



# Perforations

After another "Death by PowerPoint" presentation, this time on Newfoundland stamps by Dave Sadler, the members were finally saved when the Library staff kicked the group out after running over the allotted time.

This month we will begin looking into the Winter Brunch and trading stamps that members are asked to bring to the meeting.



**Treasures' Report: Checking – \$2,212.17; Savings – \$1,529.72; Total - \$3,841.89**

**Howard J. Shaughnessy, Jr.** a long time member of the Lake County Philatelic Society passed away 22 May 2009 at Lake Forest Hospital.

He was born July 31, 1924 in New Haven, CT, moved to Illinois in the early 1930's and a resident of Lake County since 1949. After graduating from Hinsdale (IL) High School in 1942 he joined the Army and served as a cryptographer in the 413th Signal Corps attached to the XXth Bomber Command in India and Okinawa during WWII.

After the war, he attended the NISTC (now NIU), DeKalb, IL where he graduated in 1949, Howard also attended the Chicago Academy of Fine Arts before joining the, now defunct, National Press of North Chicago, where for 37-years he was an art director, sales/advertising manager before retiring in 1987.



Howard, 24 February 2009

He became a member of the LCPS in 1951 and secretary in 1991. For just over 15 years, Howard was the witty editor of **'Perforations'**, a contributor to multiple other stamp organizations, a guiding spirit of our club, and our favorite ex-cartoonist. Howard has been an important person to our hobby in many ways.

Besides an interest 'just stamps', he was active in the Civil War Round Table, Lake County Genealogical Society, Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts, and the VFW.

We will truly miss him.

<b>Local Stamp Shows</b>	<b>MSDA Show</b> Wingate Inn 600 Milwaukee Ave Prospect Heights IL July 25-26	<b>MSDA</b> Midwest Stamp Dealers Association	<b>NSDA</b> White Eagle 6839 N Milwaukee Ave Niles, IL 60714 August 1-2	<b>MSDA Show</b> Wingate Inn 600 Milwaukee Ave Prospect Heights IL October 3-4	<b>MSDA</b> Midwest Stamp Dealers Association	<b>CHICAGOPEX 2009</b> Sheraton Northwest 3400 West Euclid Ave Arlington Heights IL November 20-22		<b>MSDA Show</b> Wingate Inn 600 Milwaukee Ave Prospect Heights IL December 12-13	<b>MSDA</b> Midwest Stamp Dealers Association

**Next meeting:**  
7-PM on Tuesday 23 June 2009  
at the Warren-Newport Library  
224 North O'Plaine Road, Gurnee IL



**Officers:**  
Dr Tom Willer – President  
Bill Schultz – Vice President  
Dave Sadler – Secretary  
Walter F. Veile - Treasurer



### ICE HOUSE COVER – Part II.

In March 2006 we discussed this cover that was recovered in Chicago.

Now three years later, Dr. Arthur K. M. Woo paid a total of \$431,250 (including the Siegel Auction Galleries buyer's commission) for the Ice House Cover, the envelope, which traveled from Boston to India, is the only one collectors have found still bearing the red and black stamp with Lincoln on it.

The cover, with a Lincoln stamp from 1869 (Scott 122), was mailed to India in 1873, last traded publicly in 1943 and was stolen in 1967 and thought lost to philately. The cover was seized by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 2006 and returned, after a court battle, to the heirs of J. David Baker, its last owner.

The envelope, which traveled by ship, train, post dispatch from Boston to Calcutta, is the only one collectors have found still bearing the red and black stamp with Lincoln on it. The letter was sent from a New England ice merchant to one of his ice warehouses in Calcutta, then part of Britain's Raj. It was franked with a total of \$1.12, which paid the two-ounce foreign letter rate.

Markings on the envelope reveal that it traveled across the Atlantic, by train through Germany and Italy, by ship to Egypt and again from Suez to Bombay, and then, finally, by train across the Indian states. This was before the Mr. Blair's Universal Postal Union established 1874, the sum reflected rates negotiated between the United States and Great Britain to encourage growing international trade; yes, shipping ice from winter ponds in Massachusetts to the sweltering cities of India was a commercial success, was part of this ongoing commercial effort.

This rarity is the result of collectors habits changing over time - early collectors mainly sought to fill their albums with stamps that had been soaked off envelopes - like this Lincoln stamp (fewer than 50,000 issued), would have been no exception. When, late in the 19th century, collectors began saving entire envelopes — on account of the fascinating tales they revealed about their trips through the world's postal systems — it became apparent that covers with this Lincoln stamp were probably no longer to be found.

However, in 1914, a New York collector traveling in India did come across one. He sold it to a dealer in New York for \$100. The cover was privately sold to Mr. Baker, a steel executive and prominent collector in Indianapolis, for \$6,500 in the early 1960's.

One night in 1967, a prized group of about 250 rare covers, including the Ice House Cover, was stolen from his home. The F.B.I. found most of those covers in the late 1970's but the Ice House Cover was not among them.

In the spring of 2006, however, an elderly couple walked into Berg's Stamp King shop to ask about the value of some old envelopes they had found while cleaning the home of a deceased friend. Berg recognized the Ice House Cover and had James Lee alert the Chicago police. After an investigation by the F.B.I. cleared the couple, the cover was returned by court order to Mr. Baker's widow and daughter. In May, the Philatelic Foundation, a nonprofit organization in New York, examined the cover and declared it genuine.



Scott 122 (proof)

We probably will not face this problem of 'soaking' stamps off of a cover again as our USPS continues to find even better non-water soluble adhesives for stamps.