

# The Messenger



June 2019

Jim McKinzie, President & Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)  
Michael Miklovic, 1st Vice President  
Rodger McReynolds, 2nd Vice President  
Armen Hovsepian, Treasurer  
Michael Keil, Secretary

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



## Our Secretary Reports What You Missed:

Meeting Attendance: 28

Meeting was brought to order by Jim at 2:00pm

Jim had a handout showing the format of the new issue Ellsworth Kelly that was incorrectly listed in the last newsletter.

**1st Vice-President**– No report

**2nd Vice-President**– Rodger reported that the website has been updated and encouraged members to check it out.

**Treasurer**– Armen reported that we have three new members which makes our current membership 65. We have 19 members that have been moved to inactive status due to not paying this years membership dues.

**Historian**– Bob thanked Mickey Marks for past MIDAPHIL covers that he donated to the club. Bob had them on display for members to see.

**Librarian**– Neil has a new listing of library materials that members can check out for research. He has emailed the list to each member that has an email address.

**Social**– Barbara invites members to bring snacks next month as she and Betsy will not be at the June meeting.

**Old Business**– Due to the results of the survey about attendance to the APS/ATA show and our August meeting, the board voted to cancel our August meeting. Members are invited to carpool on their own to Omaha for the show in August.

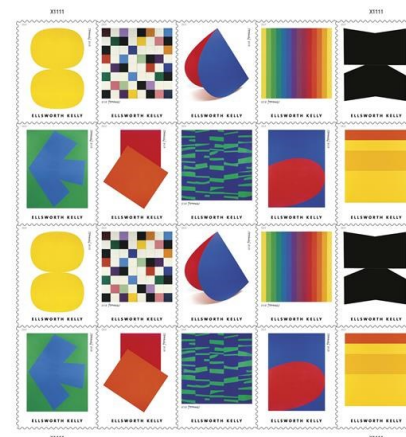
**New Business**–None

**Extended Show & Tell Program**– Steve S. talked about wax seals on letters and documents. Jim Mc. shared his Great-Grandfathers Postmaster Certificate and how both Great,Great Grandfather and son were postmasters at Arnett, MO for a period. Barbara C. shared about stamps with Swarovski Crystals. Rodger Mc. showed a program using a scanner and another using a microscope to enlarge and study stamps. Neil B. talked about old stamp albums. Armen H. had interesting foreign stamps with unusual perforations. Bob B. had historical postcards with Vin Fiz beverages advertising. George C. shared story about Amelia Earhart and where she may have been held captive by the Japanese after her plane went down. New member Jim J. confirmed the story as a former navel investigator.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Barbara Crompton substituting for Secretary Michael Keil

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

Ron Bayless will give a program titled, **How I Got Started**. Looking forward to that plus whatever shows up in show and tell. Don't forget about our great auction.



New Ellsworth Kelly  
Forever Pane of 20  
Issue Date May 31st

## Philatelic Happenings:

**Another dry month unless you go a short distance or really far:**

**June 28-29  
OKPEX**

Reed Conference Center  
5800 Will Rogers Road  
Midwest City, Oklahoma 73110

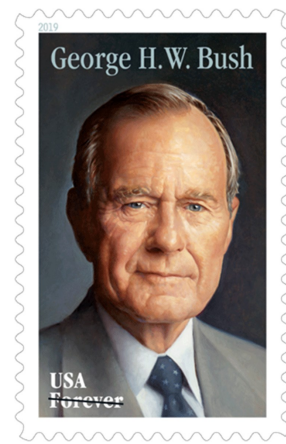
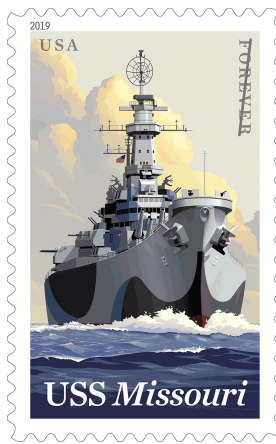
**Or you could go to  
China to the International  
Stamp Show**  
June 11-17

For more information go  
to the Events Calendar  
on the APS website  
stamps.org.



## Upcoming New U.S. Issues:

USS Missouri-Forever, First Class  
One Design, Pane of 20  
Issue Date June 11



George H.W. Bush, Forever, First Class  
One Design, Pane of 20  
Issue Date June 12



Tyrannosaurus Rex, Forever, First Class  
Four Designs, Pane of 16  
Issue Date June 28

## Philatelic Ramblings:

Two important issues coming out this June. The *USS Missouri* and the George H.W. Bush stamps. 75 years ago, the Japanese officially surrendered to the Allied Forces on the *Missouri*, which marked the end of WWII. The issue date coincides with the signing ceremony on the *Missouri*. It is unusual for the USPS to commemorate an event or person on the 75th. The *USS Missouri* was in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa. She received 11 battle stars for service in WWII, Korea and the Persian Gulf. After being decommissioned in 1992, the *Iowa*-class battleship sat idle until 1998 when she became a museum ship at Pearl Harbor.

