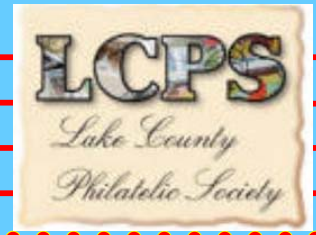


Perforations

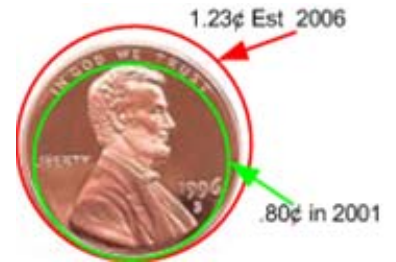


In addition to looking through the various piles on the table, the May meeting also discussed topics on a wide range of subjects: the Washington 2006 Stamp Exhibition, the rising cost of minting the Lincoln cent, the theft of data from the Veterans Administration, sending out a club member phone list and what to do at the June meeting.

We should hear a first hand report of the Washington 2006 show at this meeting as our president was going to spend that weekend in DC.

According to an USA Today article passed around, the cost of minting the Lincoln cent is now more than what the coin is worth

(\$.0123). It should be interesting to see what the government does over the next couple of years on the tweaking to zinc/copper alloy of this denomination. The Lincoln cent is the longest US running coin design still in production - introduced in 1909 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. It was further modified in 1959 when the wheat ears were replaced by the Lincoln Memorial on the reverse.



Current discussion in Congress is to eliminate the coin altogether given the increased cost of zinc.

On a more serious note, the **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)** recently learned that an employee, a data analyst, took home electronic data from the VA, which he was not authorized to do. This data was later stolen from the employee's home. This data contained identifying information including names, social security numbers, and dates of birth for up to 26.5 million active duty, veterans and some spouses, as well as some disability ratings.

With this in mind, personal items to monitor for suspicious activities could include the following:

- 1) Inquiries from companies you haven't contacted or done business with
- 2) Purchases or charges on your accounts you didn't make
- 3) New accounts you didn't open/changes to existing accounts you didn't make
- 4) Bills that don't arrive as expected
- 5) Unexpected credit cards or account statements
- 6) Denials of credit for no apparent reason
- 7) Calls or letters about purchases you didn't make

(continued on page 2)

It was decided that the June meeting will be an auction. Each member is to bring items to auction off. Enclosed are preprinted forms for listing the item(s) along with the phone list.



There is no treasurer's report this month – he was traveling.

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

June 2006 Issues:



Only four stamps, \$16.17. The Birthday and president Reagan are 39¢ versions of stamps originally denominated 34¢ and/or 37¢.

July will also be a short month with only two scheduled issues.



\$15.00 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Thursday, June 1st
39¢ Judy Garland (Legends of Hollywood) Saturday, June 10th
39¢ Ronald Reagan Wednesday, June 14th (Reissue)
39¢ Happy Birthday June 23rd (Reissue)

At the end of the meeting, the subject of the Lake County Discovery Museum collection of Post Cards was brought up. Further research into the exhibit shows that the Curt Teich Postcard Archives, part of the Lake County Discovery Museum, is recognized throughout the world as the largest public collection of postcards and related materials.

The Teich Archives include: Images of more than 10,000 towns and cities in North America and over 87 foreign countries, one of the nation's largest collections of Route 66, Lincoln Highway and other travel-related images, over 100,000 job files for the postcards produced by the Teich Company, 365,000 postcards that are computer-cataloged under more than 2,100 subject headings. This exhibit is open Monday-Friday from 1100-1630. The museum is located at:

27277 Forest Preserve Drive
Wauconda, IL 60084

More information is available on the web at URL: <http://www.lcfpd.org/>

More on the VA data theft...

If you detect a problem with any of your financial accounts, the Federal Trade Commission recommends the following four steps if you detect suspicious activity:

Step 1 – Contact the fraud department of one of the three major credit bureaus:

Equifax: 1-800-525-6285 www.equifax.com

PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374-0241

Experian: 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com

PO Box 9532, Allen, Texas 75013

TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289 www.transunion.com

Fraud Victim Assistance Division, PO Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834-6790

Step 2 – Close any accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently.

Step 3 – File a police report with your local police or the police in the community where the identity theft took place.

Step 4 – File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission by using the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline:

By telephone: 1-877-438-4338

Online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft

By mail at Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington DC 20580.

The Department of Veterans Affairs strongly recommends that veterans closely monitor their financial statements and review the guidelines provided on this web page (<http://www.firstgov.gov/veteransinfo>) or call 1 (800) FED INFO (1-800-333-4636).