

# ACROSS THE FENCE



Vol. XXXI No. 6

July-August 2009

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

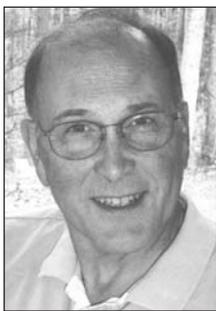
## Newsletter of the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs

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

### President's corner

#### Making Connections

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC



Just when we thought there was no Wisconsin connection in the United States Postal Service lineup for 2009, one fell in our lap with the rate-change issues. The story of the first-day ceremony for the Mary Lasker stamp, held in Watertown May 15, can be found elsewhere in this edition of *Across the Fence Post*.

It was an enjoyable event and, as hoped, provided favorable publicity for the Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs.

Other state tie-ins also appeared, although somewhat tentative and obscure. Finding a Wisconsin connection can be as challenging as uncovering a valuable cover in a dealer's dollar box. But the search is fun.

First, shortly after my February column, complaining about the lack of a Wisconsin stamp, Eliot Landau called from Illinois to offer a sheepish suggestion. He is a member of the Milwaukee Philatelic Society, he said, and he proposed back in 2000 that the Lincoln commemorative issue refer to the great president at several stages in his life. Did that count as a Wisconsin connection?

Hmm. Well, beggars can't be choosers. I guess it's a connection – of sorts.

Here's another one, discovered while I was looking through old copies of *Linn's Stamp News*: Supreme Court Chief Justice William H.

Rehnquist lobbied in 1990 for more stamps depicting justices. I'm sure that's why on Sept. 22 we'll get four more.

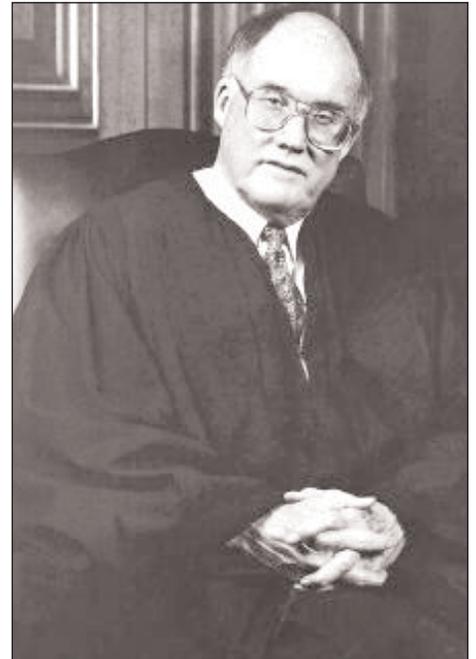
Rehnquist (1924-2005), who was born in Milwaukee and grew up in Shorewood, was responsible for getting John Marshall's image on the Supreme Court stamp in the U.S. Constitution set of 1989-90. The designer's original drawing had an allegorical figure on the stamp. [Editor's Note: Rehnquist was, himself, a stamp collector.]

Then, at the first-day ceremony for the stamp, Feb. 2, 1990, Rehnquist noted that few justices have appeared on stamps. (The article in *Linn's* pointed out that five of his 15 predecessors as chief justice have been honored on stamps.) Postmaster General Anthony Frank responded that if the 700,000 lawyers in the country would use the mail more often to send documents perhaps "we could accommodate some of your wishes."

The two examples typify the length of time that usually elapses between a stamp suggestion and its appearance. One of the aims of the WFSC is to promote Wisconsin subjects for stamps and to ensure that collectors are aware of state connections when they occur.

That's why we encouraged a first-day ceremony at Mary Lasker's birthplace. At the ceremony, I mentioned another deserving milestone in Watertown, America's first kindergarten. That has been suggested before, and obvious milestones have passed without a stamp, but it's a worthwhile subject, and we'll continue to promote it and other people, places and events through the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee.

And then there was the May issue of five stamps for the television cartoon program, *The Simpsons*. The Postal Service held a quirky sec-



Supreme Court Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist

ond-day event in Springfield, Wis. (Walworth County), that included an impersonation contest in conjunction with the issue.

The long-running TV series, in case you don't know, is set in a city called "Springfield" but in an unspecified state.

