

# Ohio Post Scripts UPDATE



September 2025

**ISSUE 38** 

Ohio Chapter UPMA





# 90 NEW MEMBERS in just two eCareer Conferences!!!

# Ohio Chapter is GROWING and let's keep it GOING

# OHIO UPMA President Laura Reese/Acting President

### Greetings, Ohio chapter members. Fall is here!

Fall is often associated with the end of summer and the start of cooler weather. It is a time for new beginnings. Autumn is a time of renewal. As the vibrant hues of summer fade into the golden embrace of autumn, we are reminded that this season is not just about endings but also about the promise of growth. Many people view this season as a fresh start, an opportunity to make positive changes in their lives. This is a great time to revisit goals, adjust routines, and embrace positive changes.

Welcome, new members! We have had over one hundred new members since January 1, 2025. I hope each one of you finds immense value in UPMA. This is your organization. The purpose of UPMA is to assist, mentor and guide all Postmasters, Managers, Supervisors and other EAS Professionals as well as anyone inspiring to these positions toward achieving their professional goals. UPMA provides the essential training and networking necessary for every member to be successful.

What to expect. You will receive a copy of our publication in the mail, Ohio Postscripts, please read and save it! This has a lot of information in it as to what is going on and contact information. You will also receive a copy of the national publication in the mail, the UPMA Leader. This publication has all the information and tools to enhance your career. On the address label of the UPMA Leader, you will find your member I.D. along with your password (your last name) to access the UPMA national website.

The national office has asked that "all members" go to <a href="www.unitedpma.org">www.unitedpma.org</a>, access the site, click on the "Member Logon" icon in the upper right-hand corner of the page. Login and update your contact information, including your mailing address, phone number, and email address (Your personal email address).

If you are looking for KSA's help, click on the tab at the top, Career Development, there you will find KSA assistance. Take time to explore the website. You will find training tools that will help enhance your career.

As a new member you have many opportunities to get involved with the organization. Plan to attend UPMA events, this is where you meet our leaders and network with others. We would like to hear what your interests are and what talents you have to offer.

Now is the time to start planning to attend the Ohio Chapter Convention in Dublin, Ohio May 15-17, 2026. By attending convention, you will have a better understanding of what UPMA is all about. At convention we offer training to help you be successful. This is where you will develop relationships that will last a lifetime. You will not be disappointed.

Enjoy this fall weather. Hope to see you soon!

# **Legislative News**

UPMA's legislative agenda is to support the United States Postal Service and ensure that UPMA active and retired members benefits are protected. UPMA Legislative Summit in Washington, DC will be held March 22-25, 2026.

As we continue to fight for our benefits by educating our congressional leaders, we need your help! Plan on attending the Legislative Summitt held in Washington, DC. March 22-25, 2026.

I will post more information on our website, <u>www.ohioupma.com</u> as it becomes available.

Laura Reese Legislative Chair



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# Ohio UPMA Executive Board and Officers

# A word about our COVER:

The Ohio Chapter attended the second eCareer Conference held in Cleveland this past month and as a result, we have grown our membership with that effort and the previous in Ohio 2 District by 90 members.

These efforts are made to not just generate numbers but rather, invite ALL postal employees to share in the benefits that UPMA has to offer.

Pictured are Postmaster Luis Rosado, who served both as a UPMA representative and as a facilitator for training in the Cleveland event along with Paul Joseph, our Chapter CMR lead and National KSA Developer.

Also pictured is Chris Joseph, the Ohio Chapter Auxiliary President who assisted with recruiting efforts.

Thanks to everyone in keeping the momentum moving forward to grow the Ohio Chapter of UPMA.

