

# LONE STAR TARADIR

MARCH - APRIL 2023

# Why YOU Should Attend the Texas State Convention in June....

There's a \$300 Incentive to attend Convention

but you must attend all the meetings

I heard there's a Golf

**Tournament** 

and Steve Auffbarger is in charge There will also
be some great
training by District
Personnel and a

Motivational speaker

as well...

ct

Don't forget the Scholarship/ PAC Auctions

This year is a
Western Theme
with a prize for
the best
outfit at
the banquet
yee HAW!!!

50/50 Auctions

and Door Prizes too!

SEE PAGE 23 FOR THE REGISTRATION FORM

UPMA PRIDE
TEXAS PROUD

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD**



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STATE PRESIDENT, UPMA RETIRED SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR Rosa Gonzales 2843 Private Rd 3778, Wills Point, TX 75169 Cell: 903 227-7909 femailpm@gmail.com

All views expressed in *The Lone Star Leader* are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official UPMA opinion. Articles, editorials and other submissions are welcome but must be signed. Names can be withheld upon request. Please email items for potential publication to the Editor of *The Lone Star Leader* at txlonestar.leader@usa.net.



# We Will VOTE on the Following Articles at the Texas State Convention Darwin Adams, TX UPMA State President

A BIG THANKS to everyone!! Look at our Texas members – 835!!! Come on Florida (at 835), you're falling behind!!!! We Texas members still have some work to do in order to stay ahead. Keep signing those members up – and any UPMA member can sign another member, whetherit's a Postmaster, Manager, Supervisor, any EAS employee, Rural or city carrier and PTFs. Contact me if you have questions or

#### Article V-Election of Officers Paragraph 2

contact any Executive board Member. We are all here ready to assist you.

**CURRENT:** The President, Executive Vice President and two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The Secretary/Treasurer and the other two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in a subsequent year to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and end December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The Secretary/Treasurer may be elected to serve up to six (6) terms of office. If no other eligible candidate seeks the position, the Secretary/Treasurer may serve additional terms. (Amended 6-12-22)

PROPOSED: The President, and two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in oddnumbered years to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The Executive Vice President, the Secretary/Treasurer and the other two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in even numbered years to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office with the exception of the Secretary/Treasurer who may serve up to six (6) terms of office. If no other eligible candidate seeks the position, the Secretary/Treasurer may serve additional terms. In 2023 there will be no election for the position of Execute Vice President the current Executive Vice President shall serve until December 31, 2024, in order to get the chapter into the new alternate year rotation for President and Executive Vice President. The previous sentence shall be stricken from the Bylaws on January 1, 2025. (Amended 6-12-22)

<u>RATIONALE</u>: Currently both the President and the Executive Vice President positions are up for election at the same time. Texas UPMA would be better served if these two positions were awarded in alternating years to ensure the best knowledge base and experience is always in place. The other changes are being made so there is no ambiguity as to which years the elections take place for the respective offices.

PROPOSED: Add at the end of the paragraph: Effective only for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2024, the office of the Executive Vice President shall remain in place with the current elected Executive Vice President. Then effective January 1, 2025, the position will be up for election.

#### ARTICLE V ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Paragraph 2

**CURRENT**: The President, Executive Vice President, and two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The Secretary/Treasurer and the other two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in a subsequent year to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and end December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The Secretary/Treasurer may be elected to serve up to six (6) terms of office. If no other eligible candidate seeks the position, the Secretary/Treasurer may serve additional terms. (Amended 6-12-22)

PROPOSED: The Executive Vice President, and two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in odd numbered years to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office. The President, the Secretary/Treasurer and the other two (2) Vice Presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in a subsequent even numbered years to serve a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall commence on January 1st and will end on December 31st. The officers shall be limited to two (2) terms of office with the exception of the Secretary/Treasurer who may be elected to serve up to six (6) terms of office. If no other eligible candidate seeks the position, the Secretary/Treasurer may serve additional terms. In 2023 there will be no election for the position of President and the current President shall serve until December 31, 2024 in order to get the chapter into the new alternate year rotation for the President and Executive Vice President. The previous sentence shall be stricken from the Bylaws on January 1, 2025.

RATIONALE: Currently both the President and the Executive Vice President positions are up for election at the same time. The Executive Vice-President has served the maximum (2) two year terms per the chapter bylaws. This is an opportunity for a new Executive Vice-President to be mentored by the current President and executive board.

#### **ARTICLE XIX**

#### **PRE-APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS**

<u>CURRENT</u>: There is no bylaw in the Texas UPMA chapter bylaws addressing pre-approval of contracts.

PROPOSED: All contracts for Texas UPMA meetings that require using Texas UPMA funds must be reviewed and approved by the Executive Board prior to the contracts being signed. Examples: Area Meetings, State or National Conventions, and Southern Officers Conferences when hosted by Texas UPMA. Any deviation from this requirement, the contract signee shall be held financially responsible.

<u>RATIONAL</u>: This is to ensure financial oversight of Texas UPMA funds and to avoid unnecessary financial loss to the chapter.



#### Proposed Changes to Article XVIII

Sharon Janicek, TX2 VP & Legislative Committee

Texas UPMA Memorial Scholarship Fund

Section 10 of current bylaw under Article XVIII-Texas UPMA Memorial Scholarship Fund reads as follows:

**CURRENT**: 10. All payments for awarded scholarships will be made to the student at the end of semester. To receive the payment the student must have maintained a cumulative GPA of 2.5 for the semester. A copy of the final grades for the semester must be submitted for payment. (Amended 6-12-22)

Revised and Approved: June 12, 2022

Recommended Change of Section 10 of current bylaw under Article XVIII-Texas UPMA Memorial Scholarship Fund reads as follows:

PROPOSED: 10. The applicant must be a high school graduate and accepted as a first-year student for admission to an accredited college, university, or trade school. The applicant must have a 2.5 Grade Point Average (GPA) or better when graduating from high school and must provide a transcript of their grades when applying for the scholarship. All payments for awarded scholarship.

ships will be made to the student prior to entering an accredited school their first semester. If the recipient leaves school for any reason except for sickness or death, the money must be returned to the Texas UPMA chapter and deposited back into the Texas Scholarship Fund.

