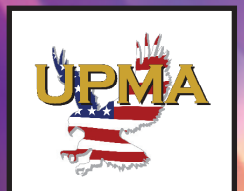


# The Bay Stater

Jan/Feb/Mar 2021



Here's to a better year  
2021





Dave Branga State President

## A New Year

As I write this, we still have 16 more days until Christmas. It is amazing how hard every one of you has already worked to get to this point. It doesn't look like it is going to let up between now and then either, so thank you for what you have already done and thank you for what I know will be long hours and hard work for the next 16 days.

It's been a tough year by any measure. Covid, the election of a lifetime, stimulus checks generating more packages than we've ever seen during the spring and summer and now into PEAK. It feels like it has never let up. Go! Go! Go! When it gets like this, it's important to find a few moments to unplug. Let your mind wander to things other than the facility surveys, CPMS, RMSS, mPOS, RCE and all the other acronyms we use every day. Tomorrow is always another day.

We are seeing more Covid cases every day. A lot of the cases popping up now are related to Thanksgiving where people didn't socially distance. It's a shame to see people contracting the virus. I'm sure it was a tough decision to either see your family or not but we are seeing the results of that decision. Please do whatever you can to keep yourself, your family and your employees safe. Keep socially distant, wear your face coverings and wash your hands. If you can do that, this virus will go right by you.

It's been a few years since my mother passed so this wasn't my first Thanksgiving without her, but it was the first without the rest of my family. While my wife and daughters and I had a fun enough day, it wasn't without the extra smiles and laughter that family brings. From both sides of our family, there were glaring holes to the holiday. My mother-in-law's stuffing, my brothers and I cracking jokes on each other, my father wanting a cup of tea so hot that first you boil the water then put it in the microwave! I'm sure we all felt the same way. With Christmas a little over 2 weeks away, there's not much that is going to be different. However, it's not all doom and gloom. The fact that we have friends and family still with us, even though we can't be together, is still a blessing. I made sure I called my missing family on turkey day to touch base. I encourage all of you to do the same. Reach out to friends and family. Stay connected. It will do wonders for the soul.

So far there has not been any more information on the VERA. While a VERA has been approved, no incentives, if any, have been announced. Come to think of it nothing has been announced. It is supposed to take effect in January. We'll see. Like most things in the Post Office, it will be last minute and we will be scrambling to make a decision. All I can say is that if you are close, request your retirement package from liteblue. I did mine for several dates and was surprised to learn how possible it really is to retire. Once you start taking things out like your TSP contributions and allotments, maybe you sell your house for enough profit to buy something smaller outright...lots of moving pieces but retirement is more possible than you think. But then, why would I want to leave this job! LOL

Speaking of January, there should be an announcement from the US Postal Service about some type of reorganization or restructuring. I haven't heard any concrete information but my guess would be a reduction in districts since they already reduced Areas. And any type of reduction means job movement. But what do I know? Your guess is as good as mine.

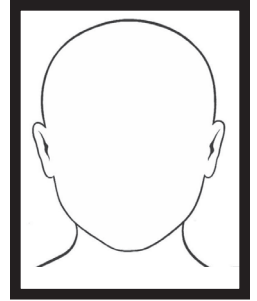
After January comes February and that brings us to the legislative summit. That's still my favorite UPMA event. I just love DC and walking the halls of power. Just like the potential reorg, there are no concrete plans yet for legislative. I have heard they are going to have it but in what capacity is not known. Stay tuned to [unitedpma.org](http://unitedpma.org) or our Facebook page for details.

Until next time, wash those hands, cover that face and get back, jack!





YOUR PICTURE COULD BE HERE!



Are you interested in PAC and Legislative Affairs?

Let Dave know.

Legislative Reform coming?

We must focus on postal reform not just covid relief.

If there is comprehensive postal reform, we will need a whole new rate case.

Link to the PRC, if interested:

[https://www.prc.gov/dockets/usps\\_reports](https://www.prc.gov/dockets/usps_reports)

At this writing, the House and Senate are moving closer to pass a covid relief package/government stimulus funding by the end of the year.

It is projected to be:

Around 900 billion dollars; will include direct payment to individuals, PPE, health care providers.

For USPS: forgiveness of 10 billion loan in CARES (also adding that that money can be used for whatever USPS thinks is necessary).

