

LETTER
FROM
INDUSTRY CO-CHAIR

Alison

Alison Hall, Industry Co-Chairperson, GKCPCC
(General Manager, Pitney Bowes PSI Presort Services, Kansas City, MO)

The Greater Kansas City Postal Customer Council (GKCPCC) looks forward to an exciting year in 2010. “No postal rate increase in May,” IMb programs move to the next level,” and “Move Update assessments kick in high gear” are just a few of the things we anticipate as mailers. Are you prepared? We have had multiple educational forums in 2009, and as we look towards the next phase in each of these levels, we find ourselves looking for the best ways we can benefit you as the member. Have ideas? We want to hear. Go to our website at www.greaterkcpcc.com and email any of us on the board. We want to hear how we can best serve you.

A highlight in 2010 is the January 27, 2010, kickoff with Pritha Mehra, Vice President, Business Mail Entry, U. S. Postal Service Headquarters, Washington, DC, who will give us a complete update and be prepared to answer your questions on Intelligent Mail Barcode (IMb) and where we are going in 2010 and beyond. Ms. Mehra is a leader in the IMb movement within the USPS. Mark your calendars now for this event. You do NOT want to miss this one!

The GKCPCC remains the best value in the mailers associations as you consider multiple educational and trade show forums in 2010 as well as networking events to help you feel connected. Help us make it even better with your ideas.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a safe entry into 2010! See you in January!

PCC EDUCATION OUTREACH PROGRAM

Submitted by: Shawn P. Lang
DST Mailing Services
Kansas City, MO and Angela M. Jones
Postmaster
Leavenworth, KS

The Greater Kansas City Postal Customer Council (GKCPCC) is in the beginning stages of launching the PCC Education Outreach Program. The mission of the Education Outreach Program is to educate and to mentor High School, Technical School, College, and University students on the different aspects of the mailing industry, as well as to introduce them to, and to involve them in, activities and events of the GKCPCC, ultimately increasing chapter membership with fresh insight, diversity of talent, and proliferation of the mailing industry.

We envision the development and heightened awareness of the next generation of individuals responsible for ensuring that mail remains a viable medium of communication, marketing, and billing. To that end, succession planning is essential in the stability and longevity of mail as a means of reaching our world.

Currently, the Education Outreach Program is working with a pilot group of teachers, counselors, and administrators, educating them about the mailing industries and the number of career opportunities that exist within mailing businesses. Future plans of the program are to have a job fair, introducing students to a diversity of occupations and the development of certificate educational programs for high school students.

The mailing industry has many career opportunities, and as the future of technology increases, fresh new minds will be needed to carry on the success of the mailing industry.

To receive more information concerning the PCC Education Outreach Program, contact the Outreach Committee Industry Chairperson, Shawn Lang, at (816) 435-3462 or the Outreach Committee Postal Chairperson, Angela Jones, at (913) 772-0935.

DEALING WITH ECONOMIC CHALLENGES THE RIGHT WAY

Submitted by: Charles E. Pennewell
Postmaster
Kansas City, KS

In 1900, there were 77,000 Post Offices in the United States. In 2009, a hundred and nine years later with four times as many people, there are 37,000 Post Offices. This is a reduction of 40,000 offices for 230 million more customers to serve.

Doing more with less is not a new concept for the USPS. However, with this said, we must also understand the enormous size and numerous outlets the Postal Service still has to serve its customers. At its present size, the Postal Service has more retail units in America than Wal-Mart, Sam's Clubs, Costco, Lowe's, Home Depot, McDonalds, Starbucks, and Target COMBINED. Think about that for a moment. That's eye opening, at least for me.

To adapt to an ever-changing economy and customers' needs is a difficult task. In fact, it determines the very survival of a business. Staffing and payroll are also areas that companies have to make hard decisions on in today's business environment. I, for one, applaud that while making substantial reductions in the workforce, NOT ONE employee career has been laid off. Not one person has received a notice of removal because of cutbacks. The Postal Service has managed to streamline its workforce through attrition, early retirement, and other incentives. Has it worked?

