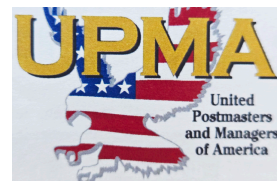


The Hawkeye Heartlander



The Iowa United Postmasters and Managers of America Publication

Volume 10 Issue 10

July/Aug 2025



Delivering Since 1775



Iowa Chapter Member Reps:
 Aimee Quick: 641-526-3411
 Greg Snow: 515-371-1094
 Ellen Opperman: 563-940-3979
 Sara Lindauer: 319-480-0815
 Wanda Lenhart: 712-260-5025
 Sherri Lingle: 712-579-8636

Printed below is the UPMA Adverse Action Legal Defense Plan. This plan is available to all active EAS members after one year of membership. We are here to help you should the need arise. If you are called in for an Investigative Interview, contact us immediately. It doesn't mean you're about to lose your job. Investigative interviews can be positive; often to air out differences or misunderstandings.

Cut out the box below and keep it in your office. If a Postal Inspector or OIG comes to your office and the questions are related directly to you, ask the question 'AM I UNDER INVESTIGATION?' If they say yes, tell them you will not talk to them until your Chapter Member Rep is present.

IF YOU RECEIVE A VISIT FROM THE INSPECTION SERVICE OR THE OIG

Statement to be read to Postal Inspectors or OIG:

I request to talk to my UPMA representative before answering any additional questions. If I am a suspect in a criminal matter, please so advise me. If so, I wish to contact my attorney.

Chapter Member Rep: Greg Snow(who will assign & send someone) Phone: 515-371-1094

If I am under arrest, I request you to so advise me and inform me of the reason or reasons. I will not resist arrest.

I do not consent to a search of my person or property. However, I will not physically resist or obstruct such a person. If you have a search warrant I request to see it at this time.

I will cooperate with you fully, but I will not sign a waiver-of-rights form. I will not admit or deny any allegations, I will not make any written or oral statement unless my attorney and/or UPMA Representative are personally present and so advise me.

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 Tony Leonardi
 tonyupmafl@gmail.com
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UPMA MISSION STATEMENT:
 United Postmasters & Managers
 of America exists to support our
 membership through communi-
 cation, education, and representa-
 tion.

UPMA National Office
 8 Herbert St
 Alexandria VA 22305-2600
 703-683-9027
 Unitedpma.org

Signature Federal Credit
 Union1-800-336-0284
 SignatureFCU.org

National Vice Presidents Central
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 Splst, HQ
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 kerrysh12@gmail.com

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 Development Mgr, OH1
 440-821-4667
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I write to announce my swan song as your PAC person.

There are several reasons it is time for me to move on, chiefly among these is that it appears I will soon be taking on the job of President of Iowa NARFE. As such, I will still be very involved advocating for federal employees and retirees. But I will also have more responsibilities to tend to.

I don't know how many years ago the PAC torch was passed to me but I'm sure my hair was black when I started doing it. I tried a different "style", combining passion with insanity. I had a lot of fun presenting new characters at our yearly conventions, some of which I didn't come up with until the day of. Those characters, some funny, some irreverent, always came with a message of the importance of our PAC program and how it fits into our political advocacy effort. At this point I should apologize to those of you whom I offended over the years with my antics. But, nah! Most of those I seemed to upset worked in District offices. There's

an old adage that all politics is local. That being said, I had a hard time separating bad politics from bad management. Perhaps as a PAC director, I blurred that line. But when a District Manager seemed to have a goal to close as many post offices as possible, I couldn't help but speak up. The biggest part of our political advocacy effort is to protect what we have, whether those threats come from Congress, a Presidential administration, or from our postal management.

