



# Lincoln Postal Customer Council NEWSLETTER

www.lincolnpcc.com

November 2010

*The Lincoln Postal Customer Council, in conjunction with the U.S. Postal Service would like to invite you and members of your company to attend our quarterly luncheon:*

## USPS Update & Q/A Session with Rick Pivovar

Join us November 18th to meet the Acting District Manager of the Central Plains District. Rick Pivovar replaces Lloyd Wilkinson as the lead executive of the Central Plains District, which encompasses Nebraska, most of Kansas and the 515-516 area of Iowa. Mr. Pivovar will share with us his vision for the Central Plains District for FY 2011, and provide us with any new developments that are available at the time of the luncheon on the Postal Services plans to deal with their financial struggles. With the recent ruling on the exigent price increase being denied, what does this mean for the United States Postal Service? What are their options? Will there be any price increase in 2011? Are more jobs and facility consolidations on the horizon? What about 5-day delivery? **This is your opportunity to ask those questions your business is awaiting answers for.** Plan to meet and talk to Acting District Manager, Rick Pivovar to discuss these and other issues facing the Postal Service.



Rick Pivovar

**Luncheon date & location: Thurs., Nov. 18, 2010 at Valentino's Grand Buffet (70th & Van Dorn)**

**Registration: 11:00 - 11:30 am ♦ Lunch Buffet: 11:30 am ♦ Program: Noon**

**Program and All You Can Eat (150 items to choose from): \$15.00**

*This \$15 includes a \$1 donation to the Lincoln Food Bank*

**Advanced registration is required by Monday, Nov. 15, 2010.**

*Please call Christy Funke at 402-473-1743 or Aralyis Reid at 402-473-3328 with any questions or to register for this event. You may register online at [www.lincolnpcc.com](http://www.lincolnpcc.com)*



### LPCCC Feature Company: Nelnet

For more than 30 years, Nelnet has been helping students and families plan, prepare, pay for their education, and reach their goals by providing quality products and services to students, families, schools, and financial institutions nationwide. The company's core education businesses, student loan servicing, payment processing, and lead generation, make the delivery of education easier and more efficient for its customers.

Headquartered in Lincoln, Nelnet is publicly traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the ticker symbol NNI. Nelnet's more than 2,200 associates work out of office facilities throughout the United States.

In June 2009, Nelnet was one of four companies to be selected to service student loans on behalf of the U.S. Department of Education. This servicing volume has increased quickly and by the end of June 2010 the company was servicing \$12.9 billion of loans for 1.5 million borrowers on behalf of the Department. The additional servicing volume significantly increased Nelnet's mailing volume for statements, correspondence, privacy notices, disclosures, and tax documents.

Nelnet's servicing and distribution teams are happy to partner with the USPS in its ongoing communications with customers.



## Postmasters' Update: Happy New Year!

On September 30th, the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) announced they had denied the Postal Service's request for an exigent price increase. This news was no doubt greeted by mailers and postal customers with resounding joy and allowed many mailers to take a large sigh of relief knowing that calendar year 2011 will NOT ring in with an overall price increase of 5.6%. The PRC stated the Postal Service's case was based on the recession causing the enormous losses over the past four years, but in fact the cause of these losses was primarily due to the overly aggressive requirement to pre-fund retiree health benefits mandated by the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA).

In addition, on this last day of the fiscal year, the Postal Service also learned that their hopes for getting a portion of the \$5.5 Billion payment due on September 30, 2010 would not be deferred to a later year similar to the relief the Postal Service received in September of 2009. As a result, initial estimates are that the Postal Service will end the year with a \$6 - \$7 Billion loss and will be left with a mere \$2 Billion in cash reserves and borrowing authority. Since \$2 Billion is only enough money to cover one 2-week payroll for the Postal Service and projections are for flat volume and revenue growth, cash flow will be very tight for the Postal Service in FY 2011. Based on this, the Postal Service has hopes that Congress will move quickly to pass some legislative reform that will allow the Postal Service to adequately adjust to the changing mailing environment.

Total volumes appear to be stabilizing with standard volume growth replacing first class mail losses and hopes are high that the 2010 holiday mailing season will be an improvement from 2009. It is unclear whether or not the Postal Service will apply for another price increase later this year or in early 2011 that is within the rate of inflation (CPI currently at 1.6%) However, in the meantime prices will remain steady which will hopefully result in a happy January and first quarter for everyone. Happy New Year!

## USPS Profile: Harry Warren



Harry Warren is the Acting Mailing Standards Specialist (A/MSS). The job of a MSS is to provide technical assistance to mailers and acceptance employees, respond to inquiries and resolve mailer issues. The MSS also coordinates activities with the partnership of Retail, Operation, Business Service Network, Consumer Affairs, and Sales Teams. His goal is to maintain and strengthen the relationship with the USPS business customers and help provide them with updated information when needed.

Harry has lived in Omaha his entire life, and has been employed by the USPS for 31 years. He began his career in 1979 as a LSM operator, and has spent the past 20 years in the BMEU. He was promoted to Supervisor of the BMEU in May 2010, and was recently detailed into the position of MSS upon the retirement of Linda VanOoyen.

Harry has been married for 18 years and has 3 daughters. His favorite pastime is to either go boating with his family or take long rides down the road on his motorcycle. Over his career with the Postal Service, Harry has received letters of appreciation from the Inspection Service, BMEU Manager and District Manager.

