



Show-Me Postmaster

The Official Publication of the Missouri Chapter No. 3 of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States
Volume 46 Issue 3

May - June 2011

Discontinuance

DUO

APWU Contract

General RIF

Rural

CFR 241

POST OFFICE

Show Me Postmaster

May/June 2011

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Supplemental Ins., 800-221-3083; Vehicle Ins., 800-847-2886; Homeowners Ins., 800-847-7233

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Make Plans to Attend the State Convention!

Fellow Postmasters,

Here we are again getting ready for the State Convention. It is amazing how fast time flies by! What seemed like a long way off is suddenly here and I hope you've made plans to join us at the beautiful Lake of the Ozarks for a fantastic convention!

Janice Booth, Career Development Chairman, has planned some great classes for us and the "roundtable" discussion is back by popular demand. We also have our traditional golf, bowling, banquet and dance to enjoy so bring a friend and relax for a few days – you might just learn some important stuff while you're there!

It was great to see so many of you at your district meetings. I'm sorry I missed a few of them, but we made sure someone would be at each meeting to help answer questions and inform you about what is happening regarding DUO and discontinuance.

Some of our state officer candidates also made some appearances and I am so pleased that we have so many qualified individuals who are willing and able to step up to the challenge of running our state organization. Please come to the state convention and vote for the candidate of your choice.

I have spoken to many of you across the state as DUO and discontinuance have begun with a vengeance in both districts. We provide feedback to the district personnel when we find out about problems or issues with how the process is being

done and will continue to do so. Please make yourself familiar with the checklist on the website and contact Don or myself if you feel like it isn't being followed. Unfortunately, we can't really stop either of these processes, but we will do our best to make sure the rules are being followed. I know it is discouraging for many of you and I am always here to listen, even if I can't change the facts. Be sure to notify me if a community meeting is scheduled regarding a proposed discontinuance. I will notify Steve Vanderhoof and he will make sure a retiree attends to assist the community if they want to try and save their local post office.



My heart goes out to all the Postmasters in southeast Missouri as they have watched their offices, homes and farms go underwater or have waited and worried, wondering how far the water will go. I know many of you have worked out of alternative locations and taken extraordinary measures to continue serving your communities. I have spoken to Joann Dean on several occasions as she had

to put offices under emergency suspension. I told her you were an amazing group of people and she agreed with me. Please know that your NAPUS family has had you in our thoughts and prayers.

Thanks for the extraordinary work that ALL of you do for your customers and employees each and every day!

See you at the lake.

Leanne



Area 15 National Vice President State Editor & Webmaster

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Transparence

The Missouri NAPUS State Convention is only a few weeks away. Leanne Cox, our State President, has been putting all the pieces of the puzzle together for the agenda of the general sessions. Janis Booth, our State Education and Development chairperson has been busy putting together some great seminar classes for the convention. Shelly Hays, our State Time and Place chairperson has done another fantastic organizing the entire event. Our State association is indebted to these women and all the hard work that they have done on this year's convention.

If there is one event Postmasters should attend each year, it is your Missouri NAPUS State Convention. This year is especially important because of all the challenges and hurdles that Missouri Postmaster will be facing this year. This year we will also be electing a new State President, the candidates are Jim Maher and Craig Slate. A new Secretary/Treasurer, the candidates are Rick Ayers, Shelly Hays and Sharlene Lack and a Mid America Vice President, no candidates have been announced. Also the Show Me Editor, with me as the candidate.

At the Leadership Conference earlier this year the new PMG Pat Donahue spoke about "Transparence" He was talking about the DUO (Delivery Unit Optimization) process and unfortunately this process is off to a rocky start in the Mid America District. Many Post Offices that are being considered for DUO with another office have received mixed communications from their MPOOs which has lead to needless rumors and misinformation. If the DUO checklist is followed, as required, there should be no doubt about the MPOO's intent. The Gateway District has not started the DUO process yet.

What is also "Transparent" is the Postal Service desire to eliminate Postmaster, Supervisor positions and along the way close Post offices. This is evident with the changes proposed by the Postal Service to Title 39 with

CFR 241 and the recently ratified APWU contract. With CFR 241 the Postal Service would change Post Offices to Station and Branches, and the manager of these units could be any Postal employee effectively removing the Postmaster position. Why would the Postal Service want to do this? The Postal Service would not have to follow the very strict rules on closing Post Offices but the much easier process of closing a Station or Branch. Since the Postmaster is no longer identified as the manager of these Stations it will be staffed with clerks. Hence the new APWU contract which was a sellout of Postmasters by the Postal Service.

What has NAPUS done? NAPUS mounted a campaign to contact our Congressional Representatives informing them of the Postal Services real intent and ask them to comment on CFR 241 with the Postal Service. More importantly NAPUS has filed a complaint with the PRC, Postal Regulatory Commission, about the unlawful change of Title 39 with CFR 241. With all things going on concerning your position as Postmaster, how can you afford not to attend this year's State Convention?

