



MN Delegation at UPMA Convention 2023 Denver CO



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effective 07/01/2023

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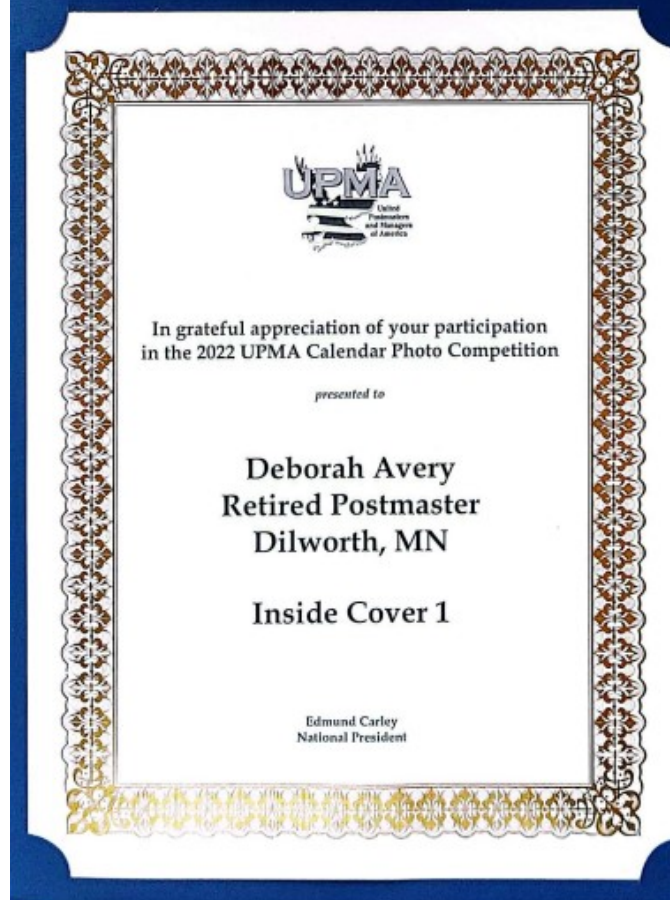
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TONY TERWEY-PRESIDENT

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Greeting Minnesota Difference Makers,

I hope September finds you well, in good health, soaking up the last days of summer and also in planning mode for the fast-approaching Peak Season at the Post Office. I just completed two weeks of annual leave with one week being family time touring Colorado and the other week at UPMA National Convention in Denver. The convention again brought out the best in the Postal Service. The best being the people who make it happen each and every day across the nation taking care of the customer.

The highlights of the convention include the three headquarters speakers, the in-person training sessions and the network of fellow Postal employees across the entire nation with great degrees of experience! The main reasons I attend National Convention are the opportunity to invest in my career knowledge, the training by real people on subjects I pick, and to opportunity to build a lifelong network of friends. The great state of Minnesota was well represented by 17 attendees at convention in Denver. Denver is a beautiful city and the state of Colorado has some pretty awesome natural beauty with the Rocky Mountains running through the state.

The speakers at National Convention included the top three executives for the Postal Service. PMG DeJoy kicked off Monday morning with much of the same information shared in Bloomington on his visit to Minnesota. The plan and vision shared by the PMG will go a long way toward stabilizing the finances while bringing back more of the package market to the postal service as we transition to a package company. PMG DeJoy shared many highlights and some frustrations as the Delivering for America Plan is being implemented across the nation.

The second speaker was Deputy PMG Doug Tulino on Tuesday who shared lots of information on labor contracts, grievances, ability to hire, and system improvements that affect many employees in the

service. It was nice to see Doug understood the nation has some pockets that are very resource challenged with Minnesota being one of them.

The final speaker was Dr. Joshua Colin who oversees retail and delivery. I found Josh to be the most direct and honest in information shared. I believe he stated three times the data does not allow you to hide anything. Dr. Josh Colin spoke at length about workforce planning info, custodial line H items and NDI indicator we all love (ha ha). The NDI indicator brought out much conversation about cellular coverage, accuracy in delivery credit on the report and what issues can lead to poor overall non delivery performance when you as a manager believe your operation is hitting the 97% or more delivery goal, but the report says otherwise.

The in-person live training at National Convention included:

- Grievances handling
- SWCs and PS 150
- RRCES
- NPA
- TSP for mid-career employees
- TSP for retirees
- Hydration and Health
- Line H management



The best part about the training is the interactive portion with the presenter or subject matter expert. Unlike a Hero course or a Learn & Grow, you get the opportunity to ask questions. The interaction allows for the best retention of knowledge from the training.

