

Ohio Post Scripts UPDATE



ISSUE 39

Ohio Chapter UPMA

December 2025



Postman delivering Chicago 1929



Women sorting mail in the 1920's



December 1929 Chicago Rush

What a Rush!

“Peak Season” is what the folks who work at the Postal Service call it — that surge of holiday mail during December. It is so much a part of American culture that you might assume it’s always been this way. A brief look at the history of holiday mail shows that this has not always been the case.

Before the Civil War, the sending of Christmas cards was practically unheard of. Paper, printing, and postage were all fairly expensive. It wasn’t until 1855 that senders of cards and letters were required to prepay postage. Before then, the recipients sometimes had to pay to receive their mail. By the time the first Christmas cards were printed in the United States in the 1870s, the cost of postage had dropped to the point that sending cards was more affordable.

Fueled by prosperity and a booming economy, the sending and receiving of cards grew in popularity in the late 1880s. News reports of a holiday mailing rush appeared by 1887. That year, *The [Philadelphia] Times* reported, “was the first time in the history of free delivery in this city that the letter carriers ever had to resort to push carts to deliver their mail.”

It took many decades for the Christmas card phenomenon to increase in popularity throughout the UK and the U.S. The first holiday greeting card in America can be traced back to 1875. Louis Prang was a Prussian immigrant that owned a print shop near Boston, Massachusetts. The following year he started selling them in the northeastern part of the country. In just a few years, he printed more than 5 million Christmas cards a year for sale in America.

By the 1880s, industrialization was taking hold, which meant the phasing out of the family farm structure and families living further apart geographically. Women were tasked with keeping kinship alive through extended familial connections - including holiday well-wishes. This effort caused Christmas cards to grow rapidly in popularity as families kept in contact around the festive season.

At the turn of the 20th century, handmade Christmas greeting cards began to grow in popularity. Early creative crafters constructed the cards themselves, oftentimes using non-traditional shapes and adding accents such as foil and ribbon.

People turned to homemade for one of several reasons - either they couldn't afford to purchase printed cards, they wanted to embark on an artistic endeavor, or they were avoiding the commercialism associated with mass-produced Christmas cards.

Oftentimes these handmade creations were too delicate or intricately designed for the postal system and necessitated hand-delivery - which heightened the personal connections and increased postal delivery around Christmastime. (scrapbook.com)

In the early 1900s the Post Office Department began planning for extra facilities, equipment, and personnel to cope with the holiday rush. The Department also began launching annual “Mail Early” campaigns, encouraging the public not to wait until the last minute to send their holiday mail.

Despite its early limitations, Parcel Post was an instant hit with the public and businesses. On the first 5 days it was offered in 1913, more than 4 million packages were sent by an excited public through city Post Offices. Moreover, the Post Office proved able to handle the flood adeptly, and several newspapers publicized comparative tests that showed Parcel Post, notwithstanding its much lower price, provided faster service than the express companies.

Parcel Post opened up a national marketplace for mail order goods, and customers gained access to a much broader variety of high-quality merchandise. Sears, Roebuck took the greatest advantage, shipping five times its 1912 volume in 1913, and in 5 years tripling its 1912 revenue. Montgomery Ward tripled its revenues from 1913 to 1920. By that year, on average, 17 packages were delivered by Parcel Post to every rural address, about one every 3 weeks. (usps.org)

On December 14, 1913, the Washington, DC, *Evening Star* called Parcel Post the “New Ally of Santa Claus” and described how “Santa Claus is wearing a broader smile than usual this year. His whistle is merrier, and he is hustling the elves and brownies around his great toy workshop in high spirits. So, say agents who have been in consultation with him in Santa Claus Land.”

In 1917, the entry of the United States into World War I added a military dimension to the holiday rush. Second Assistant Postmaster General Otto Praeger wrote, “Recognizing the unusual significance of the coming Christmastide ... the Post Office Department ... has made special arrangements to effect timely delivery of all ‘Christmas’ parcels addressed to the American Expeditionary Force overseas.”

The 1918 *Annual Report of the Postmaster General* described the extraordinary efforts taken to achieve that goal: “Ninety [box] carloads of this Christmas mail were delivered to the headquarters of the various divisions on or before the morning of December 25, while four carloads from a transport belated by storm were completely delivered on the morning of December 27.”

During World War II, so many experienced postal workers were deployed overseas in the military that the Post Office Department was woefully short of manpower. To help inexperienced, temporary workers keep up with growing amounts of wartime mail, the Department introduced delivery “zone numbers” in the nation’s largest cities. Zone numbers were the forerunners of the ZIP Code.

The Post Office Department issued its first Christmas-themed postage stamps in 1962. Since then, stamps featuring a wide array of religious and cultural celebrations, including Hanukkah (1996) and Kwanzaa (1997), have been issued.

In recent years, driven by online sales, parcel deliveries have continued to increase. Times may have changed, but it still takes teamwork, dedication and planning to deliver a successful holiday mailing season — just like it did a hundred years ago. (Steve Kochersperger, Dec 16, 2019, usps.blog)

Greetings Ohio UPMA members.

Hope this finds everyone well and ready to embrace the 2025 peak season. Although it is never easy, we always manage to get through it! Don't allow yourself to get overwhelmed. Reach out for assistance if needed.

