

Knoxville Philatelic Society News

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APS Chapter 1189-119261

www.stampclubs.com/knoxville/index.htm

www.virtualstampclub.com/apschapknoxville.html

Southeast Federation
of Stamp Clubs

Surprises from the USPS!

Each year, our federal postal service brings us new things – some are pleasant surprises, others are not. This year has seen some very attractive stamp issues, and the appearance of the “forever” stamps with the Liberty Bell design. Although I don’t collect recent U.S. stamps, I enjoy using commemoratives on mail that I send to philatelic friends. Articles in *Linn’s Stamp News* this year have highlighted some good and bad aspects about new stamps. Of course, good and bad are relative terms, and you may not agree with my characterizations!

One piece of unfortunate news is the lack of the water-release backing on some recent self-adhesive stamps, including the Gerald Ford stamp – making them impossible to soak without damaging the stamps!

The “forever” stamps exist in three varieties, each printed by a different commercial printer. They vary in the width of the bell, the darkness of the “forever” inscription at the right, and in the microprinted “forever” on the wooden top of the bell. Can we expect future “collectible varieties?” Are they necessary? Oh, and *Linn’s* reported last summer that a man bought \$8,000 of these stamps as a hedge against inflation! But wait! In the November 26 *Linn’s*, Bill McAllister reports that the letter rate will increase to 42 cents next year – an almost 2.5% increase in the value of all of the hoarder’s stamps!

The Christmas knits stamps, shown on page 4 will have 3 Scott-numbered varieties, based on stamp size and perforations that characterize the 3 formats: panes of 20, vending booklets of 20, and ATM panes of 18. If you like common varieties of the same design, these will fill your bill. Happy collecting to all!

Tom Broadhead

President’s Column

If you weren’t one of the 20 people attending November’s KPS meeting then you missed out. In addition to our regular attendees, it was good to have long time member Ralph Lovell and recent member Gary Rehberg at this meeting. We also welcomed from Ohio our newest member Tom Ringenbach. I hope that Tom will share some of his collections of stamps and Ohio postal history with us in coming months, as well as exhibiting at Knoxpex 2008. We also had a visitor, member prospect, Carly Baskette. Carly purchased a be-ginner stamp collection at a recent UT book sale and is interested in making stamp collecting her hobby.

Before our business session members took advantage of Show and Tell time by telling the story behind a stamp related subject they brought to show. Teaching, learning, sharing stories, and stamp collecting fun are ahead at the next KPS meeting and you have the opportunity to be a part. Join us at the Christmas Party (info elsewhere in this newsletter) this month and make the KPS meetings a regular outing each month in 2008.

Our October 5th Tuesday meeting was not the best attended, but it was good. Eight members viewed the APS sales books, and most made purchases. Then prior to the regular November meeting a few more made purchases from the books. Each time we have a 5th Tuesday and at following regular meeting, several members are able to find some stamps or covers in the APS circuit books to add to their collections. Don’t forget, we have a 5th Tuesday at the end of January!

As this year comes to a close, and new challenges and opportunities await us in the new year, I wish you and your families a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

Jim Pettway

Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – November 6, 2007

The November 2007 meeting of the Knoxville Philatelic Society was held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalistic Church on November 6, 2007. The formal meeting was preceded by a viewing of the APS circuit books and a session on exhibiting by Bruce Roberts. Jim Pettway, president, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were 20 members present. Jim introduced two new members and some current members who were not recent attendees.

The program for the month was a “show & tell” in which members were invited to present a topic of stamp collecting interest to the membership. The following members offered their items”

- Jim Pettway – The car magazine, *Drive*, featuring a cover picture and article about stamp collecting
- Tony Torres – A World War II German cover that had spent much time being forwarded – the “most abused” cover in history
- Elaine Evans – A post card for Egypt featuring an historic hotel
- Charlie Wade – Post cards mailed from his recent European trip
- Norm Carlevato – A collection of US plate number coil strips
- Tom Broadhead – A modern French postal cover
- Bruce Roberts – His Grand Award from the recent OKPEX exhibition

After the program, the business meeting was held. Jim reminded all that the December meeting will be the annual Christmas party. Each member is encouraged to

The Knoxville Philatelic Society meets 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 \$10.00.