The last thing about convention is the people. The opportunity to meet up with old friends who you met at some point in your career and make new friends allows for in-depth, issue focused conversation you can have in very rare settings. I particularly liked a great discussion involving budget formula, work hours and

functional effectiveness indicator. I think each conversation allows for you to pick up one more piece of information you did not know prior to convention. The people really do make all the difference just like in a work unit.

Another convention highlight is Minnesota member Jason Croshaw's announcement to run for Vice President of Central Region. Jason has a strong desire to serve and I wish him good luck in the race to be next year's Central Area Vice President elect.

I hope the mini mail survey went well for your operation and your rural carriers are fairly compensated for the work they do. I am hopeful route adjustments and budget adjustments will happen soon for all sites impacted by the results. I have also heard lots of rural union rumblings about dissolution of the rural union. I am hopeful that an alternative solution can be found for our rural union counterparts. I understand the membership's frustration as no one would want the negative salary impacts brought in by volume decline and RRCS system implementation.

I would like to extend a thanks for our field EAS invitation to attend PMG DeJoy's visit in Bloomington given by our Acting District Manager Angela Bye. I appreciate the field being given the opportunity to hear directly from PMG DeJoy. Also on the day of his visit, it was exciting to see the many new Postmasters in the District sworn in right here in Minnesota.

On the membership front, Minnesota UPMA ranks among the best in the nation at right around 90% (with about 700 total members in the state). The state sees an average of 4 or 5 retirements each month across the state, creating recruitment opportunities with each new appointment. Please note that UPMA membership is **open to ALL EMPLOYEES** in the postal service. Yes, I said all! Our communication, education and representation is still the best in class in the postal service. I encourage you to sign up your high potential employees, your 204b and your employees that just want more information about the service in general. UPMA continues to offer a full year free and a state sponsored incentive for your recruitment efforts.

On the Representation front, the chapter has had 19 requests for representation so far this year. 15 of the cases can be directly correlated to lack of staff needed to serve the customer in the operation and the choices it

caused the EAS to make relating to the specific situations. Often these could have been eliminated with better communication to the members manager but not always. I would like to thank our chapters team of Chapter Member Representatives as they have stepped up and answered the call every single time when needed under Carey Welder's leadership! Thank you all for taking care of our members at the greatest time of need. I am excited to be sending four more members to training this fall as future representatives in our great state.

In closing, please consider getting more involved in UPMA. You will gain a better appreciation for the organization as a whole, insight into why the district leadership focuses on certain items and a more enjoyable work life experience moving forward.

Until next time,

Your President

Tony!



Postmasters sworn in by PMG DeJoy in Mpls

Buckley Space Force Base Honor Guard





August Postmaster Essentials Class

NAME	OFFICE
Cameron Belden	MAPLE PLAIN PO, 55359
Cammy Pattee	BOWMAN PO, 58623
Christopher Ellison	KIMBALL PO, 55353
Greg Albrecht	MENAHGA PO, 56464
Jessica Bailey	FERGUS FALLS PO, 56537

NAME	OFFICE
Justin Dobratz	SAINT BONIFACIUS PO, 55375
Kentrisha Cunningham	KILLDEER PO, 58640
Pennie Reinke	VALLEY CITY PO, 58072
Tracey Hartung	RICE PO, 56367
Victoria Henderson	TWO HARBORS PO, 55616



Statue at CO Capital

New Vehicles!