When you joined UPMA you gained a network of Postmasters, Managers, Supervisors and other EAS professionals who can assist you in day-to-day duties and mentor you for future opportunities. We are here to assist, mentor and guide, all Postmasters, Managers, Supervisors, and anyone aspiring to these positions towards achieving their professional goals.

Start planning now to attend your state convention May 15th–17, 2026 in Dublin, Ohio. If you are new to UPMA this is a must attend event. We provide essential training and networking necessary for our members to be successful. This is a great opportunity for you to experience what your Ohio Executive Committee does for you. Our Convention Chairs, Andrea Leyes and Lou Stuckey have prepared another amazing event.

In this publication, you will find information on all our events for the upcoming year.

I am looking forward to meeting our new members and supporting them in their future endeavors.

Laura Reese
President



RETIREEES (W)RAP IT UP

The Retirees had their fall luncheon on October 1st at the Der Dutchman in Plain City. It is centrally located and the food and service are amazing.

We started the day as usual with bingo and euchre. We had 68 people in attendance and as always it was good to see everyone. We had 3 new retirees. Cheryl Judge, who is our new editor, Laura Reese, who is the actives acting president, PAC chair and Legislative chair, and Mari Beth Kirkland, who is National President Tony Leonardi's executive assistance.

As you can see, retirees play an important part in UPMA. Andrea Leyes and I plan the state convention, Rita Schemmel is state scholarship chair, Doris Conrad is National Scholarship chair, Bill Judge is state Secretary/Treasurer, Jordan Davenport is webmaster and parliamentarian, Betty and Mike Wilson run our hospitality room, Paul Joseph is a national rep, and we have many reps in the state who help with KSA's and representation.

This group is tireless in their efforts to keep our group running. The problem is we can't do this forever. We must recruit new members that want to get involved. That is very difficult in this day and age. There are many reasons people don't get involved in any organization. No one knows how to turn this around and be as dedicated as we are. All we can do is try. So I challenge everyone to go out and get one new member. If Ted and Howard had not shown up at my office, I would not be part of this group, and I would miss all of you if we just quit attending. I am sure that most of you will come to see everyone!

After the games we got down to business by eating a delicious home style meal with roast beef, chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad and pie. If you don't care about games, or visiting, just come for the food! But the best part of the meeting was when Beth Parish did a senior rap for the group. She was very entertaining.

We then held our required business meeting. The other required one is at the state convention. You can read all about it on the state website ohioupma.com in our minutes along with the treasurer report by Tracie Gephart.

Sara Kreitzer has been the Vice President and is now stepping down, with Deb Justice taking her place. She has been a great value to us in this role, and we gave her a small token of our appreciation. I am sure she will stay involved.

Sadly, it was time to leave and until next year, Happy Trails to You!

Lou Stuckey
Retiree President



Hello Members,

We just had our Chapter Member Representative training 201 class in Denver Colorado on October 18, 2025, at the Embassy Suite Denver International Airport

We had 2 from the Ohio Chapter attend the training, retired Postmaster Paul Joseph, and myself. It was an all-day training course going over what we should look for in the more advanced cases we represent. The class was led by our National President Tony Leonardi, National Adverse Action Chair John Sertich, and National Board Liaison Jim Maher. We began the day with a basic overview of the CMR 101 course. With the 201 class you are more involved with the representation that you do. There is more fact finding that occurs and you must dig deep to find answers as to what happened with the individual. It will start with a simple Investigative Interview with the Individual involved and the person proposing the discipline. Some cases are easy, some cases involve a lot more investigation. It is very important that you get everything from the individual needing the representation as possible, i.e.: text messages, emails and anything else that might help with the investigation, to help get the best possible resolution. If a resolution cannot be reached after the discipline has been given, the case may have to go to mediation and to the National Member Representative for further investigation and fact finding. If it does go to the Adverse Action level you, as the representative, must help the National Member Rep with the investigation and get the information they are asking for. This helps our members' case and helps them with the case.

Overview of what was covered:

- Overview of the CMR Program
- The Legal Defense Plan (must be a member for a year to qualify for this)
- OIG Interview Module
- Investigative Interview Module
- ELM 650 Overview
- Appeals and Request for Information Module
- Mediation
- Douglas Factors
- Consultative Log

So as you can see, this is a lot of information that is covered in an 8-hour day. If you have attended the CMR 101 class, then you need to attend the CMR 201 class.

Next year they are planning 2 classes for the 201 courses, one on the East coast and 1 on the west coast. The 101 courses will be covered in the Officers courses in each area next year. If you are interested in learning something new and helping your fellow members in their time of need, please reach out and learn something new with UPMA.

Alan Metzcar
Executive Vice President



UNITED POSTMASTERS AND MANAGERS OF AMERICA-UPMA

I would like to thank you for being a part of UPMA and explain to you some of the things we do to make your postal life better. We are a management organization representing current and future managers and Postmasters. Our mission is to help you succeed in your postal career. We represent you at the district level and the National level. We provide opportunities to network and improve your chances to advance within the Postal Service. Or share your issues with like-minded members.

We have events each year that help you along the way.

In May we will have our Ohio State convention. First-timers get free registration (which covers all your meals) and the board approved a stipend of \$300 to help offset the room costs. We have Headquarters UPMA officers that bring us up to date in the Postal Services' direction that they want us to help them achieve. We invite District Staff to come and speak to us about new or upcoming programs.

