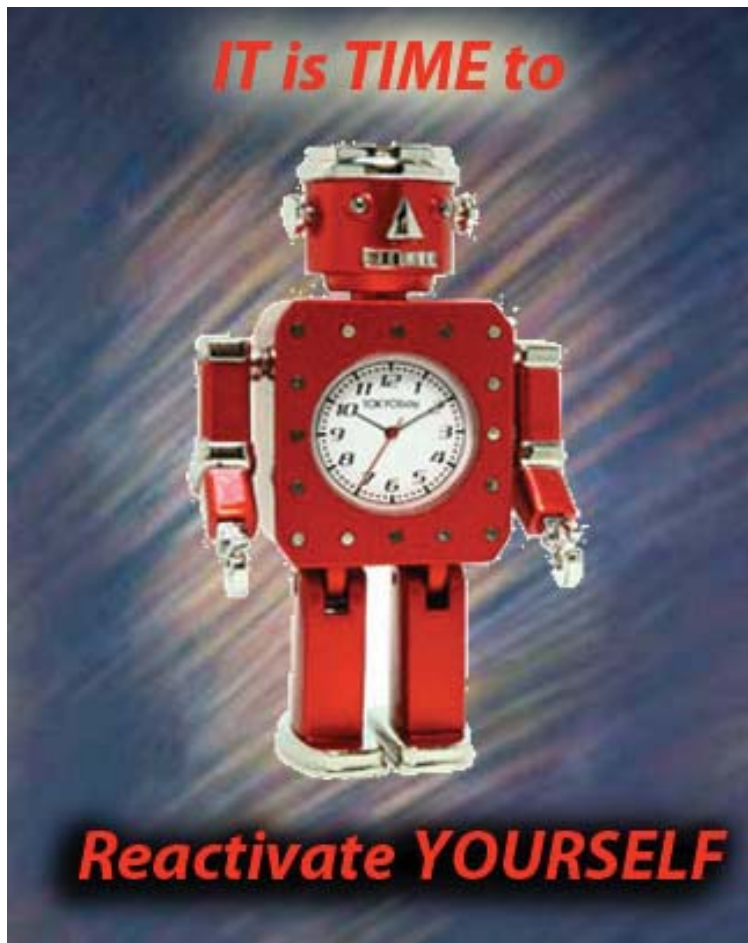




**EVERYONE
NEEDS TO
GET
INVOLVED**

**THE TIME
IS NOW**



IT is TIME to

**MAKE YOUR
PLANS NOW
TO GO TO THE
LEGISLATIVE
CONFERENCE
IN D.C.**

Reactivate YOURSELF

LET'S US DO TOGETHER WHAT WE CANNOT DO ALONE.....

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*Lawrence McPahaul
*Duncan Flaunders
*Clarence Reynolds
*Charlie Brumby
*Alton Harvey
*Rosa Lindsey
*Clyde Hollingsworth
*Miriam Mallory
*Vernon Roberts
*Don Gibson
*Elizabeth Brock
*Harry Vickers
*Louise J. O'Connell
*Lanne Jamison
*Fred Peterson
*Woodrow Sutton
*Walter Phillips
*Earl Sewell
*Harry James
*Stacey Roberts
Tommie Kelley ®
George Camp ®
*Luther Turner
*Frank Callaghan
*Joseph Rush
*Frances Cowan
William Bryant ®
James Stubbs ®
*Joe Turner
Paul Burroughs ®
*Billie Hamrick
*Ed Gillis
Brenda Gunn-Reed ®
*John Ranson
Joan Steward ®
Tom Webb ®
*Bill Parker
E. Rex Cowart ®
W. Bennie Price ®
R. S. (Bob) Harrell ®
Thomas McKleroy ®
Barbara Tuggle ®
Ola Mae Ross ®
Bill Davis ®
Larry Youngblood ®
Louise Nix
Donald Phillips ®
Clarence Robinson ®
Donna B. Kinchen
Ben Tuggle ®
Judy G. Miller
Dayna Mahaffey ®
*Maggie Dunn
Tammy Cantrell
Jo Dyke
Sammie Reese®
Connie Clark
Nancy Chapman
Scarlet Middleton
Jeanne Dover

* Deceased
® Retired

The views expressed in this publication are the opinions of the writer and not necessarily the opinion or the position of the National Association of Postmasters of the United States.

In November of 1995, I relinquished the title of President of NAPUS. Saturday, January 14, 2012; I once again accepted that position at our annual changeover meeting. Wow! 17 years has passed since that time. I have been fortunate in my career, to serve in various state positions, National Vice President representing Georgia, Florida and Puerto Rico, National Legislative Chair, while serving on Headquarters' Redundant Reports Committee with Pat Donahoo as chairman. I am telling this to assure you, during all these years, I have continued to fight for Postmasters and their rights.

After 34 years of service, with 30 of those years as a Postmaster, I am still as passionate about the Postal Service and Postmaster position as I was 30 years ago. There are days I will look around my office, and think; gee I am one of the luckiest people anywhere. You see, I know that most all Rodney (retired rural carrier) and I have, from farming to our children's college degrees is a direct result of working with the Postal Service.

Am I happy with all the changes, do I always agree with all the decisions being made that effect my office, my employees and even my personal life, absolutely not! But through NAPUS, I have always had the opportunity to know our leaders on a first name basis, to talk with them one on one and to hear information from them that others have not heard.

You probably are saying "well aren't you special", no! I am **just a Postmaster who is a member of NAPUS and attend ALL meetings!!!!!!** It still amazes me how many postmasters and OICs are truly concerned enough to be frightened about their job due to all the changes, but not frightened enough to join NAPUS and become active. Sure the NAPUS Executive Board and I will continue, as we have in the past, to fight for you, however the time has never been better for you to become active. All nonmembers will be receiving this publication free at 3 different times this year, in order for you to become more informed of the happenings. Why not get serious about your job and find out all there is to know from the District level.....attend meetings!!

