

Knoxville Philatelic Society News

September 2009

Volume 2009, Number 9

Tom Broadhead, Editor
Ralph Dinwiddie, Publisher
KPS - P.O. Box 50422
Knoxville, TN 37950-0422



APS Chapter 1189-119261

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

Southeast Federation
of Stamp Clubs

Going to a Stamp Show

Large or small, stamp shows have a great attraction for me, and I was fortunate to attend two in the month of August. Early in the month, Gerald Schroedl and I headed up to Pittsburgh for Stamp Show, the annual fall show of the American Philatelic Society. As you can see from the photo, it was a big show, and it had great exhibits and many dealers. I got to see the other newsletters in the newsletter competition and was pleased with our gold award. Charles Klintstiver was there, looking for a key auction lot, former KPS member Paul Philips was there, and Stu Hanlein headed to Pittsburgh at the end for the post-show Precancel Society meeting.



Bill Muenzer's annual summer bourse was a treat, and some of our best Knoppex dealers were there. I enjoyed chatting with Forest Conklin, Harry Brooks, Charlie Wade, and Randy and Russ Haese, who were busy with a table of free stamps and demonstrations that attracted a lot of interest from young and older collectors. We also enlisted four new members, and I hope it was a successful show for Bill!

Tom Broadhead

President's Column

Here are the results of our survey on what members like about our club and how we could improve it. I received replies from 31 of our 70 members - a very good response rate. Of the responses, 7 came from people who can only attend meetings less than 5 times a year. The reason cited most often for not being able to attend meetings was distance. When asked about attending a Saturday meeting, 21 members said they would be interested. A dozen of these preferred a Saturday afternoon meeting, while 16 members said they could attend anytime.

When asked how the regular meetings could be improved, the largest response was to keep the business part short (16 members), followed by adding a silent auction (8 members), more audio/video presentations (5 members), and 4 members suggested adding games, puzzles and contests. We had one excellent 'OTHER' suggestion to have a "clothesline exhibit" once a year, with one to three page exhibits. This sounds like a good way to learn about exhibiting and to share your area of interest with other members.

When asked if they will attend Knoppex 2010, 27 members answered "yes" and 2 members answered "maybe." Our one "no" response was from our member moving out of the country, so he is excused. Three members expressed an interest in exhibiting at Knoppex this year and 8 members were considering it. Sixteen members found the APS Sales Books a useful way to add to their collections. It looks like we can expect 28 to 34 people to show up for this year's Christmas party, so it should be a blast. Finally, when asked to rank this newsletter 27 rated it "Excellent" and 2 as "very good." I want to thank all of the members who participated in this survey.

Ralph Dinwiddie

Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – August 4, 2009

Preceding the meeting, there were many auction lot stamps, covers, and lots available for people to trade or buy. At 6:30, Bruce Roberts led the first class of “How to Exhibit” for those interested.

The meeting was called to order by President Ralph Dinwiddie at 7:20 PM. There were 27 members present. Stephen Floyd and his family will be departing to go back to Papua New Guinea, where they are missionaries. We wish them the best and hope they will return again. It was good to see Jean Byrne after a long absence. The treasurer’s report shows a balance of \$6113.37.

APS Representative Jim Pettway presented newsletter editor, Tom Broadhead, with a Gold Award from the APS for the Newsletter. Congratulation for a job well done, Tom! Past-President Roy Row announced that Hobby Lobby is having a 30% off sale on collecting supplies for a limited time. Also he recently met the curator at the Lincoln Museum who was very pleased with the activities, covers, and participation at Knospex ‘09. Roy also mentioned that there is an exhibit at the Blount County Library.

Bruce Roberts mentioned that Russ and Randy Haese organized the loose stamps that the club purchased at the Regency Auction, and now they are in good order and ready for people to view and buy. They also have placed the covers in cover albums so they are easier to view. Many thanks to Russ and Randy for all their hard work!

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-letter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to tomwb50@aol.com.

The program was by Joe Kirker, who gave the answers to the stamp quiz that members have been working on for two months. No one got them all correct, so the C18 prize was unclaimed. However, Joe gave out copies of the first edition of the American Philatelist to members with the most correct answers:, including Forrest Conklin, Thomas Lane, and Stu Hanlein. Following the program, a lively discussion was held on other ways we could use the quiz, including having an online competition through the Southeast Federation.

There was a short discussion of places that we could meet for a Saturday Get-Together. Suggestions were The Maryville First Christian Church, A Community Center (Shannondale in Maryville was suggested), McClung Museum, and others. These places will be checked out, and a decision made.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15, and shopping and visiting continued until 9:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Jo Mynatt, Secretary

Upcoming Events

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

September 1 – KPS monthly meeting. Program will be by Charles Klinstiver on Early U.S. Proofs.

September 29 – KPS 5th Tuesday meeting – trade and swap, APS Circuit Books, KPS Auction lot sales at 7:00; KPS Board Meeting at 6:00.

October 6 – KPS monthly meeting and annual live auction for members.

November 3 – KPS monthly meeting. Program will be by Charlie Wade on the U.S. National Postal Museum.

December 1 – KPS monthly meeting and annual holiday dinner – at the “Five Dollar Buffer,” formerly “Mama Blues,” located at 9645 Kingston Pike. Gift exchange (bring a gift that costs not more than \$5.00).

December 29 – KPS 5th Tuesday meeting – trade and swap, APS Circuit Books, KPS Auction lot sales at 7:00; KPS Board Meeting at 6:00.



Stamp of the Month

The 20 cent value showing a Cocos-Keeling schooner on a stamp of Singapore (Scott 36) is this month’s stamp. Issued September 4, 1955, it is part of a definitive set, in which the

low values have pictures of boats and ships seen around Singapore and the Malay Peninsula. A British colony for more than 100 years, the island is now an independent nation. These stamps were donated by Thomas Lane.

