

Knoxville Philatelic Society

News

November 2004



APS Chapter 1189-119261

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It's been some 3 years or so ago that I sent an email to the American Philatelic Society (APS) concerning the decline in stamp club (APS as well as local) memberships. I suggested at that time that I thought that stamp collecting organizations should lend more attention to recruiting adults (specifically persons over 50 years of age) into membership and less on youth. I didn't get a positive response at that time. As I recall, shortly before Janet Klug was elected President of the APS I sent a similar email to her to which she acknowledged. Ms Klug indicated in her reply that she would be looking into this subject and my suggestions when she got into office. I don't know if you have noticed it or not but in recent months I've seen articles, editorials and letters to the editor on this very same subject in more than just the American Philatelist. I suggested at the last KPS meeting that the Executive Board of the KPS take up the subject of ways to recruit adults into our membership during the November board meeting.

I don't have figures in front of me to reference, but just look around you and I believe that you will agree, most stamp collectors you see are 50 years of age or older. How many do you know who are in their teens? For too long stamp collectors have been "in the closet", for different reasons, not wanting to share their hobby with others. When was the last time that you (stamp collector) brought up the topic of stamp collecting to a non-stamp collector? One of my suggestions to the APS was to barter with the American Association of Retired People (AARP) and, in exchange for an article on the fun of stamp collecting in the AARP member publication, the APS would be provided some advertising. I don't think that our club carries

enough clout to obtain such publicity but I do believe that we can offer programs to clubs where we can publicize our hobby to adults (those of AARP membership age). In addition, we, as individual members and stamp collectors can come out of the closet and share our interest in stamp collecting with others.

Why not give it a try? What do you/we have to loose?

Please understand me, as I'm not saying to forget the youth, but that I feel we should focus more on getting more adults started or restated in stamp collecting. In addition to giving away "youth" packets at stamp shows, how about "adult" starter packs?

(These are my views and not necessarily the views of others in the KPS. This newsletter is open for similar or opposing views on this subject.)

See you at the KPS meeting this month.

Have fun collecting . . .

Jim

Who Collects Bees?

Arlene Samford does! Though Arlene does not raise bees, if you want to know anything about bees, just ask her. Arlene found time in her busy schedule to visit the KPS meeting in October.

The Knoxville Philatelic Society News is published monthly by the Knoxville Philatelic Society. Formed in 1980, the KPS is a member of the American Philatelic Society. Club dues are \$10.00 per year for individuals, \$12.00 per year for family and \$2.00 annually for youth 17 years of age and younger. The KPS maintains websites at: <http://www.vitualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html> and www.stampclubs.com

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She lives in Cherokee, NC, and fortunately for us, had business in Knoxville on the same day as our meeting, so she was able to attend our meeting before trekking back over the mountains. Arlene has been collecting stamps since she received a stamp album and some stamps for Christmas at the age of 11 (we'll say more than 50 years ago). It was not until 1980 that she became really involved in bee's and the collecting of bee objects. In 1980 Arlene was very instrumental in the design and publicity of the 15¢ honeybee and orange blossoms stamped envelope (Scott U145). The first day for this cover was in Paris, Illinois, where Arlene resided at the time. Arlene's interest in stamp collecting goes beyond the topic of bees, as she collects stamps on the subject of minerals and gems and, since her dog sled rides in Alaska, dogs and dog sleds. Arlene is quite active in volunteer work in the Cherokee area. She enjoys making bee cakes and cookies by the dozens for school children. Arlene is an active lady and I really enjoyed visiting with her during the October meeting. I hope that she'll have the chance to join us more often.

October Meeting Report

The October 2004 meeting was attended by thirteen members including two members who haven't been with us in quite some time: Arlene Samford and Elaine Evans.

Only 4 stamp lots were entered for the auction and unfortunately none received a bid!

Following about an hour of exchanging stamp stores, meeting members, viewing auction lots and swapping stamps, President Tom Broadhead brought the meeting to order and introduced Bruce Roberts for the program. Bruce's program, "Stamp Centering: why Scott is so wrong about this!", was a presentation of his view of how centering of a stamp should be more exactly defined and used universally when considering stamp condition (average, fine, very fine, etc.). Bruce passed around copies of auction lots taken from auction firm's catalogues and pointed out how auction firms viewed centering differently when assigning condition to stamps. Bruce explained his simple solution to this problem. Overall, members agreed that there needs to be a universal definition of centering but getting such has always been a problem.

Arlene Samford gave a brief report of what she has been doing of late. She recently donated covers and postmarks to the Postmarks Museum in Old Lime, Ohio. Many members did not know that such a museum existed. Arlene donated the door prize of stationery with stamp border to winner Bruce Roberts for accumulating the most number of years of stamp collecting without interruption.

