

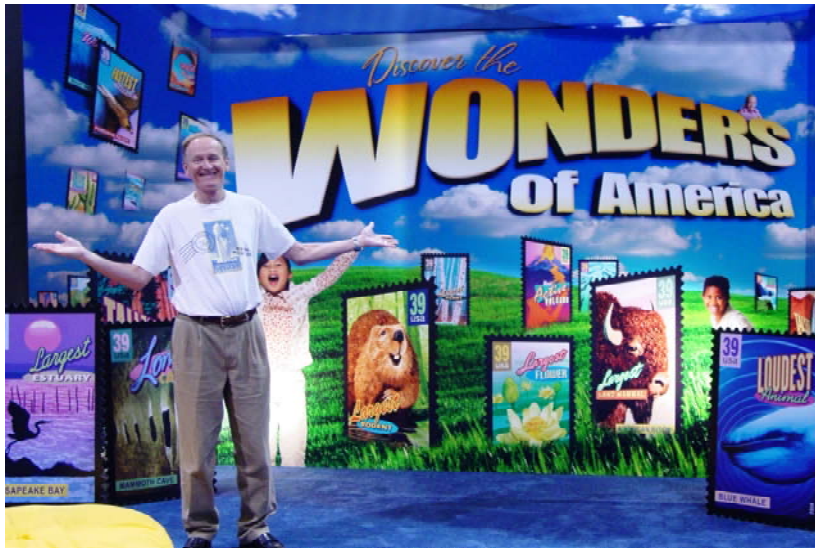
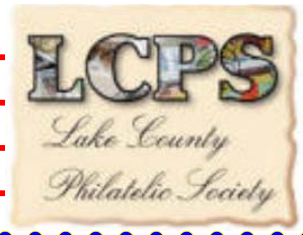
July 2006

Volume 6 Number 7

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society

Perforations



Will wonders never cease The 2006 Washington Exhibition

At our July meeting, Bob Luhr and Tom Willer present their recollections of the 2006 Washington Exhibition, held in May, 2006. The show was held in a monstrous exhibit hall that dealers, exhibitors, and vendors totally filled up. The crowds flocked in and dispersed through the cavernous space with something for everyone. In addition, local and national clubs offered seminars on a diverse array of stamp topics.

The US Postal Service offered multiple events with the highlights being several First Day of Issue ceremonies. Be sure to join Bob and Tom for an interesting perspective of the international stamp show!

Last month we had our auction that raised some money for the club – anything to keep our still traveling Treasurer from hinting for an increase in the already high annual dues. Discussions included, a taste of what happened at 2006 Stamp Expo in DC – more on this this month, album pages (see below) and the APS show in Rosemont (August 24-27) – car pool anyone?

Computer Software/Services for the Collector -- SoftPro 2010 [<http://www.ezstamp.com/>] offers an interesting range of software for the stamp collector. Three of their products are thumbnailled here:

EzStamp is a very good stamp inventory package. They can provide databases for about 120 countries using Scott #'s - all with full color bitmap images supplied. The US database has over 18,000 unique entries in addition to the illustrations. Also included on CD 1 are PNCs, US Revenues, UN, Canada and Provinces, Duck Stamps, Hawaii, CSA, Ryukyus, Palau, Philippines, Micronesia, Marshall Islands with current market values. The rest of the world is found on the other six Cds available individually or as a package.

AlbumGen allows you to create your own album pages quickly & easily. It will definitely save you money compared to buying the normal yearly supplements -- if you have the computer hardware already available. Designing your own pages is very straight forward and very nice for putting together a quick album with an offbeat theme.

EzGrader - with the rush to 'PSE', this is the only software, I've found that it allows you to easily measure stamp centering and then computes a very strict numeric (PSE) grade value for your own or eBay stamp images. The program very easy to use just open from the program the image you want to evaluate.

For 'just' album pages, **Stamp Albums Web** [www.stampalbums.com] provides a subscription service for preformatted pages for a wide variety of countries and topics. Bill Steiner, the collector who put this service online, also allows you to buy everything on a CD or as individual pre-printed pages.

**Meetings at 7PM on the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Warren-Newport Library
224 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee IL**



Officers: Dr Tom Willer – President
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Howard Shaughnessy – Secretary
Walter F. Veile - Treasurer

Website: WWW.LCPSHOME.ORG

July Issues -- Featured this month are four of baseball's greatest players: Roy Campanella, Hank Greenberg, Mel Ott and Mickey Mantle. These four stamps are due out on 15 July at Yankee Stadium.



On 20 July, ten all-time super heroes of comic books hit the street. They are: Superman, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, Green Arrow, Batman, The Flash, Plastic Man, Aquaman, Supergirl and Hawkman. In addition to the ten characters, the remainder of the pane has reproductions of their original DC comic covers.



LCPSS
 Lake County Philatelic Society
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In all, this month will cost only \$9.36.

Our Post Office has generated a few numbers for this year, for the most part, fairly impressive. Did you know our Post Office is responsible for:

- 312,000 mail collection boxes
- 38,019 post offices
- 130,000,000 delivery points each day
- 107,000,000,000 pieces of First class mail per year
- 331 processing plants sort and ship mail
- 75,184 pieces of mail processing equipment
- 34,588 buildings with 270,000,000 square feet (about 10 square miles)
- 38,000,000 changes of address per year (one per every three delivery points)
- 2,700,000,000 pounds of mail carried on commercial airline flight making the USPS the airlines biggest shipper (or giving everyone in Illinois and Wisconsin a round-trip ticket to Hawaii from ORD)
- 1,100,000,000 miles driven to move the mail per year (157 million gallons of gas or \$479 million)
- 192,904 vehicles to pick up, transport, and deliver the mail
- 7 million customers a day transact business at our post offices
- 234,073 mail carriers deliver the mail in cities across the country
- 18 million post office boxes
- 3.4 billion pieces of mail delivered every week
- 765,174 career employees and 127,699 other employees working to deliver your mail
- Handles 41 percent of the world's mail volume of 630 million pieces every day.
- Number 2 is Japan at 6 percent.
- Delivers 24 pieces of mail for every household every week.
- Owens the nation's largest compressed natural gas (CNG) delivery fleet, with 7,000 of its Long-Life Vehicles converted. Electric and ethanol-powered vehicles also are being tested.
- Is the nation's largest civilian employer with more than 765,000 career employees -- If the U.S. Postal Service were a private company, it would be the tenth largest in the country.



Mundelein



The Great Flood



Cruising Grayslake



Contributed by Bill Schultz