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the San Jose Stamp
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USPS Ready to Deliver for America During the Holidays

No holiday surcharges for mailing and shipping with USPS this holiday season

WASHINGTON, DC — The United States Postal Service (USPS) and its dedicated employees across the nation are ready to deliver another successful holiday season of outstanding service.

"Our 2022 peak season was a tremendous success," said Postmaster General and CEO Louis DeJoy. "We are ready to deliver for the holidays in a superior and routine manner. We have been planning early and leveraging investments in our people, infrastructure, transportation and technology made possible by the Delivering for America plan. And with no holiday surcharges, we are strongly positioned to be America's most affordable delivery provider this holiday season."

In 2022, the Postal Service processed more than 11.7 billion mailpieces and packages during the holiday season. On average, it took just 2.5 days to deliver a mailpiece or package to its intended destination.

Throughout 2023, USPS has maintained even stronger service performance while engaging in numerous transformational initiatives across the organization and the country. Due to the ongoing implementation of the Delivering for America strategic plan, 98% of the nation's population currently receives their mail and packages in less than three days. With approximately 40% of first-class mail and packages getting delivered a day in advance. That noted, the Postal Service is also working hard to correct service-related issues in limited areas across the nation through hiring initiatives and improving operational efficiency.

No Holiday Surcharges

The Postal Service also announced it will not levy any additional surcharges for customers this holiday season, offering increased predictability in pricing for customers. There will be no additional fees for residential area delivery, for Saturday delivery or for minimum volumes. USPS will continue to be the most affordable way to mail and ship this holiday season.

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San Jose Stamp Club

APS Chapter 0264-025791

Founded 1927, Club show since 1928

October 2023

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Club Blog & Website

Blog Updates No Activity

Website Updates

September 2023 Newsletter uploaded

Remember the dates!

President's Message

Time to Get Busy

It's time for us to get busy. Yes, ALL OF US!! It cannot be left to just a few to do everything. Let me say first that I completely respect that there are a few of you have compelling personal issues going on that prevent you from contributing to club activities. I get "it", there are things in your life that are more important than stamp club. Therefore, the following is NOT targeted at you.

The rest of us need to pull together and make things happen. The great news is that the club has received a plethora of donations that include a wide spectrum of material – not just junk stamps. The primary goal for these donations is to facilitate our community programs.

Perhaps everyone is not familiar with the scope of our community activities both existing and planned for 2024:

- Scouting stamp collecting merit badge
 - Over the years, over 500 Scouts have earned this badge with our help
 - Stamps sorted by country and topic are used
- Advent Craft Fair
 - Attendees complete one of the Christmas stamp albums published by the APS
 - Uses Christmas stamps
- Senior Center Dementia Unit

- Loan them albums of commemorative covers
- Residents enjoy looking these covers and reminiscing on the subject
- Use for those expensive albums of overly expensive covers
- Community Youth stamp collecting
 - SJ Library asks that we host a youth program in early 2024
 - Need to do this to continue to use the Community Room at no charge
- Scout-O-Rama Stamp Booth
 - Offers young people a chance to have fun making a mini stamp collection
 - Created a series of "projects" based on popular US stamp sets
 - Offer coloring pages for the youngest visitors
 - Uses sets of US stamps like Prexies, Liberty, Flags, State Birds & Flowers, Transportation

Many of the people who contact the club about what to do with a collection they've inherited agree to donate them when they hear about all these activities. Every collection is unique and presents a different challenge to process them in a way to make the material fit one of these activities. Of course, there is a lot of material that don't fit one of these programs and this is what we sell at our club table at Fiesta. These funds then pay for all the materials that needed to host the above.

The great thing about this is that there is a great deal of material for club members to add to their own collection. No, you won't exotically expensive stamps, but will find pretty good and unusual stuff.

So, PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE get involved with processing these donations. We have so much to gain – you can contribute to the success of our club's programs and perhaps find items that contribute to your own collection.

Your help is desperately needed with Fiesta coming up fast to material ready for sale. Please lend a hand and pitch in processing donations.

