



Lincoln Postal Customer Council NEWSLETTER

www.lincolnpcc.com

August 2009

The Lincoln Postal Customer Council Board and the Lincoln Postal Service would like to invite you and members of your company to attend our quarterly luncheon.

“State of the USPS – Central Plains District”

Come hear what the future holds for the United States Postal Service - in particular the Central Plains District

**Featured Speaker - Lloyd H. Wilkinson
District Manager, Central Plains Performance Cluster**



Lloyd H. Wilkinson

Lloyd H. Wilkinson was named District Manager of the Central Plains Performance Cluster in May 2009. As District Manager, Wilkinson oversees postal operations in Nebraska, most of Kansas and part of Iowa. The Central Plains PC employs more than 7,500 people working in nearly 1,100 postal facilities, and processes and delivers an average 7.9 million pieces of mail each day to more than 1.5 million addresses.

Luncheon date and location: August 13th at Spaghetti Works (228 N. 12th St.)

Registration: 11:15 am ♦ Lunch : 11:30 am ♦ Program: Noon

All You Can Eat Pasta, Salad and Garlic Bread (choose your favorite sauce)

\$15.00 (No shows will be billed)

Advanced registration is required by Monday, August 10, 2009.

Please call Marcella Ament at 473-1602 or Aralyis Reid at 402-473-3328 with any questions or to register for this event. You may register online at www.lincolnpcc.com .

LPCC Company Profile: Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital

Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital is a Catholic organization that exists to provide medical and physical rehabilitation services to children and adults throughout the nation. Madonna has been in Lincoln for 51 years. They have grown to over 1,400 employees across 4 locations in Lincoln, with the main Hospital located at 5401 South Street. Madonna offers many levels of care including Long Term Acute Care, Acute Rehabilitation, Sub-Acute Rehabilitation and both inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation.

Madonna utilizes the USPS to process close to 200,000 pieces of outgoing mail per year. They also use their bulk mail permit numerous times per year for various mailings. They handle over 20,000 pounds of incoming mail per year.

The Madonna mailroom is part of the Information Technology Systems (ITS) department at Madonna. Linda Hippen is the Telecommunications Manager who supervises 9 employees across the mailroom, copy center and telecomm operations. The mailroom consists of two employees, Sister Helen Vigil and Michael Gray who job share the workweek with Sister Helen working two days and Michael the other three. Sister Helen Vigil has been at Madonna for 42 years. Many of you may know both Linda and Sister Helen as they have been regularly attending LPCC functions for over 20 years. Linda is proud of the fact that over the years the mailroom has been able to handle the growth of Madonna and the mail with one employee. She attributes that to great employees. She did say that the telecomm operators help sort incoming mail from time to time, in between answering 25,000 incoming calls per month!



National Postal Forum Provides Cutting-Edge Solutions for Business Mailers

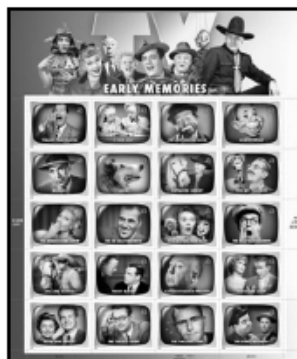
The hottest issues in the mailing industry and the experts to address them greeted attendees at this year's National Postal Forum in Washington, DC May 17th-20th. More than 5,000 industry professionals attended the four-day conference that featured 140 workshops, symposiums on Intelligent Mail and shipping solutions, 16 business tracks on topics from mail center management to sustainability, and 15 professional certificate programs. Lincoln mailing professionals from National Research Corporation, Mail Sort Professional, and UNL attended this year's NPF.

"The Postal Service can not, and will not, sacrifice the excellent levels of service it provides the American public to meet its current economic challenges," PMG Jack Potter told attendees during his keynote address at the National Postal Forum (NPF). "Despite the challenging economy, this is not a time for panic, but rather a time for us to continue focusing on the things that matter," he said, explaining that service, affordable pricing, growth and structural changes within the Postal Service would position USPS and the mailing industry for a stronger future.

While the USPS continues its cost-control efforts, and matching resources to workloads, Potter cautioned mailers that no business can cost-cut its way to success. Rather, the Postal Service must focus on what will help generate new revenue and improve efficiencies — both for mailers and for USPS.

Mark your calendars and save the date for the **2010 National Postal Forum**, which will be held April 11th -14th in Nashville, TN. Details on the 2010 forum will be posted at <http://www.npf.org> as they become available.

**The Omaha Postal
Customer Council
is proud
to announce the
2009 OPCC Workshop:
"October Sweeps"
OPCC Style**



**October 22nd, 2009
La Vista Embassy Suites**

Visit omahapcc.com for vendor booth
and attendee registration information!

**Visit our website: lincolnpcc.com for all the latest information.
Register for our quarterly luncheons, keep current on our workshops,
and keep watching our website as it grows and expands!**

LPCC Member profile: Christy Marr

When Christy Marr refers to the USPS as "family" she means that in a figurative and literal sense. Both parents, an aunt and her husband (whom she met at the post office) are retired postal workers. Three sisters, a son and daughter have also been a part of the USPS family.

Christy started at the USPS in 1977 as a Letter Sorting Machine clerk and after a three year period as a stay at home mom between 1982 and 1985 she rejoined the USPS in the Bulk Mail Entry Unit. She was promoted to supervisor of the BMEU in 1992 and has been there ever since.

One of the most interesting changes Christy has seen in the USPS during her tenure is the number of postage statements and rate classes.