CO State Capital

EAS Placements

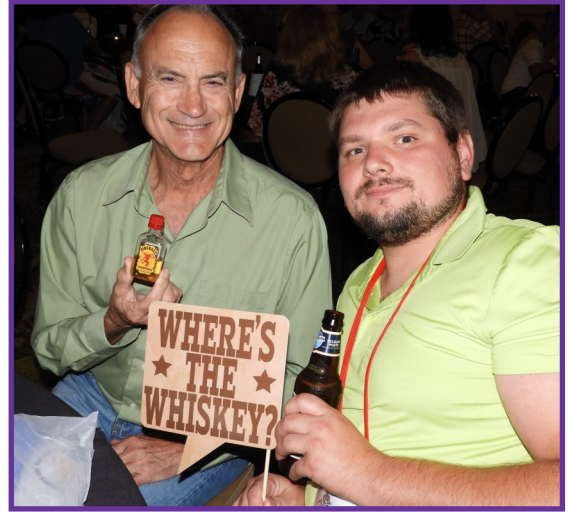
Position Title	Office	Person Selected	Effective Date of Selection
Supv Maintenance Operations	Bismarck PDC	Latese Crenshaw	7/1/23
Mgr Post Office Operations	District	Amy Longshore	7/1/23
Supv Customer Services	Faribault	Abby Wermter	7/1/23
Postmaster	Faribault	Calea Mitchell	7/1/23
Postmaster	Kenmare	Dawn Chandler	7/1/23
Supv Maintenance Operations	Mankato PDC	Robert Miller	7/1/23
Supv Customer Services	Min-Central	Armando Figueroa	7/1/23
Mgr Customer Services	Min-Normandale	Michelle Hollie	7/1/23
Supv Customer Services	Saint Cloud	Raymond Olson	7/1/23
Supv Customer Services	Saint Paul	Amber Rae Palmer	7/1/23
Mgr Customer Services	STP-Apply Valley	Kenyatta Johnson	7/1/23
Postmaster	Two Harbors	Victoria Henderson	7/1/23
Postmaster	Valley City	Pennie Reinke	7/1/23
Supv Customer Services	Dickinson ND	Patricia Cedeno-Hudson	7/15/23
Postmaster	Fergus Falls	Jessica Bailey	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	Lakeville	Dustin Hinz	7/15/23
Postmaster	Melrose	Debra Anderson	7/15/23
Mgr Customer Services	Min-Lake Street	Shannon Lewerke	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	Min-Richfield	Heidi Casillas-Cordero-Resigned	7/15/23
Postmaster	Rice	Tracey Hartung	7/15/23
Postmaster	Saint Bonifacius	Justin Dobratz	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	Saint Paul	Beau Wright	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	Saint Paul	Filagot Kifle	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	Stillwater	Timon Jones	7/15/23
Supv Customer Services	STP-Apply Valley	Amber Easton	7/15/23



Position Title	Office	Level	Person Selected	Effective Date of Selection
Supv Customer Services	Bra-Baxter	17	Kyle Covert	7/29/23
Supv Customer Services	Buffalo	17	Amanda Tesch	7/29/23
Supv Customer Services	Elk River	17	Neal Lagos	7/29/23
Mgr Logistics Operations	Log-Minneapolis	20	Linda Foster	7/29/23
Mgr Logistics Operations	Log-Saint Paul	20	Morgan Dancy	7/29/23
Logistics Support Specialist	Minneapolis PDC	17	Gloria Isaac	7/29/23
Supv Distribution Operations	Minn-St Paul NDC	17	Steven Farrell Jr	7/29/23
Supv Distribution Operations	Minn-St Paul NDC	17	Tsehay Tekia	7/29/23
Supv Customer Services	Min-Richfield	17	Alyssa Perry	7/29/23
Supv Customer Services	Roc-Bear Creek	17	Steve Reyes	7/29/23
Supv Customer Services	Rogers	17	Tracie Kuhlman	7/29/23
Supv Distribution Operations	Saint Paul PDC	17	Haimanot Gebriel	7/29/23
Postmaster	Scandia	43	Scott Longshore	7/29/23
Logistics Support Specialist	St Paul PDC	20	Lynn Rajan	7/29/23
Mgr Customer Services	STP-Eastern Heights	22	Megan Larson	7/29/23
Supv Distribution Operations	Twin Cities LDC	17	Teresa Gute	7/29/23

More EAS Placements

Position Title	Office	Level	Person Selected	Effective Date of Selection
Postmaster	Annandale	43	Nicholas Hoffmann-Walter	9/9/23
Postmaster	Barnesville	43	Angeline Drake	9/9/23
Supv Customer Services	Bismarck	17	Kelly Costner	9/9/23
Supv Customer Services	Dickinson ND	17	Cammy Pattee	9/9/23
Supv Customer Service Support	Fargo	17	Ben Norris	9/9/23
Supv Customer Services	Fargo	17	Jennifer Voeltz	9/9/23
Industrial Engineer	Minn-St Paul NDC	23	Maxime Kabamba	9/9/23
Supv Maintenance Ops Relief	Minn-St Paul NDC	17	Sodbaatar Ganbaatar	9/9/23
Postmaster	Mound	20	Rebecca Gerads	9/9/23
Supv Customer Services	STP-Industrial	17	Jessica Trevino Nunez	9/9/23
Supv Customer Services	STP-North St Paul	17	Stacey DuPaul	9/9/23
Mgr Customer Services	STP-Riverview	20	Lamar Wallace	9/9/23



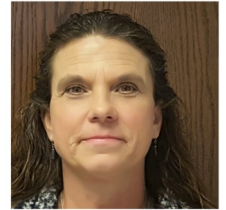
There was roping, riding (and falling off) happening in Denver. Hospitality rooms, entertainment and dances were lots of fun!