Missouri NAPUS has many ways to keep you up to date besides the Show Me. We also have a website at www.monapus.com and I send out an email newsletter every week or so. If you are interested in receiving the email newsletter send me an email (personal email addresses only) at editor@monapus.com.

See you at the Convention.

Don



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From your State PM Rep....

Don't Be A Fool!!

Most of you now that my articles generally are generated from what's actually happening at the time I'm scheduled to write one. Well, there is a subject that needs to be addressed, but I have avoided it a little due to the delicate nature of the topic. What I am talking about is the practice of MPOO's and some Postmasters to have one person in charge of more than one Post Office. I have always felt this was a dangerous and difficult situation, but lately I have had more than one problem stemming from this practice.

Let's look at the facts: First, MPOOs are short of qualified managers and Postmasters due to a number of factors. Second, many PM's try to work with their MPOO to "get 'er done", and willingly take on additional responsibility. Third, these Postmasters have historically been rewarded for their loyalty and additional service by advancement and other benefits from the MPOO. Unfortunately, like so many things these days, this unofficial upward mobility ladder is NOT what it used to be.

I have long opposed Postmasters accepting responsibility for a second Post Office, even for short periods of time, for the reason that it deprived supervisors and even craft employees the opportunity to try management on a limited basis. I have also thought that the slipshod assignment of financial responsibility, i.e. financial responsibility not being properly transferred until later (or never!) was a recipe for disaster. I have long discouraged Postmasters from these practices, but it has become a more and more common practice. Understand, I place blame both on MPOOs and Postmasters for this situation.

I am now ready to tell Postmasters that if you accept responsibility for an office before being relieved of your previous responsibilities, YOU ARE A FOOL!! I am presently handling 2 cases where well-meaning PM's have gone many, many extra miles for the USPS, and yet were "thrown under the bus" when a problem emerged at either PO. The old reward system, and carrot on a stick, has been replaced by "Sure, we know you've done lots of extra things for us, but now there's a problem and YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!"

So, my message is simple. It is difficult enough in this Postal environment to run one office effectively. Stretching yourself too thin leads to errors, mistakes and oversights. You will NOT get any immediate reward, in my opinion, and I talk to many Missouri Postmasters. And now, your extra work is completely cast out the window when a problem occurs. Higher level management looks only at the problem at hand, not anything that has gone before, nor how much benefit you have provided to the USPS.

Accepting additional assignments has become downright dangerous, in my opinion. I urge Postmasters to simply refuse additional assignments, particularly those which involve handling more than one PO at a time. There are clear rules for the transfer of financial and managerial responsibility for USPS facilities. Make sure you and your MPOO follow those rules. Anything else puts Postmasters at peril, in my opinion.

***Tend to your own knitting, as they say! One Post Office is more than enough for any Postmaster!
Don't be a fool!!***

Mike Honold State PM Rep



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This is definitely a time for PAC!

I receive calls everyday from Postmasters concerned for their jobs and their offices.

This is the time to donate to PAC. Bob Levi is our voice on the hill!!! He needs our support financially to make our voices heard.

We have made it very easy to donate –

1. Payroll deduction through Postal Ease
2. Automatic withdrawal from NAPUS Credit Union checking or savings account

3. Automatic payment authorization on any Visa or MasterCard

For anyone who is signed up for ePAC by the end of convention, there will be a drawing at the banquet for \$200.00. **NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN**

Please get signed up now!

State Convention is coming up, please plan to attend! Bring a neighboring Postmaster and enjoy! Hope to see you there!



NAPUS PAC FOR POSTMASTERS MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTION

Please return this with your contribution to:
Marla Eschbacher, PAC Chair,
PO Box 935, St. Joseph, MO 64502

Date ____/____/2009

I'll do my share. Enclosed is:

___ \$10 ___ \$25 ___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ Other
 ___ check ___ cash

Name _____

Member ID # _____ District _____

Office Name _____

Home Address _____

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

Columbia District Meeting





EDUCATION AND DEVELOPEMENT

Janis E Booth
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COMING SOON TO A PORT NEAR YOU

“Beads, Bangles, & Business”! Get ready for state convention and plan to be in attendance so you don’t miss out on the training, fellowship, and good times. With all the organizational changes it is even more important to stay informed about “your” job. We are making plans to have some needed training seminars as well as some very informative speakers on the program.