I had hoped to attend, but it was held at 6 p.m., and that would have meant that I'd have missed a meeting of my stamp club. Only two stamp collectors were there, according to reports.

### Inside this issue:

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- 3...Migratory Bird Day & Earth Day Celebration, cachets available

### 2009-10 Show/Bourse/Club Meeting Info Flier

The 2009-10 show/bourse/meeting flier will be updated and sent with the September issue of *ATFP*.

If you want your show/bourse or meeting schedule to appear on the list covering events through the summer of 2010, please send details (no later than Aug. 1, 2009) to Karen Weigt, 4184 Rose Ct., Middleton, WI 53562-4339, 608-836-1509, or e-mail [kweigt@tds.net](mailto:kweigt@tds.net). Include a contact name, address, phone number and e-mail address. The events calendar will also be published on the WFSC Web site ([wfscstamps.org](http://wfscstamps.org)). This is a very important listing to enable collectors to find shows and meetings in the areas in which they either live or visit.

## Clubs are Trump

By Maurice D. Wozniak, President of WFSC

In a recent issue of the *Milwaukee Philatelist*, newsletter of the **Milwaukee Philatelic Society**, member Gene Wolosiewicz recounted the fascinating story of the Czeslaw Slania Study Group.

Encouraging club members to write their philatelic biography, however brief, can result in interesting nuggets for your newsletters, as several clubs have discovered.

Wolosiewicz said he got interested in the work of Slania when he examined an exhibit of the prolific Swedish engraver's stamps at Milcopex one year. The exhibitor had a magnifying glass hanging from each of several frames so viewers could get a close-up look at the stamps.

"I couldn't believe what I was seeing," Wolosiewicz wrote. "Then I realized, 'This is it. I'm hooked on Czeslaw Slania.'"

On a club-sponsored bus trip to Chicagopex, another MPS member suggested that a Slania club might be popular, so they planned an organizational meeting at Milcopex and placed a notice in *Linn's Stamp News*.

"To our surprise, 20 people attended," Wolosiewicz recalled. "March 3, 1985, was the birth of the internationally recognized Czeslaw Slania Study Group."

Wolosiewicz was editor of the group's quarterly newsletter for 14 years.

(In his report, Wolosiewicz added an aside: "I must make a comment regarding editors of newsletters. It is the most unappreciated and thankless job of any organization. I wish every member would be forced to be editor of at least

one issue of their club's newsletter. Criticism would be diminished considerably.")

Wolosiewicz said his greatest joy as a philatelist was being able to dine with Slania several times "and have conversations I never imagined."

Slania's death in 2005 rocked the group, but members sent little-known information from various sources and kept the organization going through 2008, Wolosiewicz said. Then dwindling newsletter articles and failing health of the leaders forced the group to disband.

"I have been given the privilege of entering the world of great artists, the most level headed, knowledgeable, intelligent and dedicated individuals. Thanks," Wolosiewicz concluded.

\*\*\*

### Program ideas

A program at the **Waukesha County Philatelic Society** on first-day, show and event Covers engendered so much participation that covers filled three tables and the club was only able to get through half the categories. The club also planned a program on postal history markings on covers and asked members to bring covers to the meeting.

Advertising covers was the subject for a show-and-tell at an ATA Chapter #5 meeting.

\*\*\*

### What others are doing

Buffeted by storms at its February club show in recent years, the **Central Wisconsin Stamp Club** in Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids will sponsor a second 2009 club show Nov. 7 in Plover. The theme will be the bicentennial of

the birth of Edgar Allan Poe.

Things you might not know if you didn't read your newsletter – in this case the *Open Album* of the **NML Stamp Club**, Milwaukee: Among 19 notable people who served in United States post offices before they became famous are 10 who can be found on U.S. stamps. They include Jane Addams, Walt Disney, Charles R. Drew, William Faulkner, Sidney Lanier, Abraham Lincoln, Knute Rockne, Harry Truman, Noah Webster and Richard Wright.

Jim Stearns, bulletin editor for the **Northwoods Philatelic Society**, Iron Mountain, Mich., included good advice looking ahead to a club auction: "Bring some lots, a little spending money and a philatelic friend."

\*\*\*

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

### 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

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(Chap. 18)  
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Chippewa Valley Stamp Club  
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**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.

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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.

