

# ACROSS THE FENCE



Vol. XXXI No. 4

April 2009

<http://www.WFSCstamps.org/>

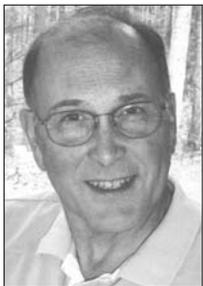
## Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

American Philatelic Society Chapter #350, American Topical Association Chapter #107

### President's corner

#### A Wisconsin stamp

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC



A woman born in Watertown, Wis., will be honored on a United States postage stamp in May, and the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs is planning a first-day ceremony there.

Mary Woodard Lasker will be the second Watertown resident to be featured on a definitive stamp. The first was Carl

Schurz, who was on the 4c stamp (Scott 1847) in the Great Americans series. It was released June 3, 1983, in Watertown, with an appropriate ceremony by the U.S. Postal Service.

Lasker was selected to be on a 78c stamp in the Distinguished Americans series that will pay the three-ounce letter rate under the rate schedule that will go into effect in May. The stamp won't have an official ceremony because of government cost-cutting procedures. However, it will have a nationwide release, which gives us a chance to hold a ceremony in her hometown. The official first-day city, whose name will appear in the cancel if you order a first-day cover from the U.S. Postal Service, will be Washington, D.C.

Without a ceremony, Mary Lasker might remain as obscure to the general populace as she was most of her life. She admitted that she was at heart a shy person, but, blessed with a fortune in money and connections at the highest level of American government and society, she literally and figuratively changed the landscape of America and how it faces dread diseases.

The inscription on the stamp calls her a philanthropist, but she was equally appreciated in some circles because of her efforts in urban beautification. In fact, she played no small part in the Beautification of America campaign started by President Lyndon Johnson and his wife, Lady Bird. Stamps issued in 1966 and 1968 helped to promote the effort. In fact, some claim that Lasker helped to persuade Mrs.



Above left is the original 1940s-era photograph from which the Mary Lasker stamp was designed.

Johnson to embark on the campaign.

The Lasker family donated hundreds of thousands of flower bulbs to decorate New York City and Washington, D.C., and planted hundreds of cherry trees at the United Nations in New York.

A rose was named in her honor in the 1980s.

The Federation is planning, along with some city officials, a ceremony that will call attention to the woman who grew up as the daughter of a banker in Watertown, attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison and worked in an art gallery in New York before she married Albert Davis Lasker, head of one of the most powerful advertising agencies in America. He died of colon cancer in 1956. They had no children.

They established a foundation that became a catalyst in the fight against dread diseases, but, perhaps more importantly, used their social standing and ability to garner support to change the role of government in medical research. The American Cancer Society and the National Institutes of Health have benefited from their attention.

"I am opposed to heart attacks and cancer and strokes the way I am opposed to sin," she said, and, "You can solve any problem if you have money, people and equipment."

When Mary Lasker saw the need to promote cancer research, she turned to another former

Wisconsinite, who wrote a nationally syndicated advice column under the name of Ann Landers. Following Landers' lead, people flooded Congress with letters urging senators and representatives to direct tax money to medical research.

Lasker counted as her friends people in the highest echelon of government and society for half a century. She died in 1994 at the age of 93.

The WFSC plans to prepare a cacheted cover appropriate to the Lasker stamp and design a pictorial cancel for use by the USPS. The WFSC will also arrange a program of speakers who will make brief talks. We also will arrange for displays of other Wisconsin-related stamps, promotional material for the city and nearby stamp clubs, stamp-collecting kits for youth, and other material.

If you can't participate in the ceremony, maybe you can order a cover.

### Inside this issue:

- 1...President's Corner
- 2...Clubs are Trump
- 3...Unique semi-airmail proof found
- 3...Who's Who in the Hall of Fame
- 4...Illustrated Encyclopedia of Stamps & Terms