The 41st President of the United States is honored for the first time with this issue coming out on what would have been his 95th birthday. Funny how events converge. George H.W. Bush was the last president to have served in WWII getting a stamp and commemorating the end of WWII with a stamp in the same month.

I do not have much to say about the T-Rex stamps except that as a kid I would have liked them and I am sure they will be very popular with certain topical groups and lots of younger people (if they see them).

On another note, it is surprising that I have been putting together this newsletter for a year now. This makes the 13th issue. It would not have been possible without the help and encouragement of many of my fellow MPS members. You have contributed ideas and articles that have made this possible. Thank you so much for your kind words and contributions. Please continue to share your knowledge of our wonderful hobby in the future by sending your articles by email or mail.

Thanks, Jim McKinzie

The Midwest Philatelic Society Website is  
[www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com](http://www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com)  
Find previous newsletters, links to other stamp info and more on our website.

## Last Month's Stamp Question:

The U.S. issued their first self-adhesive stamp in 1974 but what was the first country to issue a self-adhesive stamp?

Sierra Leone issued the first self-adhesive stamp in February of 1964. Because of their tropical climate, traditional adhesive stamps would stick together. Their attempt to alleviate that problem proved successful and more issues followed along with other tropical climate countries such as Tonga in April of 1969.

There were 14 issued in the series, 7 general issues and 7 airmail issues. These Sierra Leone issues are Scott #257-263, C14-20.



## History Quiz of the MPS from Historian Bob:

The Midwest Philatelic Society is recognized as chapters by four national philatelic organizations. Can you correctly connect the society name with the chapter number?

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| A. Society of Philatelic Americans      | 10  |
| B. The American Philatelic Society      | 24  |
| C. American Topical Association         | 120 |
| D. Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society | 129 |

Find the answer later in this newsletter.

## A Quiz From Armen for Our Next Meeting:

In April, we had an interesting stamp where only the country name was printed and we asked our members to identify the stamp and the catalog number. Three members had the correct answers.



This month we have another error stamp where ONLY THE SURCHARGE appears on the stamp, the entire stamp is missing. Can you guess what country

this stamp is from?

## APS/ATA Omaha Show:

We will not have our regular meeting in August due to the upcoming APS/ATA show in Omaha that weekend. The show dates are August 1-4 and it will be held at the following location:

CHI Health Center Omaha  
455 N. 10th St.  
Omaha, NE 68102

Besides exhibits, 35+ meetings & seminars, On-the-Road Courses and 72+ dealers, there will be a First Day ceremony at the show for the new Military Working Dogs issue. If you have never been to a First Day ceremony, it can be quite fun and educational. There will be a special show Cachet & Cancel for this issue. Admission to the show is free but pre-registration is recommended to help save you time at the on-site registration. You can do that through the APS website and find out more info about the show. The APS website is stamps.org.



## A Surprising Find:

I had been looking for a good copy of #279B for many years. I had several used examples but I wanted a decently center mint, not hinged (MNH) copy. A recent auction had a block of six for sale and the starting bid was very reasonable. In previewing the lots, I decided it was worth bidding on as at least one, if not two of the six were fine to very fine. I figured I could break it up if bought at the right price and keep one and sell the rest. Auction day came and there was little interest in the block so I got it at a decent price even with the sales tax and buyers premium.



US #279B  
2c Washington Design of 1894,  
Type IV,  
Double Lined Watermark

When you buy several lots at auction and you are still working full time, sometimes you do not get to one or two of the lots right away. As was the case with this particular find. When I did, I got my Scott Album out and took out the nice used copy. Laid out the block of six stamps. Carefully looked at them and decided one of them from the left side of six looked the most centered. So I detached the two on that end and then separated the two stamps from each other. Placed the better copy into the mount, recorded it into the inventory on the computer, closed the album and shelved it.



A few days later, I thought about the other single that I had separated from the block. Get it ready to either take to the club auction or sell another way. I opened up the Scott's Specialized Catalog to double check the current catalog price. As I was looking, I realized how many different color variations of #279B there were. Which color is this? #279B is either red, light red or deep red. It did not look red to me, at all. Too much rose or pink shade. Scott lists 7 other color varieties for the Type IV design. Each of those color varieties have one or more different shades as does #279B.

279Bc rose carmine, bright carmine rose, pinkish rose carmine

279Bd orange red with horizontal watermark, pale orange red, dark orange red, deep orange red

279Be orange red with vertical watermark (error)

279Bf carmine, reddish carmine

279Bg pink, bright pink

279Bh vermilion, pale vermilion

279Bi brown orange

It was easy to eliminate some of the varieties such as the orange red and brown orange. Then it started getting more challenging. Time to get the color chart out for these issues. No it wasn't vermilion or carmine. Not pink enough for 279Bg. I kept going back to the 279Bc rose carmine but surely not, this one has a catalog value of \$850 MNH. I have a pretty good eye for color. Perhaps from watching my Mom with her watercolors. She taught seminars around the country. We went to art shows. I basically grew up in the art world. She has often said I have a better eye for colors than she does, I don't agree but it has served me well with this hobby of ours. I kept going back to the fact that I saw some pink. I read the note under the listing for 279Bc. *The pinkish rose carmine shade is essentially the same shade as the rose carmine stamp, but the ink contains a pink pigment from an aniline ink that causes fluorescence under ultraviolet light.* This sub entry has no value assigned, just a —. Oh, it can not be that shade!