# WFSC Joins May 15 Mary Lasker Stamp Ceremony

Maurice D. Wozniak, WFSC President

About 200 people gathered on the front lawn of a 19th-century mansion in Watertown, Wis., May 15, for a ceremony in memory of a woman who was born there and went on to revolutionize health care research and treatment in America.

Mary Woodard Lasker is featured on a 78c stamp in her honor, part of the Distinguished Americans definitive stamp series of the United States Postal Service. The Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs designed a cacheted cover and a pictorial cancel for the first-day-of-sale event. (A few copies of the cover are still available at \$3 and a No. 10 SASE by mail.)

Bob Mather contributed four standard exhibit frames and his exhibit based on the previously published WFSC book, *Wisconsin on Stamps*, and Karen Weigt also offered her exhibit, "Greetings From Wisconsin."

Maurice Wozniak, president of WFSC, spoke briefly during the ceremony. He pointed out that when Lasker was born in 1900, only 17 men (and no women) had been honored with their likeness on a U.S. stamp. Today, hundreds of men and women have been fea-

tured on stamps, including one other former Watertown resident, statesman Carl Schurz, in 1983.

He impressed upon the audience how rare it is to have stamps in honor of two people from one small Wisconsin city.

The Federation had pressed for a first-day ceremony in Watertown shortly after the stamp was announced in February as part of the 2009 U.S. stamp program. Wozniak contacted people in Watertown and pointed out that the city's downtown flower-planting project, scheduled for the day following the national stamp release, tied in well with Lasker's significant contributions to urban beautification in New York City and Washington, D.C.

The Watertown Chamber of Commerce and USPS officials provided most of the planning, and the current owners of the former Woodard Mansion graciously allowed the use of the home's porch and lawn for the ceremony.

"Today we are gathered here to celebrate the life of a woman who sought no personal attention, who sought to be remembered mainly for her good works," local historian William Jannke III said.

In 1942, she and her husband,



Albert Lasker, formed the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation.

Her efforts in persuading the country's political leaders to adopt dramatic increases in public funding for biomedical research made her one of the most influential laywomen in the field in the 20th century, Jannke said.

David Martin, USPS Lakeland District manager, said, "It was once said that Mary had it all: intelligence, vision, generosity, charm and kindness. I might add that she also had courage and passion and energy and the heart and will to apply her gifts and talents to reduce suffering from disease for people all over the world."

Jannke pointed out that the home had been built by Lasker's

grandfather. He said that Lasker's mother, who had helped establish Watertown's library in 1903, played a major role in developing young Mary's lifetime drive to benefit society.

"It was from her mother that she grew to appreciate growing things," Jannke said. The philosophy led Lasker into assisting Lady Bird Johnson in various beautification projects across America, including planting hundreds of thousands of trees and flowers, many of which Lasker personally donated, he added.

Wisconsin State Sen. Scott Fitzgerald (R-Juneau) read from a citation approved by the legislature commending Lasker and the release of the stamp.

## Migratory Bird Day and Earth Day Celebrations, Cachets available by mail

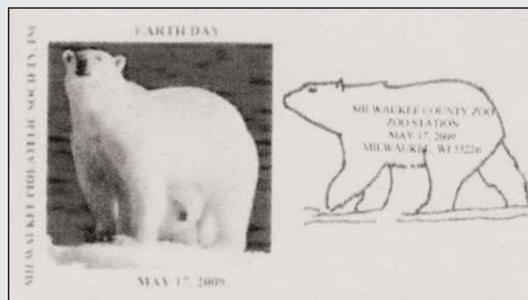
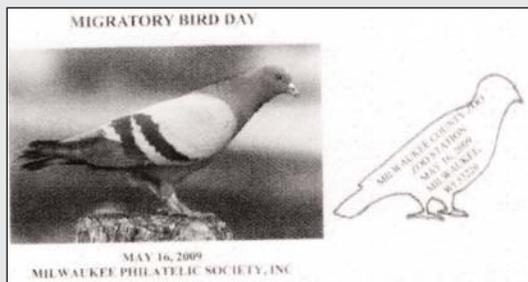
The Milwaukee Philatelic Society and Milwaukee County Zoo have worked together since 2005, putting together an annual show supporting migratory birds. This year the two worked together on a special Earth Day event, held May 16-17.