## Clubs are Trump

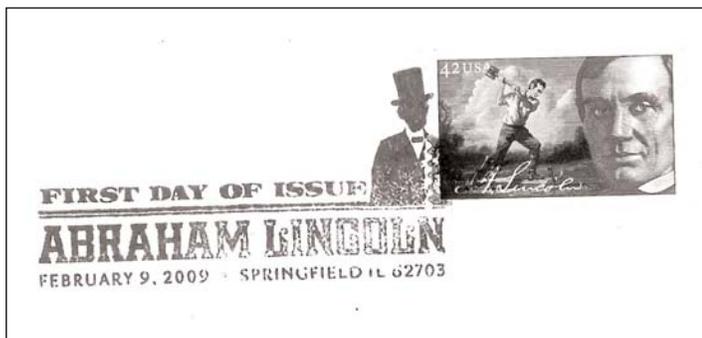
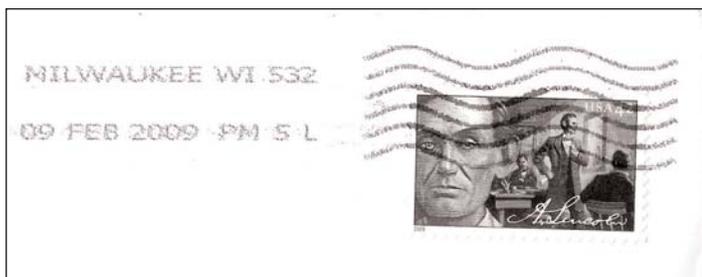
By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

The *Post Scripts* newsletter of the **Kenosha Stamp & Cover Club** for March was mailed on Feb. 9, the day the Abraham Lincoln stamps were issued, so club members got an unofficial first-day cover with a sprayed-on postmark.

There was no reference to the significance of the cancellation in

the newsletter. Perhaps the editor wasn't sure the newsletter mailing and the issue date would coincide. But it makes an interesting object lesson.

Coincidentally, the **Chicago Philatelic Society** sent out its February *Bulletin* bearing a Lincoln stamp with a pictorial cancel from the ceremony held Feb. 9 in Springfield, Ill. (*The Bulletin*, incidentally, regularly lists stamp shows throughout Wisconsin.)



Several clubs enliven their mailing pieces with cachets of some kind and use pictorial cancels when available. It takes a little more attention and work on the part of the mailer, but it can pay off with an appreciative audience.

Both items are shown in the accompanying illustrations.

\*\*\*

### Program ideas

An area stamp collector who has a 16-page, single-frame exhibit on the 2c Harding Memorial stamp of 1923 presented a program at a meeting of the **Northwoods Philatelic Society**, Iron Mountain, Mich.

The **Green Bay Philatelic Society** watched a slide show on the Pan-American Exposition stamps and related covers.

The **Waukesha County Philatelic Society** got the new year underway with an audience-participation program on "My Favorite Philatelic Acquisition of 2008." Another program was a group discussion on "Mounting and Storing Covers."

\*\*\*

### What others are doing

The **Rockford (Ill.) Stamp Club** one-frame exhibit at

Chicagopex received a gold award.

The **Northwoods Philatelic Society**, Iron Mountain, Mich., thought it had spent down the proceeds from Felch Post Office Centennial project by donating stamp catalogs to three area schools. Then the Felch postmaster revealed she had sold five more covers and had an additional \$10. The club plans to donate that money to libraries also.

Things you might not know if you didn't read club newsletters: The first foreign country to recognize the new United States of America was Morocco, according to one item at a **Green Bay Philatelic Society** Scavenger Hunt at a club meeting.

It's almost a clean sweep at the **North Shore Philatelic Society**, Glendale, for the Henak family in 2009. Robert is president and treasurer, and Ellen is vice president. Howard H. Perlick sneaks in as secretary.

To save money, the **Milwaukee Philatelic Society** cut the frequency of its newsletter from once a month to once every two months.

\*\*\*

Information for "Clubs Are Trump" is gathered from club newsletters. Please send newsletters to Maurice D. Wozniak, 1010 Berlin St., Waupaca WI 54981.

## Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs officers

### PRESIDENT

**Maurice D. Wozniak**  
1010 Berlin St.  
Waupaca, WI 54981  
715-258-2025  
mwoz@live.com

### VICE PRESIDENT

**Jim Stollenwerk**  
1020 Hazelwood Court  
West Bend WI, 53095  
Home: 262-306-0829  
Cell: 262-305-1483  
JSASTOLLEN@charter.net

### SECRETARY

Vacant

### TREASURER

**Charles H. Green**  
5199 Bittersweet Lane  
Oshkosh WI 54901-9753  
(920) 426-1066  
bgreen9001@yahoo

### VP YOUTH DIVISION

**MaryAnn Bowman**  
P.O. Box 1451  
Waukesha, WI 53187

### NE REGION VP

**Al Marcus** (maram@tds.net)  
Green Bay Phil. Soc.  
Northwoods Phil. Soc. (Iron Mountain)  
Outagamie Phil. Soc.  
Wisc. Postal Hist. Soc.