UPMA is happy with DeJoy, and thinks DeJoy will continue as PMG. He serves at the pleasure of the BOG, not the President. Only the BOG can let him go, and currently the BOG is 4-1 Republicans to Democrats.

Board Of Governors:

Highly unlikely that someone nominated now to the vacant positions could go thru vetting by senate before the end of the year.

Robin Driscoll

## **UPMA to Postpone the 2021 Legislative Summit**

The United Postmasters and Managers of America National President Daniel Heins announced on January 12, 2021, that the Legislative Summit scheduled for February 21-24, will be postponed until September 26-29, 2021.

This decision was made based on the issues with the COVID-19 Pandemic that continue to plague the nation and the fact that the UPMA members that would attend in February would not have access to the members of Congress on Capitol Hill. This is not a decision that was reached easily; however, Heins felt that this was the best choice for our membership at this time.

In the interim we will be offering some Legislative training classes via ZOOM in the coming weeks. The information on those sessions will be shared with the membership through email and on the national website [unitedpma.org](http://unitedpma.org).

We are rescheduling for September because the Government Relations Team and Mr. Heins feel it is very important that we have a presence on Capitol Hill at some time this year. This need is heightened with so many new members and the urgent need to get some type of long term meaningful Postal Reform legislation passed.

President Heins stated that it is his prayer that by the end of September the nation will be able to reopen after the vaccine has been made available to the majority of the country and we will be able to once again walk the halls of Congress. If you have registered for the conference this year your registration will be brought forward for the September dates unless you request a refund. If you choose to receive a refund, you can contact Gerri Swarm at the UPMA National Office and she will see that your fee is returned. Gerri's email address is [gswarm@unitedpma.org](mailto:gswarm@unitedpma.org).

# The Grand Ennui

...Still at night I am haunted by the fright  
And distant memory  
Of the day I lost the light  
Moving through the night  
Running from the grand ennui

-Michael Nesmith, "Grand Ennui," 1971



I texted our editor the other day to let him know I would not be submitting an article. I tried a dozen times to write something, anything, that would enlighten you, the reader, or at least bring a smile to your face. Blank. I got nothing. Everything I came up with was redundant, lifeless, and just plain boring. I was suffering from Pandemic ennui. Sorry, Damon, go to press without me.

Janet said she couldn't believe I was struggling with an idea to write about. I shrugged my shoulders. Then she lit into me, enlightening me at the same time. "So, what's happening with the scholarship? Is that all done since there was no convention? And what if you don't get to have one this year? Then what?" A twenty minute "enlightening conversation" later, my wife has inspired me.

Every year since I've been a member of UPMA (NAPUS) the Massachusetts State Convention has held a scholarship auction. I was charged with being the auctioneer after Stan the Mountain Man enjoyed a long run in the role. I passed the baton to John Coons after the 2019 convention. Unfortunately he has yet to conduct one.

Yet our children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews are still going to go to college. While we have some resources to continue this to some degree, the scholarships have always been one of the greatest things our organization provides to its members.

The auction typically raised approximately \$3,000 every year, enabling the MA UPMA to present up to five scholarships annually. As members, you would spend your money to buy or create something to put on the auction table. The amount was at your discretion. Then came part two. You would attend

said auction and bid on the items you just bought. Your generosity consistently garnered the three grand raised each year (thanks for that)! So here's my idea.

We could take the money we would normally spend on the item to bring to the auction, then add what we might have spent at the auction, and send it to the auction fund. The downside is you don't go home with that special item that means so much to you. On the plus side, you don't have to pay for expensive drinks, you don't have to discuss postal issues ad nauseum, and last but not least, you don't have to tolerate me!

The process is simple. Get your checkbook. Pour yourself a glass of cabernet or a PBR. Think about all those kids we want to attend college and make this planet a better place. Write a check to: MA UPMA for \$\_\_\_\_\_. Send it to our treasurer:

Joshua Richard  
74 Mason Rd  
Brookline NH 03033

Then listen to Mike Nesmith's Grand Ennui!

Jerry Robertson



Joshua Richard Secretary/Treasurer

## Hope for a better year!



Hello everyone and Happy New Year! This past year has been a terrible nightmare that we could not wake up from. We have had more challenges but personally and professionally more than ever before. I would like to say I am glad it is a new year and its all going to get better. I am sure it will eventually start to improve, but the near future still has many challenges and obstacles we need to overcome.

