

May 2025

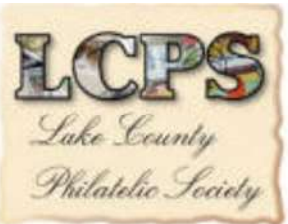
Volume 25 Number 05

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: [LCPSHOME.ORG](http://LCPSHOME.ORG)

# Perforations



Last month, we viewed the "Last month, we viewed the *"Detecting counterfeit USPS Forever Stamps with Wayne Youngblood"* - APS video with comments by Bill Schultz.

This month, we have *"Century of Progress Part III"* by Ed Pieklo. The years 1933-34 are significant in that it was in this period the club was founded.

**Why Duck Stamps?** —The history behind Duck Stamps is inseparable from that of fate of waterfowl in the United States. Once, our nation teemed with wild ducks, geese, swans, brants and other water birds. Native American Indians and early settlers hunted the plentiful birds, taking only what they needed to feed themselves and their families.

In a short 300 years, our expanding population has meant trouble for waterfowl and other wildlife. We have levelled forests, plowed prairies, dammed rivers and, most importantly, drained wetlands to make way for our houses, factories, roads, farms, malls and parking lots.

The decline of waterfowl was accentuated during the 1800 's and early this century by overeager hunters and a commercial demand for meat and feathers. Market hunters decimated great flocks and some individual species were so reduced in numbers as to be in danger of extinction

Remember, our 24 June meeting will be a Swapmeet – so if you have anything you are looking for mention it at this meeting so members will know what junk treasures to pawn-off bring to the table.



Case in point, this happened to the once numerous (3 billion+) passenger pigeon — hunted to extinction for the dining delicacy of the squabs. The last fully authenticated record of a wild passenger pigeon was near Oakford, IL, on 1901 March 12, when a male bird was killed, stuffed, and placed in Millikin University in Decatur, IL, where it remains today



Compounding these man-made problems, periodic drought dried up the prairie potholes, northern bogs and southern swamps waterfowl need to find food, raise their young and spend the winter. The infamous "dust bowl" of the 1930 's, in particular, left many formerly lush wetlands dry and lifeless.

By the late 1920' s a number of American conservationists, hunters, and government officials had become alarmed at the prospect of losing some of our waterfowl species. The first positive step towards preventing that was passage of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act in 1929. It authorized the Department of the Interior to acquire wetlands and to preserve them as waterfowl habitat. The law also established a commission of Federal and State officials to evaluate land for possible acquisition

But the 1929 law provided no permanent source of money with which to buy and preserve land for waterfowl. That omission was soon corrected by Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling, a nationally known political cartoonist for the Des Moines Register. Also, a noted hunter and wildlife conservationist, "Ding" Darling had often put his artistic talents into biting cartoons depicting the destruction of the nation 's waterfowl and their habitats.

In the early 1930s, the large game animals were still recovering from the near-annihilation of the prior century, and waterfowl were the most popularly hunted game. FDR, an avowed but politically realistic conservationist, appointed a three-member committee to study how to conserve and restore waterfowl populations devastated by the Midwestern drought. Tom Beck, president of "More Game Birds in America," (later incorporated as Ducks Unlimited) was chairman. The often acrimonious and public debates of the "Beck Committee" were a turning point in the American conservation efforts. Beck, with many followers, favored hatching ducks in incubators and releasing them into the flyways, the money to come from a tax on firearms and ammunition.

Next Show							Next Meeting						
August 25							May 25						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
				31	1	2	3			1	2	3	4
		6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>August 14 - 17</b> <b>Great American Stamp Show</b> Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Ctr 1551 Thoreau Dr N Schaumburg IL							<b>"Century of Progress Part III" - Ed Pieklo</b> 						

Next Meeting:

2:00-PM on Tuesday, 27 May 2025

Grayslake Historical Society — Any Changes will be posted on: [lcpshome.org](http://lcpshome.org)



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



The other two committee members were “Ding” Darling and Aldo Leopold, with Ding the buffer between Leopold and Beck. Both Darling and Leopold argued for the restoration of the nesting, winter, and flyway habitats, and urged that the necessary funds should come from state hunting licenses, money that was then being used for many purposes other than wildlife.