**RATIONALE:** Scholarship recipients are selected based on their high school achievements and should have the scholarship funds available as they enter college rather than after the completion of their first semester.





## "Round 'Em Up, Bring 'Em In." Texas State Convention Will Be Exceptional

Eva Finley, Texas Upma Editor

That's right Y'all!!! Ain't no Hoe Down

going to be better than this year's TEXAS UPMA State Convention in Denton. We have it all. And remember the Western Banquet on Saturday night!!! It's a western theme and we want y'all to dress in your Texas finest!!!! Voting will be done at the Banquet to pick the best Western Attire, so y'all dress up and see who gets the prize!!!! At the Saturday night banquet, we will have the DJ who is Co-host/DJ of the Koa Koa Factory After Hour Radio Show. Vincent Tucker Radio Show Mix DJ. Plenty of Food at the Banquet and plenty of fellowship and Fun! Wear those boots and have some fun!!

A few more things to remember ~ If you have a **PURPLE SHIRT**, please wear it on Friday when our three District Managers attend. If you haven't gotten one yet, that's OK, too. There are still some available presently.

In this issue on page 27 you will notice the Member of the Year Nomination. There are those who significantly contribute to UPMA and have done an outstanding job performing their duties a Postmaster, Manager or UPMA member and who have actively contributed to their communities or this organization. Please make sure you nominate one of these deserving individuals. *Get your nomination to our State President, Dar-*

win Adams prior to June 1.

Please remember to *wear your badge* at all times during meetings. There are so many new members, we want all of you to feel welcome and we want to see your names so we can remember.

The PAC Auctions and Silent auctions will be a lot of fun. And remember, those first timers will have tickets to sell, so bring a few extra dollars.

We are expecting all three District managers to attend and a Break-out session will be held for you to visit with your District Manager. You don't want to miss a chance to speak one-on-one with him.

District Manager Scott Hooper has designated Friday a Training Day for District 1. This is super. No excuse not to come now. Especially since you will be receiving a \$300 incentive at the close of the meeting. You must attend all the meetings in order to get your money. If you attended your District meeting, add \$30 extra buck to that!!!!

There's so much more!!!!! Please make your plans to join your UPMA members and receive training and make new acquaintances.

Contact any member of the Texas Executive Board for more information (see page 2 for their contact info).

REMEMBER: the tentative agenda is in progress and will be available on the UPMA Texas website.

WEAR YOUR PURPLE SHIRTS ON FRIDAY TO SHOW OUR UNTITY AS A STRONG UPMA CHAPTER.

WESTERN
THEME:
Best western
attire will
win prize at
our banquet.

FRIDAY is a Training Day for District 1 per District

Manager Scott Hooper.

\$300 INCENTIVE TO ATTEND THE CONVENTION (You need to attend all the meetings).

\$30 EXTRA IF YOU ATTENDED YOUR DISTRICT MEETING!!

The registration form is on page 23.

Hope to see you in DENTON



The deadline to be included in the next issue of the *Lonestar Leader* is June 20, 2023. Email your photos, news and articles to Eva Finley, Editor at txlonestar.leader@usa.net or text to 512-569-4680.



#### **Help Others To Help Yourself**

Rosa Gonzales, TX UPMA State Retirees President & Scholarship Chair

I worked for the Postal Service for 31 years and I loved every minute of it. Looking back,

I thought maybe I should have done some things differently. I was Postmaster in 7 offices and Officer in Charge in 5 offices. I worked hard in each of them. At the time I thought moving about would allow me to learn a lot more, which I did but it did have its negatives. I didn't stay long enough to really develop relationships in the community.

I do miss that, but I will say if you keep moving it has some other advantages. Number one, it's hard to hit a moving target. If you are always moving about, it's hard to get blamed for any problems, but you do become the fixer, which is what I did in a lot of those offices.

The second and biggest positive I noticed from moving a lot is helping people move up in their career. Some of those successes such as Nat Maxson, PM in Tom Bean Texas worked for me as a Supervisor years ago. It was tough letting him go OIC so that he could accomplish his goals but sometimes we must sacrifice in order to help others.

My clerk in Troy, Sharon Jilson, was another one I worked hard to push out of the nest because I could see her potential. I am so glad I did because when I was promoted to Salado, she applied for Troy and was promoted to PM. I was also PM

in Gatesville where Mike Hollingsworth was Supervisor, while I was there Hamilton Post Office came open and he went to OIC there. Eventually I bid on an office back in the Dallas District. Although Mike didn't get Postmaster at Gatesville right away, he did OIC there in 2006 and

was promoted to PM in 2007. I am very proud of these three individuals and what they have accomplished in their Postal career.

Then there are those individuals that you help along the way that you may never realize you helped or get lucky enough

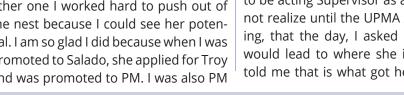
as I did a few weeks ago to see again after 20 years. Thanks, goodness, for our Texas Area UPMA meetings or I might have not realized that Lori Stafford, PM at Port Aransas, began her climb into management because of something I did all those years ago. Lori worked for me in Gatesville, as a Rural Carrier and I watched her and saw how well she did her job and how devoted she was to the Postal Service. I ask Lori if she would like to be acting Supervisor as a 204-B. I did not realize until the UPMA Area 2 meeting, that the day, I asked her to 204-B would lead to where she is today. She told me that is what got her started on

her upward mobility career path. I soon left Gatesville, which at the time was in Rio Grande District to move back to the Dallas District so I lost track of her and what she had done. Lori was 204-B in Gatesville for several years and because she did such a great job was promoted

> to Supervisor. Eventually she had an opportunity in 2018 to OIC in Hamilton, and a year later was promoted to PM. Lori stayed there until 2021 when she applied for Port Aransas, and was promoted to PM. In our talk she said she loves it there and feels very fortunate to live on the coast in Texas. Seeing her again was so rewarding and made me so excited for her that she has done so

well for herself.

