

# Knoxville Philatelic Society News

January 2009

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APS Chapter 1189-119261

[www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm](http://www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm)  
[www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html](http://www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html)

Southeast Federation  
of Stamp Clubs

## Seasonal Postal Cancels

I enjoy the holiday stamps issued each year by the US Postal Service and by many countries around the world. This year, postal cancels attracted my attention, and I found four different ones, shown below. I'm not a big fan of the new sprayed on cancels, because they lack the neatness of older style handstamps and machine cancels. Finding good quality ones has proven to be a challenge, and I sorted through about a hundred examples to find the Happy Holidays, Happy Holiday, and snowman Happy Holidays. I had only one example of the Christmas, Florida cancel, but it is pretty clear.



Don't forget postal cancels when you are collecting!

**Tom Broadhead**

## President's Column

I find myself looking forward to the months with five Tuesdays. I have really enjoyed our regular meetings this year, and the programs have been excellent. I have enjoyed the time we spend dealing with club business and getting to know one another. There is something very special about a 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting however that is hard to describe. Little business is conducted by the club then, but our time is spent doing what most of us enjoy the most, looking at stamps and talking about our collections. The APS circuit books give plenty of opportunity to look for and purchase a few "treasures" to add to your collection. Often times, other members bring along stamps and other items to sell or share. The evening also gives you a chance to get to know fellow collectors and ask questions in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere. I encourage everyone to save a little pocket money and come to shop at our 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meetings in the New Year.

You may wish to get more involved in the operation of the society or share ideas about the events and workings of our group. We have an open director's meeting on every 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 PM before the swap and shop session. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings and we welcome your input and assistance in guiding KPS activities for next year.

I want to thank all those who have worked so hard this past year to make our organization a worthwhile and enjoyable society. Without an active membership we wouldn't exist. I hope you all had a Merry Christmas, with your stocking filled with that special set of stamps you have been dreaming of, and your holiday season safe and warm with family and friends around you.

**Roy Row**

## Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – December 2, 2008

The KPS December meeting was the traditional holiday party, held again this year at Mandarin House in west Knoxville. President Roy Row presided over the lively crowd of twenty members and spouses.

The dinner was followed by beautiful music performed on the hammer dulcimer by Roy's wife, Susan Row.



As if that didn't make for a memorable party, the ensuing gift exchange set a new standard for enjoyment, and even hilarity.

The eager and expectant faces were good indicators of the unfurling drama! What was the excitement?



**The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets at 7:00 pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church at 2931 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919.**

**Annual dues are \$15.00.**

### KPS Officers:

President	Roy Row
Past President	Jim Pettway
Vice President	Ralph Dinwiddie
Treasurer	Thomas Lane
Secretary	Jo Mynatt
Directors	Richard Ehrlich, Stu Hanlein, Thomas Lane, Bruce Roberts
APS Representative	Jim Pettway

Requests for information and submissions of articles and short notes of philatelic interest for the news-letter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to [tomwb50@aol.com](mailto:tomwb50@aol.com).



Bruce Roberts and Elaine Evans both seemed pretty pleased with their gifts. For the answer to the “mystery,” turn to the back page of this newsletter!

Photographs are by Jim Pettway and recollections by Tom Broadhead

## Dues are due

It is that time of the year when members need to renew their KPS memberships. Enclosed in this newsletter is the membership renewal form. Mail it to the KPS post office box or bring the form and your dues payment to the January monthly meeting.

## Upcoming Events

For additional club listings and events, visit the calendar page of the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs - [www.stampclubs.com/events](http://www.stampclubs.com/events).

**January 6** – KPS monthly meeting. Bruce Roberts will have an exhibiting seminar at 6:30.

**February 3** – KPS monthly meeting. Bruce Roberts will have an exhibiting seminar at 6:30.

**March 3** – KPS monthly meeting. Knoxpex 2009 final details.

**March 7-8** – **Knoxpex 2009** – Honoring the 200<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln. Holiday Inn Select on Cedar Bluff Rd., Knoxville.

**March 14-15** – **Nashville Stamp Show 2009** – Music Valley Event Center, Nashville.

## Stamp of the Month

This month's stamp has a strong local interest to East Tennesseans. It is the Tennessee Valley Authority commemorative (Scott 2042), issued May 18, 1993 on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of President Franklin Roosevelt's signing legislation that created the TVA. An



interesting story about Bruce Roberts and the TVA stamp cachets appeared in the June 2005 issue of KPS News. Thanks go to Ralph Dinwiddie for donating these stamps.

## 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fancy Cancels – A Collector’s delight

By Bruce Roberts

In the early part of this century, problems occurred in the registered mail system. Letters that were registered were often mixed into the regular mail, thus negating the value of extra money postal patrons were paying for the registry service and exposing registered mail to theft. In 1924, the post office issued a stern regulation that said registered letters were not to have the name of the town on their face, the stamps to be canceled with a set of concentric rings.



In 1928 several stamp collectors began to make cancellers that were keyed to the names of 4<sup>th</sup> class rural post offices. They would then mail the cancellers to the postmasters and request that the “fancy” cancel be instead of the “dull” ring cancellers on envelopes sent registered mail. For postmasters who were willing to accommodate collectors it meant

Properly used pictorial cancels on a registered cover from Turkey, Arkansas.

selling more stamps, and the 4<sup>th</sup> class postmasters’ salaries were based on their stamp revenue. Over the next 8 years, this practice spread to over 1000 different post offices, with the postmasters themselves creating many of the “fancy” cancellers. By 1936 the officials in Washington decided this was all against regulations and the fancy cancels were officially outlawed.

Arkansas had many 4<sup>th</sup> class post offices, some with names that could easily be converted to fancy cancels (Bear, Forty Four, Tomato, Turkey, Fox, Hand, and several others). “Fancy” cancel covers exist from about 15 different



Arkansas Post Offices, some with variations or different cancels from the same post office. Pictured here are several examples. These covers exist in very small numbers (in some cases less than 10 are known) and are highly prized for topical exhibits.

*(continued on page 4.)*

# This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, January 6

(continued from page 3.)



Duplex cancel with pictorial killer on a 1<sup>st</sup> class domestic letter from Hand, Arkansas

## New Lincoln Stamps

The U.S. Postal Service has announced that it will issue the new Lincoln bicentennial commemoratives on February 9, 2009 with a first day ceremony in Springfield, Illinois. The new stamps, issued as four se-tenant designs will be self-adhesive and probably issued in sheets of 20. These stamps will be used on the cachets at Knoxpex 2009.



## The Rest of the Story

Bruce, Elaine, and seven other members and spouses were the grateful recipients of magnifiers at the KPS gift exchange. Forget about the Wii, Barbie, or Tickle-me-Elmo, the “hot” gift this year is obviously a magnifier!



## Auction Catalogs Available

Bruce Roberts acquired a large number of illustrated stamp auction catalogs and is offering most for \$1 each. If you have interests for reference and illustrations, e-mail Bruce at [broberts@KCDC.org](mailto:broberts@KCDC.org).

**Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, February 3**