

October 2018

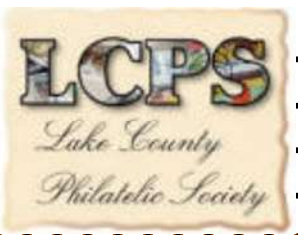
Volume 18 Number 10

Newsletter of the Lake County (IL)

Philatelic Society - Established 1933

Website: LCPSHOME.ORG

Perforations



Last month, Tom Willer talked about Illinois's Bicentennial coming up in December even though the stamp was issued on March 5th. In his interesting presentation on Illinois facts, history and folklore – it was concluded that the rays origin on the bicentennial stamp are in fact originating from the nuclear fuel fabrication plant in Metropolis II (thanks to the astute observation of Ed Pieklo). The town is also the home of the Superman museum (maybe it is kryptonite?).

This month, we have a guest speaker. Dan Ring will present *"A Philatelic look at the Philippines, the first American possession. Moving from its beginning, thru political changes, Japanese occupation to promised independence"*.



On 2018 November 11, (World War I ended with an armistice on the eleventh month, eleventh day on the eleventh hour. In this war, 65 million men from 36 countries fought for 51 months culminated in the deaths of over 11 million men.

A significant American figure in this event was General Pershing, who in the process of his exploits in the Spanish-American War (1898), Philippine-American War (1899-1902) and the Pancho Villa raids of 1916-17 was given command of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) that sealed the fate of the Central Powers in 1918.

John (Black Jack) Joseph Pershing, (1860 September 13 - 1948 July 15). Pershing was born on a farm near Laclede MO, to John Fletcher Pershing and Ann Elizabeth Thompson. Completing high school in 1878, he became a teacher of local African American children. While pursuing his teaching career, Pershing also studied at the State Normal School (now Truman State University) in Kirksville MO, from which he graduated in 1880 with a Bachelor of Science degree in scientific didactics. Two years later, he applied to the United States Military Academy.

Pershing graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, in 1886. He was commissioned a second lieutenant and assigned to the 6th Cavalry, which was then conducting operations against Geronimo in the Southwest. In 1891 he became an instructor in military science at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. While there he also earned a law degree (1893). He was appointed as an instructor in tactics at West Point in 1897, where he happened to sit in a box at a Madison Square Garden Wild West show with a voluble character who shared his interest in the West and in Indian dialects. They also both loved a fight, and within a year they were both in Cuba, Teddy Roosevelt charging up San Juan Hill leading the Rough Riders and Jack Pershing at the head of his beloved 10th Cavalry of black troopers (where he was given the nickname of "Black Jack"). They *"did him proud"*, and all his life Pershing praised the fighting qualities of the black soldier.

Treasures' Report: Total – \$3,543.45

**Local
Stamp
Shows**

TOSAPEX 2018
Gonzaga Hall
1435 S. 92nd St
West Allis WI
October 27-28

CHICAGOPEX
Westin Chicago Northwest
400 Park Boulevard
Itasca IL
November 16, 17 and 18



MSDA MILWAUKEE STAMP SHOW
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport
6401 South 13th ST
Milwaukee WI
December 01 and 02



MSDA CHICAGO SHOW WEST
Holiday Inn Oakbrook Terrace
17 W 350 22nd St
Oakbrook Terrace, IL
December 08 and 9



Next meeting:

7-PM on Tuesday 23 October 2018
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

In June 1899 he was made adjutant general. He organized the Bureau of Insular Affairs in the War Department and acted as head of that bureau for several months. Pershing was dispatched to the Philippines as adjutant general of the department of Mindanao in November 1899. He was made a captain in the regular army in 1901 and conducted a campaign against the Moros until 1903. Here, Pershing fought brilliantly, but also won over many Moro guerrillas by building them schools, speaking to them in their own language, playing chess with them, inviting them to camp parties. When he came home a hero, his old friend Teddy, now President Roosevelt, assured his career by promoting him from captain to brigadier general.

In 1905 he was sent to Japan as military attaché to the U.S. embassy, and during the Russo-Japanese War he spent several months as an observer with the Japanese army in Manchuria. In recognition of his service in the Philippines, President Theodore Roosevelt promoted Pershing to brigadier general from the rank of captain in 1906, passing over 862 more-senior officers in doing so. Pershing returned to the Philippines and remained there until 1913, serving as commander of the department of Mindanao and governor of Moro Province. He next gained attention as commander of the punitive expedition sent against the Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa, who had raided Columbus NM, in 1916. After the death of Maj. Gen. Frederick Funston in 1917, Pershing succeeded him as commander on the U.S.-Mexican border.

