

The Messenger



August 2018

Waldo Public Library
Gather at 1:00, Meeting Starts 2:00
Saturday, August 4th

Jim McKinzie, President & Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)

What You Missed:

Meeting Attendance: 33

If you missed last month you did not get to hear Dale Smith's program on "World Post Offices & Postal Museums." It was very informative and makes one ready to book a flight anywhere.

It was announced that Barbara Crompton will take on the roll of Exhibits Chairman this next year. She will be working along side Bob Burney to "learn the ropes" for the remainder of this year.

The annual October luncheon was discussed. See pg. 2 about the luncheon.

President's Corner:

Lots of upcoming opportunities to enhance your collection through buying and gathering knowledge both near and far this month. Get away from your computer and go check out one or more of those shows.

Upcoming New U.S. Issues:

08/07 The Art of Magic Forever (Pane of 20, four each of five designs)

08/09 Dragons Forever (Pane of 16, four each of four designs) Each stamp will include a foil accent.

08/11 U.S. Airmail Anniversary Red Forever (Pane of 20) Design is a companion to the Blue issued in May.



What You Will Miss (if not there):

This month's program will be "K.C. Early Mail History" by Bob Baltzell. Did Bob know about the new U.S. issue coming out this month honoring the 100th Anniversary of the U.S. Airmail? Good timing!

As always there will be an interesting Show & Tell (sign up on clipboard near podium) plus an exciting auction of great philatelic materials.

Philatelic Happenings:

August 9th & 11th- American Philatelic Society/American Topical Association National StampShow

Greater Columbus Convention Center
400 North High St, Columbus, OH

August 17th & 18th- The Wichita Show

Cessna Activity Center
2744 George Washington Blvd., Wichita, KS

August 24th & 25th- Gladstone Stamp Show

Gladstone Community Center
6901 N Holmes St., Gladstone, MO
Hours: Friday, 10am-6pm
Saturday, 9am-5pm

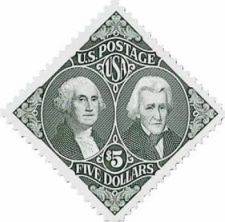
More info at:

<https://gladstonestampcollectors.club/>
12 dealers listed so far on the website, which should make this a great weekend in the KC area for stamp collectors.

Philatelic Ramblings:

Recently it was reported that the \$5 Washington/Jackson issue was pulled from sale by the USPS. Originally issued on Aug 19, 1994, it had been on sale since that time. Although it had been removed from the field in 2013, the issue could still be bought through the USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services (the Caves as known by us locals). So that stamp has been available for almost 24 years. Amazing!

But if you have been asleep and missed this issue, sorry! But I am sure there are some dealers that may have it in stock.



#2592

Show or Bourse:

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, bourse is a word I detest. I'll get into the reasons why in moment but first what does bourse mean. The Number 1 definition in Merriam-Webster's online dictionary is "specifically : a European stock exchange". Number 2 is "a sale of numismatic or philatelic items on tables (as at a convention)". OK, so it is defined, as currently used in the philatelic world, in the dictionary today. But when did that start and why? I am not sure about the when and not positive about the why. I do know that the second definition was not in any dictionary I had access to when I was actively collecting in my youth and as a young adult. My go to dictionary has been for years the *American Heritage Dictionary College Edition* 1976. The only definition for bourse in that edition is "a stock exchange of a city in continental Europe, esp. Paris". *The Reader's Digest Great Encyclopedic Dictionary* 1977 which was a combination of Funk & Wagnalls *Standard College Dictionary*, three foreign language dictionaries and eighteen special supplements had a slightly different take. Its definition is "an exchange or money market; especially the Paris stock exchange". The earliest I have found the second definition is about 1988, when we were still trying to recover from the rampant speculation of the stamp market in the late 70's and early 80's. It was a Webster's edition, "2. a sale of special items, as rare coins, at a convention, exhibition, etc." This definition does not specifically mention stamps. The origin and etymology of the word is Middle French, literally, purse from Medieval Latin *bursa*. The pronunciation is 'bürs and we say it wrong. Go online and you can hear how it is pronounced on the Merriam-Webster website.