IT'S TIME FOLKS FOR YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED AND FIGHT FOR YOURSELF AND OTHERS. Through my life, I have learned how important it is to give back to your town, your community, your church, the postal service and NAPUS.

I have been asked more than once, why I am so involved in various projects. Slow down they say, you have paid your dues! My answer is simply this, "when I die, I want people to say, she gave more than she ever took, and she left the things she touched better than before." That is a big order, and seriously I doubt that will ever be said, or that I will ever accomplish this task, however I tried. Are you trying to help yourself and others? We have a Midwinter Conference scheduled February 3-4 in Kingsland. This conference will be over by the time you received this article, but were you there? Did you hear all of the changes coming after May 15? Will your office be DUOd, or be scheduled to close, are you going to have to excess those valuable employees? If you had attended that meeting you probably would have your answer.

Become involved; **remember we can't spell NAP_ S without U....**

*NAPUS 2012 State President
Louise Nix*



New Year - New Challenges - New Opportunities

I hope everyone's New Year is off to a good start. We just had the change over meeting on January 14th, where we conducted the business of the Chapter, enjoyed a nice lunch, and had great fellowship. It's always so good to be together.

This year my focus will be on the 4 R's:

Reiterate how critical it is that Postmasters attend the meeting and stay informed about the challenges and changes taking place. Sometimes information gets lost in translation. Be there and hear for yourself. Be an encouragement to our President.

Reactivate or restart those that have become dormant.

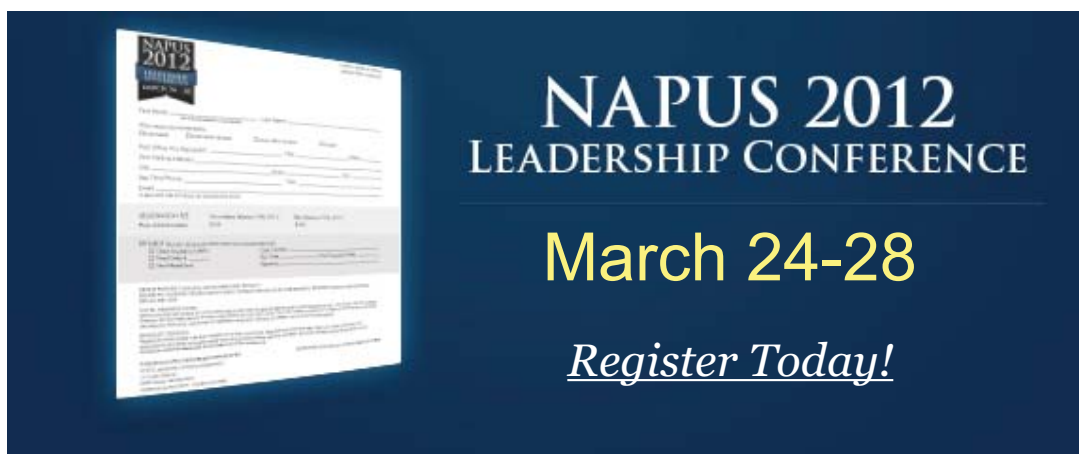
Recommit to the work ahead of us as a Chapter. There is strength in numbers.

Remember we can't spell NAPUS without U.

Each day is a challenges now, no matter the size of the office. So let's try and keep the mindset, Today will be what I make it and make it the best we can.

Well gotta go. i've got some planning and packing to do. I'm looking forward to Mid Winter and then it's on to DC! Can't wait. Hope to see you there. Louise, don't leave without me!

*Executive Vice President
Becky Manley*



The image shows a registration form for the NAPUS 2012 Leadership Conference on the left, and a promotional banner on the right. The banner has a dark blue background with white and yellow text. The text on the banner reads: "NAPUS 2012 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE" in white, "March 24-28" in yellow, and "Register Today!" in white. The registration form on the left is titled "NAPUS 2012 LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE" and contains various fields for registration information.

Georgia Chapter NAPUS

Fall Conference

The Blue Ridge Lodge/Comfort Inn & Suites

November 4-6, 2011

RECEIPTS

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Georgia Chapter NAPUS | \$1000.00 |
| Atlanta Postal Credit Union | 500.00 |
| Vendors | 250.00 |
| Hospitality Room (Tips) | 20.00 |
| Registration | <u>2340.00</u> |
| Total Receipts | \$4110.00 |

DISBURSEMENTS

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| USPS (Postage) | 363.55 |
| Meals | 2436.68 |
| The Blue Ridge Lodge | 232.14 |
| Printing for mail-out | 786.45 |
| Door Prizes | 25.00 |
| Hospitality Room | 101.81 |
| Return to Chapter | <u>164.37</u> |
| Total Disbursements | \$4110.00 |

Georgia Chapter National Association of Postmasters
Trial Balance
As of December 31, 2011