On Rolls and Paid Employee Statistics (ORPES) published last week show that Postal Service career employees have decreased by 40,110 since the Same Period Last Year (SPLY). Over a 3-year period, there are 61,151 less career employees.

Good for the employees, but has the service lost its way with the trust of the American people? It would certainly appear so. Watch any talking head from the left or right; in fact, even the President made a derogatory comment about the Postal Service.

We could respond a number of ways to combat this apparent scapegoat status. As mentioned above, the company is huge, which enhances the difficulty in making change, and we have numerous unions and government red tape. Any of those are real hurdles and would explain how a customer base could lose confidence in a company. But the truth is that the American consumer has NOT lost trust in the Postal Service as indicated in headlines below.

“WASHINGTON - The premier privacy trust study in America has named the U. S. Postal Service the ‘Most Trusted Government Agency’ for an impressive fifth year in a row.”

“Five-Time Winner, U. S. Postal Service Again Named ‘Most Trusted’”

“Consumers Rank USPS at Top of 74 Agencies in Ponemon Institute Survey.”

WELCOME TO HEALTHY CORNER! By Anita Jonas, Government Employees Health Association (GEHA), Independence, MO

1-2-3 peach cobbler

Cooking oil spray helps to coat the pan with little fat or calories.

1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, ground

1 tablespoon vanilla extract

2 tablespoon cornstarch

1 cup peach nectar

1/4 cup pineapple juice or peach juice

2 cans (16-oz) peaches, sliced, packed in juice and drained; or 1-3/4 pounds, fresh

1 tablespoon soft (tub) margarine

1 cup pancake mix, dry

2/3 cup all-purpose flour

1/2 cup sugar

2/3 cup evaporated milk, fat-free

Non-stick cooking oil spray (for baking dish)

Topping:

1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

1 tablespoon brown sugar

1. Combine cinnamon, vanilla, cornstarch, peach nectar and pineapple or peach juice in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir constantly until mixture thickens and bubbles.

2. Add sliced peaches to mixture.

3. Reduce heat and simmer for 5 to 10 minutes.

4. In another saucepan, melt margarine and set aside.

5. Lightly spray an 8-inch-square glass dish with cooking oil spray. Pour hot peach mixture into the dish.

6. In another bowl, combine pancake mix, flour, sugar and melted margarine. Stir in milk.

7. Quickly spoon this mixture over peach mixture.

8. Combine nutmeg and brown sugar. Sprinkle mixture on top of batter.

9. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 to 20 minutes or until golden brown.

10. Cool and cut into eight squares.

Makes 8 servings (serving size: 1 square).

Reprinted courtesy of the Department of Health and Human Services. For more information, please visit www.hhs.gov.

Nutritional values per serving:

Calories: 271

Total fat: 4 g

Saturated fat: less than 1 g

Cholesterol: less than 1 mg

Sodium: 263 mg

Fiber: 2 g

Protein: 4 g

Carbohydrate: 54 g

Potassium: 284 mg

OF THE MONTH

Folded Self-Mailer

Tabs 3 (left and open edges)

Folded Edge Right

Sheets Single

Basis Weight 75 lb

Fold on leading edge.

OF THE MONTH

FOLDED SELF-MAILERS WITH A FOLDED LEADING EDGE

Submitted by: Donna J. Peyton
Acting Manager, Business Mail Entry
Main Post Office – Kansas City, MO

A self-mailer is different from a booklet type mailpiece in that it does not have multiple pages that are permanently secured together. Whenever we have an unenveloped letter-size mailpiece prepared for automation mailing, the piece must be secured to prevent an open edge from jamming high-speed processing equipment.

One example of a self-mailer is a piece with the folded edge on the right, making that the leading edge. The trailing edge and other edges of the piece are open edges and must be secured with at least one tab or a glue line. Additional tabs may be required based on trim size and basis weight.

For more information, please contact your local acceptance unit, call our Mailpiece Design Analyst at (816) 374-9643, or visit <http://pe.usps.gov/>

Visit our web site: www.greaterkcpcc.com or call 785-843-1234 Ext. 150 for more information