PAULINE LAMBRECHT, EXEC VP MEMBERSHIP

Postmaster of New Prague MN

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Rocky Mountain High

Well, I just returned from Denver National UPMA Convention, and I am on a Rocky Mountain High. Now reality sets in and it is back to work tomorrow, after a long Holiday weekend. I wish everyone was able to make National Convention, at least once. It is an experience that helps me be a better Postmaster, with breakout sessions for polishing the skills, networking, listening to Postmaster General, Mr. Louis DeJoy, Douglas Tulino, Deputy PMG and Chief Financial Officer, and Dr. Joshua Collins, Chief Retail and Delivery Officer. Add to the benefit of meeting life time friends and with lots of Love and laughter. UPMA is truly a family, and will be there for you when you are in need, whether it's a question, or an Investigative Interview.

I went to a session on Rural Delivery that was very informative, it was put on by Cathy Perron, USPS Director, Contract Administration (NRLCA) and Mike Chestnut, HQ Rural Delivery Field Operations. Now you can't be lead down the wrong path when you are speaking with the two top USPS Rural Delivery employees who actually aided in creating the RRECS program. This is

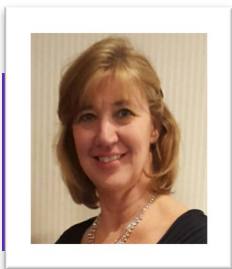
the opportunities that are available to you every year. Next year we are in Orlando, Florida August 24th-30th at the Caribe Royal, a brand-new Hotel, with all kinds' amenities, check it out on line. Maybe bring the whole family and plan a vacation around convention. I know you won't regret it. I always learn something new, and get to hear about the changes heading our way for the following year. THINK ABOUT IT!!

The Minnesota Chapter hit a big milestone for our organization. Before we reached Denver, our Chapter reached 90% of all Postmaster/EAS in Minnesota have joined UPMA. That is strength in numbers, which has a lot to do with our great leadership President Tony Terwey. I hope you think seriously about getting more involved in this great Organization, it has truly changed my life. I know I thought I didn't have the time either; I work 10-14-hour days too. When there is a will there is a way. That's my motto, and I am sticking to it. I hope to meet more new members on my journey, now back to the count.



Fun & Games





ANITA PFIEFER SECRETARY/TREASURER

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The State Fair is done, school is back in session and that is an indicator that fall is the next season on the horizon.

Hope each of you were able to spend time with your family and friends and just relax for a while this summer.

The National Convention was an outstanding event to attend with over 950 members and guests in attendance. Postmaster General Louis DeJoy spoke to us and took a few questions from the convention floor. Other Postal Service headquarter speakers were Doug Tulino, Deputy PMG and Chief Human Resources Officer and Dr. Joshua Colin, Chief Retail and Delivery Officer and Executive Vice President. It is always interesting to hear from them and they took some very pointed questions about hiring this year.

There were many different training classes available on Monday and Wednesday of the convention. There were instructors from USPS headquarters and classes to improve your skills in different areas. There were classes on the new Postal Service Health Benefits, Supervisor Workload Credits (SWC), Parliamentary procedure, and Managing Rural Delivery to name a few.

At the Retired meeting on Monday, I announced that I am a candidate for the National Treasurer position for UPMA Retired. I am excited to have the opportunity to serve the membership in that position, if I am elected. The election will be held at the 2024 National Convention in Orlando. Your support will be greatly appreciated.

The National Convention is an opportunity to meet members from all over the country; to discuss common problems and solutions; and make new friends. There is no one that understands what you go through each day other than another UPMA member.

Next on the UPMA calendar will be the Central Area Officer's Seminar to be held in Indianapolis this year. VP's Jason and Alex along with Editor Vanessa will be in attendance.

The next Minnesota Chapter executive board meeting will be on Tuesday, October 3rd. If there are any topics

you would like us to discuss, contact a board member so it can be added to the agenda.

Thanks for all that you do every day. Some days, I know it is a difficult road, but in someone's life, you are a shining light.

**"A day without sunshine is like,
you know . . . night." □**

— Steve Martin



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PAST AND PRESENT

-by Ron Windels

I just returned from the 7th National UPMA Convention in Denver, Colorado and was asked to submit an article. I had attended several National Conventions during my working career starting with the NAPUS 2000 convention in Minneapolis. This convention was the start of me going to the next twelve conventions in a row. I had attended a few state conventions before 2000. I became a Postmaster in the fall of 1993 in Bluffton, MN, EAS 11 office. I believe it was a neighboring postmaster from Wadena who signed me up for the NAPUS Postmaster organization.