| | Dec 31, 11 | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Debit | Credit |
| APCU - 12 Month CD 75 | 11,690.86 | |
| APCU - 12 Month CD 76 | 12,058.00 | |
| APCU - 24 Month CD | 0.00 | |
| APCU - 36 Month CD | 0.00 | |
| APCU - 48 Month CD | 0.00 | |
| APCU - 60 Month CD | 6,232.94 | |
| APCU - Legislative Acct | 7,369.29 | |
| APCU - Share | 1,683.66 | |
| NFCU - 24 Month CD | 5,860.87 | |
| NFCU - 3 Year CD | 5,952.93 | |
| NFCU - 5 Year CD | 6,102.29 | |
| NFCU - Checking | 8,545.65 | |
| NFCU - Scholarship Fund | 2,845.68 | |
| NFCU - Share | 2,482.10 | |
| Opening Balance Equity | | 68,371.59 |
| Retained Earnings | | 6,060.36 |
| Contributions and Support | | 2,419.00 |
| Dividend Income | | 1,631.98 |
| GA NAPUS Changeover Meeting | | 15.00 |
| GA NAPUS Fall Conference | | 3,488.38 |
| GA NAPUS Midwinter Conference | | 4,512.36 |
| GA NAPUS State Convention | | 5,570.00 |
| Membership Dues | | 49,091.85 |
| Refund | | 185.00 |
| 2nd VP/Conf Chairman Expenses | 1,644.32 | |
| ATCB Publication | 15,371.20 | |
| Changeover Meeting | 324.69 | |
| Contribution Expense | 200.00 | |
| Editor Expenses | 3,754.48 | |
| Executive VP Expenses | 2,325.96 | |
| GA NAPUS Fall Conf Expense | 4,386.62 | |
| GA NAPUS Midwinter Conf Expense | 3,984.92 | |
| GA NAPUS Ret Membership Dues | 2,313.00 | |
| GA NAPUS State Conv Expense | 9,246.79 | |
| Leadership Conference | 7,554.84 | |
| NAPUS National Convention | 1,518.02 | |
| Officer's Awards | 173.55 | |
| Other Miscellaneous Expenses | 853.67 | |
| PAC Auction Item | 280.32 | |
| PAC Co-Chair Expenses | 2,050.52 | |
| Postage and Delivery | 15.05 | |
| Postmaster Development Expenses | 155.00 | |
| Postmaster Rep Expenses | 1,914.60 | |
| President Expenses | 3,374.52 | |
| Professional Services fees | 125.00 | |
| Scholarships Awarded | 2,000.00 | |
| Secretary/Treasurer Expenses | 4,779.79 | |
| Service Rep Expenses | 1,648.73 | |
| Stationary | 254.66 | |
| Webpage | 271.00 | |
| TOTAL | <u>141,345.52</u> | <u>141,345.52</u> |



Sincerely,
Tammy Cantrell
Secretary -Treasurer

Article 11 of the Constitution and By-Laws:

Amendments

This Constitution may be altered or amended at any Georgia NAPUS State Convention by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of members in attendance at the business session. All proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to the Constitution and By-Laws Chairman by March 1st prior to the State Convention for publication in the March/April issue of the "Around the Cracker Barrel". Any amendments not recommended by the Constitution and By-Laws Committee may be brought to the floor by the membership with two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Constitution and By-Laws Chairman:

Nancy Chapman
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Delta757@bellsouth.net



DON'T FORGET TO

*MAKE YOUR PLANS AND PACK YOUR BAGS
FOR THE*

*LEGISLATIVE
CONFERENCE IN
WASHINGTON D.C
MARCH 24 -28*



Ramblings of an Old Man

The climate in Atlanta is pretty good at the present time but like the weather, can change any minute without warning. For those of you that know me, you know that I tend to be vocal at times. Because of these two reasons, I keep an attorney on retainer. I know I'm only a Level-21 Postmaster and don't make the big bucks so you're probably wondering how I can afford to pay retainer fees to an attorney. It's pretty simple, based on my office level, I only have to pay \$318.50 yearly for the attorney and the really good thing is I'm allowed to make monthly payments of only \$24.50.

Now because I like you, I'm going to share a little secret with you. I'm a member of NAPUS and my monthly dues are \$24.50 because of the level of my office. As a NAPUS member for more than 90 days, I'm entitled to FREE legal representation for any adverse action that may be taken against me.

When a fellow Postmaster gets in trouble and contacts Joe Griggers or myself, one of the first questions we ask "are you a NAPUS member". We'll still help you but if you're not a member, than you won't be entitled to any FREE legal representation. If you don't have time to become an active NAPUS member, think of the memberships dues as your job insurance. As long as you don't steal, the NAPUS defense fund will pay the attorney fees and never charge you a cent beyond your membership dues.

Seems we've been through a lot this past year but I'm afraid we haven't seen anything yet. More and more Postmasters are getting into trouble and I'm afraid this will continue based on the lack of training provided by the Districts. What amazes me is that the people trying to fire a Postmaster are the same people that were responsible for promoting them. Don't understand how a person can lose all their knowledge between an interview and a promotion. Whatever happened to mentoring and guiding an employee to perform better?

**PM REP -- NORTH GEORGIA
ROY SHAFFER**



**Click
Here**

Look for the
"Click Here"
icon on the
GANAPUS.com
homepage

Register for the GANAPUS.com Email Newsletter

- Receive the latest information for current and future events;
- Read the latest issue of "Around the Cracker Barrel";
- Receive links to print registration forms for golf tournaments, conferences, conventions, and scholarships;
- Important information from your officers;
- Breaking news and more.

IT ONLY TAKES A MINUTE —SO REGISTER TODAY
*NAPUS Membership is **NOT** required*

GEORGIA NAPUS STATE CONVENTION

June 7-10, 2012

Lake Blackshear Resort and Golf Club
2459H US HWY 280 W
Cordele, GA 31015

Reservations: 800-459-1230
Group Name: GA NAPUS
Group Rate: \$129.00 Lodge and Villas
Cottages \$179.00



2012 Georgia NAPUS State Convention

Tentative Agenda – Check ganapus.com for agenda updates in upcoming weeks.

Thursday, June 7, 2012

12:00 Golf – Lake Blackshear (registration and info to come on website)

2:00 Registration

4:00 Executive Board Meeting

6:30 Dinner/Entertainment

Friday, June 8, 2012

7:45 Registration

8:30 Business Session

12:30 Lunch

7:00 BBQ/Entertainment

Saturday, June 9, 2012

7:45 Registration

8:30 Business Session

12:30 Lunch

7:00 Banquet/Entertainment

“The PAC Pals”

By Judy Miller and Ola Mae Ross

When you see one, you see the other one or either she's not far behind. That's why we've decided to call ourselves “The PAC Pals” for 2012. We appreciate President Louise giving us both the opportunity to service as your PAC co-chairs this year. Of course you all know that at every National Convention and every Leadership conference, Ola is always willing and ready to take your PAC contributions and turn them in so she'll be on the front line for sure this year. Just a warning, you know she's coming so get your checkbooks out and be prepared. Or better yet, let's see how many from Georgia we can get signed up for ePac. We'll learn more about this new item and educate our members in the very near future on ePac.

