

New York Chapter of UPMA Empire State Publication

Volume 2024 / Issue 1

Jan/Feb 2024

MAKE A CHANGE IN 2024

Be Involved

Gain Knowledge

Have Fun!

Legislative
Summit

March 17-20
Washington, DC

State Convention

June 6-9
Buffalo, NY

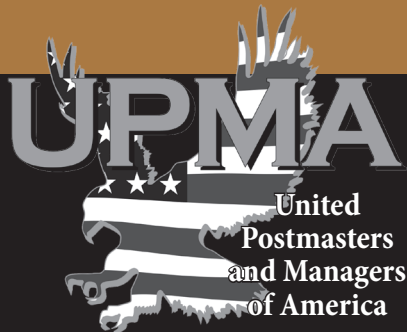
National
Convention

August 24-30
Orlando, FL



Incentives

Legislative Summit-\$800.
State Convention-\$175. up to 2
nights
National Convention-\$1000.



What's
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NEW YORK CHAPTER

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Pay Talks - We are still waiting for the NALC to finish and ratify their contract. Numerous suggestions have been made to discuss and push our agendas regarding pay and pay structures. We continue to keep the lines open and communicate with USPS for improvements. A couple of items that came to fruition for 2023 NPA are the pay band adjustments, a 4.7% increase in the top of the scale and the percent each cell is worth. Now each cell is basically the percentage you will get until you get to a cell 9. Example: Cell 3 is 3%, 4 is 4%, etc., etc. These very things are many of the suggestions going in to pay talks and that the National office continues to fight for.

Training sessions monthly - Watch the leader for new training sessions coming up for each month from the National Office.

Watch for and keep the date and time for state communication telecom monthly.

Legislative - will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, March 17 – 20, 2024. You will be given an \$800 reimbursement incentive to attend.

State Convention - Currently scheduled for June 6th – 9th in Buffalo. Watch your state ESUPMA for more information. Incentive to attend is \$175.00 per night which includes parking up to two nights' hotel room when receipts are provided.

National Convention - August 24 – 30, 2024 Caribe Royale, Orlando \$1000 reimbursement incentive to attend.

Atlantic Conference – Dates will be Sept 27th and 28th 2024

Membership Drive - The National office is offering a year of free dues for any new EAS member signed up currently. That may or may not

change at the membership kickoff executive board meeting. In combination with this NY is offering anyone who signs up any member active, retired, associate, PMR \$100.00. Just ask the new member to put your name at the bottom of the form or sign them up yourself electronically on the National website unitedpma.org or the State site nyunitedpma.org. Please insure to have them list their personal email so they can stay informed. After signing up they will receive a padfolio from the state and a desk plaque from National at different times.

What is or is expected to be coming in the next two years: Continuing to implement S&DC's and their larger parent facilities regionally and nationally. Any future POSTPlan affecting level 18's would have to go back to the PRC for approval prior to that happening and isn't in any near future planning. All office levels will remain the same at this time even if their carriers were placed in an S&DC. SCS's most likely will follow carriers to the S&DC. There are offices already in the Atlantic Area that are working a new system where their mail is dropped off in the morning and their previous days outgoing mail is picked up at the same time. No other dispatching for the day. Then there are also others where the mail is dropped off in the morning on the run out and then picked up on the return trip back to the plant. Think about that concept for a minute. It goes against everything we have been taught on delaying mail. There are many other initiatives that we are not privy to know about at this time. Don't be surprised when something new or different comes along. The goal I believe here is to reduce expenditures with transportation and maximize the loads to reduce budgetary constraints which gives us revenue to explore other options, buy vehicles,

Continued from page 3

fix our facilities in the back, not just what is visible to our customers. Keep submitting your work orders to get your office concerns taken care of. We do not only need to look professional for our customers. Our employees serving in the back whether clerks or carriers also need to feel like we care about their work atmosphere and facility conditions.

EAS carrying mail: I still am hearing and surprised to find out that when you are carrying mail you are not filling out the EAS carrying mail survey. This is being monitored and when the figures show it isn't worth paying us to deliver mail anymore because nothing is being reported the pay you are receiving to do this will also go away.

Out of everything you do on a daily or weekly basis, it is your pay that you should be protecting and fighting for daily.

My last thought for this communication is, will you be part of the NY UPMA team to help others, to help yourself, to better ourselves for better training, pay structures, to understanding and fixing NPA concerns or will you let others hopefully do it for you? The squeaky wheel gets the grease. I value every members input, positive or negative. This will keep us moving in the right direction for everyone.

Dan Leonard

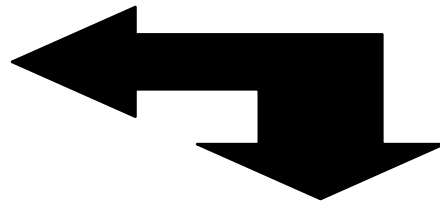
NY Chapter President

To all!

Any new member that you sign up, please send me their mailing address, email address, name and position they are in so I can add them to our list of emails and I can send them out a packet. Thank you!

Dan Leonard

If you were an EAS employee and a UPMA member prior to November 1, 2021 you most likely never received a desk plaque. If you would like one, please send me your name and address typed out and I will get one ordered for you.





2024 UPMA Legislative Summit

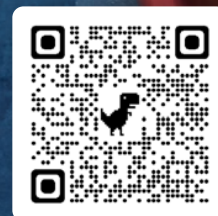
MARCH 17-20

Hyatt Regency Crystal City • Crystal City, VA

Make plans now to attend the 2024 UPMA Legislative Summit in March. The summit is growing each year in attendance and impact. UPMA is a bipartisan leader on Capitol Hill. Our legislative priorities this year include repeal of the WEP/GPO and *Title 39* reform. It's imperative that our members learn about the issues and communicate with their lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

Won't you join us in the nation's capital this year and help bring home more legislative victories?

To register, use the QR code or go to <https://unitedpma.org/legislative-summit/> where you can register online. If you prefer to register by mail, you can download the registration form.



You also can access the link at www.unitedpma.org. Click on "Events," then "National Events." There also is a link to book your hotel room.

For hotel reservations, contact the Hyatt Regency Crystal City to book your hotel room. Mention you are attending the United Postmasters and Managers of America meeting. UPMA rates are available until Feb. 23 or until the room block sells out, whichever comes first.

