

# The Massachusetts Baystate Postmaster

July 2016



## MA Final NAPUS Convention May 25-27, 2016



# Going Out On A High Note

## You Should Have Been There!

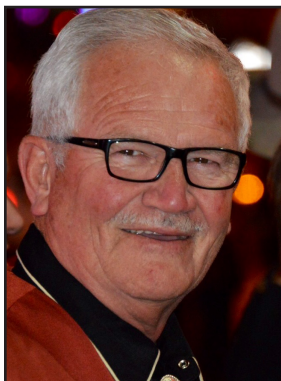
The final Massachusetts NAPUS Convention had it all. Arguably we had the best weather we've had for our convention in years! We had First Timers who came to realize how important our conventions are. We had training sessions that you would be hard pressed to match anywhere else. Sessions to help you as Postmasters understand just what is happening to your position and how to be proactive in protecting those positions. We had our National President, Tony Leonardi with us for the entire convention. Tony thinks of us as family so much that he brought his wife, Karyn and daughter Isabella along as well to enjoy the Cape and his Massachusetts friends. We gave away MONEY! Lots of it! \$6,000! We had car races. We had a very successful scholarship auction, again topping \$3,000, enabling us to continue this generous program for your families. We handed out FIVE \$1000 scholarships. We had out of state visitors. From New Hampshire. From Alabama. From Vermont. From Connecticut. They came because they knew our conventions are worth the time and effort to be there. We had Mike Powers, our District Manager for over half of the state, spend some time with us. RATHER than make a long opening statement, he went right into hearing our questions and concerns. Ann Mailloux joined us again from Connecticut and gave us all the updated info she could, and as she does so well, with compassion and humor. We had volleyball. We had a Mystery Theatre Dinner. We had laughs. We had lunch. We had it all.

And we had Tom Costin, the Ninety Year Old retired Postmaster of Lynn, Mass. talk to us. There's a whole article about his talk elsewhere in this issue. Take the time to read it. To this day he fights to preserve Postmasters' rights, honor, and dignity.

Those of you who attended this year know what a great convention this was. For those of you who were not able to make it, well, you missed out. You should have been there! Take five minutes right now, figure out how to make sure you're there next year for our first UPMA Mass. Convention. Then call someone who did attend so they can tell you everything they experienced.

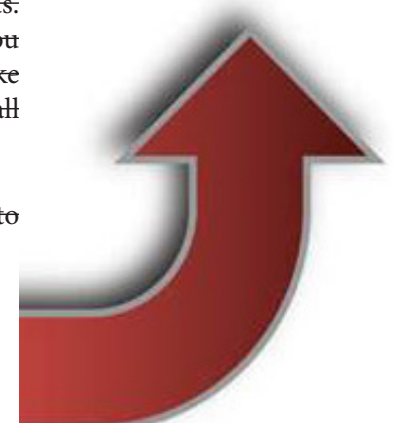
The Postmasters, OIC's, Managers and retirees who were there, reach out to your neighbors who weren't there and let them know why they should be.

## Nevermind-read his!



I guess I'll write something else.

Jerry Robertson  
Editor







# WOW! What A Convention!

That convention was so good it made you 'wanna slap your mama'. If you don't understand that reference, ask someone who attended our final MA NAPUS State Convention.

We were joined by 8 active or former National Officers.

- Tony Leonardi (and family): current National President, NAPUS
- Wally Olihovik: (2 term) National President, NAPUS
- Thomas Patrick Costin Jr: (2 term) National President, NAPUS
- Janeice Taylor (and husband Bill): current National VP NAPUS Retirees all the way from Alabama. Despite the beautiful New England weather I think they were a little cold...but they were there!
- Michael Quinn: former National Secretary Treasurer, NAPUS
- Rich Hui: current Area Vice President, NAPUS
- Cathy Winnie: current Area Vice President, League of Postmasters
- Jack Jameson: former National Vice President, League of Postmasters (now retired and happy)

We gave away money:

- (5) \$1,000.00 Scholarships
- \$1,100.00 PAC Raffle (1 winner!)
- \$5,000.00 Cash, but you had to be present (or president) to win!
- 2 50/50 Raffles
- NASCAR Cash prizes

All in all we gifted about \$12,000.00 back to the membership!

...and PAC N A Cure, First Timers/Retirees Luncheon, Thomas Patrick Costin Jr, SOV Training, PS 150 Training, Retirement Seminar, First Timers (wow, we had some great first timers), BBQ on the beach, NASCAR races, Auction, Animal House, Memorial Service, Ann Mailloux, Tony Leonardi, Committee Reports, Golf, 5K, Banquet, Murder Mystery (Jeremy, what are you doing to that woman?) Scholarship Recipients, First Timer Award – Domenic Delle Chiaie, Postmaster of the Year 2015 – Karen Sigman, Animal House (again? I'm too old for this), District Manager's (Mike Powers) Panel (we actually got some questions and answers), election of UPMA Eastern Area Vice Presidents.....

I hope you didn't miss it.

If you did, you can join us next year at our first MA UPMA State Convention.  
We can all be first-timers together!

MA NAPUS State President  
John Fitzpatrick

# How I Spent My First NAPUS Convention

by Amanda Shaulis

When I started jotting down ideas for my article on the convention I realized just how much I gained from my experience. I wrote down four pages of memories and names. It is incredible how beneficial our convention is and I can't begin to explain how excited I am to share it with you! I am a new member of NAPUS and when I first heard about convention I honestly didn't understand why Lynne Martineau, my old PM Jerry Robertson, and Pam Boudreau were so insistent I go. What could I really take away from it? Whenever Jerry came back it always seemed like it was a few party days on the Cape. BOY, was I wrong!

My first memory wasn't even when I got to the convention. I was out doing a route inspection and receiving calls from my former PM inviting me to ride down with him. Unfortunately, I had to turn him down. I was grateful he offered to be my chauffeur and wanted me to come down early. Then when I finished my inspection and got back to my office I got another call. Lynne was already at the Cape and she was insisting again that I should come down that night. I was really wishing I had packed earlier! I was beginning to wonder why they were so excited to get me there. I opted to spend the time with my family and to relax on my first night of my mini vacation.