The Georgia Chapter Executive board members are leading the way for a great year. During our annual planning meeting, everyone at the meeting contributed to PAC making us 100% participation for that meeting. Now is that the way to start out our year? We were so excited but we hope it sends a message to all of the members how important PAC is to you and your career. With the condition the postal service is facing, we all need to do what is necessary to protect our jobs and future. This is active and retired postmasters as well. The active wants to keep working and the retirees want to keep receiving their retirement checks. So when asked for your contribution, be happy to do your part and contribute to the future of the postal service.

We're excited and looking forward to the possibilities of a great year as your Pac Pals. Keep your ears and eyes open because we're going to ask you to open up your checkbooks. See you soon.



Judy Miller
Pac Chairman



Ola Mae Ross
Pac Co-Chair

Survival.....

I think back when I first came to work for the post office, all you heard was reorg, reorg, and reorg. The postal service has been through a lot and I believe we still have a lot to go through. Will we ever stop going through change....we better not! I think some of our problem now is that we didn't go through change when we should have. That brings me to the title of my article....SURVIVAL. Well I looked up survival on our state of the art information system and found this:

| | |
|----------|---|
| S | Size Up the Situation (Surroundings, Physical Condition, Equipment) |
| U | Use All Your Senses, Undue Haste Makes Waste |
| R | Remember Where You Are |
| V | Vanquish Fear and Panic |
| I | Improvise |
| V | Value Living |
| A | Act Like the Natives |
| L | Live by Your Wits, But for Now, Learn Basic Skills |

Your basic skills are what NAPUS is all about. NAPUS is here for all of us Postmasters, OICs, and retirees. We all want to survive and learn whatever we need to survive.

Value Living is probably my favorite. All of us were born kicking and fighting to live, but we have become used to the soft life. We have become creatures of comfort. We dislike inconveniences and discomforts (changes). What happens when we are faced with a survival situation with its stresses, inconveniences, and discomforts? Well I don't know about you but I am not a quitter, I know we are in rough times but I also know that a Postmaster is a survivor and we will survive.

NAPUS will represent you if you have been a member for 90 days or longer. What are you waiting on? NAPUS should always be a part of your survival kit. Check your kit out, do you have what it takes to survive?

Proud to be a Postmaster!
Robin Bugg
Editor





2012 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AT MADISON



ATLANTA DISTRICT
CUSTOMER SERVICE & SALES



November 28, 2011

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POSTMASTERS

Hello to all Postmasters in the Atlanta District. As a former Postmaster (Fredericksburg and Vienna, VA and Baltimore, MD) I sincerely understand the value and importance that you bring to our company. With so many needed changes occurring as our organization moves into the future, our road travelled will be more successful with the leadership provided by the glue that holds our delivery and retail operations together; Postmasters. Countless times every year when events happen that challenge our best efforts, from hurricanes to late arriving mail, we deliver for our customers in large part because of the day to day job our Postmasters perform as leaders in their office and town or city. You get it done "whatever it takes". I thank you for that.

Even though our jobs get more complex all the time, with the technological changes that now accompany what everyone does in society, what we really do is kind of simple; we move mail. From the time a customer hands it to us over the counter, on the dock, to our carriers or through BMEU's, until we deliver the mail to our customers in their mailbox, as long as all of us do the right thing, our customers are satisfied and will want to continue to use our services. In today's more and more competitive environment, it is critical that we deliver on that need or we will lose business. You will hear me talk about doing "the right thing" often.

My philosophy regarding how we should treat each other and all employees is fairly simple. Having worked now in seven different districts/divisions, my experience has shown to me that, thankfully, most employees want to do the right thing and want to provide excellent service for our customers. We typically have, in any work group, a percentage of employees who perform daily in an outstanding manner because that is the way their upbringing taught them to perform. We also have a percentage of employees who, for whatever reason, do not perform satisfactorily. Between those groups are a majority of employees who do "average" work. We should recognize and reward that group of outstanding employees, and hold accountable those who perform poorly. That will drive the "silent majority" to perform better, which is good for our customers, and that is the bottom line. That is how I conduct business.

I look forward to working with you as our organization transforms into the postal service of the future. The changes we continue to go through will not always be easy, and I recognize some will directly affect Postmasters, but they are needed for our long term success. Working together with our eye on the prize; providing excellent service to our customers in the most efficient possible way, we can jointly make Atlanta a shining star in the Postal Service. You have my commitment to work with you openly, to support you and to challenge you to be the best leaders you can be.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Furey".

Michael S. Furey
A/District Manager/Lead Executive
Atlanta District

POST OFFICE BOX 599300
NORTH METRO, GEORGIA 30026-9300

NAPUS NEEDS YOU IN WASHINGTON

This will not be my first trip to Washington for the Legislative Conference but it will be my first trip as the Legislative Chairman. **I can tell you without a doubt; it is the best Conference you will ever attend.** The meeting is well organized and is packed with excellent speakers, all well informed on the issues facing each of us on a daily basis!

You will not believe how many Postmasters attend from across the country. We have many excellent Postmasters in Georgia with years of experience and expertise which we could proudly share with our fellow Postmasters.....if you would only make the Legislative Conference a “Priority” and make plans to attend. We need YOU to go with us to represent Georgia!

The Legislative Conference will have speakers from headquarters, the Postal Rate Commission, Senators and Representatives. We will walk the halls of Congress; we will meet with our own Senators and Representatives. They listen to our issues. We remind them just how many Postal Employees, along with our families live, work and vote in their Districts.....then they begin to pay closer attention to what we have to say! This is why it is so important to have Postmasters meeting with their own Senators and Representatives.

