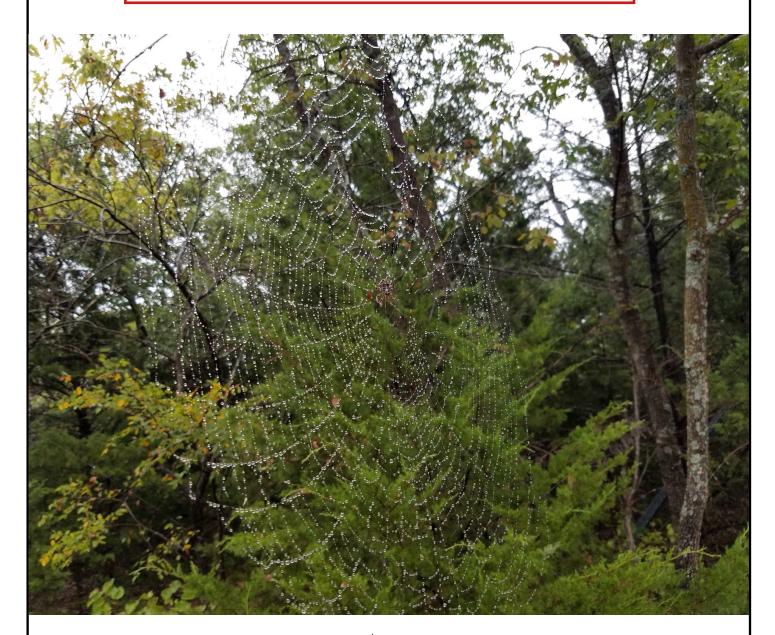
# Lone Star Leader

Texas Postal Managers Serving Texas

# 2017-2018 Publication of the Year









First Timer Kitirne Mills Wins the first timers Prize







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### \*\*\*\*\*\*

A couple of years ago, we had a photo contest, the winners to be used in a Texas UPMA calendar. Times change and that project failed to come to fruition. This newsletter showcases two of the winners on both the front and back covers. The photos were taken by the very talented Kay Vaughan, retired MPOO. Please enjoy the Cobweb in the Rain and the Texas Bluebonnets. We will share all of the photos with you and hope you love them as much as I do.

### **Greg Nors**

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All views expressed in The Lone Star Leader are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect official UPMA opinion. Articles, editorials and other submissions are welcome but must be signed. Names can be withheld on request. Please email items for publication to the Editor of the Lone Star Leader: <u>lonestar.leader@gmail.com</u>.



# Sherry Bridges

## President

### Make the call!

Hello, fellow Texas UPMA members, I'd like to start by asking for prayers for my former Post Office in Franklin, Texas. The town was hit by a category F3 tornado on April 13, 2019. Thankfully no lives were lost and only a few injuries but the material damage is mind boggling. Many residents lost their entire home and vehicles. There are many efforts in surrounding towns to assist in getting this great community back on its feet but prayers are always welcome.

The other item I feel I need to cover is representation, specifically your representation if you get into trouble or you are called into an investigative interview or other disciplinary type of meeting. Here's what you need to know: If you are called by or emailed by your boss requesting your presence for a meeting or an investigative interview, you need to ask if it involves any type of corrective action or potential for discipline. If it does, you are entitled to representation. Not only that, you can choose who you want to represent you. Immediately call the vice president for your district. You will find that information in this publication as well as in the Texas UPMA website and the Texas UPMA Facebook page. All the information on how to access these avenues is also posted in this publication.

Once you call your vice president, they will attempt to handle the problem/concern at that level. If the vice president is unsuccessful in resolving the matter, they will contact me and we will review and create a game plan. This doesn't only apply to trouble, if you have any other concerns, use this same avenue.

If I cannot get satisfaction for the issue, I will then take the concern up the chain in UPMA, first with our area coordinator then with the UPMA national office. We are here to assist you so please do not feel like you cannot contact us. Even if you feel like you deserve discipline, CALL US so we can advise you. Let's say you did fail an express mail piece and it was your fault. Ok, we all make mistakes. That doesn't mean that if you have an investigative interview and get some sort of discipline from your boss that you should just leave it be. Call us so we can negotiate and try to get that out of your file. You never know what may come next, you don't want to leave any discipline in your file.