Wally Olihovik, OIG, will be one of the general session speakers on Sunday. He will be speaking about audits, investigations, and “staying out of trouble”. He is a former postal employee so truly understands what we do everyday. The “Round Table” discussion will be during general session on Monday. If you have questions you would like to have addressed by the panel of “experts”, please submit them to me in advance. Everyone seemed to enjoy this form of question and answer format last year so we will attempt to impart some knowledge and training in this form again. If you missed it last year, a lot was learned not only from those on the panel but also from those in attendance. There is a wealth of knowledge in our midst and the “round table” is a good place to share it with our fellow employees. Seminars confirmed are: SOX Compliance and Purchasing Compliance presented by Don Bowe, Gateway SOX coordinator; Short Paid Postage/Safe & Secure presented by Donna Osborne, Postal Inspector, KC Field Office; DUO & PO



Discontinuance presented by Leanne Cox, Don Knoth, and Steve Vanderhoof; Bulk Mail Basics presented by Tammy Wilcoxson and Deb Kidwell; Retirement Planning presented by the Talon’s Group; E-Career Preparation presented by the Gateway Learning Development and Diversity Department; and Basic Excel presented by Don Knoth.

I’m still looking for someone to lead a class in “stress management” (ZUMBA). I have the CD’s so all I need is a leader that knows how to use them!! Also, if anyone has a golf pro buddy that would do a seminar, please let me know.

Of course, there will be golf and bowling! Even if you are bad at it, it can be a really good time so come on out and give it a try.



To sum it up, a great convention is being planned for “all” of you so make plans NOW to attend. It is an opportunity to attend training classes, network with fellow Postmasters, de-stress, see old friends and make new ones, and be “reassured” that you can get through another day.

See you at the lake,

Janis



Missouri NAPUS State Convention June 12-14, 2011

AGENDA Tentative

Saturday – June 11, 2011

- 10:00 Golf Tournament – Sycamore Creek Golf Course, 1270 Nichols Rd, Osage Beach MO 65065
- 4:00 Registration
- 4:00 – 12:00 Hospitality Room Open
- 4:00 State Convention Committee
- 4:30 Financial Audit Committee
- 5:00 Executive Board Meeting
- 8:00 Bowling – Eagle Lanes, 914 Missouri 42, Osage Beach MO 65026

Sunday – June 12, 2011

- 8:00 Registration, Vendor Exhibits
- 8:30 Door Prizes
- 9:00 General Session
- 12:00 Lunch
- 1:15 – 4:00 Educational Seminars/Training
- 6:00 Dinner on your Own
- 6:00 – 12:00 Hospitality Room Open

Monday – June 13, 2011

- 7:30 Registration, Vendor Exhibits
- 8:00 Door Prizes
- 8:30-10:30 General Session
- 10:30-11:30 Round Table Discussion
- 11:30 Retirees Memorial Service
- 12:00 Lunch/Retirees Luncheon/Meeting
- 1:15 – 4:40 Educational Seminars/Training
- 6:00 Reception
- 6:30 Dinner/Dance
- Scholarship Awarded
- ? – 12:00 Hospitality Room Open

Tuesday – June 14, 2011

- 8:00 Door Prizes
- 8:30 General Session - Elections
- 12:00 Adjournment



Service Rep

DEBRA KIDWELL
17336 Monroe Rd 182
Lentner MO 63450

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NAPUS Credit Union info at Convention

Greetings from your Service Rep! It is now less than a month until our State Convention in Osage Beach. Will I see you there? There is good training to be had, time to network with other Postmasters, and also conduct the business of our organization. There is a golf tournament for you golfers and a bowling tourney for you bowlers (and even for those of us who are definitely NOT bowlers!) There is shopping at the Outlet Malls for you shoppers, and a pool for you swimmers. There are friends to be made, friendships to catch up on, and entertainment to watch. (Ask Tammy about that one!)

However, in these trying times, it's even more important to attend, and keep up on all the things that are going on in the Post Office. There is an old folk song, "The Times, They Are a Changing", and I think that could be the Postal Service theme song. Every week, we are bombarded with something new. As soon as we learn what we are to do, and train our employees, it is changing

again. What will the Postal Service look like two years from now? What about five years from now? Will you still be a part of the Postal Service? We need to keep up on all the changes, and learn how they affect us and our office. We need to stay current on our training, and make ourselves valuable employees, where we will be able to continue our employment with the Postal Service, no matter what the extreme changes may bring. Knowledge is power, and sticking our head in the sand like an ostrich will only get us run over. My suggestion to all of you is to BE AT CONVENTION, and be prepared to LEARN.

I will have a booth set up in the back with information on our Credit Union, and the types of Insurances that we offer. Be sure to come see me, sign up for door prizes, and if you are not already a member of the NAPUS Credit Union, join.

SEE YOU THERE!!

The Mission of NAPUS

The National Association of Postmasters of the United States is a professional organization for all Postmasters. The mission of NAPUS is:

- to represent, promote, and protect Postmasters;
 - to foster a favorable image of public service, and to assure users of the mail the best possible service;
 - to be an advocate with the Congress of the United States, and
 - to work closely with the United States Postal Service in the development of strategies for the enhancement of Postmasters and the Postal Service
- Our Mission The National Association of Postmasters of the United States is a professional organization for all Postmasters.