The Washington trip is the most important trip we make every year. I can't emphasize enough the importance of your attendance. GA NAPUS supports this trip so much that you will be given money to help offset your expenses. This year \$6,000 will be divided by members of NAPUS who attend, walk the Halls of Congress and meet with Senators and Representatives.

Please make your plans to attend the Legislative Conference on March 24 -28 at the Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, VA. Come and help me make this a great trip. We will not only have fun but come home better informed Postmasters and prepared to face our challenges ahead!

Call me if you have any questions but whatever you do....JOIN ME IN WASHINGTON!!!!



2012 NAPUS Leadership Conference

March 24-28

New Leadership Conference Schedule

- All-day General Session on Monday, March 26
- Monday Night President's Reception and Banquet
- Tuesday Night Dance
- Capitol Hill visits/travel home on Wednesday

Tentative agenda:

Friday, March 23

8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
NAPUS Executive Board Meeting

Saturday, March 24

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
NAPUS Executive Board Meeting

1 – 6 p.m.
Registration

2 – 7 p.m.
NAPUS PM Retired Executive Board Meeting

6 – 8 p.m.
Choir Practice

Sunday, March 25

7 a.m. – 1 p.m.
Registration (closes at 1 p.m.; if you are not able to pick up your packet, be sure to designate someone to pick it up for you. Packet includes your Monday night banquet ticket.)

7:45 – 8:30 a.m.
First-Time Chapter Legislative Reps Meeting
First-Time Chapter PAC Reps Meeting

8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
Nondenominational Church Service

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
NAPUS PM Retired Meeting

10 a.m. – noon
Chapter Officer Breakout Sessions:
Presidents and NAPUS Executive Board
Secretary-Treasurers
Membership
Editors
Career Development
Service Reps
Postmaster Reps (state and national)
PAC Chairs (state and national)

noon
Lunch on your own

noon – 1:15 p.m.
Service Rep Luncheon (Hosted by Mass Benefits Consultants)

1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Chapter Officer Breakout Sessions:
Presidents
Secretary-Treasurers
Membership
Editors
Career Development
Service Reps
Postmaster Reps (state and national)
Legislative Chairs (state and national)

2:30 – 3:30 p.m.
PM Retired New Chapter Presidents' Training: Linda Jones, moderator

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.
Post Office Preservation Committee Meeting:
Keva Richardson, committee co-chair

4:30 p.m.
PM Retired First-Timers' Meeting

5:00 p.m.
PM Retired Meet the Candidates Forum

Free Evening

Monday, March 26

8 a.m. – noon
General Business Session
Musical Prelude – Marine Corps Band
Roll Call of Chapters
Presentation of Colors – U.S. Armed Forces Color Guard
Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance
National Anthem: Marine Corps Band

8:30 a.m.
Bob Rapoza, national president

9 a.m.
Jack Wilkins, PM Retired president

9:15 a.m.
Charles Moser, executive director

9:30 a.m.
Patrick Donahoe, Postmaster General

10 a.m.
PAC Awards: Linda Carter, PAC for Postmasters chair

10:15 a.m.
2012 National Convention Report: Louie Hatler, chair

Rest of session to be determined

noon
Lunch on your own

1:30 – 4 p.m.
General Business Session

1:30 p.m.
Ruth Cauble, secretary-treasurer

1:45 – 3 p.m.
Legislative Training Session: Bob Levi, director of Government Relations

3 – 3:30 p.m.
Candidates' Panel

7 – 8:30 p.m.
President's Reception and Banquet

Tuesday, March 27

7:30 – 9 a.m.
Possible Capitol Hill Event

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Visits on Capitol Hill

9 p.m. – 1:00 a.m.
Dance

Wednesday, March 28

Travel day: *There may be a need for some delegates to stay through Thursday; please check with your chapter president before making final travel plans.*



WWW.NAPUS.ORG
REGISTER ONLINE

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

Title: (Please check one that applies)

Postmaster Postmaster Retired Associate Member Guest

Post Office You Represent: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Your Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Time Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

PLEASE NOTE ONE ATTENDEE PER REGISTRATION FORM

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| REGISTRATION FEE: | On or before February 10th, 2012 | After February 10th, 2012 |
| (Please circle fee that applies) | \$135 | \$155 |

PAYMENT (Payment in full using one of these options must accompany this form):

| | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check Payable to NAPUS | Card Number: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel Order #: _____ | Exp. Date: _____ Card Security Code: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visa/MasterCard | Signature: _____ |

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 February 10th, 2012

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

NAPUS has reserved a block of rooms at the discounted rate of \$213 Single/Double/ Triple/Quad plus tax. You must call the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel directly to make reservations at (703) 920-3230. This rate will be available on a first come, first served basis until February 10th, 2012; rooms may be depleted well before January, so please call as quickly as possible.

BANQUET SEATING:

Registrants will be seated with their chapters on a first come basis. Registrations received after February 10th, 2012 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.