We are planning 3-digit Area meetings in different parts of the state, and at least one of your Executive Committee members will be in attendance to share more information about other events and the other membership advantages we have. We will brainstorm challenges at the local level. There is strength in numbers, and our showing participation will improve our abilities to influence the direction the Postal Service takes.

You will receive the National publication the Leader and the state publication Postscripts. Ohio and National UPMA have a website and Facebook page. We are starting a monthly email communication. We have roughly 70% accurate emails.

Things to do:

Monitor communications for new information.

Review your members' information for accuracy (so you can get up to date info).

Commit to doing something for your betterment.

I feel this is a great organization and that is the reason I do what I do.

Ohio UPMA Website



National UPMA Website



Bill Judge
Secretary Treasurer

Do you need development?

We are committed to our members to help them reach career goals. The national office has launched the UPMA leadership development program. This is a zoom meeting that helps management to reach excellence. The invitation is sent by email by the national office and will take place the third Wednesday of every month. If you are not receiving this email, please reach out to me, send me your information to be updated. Also, we have the KSA assistance program to help you develop your E-Career profile. You can sign in to the national website **unitedupma.org** under the career development tab. An experienced member will contact you and guide you to an excellent E-career profile.

We are here for you; we want you to succeed in your career.

Luis J Rosado
Vice President



Congratulations to all the new EAS and the former EAS that were promoted in FY-25.

Remember, you are not on an Island so please network and develop a support system with other EAS. Learn who has skills you can learn from as we all have certain strengths we can share with others.

FY25- Finished on a good note every EAS in OHIO got a raise!

Our UPMA national president fought a hard fight to kept pay talks going until he got what he could for the cells we fell into. Without his determined efforts we would not of landed so well. Thank You Tony!

FY26- WHAT IS NEXT

With a new PMG and the financial crunch we are in there will definitely be some changes. The post office normally has a **30**-day reserve of funds, we are now down to **5** days. Peak season is upon us and it is extremely important this year we meet our revenue goals for the year. Our volume is at an all-time low. Revenue in our lobbies is close to non-existent. The only thing keeping us going is on-line business and pre-paid packages.

FY26- is all about service, serving our customers, delivering every piece every day, replying to C360 cases timely, watching our budgeted hours, most of all working safely inside and outside the office. DPH- is 15% of our NPA in FY25 -Be sure red books are correct, and your carrier is getting credit for every delivery. Even 1 delivery not accounted for makes a huge difference. Stay focused and let's have a great FY26.

COMPLIANCE:

Keep a strong focus on compliance this fiscal year. Postmasters and Managers please do not sit in your office and stew over a report or application that you are unsure what or how to do it. Please reach out to a neighboring office and ask for help. If you need to reach out to the person that sent the assignment to you DO IT. Its better to reach out than be non-compliant. There are many things we do once a year so reach out if you don't fully understand. You need a check list for your office in case you are called away in the middle of the day. Can your supervisor or clerk close your office? Quit hiding your knowledge! Your staff should know what you do, show them reports and let them do everything on your check list so they are comfortable when you are not in the office. Spend more time with your staff to mentor them in what it takes to be a successful unit.

Postmasters and Managers, it's not a one man job, assign and expect your supervisors to have responsibility in your office. Supervisors accept the knowledge and direction, it will help you throughout your career. Bottom line write it down, follow the list and stay in Compliance!

Patty Schag-2nd Vice President



One More Thing

The end of the year is coming too quickly as it always does! This year also brings the end of my term as Vice President. I have enjoyed serving you in this position and thank you for allowing me this opportunity! One thing I'd like to re-emphasize before I go. Please know that **when you retire, your UPMA membership ends.** In order to maintain your membership in this great organization, you must actively register by completing an 1187R and either mail it in or register on the website. Please ask if you have any questions! We lose too many members upon retirement, even though UPMA is still representing and fighting for us! Do you know of anyone at this happy point in their life? Give them a call and get them signed up! And, I'm not really going anywhere, I will still be here and am willing to help in any way possible! You have all become like family, and I intend to keep you in my family! Wishing you an abundance of love and blessings into the New Year!

Sara Kreitzer Retiree Vice President



Member Spotlight



Honorable Sierra Smith



Sierra Smith is the Postmaster of Vandalia ,OH,. 45371 level 20. She took over the office in June of 2023. In her 8 years at the Post office she has been a city carrier, 204b, EAS 17 Customer Service Supervisor, and then Postmaster. She came to the Post Office thru a friend she went to church with. Some of her greatest influences were an OIC that had a great work ethic and a fellow Supervisor that showed her how to develop work relationships. Her fondest memory is the baby shower her office threw for her when she had her middle child. A union-management co-operative event. Her career goals is to someday become Postmaster of the level 21 office she started at. Currently her goal is to make the workplace she is at to be a positive experience for all the employees.

She and her husband Alex have 3 children: 10 year old Sawyer, 8 year old Stella, and 5 month old Knox.

Hello my Ohioan's,

It was great to see those of you who attended the 9th Annual National Convention in Dallas, Texas. I could not visit as much as I wanted due to my position at the National Office. It was my first round being “Gerri Swarm” and I won’t lie; I was very nervous. At the end of the day, we had very few hiccups. That was a great feeling.