Some members feel embarrassed and don't want to get help because they don't want anyone to know what happened. I can tell you that your representatives and vice presidents are here to help, not judge you or spread the details of your situation to anyone.

And lastly, come to the meetings we schedule, whether they are state conventions or district meetings or 5 digit meetings. We put those meetings together to help each other be the best Postal Service employees!

See you in Austin!

Seek help when needed by downloading the <u>The Inspector General – OIG</u> form or ask another member or officer for help. Do not do anything that could even possibly be considered illegal or unethical. A Manager holds a position of trust in that office and the community and will be held to high standards.

# Sharon Janicek

## **Executive Vice-President**

### State Convention

After years of saving my sick leave, I finally took time off for "myself". I have suffered with knee pain for years. I thought the office could not run without me. Finally, when I got into a less demanding office, I realized the time was right for me. Little did I know or care to know that I could have taken care of my medical needs in my previous office.

My FMLA was approved and an OIC was located to take my place in my office. I didn't have to worry about anything in the office. I was able to take care of me and get myself somewhat ready for returning to daily life and work. I think sometimes personal situations are put on hold due to the demands of the job.

I just lost a close friend unexpectedly in her 40's. I am not sure if she put her health on hold due to the de-



mands of her job. I know that her unused sick leave is no benefit to her in heaven. I am not one to use sick leave for no reason, but I have used my sick leave, sparingly.

My unused sick leave will be credited to my years of service when I start planning for retirement. But I won't get to retirement if I don't take care of health issues.

The state convention is June 20-23, 2019 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel in Austin. Make plans to attend and spend some time improving and helping you! Although you can't or shouldn't use sick leave to attend the convention, spending time networking, training and relaxing will be a healthy benefit to you. Take the time off and get out of the office for a few days. Looking forward to seeing everyone in June!

### Thank You for answering my call!

On Fri, Mar 29, 2019 I received the following email from a postmaster:	Sherry's vehicle and already asking me questions as we met each other in the parking lot.		
Lynda, recently I had an interview with the OIG and my MPOO over a possible action against myself.	It was a big comfort to me that they were present and giving advice on do's and don'ts of the process.		
I started calling around Friday evening and reached out to George Finley, Jenness Rogers and Sherry Bridges.	They stayed several hours or more to make sure every- thing was done properly before heading back to there offices.		
The interview was on the following Monday. In my mind,			
I was thinking "no way anyone can come that far on such	Please thank them IN PRINT for me Lynda?		
short notice".	These officers barely knew me and came to assist any		
They were up to 4 hours away from my office and the meeting was at 10:00 hours.	way they could.		
Not only to come but to investigate and see what the background was on the action.	Thank ya'll sooo much!		

Well when I came in at 09:45 they were getting out of

\*Name withheld by request since case is still pending



# Stephen Auffarber

President, Postmaster Retired Scholarship Chairman

We Are Giving Away Money and No One Wants It.

The clock is ticking towards the deadline yet not one UPMA active member or Retiree has yet to take advantage of one of the benefits of UPMA. I'm taking about the UPMA Memorial Scholarship. As I write this article on April 14, I have not received one Scholarship Application. The deadline for submitting applications is June 1. That means you only have 47 days to get that application submitted. Do you have a child or grandchild entering their first year of college or trade school? If so, encourage them to submit an application to me ASAP. You can find the application and information about the scholarship program on our website at https://texasupma.com/scholarship.

Every year UPMA awards scholarships to children, step children, grandchildren or step grandchildren of Texas UPMA members, retired Texas UPMA members or deceased Texas UPMA members entering their first year of college or trade school. We award \$500 for each of the first two semesters for a total of \$1000 to those chosen to receive a scholarship. The Executive Board sets the number of scholarships at the Executive Board meeting held just prior to the state convention. Scholarships will be funded by contributions, fundraising, interest earned by the endowment fund and any funds appropriated by the Executive Board. The applications will be judged by the scholarship committee on good character, scholastic achievement, leadership qualities, extracurricular activities, financial need, and the ability to follow instructions in completing the application. The scholarship winners will then be announced at the annual state convention.

