



Lincoln Postal Customer Council NEWSLETTER

www.lincolnpsc.com

May 2009

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:

State of the USPS from a local perspective Featuring the Rate Change/Move Update/Flats Addressing



Kerry Kowalski

Please join us for our quarterly LPCC luncheon on **May 14th**. Lincoln Postmaster **Kerry Kowalski** will present an update on changes in the USPS and how these will impact the LPCC members. In addition, **Linda Van Ooyen** will do a short presentation on the May Rate Change, Move Update, and Flats Addressing. These topics are relevant to all members of the LPCC- please join us!



Luncheon date and location: May 14th at Misty's (6235 Havelock Ave.)

(parking is available in the city parking lot between 62nd & 63rd on Platte & Havelock)

**Registration: 11:00 - 11:30 am ♦ Lunch Buffet: 11:30 am ♦ Program: Noon
Program and All You Can Eat Tailgate Buffet: \$20.00**

(Buffet includes Pork Loin, Southern Style Potatoes, Cinnamon Glazed Carrots, Garden Greens with dressing, Coleslaw, and Cornbread- followed by warm Apple Crisp for dessert)

Advanced registration is required by Monday, May 11, 2009.



Linda Van Ooyen

Please call **Christy Funcke at 402-473-1642** or **Aralyis Reid at 402-473-3328** with any questions or to register for this event. You may register online at www.lincolnpsc.com.

LPCC Company Profile: Lincoln Benefit Life

LINCOLN BENEFIT LIFE
AN ALLSTATE COMPANY

Lincoln Benefit Life Company is a strong leader in the life insurance and annuities industry. Backed by the strength and household familiarity of the Allstate name, Lincoln Benefit Life (LBL) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Allstate Life Insurance Company. LBL has experienced tremendous growth based upon highly innovative and competitive insurance and annuity products. Founded 70 years ago, the company now has more than 85,000 licensed independent agents, more than 1,000 employees and \$344.3 billion of life insurance in force. LBL prides itself on providing exceptional personal service to more than 1.1 million policyholders.

Lincoln Benefit Life has worked closely with the United States Postal Service to arrange mail pick-up times that fit our business processes. Lincoln Benefit Life processes just under 1 million pieces of incoming mail annually.

Lincoln Benefit also processes 800,000 pieces of outgoing mail annually from our mail facility in Lincoln, with additional mailings going out from local presort houses.

Former LPCC Co-Chair presenter at NPF



The National Postal Forum in Washington, DC this May will have a Lincoln, NE connection. **Jon Zvolanek**, an LPCC Past Co-Chair, will be presenting on a way to get mail to Canada via the USPS. The topic entitled **Global Direct: Give Your Mailings an International Makeover** will be presented Monday, May 18th detailing how National Research Corporation used this service to help grow its international business right from it's home in the Heartland. USPS Sales Specialist, Lee Ingram states "As the world grows smaller, it's more important than ever to find creative ways to compete in today's global economy. One solution is Global Direct, a way to send mailings through the Postal Service which have the appearance of domestic mail in the destination country." Zvolanek adds that this has been a successful venture for National Research Corporation.

LPCC Board Member profile: Josh Vonfeldt

Josh Vonfeldt is the Mail Operations Manager for National Research Corporation headquartered in Lincoln, NE. He started with NRC in February 2002. Since that time he has held various positions in the Operations Dept including Print Team Lead, Open & Scan Team Lead, and Asst Production Manager. He has been in his current position since July 2007.

National Research Corporation provides ongoing survey-based performance measurement, analysis, tracking, improvement, and educational services to the healthcare industry. In his current position Josh manages the day to day activities for approximately 70 associates who are responsible for the printing, processing, and mailing of an average 1 million pieces of 1st class mail per month as well as the opening, scanning, and data collection of almost 200,000 returned surveys per month.

Josh joined the LPCC in order to become more familiar with some of the area mailers. What appealed to him was the chance to network with knowledgeable people in the industry as well as the opportunity to serve the community. Josh states, "I have been very pleased with my time spent at LPCC events and have been able to get some very valuable information about how changes within the industry will affect my company."