I know I could have stayed my entire career in one office and maybe could have impacted some individual's careers but the way I see it, however you help others doesn't matter because I know these individuals are wonderful people and great PMs and the Postal Service is lucky to have them. Remember, although I know it's painful sometimes to share your employees but by doing so you are allowing someone else to grow and find their path in life. The satisfaction of helping others is the most satisfying thing I believe we can do for ourselves.



#### **List of Scholarship Donations**

**Steve Auffarber**, memory of *Kenneth Black*, husband PM Retired Jerilyn Black Steve Auffarber, memory of James Cockroft, husband PM Retired Kathryn Cockroft **Leandra & Curt Beckemeyer**, in appreciation of *Eva Finley*, Texas Lonestar Editor Leandra & Curt Beckemeyer, in appreciation of Rosa Gonzales, Texas Retiree President

**Leandra & Curt Beckemeyer**, in appreciation of the *UPMA Texas Active and Retired* **Executive Boards** 

**Donations to the Texas** Scholarship Fund should be sent to **Retiree President Rosa Gonzales** 2843 Private Rd 3778 Wills Point, TX 75169 You will get a thank you from the Texas Chapter for your donation and a card will be sent to the family/person of the donation.

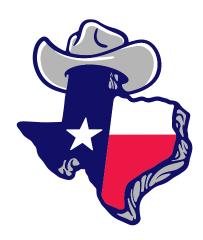




# 2023 Budget as of May 7, 2023 Ron Mason, Texas UPMA State Secretary/Treasurer

Here is the budget as of May 7. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. My phone and email are listed on page 2 of this issue.

#### Hope to see you all in Denton!



#### **TEXAS UPMA 2023 BUDGET**

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LINE		2023	2023	2023
ITEM	Description	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET LEFT
01	PRESIDENTIAL TRAVEL DARWIN	\$4,500.00	\$439.64	\$4,060.36
02	EXECUTIVE VP TRAVEL SHERRY	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
03	TEXAS 1 VP TRAVEL <b>MEMBERSHIP STACY</b>	\$4,500.00	\$1,160.65	\$3,339.35
04	TEXAS 1 DISTRICT MEETING	\$1,500.00	\$1,375.96	\$124.04
05	TEXAS 1 DISTRICT CAC	\$1,200.00	\$136.97	\$1,063.03
06	TEXAS 2 VP TRAVEL <b>LEGISLATIVE SHARON</b>	\$4,500.00	\$708.77	\$3,791.23
07	TEXAS 2 DISTRICT MEETING	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
08	TEXAS 2 DISTRICT CAC	\$1,200.00	\$136.97	\$1,063.03
09	TEXAS 3 VP TRAVEL PAC KATE	\$4,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
10	TEXAS 3 DISTRICT MEETING	\$1,500.00	\$1,037.18	\$462.82
11	TEXAS 3 DISTRICT CAC	\$1,200.00	\$136.97	\$1,063.03
12	AT LARGE VP TRAVEL <b>TRAINING DEANNA</b>	\$4,500.00	\$458.83	\$4,041.17
13	SECRETARY/TREASURER TRAVEL RON	\$4,500.00	\$1,203.00	\$3,297.00
14	SEC/TREAS ALLOWANCE RON	\$3,600.00	\$1,200.00	\$2,400.00
15	SEC/TREAS & PRESIDENT BOND	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$250.00
16	AUDIT & TAX SERVICE	\$350.00	\$350.00	\$0.00
17	EDITOR TRAVEL EVA	\$1,500.00	\$1,678.86	-\$178.86
18	EDITOR ALLOWANCE EVA	\$1,800.00	\$300.00	\$1,500.00
19	LONE STAR LEADER PUBLICATION	\$20,000.00	\$10,025.52	\$9,974.48
20	PAST PRESIDENT TRAVEL	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
21	POSTMASTER RETIRED TRAVEL <b>SCHOLARSHIP ROSA</b>	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
22	POSTMASTER RETIRED DUES	\$3,200.00	\$1,268.08	\$1,931.92
23	POSTAGE	\$500.00	\$309.31	\$190.69
24	OFFICE SUPPLIES/WEBSITE	\$1,000.00	\$195.84	\$804.16
25	MISCELLANEOUS PURCHASES	\$1,000.00	\$153.12	\$846.88
26	TEXAS BOARD MEETING	\$5,000.00	\$6,740.35	-\$1,740.35
27	TEXAS STATE CONVENTION	\$35,000.00	\$763.00	\$34,237.00
28	TEXAS STATE CONVENTION GOLF TOURNAMENT	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
29	TEXAS STATE CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00
30	TEXAS STATE MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE	\$8,000.00	\$9,292.00	-\$1,292.00
31	TEXAS MEMBER SUPPLIES	\$1,000.00	\$57.64	\$942.36
32	TEXAS CHAPTER SHIRTS	\$2,000.00	\$1,978.00	\$22.00
33	NATIONAL CONVENTION	\$11,000.00	\$12,825.93	-\$1,825.93
34	NATIONAL CONVENTION MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE	\$18,000.00	\$0.00	\$18,000.00
35	NATIONAL VP SPONSORSHIP	\$10,000.00	\$6,265.97	\$3,734.03
36	LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT	\$1,500.00	\$11,746.80	-\$10,246.80
37	LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE	\$10,000.00	\$4,800.00	\$5,200.00
38	SOUTHERN OFFICERS CONFERENCE	\$10,000.00	\$4,677.75	\$5,322.25
39	CHAPTER MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE/ADVERSE ACTION	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
40	CHAPTER MEMBER TRAINING	\$8,000.00	\$4,328.44	\$3,671.56
41	TEXAS MEMBERSHIP TEAM	\$3,500.00	\$4,418.01	-\$918.01
	TOTALS	\$222,900.00	\$90,169.56	\$132,730.44