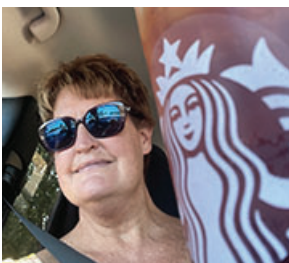
That brings me to another reason it is time for me to retire from presenting PAC to UPMA members. I have been out of the postal game for ten years and I have absolutely no idea what you are talking about when you are having a "gripe" session. Perhaps that is why I haven't been able to stir you up and move the PAC participation needle in several years. Unless things changed in the past year only 8 to 12 percent of UPMA members contribute to PAC. And we only had about 22 Iowa UPMA members contributing on a regular basis as ePAC-ers. **THAT PAC MONEY FUELS OUR POLITICAL EFFORT!** Without it, those ugly measures that were in the mis-named One Big Beautiful Bill that would have affected you as a federal worker would not have been taken out. * A side note here: Only someone who paints his face orange and wears a bird's nest on his head would call something that ugly beautiful. *

So, it is time for Iowa UPMA to move on and have an active member take up the PAC torch. Perhaps Jeff will do this himself or he may ask one of you to take this on. Either way, I implore ALL active UPMA members to start a payroll deduction for UPMA PAC. (Retirees, you can do a deduction from your retirement annuity, as well.) If this recent congressional budget fight didn't scare a few dollars out of your pocket, I don't know what will.

Lastly, I want to thank all of you who did participate faithfully in our PAC program over the years. For you retirees who occasionally send me a PAC check, start sending them to Jeff at his Keosauqua Post Office unless he says otherwise.

You have made me feel like a big fish in a small pond and it has been my honor to serve you.

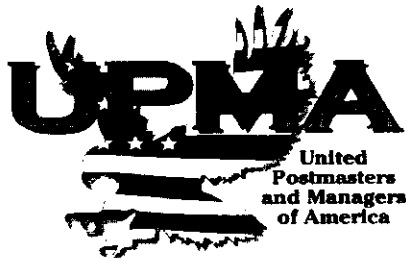
Harry



Greetings to all my UPMA friends Your favorite publication has **FINALLY** arrived and you can catch up with what's been happening and get ready for what's to come. This issue is a tad late(I know...it's more that a TAD!)but, with all the activities that have been happening in everyone's life & work place, it becomes hard to stay on task. With that said, you'll notice many members did not have time for an article or maybe anything to discuss at this moment. Summer does seem to slow down for news but next month we will have tons of information and will get back on track.

Speaking of, I'm trying to be proactive and want to ask for all of you to help us honor our Veterans we have amongst us and remember those who have passed. Please see page six for more details and get those pictures and information ready to send. Let's make this the best tribute to all the Veterans that we know.

Category	6/30/2025 Actual	7/1/2024-6/30/2025 Budget	6/30/2025 Difference	2026 Budget	6/30/2023 Budget
INCOME	86,270.68	70,000.00	-16,270.68	70,000.00	
AIC 001 Special Assessment	8,690.00	7,000.00	-1,690.00	7,000.0	7,000.00
AIC 005 Retirees & Associates Dues	3,491.01	2,500.00	-991.01	2,500.00	
3,000.00					
AIC 006 Postmasters & Managers	66,131.52	50,000.00	-16,131.52	50,000.00	60,000.00
AIC 008 New Member	4,485.00	5,000.00	515.00	0.00	5,000.00
AIC 009 Miscellaneous	669.50	500.00	-169.50	500.00	500.00
AIC 010 INTEREST	57.10	50.00	-7.10	50.00	50.00
AIC 017 Fall Tour Registrations	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIC 018 State Convention	3,416.05	5,000.00	1,583.95	5,000.0	5,000.00
				65,050.00	80,550.00
EXPENSES	72,027.63	96,600.00	24,572.37		
AIC 101 Special Assessment Payout	4,000.00	8,000.00	4,000.00	6,000.00	8,000.00
AIC 103 Webmaster - Communicatio	136.87	0.00	-136.87	150.00	10.00
AIC 104 Education	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
AIC 106 OFFICE SUPPLIES	265.12	300.00	34.88	300.00	300.00
AIC 107 POSTAGE	1,935.62	200.00	-1,735.62	400.00	200.00
AIC 108 Membership Incentive	4,275.00	5,000.00	725.00	0.00	10,000.00
AIC 109 Hawkeye - Heartlander	4,520.71	6,000.00	1,479.29	8,000.00	6,000.00
AIC 110 Fall Tour	3,991.46	5,000.00	1,008.54	5,000.0	5,000.00
AIC 111 Central Area Officers Summit	3,902.75	5,000.00	1,097.25	5,000.00	4,000.00
AIC 112 NATIONAL CONVENTIO	9,285.43	15,000.00	5,714.57	16,000.00	15,000.00
AIC 114 Legislative Advocacy Days	9,332.87	7,000.00	-2,332.87	12,000.00	7,000.00
AIC 115 PM RETIRED	3,322.72	3,500.00	178.28	3,500.00	3,500.00
AIC 116 MISC	1,368.38	1,000.00	-368.38	1,200.00	200.00
AIC 117 MEMBERSHIP WORK	4,813.27	5,000.00	186.73	8,000.00	4,000.00
AIC 118 STATE CONVENTION	5,925.57	20,000.00	14,174.43	25,000.00	20,000.00
AIC 119 LEGISLATION	0.00	100.00	100.00	500.00	100.00
AIC 120 DIRECTORIES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AIC 121 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS	3,120.5	7,000.00	3,879.46	5,000.00	6,000.00
AIC 122 COMPUTERS	2,019.38	2,500.00	480.62	2,000.00	0.00
AIC 123 Member Representative	8,644.84	5,000.00	-3,644.84	7,500.00	6,000.00
Total Expenses	70,860.53	96,600.00	25,840.47	106,550.00	
Net Difference:					
	-15,971.31	-23,742.61	7,771.30		95,310.00