Hyatt Regency Crystal City phone number: 877-803-7534
Group Code: G-POST

Reservation cancellations received by the Hyatt Regency Crystal City on or before Feb. 23 will receive a full refund. After Feb. 23, no refunds are available. Check-in is 4 p.m.; checkout is 11 a.m.

Please direct any questions about the summit to UPMA@crispevents.me.



Kristine Lion
PM Suffern 10901
301 Sierra Vista Lane
Valley Cottage, NY 10989



VP / Legislative
C: 914-572-2774
kristinelion@aim.com

It's the New Year! Time to Get Ready for the Legislative Summit!

We are getting ready to go to the Legislative Summit on **March 17-20, 2024** at the **Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Crystal City, VA.** The Capitol will have more access and we can have even more live meetings this year. Maybe we can even see the cherry blossoms again.

Of course, the issue near and dear to our Retirees is the repeal of the WEP/GPO and Title 39 reform. It is long overdue that this antiquated law hasn't been overturned by now. Time to refresh and learn any new issues so that we can get out there and educate Congress.

As we address this issue again, we see that it is gaining traction around the country. This is not just a US Postal Service issue but a National Service issue. Every trade and organization dedicated to national, state or local service, is affected by WEP/GPO. This includes teachers, firefighters, police officers and all State and Federal Government employees. If we can make the Legislators aware that this affects more of their constituents, not just Postal employees, then maybe they will sit up and take notice that this carries more importance than they give it credit for.

December's UPMA Leader has a copy of the testimony that our National President presented to a Subcommittee hearing on this issue in November. It makes for good reading plus it is a quick refresher of the facts. Then you will have knowledge if you plan to speak to your Representative prior to the Legislative Summit. At the Summit, we will receive our "talking points" from our experts on the hill.

Actives, it's time to step up for the retirees. Make your plans now. Those that plan to attend please see my

contact information inside the front cover. Let me know who your representative is and if you want me to arrange the meeting.

On a final note, this is the end of my final term as Legislative VP. If anyone is interested in learning what I have been doing for the last 5 Legislative Summits let me know. We need new people to take on the jobs for the outgoing officers in June. See you in March it will be a blast!



To register, use the QR code or go to

<https://untiedpma.org/legislative-summit/>

For hotel reservations, contact the Hyatt Regency Crystal City to book your hotel room. Mention you are attending the United Postmasters and Managers of America meeting. UPMA rates are available until Feb. 23 or until the room block sells out, whichever comes first. Hyatt Regency Crystal City phone number:

877-803-7534

Group Code: G-POST

Reservation cancellations received by the Hyatt Regency Crystal City on or before Feb. 23 will receive a full refund. After Feb. 23, no refunds are available. Check-in is 4 p.m.; checkout is 11 a.m.

Please direct any questions about the Summit to
UPMA@crispevents.me.

UPMA is thrilled to invite you to the 2024 UPMA Legislative Summit where industry leaders, policymakers, and advocates come together to shape the future of our profession.

Event Details:

Date: **March 17-20,2024**

Venue: Hyatt Regency Crystal City, VA



Your participation in this summit is crucial to influencing legislative decisions directly impacting our members. The UPMA Legislative Summit provides a unique platform for networking, collaboration, and discussions that will shape the policies affecting our industry and our members in the coming years.

Highlights of the Summit:

Informative Sessions: Engage with UPMA and postal leaders as we discuss the latest legislative developments and share insights on navigating the evolving landscape of the Postal Service.

Networking Opportunities: Connect with peers, policymakers, and influencers during dedicated networking breaks, fostering valuable relationships that can drive positive change.

Advocacy Training: Equip yourself with the tools, targets, and tactics needed to advocate effectively for our industry. Learn from seasoned professionals about best practices in engaging with legislators and policymakers.

Legislative Updates: Stay informed about the latest legislative updates and their potential impact on our industry and members' personal lives. Gain valuable insights that will help you navigate the regulatory environment.

To register for the 2024 UPMA Legislative Summit, please visit our <https://upma.regfox.com/2024-upma-legislative-summit> and secure your spot today. Early bird registration is available until February 15, 2024, so don't miss out on the opportunity to save on registration fees. Hotel reservations are available at <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/WASRC/G-POST>

We believe that your presence at the summit will contribute significantly to the success of our collective advocacy efforts. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the policies that shape our industry's future.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming you to the 2024 UPMA Legislative Summit.

Sincerely,
Edmund Carley
National President
United Postmasters and Managers of America
(855) 683-1707
ecarley@unitedpma.org

Go to your local Legislator's website for information and to set up a meeting

www.house.gov and www.senate.gov



UPMA 2024 National Convention Registration **AVAILABLE ONLINE**

To register for the 2024 National Convention, use the QR code to go directly to the convention registration page. You also can go to unitedpma.org:



- Under "Events," click on "National Events"
- Click on "UPMA 8th National Convention"
- Once on the registration page, click on the "Register Now" tab

If you prefer to register by mail, you can download the registration form.

Information also is available to make your hotel reservation at the Caribe Royale. You can call the Caribe Royale to make your reservation or click on the "Book Online Now" tab.

Direct any questions to Crisp Meeting & Events, UPMA's meeting planner, at UPMA@crispevents.me.

UPMA MEMBER INCENTIVES

Legislative Summit March 17-20, 2024 Crystal City, VA

\$800.00 reimbursement

State Convention - June 6-9, 2024 Buffalo, NY

\$175. reimbursement per night up to 2 nights with receipts

National Convention - August 24-30, 2024 Orlando, FL

\$1000. reimbursement

**All you have to do is register, book your hotel,
participate and have fun!**



Form 1187

Request and Authorization for Voluntary Allotment
of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues
*Fill Out Form On-line, Print it out, and Return to
UPMA National Office at the Address Below for Processing*

Section A: All New Members Complete

USPS Employee Identification Number (EIN)	Date of Birth	Gender Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/>
Name (PRINT Last Name, First, MI)	Contact Telephone	
Home Address (Street and Number/Box)	City	State ZIP+4
Personal E-mail Address		

Section B (Check One): ☐ Postmaster ☐ Manager/Supervisor ☐ Associate ☐ PMR

Position	PO/City/State/ZIP
Post Office/Work Telephone Number	Pay Schedule Level
Post Office/Home Payroll Office Finance Number	Designation Code

Section C: For Use by the Employee Organization

P

Mail completed form to: **United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA)**
8 Herbert Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22305-2600

Visit the UPMA website unitedpma.org for membership benefit information.