LINE		2023	2023	
ITEM	Description	BUDGET	ACTUAL	
50	TEXAS 1 DISTRICT REGISTRATION	\$1,000.00	\$1,247.00	
51	TEXAS 2 DISTRICT REGISTRATION	\$1,000.00	\$660.00	
52	TEXAS 3 DISTRICT REGISTRATION	\$1,000.00	\$1,075.00	
53	STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION	\$6,000.00	\$4,460.00	
54	SOC REGISTRATION	\$120.00	\$0.00	
55	NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION	\$700.00	\$0.00	
56	LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT REGISTRATION	\$700.00	\$0.00	
57	NATIONAL UPMA DUES	\$140,000.00	\$50,713.65	
58	CD INTEREST	\$25,000.00	\$2,462.27	
59	CHECKING INTEREST	\$20.00	\$0.18	
60	OTHER INCOME	\$500.00	\$0.00	
61	VISA REBATE	\$0.00	\$394.31	
62	86S43	\$0.00	\$1,331.56	
63	86S44	\$0.00	\$646.16	
64	86S51	\$0.00	\$484.55	

TOTALS \$176,040.00 \$63,474.68





#### Sign Up New Members Deanna Fojtik, Texas UPMA VP at Large

Texas 3 District meeting was held on April 14 and 15 in Lakeway TX. We

had a really good turn out with more than 40 in attendance. Thank you to all the Trainers and everyone that was able to attend.

Also, thank you to everyone that helped out with set up, clean up, registration, silent and live auction. We are one big Postal Family.

Don't forget to sign up for the State Convention that will be held in Denton on June 22-25. We are getting ready and a have a line up of Trainers. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity for training and fellowship.

#### Sign up new members, Free membership for 1 year.

Benefits of joining UPMA as a Postmaster, Manager, Supervisor or EAS Professional

• UPMA is the only management organization that can represent you at Postal

Headquarters on specific Postmaster issues, including the planning and development of pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs.

- All national UPMA leaders and chapter presidents are current USPS employees.
- National officers serve one term only in their current positions.
- As an active member, you have the privilege to vote and hold leadership positions at all levels of the organization.
- A national website—unitedpma.
   org—offering the latest information re-

garding the organization, legislative issues, online training videos and Postal Service information that affects your career.

 A national magazine and chapter publications that contain information important to you in your current position and will help you in your future endeavors.

- Annual national and chapter conventions that offer training to help you be successful.
- As a UPMA member you have access to the network of Adverse Action Member reps, should the need arise. As an active EAS member of UPMA for at least one year prior to the date of an initial proposed adverse action you are eligible for the Legal Defense.

Sign someone up today!!!!





### Advantages of Attending A 3digit Meeting Stacy Taplin, District 1 VP

What's the advantage of attending a UPMA Meeting.....

Being a member of Texas UPMA and attending district meetings you gain knowledge on trainings that helps you excel in your office. There are several SME at these meeting you get the opportunity to mingle with and learn. You can personally pick their brains this is a great way to learn and grow. That SME

takes time to explain topics more on a one-on-one basic and you aren't stuck on a telecom in your office and sometimes you're distracted having to answer the phone, get called to the window and miss a step then you're completely lost. Especially, with the CRDO, Power BI and etc.

Since everything we do now in the 21 century is internet driven and everyone can deep dive and track your F2, F3 and

F4 without your knowledge. We are ranked as an organization all the way down to our individual unit.

Attending your 3-digit meeting, your State District meeting and National Convention it helps you mingle with other Postmasters, Managers and Supervisors. This year's Texas State meeting is June 22-25 in Denton. The 7th UPMA National Convention is in Denver, CO is August 26 thru September 1.





### **TX3 District Meeting was Great!** Kate McCartney, TX3 VP/CMR

TX3 District Meeting went well. We had about

40 in attendance, where we had training, food, fun, and fellowship. Trainers and speakers were: Tom Billington-District Manager, Daniel Mata-(A) MPOO K, Kim Early-Manager Workforce Planning and Compliment, Eduardo Pena-Integrated Operations Planning Specialist, Dana Anderson-Postmaster Cedar Park, Stephanie Gonzales-Workforce Operations Planning, Latazua Walker-Manager AMS, and Nicole Standley-FESA (also provided lunch) . We made a donation to the TEXAS UPMA Scholarship fund in each of their names.

Tom Billington, our District Manager

spoke about treating each other and our employees with Dignity and Respect. Mr. Billington stated if you had to address performance to do it in private. He made his expectations known. Mr. Billington let us know we are the fastest growing district in the country. He spoke a little about RRECS and the mini mail survey.

We learned about Line H, the hiring process, IVES, SSRD, Growth in AMS, stack the ben, etc. We also raised \$851 for PAC and at the TX2 meeting we raised \$775 for PAC. We are off to a great start.

Our State Convention will be June 22-25 at Embassy Suites, 3100 Town Center Trail, Denton, TX 76201. I hope to see you all there.



"Be sure drink lots of water every day and stay indoors between 11:00 am and November 2nd"



## When You Retire But Aren't Ready To Stop Working

LeAndra Beckemeyer, Retired Texas PM Howe TX

Full stop retirement isn't for everyone. You may want to leave your stressful postal position for a more relaxed working situation. Did you know that there are ethics rules?

Basically, you can work anywhere you want to work as long as you have no reason to reach out to postal officials or your current/former postal friends about any matter related to your new job. This means calling, writing, emailing or attending meetings or any other interaction if the purpose of the contact is to exercise influence for your new employer. Remember, your postal contacts and knowledge may be why your employer hired you in the first place. Any proprietary information should never be disclosed. If you learned something as a federal employee that is protected by a non-disclosure agreement, you cannot disclose this information. These rules apply even if it was not your choice to end your employment.