Retiree Officers:

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stuckey31@msn.com

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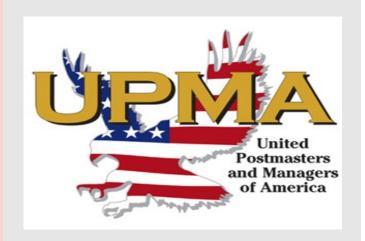
Ohio Chapter UPMA http://www.ohioUPMA.com

<u>UPMA National</u> www.Unitedpma.org

<u>UPMA Federal Credit Union</u> www.signaturefcu.org/

Thrift Savings Plan www.tsp.gov

<u>UPMA Postmasters Retired</u> http://groups.yahoo.co/group/ pmretired



# **UPMA Executive Board Information**

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**Legislative Chair** 

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**CMR** 

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**Editor** 

**National KSA Developer** 

# **Committee Chairs**

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Convention Lou Stuckey & Andrea Leyes

Sunshine Betty Major 330-612-0368 badatvs@gmail.com

# Retiree's Corner Lou Stuckey, Ohio Retiree President

### **HOWDY FROM DALLAS!**

I just returned from the convention in Dallas, and the Texas chapter were great hosts. The days were filled with great information about UPMA and postal operations. UPMA is still focused on membership and continues to urge us to help recruit members. As retirees, this is one thing we can do. You will be hearing more about it in the months to come. I sit in the meetings and try to figure out that they are talking about. Things change so fast as far as operations go that the terms are foreign to me. Even those who have recently retired find themselves in the dark. But one thing never changes and that is the pride we felt working for the USPS. We want to succeed not only so our retirement is safe, but we know how important it is to the people in America, and everywhere in the world.

The good news is that the visit from our new PMG, David Steiner, was reassuring us that he agrees. He was in waste management and knows little about us but is anxious to learn. He is a down-to-earth person, and he won the respect of everyone there. We were all left with a lot of hope for the future of our business. I wish you had been there to hear him, and to experience a National Convention. If you have never been to one, I encourage you to consider attending. A lot of work goes into planning and execution of a convention. There were about 900 attendees this year. Ohio usually has 30 plus in attendance, but this year we had 2 actives and 6 retirees. Ohio used to be a leader in all aspects of UPMA, but the interest has dwindled over the years, and we are near the bottom of every list except PAC. If anyone has any suggestions on how to improve our participation we are listening!

We had a lot of fun, made new friends, and loved visiting with the old friends. Next year we are traveling to Puerto Rico. We voted on Salt Lake City, UT for 2027.

Our new national retiree president is Louise Nix, and the newly elected vice president is Rosa Gonzales. They will be great leaders for our group.

We do have a free day on Tuesday. Our group visited the site of JFK assassination. We had a wonderful tour guide, and we all learned a lot. It was just one more benefit of attending convention by visiting places you might not have visited otherwise.

By now you should have received your invitation to the retiree's luncheon at Der Dutchman in Plan City on October 1<sup>st</sup>. This is another chance to stay in touch with wonderful friends!

See you there,



Lou Stuckey-President-Ohio Retirees

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

MAY 15-17, 2026 UPMA STATE CONVENTION EMBASSY SUITES 5100 UPPER METRO PLACE DUBLIN, OHIO 43017

Dueling Pianos will return on Friday Night!!

# STAY TUNED FOR MORE INFORMATION....



# A new way of management... Autocratic vs Facilitating Management

What a great career conference we had at the Ohio 1 district. Welcome to the 62 new members. It is a great honor to serve you and to guide you in the next steps of your career. We had the privilege to have as the keynote speaker, our Central Area Vice President Ms. Raj Sanghera. She talked about all her experience at the Postal Service and how things have been changing over the years. One of the things that stuck in my mind was that she wanted to change the mindset of management from **autocratic** to a **facilitating** way to manage.

### What is the difference?

An autocratic way of management is a unilateral way of management, not valued opinions and is their way or no way, and we all have heard the phrase "because I say so". We all know someone that uses this method of management and how "successful" they are in retaining, developing and engaging their employees.

Facilitating management is a method of management that cares about collective problem solving, working as a team to resolve issues. This will have more engaged employes, leaders act as facilitators rather than dictators. This method improves communication with a more open discussion and empowers creativity.