Looking forward to hearing from each of you,

Brian

Multi Club Meeting and Party Saturday September 16th

Written by: Brian Jones

William Horne from the Pajaro Stamp Club and I collaborated on hosting the first of what we hope will be on-going event: inter-club get togethers. William and the Pajaro Stamp Club hosted the first meeting on September 16th in the Watsonville Senior Center. Members of the San Jose, Monterey/Salinas, Sequoia, SJ Postcard, and the Western Philatelic Library were invited.

The initial meeting was a success with 22 attendees from the various clubs with only Alan Smith and I there from San Jose. Someone from each club gave a brief introduction about their club. Lots of attendees brought items to sell. This can develop into a wonderful way to find buyers for ones extras. A couple of brief presentations added to the day.

The primary activity was shared social interactions between members of the different clubs. It was a wonderful experience for members of the different clubs to get to know each other. This is a great opportunity to meet others in the area who share your collecting interests and potentially buy or sell items.

Next: Since the first meeting was a modest success, we're planning to host a second get together in mid-March 2024 in the San Jose area. From what we learned at the first event, we'll get started after lunch as people going out to lunch was a disruption in middle of the day. The Fremont Club will be added to the invitation list. To make this a success, we need the members of this club to attend in much bigger numbers.



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Join us at the Library in Redwood City:

Open House, Silent Auction and
Sale of Duplicate Philatelic Literature – 50% off!

Saturday, November 4 2023

Approximately 100 lots for sale. Buy It Now tables, too!

Doors Open 9 am. Close-out by 11 am. Checks and Cash Accepted.



Friends of the Western Philatelic Library, Inc. 3004 Spring Street
(@ 2nd Avenue), Redwood City Telephone: 650-306-9150 Questions?

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Key Investments Ahead of 2023 Peak Season

Specifically, key Delivering for America investments in the Postal Service's workforce, package processing, and delivery operations ahead of the 2023 peak holiday season include:

- **Hiring 10,000 Season Employees:** The Postal Service has focused on its Delivering for America initiative to stabilize its workforce – converting over 150,000 pre-career workers into career positions since October 2020. Due to this success, USPS anticipates the need to hire only an additional 10,000 seasonal employees.
- **Utilizing 348 New Package Sorting Machines:** These new machines are strategic investments in local community postal infrastructure enabling postal workers to sort and process packages of all sizes more quickly and reliably. To date, the Postal Service has installed 348 new package processing machines across the nation since the beginning of 2021. This includes 100 new sorting machines since last peak season. USPS will install an additional 47 new machines ahead of this holiday season. This is part of the organization's \$40 billion investment in new technology and facilities under Delivering for America.
- **Increased Daily Processing Capacity to Approximately 70 million:** USPS has expanded its daily package processing capacity to approximately 70 million – an increase of approximately 10 million over last year's capacity. Since 2020, the Postal Service has nearly tripled its daily package processing capacity. Increased package processing capacity allows for packages to move through the postal network more quickly and eliminates the need for the leasing of temporary annexes.
- **Moving 95% of Volume via More Reliable Ground Transportation:** USPS has adapted its transportation and logistics processes to handle the high mail and package volumes expected during the peak holiday season. The Postal Service continues to move mail and package volume from expensive air transportation to its redesigned ground transportation network. Currently, 95 percent of First-Class Mail and more than 95 percent of First-Class packages are moved through the improved, more reliable ground transportation system.
- **New Shipping Solution – USPS Ground Advantage:** This enhanced ground solution provides a simple, reliable, and more affordable way to ship packages this holiday season in just two-to-five business days across the continental United States. USPS Ground Advantage provides America's businesses and the public with a compelling new ground shipping option that leverages the organization's unparalleled last-mile delivery route system and improving mail and package postal logistics network.

"We understand the importance of every single package and letter that is sent during the holidays," said Postmaster General DeJoy. "That is why we continue to adapt and execute on strategies to modernize and transform the Postal Service into the high performing organization the nation expects and deserves. I am confident in our ability to handle the peak season surge and deliver exceptional service to the American people during the holidays and beyond."

More information on tools and tips to help customers prepare for the busy holiday season can be found in the [USPS Holiday Newsroom](#).

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