I started going to the state conventions. We had convention leave in those days so it was easier to justify going to these conventions before my retirement in September of 2008. We won our first Rolle Bolle tournament with Duane Koehler, Barry Gottsman and me about 2001 in Ghent, MN. Many of you know that Duane and I have played almost every year since and have won several convention tournaments.

The memories I carry with me to this day make me smile when I relive them in my mind, at state and national conventions which are attended by active and retired Postmasters. I have many lifelong friendships that have been formed at these events.

Some of my fondest memories were formed while being in charge of the hospitality room with a fellow U.S. Army veteran, Curt Tabbert, both at state and national conventions. (Sorry if I am rambling)

I decided to attend the UPMA National Convention in Denver at the MN State Convention in Lakeville when my fellow retired Postmaster, Bruce Nelson, decided to go. He and I together would drive the 1,000 mile trek to downtown Denver.

Many of you know that I am a classic car enthusiast, so I told Bruce I might pull a trailer along behind my new Ford pickup. This seemed to be O.K with him and he stated that he was a "professional driver". Well, I couldn't help myself so a couple weeks before our departure I purchased two, not one, classics in Salt Lake City. Together we quickly planned our attack; we would haul one and drive the other to Mesa, AZ where we both

spend our winters. We would do this prior to the convention.

During our journey the temperature was in the 90 to over 100 degree range. This is not necessarily good for driving old cars you have never driven. We did get to Salt Lake City without any issues; however, I did lose my driver's license somewhere.....

The "professional driver" and I found the dealer, checked out the cars and pushed the 1957 Studebaker Golden Hawk onto the trailer. (It wouldn't start). We checked out the 1965 Mustang convertible to drive the 550 miles to Mesa. We got a late start but off we went with me driving the Mustang and Bruce pulling the other car on the trailer with my pickup. (That is, the "Professional Driver" who took care of me). The Mustang overheated. We both pulled over along Interstate 25 just south of Salt Lake City. We called a tow truck and waited an hour during rush hour traffic. The Mustang was towed back to the dealer and we planned to pick it up in November when we traveled to Mesa.



Off we went to Mesa at 6:30 p.m., both in my pickup. With both of us driving we made it to Mesa at 4:00 a.m. and went to my park model for a rest. The plan was to bring the Studebaker to Minnesota via Denver (where there's a PM Convention). I made one of my more brilliant decisions and decided to leave the Golden Hawk in Mesa and return to Salt Lake City and load the Mustang on the trailer and bring it back to Minnesota via Denver and a week of convention. My "Professional Driver" suggested we leave the Golden Hawk at his residence in Mesa, which we did and went for a swim in his pool. (Remember the 100 degrees in Mesa at 11:00 am)

Heading back to Salt Lake City we took our time and made sure we went through Las Vegas during rush hour. This allowed us to stop and take photos of the city. We stayed that night just outside of SLC and loaded the Mustang at 8:00 the next morning.

Now we're on our way to the 7th National UPMA Convention in downtown Denver. When we got to Grand Junction, Colorado we realized we were one day early for our room reservation. Bruce took care of that. It was about double the convention rate.



We ran into a damn good rain downpour driving into Denver on I-70, but my "Professional Driver" was at the wheel. We made it to the hotel during rush hour traffic, car and trailer in tow. Our friend and fellow retired Minnesota Postmaster, Clarence Gagne, had been trying to find a place for us to park for the week with not much luck. He was waiting as we drove into the hotel entryway, Bruce took his luggage and went in to register for our room. The hotel boys told me to get that rig out of the area....hmmm.

I (by myself) took off just to get out of downtown where there was no parking. I drove about 12 miles just to get out of the area. My wife called me from Minnesota wondering where I went because both Bruce and Clarence didn't know where I went. Hallelujah! Bruce found an underground parking area that would let us in!

I drove my rig back to downtown Denver and Clarence guided me through GPS to the entry of the parking area under a building which was actually only for regular vehicles, not a pickup hooked to a trailer.

This was a new frontier for all of us. I was still driving with my worthy assistants, Clarence and Bruce walking alongside me. I made my turn, stopped, picked up my

parking ticket, the arm went up, I drove ahead, Bruce hollers "stop!" and the arm came down between my pickup and the trailer. The nice man who allowed us to park here came to the rescue. It took about 20 minutes to get the unit out of that predicament. My "Professional Driver" was once again back behind the wheel with Clarence and I helping guide him around a few more corners to our final resting place for the week.