# What kind of management are you?

It's good to do an auto-evaluation and see where you stand. If you are autocratic is time to change...

We need to build better relations with our employees, co-workers and our managers. Comprehending that times have changed and every day it is more difficult to retain high quality employees due to the job market, it's time to move forward and facilitate a bright future for the next generation of management.

Luis J Rosado State Vice president





## DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member?
The kind who would be missed?
Or are just contented
that your name is on the list.

Do you attend the meetings and mingle with the flock? Or do you meet in private and criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part to help the work along? Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belongs?

Do you work on committees?

To this there is no trick;
or leave the work to just a few,
and talk about the click?

Please come to the meetings often, and help with hand and heart.

Don't be just a member but take an active part.

Think this over, members, you know what's right from wrong. Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

(-Anonymous-2013)

Submitted by: Andrea Leyes-Convention Co-Chair

## **Alan Metzcar - Executive Vice President**

### **DIGNITY AND RESPECT**

A few months ago, I was asked to go to Englewood for a Labor Management Meeting between a Postmaster and the City Carriers Union. This was a very eye-opening experience watching the 2-sides talk to each other with the most disrespect I had ever seen.

The meeting was with the Postmaster, Union Steward, Union President, Labor Relations Manager and others. This was to discuss the language and the disrespect between both sides. Neither side wanted to let the other side talk. In fact, the meeting was getting so bad the Manager of Labor Relations almost got up and left the meeting because of the way both sides were talking to each other.

Management: The Postmaster had very valid points about how she was running the offices and the corrections that was being made to make it a more productive office. The Postmaster was explaining how corrective action was being taken to correct carriers' attendance. The Postmaster was simply trying to run the office the way it should be ran.

Union: The Unions perspective is that the management picks on employees and doesn't treat all employees the same. Union stated the office is a mess and is never clean and the restrooms were disgusting.

None of this was true as I walked the office it was very organized in the back, and the restrooms were very clean. This is the Unions way of trying to turn things in their favor. We always say treat others as you would want to be treated. I know some changes were made after this meeting and I just hope the relationship between the Union and Management gets better. You cannot run an office effectively with this kind of behavior on both sides of the fence.

I know Unions can be difficult, but we must show them we are here to work with them and not against them. This will make the Postal Service a much better place to work.

Please call me if you need anything.

Alan T. Metzcar Executive Vice President Ohio UPMA Chapter (330)827-0137 AlanmetzcarUPMA@outlook.com



# **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

UPMA Chapter Member Representation Atlanta, GA September 13, 2025

Central Area Officers Conference (CAOS)
Oakbrook, Illinois
September 26-28-2025

Atlantic Area Conference Concord, NC September 26-28, 2025

WestPac Officers Conference Hyatt Place Meridain 1175 S. Silvertone Way Meridian, ID 83642 October 3-4, 2025

Southern Officers Conference
Little Rock Downtown Mariott
3 State House Plaza
Little Rock, AR 72201
October 9-12, 2025
Airport Shuttle is provided to and from the Airport

UPMA Chapter Member Representation Denver, Co October 18, 2025

2026 Kickoff & Membership Meeting San Diego, Ca January 18, 2026

> UPMA Legislative Summit Arlington, Va March 15-18, 2026

Ohio Chapter Convention May 15-17, 2026 Embassy Suites Dublin 5100 Upper Metro Place Dublin, Ohio 43017

10<sup>th</sup> Annual National UPMA Convention San Juan, PR August 1-7,2026

# **Cleveland eCareer Conference HUGE success!**

The Ohio Chapter made a huge impact at the Ohio 1 District eCareer Conference held in Cleveland this past month. Postmaster Luis Rosado was present to assist with recruiting while also serving as a training facilitator at the event.

Both Paul Joseph, PM retired and his wife Chris, Auxiliary President, worked the UPMA table to share information, assist new members with contacts, "how to move forward" and most importantly, ensure they got registered for the \$30 REBATE offered.