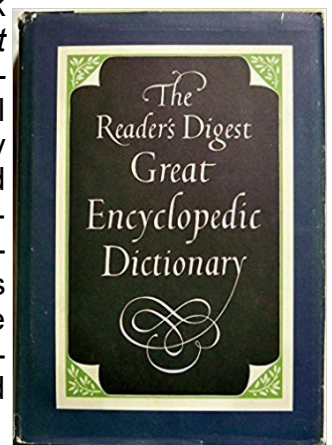
So why do I dislike this word? Because it is very pretentious sounding and off putting to someone that is not familiar with the word. We struggle to increase membership and interest in collecting and we use words and terms that are alien to most ears. *Coming soon to your area a Stamp Bourse or The following dealers are in the Bourse!* What is that and why would you go. Most ads for shows are small and not very detailed because of the cost of advertising today. Would a novice collector go to something that they really are not sure what it is. I had never heard the term as a young person and sure did not know what it was until much later in life.

The tradition continues. The **October luncheon** will be catered by Joe's Kansas City Bar-b-que. Members may vote for their favorite meat: pulled pork, brisket, ham, turkey, or sausage. The top two meats will be ordered. Included in the meal will be coleslaw, potato salad, bbq beans and bread. Barbara will be collecting your share of the luncheon at the August and September meetings, members and guests will each pay \$17. Lunch will be served at noon.

Congrats to our fellow members:

Randy Neil received the APS Distinguished Philatelist of the Year honor for 2018 this past June at the American Philatelist Society Annual Awards Dinner.

Bob Burney is receiving the APS Nicholas G. Carter Volunteer Recognition Award for Local Service through his exhibiting/teaching efforts with our club.



Stamp Tip

Great resource as a world stamp collector for the French, German and Spanish dictionaries that are included. Translates both ways. Find a copy at a used book store.

Where and when did this word start to describe a temporary place to buy and sell stamps? That I would like to know myself but I do think there has always been a group that like to make our hobby sound important and exclusive. You have to be in-the-know and member of the inner circle to understand the hobby. I think it was that elitist group that came up with the word.

I do understand why the term is used today. It describes a difference. Shows tend to be big affairs in the philatelic world, with all the bells and whistles with dealers, a post office, exhibits, seminars etc. Where the bourse is just a few dealers selling their wares. But when you think of the origin of the word bourse, a stamp bourse could be stretched to mean dealers getting into your purse. *JMC*

Antarctic Explorers by Michael Keil

Many of us are familiar with the Antarctic Explorers stamps issued by the U.S. Postal Service on September 14, 1988 (Scott #2386-89). The stamps commemorate the accomplishments of 4 of America's greatest Antarctic explorers, Richard E. Byrd, Lt. Charles Wilkes, Nathaniel Palmer, and Lincoln Ellsworth. However, how much do you really know about the individuals featured on these stamps and their accomplishments?

Probably the best-known of the four is Richard Byrd (1888-1957). On May 9, 1925 Byrd attempted to fly over the North Pole, a feat he may or may not have accomplished. On November 28, 1929 he made the first flight over the South Pole. Byrd participated in a total of five Antarctic expeditions.

Lt. Charles Wilkes (1798-1877) commanded the United States Exploring Expedition which, among other things, made the last circumnavigation of the globe by sailing ships. Wilkes and his men sailed down the east coast of South America, through the Straits of Magellan, and northward to the Pacific Northwest. They visited many Pacific Islands and Australia. In December, 1839, Wilkes sailed into the Antarctic Ocean and on January 12, 1840 sighted Antarctica. While the Wilkes Expedition was not the first to sight the frozen continent, Wilkes is credited with being the first to identify Antarctica as a continent.

Nathaniel Palmer (1799-1877) was a ship captain, seal hunter and explorer. In 1820 Palmer and his men became the first Americans to discover the Antarctic Peninsula, part of which today bears his name (Palmer Land). Palmer Archipelago was also named in his honor and Hero Bay in the South Shetland Islands is named for his ship, the *Hero*.



Lincoln Ellsworth (1880-1951) joined Roald Amundsen's failed 1925 attempt to reach the North Pole by plane. The following year he once again joined Amundsen in his attempt to reach the North Pole by dirigible during which the magnetic North Pole was sighted. On November 23, 1935, Ellsworth completed the first trans-Antarctic flight, taking off from Dundee Island and landing on the Ross Ice Shelf. He participated in four separate expeditions to Antarctica where many landmarks bear his name, including Mount Ellsworth, Lake Ellsworth and Ellsworth Land.

