Debbie Graves, Liz Schnitzler, Morrie Smith, Carol-Sue Carnes, and Christine Heyden, for the great memories we made. I apologize if I missed anyone, but so many people have played a part in making NAPUS/UPMA a great memory for me. I am so humbled and blessed to have worked, traveled, and had fun with each and every one of you. I’ll never forget our 12-hour car ride to Oklahoma! Or the elevator ride with Bob and Steve! Lastly, I cannot forget Edmund Carley. Thank you, Edmund, for your friendship and for all you do for this great organization.

Years ago, Postmasters received 5 days of leave for attending various NAPUS conferences, which I took advantage of, and I traveled all over Illinois. I had a lot to learn, including how a meeting uses Robert’s Rules of Order. Over the years, I held many offices in NAPUS, including state president, and met so many amazing



Yes, you will see me at upcoming National Conventions. For now, off to the next adventure – Washington DC in March 2024. Watch out! Here I come!





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

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

Section B (Check One): Postmaster Manager/Supervisor Associate PMR

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Position | PO/City/State/ZIP |
| Post Office/Work Telephone Number | Pay Schedule Level |
| Post Office/Home/Personal Office/Fax Number | Designation Code |

Section C: For Use by the Employee Organization

P Mail completed form to: United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA)
8 Herbert Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22304-2600

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

Section D: 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 to 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 regular change in its dues structure.

I understand that this authorization is a pay period 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 22304-2600.

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 filing 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 22304-2600. 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 E

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

Who/what most influenced your decision to join UPMA?

Person's Name _____

Career Awareness Conference USPS Provided Training Other _____

UPMA NATIONAL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING



UPMA

United Postmasters and Managers of America



FORM 1187-R

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

Please complete and mail to:

UPMA National Office
8 Herbert St.
Alexandria, VA 22305-2600
(703) 683-9027

*OPM assigns the CSA number to all Civil Service and FERS annuitants and/or surviving spouse

Social Security Number

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| | | | - | | | - | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|

My Annuity Number is:

CSA

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | - | | | | | | | - | |
|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------|--|
| Name of Retired Employee (PRINT Last Name, First, Middle) | | | Date of Birth | | |
| Street and Number/PO Box | | City | State | ZIP+4 | |
| Month/Year Retired | Home or Cell Number () | Gender Male _____ Female _____ | | Chapter | |
| Email Address | | | Sponsored by: | | |

Notes: If not receiving an annuity contact National Office for information on membership.

SECTION A – Authorization

The United States Office of Personnel Management is authorized to make an appropriate deduction from my annuity payments, not to exceed the amount certified by the United Postmasters and Managers of America [UPMA] as the amount of dues for which I am obligated, and to pay the deducted sum to UPMA. This authorization shall apply to any and all dues changes certified by UPMA. This authorization shall be valid until UPMA receives and processes my written notice of cancellation in accordance with its agreement with the United States Office of Personnel Management. Any disputes regarding this allotment authorization shall be a matter between UPMA and me; I hold the United States Office of Personnel Management harmless for any erroneous deductions made pursuant to this authorization.

I also request the United States Office of Personnel Management to disclose any information necessary to execute this request.

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| Signature | Date: |
|-----------|-------|



Jen Longo, V.P. Legislative

Jenny, Jenny, I Got Your Number

While attending the Legislative Summit earlier this year, I toured the Smithsonian Postal Museum and was excited to see the Inverted Jenny Stamp. My name is Jennifer, so my inner 80s child was curious. I was shocked to see how popular this stamp is. I left with souvenirs that were mainly about the Inverted Jenny. That was easy to do as there was an entire section of the gift shop dedicated to the stamp. Now let's fill you in on what the Inverted Jenny is. I have used information from the USPS.com site as well as the National Postal Museum site.