I took my luggage and the three of us walked to the hotel and enjoyed a bottle of Crown Royal before retiring for the day.

We rested most of Saturday and then it was **Convention Time**. Even after being retired for so many years it was still interesting to listen to the general sessions and several of the speakers, including the Postmaster General.

We enjoyed three dinner banquets and entertainment. On open day Tuesday, 4 of us Minnesota retirees and one wannabe went to Pikes Peak, which is 17,140 ft

above sea level. Thin air!!

I spent some time with our MN group and I think we all enjoyed our time in Colorado.

Bruce and I left the parking area at 7:10 a.m. Friday morning, September 1 and we drove the 1050 miles home in one shot. I arrived home at 12:30

a.m. Saturday morning, safe but not quite sound. (Ask Bruce). That was the end of our 4,000 mile trek.

Would I do it this way again? Probably not. Do I have any regrets? Not really. Some challenges? Yes. We were just two old retirees enjoying our golden years and making memories.

Next year Florida or Bust?

-Ron



ALEX M PAULSON VP EDUCATION/CONVENTION

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What a busy end to my summer ! I have spent so much time learning new things within the postal service, from spending time in Norman OK at NCED to the National Convention for UPMA in Denver CO. I don't know what high points to bring forward.

I can say if I wasn't sold on what UPMA brought to the table for us as members, I can say sitting 10 ft from Mr. DeJoy sold me on the power of UPMA and how he works with our National President Mr. Carley to get things done for us. At the convention I was able to gain knowledge from our USPS headquarter subject matter experts.

I sat in on training about the new health benefit plans that we will all be changing to by or during open season 2024. We will be changing from FEBP to PSHB. This new program has so much to offer us as postal employees. Next I was able to gain knowledge about SWC and Form 150. The SWC is how we decide how many supervisors should be in our offices. The form 150 is how we decide the level of an office. Finally I was able to sit in on training about NPA and the changes to NPA for 2024. At this time I am willing to say the NPA card will no longer be weighted and the functional effectiveness will be 50% of our score. There will be a new metric for us to achieve.

Also while spending time at the national convention, we were able to relax and enjoy time with fellow Postmasters and managers. I was able to hear that other areas across the country deal with the same issues we do daily. Even as a first timer I was able to network with people from across the country that had knowledge in areas that I don't, so I will be able to ask them for pointers in the future.

At the convention we also heard from Dr. Collins. His plans for us as delivery and retail units are amazing as we look to our future in the package industry. The amount of data we must study now is unreal and will help us manage our daily operations. He does want to see all his employees treated with respect at all times. If we feel we are being belittled or disrespected, we

need to make sure we document us asking for it to stop. If it continues after that we need to send this up the chain to correct it.

Its time to start to look ahead to prepare for peak and beyond. Let's make sure we are getting what our employees need. Ask them what we can do for them to make their jobs better. The more buy in we can get from our employees the harder they work because they feel valued by us as managers. It could be the smallest thing to us but mean the world to the employees.

After we come thru peak and winter lets start look at spring and our state convention May 15th-17th in Marshall MN. I look forward to seeing everyone there and lots of first timers. I can say I had a blast at both my 1st State and National cNvention over the last year, learning lots and growing relationships amongst managers and Postmasters.



First timers all walked across the stage with their State Presidents



MARGIE JACOBSON, RETIREE PRESIDENT

Area 9 Retired Area Rep

Postmaster Retired of Waterville MN

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What a great National Convention!

Thank you, Colorado, for your hospitality and great Convention. Colorado is a beautiful state to visit and has a lot to offer.

It was so great seeing friends and family from around the US. The tellers count on Thursday was 961 in attendance with 472 actives, 350 retirees, 136 guests and 3 children. What was really amazing is that there were 112 First Timers in attendance.

Site selection for the 2025 UPMA National Convention was decided with Dallas TX, Long Beach CA and Reno NV bidding. The decision was to go to **Dallas in 2025**. Dates bid were August 6-16. If you haven't attended a National Convention, 2024 will be in Orlando FL at the Caribe Royale August 24th-30th, make your plans to attend now.

The retirees got together and elected Charley Peters as our next National UPMA Retired President and Kathy

Frame as our next National UPMA Retired Vice-President. Also at our meeting our own Anita Pfiefer announced as a candidate for National UPMA Retired Treasurer and Patti Bascom and Leannra Breckemeier announced as candidates for the National UPMA Retired Secretary.