PLEASE MAIL/FAX REGISTRATION FORMS TO:

NAPUS Leadership Conference Registration
c/ o Let's Meet Inc.
18222 Flower Hill Way #301
Gaithersburg, MD 20879 Fax(877) 332-5186

REGISTER ONLINE AT **WWW.NAPUS.ORG**

Contacting the Congress



Residents of Georgia are represented in Congress by 2 Senators and 13 Representatives.

| Member Name | DC Phone | DC FAX | Contact Form |
|--|-----------------|---------------|--|
| Senator Saxby Chambliss (R- GA) | 202-224-3521 | 202-224-0103 | http://chambliss.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Email& ... |
| Senator Johnny Isakson (R- GA) | 202-224-3643 | 202-228-0724 | http://isakson.senate.gov/contact.cfm |
| Representative Jack Kingston (R - 01) | 202-225-5831 | 202-226-2269 | https://kingstonforms.house.gov/ContactForm/default.a ... |
| Representative Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (D - 02) | 202-225-3631 | 202-225-2203 | https://forms.house.gov/bishop/webforms/issue_subscri ... |
| Representative Lynn Westmoreland (R - 03) | 202-225-5901 | 202-225-2515 | https://writerep.house.gov/writerep/welcome.shtml |
| Representative Hank Johnson (D - 04) | 202-225-1605 | 202-226-0691 | https://hankjohnsonforms.house.gov/contact-form.shtml |
| Representative John Lewis (D - 05) | 202-225-3801 | 202-225-0351 | http://www.house.gov/formjohnlewis/contact.html |
| Representative Tom Price (R - 06) | 202-225-4501 | 202-225-4656 | https://tomprice.house.gov/contact-me |
| Representative Rob Woodall (R - 07) | 202-225-4272 | 202-225-4696 | https://woodall.house.gov/contact-me/email-me |
| Representative Austin Scott (R - 08) | 202-225-6531 | 202-225-3013 | https://forms.house.gov/austinscott/webforms/zipauth ... |
| Representative Tom Graves (R - 09) | 202-225-5211 | 202-225-8272 | http://tomgraves.house.gov/Contact/ |
| Representative Paul C. Broun (R - 10) | 202-225-4101 | 202-226-0776 | http://broun.house.gov/Contact/zipauth.htm |
| Representative Phil Gingrey (R - 11) | 202-225-2931 | 202-225-2944 | http://www.house.gov/formgingrey/IMA/issue.htm |
| Representative John Barrow (D - 12) | 202-225-2823 | 202-225-3377 | https://forms.house.gov/barrow/webforms/issue_subscri ... |

Obituaries

Thinking of You

Please remember these families as they mourn the loss of a loved one:

- **Mother of Diane Giddens, OIC of Grantville.
- **Mother of Andy Hodges, Retired District Manager of Atlanta.
- **Mother of Tina Handrop, Postmaster of Snellville.
- **Son of Brenda Fambrough, Postmaster of Hiawassee.
- **Brother of W.C. Daniel, Retired Postmaster Hillsboro.
- **Charles Noel "Butch" Simpson, Retired Postmaster Irwinton.

Please notify Robin Bugg of any families that we need to be thinking of.
robin00@bellsouth.net or 770-550-4978 (cell) or 770-583-3133 (home)

True compassion is love in action

Donations to the Scholarship Fund

Carolyn Godbee, in memory of her son, Kelvin Yearwood.

What's On The Hill

A giant snow ball or a big red sun? Whoever is on the hill giving orders is going to be like a giant ball rolling down a snow covered hill. Once the moratorium is over, everything is going to be moving so fast until we will not know what hit us. Changes to laws, regulations and procedures will affect everyone of us. We all need to keep abreast so we will know what changes will affect us. Get on board !!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely,
David Lovett
2012 Postmaster Retiree
President



State

Conventions

June 6 - 10, 2012
Lake Blackshear

June 9-12, 2013 Sea
Palms, St. Simons
Island

DATES TO REMEMBER

Leadership Conference

Washington DC

March 24-29, 2012

March 16-21, 2013

March 15-20, 2014

National Convention

Sept. 1 - 6, 2012 - Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

August 16-21, 2013 - Bellevue, Washington

**GEORGIA CHAPTER
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
POSTMASTERS SCHOLARSHIP RULES**

1. Applicants must be the child or grandchild of an active Postmaster or Postmaster Retired Member of Georgia NAPUS to be eligible.
2. Applicant must be a high school senior, planning to attend an accredited college or academic institution.
3. Two scholarships will be awarded as follows:
 - Active Postmasters – one (1) \$1000.00 scholarship
 - Retired Postmasters – one (1) \$1000.00 scholarship
4. Selection of winners is made on the basis of a GPA and no more than five extracurricular activities sanctioned by the church, school or community. A limit of two sports and two clubs will be considered. Selection will be made by the scholarship committee and will be approved by the President.
5. A transcript from an accredited school showing the GPA must be attached to the NAPUS application when submitted to the scholarship chairman for consideration.
6. Winners will be notified in April by the Secretary-Treasurer.
7. Winners and/or their sponsors are expected to attend the award ceremony that will take place at the State Convention in June. Winners will be asked to give a short acceptance speech. One (1) night's room for the winner (s) and winner's banquet meal will be paid by Georgia NAPUS to offset expense of attending the banquet when the award is issued.
8. Actual funds will be mailed directly to the college in July.
9. If you wish confirmation that your application was received, please send your application by certified mail or enclose a self-addressed postcard that will be returned to you.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION IS LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY 2012



Form 1187

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

SECTION A—All New Members Complete

Your title determines whether you also complete Section B or C

| | | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| USPS Employee Identification Number (EIN): | Social Security Number | Date of Birth | Gender Male ___ Female ___ |
| Name of Employee (PRINT Last Name, First, MI) | | Home Telephone () | |
| Home Address (Street and Number/PO Box) | City | State | ZIP+4 |
| Personal E-Mail Address | | Total Years of Postal Service | |

SECTION B—Postmasters Only Complete

| | | |
|------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Post Office City/State | ZIP Code | Post Office Finance Number |
| Post Office Level | Postmaster's Direct Post Office Telephone () | |

SECTION C—(Check One): Officer-in-Charge Associate PMR—Only Complete

| | |
|---|---|
| Post Office City/State | PO Finance Number of OIC Detail |
| Date of PM/OIC Appointment | Post Office Telephone Number () |
| Former Postmaster at this Office has <input type="checkbox"/> Retired Date / / | <input type="checkbox"/> Detailed to (Title and Location) |
| Home Payroll Office Finance Number | Employee Designation Code |