It became very clear that after the event was over, UPMA is here to stand with it's members to provide guidance, assistance with KSA's and EAS representation as needed. This is what sells UPMA in the service we offer membership.

New contacts were made and rekindled old friendships too at the event.

When prospective members stop by the table, you have just seconds to explain the benefits of why being a member are so critical to both craft members and EAS who are already promoted.

Once it is explained, the choice is simple. It PAYS to be a member at so little cost!

There were times when things seemed 'hectic', it was for a reason. When you see up to six people holding a clipboard filling out their information, it must be for a good reason.

We ensured that no question went unanswered on this day and they had all the tools to take with them for success.

Recruiting new members is not just a 'chore' but rather, a satisfying experience knowing you are working towards building the bench for a successful postal service future.

# Paul Joseph - National KSA Developer, Ohio Chapter Membership





### More INFO from Cleveland Conference

To the right is Paul Joseph assisting a new member with information about UPMA.

There were over 250 in attendance on this day.

The previous event was in Miamisburg, Ohio.

Recruiting isn't just a one day event.

It happens every day with every conversation.

Let's take Ohio to the NEXT level with your efforts in recruiting and building the bench!





Here is Paul Joseph hanging out with SAM, the Safety Dog. SAM stands for "Safety Always Matters"!

Just don't pay attention to Paul's left ankle that is broken but on the mend now. **Safety applies to being at home too, not just at work!** 

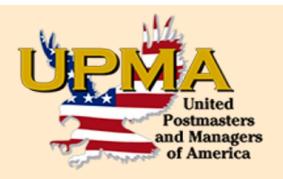
Thanks Luis, Chris and Paul for a great job in Cleveland!

The table had to be constantly replenished with materials as folks took info to learn and grow in their career.





### **DECISIONS:**



Life is a series of decisions. Some good and some not so good. Each day when the alarm goes off – if you use one, you decide to get up or snooze a little longer. Depending on your situation determines your likely choice. We sometimes make these decisions based on day of week. I always went to work a little later Tuesday because it was the lightest mail day of the week. Based on informed delivery that may not be true anymore. So, what decisions you make can determine how your day unfolds.

What we choose to do or who we connect with can have profound impacts on which way our life is headed. Our life partners, job choices, where we live all can have a negative or positive impact on our life. The interesting thing to me is we can do a course correction or lose our way with today's decisions. We have daily decisions and decisions that are more long term. So, when you go to work you have to make decisions. How are we going to cover that assignment for the person who called off? How are we going to deal with that person when they return? Do you cover the window or cover the route? Who to reach out to for help? All things we must deal with but the decision on the how is critical.

This is where UPMA can help. Even limited participation can help you develop a network of people to lean on to help you make the best decision. We all have busy lives and giving up free time to participate in events can seem tedious. We always added some local point of interest to our attendance at National and State conventions. Over the years we have seen a great portion of the United States and most of Ohio. And at the conventions you can develop friendships and networks that will make your job life more tolerable. I always loved my job. Some days more than others but on the bad days I spent a little extra time venting to my network.

We have 2 National events and 1 state event each year. In recent years the state has provided a stipend to help offset some of the expenses. So, make the decision to become more active and add some positivity to your work life (and in some cases your personal life). I have never regretted it.