Wednesday began by ensuring I had everything together and saying goodbye to my family before I headed to the Cape. Even my ride down was incredibly peaceful, even though I got a call from my office half way. When I crossed the Sagamore Bridge and began to smell the ocean, my relaxation began. Lynne had called me ahead of time to advise me she would be at a meeting but told me where the cottage was and that she would find me as soon as she was done. When I walked to the door of cottage five and looked through the door there was a man talking to a woman whom I didn't know. I knew I was going into a cottage full of girls and thought OMG, I'm at the wrong cottage! But then I saw a few familiar faces and the guy invited me in. I learned he was Jeremy, PM of Provincetown. Already you could tell by the atmosphere I was going to be welcomed and right at home with everyone. Martha advised me while waiting for Lynne I could go register for the convention so it would be out of the way. I wish she had told me to leave my wallet behind! The girls at registration really know how to empty a wallet. They told me to keep it out but I was hoping if I put it away they wouldn't get anymore from me. I knew I was donating to a great cause, PAC, and at the same time I got to add a fancy NAPUS contributor tag to my name badge. And then there was my race car! I felt like a kid at Walmart! So many choices! I signed up for all the learning sessions except retirement because "the girls" told me I was too young to attend. And then I got my goodie bag!... but there was no brochure to tell me when and where things were going to take place. Leave it to Gerry to get it there on time. MY registration took all of 20 minutes tops and I felt like I lost money quicker than at Foxwoods but I was excited to get back to the cottage and talk to Lynne about what was happening over the next few days. She wasn't there when I got back so I grabbed

my book and went to sit and read by the ocean and relax. When Lynne returned to the cottage, we took a walk and talked about how everything was going to happen, then we went back to get ready for our luncheon. Linda Monahan was there and I was amazed at how incredible she looked and how empowered she had become from her new change to a healthier lifestyle. She may not know it but her empowerment and excitement definitely helped me make the right choices over the next few days. All of cottage five girls traveled as a pack and went to our luncheon and sat together. I was expecting a boring meeting over lunch but I was wrong. President Fitzpatrick is a phenomenal speaker and sure knows how to get people's attention by giving away money. I learned a new face right away, and whenever a raffle began I was always looking to see if Joe was in the room because you "have to be present to win".



Amanda Shaulis, Princeton OIC, and Lynne Martineau the only two people happy to be attending a meeting

We finally got our brochures which were absolutely fantastic. I knew I had two classes coming up on SOV and Form 150 after the meeting but there were chair massages being done and I rushed to get one. Rich Hui was much quicker than me! My classes were very beneficial to me because I know as PMs we never stop learning new things and I know many other PMs that were in the classroom with me agreed; even the President of NAPUS attended the class. After the classes we had a break before the evening BBQ and auction so we went for a walk again by the ocean. I don't even know where to begin with the BBQ and Auction except for the best part. I had gained a new table of friends to sit and converse and eat with. Martha, Jeremy, Wanda, Pam, Linda, and Alex (Blue Cross Rep). We did another raffle, Joe was present but didn't win but I won 100 BUCKS! How can you not be happy to win money! When I got back to my table I was finally able to put a face to Dan Couture's name. I was so excited to meet him because he was one of the many people who called me to offer assistance when I started my detail and I know he will be there for me whenever

(continued next page)



needed, like everyone else in my NAPUS family. After our brief hellos I was instructed by Rich Hui to check out the auction table. Lynne wasn't kidding me when she said booze is a popular item. I think we could have stocked the bar! Even still the variety of items provided was incredible and you got a sense of what some people were like. Before the raffle we had car races! It was absolutely hilarious watching all the guy PM's huddle around the track to watch cars race like little kids. And then there was Nick's daughter laughing and trying to dance when everyone cheered. Such an adorable little girl! The auction was incredible to watch people spend way more than what the item is worth just because they know it goes to a great cause. I have learned that this is part of the reason NAPUS is so amazing! By the end of all this I was so relaxed and happy that I went back to the cottage and went straight to bed. I got an invite after changing to my pajamas to go to the animal house but opted out.



The next day started early with a long walk with Lynne and Christine. We started our business meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. This is one thing I truly love about NAPUS's meetings. We proceeded with a memorial for the "empty chair" that I will never forget. Pam, Linda, Gabriele, and Jeremy sure know how to set up a truly touching ceremony. Their songs were beautiful. President Fitzpatrick with his unforgettable presentation on C.R.A.P. and M.O.R.C.R.A.P. Absolutely hilarious! Then we had guest speaker Ann Mailloux who also was very informative and down to earth and willing to answer questions that are going unanswered from corporate. Another unforgettable session. For lunch many of us had to have seafood so... down the road to Skippers. Our seating went from a party of 6 to a party of 20 or more because all of us at NAPUS decided to go to the same place and sat together. Again my network was extended immensely. After lunch the girls and I decided to take a walk again to the beach and somehow Gabriele got me in a Team Couture Vs. Team O'Neill game of volleyball. We started with eight of us but just like NAPUS as a whole it

turned into twelve because everyone wanted to participate. Of course no booze was present ( Yeah, right!). We played three fantastic games of volleyball before saying hello to Mike Powers and dispersed to get ready for our banquet. The banquet was another amazing experience for me. We had a murder mystery during our dinner. It was absolutely hilarious when the actors included all of us in their act. Jeremy was definitely the center of attention and it was hilarious at the end when he found out one of the performers was the secretary from his repair shop. (I still think the husband did it.) After the murder mystery we went through the slideshow of all the first timers photos submitted into their contest. Again, another hilarious event that I can't wait to participate in next year as an official first timer. And then our scholarship recipients were announced to several incredible students. We went on to celebrate and announce the PM of the Year, Karen Sigman. We ended with a huge group photo which Mike Powers was more than happy to take. And he even did a selfie of himself with all of us. Another night I will never forget. After the banquet Lynne, Christine and I decided to go for a short walk and to sit and listen to the ocean waves on our last night and to reminisce all of the events so far. When we went back to the cottage I managed to not go to Animal house again; maybe next year. The cottage five girls sat and ate dessert and talked until 11:30 before calling it quits and heading to bed.