If you violate these laws you can be punished by a substantial fine and/or a term of imprisonment. The Office of Inspector General regularly investigates suspected violations.

If you aren't sure if you are in legal compliance, you can call Headquarters Ethics and Legal Compliance Team at 202.268.6346 or email your questions to ethics.help@usps.gov

In addition, if you are a FERS employee and retired but you have not reached your full retirement age (FRA) and decide to take a part time job, the earnings limit is \$21,240. You will lose \$1 in benefits for every \$2 earned over that cap. FRA is 66 years and 4 months for people born in 1956 and will rise

two months for each subsequent birth year until it settles at 67 for those born in 1960 and later. The earnings cap applies only to income from work. It does not count investments, pensions, annuities or capital gains. Your monthly Social Security payments may be subject to federal state and local income taxes. If you are collecting both benefits and work income, you may want to increase your withholding to avoid a big tax bill and penalties in April.

To contact the Retirement Office as a CSRS or FERS retiree, you can contact OPM at 1.888.767.6738 or send an email to retire@opm.gov You can also write to them at:

U.S. Office of Personnel Management Office of Retirement Programs PO Box 45 Boyers, PA 16017





#### **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

	0 110 1 27 1	ln cn i	Ta ,
USPS Employee Identification Number (EIN)	Social Security Number	Date of Birth	Gender  Male ☐ Female ☐
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):	ostmaster	/Supervisor	□ PMR
Position	PO/City/State/ZIP		
Post Office/Work Telephone Number		Pay Schedule Level	
Post Office/Home Payroll Office Finance Number		Designation Code	
Section C:	For Use by the Employe	ee Organization	
Mail completed form to	o: United Postmasters a 8 Herbert Street Alexandria, Virginia 22	and Managers of America (UP	MA)
Visit the UPMA website	<u>unitedpma.org</u> for men	nbership benefit information	1.
Secti	on D: Authorization by	Employee	
I hereby authorize the above-named agency to dedu United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA) with my employing agency. I further authorize any charas a uniform change in its dues structure.  I understand that this authorization is a pay period organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Structure I further understand that revocation forms Standar Payment of Employee Organization Dues" are available a revocation form or other written revocation request by Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600. Such revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the revocation of the revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the revocation of the revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the revocation of the revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the revocation of the revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the revocation of the revocation will calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation of the re	and to remit such amounts to the new in the amount to be deducted as deduction. It will become effectet, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600 of Form No. 1188, "Revocation of from my employing agency and a "Certified Mail" directly to the land be effective, however, until	nat employee organization in accordance that is certified by the above-name of the first pay period, following its of Voluntary Authorization for Allotme that I may revoke this authorization at employee organization's headquarters of the first full pay period following M	receipt in the employee ent of Compensation for any time by filling such office: UPMA, 8 Herbert
Signature of Employee		Date	
	Section E		
☐ Check this box to signify you've read and under	erstood the terms in Section I	O of this form.	
Who/what most influenced your decision	n to join UPMA?		
Person's Name			
☐ Career Awareness Conference ☐ USPS Provi	ded Training		



#### **Tornado** Yolanda Coulanges, PM Deer Park

January 25th of this year started like any other day at the Deer

Park Post Office. I had just finished with my customer complaints (ECC) cases, when an email flashed across the screen. It was a tornado warning for the Friendswood area which is about 25 miles away from Deer Park. I immediately sent out a RIMS message to the carriers to seek shelter if the weather turned for the worse.

Right about the time I finish sending the message, my PSE clerk, who was working at the Pasadena Main office, called. She told me that their lights had gone out and I told her that the lights were still on. I also let her know about the tornado warning. I tell you less than 10 minutes later, our lights also went out.

We put the window computer on standby and a few customers were still in line in the lobby. Some were checking mails at their PO boxes. At that time the clerks were looking for flashlights. I thank God that we always left them by the back door going out to the dock. At that same time a carrier came in to use the men's restroom. He told me it is bad out there. The wind was picking up. So, I started walking toward the exit door to the dock to see how it looks out there. I peeped my head out to look at the parking lot. There I noticed that the sky was turning extremely dark, and it had got hotter and muggy, but it also was still very quiet. No birds were chirping, no sound. Then I looked at the plastic pallets and they started moving, and I heard a weird hissing whistling noise. I told the clerk behind me I think the tornado is coming this way...RUN. While we were running the ceiling tiles were falling and the carrier exit door flung wide open. Leaves and debris were flying inside the building. We ran into the safe where the T7 and two customers were. The tornado probably only lasted about one minute.

While we were in the safe, one of the employees and a customer were praying. I reassured everyone that it would soon be over. Once we felt that the tornado had passed, we came out of the safe and I walked into the working floor. A few minutes of chaos had caused so much damage. Our 500+ lb. AC units had been moved around on the roof, and one landed in front of the post office. By the grace of God none of our personal and work vehicles were damaged. Only the building, fences, stop signs, and a few trees. None of the employees and customers were iniured.

By the time I went back outside to assess the area almost all of the carriers had made it back to the station. I started calling the rest and everyone was fine. They all went back out and continued to deliver mail through the motto "Rain, Snow, or Tornado". I was so proud of all of our employees that day.

The city of Deer Park was totally devastated. Many people lost their homes, many fences were down, trees, and power lines were also down. The city was without power for a few days. The Deer Park Post Office did not have any AC till the beginning of March....but we made do as always.



Howdy!
Sherry
Bridgers
TX UPMA State
Vice President

We've been going through a rough few weeks on the rural side of things. We've come out on the other side of the mini mail survey and many rural carriers are not satisfied with the result. We've been instructed to implement the changes only to be told at the last minute to stand down and wait to implement, not once but twice. I'm hoping that USPS and the NRLCA can come to some sort of middle ground soon. While we wait, there is lots more information we can all glean from the mini mail survey and the weeks that followed. We can also benefit from learning more about the edit sheet, WEBEES and the RRECS site itself.

