

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

Do you remember the BIG rate changes?

What's a penny here and there? May 12 has come and gone, and mailing a one ounce letter costs just a penny more than it did when you received your last KPS newsletter in the mail. The one cent hike in letters and postcards amounts to a little less than a 2.5% increase. It tracks the actual rate of inflation much more accurately than, for example, gasoline or groceries!

But, do you remember some of the postal rate increases? Maybe there were a few much steeper current KPS members around when the cost of mailing a letter jumped 50%, from two cents to three cents on July 6, 1932.

I remember the next increase – 33%, three cents to four cents – 26 years later on August 1, 1958. At that time, I had been collecting for a year and a month! I'm sure I didn't take much note of the postal increase, but I'm sure my parents did.

Later increases have ranged from one cent to four cents, but the percentage changes will never (I hope) match those of the middle twentieth century.

Tom Broadhead

President's Column

The last thing on my mind as I drove into the parking lot for last month's club meeting was being elected an officer. I have loved being a part of the club since I joined about four months ago. It is true that I was looking for ways to get involved and serve, but I was not ready to be nominated as president! I am not sure what happened, but with lots of encouragement, and several pledges of support here I am writing to you as the new President.

Let me introduce myself. My name is Roy Row (pronounced like how, now, cow). I moved to Tennessee from eastern Pennsylvania a few years ago to become the Senior Minister of the Christian Church in Maryville. I grew up in the Maryland suburbs of Washington D.C., while my wife's family hails from Lenoir City. We met at the University of Maryland and married thirty-six years ago. After seminary, six children, and three churches, we have landed here for what we hope is the last stop!

I began collecting stamps as a young boy through the influence of my older brother. I was intrigued by the shapes, colors, sizes, and subjects of the many stamps that filled my cigar box and small album. School, marriage, children, and career caused the hobby to be set aside for many years. Over the past several years, however, I have been able to enjoy my collection once again. I am excited about being part of a group of people who share my interest. I am also pleased by the diversity of interests within the club, and look forward to learning and growing in many areas as I get to know each of you.

A special thanks goes to Jim Pettway for a wonderful job last year. He set the bar high for us all with his energy, efficiency, and warmth. I hope that we can all continue to contribute at that same high level to make this organization all it should be.

I'll see you in June,

Roy Row



Knoxville Philatelic Society Meeting – May 6, 2008

The May 2008 meeting of the Knoxville Philatelic Society was held at the Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalistic Church on May 6, 2008. Eighteen (18) members and one guest were present. After stamp swaps and review of the APS circuit books, Jim Pettway, President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

For the program, Bruce Roberts presented “All About Catalogues,” and he brought a variety of stamp catalogs for each member to use during the discussions. Bruce is the section editor for Arkansas in the new Confederate Stamp Alliance Catalog and Handbook scheduled for publication in 2010. He described the importance of catalogs to the stamp collecting hobby and his experiences of working on the new catalog.

During the business meeting, new member Carl Glasgow was introduced. The minutes of the April meeting were approved as published in the newsletter. The treasurer’s report was approved as presented.

The main topic of discussion was the selection of the site for KNOXPEX 2009. It was the members’ and dealers’ opinion that the Budget Inn should not be considered for future KNOXPEX events. After extensive search efforts by Charlie Wade, assisted by Jim Pettway and Stu Hanlein, the board selected the Holiday Inn Select on Cedar Bluff as the location for the 2009 show. Thomas Lane will follow up with the hotel for final arrangements and the contract.

In other business, Jim said the church had an LCD projector and screen available for future meetings and programs at no cost to the club. A motion was made 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 \$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 newsletter may be directed to Tom Broadhead, KPS, P.O. Box 50422, Knoxville, TN 37950-0422 – or by e-mail to tomwb50@aol.com.

donate \$100 to the APS from the proceeds of KNOX-PEX 2008. The board recommended the theme of next years show to be “The 200th Anniversary of the Birth of Abraham Lincoln.” This was approved unanimously by the members in attendance. Gerald Schroedl volunteered to contact Lincoln Memorial University to see if they could support the show with exhibit material.

The election of club officers for the following year was held, with the following elected by acclamation.

President	Roy Row
Vice President	Ralph Dinwiddie
Secretary	Jo Mynatt
Treasurer	Thomas Lane
Director (2 year term)	Bruce Roberts
Director (2 year term)	Richard Ehrlich

Thomas Lane and Stu Hanlein will serve the remaining year of their current term as directors.

In a final action, the club unanimously approved a motion to commend Jim Pettway on his past year of service as club president.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Submitted by:

Charlie Wade, Secretary

Upcoming Events

Here is a new KPS News feature – a listing of upcoming events of philatelic interest. For additional club listings and events in the southeast, visit the calendar page of the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs - www.stampclubs.com/events.

June 3 – KPS monthly meeting. Ralph Dinwiddie will present a program on “Patriotic Covers.”

June 7 – Tennessee Germany Philatelic Society monthly meeting at Lawson McGhee Library, 500 W. Church Ave., Knoxville 37902. Visit www.stampclubs.com/tngps for future meeting dates.

June 7-8 – **Huntsplex** – Huntsville Philatelic Club, Huntsville, AL, www.stampclubs.com/huntsville.