SECTION D—For Use by the Employee Organization

| | | |
|--|--|------|
| P | Mail completed form to: National Association of Postmasters of the United States (NAPUS) 8 Herbert Street Alexandria, Virginia 22305-2600 | |
| | I hereby certify that the regular dues of this organization for the above-named member currently are established at \$_____ per calendar month. | |
| Signature and Title of Authorized Official | <input type="checkbox"/> NAPUS Membership Chair <input type="checkbox"/> NAPUS Chapter Secretary-Treasurer | Date |
| Member submitted as: <input type="checkbox"/> Withholding <input type="checkbox"/> Cash (attach check/money order) | | |

SECTION E—Authorization by Employee

I hereby authorize the above-named agency to deduct from my pay the first pay period of each month the amount certified above as the regular dues the (UN-P) **National Association of Postmasters of the United States (NAPUS)** 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 monthly deduction. It will become effective the first pay period of the calendar month, which includes the first day of the month, following its receipt in the employee organization's headquarters office: NAPUS, 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 "Certified Mail" directly to the employee organization's headquarters office: NAPUS, 8 Herbert Street, Alexandria, VA 22350-2600. 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 F

Check this box to signify you've read and understand the terms in Section E this form. (online submissions only)

Yes, at the same time I join NAPUS, I'd like to join NAPUS Federal Credit Union and also receive a NAPUS FCU Visa card, if I qualify! After I've received my Credit Union account card in the mail, I understand I may call PostalEASE (1-877-477-3273) and set up a payroll allotment to NAPUS FCU. The CU's routing number is 254074934.

Who/what most influenced your decision to join NAPUS? _____

Revised 07/07

NAPUS NATIONAL OFFICE FOR PROCESSING

2012



Dues Schedule UN-P NAPUS

Active Membership Dues Withholding (Monthly)

| PO Level | Amount |
|-----------|---------|
| A (51) | \$3.33 |
| B (52) | \$5.00 |
| C (53) | \$6.58 |
| D (54) | \$8.25 |
| E (55) | \$9.92 |
| 11 | \$14.75 |
| 13 | \$16.17 |
| 15 | \$17.92 |
| 16 | \$19.42 |
| 18 | \$21.17 |
| 20 | \$23.42 |
| 21 | \$24.50 |
| 22 | \$26.33 |
| 24 | \$29.17 |
| 26+PCES | \$32.17 |
| OIC | \$3.50 |
| PMR | \$3.50 |
| Associate | \$3.50 |
| Retired | \$3.50 |

Active Membership Dues Cash (Yearly)

| PO Level | Amount |
|-----------|----------|
| A (51) | \$40.00 |
| B (52) | \$60.00 |
| C (53) | \$79.00 |
| D (54) | \$99.00 |
| E (55) | \$119.00 |
| 11 | \$177.00 |
| 13 | \$194.00 |
| 15 | \$215.00 |
| 16 | \$233.00 |
| 18 | \$254.00 |
| 20 | \$281.00 |
| 21 | \$294.00 |
| 22 | \$316.00 |
| 24 | \$350.00 |
| 26+PCES | \$386.00 |
| OIC | \$42.00 |
| PMR | \$42.00 |
| Associate | \$42.00 |
| Retired | \$42.00 |

Join Now

We have online membership forms. Please fill out:

- [Form 1187](#) for active Postal employees or
- [Form 1187-R](#) for retired Postal employees.

Newly appointed Postmasters, OICs, and PMRs who sign up within 30 days of their appointment will receive one year of NAPUS membership, free!

For assistance or more information, please contact Nick Somers, Director of Membership, at:

- membership@napus.org or
- 703-683-9027.

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> | 9/10/11 to 12/31/11 | 1/01/12 to 4/30/12 | 5/01/12 to 7/31/12 | After 8/01/12 |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Postmaster / Spouse/Guest | \$150 | \$200 | \$225 | \$250 |
| OIC/Associate | \$150 | \$200 | \$225 | \$250 |
| Postmaster Retired/ Spouse/Guest <i>(Postmaster Retired Luncheon Included)</i> | \$130 | \$175 | \$195 | \$215 |
| Children (17 and under) <i>(Includes child's meal at the Grand Banquet)</i> | \$75 | \$75 | \$75 | \$75 |

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

For \$90 per golfer, this will include transportation to and from the Coffee Creek Golf Course, range balls, cart and green fees. Provided with this offer is a Continental breakfast prior to the start and a lunch after the tournament. Prizes will be awarded.

Payment:

Check payable to NAPUS # _____ Cash

NAPUS-FCU Visa American Express
 Visa/MasterCard

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Card Security Code: _____



Convention Fee: \$ _____

___ Additional Tickets for the
 Postmasters Retired Luncheon
 @ \$25 each \$ _____
 Golf Tournament Fee \$ _____

Total Amount Included \$ _____



Signature: _____

**Check out the GREAT things Oklahoma City has to offer at
 soonerpostmaster.org**

Georgia Be One of the 78!
OKC 2012 Needs YOU!

The Oklahoma NAPUS Chapter needs your help. To make your Convention the best it can be and most affordable for your finances, we need for you to take 5 minutes of your time to log into the soonerpostmaster.org website. Once at the site click on the boat in the canal. This will take you to the Convention links. Choose either the hardcopy or electronic registration and fill it out, then submit it. At the same time you can browse the selection of hotels offered and make your reservations in advance.

Your influence on your friends and neighboring Postmasters is also needed. You should talk to them about the importance now more than ever in staying connected to the current and future changes coming down from Headquarters. The training received at a National Convention is priceless in these days of no training offered at the District and Area levels. Where else can you ask the instructors about a concern or problem in a program? In networking with other Postmasters across the country, you may find an answer to many questions in a friendly conversation.

