

Knoxville Philatelic Society News

June 2009



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www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm
www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html

Southeast Federation
of Stamp Clubs

No New Scout Stamp in 2010?

Finding a theme for our annual show, Knoxpex, is fun, but sometimes finding the right stamps to use on our cachets can be frustrating. This year, we were fortunate that the Lincoln bicentennial stamps were issued just a few weeks before Knoxpex 2009. Our expectations were that the USPS would have a nice stamp commemorating the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America early next year, too. That appears not to be in the plans.

A few weeks ago, I sent e-mails to Congressman John Duncan and to the web site of Scouts on Stamps Society International (SOSSI). I received immediate e-mail responses from both, and Congressman Duncan's office followed up with a letter and printed information. Lawrence Clay, secretary of SOSSI wrote that "The USPS has no plans to do so and the official position of the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee is that the Boy Scouts do not qualify for a stamp under their established criteria. The only possibility of a stamp issue is to get enough congressional support to influence the Postmaster General to get him to override the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee." Information from Congressman Duncan's office indicated the same decision.

We plan to use the 1950 scout stamp (below) together with a 41 cent flag coil stamp on our cachets next spring, but any KPS member should feel free to contact the Postmaster General, Mr. John E. Potter, 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW, Washington DC 20260-0010, to



request a new scout stamp for 2010.

President's Column

As my first act as the new KPS President I want to thank Roy Row for an outstanding year as our President. Row has the spirit that makes this club great, and he took on the job in order to make the club more enjoyable for everyone. Thanks Roy.

The financial condition of our club is great and has even improved over the last few years. We need to have money in savings to support the programs of the club. However, our bank account has grown well beyond what we need. As I reminded everybody at the last meeting, we are a philatelic club, not an investment club. So I hope we can use some of this money to help improve the KPS experience for all members.

There are 2 main reasons for attending KPS meetings: (1) Philately and (2) Fellowship. Once a month KPS members meet to enjoy each other's company, learn about what we collect, and what our goals are for collecting. We also get to view, trade, and buy some excellent philatelic material for our collections. So, to help improve the club I suggest two new initiatives, one in each area of Philately and Fellowship.

The first involves bringing more philatelic material into the club. Bruce Roberts suggested buying a large auction lot from which club members could purchase items at a large discount to the catalog value. Remainders would be auctioned off at Knoxpex. The second is to initiate Saturday meetings. Some members have difficulty coming out to our regular nighttime meetings. I think a Saturday morning or afternoon meeting will help these members enjoy both the fellowship and philatelic material that are our club's goals. I'll discuss these Saturday meetings in next month's column. If you have a suggestion for improving the club, please let me know. I can be reached at dinwiddierb@yahoo.com. I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting!

Tom Broadhead

Ralph Dinwiddie

Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – May 5, 2009

The KPS April meeting was held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. President Roy Row called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. A first-time visitor was introduced. There were 24 in attendance. Secretary Jo Mynatt read the minutes of the last meeting, which were approved as read. Treasurer Thomas Lane reported that our projected profit from Knoxpex 2009 is about \$1070. The treasurer's report shows a balance at this time of \$7500.87. We have a signed contract for the Holiday Inn for Knoxpex 2010. Thomas also announced that reservations have been made for our Christmas Party at Mama Blue's Café. The treasurer's report was approved.

Jim Pettway showed some KPS historical material sent by Bob Toal, who was very active and held several offices in KPS in the 1980's. It was decided to let the board discuss what steps to take to preserve this material and make a recommendation to the membership at a future meeting. Jim also made a motion to make a \$100 donation from Knoxpex profits to the APS general fund. It was seconded by Forrest Conklin and was approved by members.

Roy Row thanked all officers and members who have worked so hard to make the KPS so successful during his term as President. The slate of new officers was presented. Forrest Conklin moved that we accept this by acclamation, Bruce Roberts seconded, and the motion passed. The list of officers serving from May 2009 - April 2010 is shown in the box below.