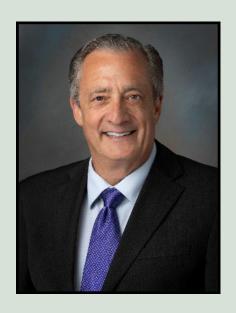
Bill Judge-Secretary Treasurer



### Hello Ohio UPMA Membership, this is where we stand right now with our membership:

July N	lumbers	
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	July	Numbers			
Postmasters	Non-Member Offices	Locations	Membership %		
338	178	517	68.76		
Managers	Supervisor	Associates	PMR	Retired members	
1	296	197	5	578	
Total Active	Total members				
638	1139				
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D	· ·	st Numbers	M h h i 0/		
Postmasters	Non-Member Offices	Locations	Membership %		
339	175	514	65.95		
Managers	Supervisor	Associates	PMR	Retired members	
1	305	195	5	576	
Total Active	Total members				
648	1138				
		New Members 2025			
Name	Name	Name	Name	Name	
Savana Obrien	Jarrell Gandy	Justin Wade	Nedeannia Murrell	Erica Hawkins	
Christy Reddick	Colton Stutzman	Sara England	Angelica Head	Leanna Steward	
Kimberly Madison	Kaitlin Harris	Anjeanette Spencer	Ashlee Elijah	Rachel Lawrence	
Eric Asamoah	Ebonie Farrow	Veronica Linne McClain	Adadra Okoye	David Lane	
Brianna Hardy	Craig Goines	Kesean Williamson	Jesus Fregoso	Brittany Kedler	
Dallas Gombash	Angela Marcum	Scott Gerhardt	Susan Yarbrough	Jael McDade-Povick	
Tamika Taylor	Dwight Sanders	Garrett Hagan	Yusra Bellis	Danielle Cook	
Cory Smith	Terrell Williams	Jason Burdett	Donald Watson	Donna Bailey	
Peggy Weber	Katherine Rufft	Crystal Jacobs	Henry Knight, III	Ashley Reed	
Lori Jackson	Kashiba Allen	Christopher Corey	Kimberly Vassar	Latasha Jolly	
Franklin Dudash	Virgil Mick, III	April Austin	Kervin Rodna	Kimberly Barnes	
Andrew Farmer	Ashley Lynum	Jodi Clark	Kundre Born	Kaylee Denman	
Krishawna Kimble	Joshua Miller	Leslie Simms	Rayshon McDade	Kelly Schumacher	
Leslie Moore	Ryan Stanley	Shane McMullen	Isha Kumari	Larin Feuerbachen	
Jonah Cochran	Kishunda Daniels	Jason Keith	Michelle Rutledge	Megan Kaeck	
Kim Price	Ashley Rone	Tamla Bruton	Theresa Blunt	Mary Nagy	
Zayd Mabin	Aaron Neilsen	Robert Drew	Rita Kerr	Sara Yvonne Tyson	
Tracy Smith	Michael Koester	Toni Mayfield	Bridgest Hilderbrand	Tisha L. Oldham	
Steven Bernara	Annette Dobraska	Kevin Whelan	April Kaeck	Chaniqua Wangner	
Patrice Boone	Cassandra Connor	Marquitta Hayward	Gabriel Almeda	Tyler A Neer	
Christine Ortiz	Arnold Schrath	Martara Johnson	Toni Mayfield	Christopher Wilson	
Masta Johnson	Tiana johnson	Crystal Bollinger	Ryan D Penley	Zach Gilliland	
Hooman Raad	Dustin Wacker	Michael McCloy	Eglin Young	Jeffrey T Marath	
Nicole Kruczek	Renee Broome	Serina Leistritz	Tynanna Terrell	Timothy W. Livingston	
Jorge Barbosa	Kevin Gibson-Cooper Jr	Michael Cleland	Tigist Gemechu	Samuel Marfo	
Rebecca Eichel	Miclele Byland	Roddrickus Pernell	Richard Petrosky	Cheryl Riser	
Ashley Jones	Nikya Harris	Andrew Fiorita	Dwight Sanders, Sr.	Lorena Torres Farias	
Richard Gonzales III	Nathaneal Norris	Jospeh Bailey	Joseph Slavik, Jr.	Nick Withers	
Nia Gainer	Nachelle Chappel	David North	Shauntel Tate	Kimberly S Fown	
Devin Taylor	Alexis Powell	Starlene R Woods	Ryan Barbieri	Ashley E Williams	
Amanda Skuza	Ame Erdman	Amey Fernandez	Michael Wheeler	Erica Smith	
Jordan Probst	Tricia Rivera	Asia Osborne	Brian Foster, II	Joshua Jaeger	
Laura Reese	Elliott Magenheim	Ericka Anderson	Brett Blodgett	Julius Oi	
Charles Joseph Leisz	Christina Craig	Dustin Burgy	Cherry Bartram	Drequann Crenshaw	