The following morning was sad because we all woke and started packing so we could check out and attend our last morning meeting. We had a continental breakfast and a business meeting with Mike Powers. Mike Powers was so empowering and encouraging while speaking to all of us like he always is. He was able to take time to allow us to ask questions and talk with him about our concerns. Anything he didn't know he had no problem telling us he didn't have an answer for it but that he would get one. He also discussed how we need to come together as a whole company and show our focus and dedication to our employees and show them how important they are to us. I think this is of HUGE importance to him and something that is extremely important to me because I know what he is talking about from seeing, hearing and being a part of a few offices that need to focus more on their employees to enhance their office well-being. After Mike's speech we concluded our last Mass State NAPUS Convention and began our goodbyes. It was incredibly sad to say goodbye to all my new friends but I know that I can call on anyone of them 24/7 and they would be there for me.

The NAPUS convention was amazing for me. Not only was it a business function for me it was also a much needed vacation. Not only was I able to gain an incredible amount of knowledge but my network of colleagues has expanded immensely. Everyone involved was amazing in welcoming and giving me a new focus and drive towards my advancement and future with the USPS and UPMA. I thank you all members of the NAPUS family for everything over these last few days and since I started as a member of NAPUS and I look forward to our changes with UPMA.

# Karen Sigman Sandwich MA Postmaster Of The Year



## WOW!!!

What an Honor to be chosen as the Postmaster of the Year by my fellow Postmasters!! I am still in shock. Although I did manage to blurt out a thank you, (between the tears), I wanted to formally thank you all for choosing me for this prestigious Honor! I was totally caught off guard and did not expect this at all. For those of you that were there, my Cape Cod friends actually had me get up with the group to help Brenda with her presentation, and we all sang the Postmaster of the Year song, that Marybeth and Linda had made up, which we practiced while sitting in the sun, having a cocktail or two.

A little history on me, I've worked for the Post Office since August 1978, starting as DES 73 sub carrier, and then became a regular rural carrier. For part of my 20 years as a rural carrier I was also an assistant State Steward for over 500 rural carriers for the 020s, 023s, 025s, and 026s. In 1998 I was asked to be on an AMS audit team. Since then, it's been a whirlwind, as I have had the opportunity to OIC in 6 different offices, I've been a SCS in 2 offices and held 3 Postmaster jobs. Pocasset, Mashpee, and my final office, Sandwich.

I've met a lot of people over the course of the years and made many friends.

However nothing, **Nothing, NOTHING** compares to being a part of this NAPUS organization. Where I've been fortunate enough to meet people from all over the country and make some wonderful friends from all over the State, whom I've had lots of fun and memorable times with. And even though we don't see each other much it's like we haven't missed a beat!! Thank you all!

To my fellow Cape Cod Postmasters thank you!! I only hope that I've been able to help you out even a fraction of what I've received for help, and support over the years, from all my NAPUS friends, to help make your jobs a little easier.

And a special Thank you to my "Cape Cod Girls" my lifelong friends, who I've shared many laughs, tears, and great times with!!!

Thank you all!!!

*Karen Sigman*

P.S. Was me being the "Sleuth of the Night" part of the plan also????  
Just saying.....





# Remembering Loved Ones



Domenic Delle Chiaie



Linda Monahan

Gabrielle McCarthy Jeremy Pilone



Lorna Edie



Stanley Skamarycz



# NAPUS National Presidents



Tom Costin, Jr.



Tony Leonardi



Wally Olihovik

# FIRST TIMERS 2016



It was my honor (and pleasure) to be selected to oversee this year's first timers committee. Along with my trusted sidekick, Honorable (and lovely) Postmaster of North Uxbridge, Linda Monahan, we corralled a rowdy group of six willing participants and turned them into a group of loyal and knowledgeable NAPUS members. The first timers were as follows:

<b>Martha "JELLO Shots" Casey</b>	Postmaster	Lancaster 01523
<b>Greg "Mr. Athol" Goodhile</b>	Postmaster	Athol 0133
<b>"Tricky" Ricky Auricchio</b>	Postmaster	Byfield 01922
<b>Jennifer "Where's My Hat" Harraden</b>	Postmaster	Carver 02330
<b>Susan "Island Time" Wisniewski</b>	Postmaster	Nantucket 02554
<b>Domenic "Double D" Delle Chiaie</b>	Manager, Customer Services	Medford 02155

The rookies were sworn in, given their assignments, and set loose on South Yarmouth for as much fun and frivolity possible while wearing a fiesta hat. This year we decided to resurrect the photo scavenger hunt but with a 21st century twist. A list of 20 photo subjects was given to each rookie with the instruction of how to win the grand prize, which was described as "something green". They had twenty-four hours to capture photos with as many subjects as possible and submit them electronically for approval and scoring. The caveat is that they had to be in each photo and creativity was a must (a few of my favorite pics are attached). The purpose was to get our newbies out and about to mingle, network, and establish new friendships with their fellow Postmasters and NAPUS members.

Twenty-four hours passed by quickly and before you know it, I was entertaining the banquet audience with the shenanigans of our "actively engaged" rookies. I was honored to present the grand prize to Domenic "Double D" Delle Chiaie who had some extremely creative (and somewhat disturbing) photos. As the grand prize winner, "Double D" went home with a newly inflated fiesta cactus cooler (notice the play on words there). Martha "JELLO Shots" Casey came in a very close second and even scored some bonus points for getting Ann Mailloux to wear her fiesta hat. Even though she wasn't officially a first timer, I felt compelled to recognize Wanda Poteat (OIC Upton 01568) for her memorable account of her first martini on Cape Cod. This resulted in the quote of the evening, "It's so good, you'll want to slap your mama." I don't think anyone in attendance will forget that one.