For the free day on Tuesday, Bruce, Ron and Clarence took us up to Pike's Peak and to the Garden of the Gods. What a fun trip and great fellowship. Thanks guys!

It was a great Convention. Hopefully next time we can see you there too.



Clarence, Ron, Bruce
drove up Pikes Peak!

Clarence standing way too close to the
edge at Pikes Peak



Distinguished Guest Committee –
MN is well represented



John & Lucy made it to
convention



JASON CROSHAW, VP LEGISLATIVE AND PAC

Postmaster of Chanhassen, MN

Office phone: 320-429-2465 Cell phone: 470-314-2516



The National Convention was a great time! If you are able to make it next year in Orlando, FL then definitely do. It's a chance to meet with colleagues from around the country, hear from speakers such as the PMG, Deputy PMG, and many HQ personnel teaching classes about key subjects such as NPA and RRECS.

As for WEP/GPO reform, our National Office is awaiting the return of the House after their August recess to continue to push for a vote this year. Right now we are on the verge of cosponsors to require WEP/GPO to be brought to the floor for a vote. There were currently several different types of WEP and/or GPO bills floating around the Hill, and UPMA supports them all (even a partial repeal is better than nothing and makes moving for a full repeal have a smaller price tag). HR 82 still is the most preferred and supported bill with a full repeal of WEP/GPO giving our retirees the full benefits they have earned.

As we go into an election year next year, PAC funds will be crucial. There are several ways to contribute PAC funds: sending a check to the National Office ATTN: PAC with "PAC" in the memo, contributing at conventions and meetings, and through ePAC.

ePAC is by far the easiest method to contribute, it is setup through an allotment and can be done by both Active and Retiree. As a bonus, at the 2024 Minnesota State Convention we will be raffling off a gift card with any member who has ePAC setup eligible to win.

Now for the big question, which members of Congress receive PAC money from UPMA?

UPMA is the most bipartisan of all postal organizations (UPMA, NAPS, and all the unions) when it comes to PAC fund distribution. UPMA is strategic in how PAC funds are distributed and focuses on building relationships with members of Congress not just handing over a check. This is the short version of requirements:

- 1) The candidate must be an incumbent (current member of Congress).
- 2) The candidate must have supported UPMA in previous votes.
- 3) Members of Congress who are in leadership seats (Speaker, Whip, Committee Chair, Minority Leader, or their close confidants) have an increased chance of receiving PAC funds.



Jason and Anita are running for National Offices



Mary Leonard, 72, of Currie, Minnesota (Lake Shetek) passed away peacefully on September 5, 2023, in Minneapolis with her loving family supporting her until the very end after a four-year battle with cancer. Mary was born and raised in Walnut Grove by her parents Emanuel and Helen Nelson. Being the last born of her four sisters Delores, Patty, and Sandy, she mostly enjoyed the spoiled life of an only child at home. During her education at Walnut Grove High School, Mary led a vibrant social life with her friends, meeting her future husband, Gerry Leonard. Upon graduation in 1969, Mary lived a short time in Minneapolis working in an insurance agency and living with friends before returning to Walnut Grove. In 1971, Mary and Gerry wed shortly after Gerry returned from serving in Vietnam. Just a year later, they welcomed their first of three children, Nick. Laura and Andy followed every two years after. The family lived in Walnut Grove and at Lake Shetek while the kids were in school.

Mary worked at the Post Office in Tracy all while attending the many activities of her kids, rarely missing a sporting event, concert, play, or any of the other many activities in which the family participated. Mary rose to become Postmaster with the U.S. Post Office heading offices throughout SW MN and Central MN, taking them to Cold Spring for several years before retiring back on Lake Shetek. Proud of her service, she regularly participated in her Postmaster conventions throughout the U.S. where she made many life-long friendships. Mary kept this busy schedule but still prioritized

attending the many activities of her five grandchildren, even when it required her to travel hours. Mary brought joy to whatever she did. She loved sports playing softball, volleyball, pickle ball, and golfed up to the month before her passing. A voracious reader and expert card and games player, she enjoyed diving into a book as much as gathering with her many friends and family. Mary's verve for life traveled with her on her trips throughout the U.S. and in Europe, visiting "study-abroad son" Stefan Ledent in Belgium and beyond. Often the life of the party, Mary embraced old and new friends dancing, joking, and lighting the room with her kindness and positive energy wherever she went.