Chasing Those Tiny Envelopes

By Tom Broadhead

The term “vest pocket” used to be common in our hobby, and it referred usually to a dealer who kept the sales stock in just a few stock cards that could fit conveniently into the pocket of a coat or vest. Our hobby is a very portable one, and I bet that at the same time there were “vest pocket collectors,” who were so specialized that they could carry the most important parts of their collections similarly. Several years ago, I began collecting visiting card (or carte-de-visite) envelopes from France – maybe I am now a vest-pocket postal history collector.

These tiny envelopes typically contained a visiting card, with the sender’s name engraved on it. From the 1850’s until the 1970’s, the French post office had special discounted rates for these, and it has been fun trying to find examples of each of more than 100 different rates. I wrote an article that appeared in last September’s *American Philatelist*. I was completely amazed when my article was the cover story and even more so when it was chosen the best article in *American Philatelist* for 2008. My trip to Stamp Show in Pittsburgh was all the more rewarding, and I got to meet Barbara Mueller, a legendary philatelic author and editor, for whom my award is named.

Here, I want to share with you some of my recent “finds.” The earliest example shown here was mailed from France in 1924, addressed to General Johnson Hagood in Washington, DC, then forwarded to Manila in the Philippine Islands. I have e-mailed a specialist on U.S. military in the Philippines to find out what the camp indicated in pencil was.

Another recently acquired visiting card envelope is the one shown below, addressed at the end of World War II to the Central Agency for Prisoners of War of the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.



At the left edge, the envelope was slit open, the contents examined, and resealed with paper tape. The oval hand stamp says that it was opened by military authority. The envelope was mailed a little more than a month after VE Day on May 8, 1945 and has postage to cover the sealed letter rate.

Some of my greatest collecting challenges are in the period after World War II, when rates changed frequently. My third “treasure” is the envelope at right, which shows the 6 franc foreign rate for an unsealed envelope containing only a printed card, with no handwritten message.

Keep an eye out for these little gems. For now, I need to get a vest with bigger pockets.



This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, September 1

You Never Know What You Will Find at the Local Stamp Show

By Bruce Roberts

I went to Bill Muenzer's stamp show on August 15, little knowing that I would find a new facet of one of my collecting areas – revenue stamps with complete dates from October 1862 to December 31, 1967. I went to Bill's show expecting to find a few new dates in dealers' stocks, and I managed to find about 40 that I didn't already have. But at Tony Rosen's table (Stamps Unlimited of Georgia) I discovered a type of dated revenue I had never seen. It was one of the Match & Medicine series of privately printed stamps used on products. These were first produced during the Civil War and later during the Spanish American War. I usually don't bother to look in this section because M&M stamps were not required to have dates applied to them, as were Federal revenue stamps.

Tony had a US 1894 Bureau issue overprinted medicine stamp, RS312, overprinted with "Dr. K & Co./I.R./Binghamton, N.Y./7-11-98." Then I



discovered in the Scott U.S. Specialized catalog this group of stamps that qualified for my collection. When taxes were enacted and the battleship tax stamps for the Spanish American War were issued, the law required that the stamps

be used on all products covered beginning July 1, 1898. However, Dr. Kilmer & Co. in Binghamton, NY, had not received the new stamps and had a lot of products to ship. Faced with losses if their goods were not shipped and penalties if they were shipped without revenue stamps, Kilmer created private overprints that were applied to existing postage stamps. The overprints are known on the 1¢ green Franklin (Scott 279), 2¢ carmine (Scott 267a) and 2¢ red (Scott 279Be) Washington, and the 3¢ Jackson (Scott 268). These stamps are known only with the dates of July 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14, after which the Battle Ship revenues apparently arrived.

I am really excited to add a new (but expensive) element to my hunt for dated revenues. I am now on the chase. You never know what new things will turn up in this old hobby!

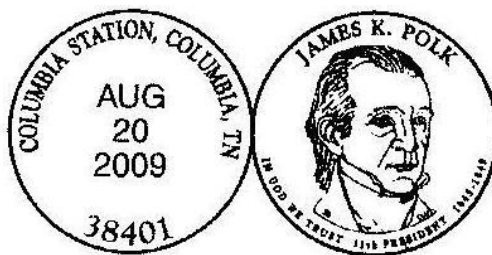
(Editor's note: Learn more about Bruce's interest in dated revenue stamps com in his January 2006 KPS Newsletter article, "I have a date with a revenue stamp," on the KPS newsletter archives at the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs web site – www.stampclubs.com.)

KPS Exhibiting Seminars

Learn how fun and easy it can be to become a philatelic exhibitor. Bruce Roberts has started his second annual series of exhibiting seminars, 6:30 pm on the evenings of regular KPS meetings. It's not too late to join this exciting way of sharing your interests in stamps and philately.

Polk Postal Cancel with New \$1 Coin

Linn's editor Jay Bigalke reports a new postal cancel, issued on August 20, along with the \$1 presidential dollar coin honoring Tennessean, James K. Polk, 11th President of the United States. To request the cancel, send your covers to Columbia Station, 417 W. Seventh St., Columbia, TN 38401-9998.



October KPS Auction

The October KPS meeting will again have a live auction in honor of Stamp Collecting Month. Last year's was a hit with members and saw one of the largest numbers in attendance in a long time. Start planning what you want to sell. The auction form and instructions were included in the August newsletter, and can be printed from our web page. All proceeds go to the seller, so get ready to sell your unwanted stamps – and bid on more!

Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, October 6