## Congratulations Linda VanOoyen!



The LPCC recognizes, congratulates, and will miss Linda VanOoyen, who retired on October 1st, 2010. Linda began working at the USPS on August 23rd, 1980. After three months as a part time flexible employee she moved on to a Letter Sorting Machine clerk position, window clerk, BMEU level 5 clerk, and then Mailing Standards Specialist in 1998. Linda was an active and valued LPCC supporter throughout her USPS career, and we wish her a happy, well-deserved retirement!



## 2010 Workshop & Tradeshow a Success!

Wednesday, September 29th marked yet another successful Workshop & Tradeshow put on by the members of the Lincoln Postal Customer Council. About 150 people attended the event and there were 17 vendor booths on display at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Mark Fallon from The Berkshire Company was the luncheon's key note speaker and he informed everyone with real life examples and tips from his past business experiences. He also thrilled everyone with a "roller coaster ride" in his closing remarks.

Many of the folks that attended this year's workshop commented that the classes and presenters were top rate!!! Some of the classes included Intelligent Mail Barcodes, The Power Of Networking, and Supervisor 101. One person said, "I learned a great deal and found each session I attended very informative." Another person said, "This has to be the best and most informative workshop I have ever been to!"

"The Value of Mail" Workshop and Tradeshow proved to be a huge success. You will not want to miss the next LPCC Workshop and Tradeshow in the fall of 2012.



## 2010 Holiday Shipping Dates for APOs/FPOs/DPOs

Military Mail to:	Express Mail(r) Military Service (EMMS) <sup>1</sup>	First-Class Mail (R) Letters and Cards	Priority Mail	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) <sup>2</sup>	Space Available mail (SAM) <sup>3</sup>	Parcel Post
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec. 18	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec. 4	Dec. 4	Dec. 1	Nov. 20	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec. 18	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AA ZIP 340	Dec. 18	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12
APO/FPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec. 18	Dec. 10	Dec. 10	Dec. 3	Nov. 26	Nov. 12

<sup>1</sup> EMMS is available to selected military and diplomatic Post Offices. Check with your local Post Office to determine if this service is available to an APO/FPO/DPO address.

<sup>2</sup> PAL is a service that provides air transportation for parcels on a space-available basis. It is available for Parcel Post items not exceeding 30 pounds in weight and 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface price of postage for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

<sup>3</sup> SAM parcels are paid at Parcel Post prices with maximum weight and size limits of 15 pounds and 60 inches in length and girth combined. SAM parcels are first transported domestically by surface and then to overseas destinations by air on a space-available basis.

## Are you ready for Intelligent Mail Barcode?

Starting May 2011, the USPS will replace the POSTNET™ and PLANET barcodes, requiring every piece of mail be uniquely identified by an Intelligent Mail Barcode (IMB) in order to receive a postal discount. The good news is that you can start using IMB now and avoid any potential issues at the deadline.

### What do you need to do to get started?

The first step is to create an account at the Business Customer Gateway <https://gateway.usps.com/bcg/login.htm> and apply for a Mailer ID. The Mailer ID is the key ingredient to creating the IMB.

Next, determine which services you will be using with the IMB.

If you are creating the IMB internally, download the encoder and font from the RIBBS site listed below. Otherwise, work with your mail provider for creating the IMB.

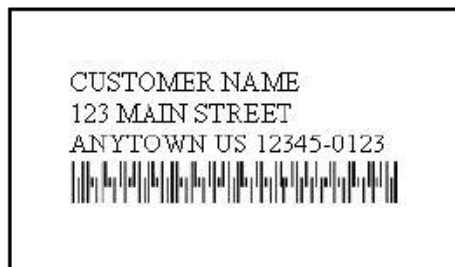
Review all mail material, including reply devices, to make sure they are updated with IMB.

For the latest information on the Intelligent Mail barcode, including the full dimension specification, visit the Rapid Information Bulletin Board System (RIBBS) website at: <http://ribbs.usps.gov/OneCodeSolution/>

For specific questions about IMB implementation call Harry Warren, A/Mailing Standard Specialist, at 402/930-4437.



Before IMb (Postnet, ACS and Planet codes)



IMb

## LPCC EXECUTIVE BOARD

### Industry Co-Chair

**Analys Reid**  
Lincoln Electric System

### Postal Co-Chair

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### Ken Reining

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

### Paula Schlotterbeck

Catholic Social Services

### Larry Van Dyke

Union Bank & Trust

### Vyanne Zink

Jacob North Companies



# Lincoln Postal Customer Council

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE

P.O. BOX 81283

LINCOLN, NE 68501-1283

FIRST-CLASS MAIL  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
U.S.P.S.  
G-10

## Postal Customer Council Calendar of Events

11/18/10:  
LPCC Quarterly Luncheon  
*Valentino's Grand Buffet*

12/2/10:  
OPCC Quarterly Luncheon  
*The Georgetowne Club*



## U.S. POSTAL SERVICE CONTACTS

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*Business Service Network*

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Lew McCollum: .....402-930-4436  
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Duane Peterson: .....402-473-1697  
*Mailing Requirements*

Harry Warren: .....402-930-3337  
*A/Mailing Standards Specialist*

### Thanks to those contributing to this newsletter issue:

Christy Funcke  
Mike Huddleston  
Kerry Kowalski  
Jean Rentfro  
Paula Schlotterbeck  
Kevin Ziska

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