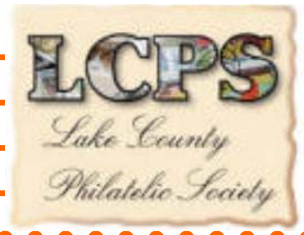


Perforations



Last month was an evening of wide ranging discussion -- from selling the stamp collection, stamp show schedules, Linn's Stamp News subscription, the program for this month and November to what needs to be completed this year.

For the October meeting, we are reminded to bring funds for the annual Linn's Stamp News renewal. The presentation will be on the topic of the **Modernization of the USPS** by Bill Schultz. The topic for Novembers will be **Parcel Post Stamps** by Marty Cain.

We also need to decide when and where the Holiday Brunch will be in December (In-laws, Country Buffet, Golden Grill ...) – and as always, bring stamps to trade/show or sell.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking:	\$ 782.19
Savings:	\$1474.54
Total:	\$2256.73

Dennis W. Swanson, 72, of Antioch, IL passed away Thursday, 7 Sept 2006 at his home. He was born 7 July 1934 in Chicago moving to Antioch in 1947. He served in the US Air Force during the Korean Conflict. Dennis Worked as a machine set-up man for Chrysler Corporation, in Kenosha, WI retiring in 1998 after 40 years of service, and was a member of the UAW.

Along with stamp collecting, his interests included fishing, hunting, bowling, softball and collecting WWII memorabilia.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Diane; his son Stephen; daughter Denise Welch, and granddaughter Brianna Swanson.

His outgoing, good-nature attitude and friendliness towards others will be missed by all.

Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) Grading Criteria (Part III)

Thus far we have covered Gum Condition and Centering. This month we will start looking at Stamp Faults. **PSE** has divided this area into two segments -- those that occur in production (this months topic) and those that which arise as a result of improper handling, improper storage, paper tears, creases, thins, stains, re-perforations or repairs/intentional alteration.

PRODUCTION FAULTS are some of the most perplexing, and sometimes contentious, issues faced in the expertizing and grading of U.S. stamps. These faults include:

1. Natural gum skips or short gumming on never hinged stamps
2. Natural gum bends, creases or wrinkles
3. Natural paper inclusions
4. Natural paper folds
5. Natural straight edges
6. Perforation disc indent thins
7. Natural paper transparencies
8. Blind perforations
9. Guidelines on perforated stamps
10. Scissor blunted perforations on Scott No. 167-177 stamps

Natural Gum Skips - The gum on US stamps has not always been applied with perfect uniformity. It is not extremely uncommon to find unused, original gum, never hinged stamps, particularly pre-1925 issues, which have one or several tiny spots, less than 1mm in size, where there is no gum. (Cont Page 2)

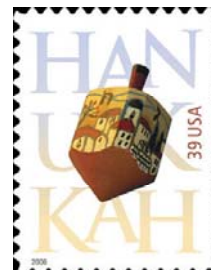
Meetings at 7PM on the fourth Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Warren-Newport Library
224 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee IL



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

Website: WWW.LCPSHOME.ORG

New Issues (September – October 2006)



Description	USPS # TYPE}	COST	DATE ISSUED
\$1.00 Official Mail	556540 [PVA pn/20]	\$20.00	29 September
39¢ Florida Wetlands	567440 [PSA SS/10]	\$ 3.90	04 October
39¢ Snowflakes (4)	568640 [PSA pn/20]	\$ 7.80	05 October
	675600 [PSA CB/20]	\$ 7.80	05 October
	675500 [PSA VB/20]	\$ 7.80	05 October
	569400 [PSA ATM/18]	\$ 7.02	05 October
39¢ Eid	569340 [PSA pn/20]	\$ 7.80	06 October
39¢ Kwanzaa	569140 [PSA pn/20]	\$ 7.80	06 October
39¢ Hanukkah	569240 [PSA pn/20]	\$ 7.80	06 October
39¢ I. Chacon Madonna	674900 [PSA CB/20]	\$ 7.80	17 October

Cost: Complete set of panes/booklets - \$85.52
 Set of 1 each (30 x 39¢ + 1 x \$1) - \$12.70

In all, a fairly expensive month. Next month will be a recap of the year.

PSE policy is that "Anyone who says that the gum skips on an RW1 stamp or the short gumming on the Washington-Franklin stamp don't matter must be a person who is trying to sell the items. Simply put, in today's never hinged mania, it does matter if the gum skips become distracting. One or two or even three teeny 0.5mm specks can be accepted, but make it a whole bunch of small specks or one big skip and it matters. "

Natural Gum Bends, Creases or Wrinkles -- On flat plate printed US stamps the gumming process sometimes caused gum bends, creases or wrinkles. Gum bends, creases and wrinkles are all in the same family being commonly used terms for increasingly severe distortions of the gum and paper. **PSE** calls gum bends only if there are two or more or if the one is at the borderline between a bend and a crease. Gum wrinkles are in the same family, but they are slightly different than gum bends or creases. A gum wrinkle can occur anywhere on a stamp, can be of any length and commonly does not extend in a straight line.

Natural Paper Inclusions -- US stamps occasionally have one or more natural inclusion specks embedded in the paper. These vary in size, color and location. They effectively lower the value of a stamp if they are visually objectionable and so the color of the stamp can also be a factor affecting the visual effect. It is a judgment call whether **PSE** will mention a natural paper inclusion on a certificate of authentication or will downgrade the soundness of a stamp if it is to be graded.

Natural Paper Folds -- Some of the very early US stamps were printed on paper sheets that had tiny pre-printing crimped paper folds. Years after printing and use these crimped folds could be pulled apart thus leaving a strip up to perhaps 1 or 2mm wide which would have no printing ink. No such stamp has ever been submitted to **PSE** for grading and so no **PSE** policy exists regarding how we would assess soundness.

We will continue the Stamp Faults topic next month. **All PSE material come from their website at: www.psestamp.com** – so those with web access please visit the site. There is a wealth of information available in more depth than presented here.