The MA Chapter of UPMA needs to focus and we need to challenge ourselves to work around these obstacles. The technology today should allow us to reach out and communicate with everyone until we are safely allowed to unite in person. We have email, text messages, face time and ZOOM to keep us connected. Staying in touch and making sure we are doing ok is important for all our members. The holiday season was disastrous, and we are still feeling the effects of it moving into this new year. I know firsthand how exhausted we are. We are running seven-day operations with staffing shortages, horrendous transportation, and poor communication from the district. I thank and praise every one of our members for being the leaders you are. It is not an easy task to accomplish what you all did over the last few months. I know there is a lot of uncertainty and some unhappy members across the country. I would like to remind everyone that you are not alone in this. If anyone is having problems, they need to be addressed in the correct way. Proper documentation and following our chain of commands is the only way to have a chance at successful change. I encourage every member to keep emails, notes, etc. so a concern can be validated when it gets reported.

Please reach out to the executive board if you need some guidance on anything.

I look forward to focusing on getting back to our regular routines in the future. In the meantime, I am a phone call or email away if you need to talk. I hope everyone stays well and healthy and tries to focus on enjoying 2021.

Joshua Richard  
Secretary Treasurer





Rob Leary MA Chapter Member Rep

## Greetings Fellow Postmasters and Managers

Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas to all of you. It has been the strangest year I can remember. Hoping for all that 2021 is much better!

The past few months have been quiet for the most part. Very few cases have come my way in terms of corrective action. However, I do receive many calls from Managers concerned that they have a Postmaster, Supervisor, or Manager not doing the right thing. My previous articles have focused on timekeeping issues, as this has been extremely prevalent this year as far as what type of actions have been given to our members. We all know the right thing to do around timekeeping. Ensure you have a 1260 for any entry you make on behalf of an employee. Just as concerning though, are the calls I receive with concerns that our members are making decisions that bring their integrity into question. For example, managers scanning the DUT barcode before the mail is actually up, filling out a certification just to get it done even though there are still items not complete within the certification. I'm sure we can all see where I am going with this. As I always say, we all need to communicate to our immediate manager the struggles we face. If something can't get done timely, communicate it to your manager with the obstacles you face. This goes a long way to having an understanding with your manager that you are truly doing all you can to achieve the goals given to you.

In the last issue of the Baystater, I mentioned the unrealistic expectations we keep seeing coming from above. While I remain hopeful that this will sort itself out and get better, experience and reality tell me it's not happening any time soon. Like most of you, I keep a checklist on the supervisor's desk that we review multiple times a day. Although I see this checklist in my sleep, and can recite it verbatim, it is still helpful to look at and ensure I haven't missed anything. As busy as we all are, something as simple as an updated checklist can ensure nothing is missed and you can go home knowing your job is complete and you won't get that phone call at 630pm to say you missed your BMEU certification!

These are the little things I speak of that can reduce the stress you feel every day. I have been an EAS employee for a little over 20 years now, and I can tell you, it is so important to take some time for yourself every day to refresh and recharge. There is no reward in our business for being a "bulldog" and working yourself to the bone for 12 hours a day. I realize there are far too many of us out there that are doing just that, so all I am saying is, don't lose sight of yourself in facing that. We are allowed a 60 minute lunchbreak. Make sure you take it, regardless of what you are facing. That is your time and it is necessary to clear your mind and be able to carry on through the day. Some EAS are also allowed to take Personal Time when needed, so utilize that option as well when the opportunity presents itself. If you are in a position where you cannot get time off, communicate that to your POOM or immediate Manager. No one should be denied leave simply because it's someone's opinion that there aren't enough managers to go around. A solution must be found in those cases. And remember, EAP is always an option for those of us that are overwhelmed and need a little extra help. It is a great resource provided by the USPS.

In closing, I hope everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season. I realize this year will be different for all of us in light of the pandemic, but stay connected to your loved ones and I hope you all get some time off to spend with them. As they say, "This too shall pass." Even though it's taking so much longer than we all expected (Believe me, I know, my wife is still stuck in Australia since March!), there will come a time when things will be normal again. As always, my contact information is on the back of this publication. Please reach out if I can help in any way.

Regards,  
Rob Leary



# College and Trade-School Members are Eligible to Apply for Signature FCU's Scholarship Program

Signature FCU understands the importance of higher education—and how costly it can be.