What an awesome job the Texas Chapter did with the convention. All the entertainment, training, food, sessions were amazing, and we really celebrated the western theme! The new PMG, David Steiner, was in attendance, and provided a great Q& A session. Doug Tulino, the Deputy Postmaster General spoke on Monday. Elvin Mercado, Chief Retail and Delivery Officer (CRDO) spoke on Thursday. Both Doug Tulino and Elvin Mercado did a Q & A session, as well. If you have never attended a National or Chapter convention you are missing out on so much. Both Conventions provide so much. Networking with people who do, or have done, the same job as you, are awesome.

I wanted to share some new things at the National Office. The past 8 months have been all about organization, cleaning up, and learning the inter workings of UPMA. You may have heard but we have created a UPMA Store. It is on the National Website at unitedpma.org. There is so much merchandise, all specific to UPMA. Chapter logos can be created to personalize merchandise. It has taken off rapidly. Visit it and see what there is to offer.

On April 1st a vision of our National President, Tony Leonardi a KSA Assistant Team was created. This is for any associates or EAS. It is so simple to request. You must be a member to receive assistance. There are 4 TEAM Leads specific to areas. Debra Alums is the Chair for this program. We have received hundreds of requests and have many success stories already. This team is changing lives and helping to get people promoted. A new Leadership program is on the horizon. I will tell you that the “top people” at headquarters are very thankful and supportive of this program and the things UPMA is doing. We work as partners with HQs to improve what we can. It is a give and take, folks, and UPMA wants to work cohesively with HQs.

Tony Leonardi met with the new PMG on day two and came back very impressed. Those of you that were at the National convention experienced his vision and humor. I was impressed with all their speeches and plans. The environment is a concern across the country, and I appreciated their recognizing that there needs to be change.

Please consider getting involved. It is difficult when you only talk to people when they need help. It takes a team to accomplish things.

In closing, I want to wish our new editor, Cheryl Judge all the best, and whole heartedly thank Paul Joseph for all his years of dedication as The Ohio editor.

Remember that opportunity doesn’t just happen, it takes work and dedication to create opportunity.

Mari Beth Kirkland

Executive Assistant to the National President UPMA



Why are we here?

What seems like a simple question can get complicated very quickly, especially when someone hears those words “I’m scheduling you for a PDI at 9 am tomorrow morning. Get your representative.” Nobody plans to have a PDI or to be correct, it is known as an Investigative Interview or I&I. Immediately you go into panic mode, trying to determine what it’s about or...you already know the topic. This problem often could have been prevented. Let’s examine this further.

The headline ‘Why are we here?’ refers to the reasons why we have chosen the career path you have taken with the postal service. You **CHOSE** to go into a management position because you wanted to be effective. You **CHOSE** to seek higher responsibility and with that responsibility comes certain actions that you must take in order to achieve success. Those actions include your decisions undertaken daily with employees and customers.

As a new Supervisor or Postmaster, by virtue of your position you have implicit authority to direct others in their duties while at work. When those directions become personal or self-serving, then you are no longer working in the best interests of the postal service. Translated: Bad outcomes are expected as a result. That is how the issue of the I&I comes about. Something happened that promoted an investigation into your actions.

What are some of those actions that spark an I&I to be undertaken? I’ll just cite a few here. Any actions that end in a personal relationship with co-worker, craft employee or anyone under your supervision can be viewed as coercion or undue influence. Nothing is deemed ‘consensual’ because the appearance of your abuse of position to influence someone surfaces and contrary to the code of ethics every employee is charged with. Another action is the use of assets that do NOT belong to you. Travel cards, Voyager credit cards, stamp stock, money orders, cash in a snack fund in your office, etc. If it is not yours, there is no way to justify your use of it albeit, temporarily with the intentions to pay it back. That is simply not defensible or justified.

Still another issue involves the matter of integrity. When someone falsifies data in any way, it is in essence, lying to your manager, the postal service and our customers. Nothing can justify inputting data at anytime that you know is not true, not correct for the sake of being in compliance. The programs are endless, including TACS, eRms, DOIS, any data driven aspect of your position.

Despite all the training, admonitions and visibility on the actions we take, employees are continuing to exercise poor judgement that end up in corrective action taken that can result in removal from the postal service. Was this your intent when you went to work today? Absolutely not. It does not take a huge effort to make the right decision, but it must be conscious with you keeping the reasons why you have the position you do right now. To provide for your livelihood, for your family and yes, for your retirement. To support the goals of the postal service and to serve our customers who rely on us daily.

When you make the right decision, it works every time. And that we can defend 24/7. Please strive to choose wisely and you will not have any regrets ever that will lead to that day you walk out the door after a successful career based upon the integrity you have kept at the forefront in every decision you make.

Paul Joseph – National Member Representative Committee

INTEGRITY



Legislative Summit

The 2026 UPMA Legislative Summit will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, VA at Reagan National Airport, March 15-17, 2026.

UPMA's legislative agenda is to support the United States Postal Service and ensure that UPMA active and retired members benefits are protected.

This year there will be a Town Hall meeting on Sunday, General Session/Training on Monday, and we will go to Capitol Hill on Tuesday.

Please let me know if you are planning on attending and what district you live in. Every member wishing to attend must register. The registration fee is \$100 per person on or before February 13, 2026. Starting February 14, 2026 the registration fee is \$150 per person. To register go to unitedpma.org. The Ohio Chapter will provide \$1000 stipend to members that register and attend the sessions and visit their congressman.