Membership

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membership@monapus.com

Spring Ahead ~ time to PLANT and GROW membership!

Spring is here and thoughts of many turn to planting and growing ~ YOUR help is needed to do the same for our MO NAPUS chapter, now more than ever! Ready? Set? GROW! Plant seeds of membership. Remember, not only can Postmasters belong to NAPUS, but OIC's and PMR's are also able to join. As we reach out to non-members who really need to join our ranks! Yes, I said **NEED** – now more than ever, all of our office leaders need to be members of NAPUS. There are a lot of changes going on in the Postal Service – and most of them impact each and every one of us.

We need to be united in our efforts, and NAPUS provides us a forum for doing so, as well as many other membership benefits. (Health Insurance for PMR's, Life, Auto, Home, Long Term Care, Dental & ADM insurance, an Auto Club, car rental discounts, Credit Union membership, just to name a few benefits – and the networking ~ priceless~!!!) Soooooo... District Directors and anyone else who is willing to help, please have a supply of 1187s on hand to give to those who are not yet members, and let them know about the benefits of membership – if you need 1187s or any other information to close a signing, contact me! National President Bob Rapoza and NAPUS headquarters continue to approve the ONE YEAR FREE membership program!!!!

Help OUR Chapter GROW. Know of a new OIC or PMR? PLANT membership seeds! Talk to them about membership – have that 1187 ready! Or, give me a call, or send me an e-mail at **membership@monapus.com** and let me know if there is a position change you are aware of. It's Spring. It's time to plant Membership seeds.

Ready? Set? GROW!

YOUR 2011 CHALLENGE Are you a Rabbit or a Tortoise? Rabbit: contact 10 prospective new members. Tortoise: contact 5. Hey - that isn't even one a MONTH – you can DO this! Winner: Everyone!! New Postmasters, OIC's & PMR's, Postmasters and PMR's who are not currently members ~ learn who they are. Remember, NAPUS has many benefits and rewards, but ... you have to be a member!

One last request this month ~ YOUR CURRENT information is needed! Please contact me if you have moved, changed phone or e-mail addresses since you joined, had a name change – your records on the National NAPUS database need to be updated, and I will be sure that is done ~ but you need to let me know!

Ready? Set? GROW!

Our membership contest has gotten off to a great start! We had 5 new members join in April. Our total membership is 66.86%. Please talk to your PMR or if you know of anyone who is a new OIC and encourage them to join. We all need to pull together to help strengthen our organization. Our new members are Raye Bonar OIC, Troy Erwin PMR, Jennifer Gilpin PMR, Christie Ulrich OIC and Jeslyn Schillinger OIC. We had a total of 106 new members for the entire organization.



Scholarship

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SCHOLARSHIP TIME

I remember when our first son was born, and the many hopes and aspirations we had for him from that day on. His mother thought he was the prettiest infant ever and I was a proud father. Those feelings didn't really change over the years (well maybe his mother didn't think he was so pretty after a while, but definitely handsome!) We have all had those thought if we have had the joy of raising children. Then when graduation comes and we realize just what it will cost to send them on to school we may shudder. Of course we want our child to be the best that they can be for the future, and we of course will sacrifice to help make it so.

Missouri NAPUS tries to lend a helping hand to families of graduating seniors each year by supplying scholarships. This year we had 15 applicants, and I wish that we could offer the same amount of scholarships, but we have a limit of 4 that are offered by the active members and retirees.

The recipients will be introduced and recognized at the state convention held this year at Port Arrowhead in Lake Ozark, Mo. The recipients will be announced at the banquet held on Monday night.

Convention time is an especially important time for the scholarship committee. It is at this time we are able to raise funds to help cover the cost of providing the service to our members. While we raise funds we also try to have fun. We have been providing an activity for our members to entertain themselves with while earning raffle tickets for the drawing held on banquet night. The past several years I have obtained the gifts from the SEMO area but after talking with the executive board we have decided to ask all the areas to help in this aspect. We would like for each of the MoNAPUS areas to provide at least one (if not more) gifts to be used for the raffle drawing. So far this year I have another set of ball tickets for a St Louis Cardinal game to be a part of the raffle. Let's see what each of your districts can come up with to help raise funds for all our "perfect" children's future. A letter has been sent to each of the executive boards for the areas asking the officers for help. You as members may have something in mind that would help with this cause.

**“Your Title is Postmaster,
wear the name Proudly, You are the only one in Town”**

NAPUS Missouri State Convention



***The Resort at Port Arrowhead
3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd
Lake Ozark MO 65049***

June 11 - 14, 2011

Can you Afford to miss This Convention?