Section D: Authorization by Employee

I hereby authorize the above-named agency to deduct from my pay each pay period the amount certified above as the regular dues the (UN-P) United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA) and to remit such amounts to that employee organization in accordance with its arrangements with my employing agency. I further authorize any change in the amount to be deducted that is certified by the above-named employee organization as a uniform change in its dues structure.

I understand that this authorization is a pay periods deduction. It will become effective the first pay period, following its receipt in the employee organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600.

I further understand that revocation forms Standard Form No. 1188, "Revocation of Voluntary Authorization for Allotment of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues" are available from my employing agency and that I may revoke this authorization at any time by filling such a revocation form or other written revocation request by "Certified Mail" directly to the employee organization's headquarters office: UPMA, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22305-2600. Such revocation will not be effective, however, until the first full pay period following March 1 or Sept. 1 of any calendar year, whichever date first occurs after the revocation is received in the employee organization's headquarters office.

Signature of Employee	Date
-----------------------	------

Section E

☐ Check this box to signify you've read and understood the terms in Section D of this form.

Who/what most influenced your decision to join UPMA?

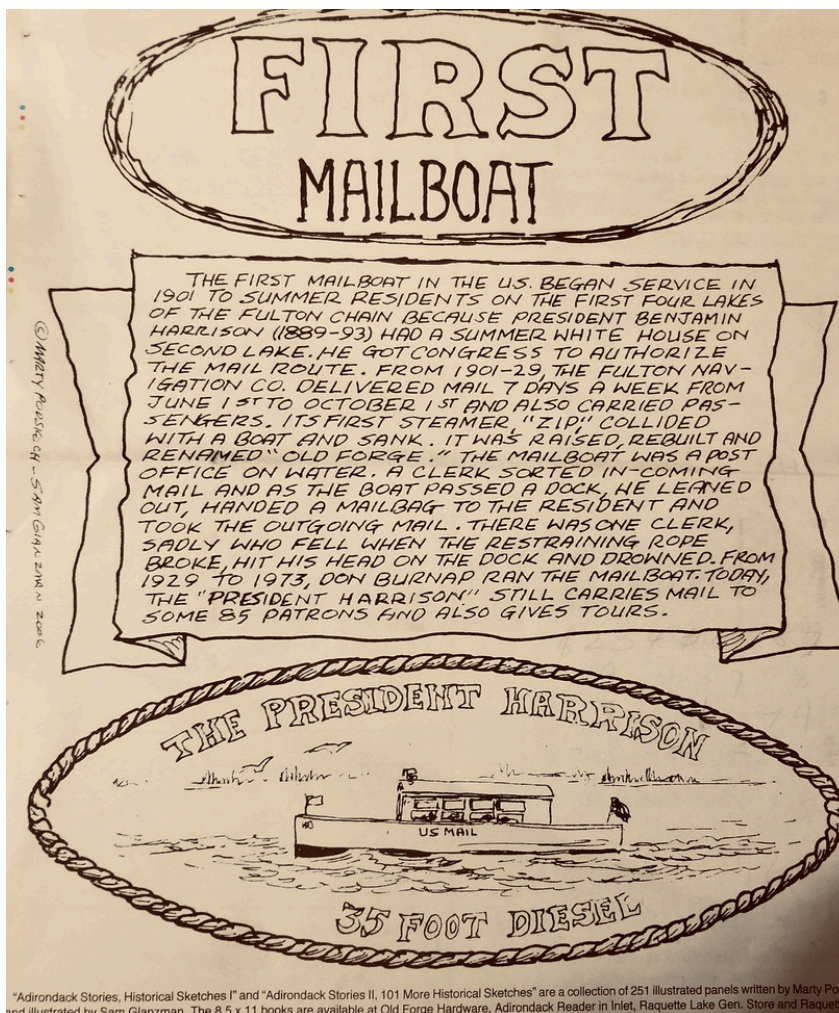
Person's Name

☐ Career Awareness Conference ☐ USPS Provided Training ☐ Other

**JOIN TODAY
EAS GET ONE YEAR FREE**

UPMA NATIONAL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING

Revised 12/2017 INT



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permission

Submitted by

Liz Forsell



Re-election fundraiser for NY 1st Congressional District Nick LaLota

Clockwise from top left:

Dave Cook

Nick LaLota

Gary Bonura

Michael Silvestri



Cathy Winnie
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National Chapter
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RESOLVE TO BE INVOLVED

Happy New Year! It is the time of year we celebrate the successes of the past year and make resolutions for changes in the new year. Common resolutions run from appearance, health, finance to those more business and career centered. The Postal Service appears to be going through never ending and accelerated change. S&DC's are expanding, triangulation reports and GEMBA walks are the new hot topics. PSHB will require a decision in 2024 and there is an open season without penalty for those that did not take Medicare when first eligible. UPMA is here to help you navigate these changes. At the state and national level, we have many ways to communicate with members. Among these are the national *Leader*, our state newsletter, both national and state websites, the New York Facebook page. In addition, for the retirees and those looking forward to retirement, UPMA Retired Facebook page. All of these are avenues to gain information and stay informed about changes or decisions that may require your involvement.

One of the most important events that the state holds is our state convention. This year's convention is at Hyatt Regency Downtown in

Buffalo. It is an opportunity to keep up to date on all the changes that are occurring. It is your opportunity to hear from national and local experts concerning postal operations. It is also an opportunity to voice your concerns, to have conversations with your New York state board and national officers, and to participate in elections. Networking together is crucial to survive the changes occurring daily. For active and associate members, learning new programs, developing a SME list or finding a mentor may change your 2024 career success. The state convention is also very important for retirees. Medicare open season will have passed but PSHB, H. R.82 and S.597 are life altering retiree issues that you need to learn about.

As a Chapter Member Representative, my resolve is to advocate for training and clear understanding of job expectations. Those two conditions are primary to reducing disciplinary actions. As moderator of the UPMA Retired Facebook page, I am resolved to keep retirees informed about important issues and provide an opportunity to stay connected as a group. Those are my New Year Resolutions. My challenge to you is to **Resolve to Be Involved in 2024!**



Are you collecting an assortment of items to bring to the auction at State Convention? I sure hope so! The Auction will be held on Friday at 7pm.