KPS Officers:

President	Jim Pettway
Past President	Mike Kauffman
Vice President	Ralph Dinwiddie
Treasurer	Pat Goebel
Secretary	Charlie Wade
Directors	Bruce Kinney, Stu Hanlein, Thomas Lane, Charlie Wade
APS Representative	Jim Pettway

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

attend and bring a spouse or friend. The minutes of the October meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. Pat Goebel presented the treasurer’s report which was approved.

A motion was presented to increase KPS annual dues to \$15 per household effective January 1, 2008. After much discussion the motion was passed. This will require a revision to the club’s constitution. A motion was passed to recognize KPS members, who are at least 70 years old and have at least 20 consecutive years of KPS membership, as Life Members who will not be required to pay dues, effective January 1, 2008.

There was discussion of delaying posting the newsletter on the website. After discussion, a “straw poll” of the members indicated a preference to continue to post it at the time of mailing to members. There was also a discussion of formally including other stamp collecting organizations in KPS as “affiliates.” It was concluded not to take action at this time.

The January KPS meeting would be on Tuesday, January 1, and Jim Pettway will investigate the availability of the meeting room for the second Tuesday in January.

Announcements included Bruce Roberts’s Grand Award at Okpex and Tom Broadhead’s 3rd place award for his digital exhibit at the Fall Mega Event in New York. More news of these will be in the January newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Submitted by:
Charlie Wade, Secretary

December KPS Meeting

This month’s KPS meeting will be our annual holiday dinner, at Mandarin House at 8111 Gleason Drive in west Knoxville. The cost per person is \$12.80. Bring your spouse or a guest, along with a philatelic gift (not more than \$5) for the gift exchange.

Stamp of the Month

This month we go across the Atlantic Ocean for a stamp of the month from the Netherlands. The 5 cent definitive (Scott 127) is part of a set featuring one of the longest reigning monarchs in European history, Queen Wilhelmina. She became queen at the age of 10 in 1890 and ruled until 1948, when she abdicated the thrown to her daughter, Juliana. She died in 1962.



This month’s stamps are part of the large gift to KPS made by former president and new honorary member, Nicole Sanchez.

Imagine That!



Here is a beautiful postal history cover (reduced image) that appeared in the October 22 auction of Lugdunum Philatelie with a 35,000 euro minimum bid. It was mailed in 1860 at Frederiksted, Danish West Indies, through the British Post Office at St. Thomas, on to Panama, where it crossed overland (no canal then) and then by ship to San Francisco and onward by sea to its destination – Lahaina, Sandwich Islands, North Pacific. Lahaina is on the Hawaiian island of Maui. What an incredible journey!!

Knoxville Philatelic Society Board Meeting - October 30, 2007

The Knoxville Philatelic Society (KPS) Executive Board met on October 30, 2007 at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church in Knoxville, TN. The meeting was called to order by KPS President Jim Pettway at 6:15 pm. President Jim Pettway, Vice-President Ralph Dinwiddie, and Director Thomas Lane were the only board members in attendance. KPS members present were Tom Broadhead, Gerald Schroedl, and Richard Ehrlich. Jim Pettway suggested that since there were only three board members present any decisions by the board members present be put in the form of a motion and voted on by the members at the November KPS meeting.

Jim Pettway made a motion to raise the KPS membership dues from \$10.00 to \$18.00 per year beginning January 1, 2008. After discussion the board agreed to raise annual dues to \$15.00.

Jim Pettway proposed that the KPS recognize KPS members who have been members of the KPS for at least 20 consecutive years and attained the age of 70, as Honorary Life Members and pay no dues. After brief discussion the board agreed voted to approve the proposal.

As a cost cutting measure and reduction of labor, Jim Pettway proposed that the KPS News be changed from a monthly publication to being published only for the months of January/February, March/April, May/June/ July, August/September, October (Stamp Collecting Month), and November/December. Newsletter editor Tom Broadhead and newsletter publisher Ralph Dinwiddie offered to

continue to produce the newsletter on a monthly basis, and it was decided to continue publishing monthly.