When she started there was one statement and ten rate categories for First Class and Standard mailings. Green on one side of the sheet was First Class and red on the other side for Standard. Today, there are five different statements with literally hundreds of rates depending on what you can qualify for.

Christy's advice to mailers is to stay informed by subscribing to postal bulletins, newsletters and web sites. Things seem to be changing all the time and the USPS continually creates new ways for mailers to reap new benefits.

In her free time Christy reads, does crossword puzzles, and spends time with her family. An avid traveler, she has been to every state but Alaska. When she retires, she plans to visit each of the 13 Presidential Libraries/Museums, and to go to all the major league baseball stadiums.

New Feature: Postmaster's Column




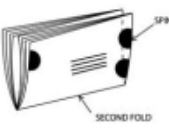

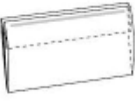
The Postal Service is a self-supporting agency, financed only by the sale of postage and services, receiving no tax dollars. We are impacted by the current economic downturn like most of you, experiencing reduced revenues while dealing with rising costs. To maintain affordable service and remain viable, we are making changes within our organization to manage costs and keep service at an all time high level. I will keep you posted on these changes and the issues that impact us locally through the LPCC. I invite you to send me your questions, comments and concerns. We will share the questions that impact you and other Lincoln businesses in future LPCC newsletters.

Mail your questions to:
**Kerry Kowalski, Postmaster
700 R ST
Lincoln NE 68501-9998**

Or, email my secretary at:
marcella.fament@usps.gov

New Standards for Letter Sized-Booklets

New standards for letter-sized booklets will go into effect September 8, 2009. The standards reflect changes to the construction and sealing of letter-sized booklets mailed at automation, presorted machinable, or carrier route letter prices. Current standards for folded self-mailers will remain in effect and the Postal Service will continue to work with the mailing community to test various folded self-mailer designs. Below are highlights of the changes.

If the spine or final fold is...	And the length is...	The cover stock must be at least...	Mailers must seal the piece with...	And place the tabs in these locations...
 Spine or fold on the bottom (longer) edge	5" to 9" long Over 9", up to 10.5" long	50-pound 60-pound	Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs	Two tabs on leading edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position lower leading tab 0.5 inch from the bottom edge. Position upper tabs 1 inch from the top edge.
 Final fold on the bottom (longer) edge, with the folded spine on the leading or trailing (shorter) edge	5" to 10.5" long	40-pound	Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs	Folded Booklet Two tabs on leading edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position lower leading tab 0.5 inch from the bottom edge. Position upper tabs 1 inch from the top edge.
 Spine on the leading (shorter) edge	5" to 9" long Over 9", up to 10.5" long	60-pound 70-pound	Three 1.5" non-perforated tabs	Two tabs on top edge; one tab on trailing edge. Position top tabs 1 inch from left and right edge. Position trailing tab in the middle.
 Spine on bottom (longer) edge, non-perforated inner flap on top (upper) edge	5" to 9.5" long	80-pound	Continuous glue line or glue spots	Perfect bound or saddle stitched with a continuous glue line along flap preferred, minimum 1 inch glue spots acceptable if placed within 3/4 inch of right and left edges.

- Booklets consist of bound sheets or pages. Bindings include perfect binding, permanent fastening with at least two staples in the manufacturing fold (saddle stitched), pressed glue, or another binding method that creates a nearly uniformly thick mailpiece.
- The maximum height for all machinable and automation booklets is 6 inches and the maximum length varies between 9 and 10 1/2". The maximum weight remains at 3 ounces, and the maximum thickness is .25 inch.
- Cover stock requirements vary with 40-pound minimum basis weight for folded booklet designs and 60 or 70 pound minimum basis weight for pieces longer than 9 inches. Lighter weight paper tends to be easily damaged in processing equipment.
- The bottom edge of booklets must be a bound edge or fold unless the mailpiece is prepared as an oblong booklet. Oblong booklets must be prepared with a spine of the leading edge.
- Tabs on booklets must be at least 1 1/2" in width. Tabs may be made of opaque paper, translucent paper, vinyl or plastic, and must not contain perforations. Cellophane tape may also be used as a closure.
- Booklets that do not comply with the new standards will not be eligible for machinable or automation letter prices.

To read the Federal Register article of April 15, 2009 go to <http://pe.usps.com/> and click on **Federal Register Notices**, then scroll to the April 15th article. The final rule includes the new required DMM standards for design, preparation, and sealing of machinable and automation letter-size booklets. Also in this final rule are recommended upgrades to the new requirements. These recommendations are based on observations of a wide variety of booklets tested and observed over the past several years. Following these recommendations will minimize mailpiece damage and maximize the efficient processing of booklets.

Locally, mailpiece design questions may be directed to Linda Van Ooyen at 473-1694.

LPCC EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Lincoln Postal Customer Council

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FIRST-CLASS MAIL
US POSTAGE
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G-10

CALENDAR of EVENTS

August 13, 2009
LPCC Quarterly Luncheon
Spaghetti Works



September 16, 2009
National NPCC Day

October 22, 2009
OPCC Mailers Conference
La Vista Embassy Suites Convention Center
Go to omahapcc.com to register

November 12, 2009
LPCC Quarterly Luncheon
Valentino's

December 3, 2009
OPCC Quarterly Luncheon
The Georgetowne Club

U.S. Postal Service Contacts

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Supervisor BMEU
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Linda Van Ooyen:473-1694
Mailing Standards Specialist

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

Special thanks to the article contributors for this issue:

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