If you're a Signature FCU member in need of a little help with your higher education tuition or related expenses, you are eligible to apply for our essay-based scholarship. Three winners will be chosen to receive **\$1,000 each**.

## Eligibility Requirements:

- Applicant must have their own membership account at Signature FCU and have an active account\*
- Must be a graduating high-school senior or a student currently pursuing their first undergraduate, associate, or trade-school degree
- Must be taking or planning to take at least 12 credit hours at an accredited college, university, or trade school. Proof of enrollment is required upon application.

For more details about our scholarship program and to apply visit [www.SignatureFCU.org/Scholarships](http://www.SignatureFCU.org/Scholarships). The deadline to submit your application is June 16, 2021. Scholarship winners will be announced at the 2021 Credit Union Annual Meeting in August.

Applicants may apply for the scholarship each year they remain eligible, but can only be a scholarship winner once.

\*Active account means using the account at least once a year.

### Join us on Social Media

Want another tool to keep up on what is happening at Signature FCU? Join us in the fun, fast paced atmosphere of social media and you will get special financial tips, advanced notice of promotions, pictures, contests, and many other fun posts we think will interest you. Like us on [Facebook](#), follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#), and connect with us on [LinkedIn](#).



## MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER OF THE UNITED POSTMASTERS AND MANAGERS OF AMERICA

### FISCAL POLICY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2021

- The Secretary/Treasurer shall furnish a surety bond for an amount not less than the current balance of all accounts, with the exception of the CD's. The premium of said bond is to be paid by the Chapter and the bond to be held with the records of the Sec/Treasurer during his/her term of office.
- The President or designee will be reimbursed for mileage and meal expenses to attend regional chapter meetings.
- The Secretary/Treasurer shall receive \$350.00 per month as compensation for services rendered.
- The Editor shall receive \$250.00 compensation for every publication in support of the Chapter.
- The Chapter Member Representatives will have mileage reimbursement to attend meetings representing a MA UPMA member where e-Travel is not authorized.
- The Sec/Treasurer will pay \$7.50 annually for each retired/associate member to the MA Retirees' Secretary/Treasurer.
- In an effort to promote membership and attendance at Regional meetings and with consideration of the COVID pandemic, the following policy has been adopted. Each regional treasury (6 exist as of the adoption of this policy: 010-013; 014-017; 018-019; 020-024; 025-026; and 027) are eligible to apply to the MA UPMA E-Board for a stipend not to exceed \$500 a year. Eligibility requirements and the application process are outlined as follows:
  - Regional Chapters must discontinue charging members annual local dues. Regional Chapters may request members to contribute to luncheons or refreshment meetings, raffles, and any other activities sanctioned by the Regional Vice President.
  - The RVP or designee must attend a minimum of eight (8) E-Board meetings per year virtually or in person.
  - Each regional treasury group as outlined above must have a minimum of 4 meetings per calendar year virtually or in person with attendance sheets.
  - Minutes of the meetings must be submitted to the MA Editor for website posting.
  - Each regional treasury group as outlined above must provide at least 1 article, with pictures if possible, for each issue of The Baystater.
  - A voucher provided by the MA Sec/Treasurer must be submitted by the RVP with receipts from chapter meetings and meeting attendance sheets. Vouchers must be submitted no later than December 31, 2021.
  - Money must be used to enhance the MA UPMA Chapter.
- **Legislative Summit Fund** – The below listed members will have the following expenses paid to attend the Legislative Summit: Early registration, airfare transportation if required, up to 10% over the Sec/Treasurer due to departing point, one luggage fee each way if applicable, hotel room at the convention rate, and up to \$50 with receipts for airport parking and transportation to and from airports. UPMA or hotel provided transportation to hotels should be used. Any required charges for this transportation will be reimbursed with receipts. For members that drive, mileage and tolls will be paid up to the airfare transportation of the Sec/Treasurer. Hotel parking up to \$50, with receipts will also be paid.



President  
Exec Vice-President  
Sec/Treasurer  
Editor  
Retiree President  
Legislative/PAC Chair

The MA Chapter will host a dinner for all MA UPMA members at the Legislative Summit event.

Partial reimbursement for all other MA UPMA members is as follows:

Members requesting any reimbursement must assist and participate fully in conducting UPMA business while at the Legislative Summit. MA UPMA members who receive compensation for the Legislative Summit, be it national reimbursements or in accordance with the current MA Chapter bylaws and fiscal policy will not receive any monies from this fund thereby allowing the distribution to more members.