The Inverted Jenny is a 24-cent postage stamp that was initially issued on May 10, 1918, featuring the Curtis JN-4 airplane. However, there was one major problem with the design - it was printed upside down. This error has made it one of the most renowned errors in American philately (stamp collecting). Only one pane of 100 of the inverted panes was ever found, making this error one of the most valuable items for stamp collectors. Since the design required two colors, the sheets were placed on the printing press twice, which made the process prone to human error. Today, almost a century after its initial release, the misprinted 24-cent Inverted Jenny has been reprinted as a \$2 stamp and is part of the Stamp Collecting Inverted Jenny souvenir stamp sheet.

The stamp was unveiled in Louisville during the American Philatelic Society's AmeriStamp Expo at the Kentucky International Convention Center. The sheet of stamps was issued Sept. 22, 2013, to coincide with the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum opening of the William H. Gross Stamp Gallery - the world's largest stamp gallery. This souvenir sheet showcases a new version of the most famous error in the history of U.S. stamps- the Inverted Jenny. The original 1918 print mistakenly showed a biplane flying upside down. The Inverted Jennys on this sheet have been reprinted with a \$2 denomination to differentiate them from the original 24-cent ones. This sheet commemorates the many ways a single stamp can turn a moment in history upside down. The design of the new stamps uses the original engraved dies that were used to produce the 1918 Inverted Jenny.

In October 2005, a block of four Inverted Jenny stamps was sold at an auction for \$2.7 million. Two years later, a single stamp of Jenny was sold for a whopping \$977,500. In December of the same year, a mint never-hinged example was sold for \$825,000. However, the process of Jenny declined in 2008 due to a financial meltdown. Between January and September 2014, the Jenny stamps were sold for prices ranging from \$126,000 to \$575,000. Fortunately, prices did recover in 2016, and a well-centered Jenny Invert was sold at an auction for \$1,175,000. In 2018, the recently discovered position number 49 stamp was auctioned for an impressive \$1,350,000!

The stamp has become so popular that you can buy anything from a reprint souvenir stamp, pin, model plane, t-shirts, key chains, and the list continues. Even today, this stamp remains the most popular, most expensive, and most sought-after stamp.

Jennifer Longo
VP Legislative





Carol Sue Carnes, Signature FCU Secretary
>>RETIRED<<

This will be my last article written as your Signature FCU Secretary. After 38 years on the Board as your Secretary, I decided not to run for re-election this year. I may still write an article from time to time about our great credit union, especially when something new and exciting comes out. I am happy to report we have 14,958 total addresses that receive our email blast, 3,359 members who opted in to receive our text message promotions, as well as 2,724 followers on Facebook and 354 on Twitter. These sites contain up-to-date information on things happening at the CU, interesting things to work towards or think about, and most of all, to help with your financial future.

I hope you have all seen our latest increase in CD Rates. Our 12-month CD is now at 5.01% APY, our 9 month is at 5.03% APY, our 6 month is at 5.05% APY, and as of August 10th, our Special 3-month CD is at 5.55% APY. To receive the 5.55% rate, open your account today with a minimum balance of \$500 at www.SignatureFCU.org/Certificates. (APY stands for Annual Percentage Yield). Your deposits are federally insured up to \$250,000 by the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA).

IMPORTANT NOTICE: As of August 22nd, the stand alone “MYCardRules” app will no longer be supported by SFCU. If you have not done so already, please download the SFCU Mobile Banking App as soon as possible to prevent any disruption in MyCardRules notifications.

Have you heard? Our High-Yield Checking Account just got better. You can now earn 4.00% APY on balances up to \$40,000 (we recently raised the limit from \$20,000), with no minimum balance requirements and no monthly account fee. It’s another way to save big! It is available for personal and business accounts. To qualify for the rate, you are allowed only one High-Yield Checking account, your debit card must have

at least 15 transactions per month, you must have a monthly direct deposit totaling \$1,000 or more, and you must be enrolled in e-statements.