Two cachets were created for this year's event, one picturing the homing pigeon, the other a polar bear.

Homing pigeons, found in many locations, have been important for carrying messages during wars.

Polar bears are endangered at least in part because their primary food source, seals, are not found in sufficient quantities in their habitats.

Cachets are available for \$2 each, \$3.50 per set of two, and may be ordered from Carol Schutta, 10250 W. Sharon Lane #5, Milwaukee WI 53225-4647.



Please be sure to enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

## 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 has Pre-eminent national authority on Wisconsin precancels and Belgium precancels. He edited and prepared several precancel catalogs and checklists. His *Printed Dated Precancel Catalog* was published in 2001 by the Precancel Stamp Society. Since 2006, has served as editor of the newsletter for the Illini Precancel Stamp Club.

- (a) Mike Lenard
- (b) Tom Sanford
- (c) Paul T. Schroeder
- (d) Dan Undersander

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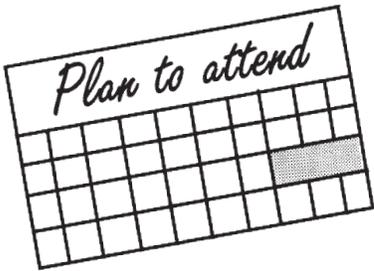
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## Show Calendar and Registry

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.

#### Sept. 25-27, 2009

**Milwaukee – Milcopex '09  
 Milwaukee Philatelic Society**  
 Bergstrom Hall, Mount Mary College,  
 2900 N. Menomonee River Parkway  
**Contact:** Robert Henak  
 MPS, P.O. Box 170832  
 Milwaukee, WI 54317  
 (414) 351-1519  
 henak8010@sbcglobal.net,  
 www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org

#### Oct. 24-25, 2009

**Tosapex '09  
 West Allis – Wauwatosa Philatelic  
 Society**  
 St. Aloysius Gonzaga Hall  
 1435 So. 92nd St.,  
 Sat. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sun. 10-4  
**Contact:** John Fagan (262) 251-0617,  
 faganfalls@aol.com

#### Nov. 21, 2009

**Oshkosh – Oshkosh Stamp Bourse  
 Oshkosh Philatelic Society**  
 Elk's Club, 175 Fernau St.  
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Contact:** Al Marcus –920-725-0798,  
 allan.marym@hotmail.com

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

#### Oct. 3, 2009

**Monroe Stamp and Postcard Show  
 Monroe Stamp and Postcard Club**  
 Monroe Public Library, 925 16th Ave.,  
 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
**Contact:** Earl Button, 1214 Second St.,  
 Monroe, WI 53566  
 (608) 328-2827, ebutton@tds.net

#### Nov. 7, 2009

**Plover – Cenwispex '09 (fall)  
 Central Wisconsin Stamp Club**  
 Plover Village Hall, 2400 Post Rd.  
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Contact:** J.D. Manville, P.O. Box 845,  
 Stevens Point, WI 54481  
 (715) 498-1111

#### April 10, 2010

**Oshkosh  
 Wiscopex '10  
 (Annual Convention and Exhibition of the  
 Wisconsin Federation of Stamp Clubs)**  
 Hosted by the Oshkosh Philatelic Society  
 Christian Schools, 3450 Vinland Rd.,  
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Contact:** Al Marcus (920) 725-0798,  
 allan.marym@hotmail.com

#### Nov. 20-22, 2009 Arlington Heights, IL

**Chicagopex '09  
 Chicago Philatelic Society,**  
 Sheraton Chicago Northwest  
 3400 West Euclid Av  
 Arlington Heights, IL 60005  
 10:00am-6:00pm Friday and Saturday,  
 10:00am-4:00pm Sunday  
**Contact:** Kevin Doyle  
 5815 Lenox Rd  
 Lisle, IL 60532-3138  
 doyle-stamps@att.net

#### Oct. 10, 2009

**Wausau – WaUSApex '09  
 Wisconsin Valley Philatelic Society**  
 Wausau Labor Temple  
 Stewart and 3rd Aves.  
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
**Contact:** WVPS, P.O. Box 71,  
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 ziemfd@dwave.net

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Answer to *Who's Who* quiz on Page 3:  
 Tom Sanford

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**[www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org](http://www.MilwaukeePhilatelic.org)**