

Greater OK PCC Newsletter

What You Missed in October!

The Greater Oklahoma Postal Customer Council (GO-PCC) held their first in-person meeting since the pandemic on October 21, 2021.

GO-PCC hosted a membership drive meeting at Cattleman's Steakhouse Restaurant in OKC. Forty-three people registered to attend the event, which included 17 first time attendees. GO-PCC Membership Committee Chair Renee Fountain served as the Master of Ceremonies. The keynote speaker for the event was Kirby Smith, Chief of Staff to the Honorable Lieutenant Matt Pinnell. Ms. Smith's presentation covered

- The Oklahoma economy and projected growth
- Business growth, entrepreneurship
- Workforce development, job market, unemployment
- State's efforts to promote tourism (3rd largest industry in OK).

Ms. Smith took questions from the attendees after her presentation.



From left: Kirby Smith and Renee Fountain.

Arkansas/Oklahoma District Manager Julie Gosdin was on the program and discussed

- The 10 Year "Delivering for America" plan.
- Promoted USPS services and products (Informed Delivery, Every Door Direct Mail, introduced USPS Connect Local, etc.)
- The value of being a member of the GO-PCC.

Office In Charge/GO-PCC Postal Co-chair Daniel Reyes thanked everyone for attending and encouraged them to go over the information that was included in the packets. He highlighted the Holiday Prices, Shipping Rates and Dates news release, announced the date of the next GO-PCC session, and stated that the Postal Service is gearing-up for the Holiday and beyond by hiring. "We are conducting a job fair today at the OKC Processing and Distribution Center! Please pass the hiring information on to family members and friends that are in need of a job" said Daniel.

The survey's results indicated that the program was well received with an overall rating of excellent for the event. Some of the comments were

- *I had an excellent time. It was very informative.*
- *I have thoroughly enjoyed myself today. I will be signing up for informed delivery!*
- *Glad I came and attended –Look forward to more interaction with the PCC in the future!*
- *Everything was awesome! I'll definitely be back, Sincerely first timer!*

Coming in November!

The Greater OK Postal Customer Council (GO-PCC), the Tulsa Postal Customer (TPCC) and the U. S. Postal Service will be offering an educational ZOOM session on **Tuesday, November 30, 2021** from 9:00am - 10:00am CDT.

This session will consist of a pre-recorded National Postal Forum presentation titled "The Power of Joy." The presentation features Mark Fallon President & CEO of The Berkshire Company, South Yarmouth MA and Lois Ritarossi President of High Rock Strategies, Alexandria, VA as the facilitators.



Joy is a far more dynamic force than most of us realize. It has the power to reignite our passion for laughter and celebration. It can free us to rise above endless demands as we become more content and thankful. During this session the speakers will discuss the impact of embracing the power of joy. They will draw a collation in how joy has a direct impact on our jobs as well as life.

The different areas of joy that will be discussed are:

- In sharing knowledge
- In celebrating
- In service
- In the moment
- In laughter

Additionally, we will have Mark Waugh, Arkansas/Oklahoma District Manager Customer Relations, providing information concerning the USPS Service Standards changes.

To receive an electronic invitation to attend this event, send [your email address to Sonya Dulan at sonya.r.dulan@usps.gov](mailto:sonya.r.dulan@usps.gov) by **Wednesday, November 24, 2021**.



USPS Operation Santa is looking for people to adopt letters.

For the next two weeks, kind-hearted people across the country will be able to create accounts on USPSOperationSanta.com in anticipation of helping to fulfill the holiday wishes of children and families in need.

For families struggling to make ends meet, providing a nice holiday celebration can be daunting. Even figuring out how to have a good dinner can cause undue stress. But the Postal Service and Santa are here to help.

The USPS Operation Santa program provides families who may be facing financial hardships with a little extra help during the holiday season.

Since the program began 109 years ago, good-hearted people have helped hundreds of thousands of children and their families by fulfilling holiday wishes. You don't have to be religious or even believe in Santa to participate.

How To Register To Adopt Letters

To register, anyone wanting to adopt a letter should visit [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://usps.com/operation-santa), click on the registration link and follow the prompts. For security reasons, all prospective adopters must be vetted through a short registration and ID verification process before they can participate. If someone has adopted letters in the past, they must still be verified each year.

If for some reason potential adopters are unable to verify their identity online, they can go into any one of the 19,000 Post Office locations which offer the Label Broker service to get verified in person. Qualifying Post Office locations can be found online using the usps.com/locator tool. Once approved, the adopter will receive a welcome email with detailed information on how to participate in the program.

Beginning Nov. 29, approved adopters can visit [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://usps.com/operation-santa), read through the posted letters and choose one or more they'd like to fulfill. Once the letters are chosen, the adopters must follow the directions they received in their welcome email in order to fulfill the holiday wishes.

Businesses and other organizations can also get into the spirit of the season by creating teams to adopt letters. Everyone participating on a team must also go through the verification process.

Letter adopters are responsible for all costs to ship the gift packages, including appropriate postage.

Program Details

Hundreds of thousands of letters are written to the USPS Operation Santa program every year in hopes of being adopted. These letters are opened by "Santa's Elves" and, for safety reasons, all personally identifiable information of the letter writers are removed (such as last names, addresses, ZIP Codes) and uploaded to [USPSOperationSanta.com](https://usps.com/operation-santa) for adoption.

Letters will be available for adoption beginning Nov. 29. Verified adopters can read the letters and pick one — or more — that they'd like to fulfill.

There is no guarantee that letters submitted to the program will be adopted.

USPS Operation Santa History

The Postal Service began receiving letters to Santa more than a century ago. In 1912 Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock authorized local postmasters to allow postal employees and customers to respond to them. This act of kindness became what is now known as USPS Operation Santa.

The complete program history can be found online at the USPS [Holiday Newsroom](https://usps.com/holiday-newsroom), along with additional news and information, including all domestic, international and military mailing and shipping deadlines.

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