Mary will forever be missed and loved by her husband of 52 years, Gerry; children Nick (John) Leonard-Mason, Laura (Mike) Olsen, and Andy (Stacie) Leonard; five grandchildren Ethan Leonard, Derek Olsen, Noah Leonard, Madeline Olsen, and Ali Leonard; sister Sandy Anderson; and many others. She was greeted in heaven by her parents, in-laws Thomas and Lorraine Leonard, sisters Delores (Bud) Sell and Patty (John) Hansen, and brothers-in-law Butch Anderson and Harold Leonard. She will be missed by many.



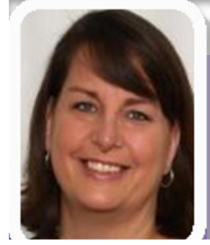
Howard & Donna Kor invited Postmasters over after the funeral to remember and toast Mary's memory.



ANN JOOS, CHAPLAIN

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UPMA family, I pray that you all are drinking from your saucer. Ann Joos <><

Poem by Paul Moore

I have never made a fortune,
And I will never make one now
But it really doesn't matter
Because I am happy anyhow
As I go along my journey
I am reaping better than I have sowed
I am drinking from the saucer
Because my cup has overflowed
I don't have a lot of riches,
And sometimes the going's tough
But with kin and friends to love me
I think I am rich enough
I thank God for the blessings
That His mercy has bestowed
I am drinking from the saucer



Because my cup has overflowed
He gives me strength and courage
When the way grows steep and rough
I will not ask for other blessings for
I am already blessed enough
May we never be too busy
To help bear another's load
Then we will all be drinking from the saucer
When our cups have overflowed

Psalm 23:5 You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

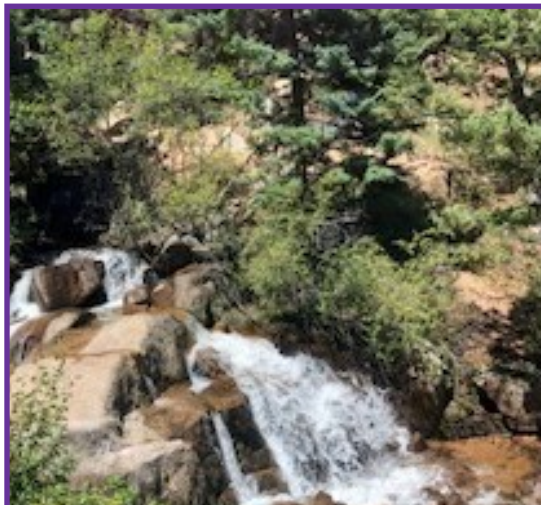
Thank you, Lord, and amen!

Ann Joos <><
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Many convention goers drove up to
Pikes Peak or else rode the Cog
Railway up to the top.



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I want to thank everyone who contributed photos to this issue: Anita, Tony, Margie, and Ron all sent pictures. UPMA Photographers at Convention Jerry & Marcia from AK and Lynn from OK. It takes everyone to contribute not only to your newsletter but to your UPMA Chapter for it to be successful.

The summer has flown by and like the geese, some of us will be heading south for the winter, From what I heard at the National Convention, getting your mail forwarded may have run into a few glitches. I hope it is all fixed by the time we leave,

I'm going to attend CAOS this year-a new experience for me-I'll let you know what happens there next issue.

I also just realized that this is the Sept/Oct issue and I won't be putting another one together until the end of

October. So to everyone who is gainfully employed by the Postal Service-good luck with peak this year,

I've also have a request-is there any active member who is also a member of WMSTR? I'm looking for someone to help over Labor Day weekend next year and on an ongoing basis. Let me know!

Why is Monday
so far from Friday,
and Friday so near
to Monday?



Please send funeral notifications
to the editor and Anita Pfiefer.

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necessarily represent the views of Minnesota UPMA.

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Article Deadline

Oct 15th, 2023

Dates to Remember

UPMA Upcoming Events

September 22-24, 2023	Central Area Officers Summit Indianapolis, Indiana
October 3, 2023	Minnesota Executive Board meeting 7:00 pm via Zoom
October 20-22, 2023 Saturday only	Chapter Member Representative (CMR) Training Portland, OR
November 3-5, 2023 Saturday only	Chapter Member Representative (CMR) Training Oklahoma City, OK
January 26 - 27, 2024 Tentative date	Minnesota Executive Board meeting Marshall, MN
March 17 - 20, 2024	Legislative Summit Washington DC
May 15 - 17, 2024	MN State Convention Marshall, MN
August 21-30, 2024	UPMA National Convention Orlando, FL

HR 82 Update

**HR 82 has 291
cosponsors,**

**putting us past
the 290 needed
to move the bill
forward.**

