

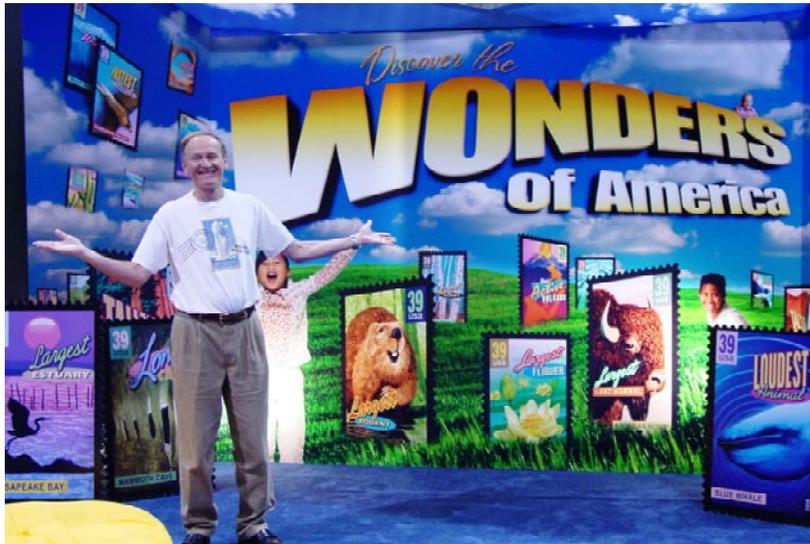
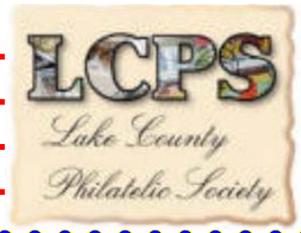
July 2006

Volume 6 Number 7

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society

Perforations



Will wonders never cease The 2006 Washington Exhibition

At our July meeting, Bob Luhr and Tom Willer present their recollections of the 2006 Washington Exhibition, held in May, 2006. The show was held in a monstrous exhibit hall that dealers, exhibitors, and vendors totally filled up. The crowds flocked in and dispersed through the cavernous space with something for everyone. In addition, local and national clubs offered seminars on a diverse array of stamp topics.

The US Postal Service offered multiple events with the highlights being several First Day of Issue ceremonies. Be sure to join Bob and Tom for an interesting perspective of the international stamp show!

Last month we had our auction that raised some money for the club – anything to keep our still traveling Treasurer from hinting for an increase in the already high annual dues. Discussions included, a taste of what happened at 2006 Stamp Expo in DC – more on this this month, album pages (see below) and the APS show in Rosemont (August 24-27) – car pool anyone?

Computer Software/Services for the Collector -- SoftPro 2010 [<http://www.ezstamp.com/>] offers an interesting range of software for the stamp collector. Three of their products are thumbnailed here:

EzStamp is a very good stamp inventory package. They can provide databases for about 120 countries using Scott #'s - all with full color bitmap images supplied. The US database has over 18,000 unique entries in addition to the illustrations. Also included on CD 1 are PNCs, US Revenues, UN, Canada and Provinces, Duck Stamps, Hawaii, CSA, Ryukyus, Palau, Philippines, Micronesia, Marshall Islands with current market values. The rest of the world is found on the other six Cds available individually or as a package.

AlbumGen allows you to create your own album pages quickly & easily. It will definitely save you money compared to buying the normal yearly supplements -- if you have the computer hardware already available. Designing your own pages is very straight forward and very nice for putting together a quick album with an offbeat theme.

EzGrader - with the rush to 'PSE', this is the only software, I've found that it allows you to easily measure stamp centering and then computes a very strict numeric (PSE) grade value for your own or eBay stamp images. The program very easy to use just open from the program the image you want to evaluate.

For 'just' album pages, **Stamp Albums Web** [www.stampalbums.com] provides a subscription service for preformatted pages for a wide variety of countries and topics. Bill Steiner, the collector who put this service online, also allows you to buy everything on a CD or as individual pre-printed pages.

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