Attend Great Training Seminars!!!

See Old Friends and Make New Ones

Free Registration for Attending First-Time Postmasters!!

(registration refunded at convention)

MONAPUS Convention “Stimulus Money”

(Attendees receive money for attending convention. Amount is based on the number of attendees)

Registration Form on Page 13

**2011 MISSOURI NAPUS STATE CONVENTION
Lake Ozarks, MO
June 11 – June 14, 2011**

**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US FOR THE
77th ANNUAL MISSOURI NAPUS CONVENTION**

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

OFFICE/ZIP _____

FIRST TIMER _____ PM RETIRED _____ OIC/PMR _____ GUEST _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

MO NAPUS 2011 CONVENTION

NEW REGISTRATION CANCELLATION POLICY

REQUESTS FOR CANCELLATION REFUNDS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO THE CONVENTION CHAIRMAN AT THE ADDRESS BELOW. REQUESTS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY APRIL 1, 2011, FOR 75% REFUND; AND BY MAY 30, 2011 FOR 50% REFUND. NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 30, 2011.

REGISTRATION FEES

REGISTRATION – CONVENTION	\$125.00
REGISTRATION – Sunday Only - CONVENTION	\$ 50.00
RETIRES – CONVENTION	\$ 70.00

**The Resort at Port Arrowhead
3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd
Lake Ozark MO 65049
Phone: 573-365-2334**

Room rates: \$89.00 plus tax

Send Registration to:

**Shelly Hays
Convention Chairman
PO Box 133
Willard MO 65781-0133
417-742-3311 (wk)
417-343-1663 (cell)**



Legislative

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Will You Be a Postmaster or a Branch Manager?

Do you like having the title of Postmaster? Well, don't get used to it! Just by changing a few words in U.S. Code 39, your job as Postmaster could be eliminated. Right now you might be thinking that there is no way this is going to happen. Don't be fooled into believing that your job is safe and that you will always be at your current location. Postal headquarters is working diligently to once again change the structure of the Postal Service. Let me give you an example of how this could all play out.

Mexico is a level 20 office that is surrounded by numerous smaller offices. If Code 39 gets a few word changes, these smaller offices **could** be changed from a post office to a station or to a branch of the Mexico post office. Benton City, Rush Hill, Martinsburg, Thompson, Auxvasse and Santa Fe could all become a "satellite" office of the Mexico post office. At that point, your title changes from Postmaster to branch manager or station manager. Then you could be moved anywhere else within the Postal Service. This same scenario will be played out across the entire country. Headquarters has already stated that they wish to eradicate 2500 management positions. Will one of these positions be your office?

If you have read my articles in the Show-Me, you know that I am a firm believer that every Postmaster must do their part in our organization. So many times, only a handful of Postmasters are left carrying the load for everyone else. Those days

are over. We have asked on several occasions that you write, call or e-mail your congressman to voice your support or opposition to bills that were being introduced into legislation. Some Postmasters responded to our call for action. Most did not. Everybody needs to listen to me carefully. **NOW** is the time to contact your congress member and both Senators! Don't wait for somebody else to do it. This is **YOUR** job that is hanging in the balance. Can you really afford hoping that the other Postmasters' will once again do all of the work? Your job is at stake! Don't wake up some morning with the "would of, could of, should of" when you are driving to your new job location. I don't mean to be over dramatic, but this is serious. It is my job as your legislative leader to keep you informed of the issues. Get active today!!!

There has already begun a large proactive attack being orchestrated by the National NAPUS and Bob Levi. Your state and national officers have been attending telecons in the evenings with Bob Levi. We are aggressively taking the fight to the congress members. We have been corresponding directly with the members of the congress. I receive e-mails every week from their staff. We will keep you informed.

If there are any Postmasters in your area that are not members of NAPUS, what better time to talk with them about joining. Their jobs are at risk just like ours! Don't sit on the sidelines.....get in the game today!

**“Let Us Do Together What
We Can Not Do Alone!”**



Chaplain

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TAKE IT AS IT COMES!

On April 1, Mrs. Schmeleg turned 101 years old. She still lives by herself and is “sharp as a tack” mentally. That day she came in to get her mail from her P O Box and I got the opportunity to wish her a birthday greeting. She is such a great lady that anyone would love to have as their grandmother. While talking that day I mentioned to her how much I admired her approach to life in general, she seemed to let nothing bother her for long and was always jolly. I asked her what advise she would give if she were asked about how to live such a long and active life. Her reply came so casually that it caught me off guard.