IOWA CHAPTER UPMA AUDIT REPORT July 18, 2025


We the parties listed below, using a copy of the Rules of Audit and based on procedures as outlined have reviewed the financial operations of the Iowa Chapter of UPMA. By examining all vouchers and documentation we were able to account for every deposit and check written during the period in review. After careful review and some consultation, we have found that the checking and savings account balances were properly reconciled to match the statements issued by the Signature Credit Union.


We would also like to commend the Treasurer on her attention to detail, and organization of material used during the review process.

For Audit purposes, all current bank statements and credit card statements were provided showing the most up to date balances for reconciling purposes.

The ending balance of \$58,209.25 in checking and \$50,747.14 in savings are true and accurate across all platforms to include bank statements and online Quicken account.

Respectfully submitted.


Randy Snow
Date 07/18/2025


Hans Luft
Date 07/18/2025

Iowa UPMA Retiree President



Kevin Schwab
mailman4699@yahoo.com
515-669-9616

Greetings Iowa Retirees! At the state convention in April, I was elected to serve as your State President, starting July 1 for the next 2 years. Sheila Soppe was elected to serve as your Vice President, and Lisa Eittreim will continue on as your Secretary. Please feel free to contact any of your Officers with any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you to Ellen Opperman who has served as President the past 4 years and to Dixie Bentley who has served as Vice President for the same period. I am sure most of you remember me as I was your NAPUS/UPMA State President for many years. Hard to believe it has been almost 4 years ago now that I retired after working 42 years for the USPS! So yes, I have been around quite a while. But if someone would have told me that retirement meant lots of doctors appointments, I might have worked longer! lol

Next up for retirees is the National Convention in Dallas August 9 – 15. As of July 1, we have 7 retirees from Iowa registered. There is still time to make plans to attend! Retirees will be electing new National Officers and voting on Constitution changes. One of the reasons I stayed as a member when I retired was the opportunity to network with the many friends I had made over the years from across the country and this is a great opportunity to see them again.

Hopefully you saw in the last issue of the Hawkeye/Heartlander, that all Iowa retirees will be having a get together on Tuesday, August 26, 11 am until 3 pm. It will be held at Lucky's Restaurant at Meskwaki Bingo Casino Hotel, 1504 305th St, Tama IA. Rocky Hilton and I have put this

together the last couple years. It is fun to reconnect with fellow retirees and see what they have been up to. Hope to see a good crowd there! This and Facebook are the only ways I have of getting the word out, so feel free to invite any retiree. October 14 we will also be having a retiree get together at The Pizza Ranch in Mason City at noon. Please feel free to contact me for more details if interested in attending either of these.