This is a fun fast paced number draw. New and gently used items are always a hit. Money collected goes to the Scholarship Fund. Let's all bring some "things" for the auction.

See you there!

Liz Forsell



Carol Commisso
Retired PM Fishers
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Victor, NY 14565



Scholarship Chair
585-905-5164
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A GREAT UPMA BENEFIT

If you don't already know, UPMA has a benefit for your children or grandchildren, in addition to all the benefits you receive as a member. Any child or grandchild of an active or retired member may apply for one of the six scholarships that NY UPMA awards each year. This year there will be three \$500. Edward Jennison awards, and three \$1000. Frank and Helen Burger awards given.

Simply have the student fill out one or both of the applications found in this issue, or on the website, and submit it before **April 1st**.

Awards are presented at the annual convention which is in Buffalo this year in June.

Feel free to contact me with any questions. You may send donations to either scholarship fund at any time. I thank you on behalf of your children and grandchildren



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153 Firehouse Rd.
Wurtsboro, NY 12790



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C: 845-665-3896
jenniferhayes1973@yahoo.com

**UPMA
PAC**

for
Postmasters
and Managers

Member
Voluntary
Contribution

Please send to:

Jennifer Hayes

153 Firehouse Rd.

Wurtsboro, NY 12790

Thank you for returning this form with your contribution.

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

I'll do my share! Enclosed is: ____ \$25 ____ \$50 ____ \$100 ____ \$200 Other: \$ ____

Name (please PRINT) _____

Home Address: _____

Street Address/PO Box

City

State

Zip Code

My contribution is by (check one): ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ Signature FCU Visa Credit Card

Please charge my contribution to the following 16-digit Signature FCU Visa Account Number:

CVV# _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature (required for credit card charges)

Office use: ☐ Pin Received ☐ Active Postmaster ☐ Retired ☐ Associate State to credit _____

PAC for Postmasters and Managers will neither favor nor disadvantage anyone based on the amount of a contribution or the failure to make a voluntary contribution to this non-partisan political action fund.

**EDWIN D. JENNISON Sr
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**



This APPLICATION and all additional pages must be submitted before **APRIL 1, 2024** to the Scholarship Chair of the NY Chapter UPMA . Please read instructions carefully. **INCOMPLETE** applications will be disqualified. Type or print all additional information on individually and numbered 8-1/2" x 11" sheets of paper. Place your full name and address on top of each page submitted. Staple all sheets together in the order of the numbers on the application.

STUDENT INFORMATION: PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

1. Student full name _____

Address: _____

_____ Cell Phone _____

Email address: _____

2. Birth Date: _____

3. Father: _____ Mother _____

Address _____ Address _____

Occupation: _____ Occupation: _____

4. NAME & OFFICE OF MEMBER PARENT OR GRANDPARENT (circle one)

5. Is this person a member of UPMA ? Yes or No

6. Application for scholarship to attend the following school: School _____

Address _____

7. Have you applied for admission?_____ Have you been accepted?_____ (Be sure to include acceptance letter with application)*

8. Write a biographical letter (not more than 400 words) discussing your plans for your college years and your life goals.

9. List the names of three references: Include two of your high school teachers. Ask each to write a letter of recommendation for you and attach them or send individually to the secretary/treasurer. These must be POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN April 1, 2024

10. Attach your latest transcript from high school: (Include ACT or SAT scores)*

School_____ City_____ State_____

11. List LEADERSHIP POSITIONS AND OFFICES HELD Example: Student Council Representative, or 4-H Leader

12. List MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER PARTICIPATION Example: Yearbook Staff, or Basketball

13. List any volunteer work positions you have had during high school.

14. List any paid work positions you have had during high school.

15. List HONORS OR AWARDS you have received during high school.

16. A graduation picture of the applicant to be published in the UPMA NYS Newsletter if the applicant receives a scholarship.

Signature & Date of Application

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Must be postmarked by April 1, 2024.

Send completed application to: Carol Commisso, 11 Ambassador Dr., Victor NY 14564

Email any questions to: ccommisso12@gmail.com



Frank & Helen Burger Scholarship SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION NEW YORK CHAPTER UPMA 2024

Student's Full Name: _____

Student's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Phone Number: Home: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

College or Trade School You Plan to Attend: _____

Course of Study You Plan to Pursue: _____

Name of High School: _____

Address: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____ Father's Full Name: _____

Parent or Grandparent Who is a Current UPMA Member: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to Student: Mother: _____ Father: _____ Grandparent: _____

NYS UPMA Member is:

Postmaster: _____ Office/s: _____ Zip: _____

Postmaster Retired: _____ Office/s: _____ Zip: _____

This scholarship is only available for students of current or retired Postmasters.

Please note: Children and grandchildren of associate members are not eligible for scholarship.

THIS APPLICATION FORM MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY:

- 1- Students high school transcript
- 2- College entrance board test results (SAT or ACT); Not necessary if attending trade school
- 3- Personal resume of scholastic activities, extracurricular activities, sports, employment history, community service, clubs, positions held, and awards or honors received.
- 4- Applicant's personal statement. Please write a statement in which you discuss a personal experience or achievement in your life. Describe how it relates to your aspirations for the future.
- 5- Two Letters of recommendation.
- 6- A picture of the applicant. Will be published in the Empire State UPMA magazine.

Eligible student applicant must be a high school senior who will graduate in December 2023 or a high school senior who will graduate in May/June 2024.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Must be postmarked by April 1, 2024

Send completed application to: Carol Commisso, 11 Ambassador Dr., Victor, NY 14564

Email any questions to: cocommisso12@gmail.com

District Meetings

Each New York UPMA district is required to hold 2 district meetings each year. These are held in the spring and fall. The state president is usually invited and may bring other state officers with them. Updates about what is happening at state and national levels are provided at these meetings. At most of these meetings Postal District management is invited to attend and do presentations on important issues affecting the Postmasters and the Postal Service. These meetings are a great opportunity for those who cannot get away to attend overnight events to meet the officers and to see how UPMA operates. District meetings spring and fall are made up of Counties within each District.



First District Holiday Party

First District Holiday Retirement Party



Over thirty members attended our third dinner meeting on December 14th.