The distribution of the funds will be as follows:

- A. Registration fee, if any, not to exceed the "Early" registration fee.
- B. Travel/transportation costs will be paid in accordance with the transportation provisions above in this fiscal policy.
- C. Room charges will not exceed one half (1/2) of the hotel selected by either the national office or the state executive board.

- **State Convention** - The below listed members will have the following expenses paid to attend the State Convention: hotel room at the convention rate. There will be no registration or transportation costs associated with the state convention.

President  
Exec Vice-President  
Sec/Treasurer  
Editor  
Retiree President  
Legislative/PAC Chair

Early registration for all members will be set at \$49 if postmarked by the date printed on the registration form. These registrations will be refunded at the conclusion of the State Convention to members that fully participated in convention activities. Full registration after the early registration date will be \$99, with no reimbursement. Partial registration will be set by meal selection(s). There will be a \$20 daily business session fee without meal. Full non-member registration will be set at \$150 or partial registration will be set by meal selection(s).

- All net proceeds from the Ad Book and the Auction will be designated for the scholarship fund.
- Up to five (5) \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded at the 2021 state convention.
- \$2,000 will be allotted for door prize drawings at the 2021 state convention for MA members only, excluding the six (6) positions listed above and National Officers.
- There will be one 50/50 drawing at the 2021 state convention designated for PAC.

- **National Convention** - The below listed members will have the following expenses paid to attend the national convention: Early registration, airfare transportation if required, up to 10% more than the Sec/Treasurer due to departing point, one luggage fee each way if applicable, hotel room at the convention rate, and up to \$50 with receipts for airport parking and transportation to and from airports. UPMA or hotel provided transportation to hotels should be used. Any required charges for provided transportation will be reimbursed with receipts. For members that drive, mileage and tolls

will be paid up to the airfare transportation of the Sec/Treasurer. Hotel parking up to \$50, with receipts will also be paid.

President  
Exec Vice-President  
Sec/Treasurer  
Editor  
Retiree President  
Any below listed officer or chair when there is scheduled training.  
Legislative/PAC Chair  
Chapter Member Rep Chair  
Membership Chair

All other members, excluding those listed above, who attend and actively participate in all UPMA business at the 2021 national convention are eligible to be reimbursed for registration and airfare transportation if required, up to 10% over the Sec/Treasurer due to departing point, one luggage fee each way if applicable, and up to \$50 with receipts for airport parking and transportation to and from airports. UPMA or hotel provided transportation to hotels should be used. Any required charges for this transportation will be reimbursed with receipts. For members that drive, mileage and tolls will be paid up to the airfare transportation of the Sec/Treasurer. Hotel parking up to \$50, with receipts will also be paid.

The MA Chapter may host a dinner for all MA UPMA members at the National Convention.

**- Northeast Council Fall Conference** (if scheduled) - The below listed members will have the following expenses paid to attend the Northeast Council Fall Conference: Early registration and hotel room at the conference rate. There will be no transportation costs associated with the Northeast Council Conference.

President  
Exec Vice-President  
Sec/Treasurer  
Editor  
Retiree President  
Any MA Executive Board member with a scheduled training class, holding a Northeast Council elected position, or conducting a training class.

Any other member that attends the Northeast Council Fall Conference will receive some reimbursement for full participation in Northeast Council business and training. Reimbursement will be as follows: early registration and hotel room not to exceed one half (1/2) of the hotel selected by the state executive board.

**The fiscal policy will be effective January 1 – December 31. It will be reviewed and amended annually by the Executive Committee no later than November 1. Presentation and a quorum vote of the Executive Board will be held no later than December 31 each year.**

**This fiscal policy was proposed by the MA UPMA Executive Committee and approved by a quorum vote of the MA UPMA Executive Board at a meeting held on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**



## **EDMUND CARLEY**

POSTMASTER  
LINCOLN, IL 62656

### **ANNOUNCES HIS CANDIDACY FOR UPMA PRESIDENT**

City Letter Carrier (1999-2006)  
Supervisor Customer Service (2006-2008)  
Postmaster Level 20 (2008-Present)

National Vice President (3 Terms)  
National Exec. Vice President (2019-Present)  
Chairman National Legislative and PAC  
President Illinois UPMA Chapter (2017-Present)

Member UPMA National Pay Talks Team  
Co-Chair Article and Bylaw Committee  
Chairman Postal Area Coordinator Committee

Member National Association Parliamentarians  
ASBA from New England College of Business

I am announcing my intention to run for UPMA National President. I have been an active member of UPMA since its inception and was active in both prior associations since July 5, 2008 – the day I was promoted to Postmaster of the Lincoln Post Office (EAS 20) in Lincoln, IL, where I continue to serve. I began my postal career as a city letter carrier in 1998, graduated the Associate Supervisor Program in 2006 and served successfully as a delivery supervisor prior to becoming Postmaster.