“You just have to ‘take it as it comes’ she said. “You know I’ve out-lived my husband and all but one of my children and all but one brother, and I found out that you can’t let this get you down. Over eighty years ago I met the young man that I knew I would marry if ever asked, and I thought at that time I loved him and would forever. Well I still love him, even though he’s gone, but there were times after we were married I thought I would like to change a few things about him. Well let me tell you that did not nor will it ever work. It was at this time that I learned to ‘take it as it comes’. I now know that the little things that



Milton did were not all that bad, it was me wanting to make him something that he could never be. I had to learn to accept myself for who I was before I could love Milton the way I should.”

“It was sometime later while sitting in church listening to the sermon that I understood what I had to do. The minister was talking about ‘removing the log from your eye before you can remove the splinter from your neighbor’s eye’. Right then and there I understood what our problem was and I have tried to live by this ever since. I no longer tried to change others to what I wanted them to be, but accepted them for who and what they were. I came to understand that my opinion was only good if it applied to me and not to others. So each morning when I get up now, I say to myself to take the day as it comes, the Lord will lead me through”

With that Mrs. Schmeleg wished me a good day and went on her way. But you know her words still ring try to me today.

Lord may your words go from my heart to my lips, my lips to my life, that they may accomplish that for which they were sent.

Retirees Corner



President

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Retirees Across the State Attending Discontinuance Meeting

I hope the editor Don Knoth does not want to kill me as I am just sitting down to write my article for the Show Me. I promised that anytime I was an officer in this organization I would do my best to produce in a timely manner. I guess I blew that one so you can put it on the list.

We have been working the post office closing issue pretty steady since my last article. We have been contacted by State Representatives asking what they can do to avoid having these rural post offices closed. Wanda Brown for the 116 district in Missouri called and we spoke about the offices in her district: Mora and Ionia. We provided her with our website which has a copy of the "Red Book" and other material she needed. She is working with her colleagues for closings in their respective districts. That will be a great help.

When we hear of a community meeting being held by the US Postal Service we insure someone from the retiree branch will attend. I try to make as many as I can. It sure is burning the wheels of my car to cover these events but it is important to let the customers and residents of that office know the process to fight the clos-

ing; if they chose to do so. So far we have always been able to find someone in the community that wants to be the point of contact. That person can be the central point to get the petition signed and insure that all the deadlines are met. Without that there would be little that could be done to stop the train.

We have had a couple more not mentioned. Nelson was well represented by retired postmaster Kay Bradley at their community meeting on April 14th. She knows the mayor and several of the residents and able to guide them properly through the process. Luray post office meeting was on April 20th and retired PM Helen St. Clair is working that office.

Moody held their meeting on May 3rd and although retire PM Peggy Cotter is the POC she asked if I would attend the meeting. So I did. The USPS spokesperson was Joanne Dean. She held the meeting after work from 5 to 7 pm, so more of the community could attend and also sent notices to both the PO Box customers and the rural customers. She doing everything above board and spent nearly two hours answering the customer's

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Retiree Luncheon 2011 Missouri NAPUS State Convention

Date: Monday June 13, 2011
Start Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Port Arrowhead Resort
3080 Bagnell Dam Blvd
Lake Ozark MO

The Memorial Service will be before the luncheon in the General Session, please plan on attending.

If you are not registered for the convention and just attending the lunch I need to know by June 10th.

Contact me at 573-473-0894 or
cmwms@socket.net.

Look forward to seeing everyone.

Connie Williams
Secretary/Treasurer Retirees



Mid-America VP

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Home: 417*843*5826
Office: 417-884-5121
vpmidamerica@monapus.com
dacafarm@hughes.net

I hope many of you are planning to attend convention this year. It will be a great time at Lake of the Ozarks, with lots of good training and speakers. The networking with other Postmasters is even more important. If you can't get away for the whole time, please think about attending for one day. It will be time well spent.

I think at this time, more than any other, we need each other. We need to participate in our organization to make it stronger. There are many changes coming in the Postal Ser-

vice. I know many of you have already been effected, but we also know there is more to come. At these times, it's good to know that NAPUS is there for you. If you know of a Postmaster, PMR or OIC near you that isn't a member, now is the time to invite and encourage them to join.

If I can be of any assistance, give me a call. See you at the lake!



Gateway VP

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Spring has sprung and summer is just around the corner. Both of these seasons are definitely my favorite time of year. Call me crazy, which I'm sure is no surprise to most of you, but I love to mow the yard and spend as much time as possible outdoors. I love spending time doing fun things with family and friends and attending the state convention each year. Everyone needs to make plans to attend this year's state convention at the Lake of the Ozarks. It's a central location for pretty much everyone and there is always something to do at the lake. So plan on attending this year and I promise you won't be disappointed.

