



Lincoln Postal Customer Council NEWSLETTER

www.lincolnpcc.com

November 2011

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 upcoming event:

Important changes impacting your local mail

Thursday, November 17th, 2011

- **Do you currently have a Lincoln Permit Number?**
- **Do you currently mail at the SCF discount rate?**
- **Do you drop mail at the Lincoln BMEU?**
- **Do you drop your outgoing mail in a blue collection box?**
- **Do you mail to the Grand Island/Hastings area regularly?**



If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, you must attend this PCC Luncheon to learn how the movement of some mail processing operations to Omaha on January 1, 2012 will impact your business and your bottom line. Postmaster Kerry Kowalski will explain how each item listed above will change starting January 1, 2012 and will provide the latest information on current legislative efforts concerning the US Postal Service and how they will affect mailers and recipients of mail in Lincoln. The latest information regarding possible price increases for 2012 will also be shared.

Luncheon date & location: Thurs., Nov. 17, 2011 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. 14, 2011.

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



Postmaster's Update: The silver lining of the dark cloud

The Postal Fiscal Year ended with some bright spots among the many dark clouds that dominate the media. Revenue in certain areas of our business showed positive growth in FY 2011. Standard mail marketing revenue increased 2.1%, shipping services (package) revenue increased 5.4% and international mailing revenue increased 8%. New products and services such as our flat rate priority boxes, regional rate priority boxes, Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) and our standard mail discount for placing two dimensional barcodes on mail were all a huge success in 2011 and have the potential to grow even further in 2012. With our new fiscal year off and running, the postal service is challenged with communicating the good news that many of our product offerings are showing growth and are a great value to our customers, while at the same time openly communicating the huge financial challenges ahead of us. As most of you know, the gains in these growth products are not enough to offset the losses we continue to see in first class mail (currently around 7%/year) and the burden of prefunding retiree health benefits. Without some type of legislative relief, the unfortunate reality is that the Postal Service will continue to look for and implement initiatives that will cut costs and help us remain viable. The difficult balance we have is openly discussing these changes in service, potential increases in prices and negative impacts to customers without alienating them and scaring them away from the great products and services we offer that are still on the rise. This is a catch 22 of sorts due to the highly sensitive and political subjects we are discussing such as post office closings, plant consolidations and impacts to service, however, we must make the public aware that we can not stand by and wait for our organization to reach insolvency. We will take whatever actions are available to us and necessary to remain viable for the American public.

I hope to see you at our November luncheon where I will discuss in depth the changes we will see in Lincoln and the 683/684 delivery area on January 1 and how they might impact your business. I will also provide the latest legislative and postal updates I have and answer any questions you have regarding your mail service.

KERRY KOWALSKI- LINCOLN POSTMASTER

LPCC Member Profile: Jan Bell – SCC Milford

Jan Bell is the Receptionist/Mail Services Clerk for Southeast Community College – Milford Campus. She started with SCC/Milford in May 1989. Since that time she has held various positions in the company including, Interim Bookstore Manager. In her current position, Jan is responsible for the campus switchboard, all incoming/outgoing faxes, outgoing daily mail and all standard mailings and in her spare time, she assists other business office personnel as needed. She has been in her current position since March 1997.

SCC-Milford, long known as Nebraska's technical college of choice, services around 900 students on a state-of-the-art campus. The campus services prospective students, High Schools, companies that hire the students and the alumni. The local USPS office is utilized for tri-annual newsletter to alumni (approx. 41,000), birthday cards, all payroll and bill payments.

As a team member of the SCC/Milford staff, Jan has received two awards: Outstanding Staff Award in 1996 and the Milford Campus Safety Award for 2011. The awards are voted on by fellow employees and are an indicator of a special employee and their commitment to the organization. Also, Jan is a member of the Milford Campus Safety Team and the Open House Team.

Jan grew up on a farm outside of Pleasant Dale and is a graduate of Milford High School. Jan said, "It is a small town where you know everyone. I felt very safe and wasn't worried about anything outside of my little world." Today, she sings in the church choir, her husband is a rural mail carrier out of Milford and a seven year cancer survivor. Together they have three daughters/son-in-laws and seven of the most intelligent, best looking grandkids – ages 16, 13, 12, 9, 7, 6, 17 months. Jan's hobbies include NU sports (football, volleyball, and baseball) and attending the grandkids sporting and school events.

Jan also commented, "I have enjoyed attending the LPCC meetings for the past several years. I always come away with new information every time. The topics are timely and the food and company is great! Being able to network with the postal employees and other members is very helpful."

LPCC Company Profile: Preferred Mail Services

Preferred Mail Services, located at 3421 W State Street Suite 1 in Grand Island Nebraska was founded in 1980. For over 30 years, Preferred Mail Services has been providing mail and shipping services to customers located in and around the Grand Island, Hastings and Kearney area. Their mission is to offer savings, service and integrity to the customers in the Tri City Area. Their clients include schools, medical facilities, county and city governments, insurance companies and the general public.