Continued on pg. 5

Carefully I turned on my ultraviolet light, held one of the copies under the light with my tongs and lo, it glowed orange. I held my breath, got out some of the used copies I had to compare. No they did not glow. I think I just sat there awhile staring at it. Soon I got the remaining block out. Yes it glowed, all six glowed. I could not believe my luck. I decided that I needed to be sure. The one I had decided to keep that was in my album was going to APS



Glowing orange under UV light



US 279Bc  
Pinkish Rose Carmine

to get verification and certification as to what I believed it to be. The cert came back this week as, *United States Scott No. 279Bc, pinkish rose carmine, unused, full original gum, never hinged, genuine in all respects.* Even though I was convinced before I sent it in for the cert, I was still surprised. For my find of this block of six to be this rare shade when 12 billion of the Type IV was printed, was a shock to me.

This 2c Washington was the workhorse for the first class rate of the time. And why so many color variations? Because quality control of the mixing of the colors was not always the best at the time. When you print 12 billion stamps over a period of several years, you get many variations of color. Different papers can also cause a variation of color. Plus what is aniline ink? Merriam-Webster says that it is, *a quick-drying printing ink usually made with an alcohol as vehicle and an organic or inorganic pigment.* I have read that it was

experimented with until the ink was no longer available due to the outbreak of WWI. The ink came from Germany. Some printings of the special delivery stamp E11 had aniline ink applied to the formulation. In some cases the aniline ink permeated the paper causing a pink tinge to appear on the back. Such stamps are called "pink backs" and are considered scarce and valued much more than the normal stamp.

JMC

### Stamp Tip:

Do you have trouble identifying the 2c Washington of the First Bureau Issues of 1894? One resource is consulting the Scott's Specialized Catalog. Another great way to research all the different types is to go to the website Stamp Smarter. To research the four different types of this issue go to [www.stampsmarter.com](http://www.stampsmarter.com) then click on "FEATURES". Then click on 1847USA and the LAUNCH button. Next click on VISUAL FINDER and the LAUNCH button for it. You will have three choices:

U.S. 1847-1868  
BANK NOTES 1870-1890  
WASHINGTON FRANKLINS

You want BANK NOTES 1870-1890, click on it and graphics of all the Bank Note stamps of 1870-1890 pop up. Click on the 2c red Washington without the "Triangles". You have arrived at the "Baby Bank Notes of the American Bank Note Company. All listed with info and pics of each stamp in the series. At the top of this page is a link to the 1894 FIRST BUREAU ISSUE "TRIANGLES". Click on it and you are at the designs of the 1894 Series with the triangles. There are two links at the top of the page that are very helpful in identifying the four different types. TYPES I, II AND III OF THE 2c STAMP and TYPE III VS IV OF THE 2c STAMP. Both these links are extremely helpful in identifying the differences between Type III and IV, which can be frustrating. This is a website that is rich in info, check it out.

Rodger has added a link to Stamp Smarter on the MPS website.

## Lost Jobs:

Independence, Missouri residents are currently having an argument over “smart meters”. As the city owns it's utilities, any change or modernization with the utilities brings in politics. One of the many objections to the smart meters is the fact the meter readers will lose their jobs. But doesn't new technology always bring about the loss of jobs. Take the lady pictured on the right. She is sitting at a stamp perforation machine performing a task that no longer exists in today's world. Is that a bad thing? Only to those of us that lose the job or like to live in the past. Stamp collectors do tend to dwell in the past. We want perforated stamps not self-adhesive. We want stamp stores not the impersonal internet. We long for engraved stamps and subjects that aren't dinosaurs. We want younger people involved in the hobby but then don't they like dinosaurs?

Go to the following website and click on Topical Stamp Collecting and see which topics are on fire. It will surprise you.

<http://www.stampcommunity.org/>

JMC



**Title: Washington, D.C. Flatbed, single-way postage stamp perforating machine at the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing  
From the Library of Congress  
Created/Published 1938  
Arthur Rothstein, photographer**



**Title: Bureau Ptg. & Eng. Machines perforating postage stamps; 146 machines, capacity 105,000 sheets a day  
From the Library of Congress  
Created/Published 1914  
Photographer Unknown**

## MPS quiz answer:

Here is the answer to our quiz question from pg 3:

**Answer: a,120: b,10: c,129: d,24**

Philatelists are always talking about “dead countries.” So what is a dead country and how many are there currently?

I challenge one of our world collectors to answer this and write it up for the next newsletter.

**Find out next month, I hope!**