So far this year, at the four district meetings and through personal donations, we have raised over \$2600. A big thank you to all who participated in the scholarship auctions at each of the district meetings. Your generosity will allow us to award several scholarships this year. I need everyone's help getting the word out about the scholarship program. It would be very disappointing if we don't even have enough applications to cover the number of scholarships given. Take advantage of one of your UPMA benefits and help a student cover some of the cost of their education.

### **Defending UPMA Members**

UPMA is committed to representing its membership in all areas, including discipline cases and adverse actions (removals, long suspensions and demotions).

While UPMA wishes that no member would ever get into trouble, the organization supports and finances the finest representation system for Postal Managers. UPMA also works diligently to prevent problems before they occur.

To that end, UPMA consistently has maintained a motivated and highly skilled team of Adverse Action Counselors.

Please call an officer for guidance if you feel that you may need representation!

Cynthia Jameson

## Secretary/Treasurer

# What does UPMA offer to those that attend Meetings and Conventions?

The first thing that I would like to discuss is comradery. Seeing those that care about the USPS coming together for a brighter future. Helping, by networking with others in the meeting. Having someone to call if you have questions and to help guide you on your journey upward.

The second thing that I see is training that sometimes is cutting efge that has not been rolled out to the offices yet. Learning about SPLU, Informed Delivery, Rural Delivery and How to use your Postal phone.

The third thing is a valuable portion of the meetings and conventions is the Face-time with the Southern Area Manager, DM, MPOOs and the other staff members that they bring with them. Getting vital questions asked and answered. No second-hand information because they are there giving you the answers in-person.



told them about the fun and information in these meetings? The question that I asked was, would you like to write an article about your experience attending a District Meeting? How can we convey to all the Postmasters, Supervisors and Managers the value of attending these meetings?

Have you attended a meeting or convention? If not, why? Do you need a mentor? If so, why not attend a meeting and see the comradery and knowledge in the room? Your hierarchy sees that value in being at the Meetings and conventions, but they do not see you there. What does that tell them about you?

Find the next meeting or convention at <u>WWW.TexasUPMA.COM</u>, Hope to see you at the next one!

I was asked at a recent meeting, how come no one ever

### Email received from a Postmaster at the Houston District Meeting

I wanted to let you know that I learned so much in our meeting. I loved the idea that we met with the district manager and all the MPOO's, and Human resources manager, we actually got to ask them questions and get an answer. I honestly had no idea that we gave out scholarships and helped so many. I loved the idea we had specialists in our training who gave one on one time to teach us. I will do my best to start coming to all the meetings.

I talked to 4 other postmasters and explained they really needed to go to these meetings - all except for one said they were not aware of the last meeting? One postmaster said it used to be all political so he stopped coming? I explained nothing like that happened in our meeting. The only reason I knew about the meeting was that I went to a training and Joanne gave me a flyer about the meeting. I believe more Postmasters would come if they had some kind of reminders, some are so busy and forget.

Thank you again, I truly look forward to the next meeting I can come to, I learned so much and had a great time.

