Perforations

LCPS
Lake County
Philatelic Society

Last month, **Kevin Kellermann**, of the **Rasdale Stamp Company** gave a very interesting talk that covered the history of the company founded in Michigan in 1932, its migration to Illinois and the evolution of a downtown stamp dealership into a major auction house.

What was most interesting was the description of how the auction was compiled and the number of man-hours required to get from a stack of boxes, breaking them down to individual lots, describing each lot, imaging the lot and compiling everything into the catalog for internet display.

From here it is *"easy"* — the auction itself.

Their February Auction #458, involved 1,063 lots

Lot	Condition	Description
1	★★	Well organized in stockbooks beginning with Scott #551. Singles, sets, line-pairs, booklet panes, ducks, postage dues, plus other good back of the book. All mint mostly never hinged with some issues having collectable shades. Will make for excellent dealer stock.

Lot #1 of #458

(see *https://www.rasdalestamps.com/auction_browse.asp?auction=458*).

Then there are the after-auction details, collecting/disbursing the money, delivery of the lots, recycling lots that did not sell, compiling/posting the prices realized and addressing the business-related expenses — in all, it is a lot of work and indeed that *"hefty"* commission is well justified.

This month, it is *"Bring Your Favorite Album(s) — and tell us why …"*

Next Stamp Show

June 24

Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	**14**	**15**	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Milcopex 2024
Brookfield
Conference Center
325 South
Moorland Rd
Brookfield WI

The IBM Hollerith Card Meets the Post Office *(1945 – 1951)*

Postal Note Stamps

Postal note stamps **(Scott Catalogue "PN")** tied to the *postal note cards*, were created to send small amounts of money up to 99-cents to anyone in the 48 states of the republic.

United States Postal Note

May 24								June 24								July 24						
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su		Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
		1	2	3	4	5							1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		3	4	5	6	7	8	9		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		10	11	12	13	14	15	16		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		17	**18**	19	20	21	22	23		22	**23**	24	25	26	27	28
27	**28**	29	30	31				24	25	26	27	28	29	30		29	30	31				
31																						

Meeting Schedule & Topics
28 May – "Stamp Albums"
18 June – Swap Meet @
Grayslake Historical Society Building
23 July – "Micro-Philately"

Next Meeting:
2:00-PM on Tuesday, 28 May 2024
Grayslake Library Any Changes will be posted
on: lcpshome.org

Officers:
Dave Schenkel / Tom Willer – Co-presidents
Bill Schultz – Vice President
Dave Sadler – Secretary
Gary Olson – Treasurer

They functioned very much like money orders; the stamps were created to send small amounts at a *lower cost per transaction* than money orders which were cost prohibitive for small values. The stamps were issued from 1945 February 01 until 1951 March 31.

Not only did postal notes prove to be more affordable than money orders for small value transactions, they resulted in *less paperwork for postal clerks*, as demanded by the Post Office. With postal notes the clerk had only to affix the stamps and cancel them, a normal postal handling. The paperwork was completed by the customer who filled out the form himself.

Postal Note Stamps (PN1 – PN18)

2

Each postal note contained three sections. On the left was the payees. The middle section contained the paying office coupon upon which postal note stamps were affixed which was left at the post office when the money was paid out, with the right most section being the purchaser's receipt.

The stamps came in eighteen denominations and the postal notes were printed in eleven denominations. Generally, one or two stamps per note could be combined to reach values between 1-cent and 99-cents. Patrons could insure the note for an additional fee of 5-cents.
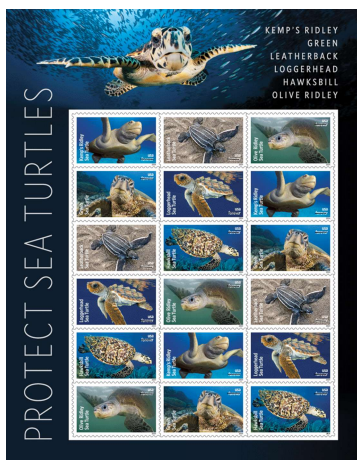
The design — at the top of each stamp are the words "United States of America" in white against a black background. The words "Postal Note" are printed in the "novel" font against a grey background. The value is also in white against a black background. Curled laurel branches are engraved around the value on both sides. The word "cent(s)" has been printed below.

The stamps were designed by William K. Schrage and engraved by Charles A. Brooks. The lettering was engraved by Axel W. Christensen. The numbers were engraved three individuals — John S. Edmondson (1, 3, 4,10, 30, 50, 70, 80 and 90 cents), Edward H. Helmuth (7 and 20 cents) and Axel W. Christensen (2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 40 and 60 cents). These engravers were also employed heavily with the "Liberty" issue of 1954.

They were the second issue of stamps to be contracted outside the BEP to the American Banknote Company (who also printed the Overrun Counties issue of 1943) on a rotary press printer. They were unwatermarked and are perforated 11 x 10½. The stamps were printed on two types of paper — with the first issue paper being a thick/gray in color with the second issue (~1949) on thin/white paper.

New Issues

06 June

11 June

14 June
(Flag Day)

The number of stamps actually printed is unknown. The amount is estimated around 660 million stamps total, or about 40 million of each value. The stamps were destroyed after use but a limited number were offered for sale to collectors in 1951.

The complete set of 18 stamps cost between $12.00 and $64.00 depending on condition.