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Postmaster Anthony Boffa, Jr. We raised \$205.00 to be donated to the EDWIN D. JENNISON Sr. Scholarship Fund



Michael Silvestri
7 Queens St.
Huntington, NY
11743-3724



NY District 1 Coordinator
H: 631-271-3980
C: 631-241-1430
silvestri45@msn.com

The First District Being Visible to our LI UPMA Members

The First District Dinner Meeting was held at Christopher's Courtyard Cafe Huntington Nov. 14. The meeting was well attended and an enjoyable time was had by all who took the time out of their busy schedule to attend. All who attended were served a wonderful dinner. We raised \$40.00 dollars for the Jennison Scholarship. The raffle winner Tina DeRosa donated \$20.00 of her winnings. I mailed \$60.00 check to Carol Commisso in memory of Mary Converse. After Mike Greg lead us in the pledge he was honored with a military coin for his service to our country. Here on Long Island we are attempting to be visible to our members and we are succeeding. We have held a meeting in the 115 zip codes in October & the 117 zip codes in November. I am challenging Daniel, Jodi & Frank to plan our next Long Island meeting. Looking

forward to a meeting on the east end.

Dave Cook our National Retiree Legislative Chairperson informed us about the upcoming news concerning WEP/GOP. Social Security Subcommittee Field hearing was on Nov.20, 2023 in Baton Rouge, LA focusing on Social Security's disservice to public servants: how the Windfall Elimination Provision and Government Pension Offset mistreats Government workers. This is good news for our CSRS retirees. Dave also stressed the importance of attending the Legislative Summit scheduled March 17-20, 2023. Please check the UPMA NYS Chapter website for details & incentives approved by our NYS Executive Board. Hoping for a big turnout this year in Washington DC. May God bless you all.



James Mosher
PM Addison 14801
108 Steuben St.
Addison, NY 14801



NY District 2 Coordinator
O: 607-359-2136
C: 607-742-7382
JMosherUPMA@yahoo.com

Greetings,

I hope that everyone had a great holiday season and has rested up to start the New Year.

Now that peak is over, it's time to get back to the grind and get involved with UPMA. This year our NYS Annual Convention is in Buffalo at the Hyatt Regency, June 6th – 9th. It would be great to pack the place with new faces. It's your chance to see what UPMA can do for you, all while networking, meeting new people from around the state and learning what you can do to help make our organization bigger, better, and stronger. There is an incentive of \$175.00 per night up to 2 nights.

Come for one night, two or just stay the whole weekend. It's proving to be a great time.

Also, I am looking to put together two UPMA District 2 Meetings. One in Horseheads on February 27th at a location to be determined. Another in the Canandaigua area on April 9th at a location to be determined. As always food and training will be provided. Please let me know what you would like to hear or learn more about at either of these meetings. Always remember knowledge is power.

James G Mosher
District 2 Coordinator

The 8th Annual NY Chapter of United Postmasters & Managers of America

Convention June 6th-9th, 2024

Buffalo, NY 14202

Official Registration Form

Please complete one application per registrant



**Additional Information about the convention and the registration form will be posted on
NEW YORK STATE UPMA FACEBOOK PAGE AND AT NYUNITEDPMA.ORG**

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title:

- ☐ Postmaster
- ☐ Supervisor
- ☐ Manager
- ☐ OIC
- ☐ Associate (Craft)
- ☐ Postmaster Retired
- ☐ Supervisor Retired
- ☐ Manager Retired
- ☐ Guest
- ☐ Auxiliary
- ☐ Veteran

First name (nickname for your badge): _____

Post Office You Represent/ed: City: _____ Zip: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/s: _____

E-mail: _____

First Timer/Retired First Timer: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are You Attending

Sat. Banquet ☐ Yes ☐ No

Registration Fees:

Postmaster, Supervisor, Manager, OIC, Associate Member, Guest: \$50.00

UPMA Retired, Guest, Auxiliary: \$37.50

One Day Registration Fee: Active \$35.00 and Retiree \$26.25

Registration includes :

Thursday Welcome with cash bar and hors d'oeuvres

Two complimentary early Breakfasts

Two Lunches

Sat. Night Banquet

PSHB Healthcare Training

Payment information: Convention fee: \$ _____

Registrations postmarked after 5-13-24 will be an additional \$25.00

Send check or money order payable to **NY UPMA** Mail to Maureen Wratten,
1108 Mason Rd., Waterville, NY 13480 **by May 17, 2024.**

Questions: Call 315-525-2822 or email jmwrratten@yahoo.com

Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center

2 Fountain Plaza

Buffalo NY 14202

Contact hotel directly
for reservations.

(716) 856-1234

Room rates each night:

\$117 A night plus tax

Group code for reservation is:

G-UPTM

Reservation deadline:

May 6th, 2024

INCENTIVES

\$175 per night with parking
included up to 2 nights hotel
accommodations when hotel
receipts are provided.

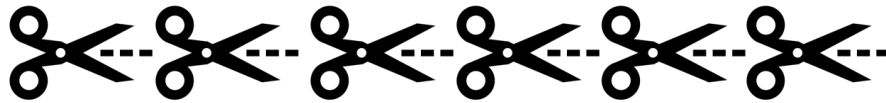
First Timers will have their
Registration refunded after
attending the convention.



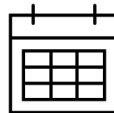
Donna Jenness
Retired PM Clayton 13624
727 Beecher St.
Clayton, NY 13624



3rd District Coordinator
Convention Chair
C: 315-408-5165
ruapm2@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE!



Your New York State UMPA Convention June 6-9 2024 Buffalo, NY

Make your plans now to attend your convention to network, problem solve, and find out information you won't get anywhere else to help you in your work life.

Find out resources to use to plan your career or retirement!

Great monetary incentives to make this trip affordable, or practically no cost if you choose to share a room! Bring a neighboring Postmaster or

Manager- get your leave approved now for these few days!

Come early or stay after and see what Buffalo has to offer!

Where? Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel & Conference Center
2 Fountain Plaza, Buffalo NY 14202
716-856-1234

When? June 6-9, 2024

Events: Speakers, training, information takeaways, socializing, auction, FUN

Come by car, plane, or even Amtrack Train! More information forthcoming.

Check the New York State UPMA website for up to date details!

That is: nyunitedpma.org

Reach out to Cathy or I for any new ideas to add, or questions.

Thank you!