Signed, Diana Burnham

I nominate, UP lieve that he/she deserves this award for his/her deditional deserves the serves the ser	MA Retired, for the Lifetime Achievement Award. I be- icated
time and efforts to UPMA as both an active and retir	
1. UPMA:	
A. Service to UPMA organization:	
B. Committees:	
C. Awards:	
2. Postal Service:	
A. Years of Service:	
B. Awards Received:	
3. Community Service:	
A. Member of clubs and organizations:	
B. Special information about the nominee's relations	hip to their community:
4. Additional information that you feel valuable towa	ard this person's nomination:
Note: Even if you do not have information, you may above member must have been a member in good st	
UPMA Retired Officers are not eligible for this award not be considered.	l and nominations will
Nominated bySignature:	
Please send the nominations form no later than May	15th to the current President, UPMA Retirees.
Mail form to:	
Stephen Auffarber	Part of this form was deleted in the last news-
876 Shoal Pointe Ln.	letter. My apologies to Steve Auffarber and to you , the members. Because of this mistake, the
League City TX 77573	nomination deadline has been extended to May 15th. Please get your form in ASAP.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD				
I nominate for the Member of the Year Award. I believe that				
he/she deserves this award for his/her dedicated time and efforts to UPMA as an active member.				
1. UPMA				
a. Service to UPMA organization:				
b. Committees:				
c. Awards:				
2. Postal Service				
a. Years of Service:				
b. Awards received:				
3. Community Service:				
a. Member of clubs and organizations:				
b. Special information about the nominee's relationship to their community:				
4. Additional information that you feel valuable toward this person's nomination:				
Please send the nominations form no later than June 1st to the current UPMA President.				
Mail form to: Sherry Bridges				
PO Box 4777				
Bryan TX 77805				



# Jenness Rogers

## Rio Vice President Political Action Committee

## Info You Might Have Missed

Did you know that in the last Postal Bulletin, 22517 (4-11-19) there is an article that says that we now charge \$100 for overweight packages and that the fee has to be paid before the item can be released? This will be added to the DMM in June, but is effective immediately.

HCR/CDS routes also just received some new guidelines, CDS training. They are posted on the HQ rural website. You go to the and inside post office, then to:

Operations Delivery Operations Rural Delivery Operations Contract Delivery Service

The new guidelines are posted on the website, which I did not know existed, and all the regulations and guidelines were new starting in July 2018. The last document was added in 2019.

Did you know that if you can't read a label on a USPS package (because they cover them up all the time) and when you pull off the label the number goes with it, you can print off another label with the Dymo printer. Go into the USPS website and put in their tracking number. Our number will come up on that page. Once you receive our number, click on the lower left corner of the screen, there will be a list of programs on the left side. Click on:

DYMO label v.8 Labels

On the left side, click on address label A group of labels will come up on the right side Right click in the center of the label above the blank label Go to properties Barcode type, scroll down to UCC/EAN 128 select Barcode data, clear and add yur number Barcode size, small Print

Now you have a barcode you can put on the package that can be scanned instead of having to input it.

Come join us at the State convention June 21-23 in Austin!

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lawnmowers fill the air. It also is the beginning of a new postal quarter and the machine gun emails are here! Do this and do that and hurry! Some days there is no progress due to the excessive amount of repeat emails. I check them over and over to make sure that I am not on "the list", knowing perhaps that I wasn't, but now I am not sure! This takes up time that I could be handling the needed tasks that are due in a Month!

Spring has finally arrived and the sounds of weed eaters and struck by a tornado. Thankfully no one was killed. The high winds and rain were in my delivery area, causing downed trees on our routes. My amazing rural carriers were outstanding in delivering to all addresses that were accessible and did it safely. Words cannot express how proud and thankful I am for each of them.

> Hope to see you all at the 2019 Texas UPMA State Convention on June 20-23 in Austin, Texas where we can network and share ideas!

This Saturday the town just north of our delivery area was

2019 TEXAS UPMA STATE CONVENTION
----------------------------------

JUNE 20-23, 2019

WYNDHAM GARDEN HOTEL

3401 SOUTH I-35, AUSTIN, TX 78741

512-448-4208

NAME:\_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS:\_\_\_\_\_

OFFICE REPRESENTED:\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ACTIVE MEMBER \_\_\_\_RETIREE

\_\_\_ASSOCIATE MEMBER \_\_\_\_GUEST

\_\_\_\_FIRST TIMER \_\_\_\_\_BRAT

\_\_\_\_ \$70. ADULT REGISTRATION IF PAID BY JUNE 1, 2019

\_\_\_\_\$80. ADULT REGISTRATION AFTER JUNE 1, 2019

\_\_\_\$40. CHILD REGISTRATION (AGE 12 AND UNDER)

KING AND DOUBLE ROOM RATES ARE \$95. PER NIGHT. DELUXE AND SUITE ROOMS AVAILABLE AT HIGHER RATES. SEE WYNDHAMHOTELS.COM AND ENTER CODE: TEXAS UP-MA STATE CONVENTION 2019 OR CALL HOTEL AND IDENTIFY YOURSELF FOR TEXAS UPMA RATES. ROOM BLOCK HOLD ENDS 5-29-19.