Looking for more on Antarctic explorers. Found this on historyforsale.com. A block of 4 with plate no. of US #733 with Admiral Byrd's signature. *It can be yours for only \$256!* And from Scott's Specialized of United States Stamps- *This stamp was issued in connection with the Byrd Antarctic Expedition of 1933 and for use on letters mailed through the Little America Post Office established at the Base Camp of the Expedition in the territory of the South Pole.*

You Could Be A Winner

Our December show will be on everyone's doorstep before any of us are ready for another year to pass. It's hard to think about cold weather when summer temperatures land in the 90s, with humidity steadily in the 100s. MPS encourages its members to consider exhibiting, especially if they have never had the opportunity. Think about club exhibiting as an extended show-and-tell, mounted on 9 pages (the first page is called the "Title Page" explaining your story), which tells a story about a subject you enjoy, decorated with material that supports the exhibit's purpose. Information for exhibits, explaining examples of page construction, is on our web site. You can also get personal assistance from Bob Burney, Barbara Crompton, or any of our member-exhibitors. We're usually at the club's Sunday breakfast. If we know what questions you have, we can prepare by bringing material to demonstrate. Where's breakfast? I-435 South and Roe Avenue, "Winsteads Restaurant". Some early birds meet around 7:30 a.m., but those requiring beauty sleep appear at 9:00 or 10:00. A few club members are still bumpin' their gums around 12 noon. We discuss stamp collecting, philately, club business, exhibiting, and several other specialty subjects (not necessarily related to stamps). Come join us.

2018 is Bob's final year as MPS Exhibits Chairman. It's his tenth show!. During the 7-years he spent creating and nurturing our MPS club exhibiting program, much has changed. Last year we added exhibiting medals, something most clubs only showing local club exhibits are not able to do. During the first year of development, MPS actually had two shows (one during the summer and another in the winter).

Barbara Crompton has graciously accepted the position of MPS Exhibits Chairman, beginning 2019. Barbara will work with Bob and other club exhibitors to carry on this annual event. What about the seminars? Well, let's see how many of our collectors are interested in a classroom setting, and perhaps we'll do that again ... down the road.

The club exhibiting, "Prospectus and Entry Form," will be available at our August meeting, on our web site after the August meeting, or you can request a form from Bob (burney@msn.com) or Barbara (rockyrode2014@gmail.com) via email.

The last opportunity for submitting the Prospectus and Entry Form is Saturday, 3 November 2018. Anybody with exhibiting experience can tell you there is never enough time to prepare for a show. The sooner you start, the more fun you truly have, avoiding last minute frustration by relaxing while you create your masterpiece!

It sure would be nice to fill all 12 club frames with competitive exhibits this year. That's never been done before. Exhibitors can enter more than one exhibit as long as each subject is

At the Show in August:

Scott Couch of Tiger Collectibles, club member and former secretary/newsletter editor of this club will be at the Gladstone Stamp Show in August. He reports that he will have the 2c Meyer Lemon stamp available in all formats, singles, pairs and PNC strips.



Dale Smith of Stamp Smith and member reports they are now the largest Topical Dealer in the Midwest. In addition they carry worldwide and U.S. stamps and covers. They have spent the last 8 months breaking two huge collections and now have them in their inventory. Lots of new material. Dale says, "We look forward to seeing you at our booth at the Gladstone Stamp Show."

uniquely different. The members at the December meeting vote on the exhibits. Medals depicting the MPS logo are given out to the winners of the exhibition. So join in and you could be a winner without major travel and expense. And it could lead you to further exhibiting on a bigger scale.—*Bob Burney & JMC*



Your Could Win Gold



Howard Buhl will also be there with a table of mixtures from all over the world. People can pick from a group of 5c or 10c mixtures depending on the countries the stamps are from. Great for beginners.