### EAST CENT. REGION VP

**Vern Witt**  
Fond du Lac Stamp Club  
Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club  
Manitowoc Phil. Soc.  
Oshkosh Phil. Soc.  
Sheboygan Stamp Club

### SW REGION VP

**Valerie Cook**  
Badger Stamp Club  
Baraboo Stamp Club  
Janesville Stamp Club  
Monroe Stamp & Postcard Club  
Rockford Stamp Club

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION VP

**Art Gaffney**  
stehlee@aol.com  
Waukesha County Phil. Soc.

### SE REGION VP

**Art Schmitz**  
pescador@milwpc.com  
Am. Top. Assn. (Chap. 5)  
Belle City Stamp Club  
Kenosha Stamp & Cover Club  
North Shore Phil. Soc. (Milw.)  
Northwestern Mutual Stamp Club  
Polish American Stamp Club  
Wauwatosa Phil. Soc.

### Art Petri

American Air Mail Soc. (Billy Mitchell Chapter)  
Germany Phil. Soc.  
(Chap. 18)  
Italian American Stamp Club  
Milwaukee Phil Soc.

### CENTRAL REGION VP

**Mike Lenard**  
mjlenard@aol.com  
Central Wisc. Stamp Club  
Chippewa Valley Stamp Club  
Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club (Rhineland)  
Wisconsin Valley Phil. Soc.

**Across the Fence Post** is the official publication of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs, Inc., a 501c3 non-profit organization. WFSC also is a life member of the APS (since 1953). For more information about WFSC, please contact the Central Office.

AFTP is published monthly September through April, and every other month May through August (10 issues per year). News of Wisconsin collectors, club news and gratis original philatelic features are welcomed. The editor accepts submissions in any format, but prefers email if possible. Editor reserves the right to make editorial changes to submitted copy.

Material appearing in AFTP not carrying an individual copyright notice may be reproduced only by not-for-profit organizations, provided the author(s) and AFTP receive credit or attribution. All materials carrying an individual copyright notice are the sole property of the author(s).

Unless explicitly stated by an officer in conjunction with official WFSC business, opinions expressed by the editor or individual authors are not necessarily endorsed by the WFSC.

Submission deadlines for editorial and advertising materials are for the 1st of the month preceding month of publication (i.e. Jan. 1 for Feb. issue).

All show calendar information, along with all other editorial matter and listings, should be sent to: Wayne L. Youngblood, Editor AFTP, P.O. Box 111, Scandinavia WI 54977-0111. (youngblood@tds.net) phone: 715-467-4416.

Advertising material and payment should be sent to Dave Carney, Advertising Manager, AFTP, P.O. Box 55, Kimberly, WI 54136-0055. (dcarney@new.rr.com) phone: 920-687-9077. For a complete list of advertising rates and policies (display, classified and listings), request a copy from the advertising manager.

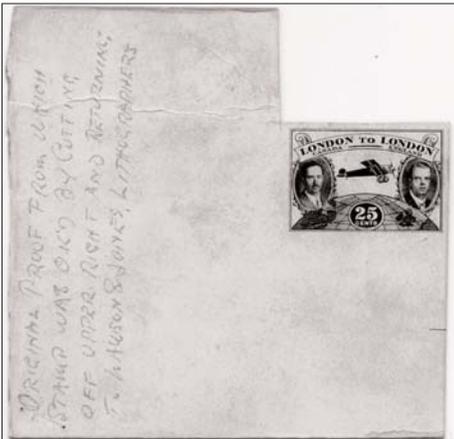
# Unique semi-airmail proof found in sock drawer; lies unrecognized as rarity for nearly 82 years

Wayne L. Youngblood

One of those very rare instances when a previously unknown significant philatelic item turns up out of the blue occurred earlier this year. The situation is still playing itself out.

John Harding, Jr., a Toronto banker with the Royal Bank of Canada, ran across an item in his sock drawer that had been given to him by his father a number of years ago, along with the admonition that it was "worth something." "It didn't mean anything to me," said Harding.

The item is a previously unknown (and



The unique black-on-card proof for the London-to-London semi-official. Scrawled across the large left margin is a note of explanation.

unique) printer's proof for the rare 25¢ London-to-London semi-official airmail issue created for a doomed transatlantic flight in 1927. The stamp, 100 of which were printed for the special flight from London, Ontario, to London, England, pictures pilot Capt. Terrance Tully and navigator James Medcalf. The vast majority of the stamps were placed on souvenir mail on the aircraft, which disappeared into heavy fog off the coast of Newfoundland.

As a result, for almost 82 years collectors and historians have been aware of only a unique cover and a very small handful of singles that escaped destruction when the *Sir John Carling* presumably crashed into the Atlantic Ocean. Proofs were never thought to exist.