**\*\*TWO HOTEL BREAKFASTS PER ROOM NIGHT INCLUDED IN ROOM RATES.** 

SEND REGISTRATION FORM AND PAYMENT TO: SHARON JANICEK 747 MAIN ST SEALY, TX 77474

**BRING A DOOR PRIZE AND AUCTION ITEM(S)** 



# Darwin Adams

**Dallas Vice-President Membership** 

## Annual Meetings

Now that all District meetings are over. It is time to gear up for The State Meeting in Austin in June. Membership is more than just dues. UPMA membership represents benefits, strength in numbers And opportunities when factored this together, they embody the UPMA organization. Why would someone with whom you work who eligible for membership not be a UPMA member. Be sure to someone to attend a meeting. Keep asking.

share the photos from the Dallas District Meeting and all the training that was provided. Two Things to remember: Celebrating when we get a new member. While celebrating new members, don't forget that UPMA will stay strong by retaining current members. Be persistent At times, it will take more than one or two requests to get

### **TEXAS UPMA STATE GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Join at the Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin, Texas on Friday June 21, 2019 for the Texas UPMA State Golf Tournament.

The tournament is open to all UPMA members active and retired, and their family and friends. We welcome individuals, twosomes, threesomes and foursomes. We will team you up if needed. We just need you to sign up.

The tournament will be a four-person scramble. We will have transportation to the golf course if you need it. Entry fee is \$50. This will include green fee, cart and range balls. We will have a longest drive hole and closest to the pin contest on each of the par 3 holes for both A & B players for a total of ten awards if we can secure new sponsors.

**Jimmy Clay Golf Course** 5400 Jimmy Clay Dr. Austin, TX 78744

Send entry form with check payable to:

**Stephen Auffarber** 876 Shoal Pointe Ln. League City TX 77573

Phone #	Avg. s	core
Need transportation to golf course:	Yes	No
List any players you would like to paired with:		

### Proposed By-Laws Change

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

### AMENDMENT 1: Executive Committee

Amend Article XI, Executive Committee, by adding "An editor", by striking "The editor will not be a voting member," and by inserting "The immediate past-President will not be a voting member."

### **Current Wording:** Article XI – Executive Committee

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, 4 district vice presidents, a secretary/ treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve a term of one year beginning November 1st of the year a newly elected president assumes office, and the president of Postmasters Retired, shall constitute the executive committee and the governing body of the chapter. The editor will not be a voting member.

### Proposed Amendment: Article XI – Executive Committee

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, 4 district vice presidents, a secretary/ treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve a term of one year beginning November 1st of the year a newly elected president assumes office, an editor and the president of Postmasters Retired, shall constitute the executive committee and the governing body of the chapter. The immediate past-President will not be a voting member.

### If Adopted Will Read:

Article XI – Executive Committee

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, 4 district vice presidents, a secretary/ treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve a term of one year beginning November 1st of the year a newly elected president assumes office, an editor and the president of Postmasters Retired, shall constitute the executive committee and the governing body of the chapter. The immediate past-President will not be a voting member.

### Proposed by: Lynda Hill

**Rationale:** The Editor is on the Executive Board every year, while the immediate past-President will only be on the Executive board every other year and may, if the President is re-elected, be on the board only one year out of four. In Article V of these by-laws it is spelled out that the editor is an officer and has a seat on the Executive Board as follows:

### Article V – Election of Officers

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, a secretary/treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve for a term of one year beginning November 1 of the year a newly elected president shall assume office, the president of the Texas UPMA retired, editor, who together with the 4 vice presidents, shall constitute the executive committee, and the governing body of the chapter.