First and foremost, I believe our members are our top priority, and, to that end, we need the best leaders in the right places throughout UPMA. It is imperative we work hard, fight the good fight, and ask the tough questions to achieve better pay and working conditions of all UPMA members. My track record and drive demonstrate my ability to make decisions with the best interests of UPMA at heart. The success of UPMA members is my passion. That, backed with a vast experience of making it happen, makes me the best choice to become your next leader. I ask for your vote to elect me to serve you as the 2021 UPMA National President.

**Dynamic  
Fighting for all  
UPMA Members**

**Driven  
Leadership on issues**

**Dedicated  
Vision for the  
Future of UPMA**

Moving  
**UPMA**  
Forward





# KNOW WHAT TO DO

## Offer hope.

Reassure the person that help and resources are available. Let the person know that their life is important to you and there is light at the end of the tunnel.

## Take action.

Talk about steps you can take together to keep them safe. Don't agree to keep it a secret.

## Get help.

There are a lot of services to assist you with preventing suicide. Get immediate care for someone with suicidal thoughts or feelings. Ensure the appropriate people are aware of the situation. Never try to take on the responsibility by yourself.

**Seek additional support from family and friends, neighbors, coworkers, a coach or religious leader. You can also reach out to your EAP at anytime.**

---

**Your EAP is here for you & we can help. Contact us today.**

**800-EAP-4YOU (800-327-4968)**

**TTY: 877-492-7341 | [EAP4YOU.com](http://EAP4YOU.com)**



CALL US TODAY: 800-327-4968  
800-EAP-4YOU | TTY: 877-492-7341  
[WWW.EAP4YOU.COM](http://WWW.EAP4YOU.COM)

# Kitchen Sink Page

I need you're help!!!  
send me pictures!!

My home town, where are they now, and  
guess who photos.

## Be in the next Baystater

WEBSITE- [maunitedpma.org](http://maunitedpma.org)

FACEBOOK- MA Chapter  
UPMA

Look forward til next we meet!

Damon Nix  
Chapter Editor

Tom and I are hanging in the  
kitchen sink page this issue.  
Please be involved! Reach out  
to a fellow UPMA member.



**Didn't see  
your picture  
in the  
Baystater?  
Don't be  
upset , get  
involved!**

## Retirees

Where are you now? We want to know.  
Please send a recent picture and a little  
blurb about what you have been up to so I  
can put it in your Baystater.

**Deadline for articles  
for the next Baystater  
March 10, 2021**

**Greetings to all**

**Hope everyone has/had very very Happy Holidays and all the Best in 2021!**

**Craziest Peak of all time just seemed to make sense in the Craziest year of all time – 2020 ! Goodbye already !**

**Be thankful for our jobs. Yes – I said it. Be thankful and I mean it.**

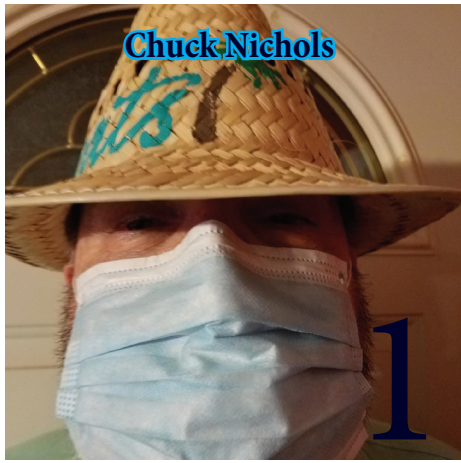
**Yes – there are many things in the USPS that should go or be fixed or worked on . There will always be “things”.**

**The check clears every two weeks and there many many awesome people that work at the USPS. Don't forget that. Help each other succeed in our careers and make the USPS a successful and respected organization.**