The proof is printed on card stock, one of two impressions. A handwritten note in the large margin at left reads, "Original proof from which stamp was OK'd by cutting off upper right and returning to Lawson S. Jones, Lithographers." Indeed, the upper-right corner was cut away, leaving the single black proof.

According to Harding, his father inherited the proof from a friend who had gotten it from the printer at some point. "People told my father it was worth something," said Harding. "He kept it in a box in his attic for the better part of 40 years. Then he gave it to me and said: 'See what you can get for it someday.'" Harding, for his part, kept the proof in a drawer for many years, totally unaware of its significance to the philatelic world.

Finally, he decided to put it up for sale on

eBay. Within hours Harding received a message from a Toronto collector stating simply: "Meet me downtown. I'll pay a substantial sum of cash."

Instead, he took the item to John H. Talman Ltd., a dealer and small local auction firm. Talman immediately knew what the item was and explained it to Harding. The proof was offered "as is," at public auction and was sold to an American for \$11,500 (including buyer's premium) — a bargain by any sense of the word. The last time the cover was sold (along with a mint single), it hammered for \$125,000, more than 12 times that amount.

Since the sale, the proof has been expertized (it's genuine) and will be offered in the April 23-25, 2009, Charles Firby auction. It is expected to fetch up to \$40,000, but could easily top that.

## Across the Fence Post Ad Rates (revised 1/06)

Type Size	Commercial Rate	Club Rate
A Full page (7 1/4" x 9 1/2")	\$42.00	\$33.75
B Half page (7 1/4" x 4 3/4")	\$26.25	\$21.00
C Large 1/4 page (4 3/4" x 6")	\$20.50	\$16.50
D Medium 1/4 page (4 3/4" x 3 3/4")	\$14.75	\$11.75
E 1/8 page (2 1/4" x 3 3/4")	\$7.50	\$6.00
F Econo Ad (2 1/4" x 2 3/4")	\$3.75	\$3.00
G Reduced Business Card (2 1/4" x 1 1/4")	\$2.75	\$2.25
H Back page (7 1/4" x 9 1/2")	\$57.75	N/A

Please make checks payable to: W.F.S.C. Payment may be mailed to either the editor or advertising manager.

## WHO'S WHO IN THE HALL OF FAME

The Wisconsin Philatelic Hall of Fame was established to recognize prominent Wisconsin philatelists for contributions to the hobby in the state of Wisconsin and beyond.

This series of short columns will familiarize *Across the Fence Post* readers with some of the individuals who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame since 1976, as well as some of the interesting details about them.

Which individual most closely matches the following statements? The correct answer appears elsewhere in this issue of *ATFP*:

This month's HOF member is past-president of the American Topical Association. He also served as treasurer and show chairman for the annual National Topical Stamp Show and collects and exhibits donkeys on stamps. He has a collection of dirt samples from around the world from pure white to the blackest of black. Because he was a farm boy, his high-school yearbook had a note beneath his picture that said, "He knows all the dirt."

- (a) Henry J. Schmidt
- (b) Mike Lenard
- (c) Bob Mather
- (d) Al Marcus



# DANEPEX '09

A Salute to Abraham Lincoln  
Madison, WI 53704

## Sunday, April 19

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

---

### Crowne Plaza Hotel - Madison, WI

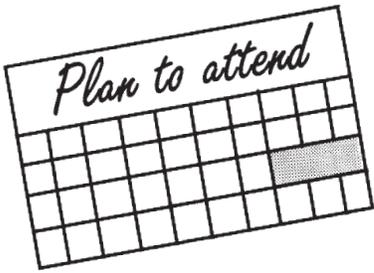
4402 E. Washington Ave. (across from East Towne Mall)

- Judged Philatelic Exhibits featuring a statewide single-frame championship competition
- 15 Dealers
- U.S. Postal Service Station
- Door Prizes
- Free Stamp Collection Appraisals

- Beginners Table for Youth and Adults instructions on the basics of stamp collecting & free stamps
- Free Admission/Parking
- Handicap Accessible
- Show Cover & Cancel honoring Lincoln's 200th birthday

Sponsored by Badger Stamp Club

For more information call 608-221-2311; e-mail [lestamps@charter.net](mailto:lestamps@charter.net)



# Show Calendar and Registry

List your show, bourse, auction or other event here!  
 Calendar listings are free for one WFSC member-club event per year. Classified advertising rates apply for all non-members and other events appearing in this section.

## 2009 WFSC show schedule\*

\*Some dates and details may be subject to change, and there will likely be additional listings.