## UPMA 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual SOC 2019 Sunshine State Florida Hosts



### SOC=AL\*AR\*FL\*GA\*LA\*MS\*NC\*OK\*SC\*TN\*TX

### ALL STATES ARE INVITED!!

The Florida Chapter of United Postmasters and Managers of America, UPMA, warmly welcome you to the 3rd annual Southern Officers Conference SOC at Embassy Suites Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort in Orlando, FL

### October 10-13, 2019

Room rates-\$122.00 \*includes full breakfast & managers evening reception\*resort fee waived

Overnight parking fee -\$13.00 Daily parking fee- \$5.00

Hotel reservations 800 377 8898 deadline is Sept 18, 2019\* group code- UPMA-SOC

United Postmasters & Managers of America

Thursday October 10 - We are planning a Golf Tournament-Contact Rick Pasek,

Postmaster Palatka for time and place-904-945-5341 rpasek1@att.net

Registration and our vendors will be set up in hotel lobby starting from 300-600 pm

Welcome dinner at 630 pm, we are working on ideas for a **States Night**, please share your thoughts and suggestions with us to make this event extra special.

Friday-October 11- General Session, UPMA National Officers-Guest Speakers-Meet the Candidates

Lunch

Training Breakouts President-Secretary/Treasurer-Editor-Membership-Adverse Action-Legislative/PAC-Retirees-Parlimentarian/ Protocal-Convention Planning (let us know if you need any other topics covered)

Auction Night Dinner Remember to bring items for our live auction, we will have "callers and "paddles" and it will be a lot of FUN!!

Saturday-October 12- General Session-Guest Speakers-Training

Lunch-

We are considering a free afternoon so you can enjoy the Orlando area and attractions or enjoy the wonderful and family friendly Embassy Suites Orlando Lake Buena Vista Resort!!

Please let us know how we can make this a great training opportunity for all.

We look forward to welcoming you to Orlando and our Sunshine State !

Check our websites for updates www.upmafl.org

KC Peaden, Conference Coordinator-Postmaster Retired 407-756-0495 kcsunshine318@yahoo.com

Nancy Grace State Executive VP-Postmaster Mango 813-546-2609 ngrace54@verizon.net

Tony Leonardi State President-Postmaster Mims 203-376-9197 tonyupmafl@gmail.com

Note to Applicant: Fill in each blank with the info to you. IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE, BER AND INCLUDE NAME OF TOP OF EAC	, ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS, NUM-		
Date of Application			
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Name of Counselor			
Name of Sponsor			
Circle Relationship of Sponsor Parent Sponsor's Home Address	Grandparent Legal Guardian		
City	StateZip		
Sponsor's Location of Service as PM or Manager			
Is Sponsor a Member of UPMA? Yes	No		
FATHER/GU	JARDIAN		
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Home Address	State Zip		
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Name of the Institution you are planning to attend and Mailing Address of the College, University, or Trade School You Plan to Attend					
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Have You Been Accepted?					
Approximate Cost of Tuition for Academic Year:					
Date of SAT:	Score:	Math	Verbal	Total	
Date of ACT:	Score:	Math	Verbal	Total	
				Continued on next page	

In Your Own Handwriting with a Black or Blue Ink Pen, Please Tell Us Who or What Influenced You the Most in Deciding to Obtain Your College Education.

Please Furnish the Name and Address of Your Local Newspaper:

Good character, scholarship achievement, leadership qualities and the ability to follow instructions are the criteria by which your application will be judged with some consideration for financial need. Only students of outstanding merit, who show an appreciation of the value of education, and who are willing to struggle to achieve success will be considered for this award. While elaborate presentation is unnecessary, careless presentation will handicap the applicant.

The applicant MUST SUBMIT AN OFFICIAL COPY OF THEIR SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT. A letter of recommendation from a responsible person (must not be a relative of the applicant) who has the opportunity to observe the qualities which make the applicant a worth candidate must accompany the application.

### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Briefly List All on a Separate Page:** 

SCHOLASTIC

EXTRA CURRICULAR

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

INCLUDE AWARDS AND HONORS

Continued on next page

4 INCLUDE A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH DISCUSSING YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR EDUCATION, VOCATION, AND YOUR LIFE. INCLUDE REASONS WHY YOU DESERVE CONSIDERATION FOR THIS SCHOLARSHIP. **USE ADDITIONAL PAPER FOR EACH OF THESE REQUIREMENTS** ALL SCHOLARSHIPS ARE IN THE FORM OF CERTIFICATES OF AWARD CONDITIONAL UPON THE ENROLLMENT OF THE STUDENT IN AN UNDERGRADUATE COURSE IN AN ACCREDIT-ED COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY, OR TRADE SCHOOL. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent, Guardian, or Grandparent's Statement: I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree with the information provided in this application. SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ **APPLICATION MUST BE STAMPED NO LATER THAN JUNE 1, 2019.** MAIL TO: **STEPHEN AUFFARBER 876 SHOAL POINTE LN LEAGUE CITY TX 77573** 



## Ann McDorman Candidate for 2019-2021 Board of Directors **Signature Federal Credit Union**

I would like this opportunity to outline my qualifications as a member of the Board of Directors of Signature Federal Credit Union. Having been a member of the Signature FCU for over 35 years, I am tional Convention Chairman. I was honored to recurrently serving on the Board of Directors and monitor our Membership Department. As a board member, I

work closely with other board members and the staff to constantly monitor and improve our services and benefits. I have represented SFCU at various conferences and conventions during the past two years. During

these events, I personally signed up at least fifty new members.

After high school graduation, I attended Cisco Junior College and Tarleton State University.

My postal career began in 1970 as a clerk-steno in Abilene, Texas. My first supervisory position was as a Customer Service Representative, Abilene, followed by promotion to Superintendent, Postal Operations

in Winters, TX where I was appointed Postmaster in 1981 - the first female in a Level 18 city-delivery office

in our MSC. I successfully served as postmaster in four different offices from EAS-18 in Winters, TX to EAS-22 in Richardson, TX. After postal reorganization in 1993, I served four years as Manager, Post Office

Operations, Dallas District, then retired as a Postmaster in January 1999.

During my active career, I served on the Texas NA-PUS State Executive Board five years in various leadership roles, including President. I served on the NAPUS National Executive Board as National Vice

President for the Southern Region and as National Vice President for Texas. Even though retired, Texas postmasters selected me as the 2006 Fort Worth Naceive

the coveted Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Chapter of NAPUS in 2006, the highlight of my

NAPUS career.

Since retirement I have remained active in NAPUS Postmasters Retired and was serving as National President when we merged with the League to form UPMA. I was instrumental in creating the Bylaws of both UPMA and UPMA Retired, and obtaining state approval of these documents.

In addition, I began working as a substitute teacher in Springtown, TX in 2003. While in Springtown, I served as Executive Director of the Springtown Area Chamber of Commerce for 14 months.

In that position I used QuickBooks and other computer programs to operate the chamber successfully. I developed annual budgets, planned the annual Wild West Festival, and organized two successful annual

awards banquets to recognize outstanding citizens. I also received the Chamber's "Spirit of Springtown" Award, its highest award for Community Involvement and Pride. Since moving to Wimberley, I have continued my substitute teaching career at Wimberley High School as well as volunteering for community

service at our local chamber, Emily Ann Theater, Wimberley Civic Club, and assisting the 2015 flood victims.

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# Lynda Hill

### Editor

As I put this issue of your newsletter together, I was struck by something I saw in one of the articles. There was a reference to the Postal Bulletin. As I began my career as a Postmaster—I read every Bulletin from start to finish. I tried to be well-informed about what was going on with my job and with my company. I made the time to read manuals and I took the correspondence courses available and I learned what to do. I went to NAPUS meetings and I availed myself of training and I learned what not to do. I believe that the Postal Service has lost touch with that way of doing business and now focus with knee-jerk reactions to whatever needs to be fixed in the right-now. I do not think they are well served by this change. So, I want to encourage all of you to make the time to keep current on any training you need—don't just take the courses to pass the test—take them to learn the

material. Make the time to attend the meetings that are put on by the organization. Get to know your managers, get to know your UPMA representatives—both are important to your career.