Traveling to Belize

Dale's program in July reminded me of my lone entry into a foreign post office. My grandfather took me on a week long deep sea fishing trip to Belize (British Honduras) when I was in college. Flying from Tulsa to New Orleans, we then took a Honduran airline to Belize City. Great Britain was in the process of granting full independence to Belize but was hampered by Guatemalan claims of sovereignty over the Belizean territory. Guatemala was ready to march in when they had a severe earthquake in 1976. It held them back but they kept threatening. As we arrived at the airport, you could see sandbags piled up protecting mounted guns and soldiers all around. Walking from the plane to the terminal, which wasn't much more than a large bus station, we were greeted by a very stern official. "Documents or passports?" My grandfather handed over his passport and my birth certificate. Yes, that's all I needed back then. The official looked it all over very carefully and hands back my grandfather's passport but was still holding on to my birth certificate. "Will you be responsible for this young man?", he says to my grandfather. I guess a skinny, tall, long haired, bell bottomed guy who towered over this official was suspicious. My grandfather who was taller than me said "Oh most definitely, his mother and grandmother would never forgive me if I lost him." That made the official smile for the first time. He handed back my birth certificate and off we went to get our bags, fishing gear and to find the post office.

I do not remember if we walked or took a cab but we arrived in front of a very small building that I might have passed by. But I was with an experienced foreign traveler who knew how to seek out the post offices. He had been buying stamps for my collection at post offices all over the world for years. Walking in I was glad there was just the clerk and no one else inside. I hoped the guy was patient because I wanted to see everything he had. And as I recall, he was, although we didn't have lots of time as we had to catch our plane to the fishing resort. He pulled stamps out of drawer and I bought two full sheets that would cover sending postcards to the states and lots of singles of this series (Scott #345-360).



#350 and #352 from the butterfly series of Belize Series was issued from 1974-77

checking, most if not all are the original watermark (314) and not watermark 373. The second watermark issues, were issued from 1977 to 1978 and we were there in the spring of 77. Something to do if I ever retire.

Stamps in hand, we headed back to the airport to board Maya Airways to take us to our island destination along the Belize Barrier Reef. Four-seater plane with my grandfather, the pilot and me. Flying along the reef was unbelievable and especially exciting to a young man who had only been

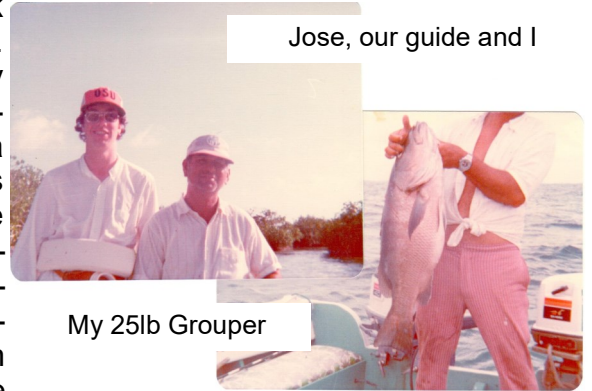


My grandfather with cigarette in hand next to the soon to shut down Maya Airways plane

outside the U.S. to Tijuana Mexico. Landing was like being part of a drug smuggling operation that you see in the movies. Rutted, dirt runway with palm trees and very jungle looking all around. Cool! We departed the plane, picked up by the resort owner and headed to the resort. Primitive fishing cabins were our accommodations but clean and comfortable. We ate community style with fresh seafood the fare all week.

The rest of the week we fished and swam. Sharks were caught by another group of fisherman but I caught a 25 lb. grouper and was it ever good. There

was a group of couples from Ohio who were very confused by my Oklahoma State cap. They were convinced I went to Ohio State. Orange vs red not confusing to me. About mid-week the owner, who was an American, came to my grandfather and said that there



Jose, our guide and I

My 25lb Grouper

was a problem. Maya Airways had been shut down by the government for 52 safety infractions.

We could take the ferry back to Belize City but we would have to leave a day early and find accommodations in the capital. But on the next day he

said a friend of his was in the area and he would take us back in his plane. We climbed on board this Cessna with the three couples from Ohio. Smooth flight back and cool too!

When I think or look at these stamps or even see these issues at a dealers table, I think of this fantastic trip and the great time I had with my grandfather. -JMC



Never forgot the cigs but forgot his hat. My red headed Irish grandfather had to borrow one from the resort owners wife, Sul-



The rest of what I bought at the Belize City Post Office including the 1975 Christmas Issues #370-373