LPCC Committee Spotlight: Membership Committee

The LPCC Membership Committee is one that works quietly behind the scenes. The main function of the committee is to maintain the membership list of the LPCC. The committee members make any additions, deletions or updates to the membership list. Beyond maintaining the list the committee also mails out the invitations to quarterly luncheons, the quarterly newsletter and any trade-show correspondence.

Another important duty of the membership committee is to create the workshop packets for the LPCC Trade Show, every other year. This involves collecting the material and inserts, as well as, gathering LPCC volunteers to stuff the packets, prior to the show. The committee also makes follow up calls to trade show guests that do not respond to the mailed invite, as a way to welcome and personally invite members of the mailing community to the show.

The committee members are:

- **Betty Cummings** of All Needs Computer and Mailing
- **Pam Lionberger** of Sandhills Publishing
- **Araylis Reid** of Lincoln Electric System
- **Christy Funcke** of the USPS

If you or someone you know is interested in the LPCC and would like to become a member or receive mailings, go to www.lincolnpcc.com and click Register under Login. You may also contact Betty Cummings at (402) 421-1083 or via email at BCummings@mail.ancms.com. LPCC members also remember to pass along any changes in contact information to Betty, so that you continue to receive LPCC correspondence.

LPCC supporter expands

Jacob North Companies, a leading regional printing and graphics communications company and supporter of the LPCC, has acquired the assets of **nobrainier**, LLC. Nobrainier, LLC was a regional leader in the variable data print industry through its Individualized Content Mail™ products, including nobrainiermail™. Congratulations and good luck to Jacob North on combining digital and conventional print processes!



Happy Retirement, Tom Throckmorton!

Tom Throckmorton wrote many articles for the LPCC Newsletter over the years, but we never saw his name after an article. He was the go-to guy for technical issues at PCC luncheons and tradeshows, the guy that ran back and brought us whatever we had overlooked; power cords, hand-outs, scripts. He was the MASS Test guy, and the CASS Certification guy, the Doctor of Design, and the MERLIN expert.

Tom, our go-to guy, our Mailpiece Design Analyst for the last 22 years, retired from the Postal Service in February. Tom worked with mailers in Lincoln, across much of Nebraska, and as far away as California and Virginia on design issues to ensure mail compatibility with USPS automated equipment. If you stopped in with a design problem, a need for new artwork or just an opinion his door was always open and you were greeted with a jovial "Come on in!" He joked that if he did the job well enough he would work himself out of a job.

After more than 36 years of Federal service Tom and his wife Linda sold their home, packed up their belongings and moved to Seneca, South Carolina, where they are building their dream home less than 500 feet from Lake Keowee. Tom and Linda have a son, daughter-in-law and three grandsons in Omaha, and a son and daughter in Denver, Colorado.

It is uncertain who will take over the many duties Tom handled with ease, and we will miss his easy-going manner, but we wish him good luck fishing and know if we ever get down there to visit the door will be open, he'll grin and say "Come on in".

Tom can be reached at redcedar49@gmail.com.

Visit our website: lincolnpcc.com for all the latest information on upcoming events!

Mailing Services price change May 11, 2009

On May 11 the price for a 1-ounce First-Class Mail stamp will increase from 42¢ to 44¢. Prices for other mailing services — Standard Mail, Periodicals, Package Services (including Parcel Post), and Extra Services — will also change. The average increase by class of mail is at or below the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index. A complete list of prices and changes can be found on Postal Explorer at <http://pe.usps.com>.

First Class Mail	Price
Letters- first ounce	\$0.44
Large Envelopes- first ounce	\$0.88
Parcels- first ounce	\$1.22
Additional ounces	\$0.17
Postcard	\$0.28
Stamped Card	\$0.31
Stamped Envelope	\$0.54

Flats Addressing reminder

Effective March 29, 2009, new address placement standards apply to all Periodicals, Standard Mail, and Package Services flats mailed at presort, carrier route, and automation prices (optional for First-Class Mail). The delivery address must be in the top half of the mailpiece. The "top" is either of the shorter edges on enveloped or polywrapped pieces, the upper edge when the spine or final folded edge is placed on the right-hand side of an unenclosed piece, or either of the shorter edges on saturation Periodicals and Standard Mail pieces, without regard to the spine or final fold.