In closing, I wanted to thank each of the first timers for being great sports and allowing us to share a chuckle at their expense. I hope they all had a great time in 2016 and made some new memories and friendships during their stay. Next year will be an interesting challenge considering we will all be first-timers at the first annual UPMA Massachusetts state convention. Get your cameras and creativity ready for 2017!

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeremy M. Piloni  
Honorable Postmaster, Provincetown 02657







*Are you kidding?! He wants to build a wall where?*



*Everybody Cumbia!!*



# Convention 2016

## You Must Be Present To

### WIN!

### Winners\*

#### WED LUNCH

**\$100**

- 1 Jennifer Harraden, Carver
- 2 Pam Boudreau, Gardner
- 3 Jim Mills, Fitchburg
- 4 Stan Skamarycz, Retiree
- 5 Dave Branga, Tewsbury
- 6 Peter Clarke, E Dennis
- 7 Wanda Poteat, OIC Upton
- 8 Susan Wisniewski, Nantucket
- 9 Mark Sibley, Chicopee
- 10 Brenda Martin, Danvers

#### TRAINING

**\$50**

- 1 Janet Atkinson, Burlington
- 2 Sue Lewis, Amesbury
- 3 Janet Atkinson, Burlington (2)
- 4 Dom DelleChiaie, Mgr Medford
- 5 Tom Driscoll, Norwood
- 6 Sue Lewis, Amesbury

#### 1ST TIMERS

**\$50**

- 1 Susan Wisniewski, Nantucket (2)

#### WED BBQ

**\$100**

- 1 Amanda Shaulis, OIC Princeton
- 2 Damon Nix, Falmouth
- 3 Laila Lawrence, Retiree
- 4 Wanda Poteat, OIC Upton (2)
- 5 Diane Maskewich, Dracut
- 6 Robin Driscoll, Deerfield
- 7 Jan Wilson, Retiree
- 8 Bob Fournier, Retiree
- 9 John Fitzpatrick, Hyannis
- 10 Glenn Cook, Harwich

Number in parentheses indicate how many times a person won.

#### THU MTG

**\$100**

- 1 Lauren Anderson, Wellfleet
- 2 Mike Watson, Area Mgr
- 3 Robin Driscoll, Deerfield (2)
- 4 George Podmore, Retiree
- 5 Deanna White, N Chelmsford
- 6 Diane Maskewich, Dracut (2)
- 7 John Fitzpatrick, Hyannis (2)
- 8 Jean Marie McClellan, Dennisport
- 9 Janet Atkinson, Burlington (3)
- 10 Damon Nix, Falmouth (2)

#### BANQUET

**\$100**

- 1 Tom Driscoll, Norwood
- 2 Stan Skamarycz, Retiree (2)
- 3 Michael Catalano, Franklin
- 4 Jim Hooley, Retiree
- 5 Kathy Callahan, Westminster
- 6 John Carroll, Stoughton
- 7 Chuck Nichols, Billerica
- 8 Don Luxton, Retiree
- 9 Laila Lawrence, Retiree (2)
- 10 Greg Goodhile, Athol

#### FRI MTG

**\$100**

- 1 Kathy Callahan, Westminster (2)
- 2 John Carroll, Stoughton (2)
- 3 W. Olihovik, Retiree
- 4 L. Nix, Wareham
- 5 D. Luxton, Retiree

**\$150**

- 1 Jan Wilson, Retiree (2)

**\$5,000 Total Prizes!**

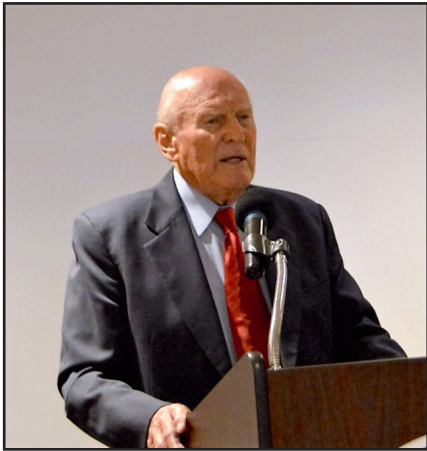
\* Unfortunately, Joe Torcia's name does not appear anywhere on this list. Let's just say he had poor timing. More than once.





# Tom Costin, Jr. Is Going To Bat For Postmasters And Managers

Tom Costin, Jr. is ninety years old. He doesn't know it, though. As he stood at the MA NAPUS First Timers and Retirees' luncheon and delivered a twenty six minute talk with no notes he effectively convinced those listening that he can't be ninety as well. That is, until they learned of his accomplishments.



After becoming a soldier in the U.S. Marines at 18, he became the youngest mayor for Lynn, MA. He so impressed the Kennedy political family they took him under their wing and became one of their advisors. When John Kennedy became President he tried to bring Tom to D.C. Tom declined and was appointed Postmaster of Lynn. He was also given the responsibility of improving the U.S. Post Office on a national level. Tom became one of the engineers of Postal Reform and what became the USPS. He was under consideration to become the Postmaster General. He was

twice the National President of NAPUS. Tom tells stories of his journey in a much more entertaining fashion than a brief article in this newsletter.

Tom's reason for visiting us was to inform us that he intends to put folks in Washington on notice that they are not living up to the basic requirements set down during Postal Reform. He strongly believes that decisions made in D.C. need to be presented to the folks that deal with the mail everyday- Postmasters and Managers. He intends to bring the USPS back to the level it should be and remind everyone that we deserve respect for what we do for this organization.

Tom's speech at the convention was recorded and will soon be available on the website for everyone to hear, or to hear it again. Tom will be in New Orleans for the National Convention. Don't miss him. He'll lift your spirit and energize you.



