

# The Messenger



June 2018

Waldo Public Library  
Gather at 1:00, Meeting Starts 2:00  
Saturday, June 2nd

Jim McKinzie, President (jimmckinzie1@att.net)

## What You Missed:

Meeting Attendance: 37

Last month we reported that Scott Couch has resigned as Secretary and Editor of this newsletter. A request was made by the President for volunteer(s) for each of those positions.

Armen Hovsepien gave an interesting and entertaining program called "Collecting US Stamps 101, Plate Blocks". If you were not there and collect US Plate Blocks you missed some valuable info.

Armen is still looking for someone to take over the club library. Please contact him for more details.

## What You Will Miss (if not there):

This month's program is "It Glows" by Jim McKinzie.

And of course, a great auction, buy it now items and great philatelic fellowship.

## Upcoming New U.S. Issues:

- 06/09 Flag Act of 1818 (Sheet of 20, one design)
- 06/20 Frozen Treats (Booklet pane of 20, ten different designs that are scratch-and-sniff)
- 06/27 Statue of Freedom (\$1, \$2 pane of 10 each & \$5 pane of four)
- 07/04 O Beautiful (Sheet of 20, 20 designs)

## President's Corner:

Armen Hovsepien, our treasurer, has agreed to also take on the duties of Secretary. He has been appointed until someone can be found to fill that position.

We really have a need of someone to take on the newsletter editor roll. It is a separate position from Secretary. This month is an experiment in stream lining delivery of the newsletter and to reduce costs. Those of you that have an email address received your newsletter that way. If not then it was mailed to you. Please contact me if you have an interest in taking on this roll.

## Philatelic Happenings:

**JUNE 23rd- The Greater KC Stamp Show**  
(Sponsored by Scott Couch) will take place at the American Inn, 1211 Armour Rd., North Kansas City. Show hours 10a-4p. FREE ADMISSION

**JUNE 22nd & 23rd- Greater KC Metro Antique Paper and Postcard Show**  
Clarion Hotel-Overland Park, 12601 W 95th St. Lenexa, KS. Friday 11a-6p Saturday 9a-4p. Admission \$6 for Early Bird Friday at 10a, \$4 regular admission good both days.

**JUNE 29th & 30th- OKPEX**  
The Reed Conference Center, 5800 Will Rogers Rd, Midwest City, OK, Dealers and Exhibits. <http://www.okcsc.org/okpex/> for more info.

**JULY 29th- E & D Auctions**

Sunday at 1:30p.  
For more info go to [www.eanddstamps.com](http://www.eanddstamps.com)

## ***Philatelic Ramblings:***

Have nothing to do on Sunday mornings or you want to get out of doing those chores? Maybe you just want to talk stamps! Well now you have somewhere to go. A group of club members meet every Sunday morning at Winsteads at Roe Ave and I-435. Some start arriving at 7:30am and others arrive as late as 9:00. Two of us did not leave till around Noon. Come and go. Bring an item or two to show or that you have a question about. It is good fellowship with no rules except to be nice to the waitress.

***Come have a cup of jo or more at  
Winstead's 10711 Roe, Overland Park, KS***



Can you identify this stamp's Scott # and what this stamp represents? Come Saturday to see if you were correct or you will have to wait till next month's newsletter.



Top image is Scott #36, the wet printing and the bottom image is Scott #36a, the dry printing. Wet printing Plate Block values at \$4 and the dry printing at \$5.25.

Do you collect U.S. Plate Blocks? In listening to Armen's program it reminds one of how little a person can retain or know of this vast hobby. If you specialize in a particular area, reference books are a must. As good as Scott's Specialized is, it lacks much information when it comes to Plate Blocks. There is a resource out there that is extremely helpful. Durland Standard Plate Number Catalog is produced by the United States Stamp Society. The current edition was released in 2016. The catalog lists every plate number and position that has been reported from #7 to the present including revenues and other back of the book issues.

Do you have trouble identifying issues with color, tagging or printing variations? This can help you determine the difference or at the very least narrow your choices. A good example is the difference between dry or wet printing in the Liberty Series or the airmail issues of 1947. In most cases different plate numbers were used on the different printings so you can immediately identify which Scott # it is.

You can buy Durland's from U.S. Stamp Society as a member at a reduced price or at full price as a non-member of their Society.