Are you ready to learn more about it or are you fluent in these programs? If you want to learn more, come to the State Convention in Denton. If you are fluent in these programs, come to the State Convention in Denton. We need you all, some of us can help others of us. We have a full schedule of training to include RRECS/Rural topis as well as SWC training.

In case you missed it, the criteria to earning more in your office has changed, we now get credit for RCA and ARC positions. If you have either of these positions in your office, run your numbers in the 150 program to see if you are eligible for a supervisor.

This year the state convention will not have a children's program but I will be identifying some fun activities in the area in case you are interested. If there is a particular training you would like to see this year, send me a text (832-212-2170) and I'll see what I can do. I can't wait to see everyone in June.



UPMA Chapter Presidents, UPMA National Executive Board

Re: Special Exemption- to deliver mail

HRSSC has cut PS-Form 50s effective 12/30/2022, making all Postmasters 18-22 and all Exempt Station Managers Special-Exempt with the reason code allowing them to be eligible for "additional pay when delivering mail."

After a long struggle by UPMA, a temporary modification to Postal pay policy will allow select exempt non-bargaining employees to be eligible for additional pay when those employees are needed to deliver mail due to staffing shortages. Based on a UPMA request and conversations at the St Louis UPMA National Convention, The Service has decided to temporarily modify policy and allow employees permanently assigned to the following positions to be eligible for additional pay at the straight-time rate if authorized to deliver mail.

Title	Grade	Occ-Code
MGR Customer Services	EAS-19	23057064
MGR Customer Services	EAS-20	23057039
MGR Customer Services	EAS-21	23057091
MGR Customer Services	EAS-22	23100002
MGR Customer Services	EAS-24	23100010
Postmaster	EAS-18	23016118
Postmaster	EAS-20	23016120
Postmaster	EAS-21	23017121
Postmaster	EAS-22	23017122
Postmaster 18 (B)	EAS-43	23016218

The policy will provide extra compensation for the time a Manager or Postmaster delivers mail, provided the total work hours are more than 8.5 on a scheduled day or any hours on a non-scheduled day. This temporary pay policy is applicable only in those circumstances. Management must meet all contractual requirements before authorizing non-bargaining employees to deliver mail.

This temporary policy commenced on December 31st, 2022, and is now set to end on July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

UPMA is hopeful this will continue to stay in place until such time as the staffing shortage is rectified. UPMA appreciates this change and looks forward to further discussions with The Service on this and other issues facing our members. This is another example of what can get done when we work together. Please share this with your Area/District Managers as you need to; no further announcement will come from the Service.

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Edmund

United Postmasters and Managers of America 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600 (703) 683-9027 Unitedpma.org





















































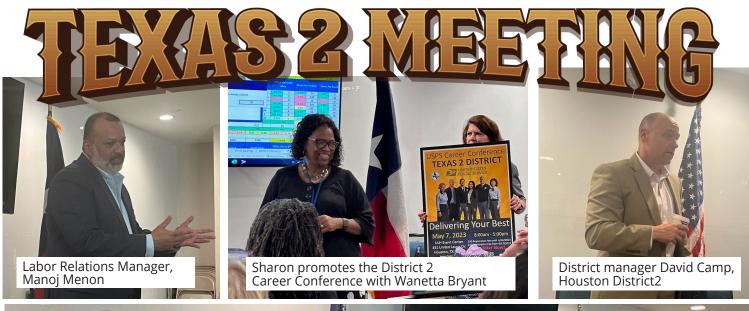












































Stephanie Gonzales, Workforce Operations Planning Specialist









































# Goes to Washington









































#### **MEMBERSHIP TEAM SIGNS NEW MEMBERS**

Pictures below are our new members who have joined our UPMA Texas Chapter from the results of visits from our Texas Membership Team. Only one member members actually gets credit for signing up the new member, but listed are the members who were present.



Danielle Mitchell Associate Member, Graford signed by Eva Finley



Robert Stuart PM Tennessee Colony signed by Rosa Gonzales



Jeremiah Rolen PM, Corsicana Signed by Stacy Taplin



Sonia Cruz PM Bloomington Signed by Sharon Janicek and Monica Broesche



Reginald "Reggie" Johnson PM, Seadrift Signed by Sharon Janicek and Monica Broesche



Sammy Hysquierdo PM Port LaVaca signed by Sharon Janicek and Monica Broesche



Samantha Cook PM, Woodsoro Signed by Sharon Janicek and Monica Broesche



Ryant James Learning and Development Specialist Signed by StacyTaplin



Cayce Sharpe PM, Falls City Signed by Eva, Rosa, & Steve



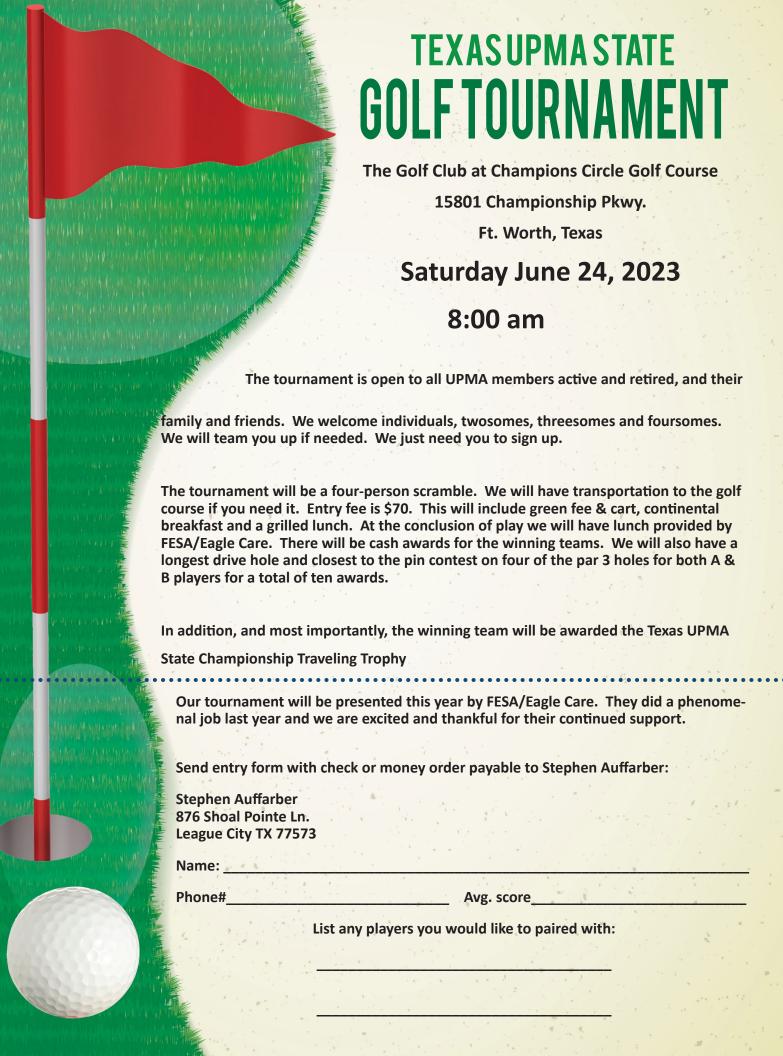
Donna Walker PM, Manor Signed by Stacy Taplin