The board also decided to publish the newsletter on the KPS website one month following the newsletter issue month. The newsletter and cachet cover are a membership benefit and publishing the current newsletter online free to all diminishes the paid membership benefit.

Jim Pettway proposed that, on an individual basis, and with approval by the KPS membership, stamp clubs and societies could become KPS affiliates. Affiliate organizations would pay \$25.00 dues per year. Benefits of affiliate club membership would include but not be limited to:

- (1) Space at Knoxpex for club meeting
- (2) Space at Knoxpex for exhibits and club award in judging
- (3) Inclusion of chapter news, specifically club articles in the KPS News (one page)
- (4) Special recognition of specialty lots grouped for the affiliate club (e.g., all German material grouped together; all precancel material grouped together).

Jim Pettway told the board that he had researched the possibility of the KPS applying to the Internal Revenue Service for tax-exempt status. He found that there is a lot of paperwork required both in the beginning and in the long term, as well as a fee. He concluded that it was too much work and responsibility to obtain and keep this status. Board members agreed.

KnoxPex 2008 Chairman Gerald Schroedl gave a report on the upcoming March show. Gerald reviewed a checklist and updated the board with where everything stood. Some highlights: advertising has started, the theme has been chosen, the show cachet is in the final stages, location and contract have been signed and dealers have made reservations. The show is on schedule with the next report to come at the Executive Board meeting in January 2008.

Jim Pettway adjourned the meeting at 7:15 pm.

Submitted by Jim Pettway, President
for Charlie Wade, Secretary

The First Christmas Stamps

The world's first Christmas stamps were probably unintended. Canada's two 1898 stamps were planned to commemorate the uniform imperial postage rates across the vast expanse of the British Empire, but the "XMAS 1898" inscription makes them the world's first Christmas stamps! Austria followed with a Christmas stamp in 1937, Brazil in 1939, Hungary in 1941, and the United States in 1962.



This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, December 4

Season's Greetings – by Tom Broadhead

'Tis the season to celebrate many holidays, and the USPS has a great range of stamps available for this time of year, plus some great information on its web site – www.usps.com. All images below are ©2007 USPS, All Rights Reserved, and come from the USPS site. Here are the current stamps available – I included the “celebrate” stamp because it sums up the whole feeling of the season!



If these stamps are not enough to get you in the holiday philatelic spirit, how about some postal cancels from special places? The USPS lists places like Antler, ND; Rudolph, OH; Frost, TX; Snowflake, AZ (have they ever seen a snowflake?); Snow Shoe, PA; Holly, MI; Evergreen, NC; Spruce, MI; and Garland, TX. There are also Star, NC; Angels Camp, CA; Shepherd, MT; Wiseman, AR; Bethlehem, PA; St. Joseph, MO (my home town); St. Mary, KY; and Christmas, FL.

Here are some more fun facts from the “Holiday Press Room” at www.usps.com.

- 232 - number of years the U.S. Postal Service has been delivering holiday cheer.
- 2.7 billion - number of holiday stamps the Postal Service printed this year.
- Holiday cards have been popular since 1875, when Louis Prang, a lithographer and German immigrant who settled in Boston, published his first holiday card for customers.
- The U.S. Postal Service issued the first holiday stamp in 1962. The green and red 4-cent stamp featured a wreath, two candles and the words “Christmas 1962.”
- About 60 percent of all holiday cards are mailed during the first two weeks of December.
- About 15 percent of Americans mail their holiday cards AFTER New Year’s Day.
- The Postal Service will deliver 20 billion cards, letters and packages between Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. On average, the Postal Service processes 703 million pieces of mail every day. During the holidays, that volume will increase to 1.7 billion pieces of mail.
- The Postal Service will process more than 20 million pounds of mail for delivery to military installations around the world, including war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan.

5th Tuesday meeting – January 29 at 7:00 – trading and swapping, plus a new set of APS Circuit Sales books. KPS Board meeting at 6:00 – all members are invited.

Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, January 8