

APRIL, 2011

The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle



The Official Journal of the Chattanooga Stamp Club

THE APRIL 14 MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE USUAL LOCATION,
THE EAST RIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST FELLOWSHIP HALL,
915 McBRIEN ROAD, EAST RIDGE, TN

DOORS OPEN AT 7:00 P.M. MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 P.M.

A SECOND MONTHLY MEETING FOR A TIME OF EXCHANGE OF IDEAS, PLANS, TRADING AND
GENERAL FELLOWSHIP IS APRIL 28, SAME TIME, SAME PLACE!

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

In recent months we have lost two active members of the Club, Kath Dowbiggin and Bill LaGanke. Kathy came regularly with her mother Doris and participated in the regular activities of the club. Bill also came regularly as his health allowed and shared his extensive knowledge of collecting stamps with club members by giving various programs. We are going to miss them both.

Last month Bill White gave a short informative presentation on collecting per fins, thank you Bill for all that you do. If anyone else has a short presentation they would be willing to share with the club, contact Jo King 423 698-2534 and she will line you up. In April we will have an auction, hopefully you are getting some items to put up for sale. In May we are planning single page exhibits. I hope every member will enter at least one (you can enter three). I am looking at prizes, maybe even cash.

Lately, we have been talking about ways to improve the club. One suggestion I like is for members to wear name tags. For people like me, it would be very helpful in remembering names; I think new members would especially benefit from name tags.

Other ideas are circulating; I'll mention some of them another time.

See you at the meeting.

Jim Hogue

CLUB NEWS AND EVENTS

Upcoming Area Shows:

June 4-5HUNTSPEX, Huntsville, AL
Chattanooga Stamp Club:

April 14 Meeting.....	Auction
April 28 Meeting	Second April Meeting
May 12 Meeting	Single Page Exhibit Competition
May 26	Second May Meeting
June 9 Meeting	Picnic

Treasurer's Report

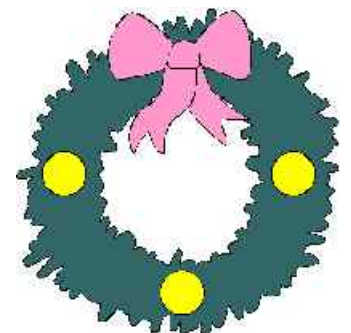
March Balance: \$1416.70.

April Meeting Refreshments:

Snacks	Gene Bricker
Drinks	Tom Matuszak

CHRISTMAS DINNER LOCATION

It's really early to start thinking about Christmas, but it has been suggested that we return to The Tea Cottage on Hickory Valley Road. If we want to meet there, reservations should be made early. Be ready to give your ideas on this suggestion at the April meeting



Denmark to swap stamps for texts

People stuck for a stamp in Denmark will soon be able to send a text message to pay the postage on a letter.

From 1 April, the Danish post office is introducing The Mobile Postage service that does away with stamps for standard sized letters.

Instead, people will send a text to the post office and get back a code they write on the envelope.

Sweden's post office said it was also considering introducing the service and is planning trials.

Code change

Danes sending a text bearing the word "PORTO" to the 1900 number will get in return a code that must be written on a letter in the place they would usually stick a stamp.

"Mobile Postage is a useful supplement for those in need of a stamp regardless of place and time," said Henrik Larsen, a spokesman for Post Danmark in a statement.

Initially only letters up to 50g in weight can bear the mobile postal code. Getting a code will cost 8 DKK (£0.92p), the standard rate for a letter, plus the usual cost of a text message. The charge for the code will be added to a mobile user's phone bill.

Codes must be used within seven days of purchase and only on letters being posted to other addresses within Denmark.

Mr Larsen said the service was not intended to replace stamps.

"We will, of course, still keep the Danish stamp tradition alive as the stamp adds qualities to a letter," he said.

Sweden is also reportedly considering using a similar system for standard letters as well as small parcels up to 2kg in weight.

Chattanooga Stamp Club: What do you think of this???

Help Wanted



Be prepared to sign your name at the April meeting:

1. Sign the list for refreshments for the rest of the year. (See Dan Chaij)
2. Sign the list to mail the newsletter to members without email. (See Gene Bricker)
3. Sign up for a program at the monthly meetings for the rest of the year. (See Jo King)

Thank you for helping make our meetings a success..



