



Teaching Physics at the College of Lake County has given me the opportunity to introduce students to the virtues philately via the rich variety of people, events and discoveries depicted on just 'common ole' postage stamps.



One of my students, managed to weave stamps into a general Physics essay paper I assign each semester to "pry" the students out of the text book and discover that physicists do have interesting lives besides scribbling down cryptic notations on a backboard.



**WYP
2005
Issues**

As usual Albert Einstein is a popular person to be examined.

Three years ago the United Nations declared 2005 as the "World Year of Physics" - a program to highlight Physics in the modern era - starting a pivotal event, the "**Special Theory of Relativity**", published in 1905 by one A. Einstein - a struggling Patent Officer (Third Class) - physicist wannabe.



In all; 32 nation had an interest and issued stamps commemorating this event or physics in general: Argentina; Bulgaria; China; Congo; Costa Rica; Cuba; Czech Republic; France; Fiji; Germany; Ghana; Greece; India; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Macedonia; Mali; Mexico; Monaco; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Serbia-Montenegro; Slovakia; South Africa; Spain; Switzerland; Taiwan; Tunisia; Turkey, and the US.



In physics, Einstein has always been very popular figure and to see his (well known) image on a stamp helps garner interest a topic most people have little interest in (e.g. at a social gathering - what do you do?, One answers: "I teach Physics ... - dead conversation - o'well).

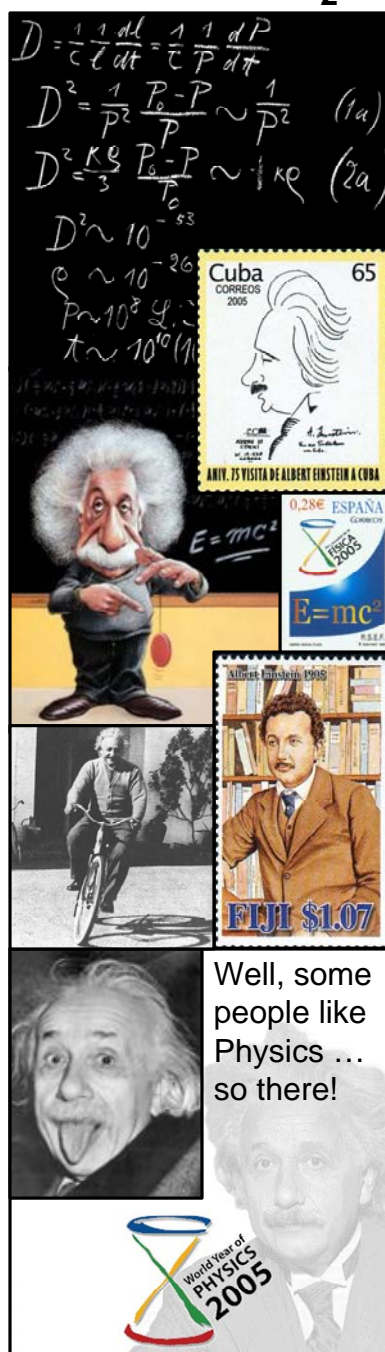
Some Older Einstein Issues ...



It not to be said that *only* Dr. Einstein can be found on stamps - the United Kingdom did a five stamp series on Newton not so long ago, and yes, there are other notable physicist on stamps (Volta, Planck, Hubble, Curie, Galileo, Rutherford, Hooke, Benjamin Franklin, Kepler, etc).

Still not interested in Physics stamps?

Maybe we should look at politicians on stamps some time in the **far** future ...



Well, some people like Physics ... so there!