Janis, our career chairman, has a very educational program lined out for our seminars. Several of us just attended a very informational class on bulk mailings and Deb Kidwell and I are planning on having a seminar on this. Even though many of us think we are knowledgeable in the area of bulk mailings, I guarantee

there is always something to learn. I have worked with bulk mailings for many years and this training that Deb and I both received was excellent. We will focus on the PMR, OIC or Postmaster who don't even know the first step in accepting a bulk mailing to our emphasis on the SOX compliance reporting. Believe me, this is where I learned the most in this class. With SOX being such an important part of our daily financial reporting, everyone needs to know and make sure they are doing and reporting everything correctly.

I can't emphasize enough the importance that every office needs to check their EDW reports on at least a monthly basis. I know many OIC's, PMR's and yes even postmasters tell me they don't even know how to access the financial EDW reports. Do you know this question is actually on your SOX compliance checklist? There is one simple report in your accounting

(Continued on page 21)

Registration Policies:

Banquet Seating:

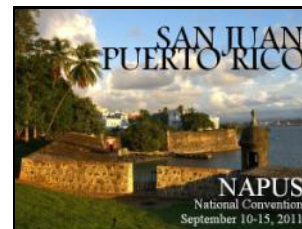
Registrants will be seated with their chapters on a first come basis. Registrations received **after August 26, 2011**, are not guaranteed to be placed at chapter tables and will be seated where space is available. Banquet tickets will be enclosed in your conference materials distributed at the beginning of the conference. Special seating requests will try to be accommodated but not guaranteed.

Registration Cancellation Refund Policy:

Requests for cancellation refunds must be made in writing and be sent to the address below. Requests must be postmarked by **April 29, 2011** for 75% refund, and by **August 26, 2011** for 50% refund. No refunds will be given after **August 27, 2011**. These dates will be strictly adhered to; exemptions may be made with approval of the NAPUS National Executive Committee.

Mail or fax with full payment to:

NAPUS National Convention Registration
18222 Flower Hill Way Suite 301
Gaithersburg, MD 20879
Fax: 1-877-332-5186



2011 NAPUS National Convention, San Juan, PR..September 10-15 Hotels

Hotel Reservation:

NAPUS has a special rate available at the convention hotels beginning on **September 13, 2010**. You must call the hotels directly to make a reservation. NAPUS Headquarters *will not* handle room reservations.

Anyone who makes a room reservation at either the Sheraton or the Caribe Hilton in San Juan will be charged a one night, *non-refundable*, room deposit on July 1, 2011. All room cancellations must be made directly with the hotel. To secure these rates, you must identify yourself as part of the NAPUS convention when placing your reservation. This rate is only available until **August 5, 2011**, or until all rooms in the blocks are sold, whichever comes first.

Caribe Hilton

1 San Geronimo Street
San Juan PR 00901
787-721-0303

Room Rate: \$139.00* (1-4 pp in room)

Porterage: 4.50 per person, (includes both check-in and check-out)

Room Attendant: \$.50 per room, per day

*rates are **inclusive of resort fee**

- ★ Daily in-room coffee (one bag per day)
- ★ Daily Newspaper
- ★ Daily use of tennis courts
- ★ One hour of Miniature Golf
- ★ Use of fitness center
- ★ Beach activities (umbrellas, chairs, games)
- ★ 15% Discount on Olas Spa

Sheraton Puerto Rico

200 Convention Boulevard
San Juan PR 00907
787-993-3500

Room Rate: \$139.00 (1-4 pp in room)

Porterage: 4.50 per person (includes both check-in and check-out)

Room Attendant \$1.00 per room, per day

*rates are **inclusive of resort fee**

- Daily English newspaper
- Daily coffee and tea service in the room
- Daily use of the Link@Sheraton, internet café
- Complimentary High Speed Internet Access in guest rooms and other designated areas throughout the hotel
- Complimentary use of the fitness studio and access to the spa (treatments have a charge)
- Complimentary use of towels & chaise at pool
- Complimentary casino match play coupon of \$10.00 per room



**Registration Form NAPUS 107th National Convention
San Juan, PR September 10-15, 2011**

*Registration also available on line at www.napus.org
Please Note: one attendee per registration form*

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Title: _____ First Name (as it should appear on your badge): _____

Post Office You Represent(ed): _____ City: _____ State: _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Time Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

Registration Fee:

<i>(Please circle fee that applies)</i>	9/12/10 to 10/01/10	10/02/10 to 4/01/11	After 4/01/11
Postmaster / Spouse/Guest	\$175	\$220	\$250
OIC/Associate	\$175	\$220	\$250
Postmaster Retired/ Spouse/Guest (Postmaster Retired Luncheon Included)	\$150	\$185	\$205
Children (17 and under) (Includes child's meal at the Grand Banquet)	\$80	\$80	\$80

Are you planning on attending the NAPUS Annual Golf Tournament? Yes No

Payment:

Check payable to NAPUS # _____ Cash **Convention Fee:** \$ _____

NAPUS-FCU Visa American Express **Additional Tickets for the**
 Visa/MasterCard **Postmasters Retired Luncheon**
@ \$25 each \$ _____