Treasure Richard Erhlich presented the latest Treasure report.

In old business, the location and details of the December Christmas Dinner/Meeting were discussed. Bruce Kenny had been pursuing the suggestion of Calhoun's as a meeting place but his report to Tom Broadhead was not favorable because of the cost. It was decided that this location was not in the clubs best interest and members gave Bruce Roberts the authority to find a suitable place at a price equivalent to the cost of last year's Christmas dinner. Bruce accepted the project.

Since the last KPS meeting, an email was received by Executive Board members from Bill Muenzer, announcing his resignation as KnoxPex 2005 Bourse chairman. Bruce Roberts stepped in and said that he would take up the position. Members accepted his offer. In addition, members approved Gerald Schroedl for the position of KnoxPex 2005 Show Chairman and Tom Broadhead as KnoxPex 2005 Publicity Chairman.

And finally in old business, the bus trip to the American Philatelic Society show in Atlanta, Georgia, in February was discussed. Before making a final decision as to whether to continue with this project or not, members suggested that the KPS Secretary take a poll of members with email addresses and find out how many of these members would take advantage of the trip.

In new business it was suggested that the Executive Board of the KPS, at their November meeting, discuss ways to approach senior citizens for membership in the Knoxville Philatelic Society.

The October 2004 KPS meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

No KPS Trip to Atlanta

As requested by KPS members during the October meeting, the KPS Secretary polled KPS email members during October as to whether they would take advantage of a bus trip to Atlanta, Georgia, for the winter APS show. Out of 22 emails sent out, only 12 bothered to reply. Of the 12 responses only 4 indicated that they would sign up for the trip. In an email to the Executive Board members, the Secretary reported the results of the poll and motioned that the project be abandoned due to lack of interest or commitment of KPS members. The Executive Board agreed. There will be no KPS organized trip to Atlanta next year.

Are you on the KPS Email List?

If you would like to be included in emails concerning KPS business, just drop Jim Pettway an email request and he will gladly add you to the "blind copy" email list.

Regional Stamp Shows/Bourses

November 5-7

Virginia Beach, VA

VAPEX 2004

Virginia Beach Pavilion
Convention Center

11-6 Fri, 10-6 Sat,

10-4 Sun

Sponsored by Virginia
Philatelic Federation, Inc.

November 7

Asheville, NC

**29th Appalachian Stamp
& Post Card Show**

Quality Inn and Suites

I-26, Exit 37

9:30-4:30 Sunday

Sponsored by Another
World (Herbert Schulman)

December 4-5

Asheville, NC

**Blue Ridge Winter 2004
Stamp & Postcard Show**

Comfort Suites Inn, I-26,

Exit 33 (Brevard Rd.)

10-5 Sat, 10-4 Sun

Sponsored by Richard's
Stamp Shop

KnoxPex 2005

March 5 and 6

Gerald Schroedl

Show Chairman

Tom Broadhead

Publicity Chairman

Tom Copas

Facilities Chairman

Bruce Roberts

Bourse Chairman

**November 2004
U.S. Stamp Issues**

November 17

**Holiday
Ornaments**

Four 37¢ special stamps



(dates are day stamp goes on sale to the public)

November Program

Ever been island hopping? Gerald Schroedl will take us on a trip "Island Hoppin': Letters in Paradise". Gerald will present his studies on the inter-island postal history of the Caribbean Islands. This will be a fun adventure!

**Knoxville Philatelic
Society Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 2
7:00 P.M.**

**Tennessee Valley
Unitarian Universalist
Church**

**2931 Kingston Pike
Knoxville**

Calendar of Events

November 2004

- 2 KPS Meeting
- 2 Election Day
- 11 Veterans Day
- 25 Thanksgiving Day
- 30 KPS Fifth Tuesday
Swap Meeting
- 30 KPS Executive
Board Meeting

December 2004

- 7 KPS Christmas
Dinner/Meeting

Christmas Dinner/Meeting Set

This year the Knoxville Philatelic Society Christmas Dinner and Meeting will be held at Ramsey's Cafeteria, 5331 Central Ave. Pike, in North Knoxville. The date is December 7 (our regularly scheduled meeting date) beginning at 6:30 p.m. Members are asked to bring a stamp related wrapped gift of \$5.00 or less to exchange during the evening. Last year was a tremendous success with about 30 members and guests attending the holiday social. This year we have a private room for our holiday celebration. No business will be conducted. Plan to attend and bring a guest. More details of the December 7 event and directions to Ramsey's will be in the next newsletter.