**Forty eight years ago we put down in writing the things that were agreed to for change. I want to meet with the PMG [and UPMA] to do exactly what you said you would do. Give them the equipment, money, time and people to help them... without getting to the point that they're leaving because they can't take the pressure you're putting on them-**

**excerpt from Tom Costin, Jr. speech**

# 2016 Convention Receives High Marks

The Massachusetts NAPUS State Convention happened early this year. A scheduling conflict at the Red Jacket Inn necessitated we choose a different week. We were rewarded for our cooperation with unusual great weather; past years have presented us with clouds and rain! It made for enjoyable walks in the early and late hours and an opportunity to converse with fellow Postmasters.

Our Executive Board Meeting was charged with focus on forward progression as we transition from NAPUS to UPMA. It was exciting to hear that our own, Rich Hui, is doing well with his campaign for Area Representative. We contributed to his cause to assist him with travel expenses. Hope all your hard work pays off, Rich!!! The news of Secretary/Treasurer, Donna Legro's upcoming retirement left many of us envious even though we are thrilled with her well-earned decision to change gears in life. You are wished many, happy, healthy and prosperous years, Donna. You have worked tirelessly for our organization over the years and we are fortunate that you will continue to lead us.

The Memorial Service was sobering to say the least! Linda Monahan, Gabriele McCarthy and Jeremy Pilone did a fine job with the music and setting the tone for remembering "our loved ones" over the past year. Pam, you certainly have a gift for changing the paradigm of the many attendees from the hectic pace of running an office to the "reality" check of what is most important in life. Thank you for that.

The General Business Session and the Training Sessions afforded all an opportunity to learn what is important to the Postal Service. I think many of us were surprised to learn that others are experiencing the same exhaustion from the demands of our duties.

The barbeque, NASCAR Races and Auction always bring life to the party. Dave Branga, fine job in getting the races started and finished! Jerry, you once again made the auction to raise money for the Scholarship Fund, a lively experience. You make it look so easy! Ryan D'Orio, fine try stepping up to relieve Jerry for a few moments. Do you know how many years of counseling were required to get him to speak up???

How many gatherings have you gone to where cash is given away? This was an exciting addition to our annual convention. I think the retirees did quite well in the award area. As everyone present knew, "you must be present to win, or President to win" and this challenged many to remain present and attentive if they wanted a chance to claim some "cash".

The interaction between the veteran attendees and the newcomers is heart-warming. The vets show the newbies the ropes and guide them through the fast-paced convention. It made me think of Winnie McLaughlin. When I first became a Postmaster in Wrentham, she came into the office, introduced herself and did everything she could to get me involved in the organization. She offered advice and support. She called me and invited me to meetings. She reached out. We all need to do more of that. Breaking into a new role/group is difficult for some. Sometimes all it takes is to be asked. I have tried to emulate her lead through the years. This is what makes MA Postmasters the best!

The Murder Mystery Dinner Banquet was fun. Having some of the scholarship recipients and their family members present was great! We wish you all well in your studies. The \$1100.00 PAC Raffle had many holding their breath. Congratulations to Nancy White, the lucky winner who had to leave early to prepare for her upcoming River Cruise Vacation. I hope the news started her journey on a positive note and she does something special for herself while away. Forging new friendships, making contacts to network with, and stepping away from our daily work challenges makes this time well worth the use of our Annual Leave. I, personally, found it to be restorative.

Next year we will have our convention as UPMA. We will all be "first timers". I challenge everyone to get involved; commit now to attend next year's convention. You'll be glad you did.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynne Martineau  
017 President





# Level 18s: Concerned About Your Office Level Going Down To Part Time?

USPS has still not announced definitively that all offices are being re-evaluated with the POSTPlan formula, but we have been told that USPS will downgrade/upgrade offices using FY 16 data. The training by Catherine Winnie at the convention was fantastic. If you haven't calculated your office, you should do so. The instructions are on [napus.org](#) under Latest News SOV-CSV DAILY WORKLOAD EARNED HOURS 04-04-2016.

## Finally: Some Action in the House

A "discussion draft" of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2016 was introduced in mid June by House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) and Committee Ranking Democrat Elijah Cummings (D-MD). They would like to introduce this bill in July. It proposes some changes to the Postal Service Health Benefits Program, establishing separately rated postal plans within the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. Almost all postal employees and retirees who elect coverage through FEHBP must enroll in one of the postal FEHBP plans, and Medicare eligible Postal Service retirees and family members are automatically enrolled in Medicare Part A and B. The Postal Service will cover a decreasing portion of the Medicare Part B premium for current retirees transitioned into Medicare because of the legislation -75% in the first year; 50% in the second; 25% in the third; and 0% in the fourth. The bill also requires the Postal Service to make Retiree Health Benefit (RHB) prefunding payments to cover 100% of the cost of the Postal Service's RHB liability within 40 years.

The bill establishes a Presidentially-appointed, Senate confirmed 5-member Board of Governors with 7-year terms (the current Board has 9 members.) The Board sets the compensation for the PMG and Deputy PMG. 2 • The PMG and the Deputy PMG must be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate to 4-year terms. The bill also requires the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) to pay the Department of State's costs for negotiating international postal rates. It clarifies the PRC's existing authority to levy fines against the Postal Service, and requires the incremental conversion to centralized delivery of business addresses. The bill allows the Postal Service to increase postal rates

for market-dominant products by 2.15%, or 1 cent for a First-Class stamp. It eliminates state and national political committees' eligibility for non-profit mail rates, and directs the Postal Service to raise rates on loss-making monopoly products.

It also authorizes the USPS to provide nonpostal services to state, local, and tribal governments and other federal agencies. The PRC may order the Postal Service to discontinue a nonpostal service if the Postal Service persistently fails to meet cost coverage requirements. This reform bill also requires the USPS to abide by the same regulations it requires of private companies when offering metered postage systems that create individual postage labels for letters or packages. Importantly, it requires the USPS to consider additional factors when evaluating whether to close a post office, including distance to next post office, characteristics of the location, and the availability of broadband. It shortens the deadline for the PRC to review the USPS's decision to close a post office from 120 to 60 days. It allows community input, as well as appeals regarding the closing of post office stations and post office branches. This is a brief summary of the 118 page bill. The full text, along with a detailed summary of the bill, is available on the NAPUS website. We are awaiting an official NAPUS review of the bill as we go to press.