Meet our new Postmaster General-David Stiener

At the UPMA national convention in Dallas in August we had the pleasure of having David speak to us on a very personal level. It was such a different kind of speech. Our national UPMA president and the PMG sat on stage in a fireside chat, just like they were old friends. They both asked each other questions and just talked about life and the future of the postal service. It was so much better than just a prepared speech that is read off a paper. He has only been in his new appointment for a month. He is very personable and has a great sense of humor, we got to know him on more of a personal level. It was nothing like any of the headquarter employees that we usually get to hear. He is a great storyteller and very entertaining. Very open about his life and how he got the position as PMG. Not sure if it is because he is new and untainted by the issues the post office is facing.

He told us he watched videos of congress and sub committee's talking to former PMG DeJoy and their main concern was service/time to move the mail across the country. His reply to the board of governors during his interview was, "I can give you anything you want but it is going to cost you. He told him he can speed up service if we can get subsidized funding, or he can find a happy ground with service and staying financially viable. He gave an example from his former job in recycling and trash hauling. Businesses would call him and want to be 100% green, he would give them a price and to be 100% green was quite expensive. Most of the customers would settle on 80% green at a less cost. It applies to our customers at the postal service are they willing to pay the price for the service we use to provide. David talked about the 10-year plan and is willing to see it though until he learns more about the postal service. He is against privatization of this great American institution. Which was applauded by all in attendance. He even took questions in an open mike forum after his speech. He told us we need to be fair as he has only held the PMG position for a month so his answer may be" I do not know, but I will find out." We all come out of the session feeling good with his upbeat message and truthful answers. He seems like a down-to-earth, respectful person. A breath of fresh air for the post office and our employees-time will tell.

**Patty Schag-2nd Vice President** 



# So you THINK A.I. will get the job done for you? Think AGAIN!

Not a single day goes by when I hear or see an article about AI (Artificial Intelligence) and how it will make my life better, simpler and easier to get anything done. Well, that may be great if it eliminates my crabgrass problem but, when it comes to bettering my own intelligence factor that I rely on to do my job, I'll stick to my own brain to make informed decisions.

So why all this fuss about AI and why I'm cautioning ALL our membership both active and retired? Because depending on how you apply AI in your daily routines, you could hurt yourself by not having the knowledge, skills or abilities to accomplish whatever it was you intended to do. I'm going to give you a "real world" example of what I'm referring to.

I knew it had to happen sooner or later. I've been working with several folks as a UPMA KSA assistant to help them generate, hone and refine their eCareer profiles for future consideration.

Recently, I had someone send me their KSA's to review and after looking at it firsthand, there was something that just jumped off the page at me. NOBODY talks like this or writes like this. It was literally "robotic" in nature. So, I played along.

My next step was to call the person wanting assistance and ask them some quantifying questions on the scenarios they were referring to. Come to find out, they literally knew next to nothing about what they had submitted to me. Then I asked the question, "Did you use AI to write your KSA's?" They were honest and said yes. So, I explained why we are going to completely start at ground zero and I wanted them to speak in their OWN terms and words. By doing so, it will help them better relate to what they have on paper and can speak to that in an interview.

To help reinforce my point in a positive manner, I asked them to participate in a 'mock interview' based upon what they originally submitted. Very quickly they realized they had no idea what they were talking about versus upon what was written. Self-realization goes a long way in helping to convince someone, you need to do the homework first before looking for a shortcut to get the job done.