One of my duties as State President is to conduct the Memorial Service at next year's State Convention. With that in mind, if you hear or see an obituary of a Postmaster or member that has died, please let me know. You can send me an email at mailman4699@yahoo.com or text or call me at 515.669.9616. I will try to include them in each of my articles in addition to remembering them at the State Convention. Speaking of next year's convention, there was extensive discussion among retirees about the location. I can tell you it has been decided to hold a Tri State convention one more year at the Embassy Suites in Lincoln NE the last weekend in April 2026. Maybe we can get a group activity planned as the time gets closer.

IN MEMORY

Terry Rodgers, Postmaster Retired, Cedar Falls who died June 14.

In honor of Veteran's Day, we would like to express our THANKS for their heroic service for our country. Please send any pictures, articles, or anything else that shows our respect for them by Nov 3rd. Let's show them how much they mean to us.

Iowa UPMA V/P - Membership



Sherri Lingle

sherrilingle4@gmail.com

O/712-653-3414

C/712-579-8636

Time of Reflection

WE don't take the easy way or do We?

Have you spent time with your team recently? Reflected on how we approach situations differently than many other companies? How often do you feel we're taking the long way around? What are we actually doing? Are we offering our employees, our customers and ourselves what we truly can do? In our jobs we must look at the challenges as an opportunity worth considering.

I encourage you to step back and view your position from a different perspective, through the eyes of your customers and your team members and focus on what your ultimate goal is and keep your focus. It's a mindset shift that can lead to clarity and can make an impact.

Think about what you are truly trying to accomplish? What kind of impact do you hope to make? And what are the hard, yet necessary steps to get there? With that in mind, you need to go and give it a shot. Step out from the comfort of your little box!

Make sure that your process is built to move the proverbial needle forward by engaging your employees, co-workers and/or your customers. Uncover real insights and create a clear customized goal to guide you over the next few years. Yes, that is years. It takes time to make the changes. You will need to make a plan, facilitate the conversations and

make sure that progress stays on track.

Follow through with your plan or intentions. Don't lose sight of the changes that you are trying to incorporate. You and your team deserve to succeed. Taking the time and remember, you could take the easy way, but it is only a temporary fix.

Long-term success is immeasurable. We take the challenges and rise to the occasion until we see success. Don't give in and don't give up. Believe in yourself and in each other. Together we can.

Hope to see you soon

Sherri Lingle

Executive Vice President Iowa UPMA
Membership

LOCAL AND NATIONAL RESOURCES

- 1-800-EAP-4YOU 1-800-327-4968
- 988 Suicide & Crisis LIFELINE
 - Text 988
 - Call 988
- Chat 988lifeline.org



Wanda Lenhart
Secretary/Treasurer
6766 460th St
Sutherland, IA 51058

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Postage Paid
Madrid, IA 50156



Article Due Dates

Sept/Oct: September 8th

Nov/Dec: Nov 3rd

Jan/Feb: Jan 12th

Please remember that all members are welcome to submit articles. All content is subject to the approval of the Editor & State President.
Submit to: upmaiaeditor@gmail.com

THE HAWKEYE POSTMASTER

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Upcoming Events

Central Area Officers Summit (CAOS)
Double Tree By Hilton, Oak Brook, IL
September 26 - 28, 2025

Fall Tour
October 21 - 23
LeMars-Urbandale-Cedar Rapids
more details to come

UPMA 2026 Kickoff Meeting
January 17, 2026
San Diego, CA

UPMA Legislative Summit
March 22 - 25, 2026
Hyatt Regency Arlington, VA

UPMA 10th National Convention
August 1 - 7, 2026
Las Croabas, PR

UPMA IS NOT A UNION. IT IS A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION.

It is an organization of people who hold proud titles. It does not discriminate by race, gender, or salary level. It is a vehicle, an avenue, a method and a tool that can and does help, assist, benefit, and encourage members to be better Postal Managers.