Robin Driscoll  
Vice President, Legislative Chair

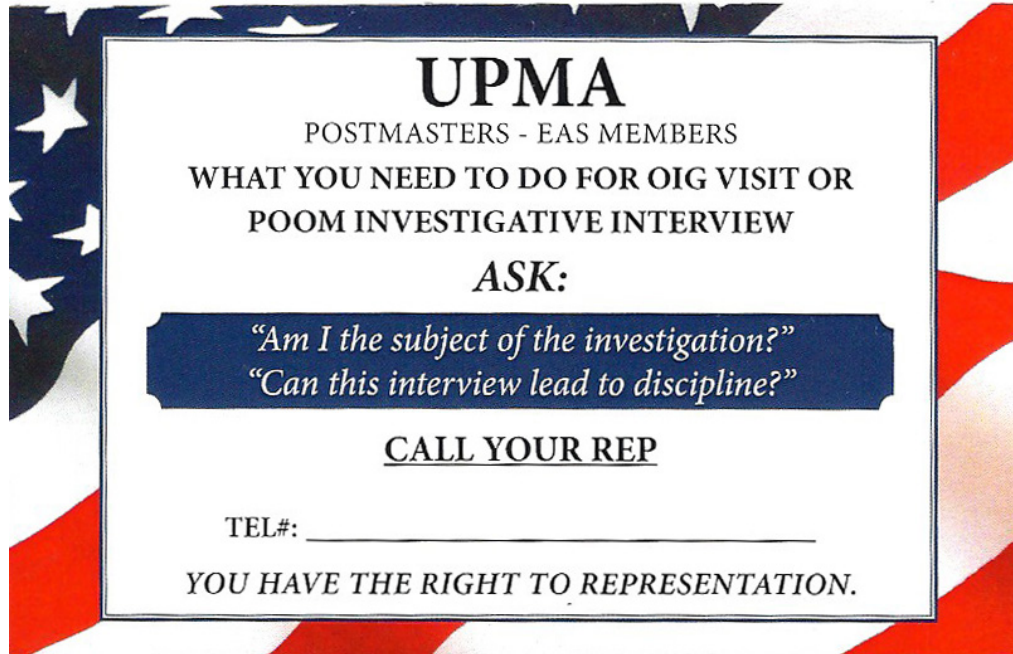




## When In Doubt- SHOUT!



At the state convention a magnet was put in all registration bags. I was given permission by the State E-Board to have these magnets made. These magnets are provided to our members to put in their offices to serve as a reminder as to when it is necessary to make a call for help. It simply states:



We have ordered enough of these magnets for all our members so contact your Chapter President to get yours.

Too many times our members hesitate to call their representative for one reason or another. If you don't feel the need to call right away but during your meeting it takes a turn and give you an uncomfortable feeling, go with your gut, stop the meeting, and ask to contact your rep. Politely let them know that you will fully cooperate in their investigation but you want a representative present. Do the right thing for YOU! My cell phone number is above and you should add your local Chapter President's number. You have a right to representation and you will have representation when you need it.

Sincerely,  
Lorna Edie  
State Representative



# Last NAPUS State Convention Attended by Twenty Retirees

The last NAPUS Massachusetts State convention has come and gone and what a great way to end an era. We had over 20 Postmasters Retired at this convention and we all had a blast. At the Wednesday Retiree /First Timers luncheon Past National President and Postmaster Retired from Massachusetts, Tom Costin, spoke on the past battles of NAPUS and the similarities of the battles Postmasters face today. Our National Vice President For PM's Retired, Janiece Taylor and her husband Bill Taylor spent time with us during the entire convention all the way from Alabama.



Janiece Taylor

Janiece sent me an email upon her return home stating, "you guys have the greatest group we have had the privilege of being around and Bill and I certainly enjoyed our visit." Also representing the National Office was our NAPUS Area 1 Representative, Demo Sofronas who was originally from Massachusetts but now resides in Vermont. Demo also spent

the entire convention with us and provided information about our soon to be new organization United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA).

We had our semi annual MA PM Retired meeting on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at the Red jacket Resort in West Yarmouth. During this meeting we shared a recap of our fall meeting at the Chocksett Inn in October 20, 2015. Bill



Demo Sofronas

Sheehan shared the Treasurer's report and Kathy Ledoux went over our membership numbers and some strategies to continue signing up new members as they retire.

Information on the upcoming LAST NAPUS National Convention in New Orleans was discussed including the affordable prices of flights, hotel rooms and the \$25.00 kickback for all Retirees and their guests from the registration cost. Site selection for 2018 will take place at this convention. If you have never attended a National Convention you should make the decision to go and spend an exciting week long vacation with a couple thousand of

your closest friends. Be part of this historic event and set your plans in motion now.

We have two candidates for National Treasurer for Postmasters Retired. The credentials and letters requesting support were read and discussed for both candidates Dinah Marshal of NC and Mandy Heslep-Whitten of MS. The members present voted to endorse Mandy and a letter stating the endorsement from Massachusetts was sent to her following the convention. Also the request for support for Ann Dorman who is a candidate for the Board of Directors Signature Credit Union was read.

After some explanation from Janiece and Demo and some discussion the Postmasters retired voted to adopt the UPMA National Bylaws. We will need to adopt new UPMA State Bylaws at our fall meeting where we will also elect a President, Vice President, treasurer and Secretary.

Our fall meeting and luncheon will tentatively be October 5, 2016 at the Chocksett Inn in Sterling MA. So mark your calendars. Please plan on attending and remember guests are welcome. We will plan on going to Nashoba Winery in Bolton for wine tasting after this meeting for all who are interested. I will send all the information via mail as the date approaches. Enjoy your summer and stay safe, healthy and happy.