Hotel Reservations:

Contact the [Hyatt Regency Crystal City at Reagan National Airport](#) to book your hotel room and mention that you are attending the United Postmasters and Managers of America Meeting. UPMA rates (\$229/night for king and double; \$25/night for each additional guest in a room beyond two) are available until February 27, 2026 or until the room block is sold out, whichever comes first. A one-night deposit is required upon booking. The deposit is refundable for cancellations received no later than January 15, 2026. After January 15, 2026, refunds are not available.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City Phone Number: 877-803-7534

Group Code: G-RUTK Check-in is 4:00 PM. Check-out time is 11:00 AM.

Guests booking in the UPMA block receive 50% off valet parking. Parking rates as of September 7, 2025 are: Standard car: \$55/day SUV or larger: \$65/day

Laura Reese
Legislative Chair


Political Action Committee (PAC)


Thank you, Ohio membership for your continued support! We have raised over \$9,000 in 2025. Your contributions help level the playing field, ensuring UPMA members have a voice in shaping policy that affects our jobs and retirement.

Here is a good example of how our PAC funds are used. Most recently our PAC funds were used in the fight to remove harmful provisions from the One Big Beautiful Bill. With the help of UPMA PAC, our legislative team and officers at the national office worked tirelessly attending events to educate members of Congress. This played a leading role in removing measures that would have increased federal employee contributions and reduced retirement benefits. The average UPMA member potentially saved thousands of dollars thanks to this effort.

Supporting UPMA PAC is an investment in your career and future. Your contributions help ensure our priorities are heard, protecting the Postal Service and your livelihood. We encourage you to support UPMA PAC through direct contributions. PAC contributions election forms can be found at www.unitedpma.org under the Government Relations tab click on UPMA PAC Forms.

Another way to contribute is to fill out the contribution form in this issue of Post Scripts and send it into the National Office: UPMA PAC, 8 Herbert St., Alexandria, VA. 22305. Let me know if you would like a pin for your contribution of \$25.00 or more. If you have any questions or need help, please contact me at laura.s.reese@gmail.com.





UPMA PAC CONTRIBUTION CARD

Mail to: United Postmasters and Managers of America Political Fund
8 Herbert Street
Alexandria, VA 22305-2600

Date _____

☐ \$ _____

☐ Check Enclosed

☐ Credit/Debit Card (one time)

☐ Credit/Debit Card (recurring monthly)

Member ID: (if known) _____

Credit/Debit Card Contributions:

Name: _____

Acct.# _____ CVV: _____


Address: _____

Exp. Date: ____ / ____

City St Zip: _____

Signature: _____

UPMA PAC will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of contribution,
or the decision not to contribute to the non partisan political action fund.



How one Irishman inspired a city with Irish Attitude

At the center of our city's tale is a little-known Irish working man who carried a deep love of his homeland all the way to central Ohio more than 200 years ago.

In 1802, Peter and Benjamin Sells of Pennsylvania purchased a beautiful slice of land upon the banks of the Scioto River (where Historic Dublin now stands) -- including a 400-acre tract for their brother, John. Within a few years, John Sells and his wife came to claim the land. Sells hired an Irish gentleman, John Shields, to assist him and they began to survey lots for the town in 1810. Legend has it that John Sells gave the honor of naming the town to Shields -- who saw the beaming sun on the surrounding hills and dales and became nostalgic for his birthplace of Dublin, Ireland. Dublin, Ohio was incorporated as a village in 1881 but didn't become a city until 1987. Today, nearly 44,000 residents call Dublin home.

The ambiance of that original settlement is still evident in Historic Dublin's charming 19th-century architecture, limestone fences and brick sidewalks. Although our roots may not be truly Irish, visitors will find odes to the Emerald Isle throughout the city. From rolling green golf courses and quaint neighborhood pubs to one of the largest Irish Festivals in the nation -- Irish is an attitude here.

Explore Historic Dublin, Ohio: Charming Shops, Restaurants & More

Nestled along the banks of the Scioto River, Historic Dublin is a charming destination where rich history meets modern charm. Stroll cobblestone streets lined with locally owned boutiques, cozy coffee shops, and unique restaurants offering everything from classic comfort food to innovative cuisine. This vibrant district blends Dublin's small-town roots with contemporary flair, creating the perfect backdrop for a day of exploring, shopping, and dining. Historic Dublin is filled with buildings on the National Register of Historic Places and key points of historical interest. Whether you're visiting for a weekend getaway or looking for things to do close to home, Historic Dublin offers something special for everyone.

So why are we highlighting the city of Dublin? In 2026, your next annual UPMA Ohio State Convention, will be held at the Embassy Suites located in Dublin, just northwest of Columbus along the Scioto River.

We invite you to save the date while we are planning the agenda. We will kick off Friday evening May 15, with a Welcome Reception at 7:00 pm with fun entertainment and appetizers followed by evening of fun in our Hospitality Suite. Saturday and Sunday mornings will be our annual Business Meetings. After the Business Meeting each day, we have several fun events planned throughout the weekend. We provide free meals with your registration for our members and guests. In this newsletter, we have included a registration form that includes information for group hotel reservations. We are planning this convention just for you, our valued members. We look forward of seeing you there!

