

**Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, 7 pm  
27 Mar 2012

at the  
Grayslake Area  
Public Library  
100 Library Lane  
Grayslake, IL

**2012-2013 Officers:**

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

**MSDA Spring Show**

Comfort Inn & Suites  
600 Milwaukee Ave  
Prospect Heights, IL  
April 14 and 15

**Compex 2012**

Forest View Education Center  
2121 S Goebert Rd  
Arlington Heights, IL  
May 25, 26 & 27

Last month we collected enough donations for the Northern Illinois Food Bank project to move to the next phase of cataloging and pricing the items. We also saw a short BBC video on YOUTUBE.COM . You watch it again by pointing your browser to (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KETwb4MLKVI>) on how stamps are produced in the US – the stamp in filmed was the 2008 \$4.80 Mt Rushmore Priority Mail stamp.



We also

1) discussed the manning of tables and will try to finalize this aspect of the stamp sale at scheduled for the weekend of April 14 and 15 as part of the MSDA Spring Show at the Comfort Inn & Suites 600 Milwaukee Ave Prospect Heights, IL;

2) discussed ways how to present the items at the show,

3) and received the treasurers report — we have \$3185.24 as of February 28.

This was in addition to the usual bad jokes that begin the meetings.

This month we need to finalize the table manning schedule and collect the rest of the items for the charity sale. There are two more videos that are out on the internet about stamps we may be able to view. The first is on Stamp Collecting, 1955 on the Virtual Stamp Club site (<http://www.virtualstampclub.com/>) and the second from the linked from USPS online publication: ISSUE 037 // Beyond The Perf // USA Philatelic to the National Postal Museum.

In the past some of us and the club, in general, has become a point where people have dropped off old stamp collections that people do not know what to do with. Question, what can we do about this (*other than refuse the*) “donation” of a collection that has been improperly stored?

In general, the items we collect are all susceptible to mold if stored improperly. Our enemies are mold which is a growth caused by fungi that appears gray-black and fuzzy in texture. Mildew is a another type of mold that emits a strong musty smell. Mold and mildew destroy stamps and albums because they stain and eat the paper/adhesive. These molds will begin to grow when humidity in the atmosphere is above 55% and in warm, damp, dark, poorly ventilated areas like attics, garages and basements. These places are the worst place for collections that people inherit because they not only invite mold and mildew, but also by bugs and rodents that feed on and nest in collection. When the time comes to clean out these places these collections are discovered to bear mold and the owner will try and sell of them at a garage sale, to a stamp dealer, or in desperation donate them to us.



Besides the degradation of value of the collection, mold and mildew can trigger allergies and asthma attacks, making it unhealthy for us if we are not careful.

If there is something that appears to be of value, we can minimize further growth of mold and also prevent the stamps from growing mold that are inexpensive and will help us to preserve them. The easiest ways to remove a small amount of mildew from the object are by a computer keyboard (with brush) vacuum or a dry cloth. With the vacuum method make

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