New President Ralph Dinwiddie, took over the meeting and presented his two-fold goal for our club. (1)

The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets at 7:00 pm on the 1st and 5th 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	Ralph Dinwiddie
Past President	Roy Row
Vice President	Stu Hanlein
Treasurer	Thomas Lane
Secretary	Jo Mynatt
Directors	Richard Ehrlich, Jim Pettway, Bruce Roberts, Tom Broadhead
APS Representative	Jim Pettway

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

Improved fellowship among members – Suggestions included having a quarterly Saturday meeting including a meal and time of fellowship. There was a mention by Roy Row that we could use the fellowship hall at his church for this activity - the board will take this under advisement. (2) Increase access to philatelic material by purchasing a lot or lots at a large stamp auction to share and sell to club members. Bruce Roberts volunteered to purchase such lots at an auction in St. Louis in June. Dave Warfel moved that we authorize Bruce to spend up to \$1500 at the auction. Forrest Conklin seconded, and the motion passed.

Yvonne Cato brought up an idea for a service project for our club to decorate a tree for the Christmas "Fantasy of Trees," which would be sold with proceeds going to Children's Hospital. Yvonne will bring a proposal to the June meeting. The program next month will be by Tom Broadhead, on the subject of the Boy Scout Merit Badge in Stamp Collecting.

It was announced that our friend, Richard, who works the USPS booth at Knoxpex, has a brain tumor. Stu Hanlein will send a card right away to him, then next month we will have a card for everyone to sign.

Yvonne Cato suggested that each month some members help Ralph assemble and fold the newsletter. Good idea! And hopefully we will have volunteers to do that.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Mynatt, Recording Secretary

Upcoming Events

For more events visit the calendar of the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs - www.stampclubs.com/events

May 30 – East Tennessee Postcard Club, 11 am – 3 pm, at McClung Museum on the UT campus. Bring a box lunch. Come to the meeting to learn about "deltiology," the study of postcards.

June 2 – KPS monthly meeting. Program will be by Tom Broadhead about the Boy Scout stamp merit badge.

June 6-7 – HUNTSPEX, Tom Vevill Conference Center, University of Alabama, Huntsville, 550 Sparkman Drive, Huntsville. Contact Heinrich Hahn, hhahn@bellsouth.net

Stamp of the Month



This month's stamp (Scott 532) is a Philippines issue commemorating the 75th anniversary of the UPU in 1949. Read more about the UPU on page 3.

The stamps were donated by Tom Broadhead.

The UPU's Green, Red, and Blue

By Tom Broadhead

Have you ever wondered why United States commemorative stamps in the first third of the twentieth century, plus our definitive stamps for more than 50 years had the same color and value combinations? One cent stamps were green, two cent stamps were red, and five cent stamps were blue. The coordination of colors and values, however, was not limited to the U.S., but characterized stamps of equivalent value for all countries who were members of the Universal Postal Union, or UPU.



The web site <http://alphabetilately.com/U.html> has some great information about the UPU, which was founded in 1874. Prior to that time, postal rates between countries were governed by individual postal treaties, and the lack of uniform international rates created many problems for postal clerks and for mail transit. That web site states that “At each transfer point along its way every piece of mail had to be examined, and the debits and credits for its journey to that point figured and recorded. Then periodically all of that had to be totaled and the resulting monies due or owed transferred between postal authorities. The UPU put an end to all of that, by establishing standard rates for all international mail, regardless of the route it took.”

Uniform rates meant faster and more efficient handling. Then, in 1896, UPU members adopted a standard color scheme that further facilitated handling of international mails. Although some web sites, including http://www.absoluteastronomy.com/topics/Postage_stamp_color and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Postage_stamp_color incorrectly claim that some of these colors were specified by the UPU for domestic rates, the UPU had no influence on the domestic postal rates of countries, and these colors all were originally specific only to international rates. The green stamp paid the rate for 50 grams of printed material sent in an unsealed envelope or wrapper band. The red stamp paid the international rate for a postcard, and the blue stamp paid the rate for a 20 gram letter in a sealed envelope. With that change, postal clerks could more easily check proper postage at a glance. However, it was still possible to use combinations of lower denomination stamps in different colors, and printed material or letters that appeared to be heavier required closer examination.