At our Signature FCU spring meeting we dedicated our building in Alexandria, VA to Joseph Gondola, a 40-year member of the Board, who served all 40 years as President. When our CEO Paula Hoelzel attended the New Jersey State Convention in June, she stopped by to see Joe and Dorothy and presented him with a photo of the dedication plaque, as well as a photo of all the Board members, Credit Committee, and Supervisory Committee present at our last face-to-face meeting in late March of this year. As you may or may not know, Joe has been in failing health this year, and I am so sorry to say, he passed away on August 17th at his home with all his family at his side. If anyone would like to send his wife Dorothy and family a note of sympathy, their address is: 68 Windsor Road, Clifton, NJ 07012-2091.

In closing I would like to thank everyone that voted for me during the past 13 elections (1985-2020). I will continue attending National Conventions in the years ahead as long as the good Lord allows. My first National Convention was 1971, the year I was appointed Postmaster, and I have not missed one since.

Our credit union membership at this time surpasses 27,700 and we continue to grow that figure each month. If you are not yet a member, please check us out. You will see all the great things we have available to you as a member. Just go to: www.SignatureFCU.org. If you have any questions, please give us a call at 800-336-0284.

God’s Blessings one and all,
Carol Sue Carnes
4800 Illinois River Road
Brussels, IL 62013

****CARES & CONCERNS****

Our condolences to the families of:

Joseph Gondolo, past president of Signature Federal Credit Union, passed away on August 17, 2023, at home with his family surrounding him. Please send condolences for his wife, Dorothy, and his family to: 60 Windsor Rd., Clifton, NJ 07012-2091.

Goreville – Cora Belle Childers, 98, passed away on July 5, 2023, at Heartland Regional Medical Center in Marton. Cora would have been 99 on August 19th. Cora married Harold Childers on March 10, 1948, in Pittsburgh, IL. He preceded her in death on September 5, 1993.



Harold and Cora had two children, David and Pat. Cora devoted her love and her time to raising her kids and being a wife. She was active in church, community, and school activities, and made certain her kids had the opportunity to become hardworking, productive adults. When Pat was a teenager, Cora began to work outside the home. After a few years of odd jobs, she assumed the position of Goreville's Postmaster. She held the job for 21 years, and never took a sick day! Quite an amazing accomplishment!



COVID TEST KITS AVAILABLE

How do I order free tests from USPS?

Now that the Postal Service is again taking orders for COVID-19 tests, you only need to provide a few bits of information to get your kits. You won't be asked to provide any credit or debit card details, as both the tests and the shipping are free. Here's how to get your free at-home test kits.

1. Visit special www.USPS.com/testkits. You can also get there via www.covidtests.gov.
2. Enter your contact details and shipping information.
3. Click Check Out Now.
4. Verify that your information is correct and select Place My Order.

All orders will be shipped via First Class Package Service.

People who can't access the website or who have trouble ordering online can call 800-232-0233 to order





JOIN TODAY!

Fill Out Form 1187



Free membership Offer Ends
December 31, 2023

~~~

Know A Retiree?  
Pass Them Form 1187R  
To Join The Fun!

## Article Due Dates

Dec 1, 2023

Jan 5, 2024

Feb 2, 2024

Mar 23, 2024

Please remember that **all members are welcome to submit articles.** All content is subject to the approval of the Editor and State President. Submit to:  
**IPN\_Editor@Yahoo.com**

## Upcoming Events

Membership Kickoff  
Caribe Royale, Orlando, FL  
Jan 14, 2024

Legislative Summit  
Hyatt Regency Crystal City,  
Arlington, VA  
March 17 - 20, 2024

IL Chapter Convention  
Abraham Lincoln Hotel, Springfield, IL  
April 5th - 7th, 2024

8th Annual UPMA National Convention  
Caribe Royale, Orlando, FL  
August 24th - 30th, 2024

Central Area Officers Symposium  
Embassy Suites Airport, Canton, OH  
September 22, 2024

Southern Area Officers Conference  
Louisville, KY  
October 11th - 14th, 2024