Donna Jenness
Postmaster Retired Clayton NY
Convention Co-Chair
3rd District Director

Welcome

New UPMA Members

Justin Abbey	Brent Cornish	Ken Hohlcraft	Milena Olortegui
Laurie Abdellatit	Mark Craig	Lawrence Holcomb	Mary Ortstadt
Josseline Andrade	Alfonso Cruz	Tamilynn Horne	Edwin Parulski
Tamesha Andrews	Dawn Darch	Ryan Hughes	Denise Peart
Jeffrey Austin	Thad Decook	Paul Ingraffia	Chad Perry
Zayne Austin	Nicholas Degrace	Jennifer Inman-Gorman	Andrew Phillips
Steven Barretta	Kim Delmedico	Philbert Jamieson	Mark Pietropaolo
Bridget Barry	Salvatore Demarco	Olalekan Jemilugba	Lawrence Piper
Kristie Beam	Maximo DePaula	Jamie Jensen	Jennifer Price
Benjamin Housline	Ryan Devlieger	Patricia Johnston	Jennifer Ramos
Bernard Golden	Robert Dickey	George Jweid	Sheena Ramsey
Kelley Bigford	Jodi Ann Douglas	Darlene Kay	Colleen Randolph
Joseph Birchenough	Mary Dumbleton	Vincent Keating	Alicia Reed
Joseph Blaise	Todd Dupre	Kayla Ketchum	Eric Rickner
Kevin Bollinger	Keyma Edmonds	Martin Kilmer	Jasmine Rivera
Jodi Bonafede	Jeffrey Eysaman	Linda Kimble	Chrystal Robinson
Angela Bonhon	Nicole Feor	Kelli Kobylaski	Casey Roslonek
Jeffrey Braun	Julia Ferencik	Tawanda Kornagay	Jenna Ross
Michael Brotherton	Robert Ferguson	Anthony Kuhn	Hannan Rouelle
Alicia Brown	Shaina Fischer	Benjamin Langford	Bruce Rumph
Natalie Brown	Patty Fisher	Andrew Lathrop	Sarah Sabino
Tina Brown	Crystal Fleischman	Mary Lincoln	Kharee Christian
David Brunnabend II	Jose Fonseca	Jessica Lippert	Salahuddin
Justin Burchard	Baird Forma	Peter Loughman	Nikolaos Sarvanidis
David Burress	Jesus Forty	William MacBeth	Benita Schmitt
Nathan Burrow	Allon Frankland	Debra Manino	Amy Schwartz
George Caballero	Nilsa Gallagher	Neetu Marocha	Leandra Seitz
Matt Caine	Joshua Genovese	Richard Marrero	Brian Serrano
Michelle Caldwell	Lasheika Glover	Kyle Meyers	Seth Siemucha
Timothy Callahan	Akheem Green	Thomas Mihalitsas	Daniel Sinack
Caitlin Caputo	Kristin Griffin	Wanda Montague	Gregory Skloda
Lynn Carr	Nicholas Gronowski	Bennet Montalbano	Renee Smith
Cassandra Casale	Denise Guiliano	James Montgomery	Deon Smith
Rocco Catalfamo	ErikGurov	Pricella Moore	Eric Smith
Theresa Catteau	Barry Gustafson	Tara Morreale	Peter Smock
Lisa Cavuoto	Heidi Haines	Rebecca Murdoch	Victoria Smyth
Marla Chauvin	Devon Hamlet	Mason Musshafen	Mejni Sodok
Abigail Cole	Eamon Harbord	James Nayman	Princelli Soto Jr
Jeffrey Colliver II	Rosita Harrington	Kristina Ndreu	Rita Sparling Salaza
Christine Colon	Hannah Hemdan	Edward Nicorvo	Liam Spence
Connie Conti	Ryan Henkel	Christopher O'Shaughnessy	Derek Spencer
Lorrie Coppola	Frank Hernandez	Susan O'Brien	Nickeshia Stephenson

Welcome

New UPMA Members

Christy Stock	Shenika Vineyard
Andrew Straker	Scott Wackenheim
Nicole Stroud	Ryan Walz
Kevin Stuhler	Jason Warren
Donna Surdi	Michael Washington
Andrew Talarico	Shaquille Washington
Andre' Taylor	Heather Wells
Diego Telechea	Tiffany White
Andrew Thomas	Kay Whitman
Michael Thursam	Jose Williams
Alyssa Tomkins	Keadon Williams
Joseph Toole	Kevin Williams Jr
Derek Towndrow	Nathaniel Wood
Michael Valentin	Sophia Yashib
Don Veloski	Samantha Young
Michael Vetrano	Kristen Zelechoski



UPCOMING ELECTIONS AT STATE CONVENTION

VP LEGISLATIVE VP CHAPTER MEMBER REP.

**If you are interested in serving in one
of these positions,
please contact President Dan
or the person currently holding the
position.**



You can print duplicate tracking barcodes if they are
damaged and unscannable.

Go to Dymo Label v.8

Under Label Types select Large Address label

Click once

Click on the blank label at the bottom right

Click on the Insert tab at the upper left

Double click on the barcode

Enlarge the barcode on the label

Right click on barcode label

Go to Properties

Barcode type – UCC/EAN128

Barcode size – small

Change barcode data by typing the tracking #

in the barcode data box - Click OK

Shrink to fit on label

Print

This will eliminate manually inputting tracking numbers
which sometimes are keyed in incorrectly
resulting in failures.



Liz Forsell
Retired PM
Long Lake 12847



NYUPMAR VP
4th District Coordinator
C:315-369-5053
lizzie13436@hotmail.com

I was thinking the other day as I drove to Utica about the carriers and started to sing to myself - You put take the carriers out, you put the carriers in, you put those carriers out and you shake them all about you get the gist of it. Too much driving and no good radio stations. But hey I ran into Ray Gardner while at Price Chopper so all is not lost. Those in Albany GMF remember him well, he is looking good.

I met up with Gerry Geddes and Rachel Rowland to plan a 4th District thank you dinner. Postcards have been mailed. I am hoping for a great turn out! Santa arrived in the north. I'm not sure how welcome he was. Gosh, being a grandma is the best! Big sister Remi was not sure what to think about Margaret's reaction to the Big Guy!!

Here is a picture of the Schuylerville PO 12871.

I have my plans all set to attend the Legislative Conference in March. Are YOU ready to join us?? If you like any part of politics or history, there is so much to see and do in DC.

Looking forward to seeing you somewhere, sometime, hopefully soon.