Andrea Leyes-Convention Co-chair



Registration Form: May 15 – 17, 2026

**Embassy Suites Dublin
5100 Upper Metro Place
Dublin OH 43017**

**columbusdublin.embassysuites.com
(614) 790-9000**

First Name _____ Last Name _____
Last Postal Position _____
Last Postal Office, City State, Zip _____
Current Mailing Address _____
Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Are you a UPMA Retired Member?	YES	NO
Are you an Associate Member?	YES	NO
Are you a Spouse or Guest?	YES	NO

Will this be your first time attending an Ohio UPMA Convention? YES NO
(*Accommodations and Registration information below*)

All members and guests must be registered to participate in any meals and events.

Registration Payment information: \$75.00 Check Payable to: Ohio Chapter UPMA.

(Please complete a separate registration form and payment for each person attending)

\$75.00 Check Payable to:

Ohio Chapter UPMA

Mail Registration Form and payments to

Andrea Leyes

994 Hampton Ct

Lebanon OH 45036

Hotel Reservations: To secure the special UPMA discounted group rate, you must reference UPMA, United Postmasters and Managers when booking your room.

Room Rates per night: May 15 - 17, 2026, \$149. Please call the Embassy Suites Hotel to reserve your room, (614) 790-9000.

*A ***\$300 Stipend*** will be paid to any OHIO UPMA MEMBER attending business sessions, Friday – Sunday, May 15 – 17, 2026, Ohio UPMA Convention at Embassy Suites Dublin Ohio.

ATTENTION

Parents, Grandparents

UPMA SCHOLARSHIPS

Who can apply??

First, students must be a child or grandchild of an Active or Retired member of UPMA.

Ohio UPMA Scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors planning to attend a university, college, technical school or vocational school in the fall of 2026 as a full-time student for the academic year. The scholarship application and all information are on the Ohio UPMA website.

To find the Scholarship Application and information go to:

Ohioupma.com Scroll down, then select DOCUMENTS, then Ohio Chapter forms.

There you will see the 2026 scholarship app

We have also included the hard copy application to help your student with the application.

****All applications must be postmarked no later than March 17, 2026.****

United Postmasters and Managers of America 2026 OHIO CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The United Postmasters and Managers of America, Ohio Chapter, annually awards scholarships to qualifying students. These scholarships are available to graduating high school seniors planning to attend a university, college, technical, or vocational school in the fall of 2026 as a full-time student for the academic year. The student must be a child, stepchild, grandchild, or great grandchild of an Active or Retired member of UPMA.

Two \$1000 scholarships from the UPMA Ohio Chapter and one \$1000 scholarship from the UPMA Retired Ohio Chapter will be awarded at the Chapter Convention in May. All scholarships are payable to the school attended. Only the scholarship committee will review the applications. All information is confidential.

Please read the instructions carefully; incomplete applications will be disqualified. Type or print all additional information on 8x11.5-inch paper. Place your name at the top of each page submitted.

Student Information

Full Name: _____

Home Address (including city) _____

Telephone Number: _____ Birth date: _____

Name and Office or Last Position of Sponsoring Ohio UPMA member. _____

Sponsoring UPMA member **Active** or **Retired** (circle one)

UPMA member's relationship with you: _____

School you will be attending: _____

School Address: _____

Applicant's signature: _____ Date: _____

*Applicants must provide a list of school activities. Honors/Awards or Leadership positions: any memberships in which you are involved, and any community activities.

*Applicants must include an essay about themselves (no more than 300 words), their educational and professional goals. Why would they like to receive this award?

*Attach two letters of recommendation from: High School teacher/college or university professor; Minister or community leader; Other (non-family member).

*Attach the latest copy of your school transcript.

To be completed by your Guidance Counselor: Signature: _____

High School: _____ Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Grade Pont Average _____ Class Size _____ Class Rank _____

PLEASE SUBMIT ALL PAPERS AND FORMS TO:

Rita Schemmel

9463 State Route 119

Anna OH 45302

***Applications must be postmarked no later than March 17, 2026.
If you have any questions, call or email Rita Schemmel at (937) 726-5817 or**

rkschemmel@gmail.com

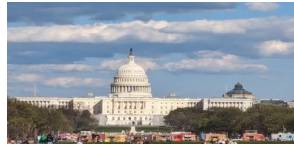
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

2026 Kickoff & Membership Meeting

San Diego, Ca
January 18, 2026

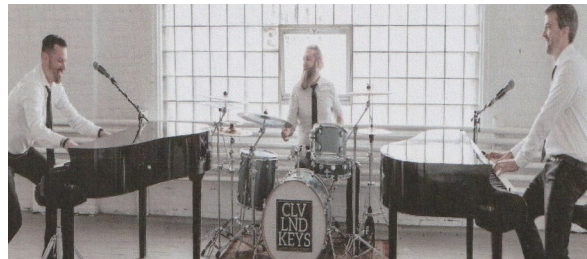
UPMA Legislative Summit

Arlington, Va
March 15-18, 2026



Ohio Chapter Convention

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



10th Annual National UPMA Convention

San Juan, PR
August 1-7, 2026



Is it a time change, or time for a change?

As a retired postmaster, I avoid the post office if I can. No animosity, just a lack of interest while I enjoy my time, retirement. I leave the day-to-day fun to you, the active managers.