**And just maybe, Santa may have an early out present in our stockings this year end. Ho Ho Ho !  
Be well everyone. Keep washing your hands.**

**Tom Driscoll RVP 020 – 024 Mayflower Chapter.**

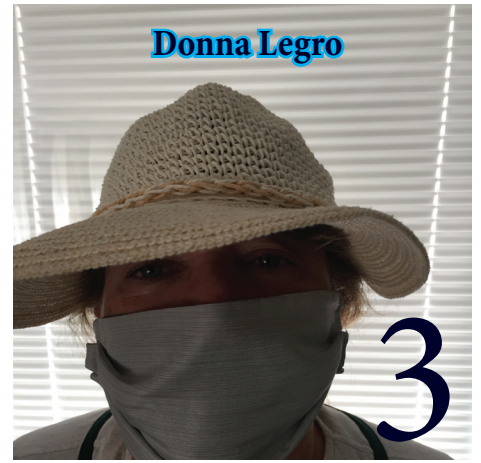




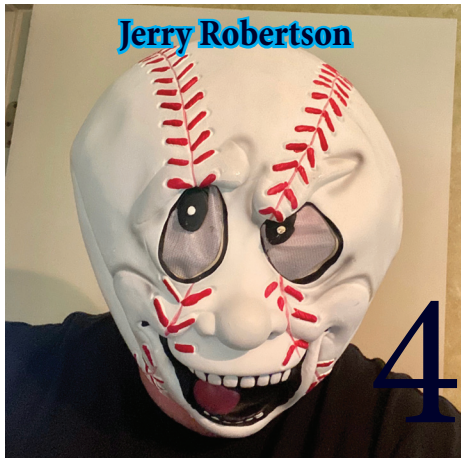
Chuck Nichols



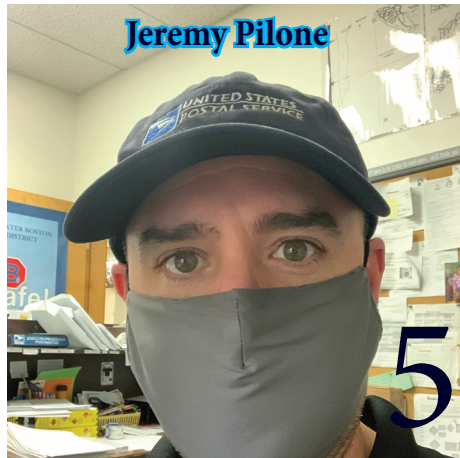
Dave Branga



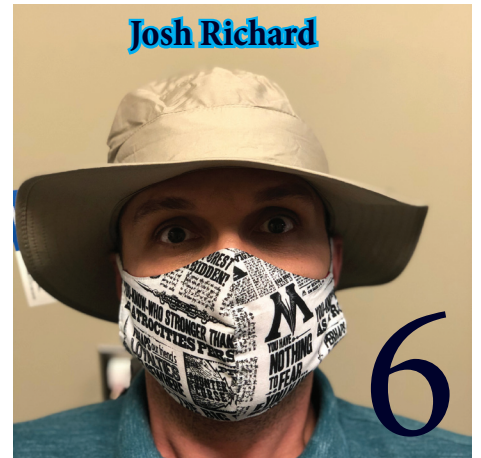
Donna Legro



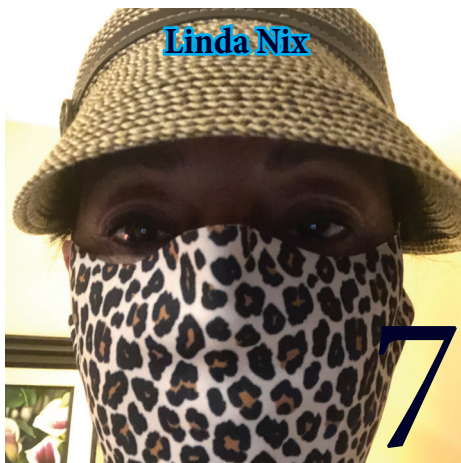
Jerry Robertson



Jeremy Pilone



Josh Richard



Linda Nix

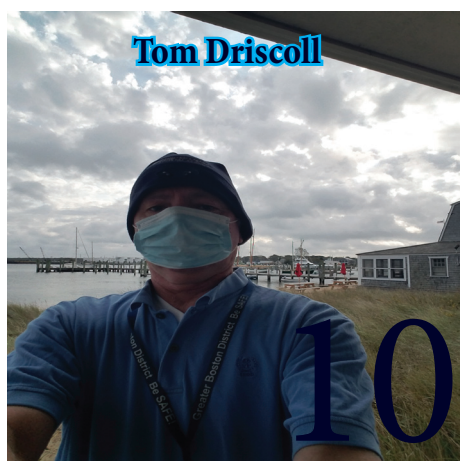


Mark McKay

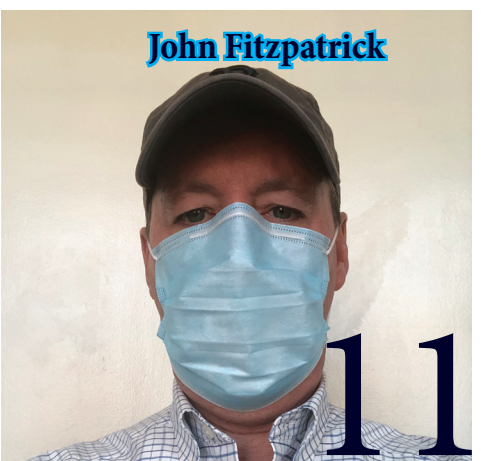


Damon Nix

Can you guess who!!  
How many did you guess right?



Tom Driscoll



John Fitzpatrick



## **2021 ELECTION OF OFFICERS COMMITTEE CHAIRS PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

As we begin the year 2021, it is not too early to think about the required election of officers of the Executive Board and the appointment of Committee Chairs.

**Article V – Election of Officers**, of the MA UPMA bylaws states in part,

**“The President and the Executive Vice President shall be elected...odd numbered years”** (Emphasis added)

**“The Secretary/Treasurer and the Editor shall be elected...even numbered years”** (Emphasis added)

Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MA Chapter was unable to host a 2020 state convention and therefore the elections for the Secretary/Treasurer and Editor did not take place last year. At the request of State President Dave Branga and the Executive Committee, the current officers, Joshua Richard and Damon Nix, agreed to remain in those positions with the understanding that elections would be held at the state convention in 2021 for the remainder of the term that would have been for 2020-2022. The rationale behind odd and even year elections of these positions is to ensure a smooth transition and the continuity of the business of the E-Board. The general duties and information regarding these four positions is available in the bylaws that are posted on the MA website. More information will also be printed in the next issue of The BayStater. If you are interested in any of these positions, you may also contact the current officers, Dave Branga, Deanne White, Joshua Richard and Damon Nix. Their contact information is on the back page of The BayStater.

### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Article VIII – Assignment of Committee Chairs**, of the MA UPMA bylaws state in part,

**“The Executive Committee will be responsible for the assignment of committee chairs for the following duties. Duties may be combined as deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.”**

The following Committee Chair positions are vacant. If you are interested in holding one of these positions, please contact State President Dave Branga. You may also contact the incumbent for more information.

- Legislative/PAC: Duties include handling legislative and PAC activities for the MA Chapter.
- Parliamentarian – Duties include ensuring Chapter business, including all Executive Board meetings, conventions, etc, are conducted in accordance with the MA bylaws, the MA Fiscal Policy and the National bylaws, as well as ensuring all proposed bylaw amendments are handled in accordance with the MA bylaws.

### **AMENDMENTS**

**Article XVIII – Amendments**, of the MA UPMA bylaws state in part,

**“All proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the Chapter President at least sixty (60) days prior to the opening of the annual Chapter Convention.”**

As of this printing of The BayStater, there has not been a site selection or date selection for the 2021 MA State Convention. The National bylaws require states to hold their conventions prior to the National Convention which is scheduled for August 14-20, 2021 in Sandusky OH. With the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, your Executive Board decided that it would be in the best interest of the Chapter to hold the MA Convention just prior to that date either late July or early August. With that being said, the deadline for proposed amendments cannot be announced at this time. However, if you are considering any proposals, I suggest that you submit them to President Branga as soon as you can. More information will be printed in future editions of The BayStater.

### **RETIREE OFFICER ELECTIONS**

**Article IV – Election of Officers**, of the bylaws of the MA UPMA Retired states in part,

**Section 2:** “The President and Executive Vice President shall be elected at the annual Chapter Convention to serve a term of 2 years.”

Donna Legro  
MA Parliamentarian

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