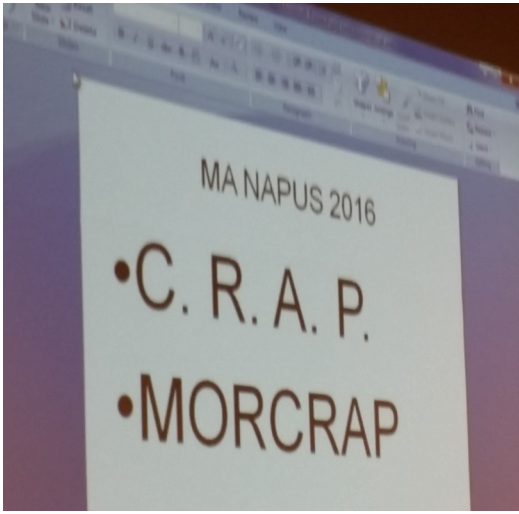
Love,

*Lorna*











# 2016 MA NAPUS STATE CONVENTION OVERVIEW

Donna Legro, Secretary/Treasurer

Registration for the 2016 convention was about the same as last year with a total of 88 participants: 53 Postmasters, 21 Retirees, 2 OIC's, 2 Managers, and 10 guests. There were 8 First Timers in attendance. Most people pre-registered, but there were walk-ins who registered for the entire convention or just for a day, a business meeting or a training session.

The MA Chapter gave away \$5,000 to participants throughout the convention. The prizes ranged from \$50 to \$150. The only requirements were that the individual was a member, was registered for the convention and was in attendance at the session where their name was drawn. A person could win more than once during the convention, but not more than once at any particular session or training. John Carroll, PM Stoughton, won twice for a total of \$200. John generously donated his winnings to the scholarship fund. A full list of winners is printed in this newsletter.

The convention opened with the luncheon honoring the First Timers and the Retirees. Janiece Taylor, Retiree National Vice-President, from Alabama spoke to the group. Thomas P Costin Jr, Retired Postmaster of Lynn and two-time NAPUS National President also addressed the attendees regarding the power of legislation.

There were 3 training classes held Wednesday afternoon, a retirement seminar, an SOV class and a Form 150/SWC's session. The classes were well attended and offered valuable information to the members that attended them.

Wednesday night was exciting with the BBQ, NASCAR races and Auction all held outside in the pavilion tent. Again, the NASCAR activities were championed by Dave Branga. The races were heated and held everyone's attention. Dave's efforts netted \$415 for the Chapter. Jim Mills won \$50, Retiree Don Luxton won \$25 and NAPUS Nat'l President Tony Leonardi won \$25.

The 50/50 raffle Wednesday night raised \$250 for winner Glenn Cook, PM Harwich and President of the MA League of Postmasters.

Through the generous and competitive bidding of the attendees, the Auction, which is the primary source of our scholarship income, raised a whopping \$3545. The bidding was wild and crazy at times. There were bidding wars that ended with the winner presenting the item to the person they were bidding against. Everyone seemed to enjoy the evening. Thanks to everyone who donated an item and participated in the bidding. The Ad Book, which is the 2nd most important source of income for the scholarships, netted \$1215 after printing. Again, thanks to everyone that placed an ad in the book. Because of everyone's generosity in these 2 events MA NAPUS has been able to award five \$1000 scholarships each year.

A total of \$1340 was raised through PAC'n A Cure of which will be split evenly with PAC and Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Thank you to all that donated to these important causes.

The First Timers Committee Chairs

Jeremy Pilone and Linda Monahan gave a photo assignment to the contestants. The new members were given sombreros to wear and had to take creative photos of many items and people for their competition. Domenic DelleChiaie, Mgr. of Medford, was declared the winner. All the First Timers were good sports and seemed to have a really good time with the assignment.

Thursday's business session opened with an outstanding Memorial Service led by Pam Boudreau. Pam asked some attendees to read poems that she had selected for the service and she shared some heartfelt thoughts. Gabriele McCarthy, Linda Monahan and Jeremy Pilone participated in the musical portion of the service. As usual, it was a very moving ceremony.

Stanley led the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the beginning of the business session and Pres John Fitzpatrick shared his opening remarks and introduced the MA Executive Board.

VP/Legislative Chair Robin Driscoll gave her legislative report. She reminded everyone why it is important to attend the state convention, local chapter meetings and to be involved and reported that another Legislative Conference has not been scheduled. She asked members to keep informed of upcoming legislative news that affects the membership and the Postal Service.

Danvers Postmaster Brenda Martin gave the Audit Committee report. Brenda reported that all records and receipts were in order for the state chapter.



Pam Boudreau reported that MA is leading the country in membership with 83.67%. There is a membership incentive currently in place. Members could earn \$25 for signing up an active member and \$10 for an associate or retiree member.

Ann Mailloux, NEA Mgr Human Resources, was the guest speaker. Ann spoke about safety, reminding everyone that there are still too many people getting injured. She spoke of two recent accidents in which one person was wearing a seatbelt and walked away and the other was not and was killed. She discussed Postal Pulse and showed slides on staffing in all functions. Ann took questions from the floor regarding Amazon Fresh, LLV shelving, tracking personal leave in eRMS. As usual, Ann was very positive and realistic about the challenges and future of the Postal Service.

Nat'l President Tony Leonardi gave a legislative update. He went on to discuss the upcoming steps to becoming UPMA as a result of the merger of NAPUS and the League. He explained the new Postal Area Coordinator position in the new UPMA organization and he briefed the group on the planned activities at the national convention in New Orleans in August.