THANKS FOR ALL YOU DO...



Liz Forsell
and
Ray Gardner



Retired Lake Pleasant Postmaster, Beth Knapp took the plunge into Lake Pleasant on January 1st donning her rubber boots and festive outfit. The good news is that she came back up wet, refreshed and perhaps a little chilled. This was Beth's third plunge. The event raised money for local veterans. This year they raised \$1283. You are never too old to try something new. Beth is pretty sure she may have been the oldest participant at a young 70. Great job Beth!!



Gerry Geddis, Rachel Norton-Rowland and Liz

UPMA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD NOMINATION

NEW YORK UPMA 2024

The Lifetime Achievement Award is awarded to recognize UPMA Retired Members for distinguished service to management organizations. The selection of the awardee is completed when the past winners review all nominees submitted for consideration.

Nominee Name:

Street Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Name of office retired from:

Years with USPS:

Years with Management Organization:

Narrative of Achievements with Management Association:

Deadline for applications- Postmarked no later than MARCH 1,2024

Mail applications to: Keith Miner, 101 Highwoods Rd. Saugerties NY 12477-3420

E-mail applications to: kminer@hvc.rr.com

Please attach additional information.



FORM 1187-R

Request and Authorization for Voluntary Allotment of Compensation for Payment of Employee Organization Dues

Please complete and mail to:

UPMA National Office
8 Herbert St.
Alexandria, VA 22305-2600
(703) 683-9027

*OPM assigns the CSA number to all Civil Service and FERS annuitants and/or surviving spouse

Social Security Number

My Annuity Number is:

			-			-				
--	--	--	---	--	--	---	--	--	--	--

CSA

	-							-	
--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--

Name of Retired Employee (PRINT Last Name, First, Middle)			Date of Birth	
Street and Number/PO Box		City	State	ZIP+4
Month/Year Retired	Home or Cell Number ()	Gender Male _____ Female _____	Chapter	
Email Address		Sponsored by:		

Note: If not receiving an annuity contact National Office for information on membership.

SECTION A – Authorization

The United States Office of Personnel Management is authorized to make an appropriate deduction from my annuity payments, not to exceed the amount certified by the **United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA)** as the amount of dues for which I am obligated, and to pay the deducted sum to **UPMA**. This authorization shall apply to any and all dues changes certified by **UPMA**. This authorization shall be valid until **UPMA** receives and processes my written notice of cancellation in accordance with its agreement with the United States Office of Personnel Management. Any disputes regarding this allotment authorization shall be a matter between **UPMA** and me; I hold the United States Office of Personnel Management harmless for any erroneous deductions made pursuant to this authorization.

I also request the United States Office of Personnel Management to disclose any information necessary to execute this request.

Signature	Date:
-----------	-------

Revised 11-19



Keith Miner
PMRetired
Hurley12443
101 Highwood Rd.
Saugerties, NY 12477



NY UPMA
Retiree President
H: 845-246-3489
C: 845-706-9894
kminer@hvc.rr.com

Greetings once again to all of my UPMA/UPMAR friends and family. I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas, holiday and New Year season.

I've just come in from shoveling/snowblowing/plowing the first real snow of the new year. We had about 8-9 inches here in Saugerties. Please remember to rest frequently and drink plenty of fluids when clearing snow. We want everyone to be safe and healthy as we have a busy schedule this year.

Since our last newsletter, there have been several events with more to come. In November, Donna Jenness hosted a 3rd District meeting in Syracuse which was well attended. Mike Silvestri and Dave Cook organized a couple of 1st District get-togethers on Long Island which were also well attended. Mike reported that they held a 50/50 raffle which raised \$205 to be put towards our scholarship fund. Dave has also been very busy with Legislative. He reported that there was a House Field Hearing on November 20th about the unfairness of the WEP/GPO. While most of our NY representatives support HR82, it is crucial that we keep this WEP/GPO elimination bill in front of them. It will be very easy for them to lose focus with budget talks, national elections and other

legislative drama.

With that in mind, let's make sure that we go to our events!!! 4th District is meeting for dinner at the Holiday Inn in Saratoga on January 24th. For info please contact Liz Forsell. Our next national event is the Legislative Summit in Washington on March 17-20, 2024. This is a crucial meeting to push HR82 across the finish line. Details on attending this summit are in the last Leader and also this issue. Finally, it is not too late to start thinking about attending our State Convention at the Buffalo Downtown Hyatt in June.

I would like to thank everyone for the support given to all of the National Veterans Projects during my tenure as National Veteran's Representative. NY set the standard for which I am humbled and grateful. I would like to congratulate Steve Vanderhoof of Missouri on his appointment as our new National Veteran's Rep. Steve assisted me greatly with our past projects and I'm looking forward to supporting him with veteran's issues and events as we move forward.

In summary, let go of issues from last year and let's go into this year with a full head of steam. Please reach out to other members to check on them or to just say hi. Thank you to all of our veterans for your service.

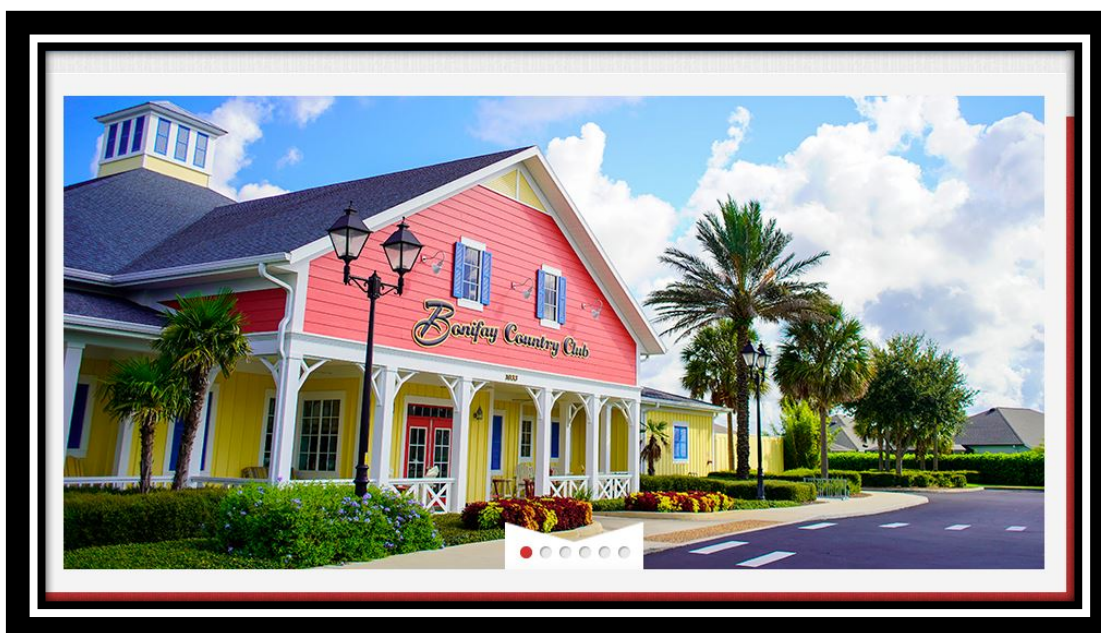
**UPMA LEGISLATIVE WEEKLY ZOOM CALLS
EVERY THURSDAY UNTIL THE LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT
8:30PM EASTERN**

