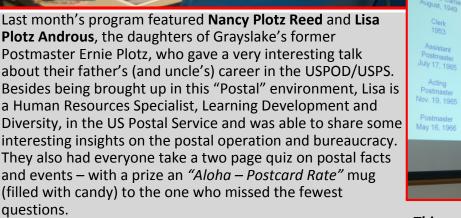
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Website: LCPSHOME.ORG







In addition to the talk, they also displayed two tables of items/articles that related to his years of Postal career.

This month bring something "unique" from your collection and share it with the rest of us.



Officers:

Next meeting: 7-PM on Tuesday, 22 July 2014 at the Grayslake Library 100 Library Lane - Grayslake, IL 60030

Niles IL

July 27-28

Local

Stamp

Shows



Dr Tom Willer – President **Bill Schultz – Vice President** Dave Sadler – Secretary Ed Pieklo – Treasurer

Lake County

Philatelic Seciety

World War I and Stamp Collecting — On 28 July, 100 years ago a conflict referred to as World War I began and did not really end until the collapse of the Soviet Union on 26 December 1991 and had a great impact on philately.

This first conflict ushered in almost a century actual national warfare and proxy wars that was initially centered in Europe and lasted until 11 November 1918. During this opening period, more than 9,000,000 combatants were killed; a casualty rate greatly exacerbated by the belligerents' technological and industrial sophistication, and tactical stupidity/stalemate.

The root cause of the conflict was a resurgence of imperialism, with the immediate trigger occurring on 28 June 1914, with the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, by Yugoslav nationalist Gavrilo Princip in Sarajevo, Bosnia. This set off a diplomatic crisis when Austria-Hungary delivered an ultimatum to the Kingdom of Serbia, and international alliances formed over the previous decades were invoked.

On 28 July, the Austro-Hungarians fired the first shots in preparation for the invasion of Serbia. As Russia mobilized, Germany invaded neutral Belgium and Luxembourg before moving into France, leading Britain to declare war on Germany. After the German march on Paris was halted, what became known as the Western Front settled into a brutal battle of attrition, with a 400 mile trench line that would change little until 1917.

On the Eastern Front, the Imperial Russian army was successful against the Austro-Hungarians, but was stopped in its invasion of East Prussia by the Germans. In November 1914, the Ottoman Empire joined the war, opening fronts in the Caucasus, Mesopotamia and the Sinai. Italy and Bulgaria went to war in 1915, Romania in 1916, and the United States in 1917.

The conflict approached a resolution after the Russian government collapsed in March 1917, and a subsequent revolution in November brought the Russians to terms with the Central Powers. On 04 November 1918, the Austro-Hungarian Empire agreed to an armistice. A week later, after the disastrous 1918 German offensive along the Western Front, Germany, which had its own trouble with revolutionaries, agreed to an armistice on 11 November 1918.

For stamp collectors, collecting opportunities were put in flux as four major imperial powers—the German, Russian, Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires—ceased to exist with while the successor states of the former two lost substantial territory, while the latter two were dismantled. The maps of Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia were redrawn, with several independent nations restored or created.



Revised European-Mid East Map 1918 -1920

East Europe Map 1991 - 2011

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In addition to 100 years of collecting stamps from these new entities, several nations that were involve in the "War to End All Wars" are issuing series of stamps to commemorate the events and sacrifices made during the period.

For example, the Royal Mail will issue six stamps and various other postal products commemorating the First World War on 28th July 2014. In all, there will be 30 stamps issued that will explore six visual and thematic strands: poppy, poetry, portraits, war art, memorials and artefacts.



The 2014 World War I Royal Mail Issue