An update on Move Update

The Move Update standard is a means of reducing the number of mailpieces in a mailing that require forwarding or return by the periodic matching of a mailer's address records with customer-filed change-of-address orders. Mailers who claim presorted or automation prices for First-Class Mail or Standard Mail must demonstrate that they have updated their mailing list within 95 days before the mailing date.

The Standard Mail Move Update noncompliance charge of 7 cents per piece has been moved from May 11, 2009, to January 2010. The charge applies to Standard Mail mailings that fail to fully comply with the Move Update standards. The new Move Update verification procedures will not be used to assess additional postage for First-Class Mail or Standard Mail at the time of mailing until January 2010. However customers are still required to comply with the Move Update standards in the DMM.

Need a passport for vacation? You might!



On June 1 the U.S. government will implement the full requirements of the land and sea phase of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI). Currently, all U.S. citizens must show proof of identity and proof of U.S. citizenship when entering the United States from Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the countries of the Caribbean by land and sea.

The new rules require U.S. citizens entering the United States at sea and land ports of entry to have a passport or passport card. A passport card is similar to a state issued driver's license in appearance, but will grant individuals possessing this card easy entrance back into the United States from the countries mentioned above.

In 2008, the Postal Service accepted 8.5 million passport applications. Lincoln has 3 convenient locations that process passport applications - The Main Office at 700 R St, the State Office Post Office, 301 Centennial Mall South and the Gateway Station at 5945 R St. All 3 locations take pictures and accept applications for passport cards as well.

Passports are valid for 10 years and are normally processed within four to six weeks. It is recommended that customers apply for passports at least two months prior to the planned date of departure in order to avoid extra charges to expedite applications. Here's what you'll need:

- Proof of American citizenship or naturalization (a state-issued certified birth certificate, a previous official passport, or a naturalization certificate if you are foreign-born);
- One officially acceptable state or government photo ID (a driver's license or military ID);
- Two recent identical photographs which meet specific passport requirements (available at most Post Offices for a small fee)
- Passport application (can be downloaded and should be completed prior to visiting the Post Office; available on our Web site at www.usps.com/passport)

For more information about passports — including locations and office hours of Post Offices offering Passport Services — visit our Web site at www.usps.com/passport.

LPCC EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Aralys Reid
Lincoln Electric System

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Postmaster

Vice-Chair
Kevin Ziska
PSI Group

Secretary
Betty Cummings
All Needs Computer & Mailing Svcs

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Tracy Marshall-Dice
Linda Van Ooyen

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Paula Schlotterbeck
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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

CALENDAR of EVENTS

May 14, 2009

LPCC Quarterly Luncheon
Misty's

June 12 2009

OPCC Golf Outing
Quarry Oaks Golf Club

June 18 2009

OPCC Quarterly Luncheon
The Georgetowne Club

August 13, 2009

LPCC Quarterly Luncheon
Location to be announced

September 16, 2009

NPCC Day
Details coming soon!
Check lincolnppcc.com for the latest



U.S. Postal Service Contacts

Mike Failor:	255-3987
<i>Customer Account Manager</i>	
Greg Grant:	473-1643
<i>Customer Service Representative</i>	
Christy Marr:	473-1799
<i>Supervisor BMEU</i>	
Tracy Marshall-Dice:	473-1678
<i>Customer Account Manager</i>	
Duane Peterson:	473-1697
<i>Mail Requirement Clerk</i>	
Linda Van Ooyen:	473-1694
<i>Mailing Standards Specialist</i>	

Business Center Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Special thanks to the article contributors for this issue:

Carol Barnett	Tom Throckmorton
Christy Funcke	Linda Van Ooyen
Nate Schaf	Josh Vonfeldt
Paula Schlotterbeck	Jon Zvolanek