### Apr. 19, 2009

**Madison, Danepex '09  
Badger Stamp Club**  
 Crowne Plaza Hotel, 4402 E. Washington Ave. (across from East Towne Mall), Wadison WI, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Contact:** Bob Voss, 5533 Kevins Way, Madison, WI 53714 (608) 221-2311, lestamps@charter.net

### Apr. 25, 2009

**Appleton, Outapex '09  
Outagamie Philatelic Society**  
 Four Aces (formerly Columbus Club), 2531 N. Richmond St., 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Contact:** Al Marcus, (920) 725-0798 allan.marym@hotmail.com)

### May 9, 2009

**Sheboygan Falls  
Sheboygan Stamp and Coin Show,  
Sheboygan Stamp Club**  
 Municipal Building, 375 Buffalo St.  
**Contact:** Barbara Stohl, P.O. Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53082, (920) 458-4883

### June 13, 2009

**Rhinelander, Annual Show and Bourse  
Northwoods Stamp and Coin Club**  
 James Williams Middle School, 915 Acacia Ln., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Contact:** Larry Marten, 3295 Hancock Lake Rd., Harshaw, WI 54529 (715) 282-5636, lfmarten@yahoo.com / Bill Julian (715) 277-2692

### June 27-28, 2009

**West Allis, Tri-Pex Stamp Fair  
ATA Chapter 5 & North Shore Phil. Soc.**  
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall, 1435 So. 92nd St.  
**Contact:** Robert Henak, NSPS, P.O. Box 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217 (414) 351-1519  
 henak8010@sbcglobal.net, www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

### Remember...

Please use stamps on mail whenever possible!

Other major non-WFSC shows near Wisconsin (below):

### May 22-24, 2009 Arlington Heights, IL

**Complex '09  
Chicago Area Philatelic Societies,  
Forest View Educational Center, 2121 So. Goebbert Rd., Arlington IL**

### July 17-19, 2009 Crystal, MN

**Minnesota Stamp Expo  
Maplewood Stamp Club, Twin City Phil. Soc., Lake Minnetonka Stamp Club,  
Minn. Stamp Dealers Assoc.**  
 Crystal Community Center, 4800 N. Douglas Dr. North, Crystal MN

### Illustrated Encyclopedia of Stamps & Terms®

**Agency.** There are two philatelic meanings to this term. The first is a reference to a postal agency of one country's post office, operated in the territory of another, by special arrangement.

The Morocco Agency of Great Britain (complete with overprinted stamps) is just one of many different examples. The second and probably more commonly known type of agency is as the philatelic representative of one country's post office in another country. Examples of this type of agency include Uncover, Interpost and Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corporation, each of which handles the stamps of other countries at face value.

Answer to Who's Who quiz on Page 3:  
Bob Mather

### Fleetwood Max Cards!



I have most regulars and commemoratives between 1984-91. What do you need? While they last:

**\$3.50 ea. postpaid**

20% discount on orders over \$25.

**Wayne Youngblood**  
 P.O. Box 111  
 Scandinavia WI 54977-0111  
 youngblood@tds.net

Always buying, selling, accepting consignments for Regency-Superior Auctions.

03.09

### Attention WFSC members:

As a special offer to collectors who read *ATFP* (and as a way to help the organization), I will send the WFSC 15% of all sales generated by this ad. Please specify at the time of your purchase that this is the "WFSC Special."

**Dave's Stamps  
(Dave Carney)**  
 P.O. Box 55  
 Kimberly WI 54136  
 dcarney1@new.rr.com  
 (920) 687-9077

APS Lifetime member

01.10

**METROPOLITAN STAMP COMPANY**  
 Of Chicago, Inc.    
 P.O. Box 657 Park Ridge, IL 60068-0657

Collections Bought & Sold  
 U.S. • Worldwide • U.S. & Foreign Ducks  
 Ted Castro Paul Enderle  
 (815) 439-0142 (847) 698-3351  
 FAX (815) 439-0143 FAX (847) 698-3381  
 E-Mail: metrostamp@aol.com  
 02.10 www.metropolitanstamps.com

**Lake Edge Stamp Service (L.E.S.S.)**   
 Robert T. Voss  
 5333 Kevins Way  
 Madison, WI 53714  
 lestamps@charter.net  
 (608) 221-2311  
 03.09 Lots of Worldwide Stamps Bought and Sold 

**Roger H. Oswald**  
 R.H.O. Postal History and Stamps  
 Buy, Sell, & Trade  
 Civil War Artifacts  
 Postcards & Stamps  
 Paper Americana  
 2514 Sheridan Pl.  
 Manitowoc, WI 54220  
 (920) 682-6793  
 rhopostalhistory@att.net  
 03.09 