February 1 February 8 February 15
February 22 February 29 March 7 March 14

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87012762772?pwd=yXs164rIXr0No6dtQy8DiKxhlkKGpT.1>

Meeting ID: 870 1276 2772

Passcode: 074394



For over thirty years, Retiree's from New York held a luncheon in Florida. This was originated by Betty Conway and the tradition has carried on. During COVID, it kind of fell by the wayside.

It has always been held on the first Thursday of March, so that Retirees could plan ahead.

So, Thursday, March 7, 2024, Retired Postmasters from New York will have a chance to reunite and meet and great old friends and new. We'll exchange "war stories", how good it was in the good old days, how the Post Office/Postal Service has changed, who had how many babies, pets, travels, etc.

Here are the details:

Who: Anyone that wants to attend

What: Annual NY Retired Postmasters Luncheon

Where: The Bonifay Country Club, The Villages, Florida

1033 Pinellas Place

The Villages, FL 32163

352-205-7455

<https://www.bonifaycountryclub.com/index.php>

When: Thursday, March 7, 2024

12pm Noon

How: Some folks are coming the night before, staying in a local hotel~~we'll try to get a list of those so that we can all get together on Wednesday evening.

We will need a rough head count by February 28th.

I'll be the contact person for questions and head count. In the past we have had as many as 40 attendees.

Many thanks to Heather Walworth and Charlie Quevedo for helping us find a nice place to meet. We can order off the menu, we'll be seated outside or inside.

My contact information is: ralphvsr@earthlink.net
607-592-4415

PS- Out of 500 NY Retirees, we only have 102 email addresses in the National Database. So please spread the word to any and all retirees that you know.

They can update their information at the National UPMA website: <https://www.unitedpma.org>

They will need their name and membership number, which can be found on The Leader address label.



Michael Silvestri
PM Retired
7 Queens St.
Huntington, NY 11743



NY District 1 Coordinator
H: 631-271-3980
C: 631-241-1430
silvestri45@msn.com

On the Legislative front: As we prepare to make our annual visit to Capitol Hill, the main focus for retirees will be to correct the injustice imposed in CSRS employees in 1983. We have addressed this issue for many years but we have never been close to correcting this injustice. The Legislative Summit 2024 is scheduled for March 17, 18, 19, 2024. UPMA NYS Chapter is offering members who attend \$800.00 reimbursement. If you are unable to attend the Legislative Summit, you can contact your representative by email. Better still, request a meeting at your representative's local office. Issues to be discussed will be available on the national website shortly. I am available if you need assistance in requesting a meeting and issues to discuss.

Lawmakers have reignited a bipartisan effort to fix elements of the Social Security Act that reduce or eliminate Social Security benefits for sectors of career public servants.

The Social Security Fairness Act (HR 82) would repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO). The legislation is sponsored by Representative Abigail Spanberger (D-VA) and Representative Garret Graves (R-LA) and has over 300 co-sponsors. Social Security Fairness Act (S 597) sponsored by Senator Sherrod Brown (D OH) has 49 co-sponsors.

The Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) dates back to 1983 and reduces social security benefits for workers who paid into both civil service pensions and Social Security. The intent was to prevent retirement windfalls. To do so, it reduces retirement payments for anyone who receives an annuity from their time in government, but also worked in a Social-Security covered job. It impacts approximately two million Social Security beneficiaries.

The Government Pension Offset (GPO) dates back to

1977 and reduces by two-thirds, spousal benefits of federal, state, or local government employees, if they did not pay into Social Security themselves. In some cases, this results in surviving spouses receiving zero Social Security benefits, even if their spouse paid in their entire working career. It impacts about 780,000 retirees.

"I am looking forward to finally righting this wrong and making sure America's federal employees, teachers, police officers, and firefighters receive the retirement security they deserve," said Rep. Spanberger.

Rep. Spanberger introduced a similar bill in the previous Congress, which had 305 sponsors in the House and 42 in the Senate. However, it did not receive a floor vote.

The Representative told Federal News Network that Congressional leaders cannot use a busy agenda this time "as an excuse for not taking a vote on a piece of legislation that frankly has received so much support in the past. We know the votes are there."

The bill also enjoys support from various police, teachers, firefighters, and other public servant unions.

"The WEP and GPO provisions do not eliminate a windfall for workers; instead, they have proved to be a windfall for the Federal government at the expense of public employees. That's not right and it's not fair," said by many representatives.

Because you worked under a retirement system where you didn't pay Social Security taxes, any Social Security spousal or survivor benefit will be offset by the Government Pension Offset provision of law. The GPO will reduce that benefit by two-thirds of the amount of your CSRS annuity. So, for example, if your CSRS annuity was \$1,200, two-thirds of that or \$800, will be used to offset your Social Security spousal or survivor benefit. In some cases, that benefit is entirely eliminated.

Attention All Members

Legislative Summit

March 17-20, 2024

Hyatt Regency Crystal City
Arlington, VA

NYS UPMA Convention

June 6-9, 2024

Hyatt Regency Hotel and Conference Center
2 Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY
716-856-1234

8TH UPMA National Convention

August 24-30, 2024

Orlando, FL
Caribe Royale

Atlantic Conference

September 26-29, 2024

Albany, NY



<p>www.nyunitedpma.org www.facebook.com/groups/nyupma</p>

Deadline for March/April
NYS ESP issue is
February 10th by 5 pm

