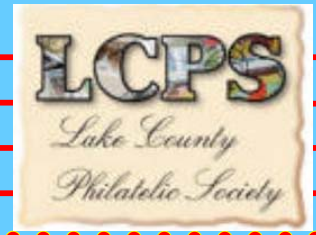


Perforations

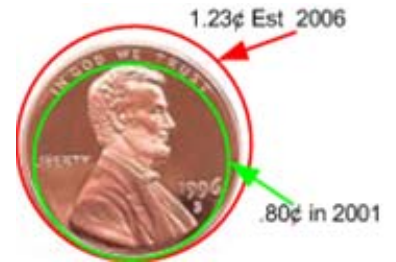


In addition to looking through the various piles on the table, the May meeting also discussed topics on a wide range of subjects: the Washington 2006 Stamp Exhibition, the rising cost of minting the Lincoln cent, the theft of data from the Veterans Administration, sending out a club member phone list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

(\$0.0123). 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
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