Parliamentarian Chuck Nichols read the following resolution to the members and it carried by vote of the membership. "The Massachusetts Chapter of NAPUS resolve that following the receipt of our state Articles of Incorporation and Federal Employee Identification (EIN) we authorize the Executive Board(s) to submit the necessary paperwork to be included under the blanket non-profit authorization that has been obtained by the new United Postmasters and Managers

of America national organization. This non-profit status shall take effect on November 1, 2016 when we become the Massachusetts Chapter of UPMA." The resolution was voted on and passed.

Candidates running for the position of UPMA National NEA VP were given a chance to speak or had written statements read on their behalf if they were not present. There were 4 candidates for 3 positions the terms of which will be determined by the total votes in New Orleans. The Chapter voted 100% for Rich Hui, 97.56% for Mike Quinn and 95.12% for Linda Gurka.

The banquet hosted a Murder Mystery dinner, the awarding of the First Timer prize to Domenic Delle Chiaie, Manager of Medford, newly elected officers were sworn in by Pres. Tony and the scholarship awards were presented to the recipients. We were fortunate to have 3 recipients in attendance: Maggie Burchill, daughter of Wrentham Postmaster Jean Burchill; Madison Skamarycz, granddaughter of Retired Postmaster Stanley Skamarycz, and Sean Serra, son of Brookfield Postmaster Rhea Serra. Unfortunately the other 2 receipts could not attend the ceremony due to previous commitments. The 2015 Postmaster of the Year award was presented to Karen Sigman, Postmaster of Sandwich. She was completely surprised and speechless.

Gr Boston District Manager, Mike Powers, was the speaker on Friday morning. He spoke about Amazon volumes and that they are delivering some of their own packages. The USPS has seen an increase in small packages. Revenue has been great for the last 3 years. The PMG is hopeful that there will be some legislation passed this year. The upcoming

Presidential election should result in a significant volume increase this fall. Mike talked about the exceptional service in Greater Boston, but there were 354 EAS that did not get a raise last year. He reported that right now NPA was up and everyone is line to get a raise. He spoke about safety being a cell 10, but is confident a cell 15 can be reached. He told the managers that proper leadership cannot be provided from behind a desk. Managers need to be involved and engaged in every operation.

Jerry Robertson thanked everyone for their ads and articles and Dave Branga reported that the training sessions were excellent. \$850 was raised for PAC at the registration table bringing the PAC total to over \$2000 year to date. He thanked Lorna for selling the remaining 80 raffle tickets for the fundraiser. The winning ticket was drawn and Retiree Nancy White won \$1100 in this raffle.

Pres John closed the meeting by thanking everyone that helped to make the convention a success and thanking all those that attended.



Nancy White, PM retired, winner of PAC raffle, just in time for a Viking cruise!

## CONVENTION

## DEBITS

## CREDITS

Deposits from Registrations		\$5,820.00	
Deposits from Walk-ins		\$330.00	
Retiree Reimbursement - 13 X \$5.00		\$65.00	
50/50 Raffle at Wednesday		\$125.00	
NASCAR Races (\$515-\$100 prizes)		\$415.00	
Door Prizes	\$5,000.00		
Refunds - Overpayments	\$60.00		
Registration Bags	\$322.83		
*Supplies	\$300.67		*Auction \$13.69
Charity Contributions for Speakers 4 @ \$25	\$100.00		*Ribbons \$0.00
Banquet Entertainment - Murder Mystery	\$1,000.00		*Hospitality \$77.92
First Timer Expenses	\$88.01		*Nascars \$0.00
Memorial Expenses	\$70.29		*Staples \$199.26
Plaque for PM of the Year	\$99.40		Postage \$9.80
Red Jacket Resort	\$13,385.35		
Deposits 1/16/2016 = \$1000.00			
Meeting Rooms = \$0.00			
Rooms = \$2161.35			
Wed Lunch 76 @ \$20.95 = \$1592.20			
Wed Dinner 75 @ \$29.95 = \$2246.25			
Thurs Banquet 86 @ \$34.95 = \$3005.70			
Friday Breakfast 67 @ \$14.95 = \$1001.65			
Meal taxes, 18% gratuity = \$2228.20			
Bar set up fees 2 @ \$75 = 150.00			
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$20,426.55</b>	<b>\$6,755.00</b>	<b>\$13,671.55</b>
			Membership Investment
<b>AD BOOK</b>			
Deposits		\$1,450.00	
Expenses - Printing	\$210.00		
AD BOOK PROCEEDS			\$1,240.00
<b>AUCTION</b>			
<b>AUCTION PROCEEDS</b>			\$3,545.00
<b>SCHOLARSHIP</b>			
50/50 Raffle Wednesday		\$125.00	
50/50 Raffle Thursday		\$0.00	
Donations		\$200.00	
SCHOLARSHIP PROCEEDS			\$325.00
<b>TOTAL SCHOLARSHIP PROCEEDS</b>			<b>\$5,085.00</b>
<b>PAC</b>			
50/50 Raffle Thursday		\$0.00	
PAC'n A Cure		\$670.50	
PAC PROCEEDS			\$670.50
<b>Susan G Komen Breast Cancer Foundation</b>		\$670.50	<b>\$670.50</b>



## Scholarship Recipients



Scholarship recipients and their families



Madison Skamarycz, Stanley's granddaughter



Sean Serra, son of Brrokfield PM Rhea



Maggie Burchill and Mom, Jean, PM of Wrentham



Your MA NAPUS Executive Board with National President Tony Leonardi





**2016 MA NAPUS Convention**





## As promised...

I started to write my thoughts on this convention at the front of this newsletter, only to find that everyone else had the same idea- John, Amanda, Lynne, and Donna (the “official” version). So I wrote about Tom Costin instead. I didn’t win any money, but I did win. I was lucky enough to commiserate with all the great people you see here. Thanks for coming to the Cape. Thanks for supporting the auction. Thanks for supporting each other. What else can I say? Oh yeah, Donna Legro- HAPPY RETIREMENT!! Welcome to the club!

Jerry Robertson, Editor



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\* Opinions expressed in the Massachusetts BayState Postmaster are those of the writers and not necessarily the views of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States.