

April 2025

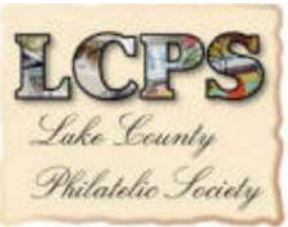
Volume 25 Number 04

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: LCPHOME.ORG

Perforations



Last month, we came up with a schedule of topics for the next six meetings — and finally, got to see the "German Inflation" video noting that in order for money to have any value, it has to be based on something physical. This month we will look at **"Counterfeit Stamps"** with Bill Schultz




JERRY NETTERSTROM — Born on September 2, 1943, Jerry Netterstrom (Gerald Charles Netterstrom) began collecting United States postage stamps, like so many Chicago kids of his generation. He contracted the stamp collecting bug in the early 1950s. He sought out worldwide stamps and built a nice collection on easy-to-find to find inexpensive stamps. The post-war baby boomers entered the hobby en masse. Also, in the 1950s the chance of obtaining many or most of the 20th Century stamps of a country or countries seemed possible unlike in the 21st Century when stamp issuing countries commemorated every possible nuance of human experience! "The 1950s were the decade when stamps made it from the back alleys to the front pages when Life magazine did its 1954 cover article on stamps. Millions read it. Philately began to be seen as an academic and educational hobby that most young children in the 1950s were encouraged by parents and teachers to enjoy. [Source: "Stamp Collecting in the 1950's", Posted February 05, 2012; <https://www.apfelbauminc.com/blog/post/stamp-collecting-in-the-1950s>]

| Next Show | | | | | | | Next Meeting | | | | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| April 25 | | | | | | | April 25 | | | | | | |
| Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa | Su |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

April 25 - 26
 MSDA Joliet / Will County Stamp Show
 Messiah Lutheran Church
 40 S Houbolt Ave
 Joliet IL

"Counterfeit Stamps"
 with Bill Schultz



Jerry's father collected stamps and shared his philatelic enthusiasm with his teenage son. Jerry admired the beauty of US mint stamps, so that became his initial collecting focus, but he did not limit his collecting. Fascination with the uniqueness of United Nations stamp designs, he also collected that international entity's stamps. In 1954 Jerry and four or five of his grammar school friends all collected postage stamps. So, they decided to formalize their interest in the hobby of kings. The small group founded the **"United Nations Stamp Club."**

The huge change in life from grammar school to high school prompted Jerry to put away his stamp collection. After high school, Jerry entered military service for two years, spending one year in the great state of Texas. Like so many kids when they leave home, parents decided to "thin" their children's possessions still at home. Jerry suffered the irritation of his valued stamp collection disappearing! With marriage and raising a family, Jerry had no time or interest in resuming his philatelic endeavors.

Next Meeting:
2:00-PM on Tuesday, 22 April 2025
Grayslake Historical Society — Any Changes will be posted on: lcpshome.org



Tom Willer - Presidents
Officers: Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Gary Olson – Treasurer

In about 1995 or so, stamp collecting again perked Jerry's interest. He tracked down the **Lake County Illinois Philatelic Society**. He attended a few meetings and decided to join the society which had been in existence since 1933. The Netterstrom family had Swedish origins. With this background, Jerry resumed stamp collecting but this time he focused on Scandinavia. Secondly, he collected world-wide stamps. His father died at age 79, and Jerry inherited this dad's world-wide collection. To date, he had never visited his European homeland. He would meet another local stamp collector who also specialized in the stamps of Sweden, namely Gary Olson.

Jerry widened his stamp horizon. He expanded his collection. He purchased a Minkus stamp album for his Swedish stamps. At one point, Jerry faced the prospect of no new annual page supplements. Minkus stopped publishing stamp albums as well as its catalog in 2004. Jerry was saved in 2008 when Amos Publications scooped up rights to Minkus albums and pages. The "white knight" saved Jerry from having to switch to another album. Resuming collecting, Jerry often used the small booklet, H. E. Harris Stamp Identifier.

With the security of an attractive album, Jerry diligently accumulated Swedish stamps. He created a superb assemblage including many early Sweden. He bought 1855 Sweden Number 5, the high value of the first ever Swedish set of five stamps issued. The coat of arms design was changed slightly in 1858. Jerry also added Sweden Number 6 to his expanding collection.



Sweden #1 - 6

Jerry spent twenty-five years in the IT industry. With his in-depth knowledge of computers and the Internet, he opted not to open an email account, thus preserving his personal privacy from Internet hackers, et al. When he needed the Internet, he drove to his library and used a computer there.

The last years of Jerry's life were not optimal. Jerry's wife died in circa 2013. As a lifelong smoker, he sadly developed lung cancer. Treatment helped prolong his life. He used to attend the LCPS meetings carrying his portable oxygen machine. In February 2024, he stopped attending the stamp meetings. No one paid any attention, since members often do not attend every meeting.

We raised the issue of his non-attendance at the March, 2025 stamp meeting. Dave Sadler related that he had checked online obituaries starting in August after having the newsletter returned as undeliverable, but there was no Jerry Netterstrom reference. Chuck Skittino volunteered to investigate. Within a few hours, he solved the mystery. Jerry died on July 4, 2024. He had no local family. He died without a will or trust. Someone determined that he served as a US Army Spec-4 in Vietnam. Someone facilitated his interment at the Fort Sheridan National Cemetery.

Sadly, Jerry died without a will or trust document. At some point, his house goes to probate court. It would be auctioned later as a real estate tax delinquent property. No one knows what happened to Jerry's wonderful Swedish stamp collection. It is a mystery. — *Compiled by Tom Willer*

Stamp Meeting Topics 2025:

- April - Bill Schultz - **"Detecting counterfeit USPS Forever Stamps with Wayne Youngblood"**
and/or
"The Scourge of the Modern Counterfeit with Wayne Youngblood"
- May - Ed Pieklo - **"Century of Progress Part III"**
- June - **Club Swap Meet**
- July - Tom Willer - **Stamp Bingo**
- August - **The "GASS" Review**
- Sept. - Tom Willer - **"The Ten Greatest American Stamps"**

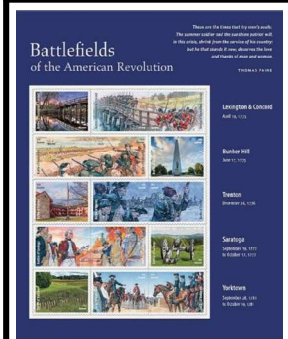
New Issues for April:



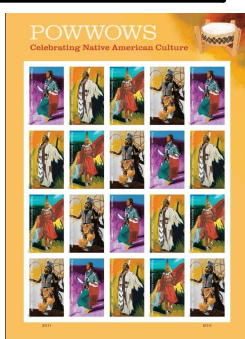
In **May**, we also need to get an idea of items members are interested in for the June Swap Meet.

For **July**, we need to discuss transportation to the **"Great American Stamp Show '25"** (GASS) in Schaumburg.

Also, we need to discuss a Club Dining Out sometime later this year.



16 April



25 April