Also, I want to encourage you to talk to your MPOO—get to know them and push back if they ask the impossible or give conflicting directions. You don't have to challenge simply ask for clarification and explain why you don't believe that you can comply. Tell them what it will take, but don't be surprised if they have to hear it a couple of times. Stay respectful, but stand your ground. Do not falsify anything...it is not compliance if it is only done on paper. And, every once in a while, pat yourself on the back for a job well-done.

See you in Austin!

### (Continued from page 21)

I have created and maintain the Texas Chapter of UPMA website at http://texasupma.com on a strictly volunteer basis. I also created the Tennessee UP-MA Chapter website at http://tnupma.com and trained a volunteer to maintain it. I am currently the UP-MA Retired National Website Coordinator. I recently included the UPMA State Officers on the national website which results in our members being able to have a directory of national and state officers if they wish to contact them. When requested, I help other states establish and maintain their websites.

An active member of the First Baptist Church, I am a member of the choir and the "UkeLadies" (we present programs at rest homes, shut-ins, etc), as well as the Senior and Flying Solos groups, plus two book clubs. My civic organizations have included the Lions Club, the Rotary Club, Ambassadors of the Richardson and Stephenville Chambers of Commerce and the Stephenville Zonta Club.

All the management positions I have held required extensive knowledge of the budgeting process, allocation of funds, time management, financial planning and report review, as well as membership solicitation. I believe my experience and training as a current member of the Signature Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, as a postmaster, as a member of the executive boards of both the active and retired postmasters, and as director and office manager of the Springtown Chamber of Commerce continues to qualify me as an effective member of the Signature Federal Credit Union Board of Directors. I have a proven track record and pledge I will continually strive to improve our credit union member benefits and services to achieve our full potential.



### National Vice-President Race Update

Due to family health issues and the anticipation of an employee shortage, I have come to the decision that it's not in the best interest of UPMA or my family to continue a campaign for Vice President this year. I am a firm believer in the responsibility of being able to dedicate the time and attention to a job that you have ask to be entrusted to you. Situations have changed significantly since I declared my intent to run this year, so I have reevaluated that decision and decided to withdraw from the race prior to any other conventions casting votes. I love UPMA and its members, so I feel that you deserve total focus and attention from your elected officers. I am anticipating the promotion of employees that would limit my ability to travel over the next few months and I have some small health issues that need attention, both of these would distract from the full attention that our members should expect.

We have good candidates running for the Vice President positions. I do not want to delay a decision that would keep votes from being cast for any other candidate, so I am asking that my name be removed from the ballot prior to the Alaska and Iowa conventions.

I appreciate the encouragement and support that I have received. I will continue to serve as WY State President and Western I Area Coordinator, both of these positions are manageable within my current situation. Hopefully by the time we enjoy the National Convention in Connecticut I will have a new manager trained and my health issue resolved. I look forward to continuing to serve UPMA.

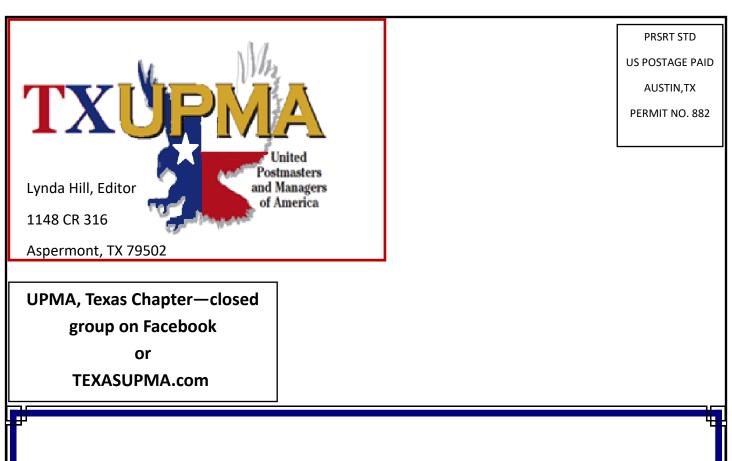
Respectfully,

Wendy Trautman









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