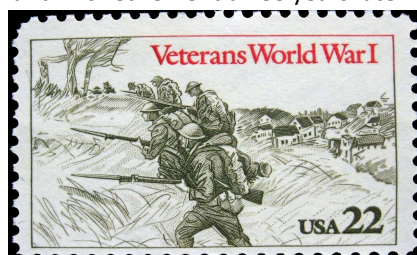
On the United States declaration of war on Germany (April 1917), President Woodrow Wilson selected Pershing to command the American troops being sent to Europe. The transition from the anti-insurgency campaigns that had characterized much of Pershing's career to the vast stagnant siege of the Western Front was an extreme test, but Pershing brought to the challenge a keen administrative sense and a knack for carrying out plans in spite of adversity. With his staff, Pershing landed in France on 1917 June 09, and that month he submitted a "*General Organization Report*" recommending the creation of an army of one million men by 1918 and three million by 1919. Earlier American planning had not contemplated such a large army. Having assumed that the AEF could not be organized in time to support military operations on the Western Front, the Allies had asked only for financial, economic, and naval assistance. Pershing's recommendations regarding the numbers and disposition of troops prevailed, however, especially after Allied fortunes worsened during 1917. By early 1918, American plans had called for concentrating an independent army on the Western Front, which Pershing hoped would spearhead a decisive offensive against Germany.

The exhaustion of the Allies, stemming from the setbacks of 1917, increased their dependence on U.S. arms. It also engendered pressure on Pershing to condone the "*amalgamation*" of small units of American troops into European armies, as the Allies desperately wanted replacements for their depleted formations to resist expected attacks. From the start, Pershing insisted that the integrity of the American army be preserved, making a firm stand against French tutelage and the French desire to infuse the new American blood into their ranks. Pershing also opposed proposals to divert some U.S. troops to secondary theatres. The Supreme War Council, an institution established to coordinate the political-military strategy of the Allies, continually recommended amalgamation and that diversionary operations be conducted elsewhere than in France, but Pershing remained unmoved. If Pershing's stance imposed a strain on the exhausted Allies, it was justified by the oft-cited warning against "*pouring new wine into old bottles.*" Pershing also felt that such an arrangement would represent an unprecedented sacrifice of national prestige. He argued that the fielding of an independent American army would be a serious blow to German morale and provide a permanent uplift to American self-confidence.

The Allied disasters of early 1918 seemed to demonstrate the great risk that had been taken in pursuit of Pershing's ideal. The Germans, their Western Front armies having been strongly reinforced because of the armistice recently concluded between the Central Powers and Russia, embarked on a fresh wave of attacks designed to break the Allies' will before the Americans could deploy in strength. At the Second Battle of the Somme, German armies advanced 40 miles and captured some 70,000 Allied prisoners. When the German offensives of March–June 1918 threatened Paris, Pershing placed all his resources firmly at the disposal of French Marshal Ferdinand Foch. These pressures subsided when the Allies assumed the offensive during the summer, however, and Pershing reverted to his previous policy.

Pershing's AEF never became entirely self-sufficient, but it conducted two significant operations. In September 1918, the AEF assaulted the Saint-Mihiel salient successfully. Then, at Foch's request, later that month Pershing quickly regrouped his forces for the Meuse-Argonne offensive, despite his original plans to advance toward Metz. Though incomplete preparations and inexperience slowed the Meuse-Argonne operations, the inter-Allied offensive in France destroyed German resistance in early October and led to the Armistice the following month.

Pershing was criticized for operational and logistic errors, but his creation of the AEF was a remarkable achievement. He returned home with a sound reputation, and, on 1919 September 01, he was given the rank of general of the armies of the United States. His determination and dedication had gained him the respect and admiration of his men, if not their affection. Eschewing politics, Pershing remained in the army, serving as chief of staff from 1921 until his retirement three years later.



On 1948 July 15, Pershing died of coronary artery disease and congestive heart failure at Walter Reed General Hospital in Washington DC, which was his home after 1944. He lay in state at the United States Capitol rotunda[98] and following a state funeral, he was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, near the grave sites of the soldiers he commanded in Europe.