[www.usstamps.org](http://www.usstamps.org)





## Looking for Something New to Collect:

If you are looking to start a new line of collecting, which is affordable and accomplishable! why not "Joint Issues?" So far the US has issued stamps together with France, Russia, Sweden, Netherlands, just to name a few. A set from each country in comparison with the US, will be an interesting and exhibition worthy collection. Here is the image of Ameripex 86 booklets from US and Sweden.

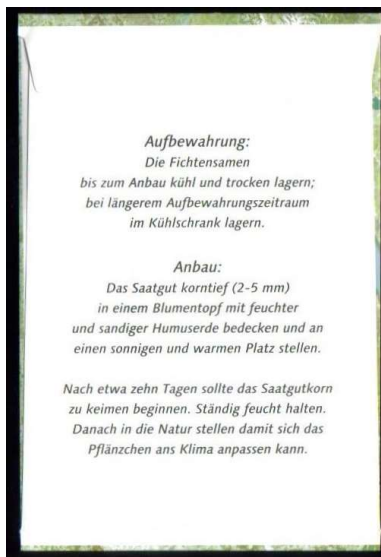
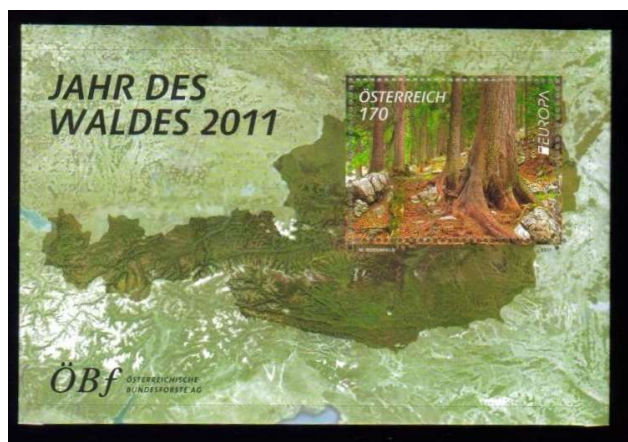
OR

Are you bored with your collection? Do you like the weird or different? Why not collect and make an album of the gimmick stamps. Some of the early "gimmicks" were Bhutan's 3-D space stamps or the Tonga self-adhesive Banana stamp.



More countries including the US are issuing all kinds of unusual stamps. Including the new scratch-and-sniff as reported in this newsletter.

In 2011 Austria issued a Europa stamp for International Year of Forests, listed as Scott #2336 and priced at \$4.75 this stamp is actually an envelope containing seeds!



As adults and "serious" collectors we scoff at these stamps but how many of us remember when we first acquired that Bhutan 3-d stamp or the Tonga banana stamp. The excitement and showing our friends. Last year's solar eclipse stamp did that for a whole new generation of potential stamp collectors.

## ***Show and Tell:***

I will have a new signup sheet for the show-and-tell portion of the meeting. It will be on a clipboard up by the podium. Sign up with your first name and last initial. Please keep your presentation to 5 minutes if possible. *Any longer and we will make you the program!*

## **Armen plans to have a Show and Tell and it sounds very interesting:**

Now; we have seen stamps printed on cardboard, newspaper, paper money, plastic and cloth, but Porcelain? You must be kidding! But that's true, a silk-screened Rose on Porcelain Tile! You want to see and feel it? Make sure you attend our MPS Club meeting this coming Saturday and see how a 1/8 inch "stamp" is affixed on envelope. The text on the back of stamp reads:

"The very finest in Philately. The new Augarten Porcelain stamp. A delightful ambassador for \*\*\*\*\* culture - a perfect combination of innovation and tradition, elegance and aesthetics."

\*\*\*\*\* The country name is removed, MPS members can guess, and if correct, will get a "Door Prize" ! when the above item is presented at our regular "Show and Tell" segment of our Saturday Club Meeting.

## ***Stamp Collecting Tips:***

Did you buy a collection that just does not smell right? Smoke or mildew smell or both? Try this:

Place the offending item(s) in a plastic container that is fairly air tight. Place a couple of dryer sheets from the laundry room in the container, don't let the dryer sheets touch your material, seal it up and leave it closed for a month or two. Then take out the dryer sheets and leave the lid off for a day or two. Next place an opened box of baking soda in the container and seal back up for a month or more. After this time your smelly collection will be more agreeable. Many recommendations to remove smoke only use the dryer sheet method but doing the two-step process seems to work much better. It is slow but worth the time. Besides if you start the process when you first bring it home, it will be ready for you when you really are ready to start working on it.



Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter and thanks to Armen H. for his contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me or the new editor for next month's issue. Happy stamping and see you Saturday. *Jim M.*