July 1 – KPS monthly meeting.

July 29 – KPS 5th Tuesday meeting – Executive Board at 6:00; swap, trade, and APS circuit sales at 7:00.

Stamp of the Month

This month’s stamp is the 33 cent, 2000 White House bicentennial issue (Scott 3445), a beautiful self-adhesive with a 11¼ serpentine die cut.

Thanks to Ralph Dinwiddie for donating these stamps.



Visiting Village Post Offices in the Caribbean

by Gerald F. Schroedl

I have traveled to many Caribbean islands where I have visited lots of post offices. On larger islands such as St. Lucia and Dominica, there is a general post office and 20 or more village post offices. Some islands such as Dominica also have intermediate level parish post offices. Generally speaking one can send a full range of correspondence from local letters to international registered mail from any post office.

General post offices (GPOs) are found in the capital city of each island. So for example the GPO on St. Lucia is in Castries (Figure 1). Most parish offices occupy single free standing buildings or are housed with other government agencies, particularly the police station. Village offices are found in a building used for postal services alone, or more often are found in someone's home (Figure 2).



Figure 1. Castries, St. Lucia, General Post Office



Figure 2. Calibishie, Dominica post office in a private home

I enjoy visiting the village post offices because the postal clerks are friendly and I can always learn much about local village and island life as well as interesting things about the postal service. Village post offices are not always easy to find, but as I was once told on St. Lucia when I suggested that a sign would help direct patrons to the post office that this was unnecessary since everyone already knew where the post office was. Because village post offices seldom carry a full range of stamp denominations, it is possible to create some very colorful postal usages. Sometimes local clerks are unfamiliar with particular rates, so they occasionally charge incorrect fees, also creating interesting usages. When visiting a post office, I try to have the clerk select and affix the stamps on my mail. I usually send local letters and cards back to my hotel, international air and registered cards and letters to myself, friends and relatives in the United States (I always make them give them back to me), and if I am traveling to another island, I also send cards and letters at regular and registered rates to myself at my future destination. In doing all this I have amassed a large number of postal items, each one of which has an interesting story behind it.

For example, shown in Figure 3 is a letter from the small village of Windward on Carriacou (part of the Grenadines) where five 15 cent stamps were used to pay the correct letter rate to the United States because no 75 cent stamps were available. The cover is canceled both 6 January and 9 January because as the clerk began to cancel the stamps on 6 January she noticed that she had inverted the six making it a nine. She fixed the canceling device thus producing two different dates.

Figure 3. Airmail letter from Windward, Carriacou, rated 75 cents with 6 and 9 January cancels.



This month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, June 3

(continued from page 3). Figure 4 shows the Bogius, St. Lucia postmistress (on the left), who held her position for over 30 years, making her the longest serving village postmistress on St. Lucia. This post office can only be



Figure 4. Bogius, St. Lucia post office.

reached by fording a stream and walking along a path for several hundred yards. Figure 5 is the Soufriere, Dominica post office and also the home of Monica Pemberton who determined the postage for my letters (Figure 6) while her sister served me a Christmas lunch.

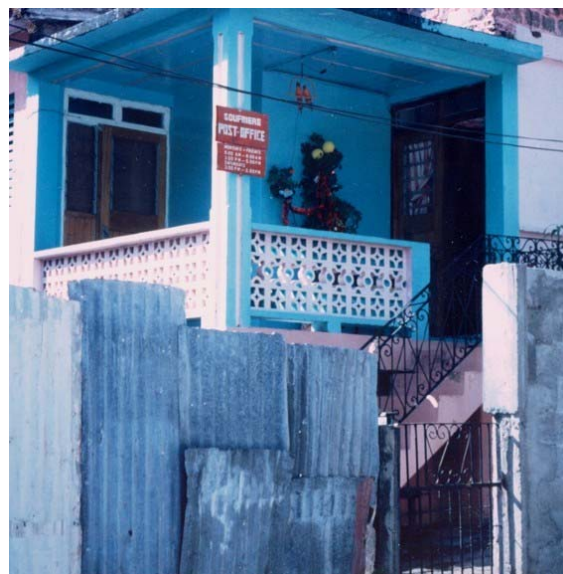


Figure 5. Soufriere, Dominica post office in a private home.

Visiting local post offices throughout the Caribbean has increased my appreciation and knowledge the islands and the organization and history of their postal systems. I have met many interesting people and I have enjoyed creating all kinds of attractive postal covers and cards. I have exhibited some of these and I have given some to others for their collections.

Figure 6. Registered letter sent from Soufriere, Dominica in December 1993 rated at \$1.95, correct rate \$1.90



You Can Help at the Southeastern Stamp Show!

by Bruce Roberts

Southeastern Stamp Show, our regional APS World Series of Philately show, sponsored by the Southeast Federation of Stamp Clubs, will take place this fall on September 26-28. Bruce Roberts is the chair of the committee that will be putting up and taking down exhibits at the show. An especially critical time is Sunday afternoon when the show closes and exhibits are dismantled and returned to their owners. If you plan to attend the show, please plan to help Bruce with this important task. Contact Bruce or Jim Pettway for details, and stay tuned for reminders in future KPS newsletters.

Next month's KPS Meeting – Tuesday, July 1