Needing to renew my passport, however, required a visit to mail off my application. As I waited in line, I conversed with the window clerks. When a manager was called up, I asked if he was the Postmaster. He said he was “the 17”. I asked “who is running the place” to which the clerks both jumped in and stated the 17 might as well be. They noted their postmaster was never there. The 17 remarked the PM averages four hours a day then leaves. Evidently, he has no sense of time.

I suppose I should have been shocked. I was not. While I do not know this PM, I know his type. Looking forward, there will come a time when his poor performance catches up to him, it always does. He will likely jeopardize his employment and get in “trouble”.

My thoughts eventually were of the EAS 17 employee, and other EAS in a similar situation, and the hardworking postmasters that are attempting to do their work to the best of their ability. Their efforts keep the Postal Service thriving. And yet, despite being qualified leaders, they too may find themselves in “trouble” of a different sort. An overzealous POOM or postmaster may issue discipline for scans, clock rings, reports, etc.

Whether discipline is ordered for serious violations of policy or perceived actions on your part, representatives from the UPMA, United Postmasters and Managers of America, are here to assist you. There is a list of names to contact within this newsletter. Most of you will never have need but should feel comforted knowing assistance is available.

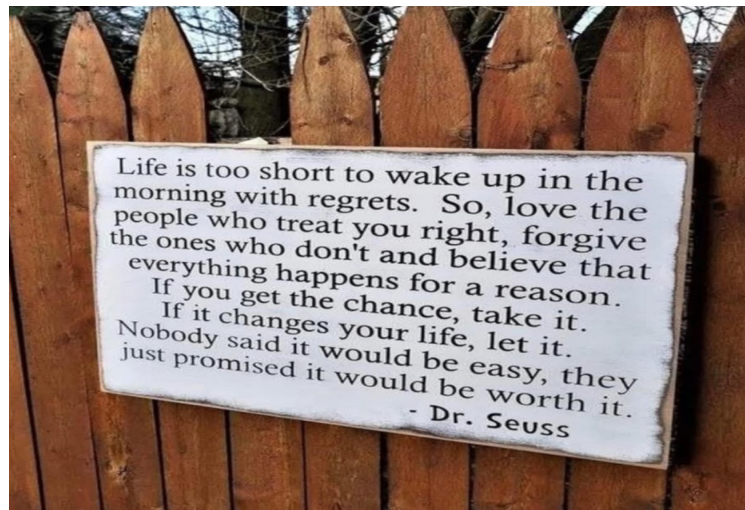
There is a downside to the Ohio Chapter, UPMA representation. We have a limited number of active Postmasters and Managers as Representatives. Retirees like me are being asked to represent you, the active, working managers. Don’t misunderstand, many retirees are very capable and still active in the UPMA. I, as an example, maintain the chapter website. I also am the appointed parliamentarian. We have retired members filling the positions of Secretary/treasurer, editor, and acting president of your chapter. Retirees may hold the vice president position. While we are willing, and have the time, the chapter would benefit with more active member involvement.

At this time, your Ohio Chapter needs you, the active members, to step up and become players in the operation of your chapter. Sure, it’s a commitment of your present time. That is a given but ask the retirees about the rewards of service. Your time to be an active member of this professional management organization, the UPMA, is now.

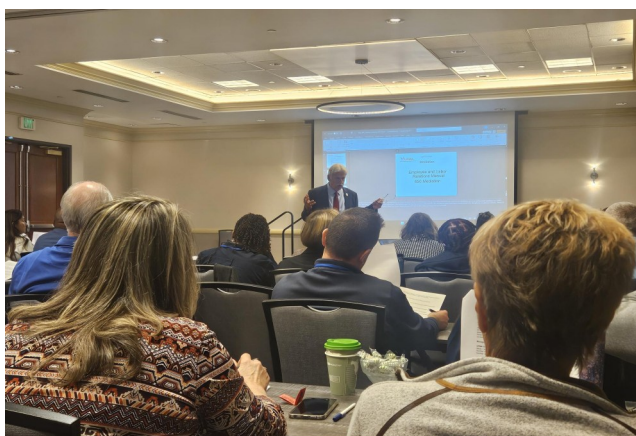
Throw your hat in the ring, become involved, even if it is just to satisfy your curiosity. There is a barcode in this newsletter that will open our website ohioupma.com. The officers and their contact information are listed, as well as the adverse action representatives. Reach out and show your interest. Ask questions. Be involved. Consider attending the annual convention in May. It is the one occasion each year to officially invite the members to discuss their employment issues with the officers and give them guidance within the UPMA. The registration form is on the website and in this newsletter. Join us.

It is time. It is your time.

Jordan Davenport-Parliamentarian, Webmaster



Executive Committee Meeting at State Convention



Central Area Officers Summit

Retirees Luncheon and Fun Times



Rapper Beth Parrish makes retirement shine



Euchre and Bingo brings out the best in us



UPMA Executive Board Information

Laura Reese **PM Retired** **419-551-1908** **Laura.s.reese@gmail.com**
Acting Ohio Chapter President
PAC Chair
Legislative Chair

Alan T. Metzcar **Baltic OH 43804** **330-827-0137** **alanmetzcarupma@outlook.com**
Postmaster - Acting Executive Vice President

Patty Schag **Berlin Heights, OH 44814** **ps1schag@gmail.com**
Postmaster - 2nd Vice President

Luis Rosado **Dalton, OH 44618** **luisrosadoupma@gmail.com**
Postmaster - 1st Vice President