After some back and forth collaboration, the member ended up having a polished KSA list they were proud of and were satisfied they could accomplish it without the use of AI. For many, I hope this message hits home on the importance of deciding when it's OK to use AI. As for me, I will continue to use, exercise and fill my brain with knowledge at every opportunity before I decide to let a computer algorithm think for me. That has been my key to success all these years and works every time!

Yes, AI is here to stay but it is up to everyone to decide what is best for you moving forward.

Do your homework FIRST and think carefully before you push that "A.I." button.

# Paul Joseph – National eCareer KSA Development Team

# The rewards of giving back!

## Hello Ohio Membership!

I am honored to step into the role of editor with some very big shoes to fill. Paul is a great mentor and has helped many UPMA members over the years. With his knowledge, experience and just plain good advice have benefited many of us. As I learn my role as editor and develop my skills, I have a goal to also increase our membership. The most rewarding part of my 38-year career has been developing people. Whether hiring them into the organization or promoting them to their next position, it is truly the best part of being a Postmaster/Manager. I have so many success stories and still to this day communicate with many.

Growing our membership is vital for all of us. My Postal family has been a great support through the years and into retirement. Sharing UPMA fellowship with others is a great way to give back. Career conferences, 3-digit meetings and our conventions all allow us to build a better Ohio chapter. Visiting offices of newly promoted supervisors, Postmasters, and Managers, along with meeting new 204B's, this gives us an opportunity to increase our membership. More importantly it allows us to give back and share the many benefits of this organization.

I ask for your support in this new role by submitting articles, suggestions and sharing your stories. Attend our conventions and as we continue to work to bring the 3-digit meetings back help to be a part of that in your area.

I am available via <u>email-judgey66@yahoo.com</u> and via phone at 513-405-9041. I am excited for our future as we continue to grow and become stronger together.



Cheryl Judge Editor

# **Chapter Member Representatives**

Below is the list of Chapter Member Representatives available in Ohio along with the areas they cover:

NAME AREA COVERED PHONE #

Patty Schag 448, 446 (419-565-2685)
Alan Metzcar 437,438,430,433 (330-827-0137)
Laura Reese 435, 436 (419-551-1908)
Andrea Leyes 450,451,453 (513-702-1630)
Tracie Gebhart 450, 451 (513-435-0573)
Tracy Canby 450, 451, 453 (937-725-4191)
Paul Joseph 458 (419-236-0166)
Luis Rosado 448,433 (440-506-5330)
Bill Judge 437,455,456,457 (513-702-9702)
Jerome Canady 430,431,432,434 (614-902-0041)

# Make copies of this and keep on hand for immediate ACCESS

Please reach out to any of our CMR's listed above for assistance, advice or <u>to help another EAS employee</u> <u>you know who might be headed in the wrong direction.</u>

All of our CMR's are trained, work in confidentiality and are here to ASSIST all of our EAS members before a CRISIS comes up.

And of course, let's remember that EAP is a resource as well for all employees:

800-EAP-4YOU 800-327-4968 The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, across the United States and its territories. The 988 Lifeline is comprised of a national network of over 200 local crisis centers, combining local care and resources with national standards and best practices.

### 988 Lifeline

In 2024, the 988 Lifeline celebrated its second anniversary in July and the inaugural 988 Day on September 8th. Georouting of voice calls was launched on September 17th, which allows cellular phone calls to 988 to be routed to a local crisis center based on the caller's approximate location rather than area code. This provides help seekers with faster, more localized support, ensuring they receive care when, where, and how they need it most. On October 18, 2024, the FCC adopted rules requiring georouting for all wireless calls to 988 (applies to all wireless carriers). Similar to voice, in November 2024, the FCC began the rulemaking process for georouting for text messaging.

Since its launch in July 2022, the 988 Lifeline has answered over 13M calls, texts, and chats from people in need of support across the US and its territories.