Card Number: _____ **Total Payment:** \$ _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Security Code: _____

Signature: _____



Spring District Meetings

St Louis District



St Charles District



St Joseph District



Springfield District





Secretary-Treasurer

KEITH WADDELL
P.O. BOX 4
HOLCOMB MO 63852

Office: 573-792-3601
secretary@monapus.com

SEMO District



Kansas City District



(Continued from page 17)

EDW reports that will bring up your required EDW SOX reports. It is the Transfer of Accountability report. Just because you are not transferring your office doesn't mean you can't pull this report. This report gives all your required balance you are looking for. It gives your accountability balance, trust fund balances, 247/647 balances, and your excess stamp stock balance. It's all the balances rolled into one report, If you need any help in accessing this or any reports from EDW, PLEASE contact a neighboring postmaster or send me an email and I would be glad to assist anyone. Remember, we must all look out for each other, so if any of you know an office that has an OIC, a PMR, or a new Postmaster, please check on them and ask if they are accessing their EDW accounting reports on a monthly basis. Remember, we must all work together and help each other out.

See you at the Lake.
Tammy Wilcoxson

NOTE OF REASSURANCE

Some days are just awful. Some days are sheer hell.
Some days there just isn't a thing that goes well.
Some days shake your faith and deflate your resolve.
Some days you just wish you had never heard of.
Some days you're quite sure you'll go out of your head.
Some days make you wish you had stayed flat in bed.
Some days you get jabbed by the needle of scorn.
Some days you just wish that you'd never been born.
Some days are plain awful, from nine until five.
But can you name one day that you failed to survive?

Sure, some days you can't seem to make a good move.
Some days you cannot get yourself in a groove.
Some days it just seems you're consigned to a rut.
Some days it appears all escape routes are cut.
Some days from each molehill a mountain there grows.
Some days have the feel of a punch in the nose.
Some days you just know that you're under a curse.
Some days are that bad and – well, some are still worse.
Sure, some days are awful. But – I challenge you
To remember one day that you failed to get through.

Author Unknown

(Continued from page 16)

questions. She only left after everyone had their chance to speak and ask questions. She is the only one from USPS in Missouri that is working this the right way. If any of the offices close in her area of responsibility it won't be because she didn't give the community proper notice and opportunity to respond to the proposal to close the office. This is certainly NOT how other MPOO's are going about the process. Some are doing their best to mislead the community and hold the meetings when few can attend. Also they only notify the PO Box customers and not the rural customers. This effort appears to be intended to limit the amount of protest by the community and reduce the number of community inquiries they will have to respond to as required by the process.

Future meetings are scheduled for Strasburg on May 16th and Rayville on May 20th (which I cannot attend due to previous commitment). But rest assured we will not leave them hanging. Someone cranky and cantankerous old retired fart like me will attend in my absence. Maybe neither as C&C nor "fart like" as me,

but someone committed to working to prevent offices being closed for convenience of the USPS.

Be sure to attend the State Convention in June. I hear they have a golf tournament, so I'll be there. I will be available to discuss the process and answer questions about the post office closings and give advice. Bring your questions and a fellow PM is possible, we could use the attendance. It is amazing to me that as hard as the conditions and possible consequences are for postmasters that they would avoid attending the NAPUS convention. I doubt those poor souls that do not attend are well informed or know who to call when trouble strikes. NAPUS was always there for me when I needed someone. I recommend you establish your support network before you need it. Your office might show up on the radar screen and without NAPUS you won't have a single idea what to do or who to call. Don't find yourself in that group.

Steve Vanderhoof
President, Retiree Br
Missouri Chapter, NAPUS

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MISSOURI CHAPTER NO. 3 OF THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE
POSTMASTERS OF THE UNITED STATES
PO BOX 4
HOLCOMB MO 63852-0004
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Missouri NAPUS State Convention Golf Tournament



Sycamore Creek Golf Course
1270 Nichols Rd
Osage Beach, MO

June 11, 2011
Saturday
10 AM

Cost: \$50.00 per person

RSVP – Bill Brewer
pm_dbrewer@yahoo.com

Advance payment can be sent to him or
pay Bill there.

There's a stoplight at the intersection of 54 &
Nichols by the hospital.

Missouri NAPUS State Convention Bowling Tournament



Eagle Lanes
914 Missouri 42
Osage Beach, MO 65065-9712

June 11, 2011
Saturday
8:00PM

Cost: \$ 18.00 per person.
Shoes included in cost.

Contact Theresa Baughman
theresa.a.baughman@usps.gov
if you are interested in bowling (singles welcome)
and/or if you have a full team (4).

Pay when you come to bowl to Sarah Kuschel or
if you would like to prepay send checks to:
Theresa Baughman,
PO Box 25
Syracuse MO 65354