Gabriel Martinez PM, Karnes City Signed by Rosa, Steve & Eva



NEW MEMBERS





#### ASSOCIATION EXPERIENCE

- 1998 Joined Postmaster
   Association
- 2001 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President,
   Texas Chapter
- 2002 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President,
   Texas Chapter
- 2003 Executive Vice
   President, Texas Chapter
- 2004 President, Texas
   Chapter
- 2009-2010 Rio Grande
   District Director, Texas
   Chapter
- 2011-2015 Secretary-Treasurer, Texas Chapter
- 2020-2021 President, Texas
   Chapter
- Texas State Postmaster
   Rep/CMR, 12 years

#### NATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2006-2007 National Vice
   President, representing Texas
   Chapter 18
- 2016 Area 4 National Vice
   President
- 2017-2019 Western Area
   National Vice President
- 2022-Current Southern Area
   National Vice President
- 2023 National Executive Vice
   President

## Greg Nors

# for National Secretary -Treasurer

Hello, my name is **Greg Nors**, and I want to be your next **National Secretary-Treasurer for the United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA).** I have been with the USPS for over 28 years and a Postmaster for 24 years.



I began my postal career in August 1994 as a City Letter Carrier in my hometown of West, TX 76691. I was also trained to be a distribution and window clerk, which led to my first OIC assignment in 1998. I joined the Postmaster association and went to my first state convention that same year. My OIC assignment was part of an intern position, that I coordinated while attending night school at Baylor University. I graduated from Baylor in August 1998, with a Bachelor of Business Administration majoring in Business Management.

In April 1999, in one of the proudest moments of my life, I was promoted to my 1<sup>st</sup> Postmaster position. I have served as a Texas Postmaster in Richland, China Spring, West, and my current position in Hillsboro. For over 10 years, I have managed a level 20 post office where I supervise clerks, city carriers, rural carriers, and three RMPOs. I have also been a coach in my MPOO area for over 15 years and a Postmaster Essentials Trainer both in my district and at the NCED in Norman. OK.







I have been very active in the Postmaster and Manager associations, at both the State and National levels. I am seeking the National Secretary-Treasurer position because I know that I have the knowledge and experience that is needed to help move the organization forward. While serving as Secretary-Treasurer for the state of Texas for four years, I have acquired valuable knowledge of the finances and financial issues not only as the state level but of the organization as a whole. As National VP, I have served on the audit committee several times and understand what is required for a balanced budget. Having served on the National Executive Board under 5 different presidents, I understand the vital relationship between the Secretary-Treasurer and the President.

As your next Secretary-Treasurer, I will serve you by using my voice to make the right decisions for Postmasters and Managers of our great association. I am asking for your endorsement and vote for the National Secretary-Treasurer position, and I would be honored to have your support.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

#### 2023 Texas UPMA State Covention

**JUNE 22-25, 2023** 

#### **Embassy Suites Denton Convention Center**

**3100 Town Center Trail** 

Denton, Tx 76201

940 243-3799



WHEN MAKING ROOM RESERVATIONS, MENTION TEXAS UPMA TO ENSURE YOU GET THE GROUP RATE OF \$149.00 FOR KING OR DOUBLE SUITES. THIS RATE IS GOOD UNTIL MAY 23, 2023. BREAKFAST IS INCLUDED IN THE ROOM RATE.

\$40.00 CHILD REGISTRATION (AGE 12 AND UNDER)

PLEASE SEND REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT (CHECKS/MONEY ORDERS MADE OUT TO TEXAS UPMA) TO:

Sherry Bridges, PO Box 4777, Bryan, TX 77805-4777

DON'T FORGET TO BRING AN AUCTION ITEM AND DOOR PRIZE!





#### Jim Maher

# Candidate for National Secretary/Treasurer

While working for you as a National Vice President the last two years and as your National Secretary-Treasurer for the prior three years, it's been my honor to help move our organization forward in many ways. With the amazing growth in membership this year, it is an exciting time to be part of this organization. Still, a great deal of work remains to be done to make UPMA the world-class management association our members deserve. For UPMA to fully realize its potential, we need strong, experienced leaders to help move us forward. With your support, I would like to be part of that.

As your past National Secretary-Treasurer, I authored many national policies that are still in place today. I've participated on and also chaired numerous budget committees. I've served on EAS Pay Talk teams, multiple Ethics Committees, and the Article and Bylaws Committee. I have been the National Advisor to the Adverse Action Committee and have helped facilitate the training of all our Chapter Member Representatives for the last four years. I established the EAS Professional Committee and will again be one of the National Board advisors to it this year. I also instituted the UPMA National Secretary-Treasurer of the Year Award.