The 988 Lifeline has been independently evaluated since its inception by an investigation team from Columbia University's Research Foundation for Mental Hygiene. Studies have shown that callers feel less suicidal, depressed, overwhelmed, and more hopeful after connecting with a 988 Lifeline counselor. The 988 Lifeline receives ongoing consultation and guidance from national and international researchers and experts focused on suicide prevention and crisis response. Over 90% of people who attempt suicide go on to live out their lives. With the help of the evidence-based crisis intervention that the 988 Lifeline provides, we can offer emotional support to help save lives.

# **Another chapter in LIFE**

You may have heard by now that Cheryl Judge is taking over as the next Editor for the Ohio Chapter and I'm confident she will do an excellent job in bringing everyone, a publication filled with information presented in a professional manner worthy of nationwide recognition. I will be assisting her with this transition and look forward to many years of success.

I took over as Chapter Editor back in 2010 when our former Editor Janette Degen became the national editor for NAPUS. Little did I realize that I would do so for the next 15 years!

So much has changed in that time along with our transition to UPMA. But like anything, change is inevitable and we must learn how to adapt and make change work for the better.

The same applies to the postal service and in life. It's how you deal with it.

After hearing the new PMG in Dallas at the National Convention, I am refreshed with hope that a new culture of leadership is at the helm that puts PEOPLE at the pinnacle for success. He stressed that desk pounding, yelling and threatening has to stop and does not foster good relationships. While you may get results doing that, you also build walls that delay progress.

Someone asked me if I'm quitting UPMA by stepping down. Quitting? I don't quit anything in life. Rather, because of my increased activity in representing EAS as a National Member Representative covering six states now, it is taking me weekly to devoting more time than ever before. But I'm okay with that.

Reflecting on my young career a 'few' years ago, I had walls and hurdles where nobody was reaching out with a hand saying "let me help you". I had to figure it out myself and in doing so, I said IF I ever get the chance to help someone in need, I will never forget where I came from.

That notion has never changed for me. Rather, it made me more committed than ever before.

In my dealings with people far and wide, I know I may have ruffled a few feathers along the way but know this, I spoke the truth and held to my convictions of working towards the greater good.

At the end of the day, I know I gave my best to those I've worked with, to the postal service and most importantly, to the Ohio Chapter.

It's not a farewell but rather, another chapter in life that everyone of us will also take as we turn the page to what comes next.

Thank you to everyone who's made this journey memorable and made Ohio stronger than ever before. It's because of you that I am still marching forward in service.

Respectfully yours,

Paul Joseph

# Would YOU send your FAMILY out in this???

We all get around to different offices for different reasons and the SIMPLE things we SHOULD look out for are right in front of us. **Case in point:** 

I was visiting an area office this past week when I observed several postal vehicles parked for the day on the lot. As I walked by, I couldn't help but notice something so obvious, I had to stop. What was it? Take a closer look at these pictures and you tell me...





Real unretouched photos of a postal Vehicle parked for next day delivery.

What I saw was NO tread at all on over half of the exposed tire. It was a "banana peel" surface that will certain begin skidding on either a dry street or a wet street if the brakes are applied.

WHY on earth would we send our carriers out in a vehicle with these conditions? No tires you say? *NO PROBLEM*.

# Deadline the vehicle folks. You have no other choice. It's the RIGHT choice.

Try to explain this to the District Manager when your carrier ends up in the hospital because you allowed this vehicle to go out unsafe. We pay every postal employee to take the time and INSPECT that vehicle before they drive it. **WE need to supervise that daily.** 

Fortunately, I went in and spoke with the Postmaster to correct this immediately and they were grateful for 'extra eyes' on safety. PLEASE don't allow an unsafe condition to wreck someone's life permanently when it can be avoided.

# **MAKE TIME FOR SAFETY EVERY DAY FOR EVERYONE!!!**

Paul Joseph - National Member Representative UPMA

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# <u>Deadline for next Post Scripts articles is:</u> <u>November 3rd, 2025</u>

Also, check out our website for the latest info, forms, on events to come at:

ohioUPMA.com