April New Issues

April 7	Herbs (Set of 5)
April 7	Common Terns Postal Card
April 8	Lady Liberty and American Flag
April 11	New River Gorge Bridge (Priority Mail Stamp)
April 11	Voyageurs National Park
April 11	George Washington
April 11	Wedding Cake
April 12	The Civil War (2 Stamps)
April 21	Wedding Roses
April 25	Helen Hayes
April 28	Gregory Peck
April ??	Go Green (16 Stamps)
April ??	Oveta Culp Hobby



It looks like we will have a busy month keeping up with the new issues!



Single Page Exhibit Rules

1. Exhibits must be entered in one of three categories
 - a.) Postal History - Entire envelopes with postage and postal markings. Includes FDC's, advertising covers, commemorative covers, ship covers, etc.
 - b.) United States - Any US issue including BOB items, singles, multiples, EFO's etc.
 - c.) Foreign - Any non US items including BOB items etc.
2. Limit 3 entries per person. Can be all in one category or in multiple categories.
3. Must be on 8-1/2 x 11 sheets of white card stock in a plastic page protector.
4. Contents can include anything that fits on a page, i.e. pictures, graphics, photo copies, etc. However a real stamp or cover must be included in the exhibit.
5. Description can be typed or hand written.
6. Judging will be by popular vote of members present.
7. Exhibitors name must not be part of the exhibit.

Neatness counts, members are drawn to exhibits that have good eye appeal

Prizes will be awarded in each category



The Stamp Even Bill Gates Couldn't Afford



During the post-World War I era, Germany was wracked by one of the most famous and spectacular bouts of inflation in history. Under the strain of huge war reparations demanded by the victorious Allies, prices for everything from pumpnickel to postage stamps soared out of control. To put things in perspective, consider this: In July of 1923, the rate for someone to mail a letter from Germany to the United States had risen from 300 marks to 900 marks (equal to a little more than half a cent in U.S. money). Only three months later, the cost to mail that same letter was 6,000 marks. The sample shown here was mailed from Berlin to London on October 18, 1923, and cost 15 million marks. But it didn't stop there. By November, the mark had plunged even further, and stamps were being printed at values as high as 20 billion marks.

During this period of runaway inflation, it became harder and harder to cram enough stamps onto letters and documents to pay for postage or revenue stamp fees. According to sources, one Swiss document had to be sent with 10 feet of paper attached to it, just to hold the required amount of revenue stamps. Eventually, the situation became so bad that Germany temporarily stopped requiring stamps to mail letters. Instead, they allowed customers to pay for postage in cash at the post office, and officials would simply mark the letters as paid.



STAMPS OF THE MONTH

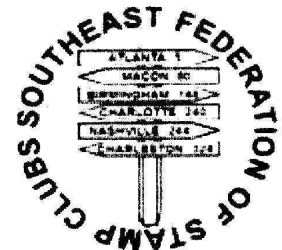
U.S. Scott #630, the 1926 White Plains Souvenir Sheet.

This item is the first U.S. souvenir sheet. Every U.S. collector either has this sheet or wants it. The Scott Catalog values it at \$375 in unused hinged condition, \$450 in used condition, and \$600 in mint never-hinged condition.

It is one of the more fragile U.S. items. It is a pane of 25 2¢ Battle of White Plains stamps with printing in the selva promoting the International Philatelic Exhibition held in New York City in 1926.

Many of the souvenir sheets have perforation separations, mounting stains, thins, heavy hinging, loss of gum, or trimmed selva. Due to these problems, very few sheets are found in the grade of very fine and without flaws or damage.

The individual stamps are indistinguishable from the regular sheet version (Scott #629). Only a small percentage of the souvenir sheets were canceled. This is the reason for the higher valuation of the used sheet. A used example is valued with a cancel from the period of issue.



APS Chapter # 0731

The Chattanooga Stamp Club

The Chattanooga Stamp Club is affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Southeastern Federation of Stamp Clubs. The club has been dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of the philatelic hobby since 1932.

- CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2011 -

President: Jim Hogue

Vice-President: Jo King

Secretary: Open

Treasurer: Carl Anderson

MEETINGS: Club meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at EASTRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST located at 915 McBrien Rd in Eastridge, TN. Meetings begin at 7.30 PM. Come early and enjoy meeting the members as well as talking about stamps.

MEMBERSHIP: Chattanooga Stamp Club memberships are on a calendar year basis. Yearly dues are \$20.00. Send all monetary donations and membership dues to the club's Treasurer, Mr. Carl Anderson, 919 Dunsinane Rd., Signal Mountain, TN 37377.