

November 2006

Volume 6 Number 11

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society

Perforations



Last month we discussed the Holiday Brunch tentatively scheduled for December 9th (Noon) at the Golden Coral (Gurnee). We should hear more definite news at the November meeting.

The next topic was a presentation by Bill Schultz on the new initiative to upgrade the USPS mail tracking system. The new system is called Intelligent Mail Acquisition System or IMDAS.

The hardware seen at the local level will be the IMD (see image), a charging/data transfer docking unit and computers that will eventually dump all the collected information into on central data processing facility.

The program was initiated in 2004 with a contract to Motorola and is now being tested in Maryland. We should see it up and running in our area early next year.



Bill with the new Intelligent Mail Device (IMD)

This month, the presentation will be on Parcel Post Stamps by Marty Cain.

Treasures' Report:

\$	Checking Account	782.19
	Savings Account	1,476.42
	Total	2,258.61

November 17-19: CHICAGOPEX, Chicago Philatelic Society, Sheraton Chicago Northwest, 3400 W. Euclid, Arlington Heights. Contact Bill Schultz at 847-543-9170 / 34413 Tanageray Dr, Grayslake if you'd like a ride down there on Saturday (18 Nov - about 10 am) OR he'll act as coordinator for others who want to organize carpools at different times.

Harold "Hal" Ansink passed away on 15 October 2006. A long time member of the Lake County Philatelic Society and a member/former officer of the American First Day Cover Society.

Hal was born in Bridgeton NJ on 25 January 1926. During WWII, he served as a photographer on the staff of General MacArthur. After the war he settled in Illinois and worked for North Chicago Refiners and Smelters until he retired in 1993.

He is survived by his wife Joan, daughter Debra Flores, two grand daughters, a great grandson, six stepsons, two step daughters and nine step-grandchildren.



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



IMDAS is Coming (to the USPS) Presentation



(IMD) Hands-on Scanning a Barcode (Cradle)

More on Stamp Grading from the Professional Stamp Experts (PSE) from <http://www.psestamp.com/>.

Soundness - The soundness component evaluates the overall condition of the stamp. Faults, both major and minor, are the key determinants here. The stamp is examined for creases, thins, color fading, toning spots/stains, reperforation, tears and repairs (or alterations), and the severity of any or all of these faults is taken into consideration.

Because a stamp can be faultless, or have any number of faults in any combination, we have set up a chart that shows how a variety of faults affect the soundness rating (see below).



Soundness

Faultless	The stamp is completely sound, free of all faults.
Very Minor Fault	Natural blind perf Minor natural gum bend Tiny natural paper inclusion visible on front Significant natural gum slope on left stamps Shorter perf Perf tip crease Tiny, light-toned spot
Minor Fault	Minor natural gum wrinkle Large natural paper inclusion Large natural gum slope or short gumming on left stamps Short perf Corner perf crease Toning spot Shells: tiny thin - about 1 mm Slight color fading Two or three very minor faults
Fault	Heavy natural gum wrinkle / crease Light crease Small thin - 1-3 mm or two tiny thins Tiny 1 mm edge or perf tear Pulled perf (below the bottom of the holes) Reperforated on one side Dinhole Light stain Natural straight edge (pre-1890 stamps) Two or three minor faults or combination of minor and very minor faults
Major Fault	Large crease or two light creases Large thin, two small thins or three tiny thins Small tear or two tiny tears Reperforated on two sides Significant stain Small repair (e.g., added perf or painted over small surface scuff) Natural straight edge (post-1890 stamps) Several trimmed, clipped or short perfs Two or three faults, or combination of minor faults
Damaged	Severe or multiple creases Large, deep or multiple thins Large or multiple tears Significant repair Hole Reperforated three sides Two or three major faults or combination of other faults