My experience and skills make me the candidate best prepared to monitor your funds and ensure that all national expenditures add value to the membership. My goal is to ensure that all of our members are represented at the national level and that their voices are heard. I've demonstrated that I will work tirelessly for you at the national level. With your help and support, I'll continue to do so.

When deciding who you will support for National Secretary-Treasurer, please ask yourself, "Who has the dedication, the experience, and the proven ability to get problems resolved and keep UPMA moving in a positive direction?"

I hope you'll agree that the answer is JIM MAHER!



#### **Kathy Frame**

#### Candidate for National Retiree Vice President

I am announcing my intention to run for UPMA National Retiree Vice President. I have been an active member of the management organization since 1992.

The day I was promoted to Postmaster at Green Lane, PA in 1992, I was approached by a neighboring Postmaster, Argie Frank, Postmaster in Walnutport, who came to congratulate me. She told me that I needed to join the management organization to help me be successful in my new role as PM. I looked her straight in the eye and said, "OK!!! Sign me up."

I have been blessed since that day and have been surrounded by many valuable mentors and resources which has helped me reach my dreams and goals. I am thankful for that one visit which has been one of the main reasons I have stepped in a leadership role with the active and now the retiree organization. I would like to be that person who will help every one of our members succeed in all they do.

I believe that our members are our top priority and that we need the best leaders in the right places for our organization to grow and remain viable. I have told many retirees that while we may be retired from the USPS, we will always be connected. We need to ensure that all legislation that effects our pay and benefits should always be monitored by a strong legislative presence. UPMA provides access to opportunities for communication that is shared with you through "The Gold," "In the Mailbox," the UPMA Leader, and all state publications. These resources will always keep you updated on any events, issues, or happenings within our entire country. I know that our expertise and experiences as retirees are vital to help our active members achieve success and get them to our happy place – Retirement!!!The best part about our organization is the forever friendships that we have made and will continue to make as retirees. I will offer you my commitment to make sure all our goals continue to be reached should you elect me as your UPMA National Vice-President Retired.

I have listed my positions in which I have served in both the active and retired organizations. They have allowed me the knowledge, experience, confidence, and certainly the passion to bring success to run for National Retired Vice President. I ask for your vote to elect me at our National convention in Denver this year as the next UPMA National Vice-President of the Postmaster Retired. May God Bless All of You and God Bless America.

Pennsylvania State Active Positions
Active Member 1992-2021
PA Convention Chair 2009/2022/2023
PA District VP 2008-2009
President PA (2 Terms 6 years) 2009-2015
Executive VP PA (2 Terms 6 years)2015-2021

National Positions

Active National VP (2 Terms) 2014-2017/2018-2021 Active National Membership Chair 2018-2021 Active National Membership Rep East 2021-Present National Retiree Membership Chair (2021-Present)

Chapter Member Chair 2010-2011/2015-2021

**Postal Career** 

PTF Clerk (1985-1989) Canton Ohio and Allentown Pa FT Finance Clerk (1989-1992) Lehigh Valley Pa Postmaster Level 18 (1992-2021) Pennsylvania Retired 2021

#### LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

I nominate, UPMA Retired, for the Lifetime Achievement Award. I believe that he/she deserves this award for his/her dedicated time and efforts to
Achievement Award. I believe that he/she deserves this award for his/her dedicated time and efforts to UPMA as both an active and retired member.
OF IVIA as both an active and retired member.
1. UPMA:
A. Service to UPMA organization:
B. Committees:
b. commuccs.
C. Awards:
2. Postal Service:
A. Years of Service:
B. Awards Received:
3. Community Service:
A. Member of clubs and organizations:
B. Special information about the nominee's relationship to their community:
4. Additional information that you feel valuable toward this person's nomination:
Note: Even if you do not have information, you may nominate an individual. The above member must have
been a member in good standing of Texas UPMA.
UPMA Retired Officers are not eligible for this award and nominations will not be considered.
Nominated bySignature:

Please send the nominations form no later than June 1st to the current President, UPMA Retirees.

Mail to: Rosa Gonzales 2843 Private Road 3778 Wills Point, TX 75169





#### **7th UPMA National Convention**

Aug. 26-Sept. 1, 2023

Official Registration Form
Registration also available at www.unitedpma.org

Convention Registration (only one person per form):  Please circle the appropriate fee:  Postmaster/Manager/Supervisor/ Associate/OIC/EAS Professional \$165 \$200 \$250  Daily registration is available at \$75/day.  First-Timer*—Active \$95 \$95 \$95  UPMA Retired or Guest' \$133.75 \$160 \$197.50  (UPMA Retired Luncheon included)  Auxiliary/Spouse/ Postmaster Guest \$155 \$190 \$245  Children (17 and under) \$80; includes child's meal at the Grand Banquet.  *First-timers must pay their registration fee in advance using this form; online registration not available. After attending the convention, they must submit a form to the National Office to be reimbursed.  *UPMA Retired member may have one guest (not an active member) registration fee:  Additional tickets for UPMA Retired Luncheon @ \$35 each  *Total Payment: \$  Registrat  Registrat  Card number  E-mail:  Hote  ##I/23 After  3/31/23 6/30/23  ##O30/23  #	
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(3- or 4-digit code	23; no refunds after that date are subject to a \$40 handlin
imprinted on card)	ons are non-transferable.
Signature:	

Registration, 8 Herbert St., Alexandria, VA 22305-2600.

Call 703-683-9027



## NOMINEES FOR MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Submit this nomination by June 1, 2023 to President Darwin Adams
4022 Glen Rose Drive
Garland Texas 75042
\*\*\*Present Board Members are not illegible \*\*\*

Eva Finley, Editor PO Box 500 Graford, TX 76449-0500

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Editor Eva Finley: 512-569-4680

# TEXAS STATE CONVENTION DENTON TEXAS JUNE 22-25, 2023

This year's State Convention is a WESTERN THEME
Pack your Best Western Clothes as the Best Western Attire at our banquet will win a prize

See you there!