With a staff of 18 employees, Preferred Mail Services take advantage of all the services and discounts offered by the U.S. Postal Service and pass these savings on to their customers. Preferred Mail offers metering, labeling-ink jetting, inserting and folding. In addition they prepare bulk mailing and presorting for both first class and standard mail. Preferred Mail also provides a courier service from private PO Boxes and sells package services.

Preferred Mail is owned and operated by Ken King. Ken and members of his staff have attended many of the Lincoln Postal Customer Council events. Preferred Mail Services is a member of NAPM (National Association of Presort Mailers).



2011 International and APO/FPO/DPO Christmas Mailing Dates

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by December 25 to APO/FPO/DPO and international addresses overseas, we suggest that mail be entered by the recommended mailing dates listed below. Beat the last-minute rush and take your mail to your U.S. Post Office® by these suggested dates. And don't forget you can print postage, labels, and Customs forms online 24/7 using Click-N-Ship® service at www.usps.com/clicknship.

Remember, all mail addressed to military and diplomatic post offices overseas is subject to certain conditions or restrictions regarding content, preparation, and handling. APO/FPO/DPO addresses generally require Customs forms. To see a table of active APO/FPO/DPO ZIP Codes™ and associated mailing restrictions, go to <http://pe.usps.com> and click Postal Bulletins in the blue sidebar. Go to the current issue and see the article "Overseas Military/Diplomatic Mail."

APO/FPO/DPO Mail Addressed To	Express Mail® Military Service (EMMS) ¹	First-Class Mail® Letters/Cards	Priority Mail®	Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL) ²	Space Available Mail (SAM) ³	Parcel Post®
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 090-092	Dec 17	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIP 093	N/A	Dec 3	Dec 3	Dec 1	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO/DPO AE ZIPs 094-098	Dec 17	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO/DPO AA ZIPs 340	Dec 17	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12
APO/FPO/DPO AP ZIPs 962-966	Dec 17	Dec 10	Dec 10	Dec 3	Nov 26	Nov 12

¹ EMMS is available to selected military/diplomatic post offices. Check with your local Post Office™ to determine if this service is available to your APO/FPO/DPO of address.

² 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 or 60 inches in length and girth combined. The applicable PAL fee must be paid in addition to the regular surface price for each addressed piece sent by PAL service.

³ 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.

International Mail Addressed To	Global Express Guaranteed® (GXG) ⁴	Express Mail® International (EMS) ⁵	Priority Mail® International (PMI) ⁶	First-Class Mail® International
Africa	Dec 20	Dec 10	Dec 2	Dec 2
Asia/Pacific Rim	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 9	Dec 9
Australia/New Zealand	Dec 19	Dec 15	Dec 9	Dec 9
Canada	Dec 21	Dec 16	Dec 12	Dec 9
Caribbean	Dec 20	Dec 15	Dec 12	Dec 9
Central & South America	Dec 20	Dec 10	Dec 2	Dec 2
Mexico	Dec 21	Dec 15	Dec 9	Dec 9
Europe	Dec 20	Dec 15	Dec 12	Dec 9
Middle East	Dec 20	Dec 15	Dec 12	Dec 9

⁴ GXG is available to over 190 countries via an alliance with Federal Express. See a retail associate at participating locations for a complete list of countries and money-back guarantee details, or go to <http://pe.usps.com>, and click International Mail Manual (IMM), then Individual Country Listings. Some restrictions apply. Free shipping supplies are available. Note: 1) Cutoff date does not take into account time needed for customs clearance. 2) Should allocate extra transit day(s) for delivery outside major cities. 3) Last day to ship to Afghanistan is Dec 19 and Iraq is Dec 16.

⁵ EMS is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 3 to 5 average business days. Guaranteed, money-back service is available to Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, and Korea (Republic of South). Flat-rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive an 8% discount.

⁶ PMI is available to over 190 countries with delivery in 6 to 10 average business days. Flat-rate shipping options and free packaging are available. Purchase postage online and receive a 5% discount.

* Average number of days may vary based upon origin and destination.

Grow Your Business Days Event on 11/15: "Go Global"!

The Postal Service is hosting a Grow your Business Days Event on November 15, 2011 at 2:00 pm for International Shippers. This will be an opportunity to learn how your business can "go global" and explore the many different shipping solutions the Postal Service has for international mailers. Plan to attend this event at 700 R Street in the second floor conference room on November 15.



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Lincoln Postal Customer Council

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FIRST-CLASS MAIL
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Postal Customer Council Calendar of Events

10/27/11
OPCC Mailers Conference
Harrah's, Council Bluffs, IA

11/15/11:
Grow Your Business Seminar
Main Post Office

11/17/11
LPCC Quarterly Luncheon
Val's Grand Buffet

12/1/11
OPCC Holiday Program
Tip Top Ballroom, Downtown Omaha



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Thanks to those contributing to this newsletter issue:

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Kerry Kowalski Aralyis Reid
Paula Schlotterbeck

Visit our website for the latest LPCC information and USPS news! www.lincolnpcc.com