This is a convention where a vacation can be taken in conjunction with an outstanding event. Take that vacation you have been putting off right here in Oklahoma. One could come a week early or stay a week later, while still experiencing the convention. Did you know that Saturday, Sunday and Monday will be non-leave days? The only days requiring leave will be Tuesday and Wednesday. Still needing an incentive? Do you itemize you taxes? Then this could be entered as training for your occupation, but ask your tax expert to make sure that you qualify. The cost of travel, hotel and associated expenses may be declared on your 2012 taxes. What can be better than that?

Well, better would be the quality of the event offered by the Oklahoma Chapter. We have 4 Diamond hotels, accessible and affordable entertainment and restaurants, top notch training, outstanding networking and the ability to talk to the movers and shakers in both the USPS and NAPUS during your stay. Your Oklahoma Postmasters have been working for 5 years to make this YOUR best convention to attend. We suggest clicking on soonerpostmaster.org to see the airport/airline link, the hotel links, the Oklahoma Tourism links, entertainment links and more.

To make this succeed we need you to be one of 78 Postmasters from the Great State of Georgia. Can you help us? Please make the effort to be one of the informed and responsible Postmasters in attendance. Catch the Dream in OKC this September.

2012 SOUTHERN OFFICERS CONFERENCE

Name _____ Title _____

Address _____

E-Mail _____ State Representing _____

Early Registration Fee \$99 – Postmarked by November 1, 2011
Early registration postmarked by November 1st will be entered into a drawing for \$100 gift certificate
November 1, 2011 until March 1, 2012 fee is \$115.00
March 1, 2012 until June 25, 2012 \$130.00
On Site \$135

Flying _____ Driving _____
If you will need transportation from/to the Charlotte Douglas Airport (CLT)
Please complete the information below:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Airline & Flight Number _____ | Date & Time of Arrival _____ |
| Date & Time of Departure _____ | Cell Phone Contact # _____ |

The North Carolina Chapter is very excited to host this year's SOC (Thursday, July 26th through Sunday, July 29th) in Concord at the Embassy Suites, 5400 John Q. Hammons Dr. NW, Concord NC. The room rate is \$115. Be sure to mention that you are with the NAPUS/SOC when making your reservations. The number is 1-704-455-8200. The room block will be held until June 26th, 2012. Check-in time is 3:00 and check-out is 12:00. The hotel offers full cooked to order breakfast, a spacious 2 room suite with a separate living room and nightly manager's reception.

There is so much to experience in Concord. There are over 100 area restaurants; Concord Mills shopping outlet; several family attractions including Great Wolf Lodge, Carowinds, the Billy Graham Library, White Water Rafting and it is minutes from Charlotte.

Thursday night we will kick off the conference with pizza. Friday night we will enjoy dinner at the NASCAR Race Track. You will have a free afternoon on Saturday. Saturday night will be our banquet and entertainment. Dress casual and come enjoy the North Carolina hospitality!

Secretary/Treasurers need to bring 33 copies of the resolutions that were passed at your state convention.

Return registration form and fee to:

NC NAPUS
C/o Linda Carter
1976 US Hwy 401 S.
Warrenton, NC 27589
C (919) 323-6595, H (252) 257-4336



Time is Money—

A seasonal Calendar of What to Do When

It may sound like an old cliché, but the truth is it makes sense—and cents. There are better seasons than others to make certain financial moves that can have a real impact on your financial situation. Refer to the following calendar when making your plans for 2012.

January/February/March

- Open an IRA. With compounding interest always in your favor, the earlier you open, the better. NAPUS FCU has many IRA options for you to choose from.
- Make an appointment with your tax preparer before the seasonal rush. Be sure to check out the offers you can get through the Credit Union to have your taxes done. NAPUS FCU offers deals on Turbo tax online and Jackson Hewitt tax preparation.

April/May/June

- Now that your taxes are finished, clean out your paper files with a shredder to help stave off identity theft.
- Join a health club. After tax day, most clubs see a dramatic drop in membership and start offering incentive deals.

July/August/September

- It's back to school time. Look for Student Loan solutions that fit your needs.
- Don't be caught short on cash for family fun. Open a vacation savings club for next year. In addition to saving for vacations, you can also save for National Convention.

October/November/ December

- Buy a house. Someone selling at this busy time of year must be motivated so pricing should be more realistic. Be sure to check out the great rates and terms at NAPUS FCU on our mortgage products.
- Buy a new car. End of model year and end of calendar year incentives start piling on for great price reductions. You can save extra money by taking dealer rebates and financing with NAPUS FCU. Be sure to look for our low rates and special promotions we run throughout the year!

Contact a NAPUS FCU representative at **800-336-0284** for information and details on all the products mentioned in this article. We are here to help you get the best product to fit all your needs.

Theresa Kennedy
Service Representative



Around the Cracker Barrel is published every other month by the Georgia Chapter 43, National Association of Postmasters, 118 Boggs St., Lexington GA 30648. Members of the Georgia Chapter receive the publication as part of their annual dues. Others -- Subscription price \$10 annually. Periodical Postage paid at Lexington GA 30648.

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Postmasters:

Send address changes to:
Around the Cracker Barrel
GA NAPUS Editor
311 Lone Oak Rd.
Grantville, GA 30220-2016

Address Changes

for The Gazette & ATCB
can be made at www.napus.org under
Membership Services, change my record
using your Membership ID found on the
mailing label and your last name.

Don't forget the Legislative Conference
Washington, D.C.....

Let's us do together what we cannot do

Around the Cracker Barrel

Robin Bugg, Editor
311 Lone Oak Rd.
Grantville GA 30220-2016

Phone: 770-550-4978
Email: robin00@bellsouth.net



YOU are who makes this publication.....I'm just the messenger!
Send your articles to me by March 29th and watch for improvements
every issue. March publication will be a little late due to Legislative
Conference.

Thank you,
Robin.

**NEVER use postal stationery,
telephone, or computer for
NAPUS business.**