Connecticut Senator Frederick C. Walcott, the founder of the *American Game Protective Association* and a member of the Boone and Crockett Club’s executive committee, wanted a federal hunting stamp. The “Beck Committee” recommended, and FDR approved, that: 1. that 50 million acres of marginal farmland be purchased, 2. 25 million dollars be allocated to wildlife restoration, 3. 25 million dollars be used to pay relief workers on these projects, and 4. there be a **federal duck stamp**.

In July 1934, President Franklin Roosevelt asked Darling to head the U.S. Biological Survey, the forerunner of the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service. Darling battled for greater national attention and expenditures for conservation. He secured some \$17 million for wildlife habitat restoration and pioneered leadership in the field of proper game management.



“Ding” buying the first duck stamp in 1934

Darling’s idea became reality on 1934 March 16, when Congress passed and President Roosevelt signed the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act. Popularly known as the Duck Stamp Act, it required all waterfowl hunters 16 years or older to buy a stamp annually. The revenue generated was earmarked for the Department of the Interior to buy or lease waterfowl sanctuaries.

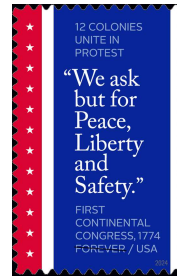


RW1

In the years since its enactment, the Duck Stamp program has become one of the most popular and successful conservation programs ever initiated. Some 635,000 hunters paid \$1.00 each for the first stamps, which went on sale 1934 August 22. Since then, the price has gradually risen to today’s \$25.00.

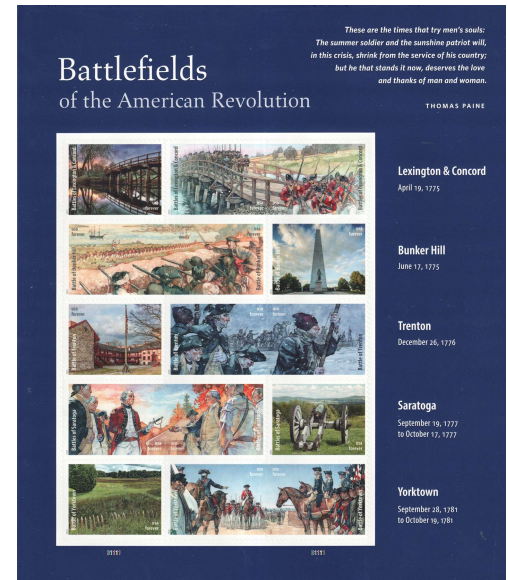
Last year, the USPS began the issuing of stamps that commemorate the American **Semiquincentennial** or the half-five-hundred anniversary (250<sup>th</sup>).

The first was **Scott 5369** that commemorates the 250th anniversary of the First Continental Congress. Made up of delegates from 12 of the 13 Colonies (Georgia abstained), the First Continental Congress convened in 1774 to decide how the Colonies should respond to increasing threats to their freedom. In addition to denouncing taxation without representation, the Congress called for a general boycott of British goods.



Scott 5369

Last month, they added the **Battlefields of the American Revolution** – 15 stamps to point out the five turning points of the revolution (Battle of Lexington and Concord, Battle of Bunker Hill, Battle of Trenton, Battle of Saratoga and the Battle of Yorktown)

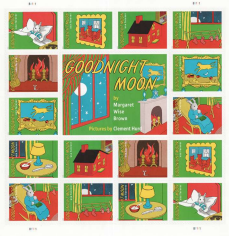


This month, three stamps honoring the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary three branches of armed forces – **Army, Navy and Marine Corp.**



The 1975 Bicentennial military issues at 10c versus 73c today

#### Other May Issues:



02 May



23 May