Bill Judge **PM Retired** **513-702-9702** **upma.billjudge@gmail.com**
Secretary/Treasurer

Lou Stuckey **PM Retired** **419-215-2227** **stuckey31@msn.com**
UPMA Retired President

Jordan Davenport **PM Retired** **419 341 4979** **mlna43452@gmail.com**
Parliamentarian –Webmaster

Cheryl Judge **PM Retired** **513-405-9041** **judgey66@yahoo.com**
Editor

Committee Chairs

Scholarship **Rita Schemmel** **937-726-5817** **rkschemmel@gmail.com**

Convention **Lou Stuckey & Andrea Leyes**

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

Chapter Member Reps Paul Joseph **419-236-0166** **repins@bright.net**

Retiree Officers:

President: Lou Stuckey
419-215-2227
stuckey31@msn.com

Vice President: Sara Kreitzer
937-538-0478
Shkreitzer@yahoo.com

Secretary/ Treasurer: Tracie Gebhart
Email: PMTracie@gmail.com
513-435-0573



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	434, 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	(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 to help another EAS employee you know who might be headed in the wrong direction.

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**

First issue complete!

Learning curves, new ideas and finding ways to support all our membership. Right off, PEAK season. Another year to shine as the saying goes “it is our season,” “Santa Helpers” and keeping those, we do not see or talk to in our hearts and remembered with a yearly Christmas card.

The articles talk about Involvement, Time, Support, Network, Learning, Helping, Mentoring, Representation, Integrity, Compliance, along with Change, Vision, Opportunities. I also hope you checked out the Legislative Summit coming up. Along with our PAC dollars this is a significant role that we all have. Please think about attending. If you have not been involved, this is a wonderful way to start. It is amazing experience to learn and network. If you have a high school senior, please share the scholarship information. This is available for active, and retirees and every dollar helps these new students. Our state convention will be another fantastic way to network and learn but does take a little time. Invest in yourself to see what is available from the state level of Ohio UPMA. You may find something that fits with your schedule, career goals and is interesting to you. Plus, Dublin Ohio is a beautiful place to visit, bring your family and mix business with pleasure. The National convention in Puerto Rico will be a wonderful experience. The convention chairs are working hard to ensure we have time after the business sessions to enjoy the culture and our fellow UPMA members.

Special thank you to Andrea Leyes for the Christmas history article and for Dublin article. Next issue, will have additional Dublin history. Remember to check it out!

I hope you enjoyed this issue. If you have any suggestions or would like to nominate someone for a Spotlight, please let me know. If you would like to draft an article to share or would like more information about anything in this issue, please reach out!

Thank you, Veterans. I know this issue will reach after the holiday, but we thank you every day!

Cheryl Judge-Editor



Veterans Day – 2025

Not a day goes by that I witness the blessings bestowed upon our Nation that have been safeguarded by our Veterans since the inception of our country. Often, these are taken for granted and as I observe, people think these are rights and obligations of our government to sustain them. This perception has been reinforced through a lack of education that begins with our schools and carries forth with actions that adults undertake.

When our textbooks minimize the impact that our armed forces have had in securing world peace from anarchy and rulers seeking world domination, when the sacrifices made are expounded upon with a single paragraph, then this diminishes the impact our veterans have made to safeguard the principles our nation was founded upon. And when retailers seek to glamorize the importance of Veterans Day as an opportunity for selling tires, dog food or a special at Walmart, then the focus is no longer on those who have, and continue to serve in the defense of our nation. Commercialization is the norm instead. There are other movements or celebrations that last from a week up to a month in duration and are widely celebrated. Yet only one day each year are our veterans recognized for the sacrifices made, the efforts undertaken and little known about what in fact took place is the norm. Of all these celebrations noted, none has more history and longevity than the recognition of our veterans for their efforts. As a Veteran who served our nation for 26 years, I witnessed significant changes in that period alone and having since retired, I continue to be amazed by the devotion to duty, honor and integrity that our veterans possess both here in America and stationed overseas in areas that support our national interests. These changes come at a price that is paid by our veterans in their sacrifices made that will never be known to our citizenship.

How can you make a difference? Learn what you can about the service rendered from a Veteran you know, from a family member who served or even from a stranger you may come across. Listen to their story, their experiences and most of all, their love of country for which they possess. You can never thank them enough and trust me, it is always appreciated and welcome.

And for those who feel that this subject is deemed “overrated”, then try to envision what our nation would be like without the support and service of our veterans who continue to serve, to sacrifice in order to ensure our safety, security and perseverance in the face of factions in this world who would otherwise see us gone.

On behalf of all my fellow veterans who have served and for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice, I thank you for your support and plethora of efforts made to keep America the greatest nation in the history of mankind. We are indebted to you eternally and cannot ever repay that herculean task you have undertaken.

Please have a safe and enjoyable holiday on November 11th all thanks to our Veterans.

Master Sergeant (ret) Paul A. Joseph – United States Army



**UPMA Ohio Chapter
The Post Scripts Update
1610 Scottsdale Dr.
Tipp City, Ohio 45371**

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ADDRESS CHANGES for The Post Scripts Update can be made at www.upma.org under Membership Services, change my record using your Membership ID found on the mailing label of the LEADER above your last name.

Deadline for next Post Scripts articles is:

January 5, 2026

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

ohioUPMA.com

