

July 2014

Volume 14 Number 07

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: [LCPSHOME.ORG](http://LCPSHOME.ORG)



# Perforations



Last month's program featured **Nancy Plotz Reed** and **Lisa Plotz Androus**, the daughters of Grayslake's former Postmaster Ernie Plotz, who gave a very interesting talk about their father's (and uncle's) career in the USPOD/USPS. Besides being brought up in this "Postal" environment, Lisa is a Human Resources Specialist, Learning Development and Diversity, in the US Postal Service and was able to share some interesting insights on the postal operation and bureaucracy. They also had everyone take a two page quiz on postal facts and events – with a prize an "Aloha – Postcard Rate" mug (filled with candy) to the one who missed the fewest questions.

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.*

## Treasures' Report: Total – \$ 3,261.88

### Local Stamp Shows

**NSDA Chicago Show**  
White Eagle Banquet Hall  
6839 N Milwaukee Ave  
Niles IL  
July 27-28

**MSDA WEST SURBURBAN SHOW**  
Lindner Conference Center  
610 E Butterfield Road  
Lombard IL  
August 9 -10

**MILCOPEX**  
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport  
6401 South 13th St  
Milwaukee WI  
September 19-21

**MSDA Fall Stamp Show North**  
Comfort Inn  
600 Milwaukee Ave  
Prospect Heights IL  
October 11-12

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



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

**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



"New Nations"

In addition to 100 years of collecting stamps from these new entities, several nations that were involved 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