Standard stamp colors passed from the world scene in the 1950's as more countries issued colorful commemorative stamps that were used increasingly on international mail. The alphabetilately web site (above) states that “Recently the UPU has been active in trying to stop the torrent of bogus stamps flooding the philatelic world. They have joined the World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP) to create a system (called the WADP Numbering System, or WNS), in which world postal authorities submit all their new issues to be recorded in a database which is then available to anyone interested, to verify whether a stamp is valid or not.” You can see photos of recent stamps from many countries in the WADP at www.wnsstamps.ch/en/participating.html.”

The UPU is headquartered in Berne, Switzerland, where a monument was erected in 1909 in honor of the organization. The UPU web site – www.upu.int – describes the monument as the work of French sculptor René de Saint-Marceaux depicting five messengers symbolizing the five continents as they pass letters around the globe.



The monument is shown on the 10 centime Swiss stamp pictured above and on this month's “stamp of the month,” both of which were issued in 1949 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the UPU.

This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, June 2

APS Circuit Books – this month!!

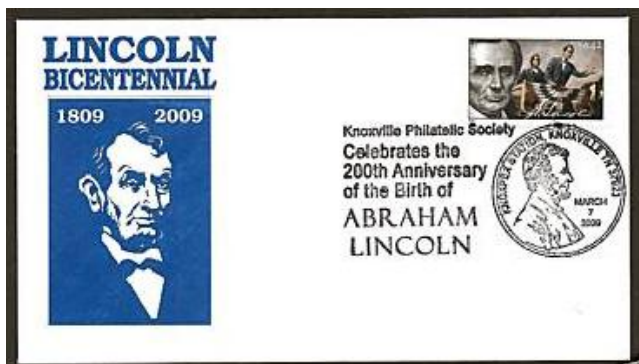
By Jim Pettway

June offers us five Tuesdays thus a 5th Tuesday KPS meeting! For new comers, this meeting features the American Philatelic Society's sales circuit books, and you have the opportunity to not only make purchases from the circuit books but also to buy, trade and/or sell your philatelic material. You are welcome to set up a table with your material spread out for viewing. Take advantage of this time to add to your collection while at the same time reduce your duplicated or unwanted stamp related material.

I will not receive the APS Sales circuit books until the later part of June, so at this point I don't know what we will receive. In the past we have received stamps from, among others, the United States, Brazil, Latin America, Germany, as well as topical stamps of flowers and butterflies. About a week before the June 30 meeting I will send out an email containing a list of material received from the APS. Also if you plan to take advantage of this time to sell your philatelic material just email me with a list of items and I'll include this information in the email.

We're going to have a good time June 30. NO business, just fun with stamps and covers!

KPS Lincoln Cancel on E-Bay



Ralph Dinwiddie's Knorpex cancel is on this cover available for \$5.00 on e-Bay.

Did You Get "Wisdom" in 2008?

By Tom Broadhead

I'm not talking about how much smarter you were last year than the year before, but about the unintended variety of the \$1.00 Wisdom stamp that appeared in 2008.



First issued in 2003, the stamp has always had a 2003 date in the lower left corner. However, last fall, Ashton Potter, the stamp's printer changed the date to 2008 – a change not authorized by the USPS. I have seen a few of these on cover, and most have Nashville or Brentwood, Tennessee, postmarks. Keep a sharp eye out for this variety.

Get Well Richard

Stu Hanlein reports that our favorite Knorpex and philatelic window postal clerk, Richard Elkins was hospitalized in late April for surgery on a brain tumor and is now recovering at home. Following the May KPS meeting, Stu mailed a get well card from KPS to Richard. If any members wish to send their personal greeting, mail it to Richard Elkins, 933 Riley Drive, Lenoir City, TN 37771

5th Tuesday Meeting – June 30 !!!

Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, July 7