

# The Messenger



January 2019

James McKinzie, President & Editor ([jimmckinzie1@att.net](mailto: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, January 5th

## **Our Secretary Reports What You Missed:**

Meeting Attendance: 38

Our annual December Auction for the Club went very well with \$600+ raised for future philanthropic endeavors.

Officers for 2019 were elected and they are listed in the new header above. Neil Becker has agreed to take over the Library from Armen. Thank you Neil and to the new officers.

The annual exhibits were very well presented by the members who participated. You can read about the winners on pg. 2.

Wonderful holiday snacks were provided by members.

## **Upcoming New U.S. Issues:**

*The 2019 U.S. stamp program was announced recently. It is probably an incomplete list of what is coming up as there are always surprise announcements later in the year. Also, with the new rate increases going into effect on January 27th several new issues come out or soon thereafter. Here is what is being released in January.*

Hearts Blossom-Forever, First Class  
Single Design, Pane of 20  
Issue Date January 10

Year of the Boar-Forever, First Class  
Single Design, Pane of 12  
Issue Date January 10

Joshua Tree-Priority(\$7.35),  
Single Design, Pane of 4  
Issue Date January 27

Bethesda Fountain-Priority Express(\$25.50),  
Single Design, Pane of 4  
Issue Date January 27

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

The program for this month will be "1980 Summer Olympics (The Games that Weren't)" by Tomas Griebing.

We are back to our regular auction rules. Be ready to sell or bid on some great auction items.

## **Philatelic Happenings:**

### **January 27th** **E & D Auctions**

**Auction Starts Promptly at 1:30pm**

Viewing of lots begins on January 21st from 1:00pm to 6pm. For more info go to their website [eanddstamps.com](http://eanddstamps.com) or contact Jim at 913-432-1806.



Uncle Sam Hat Coil, Additional Ounce  
Single Design, Coil of 100  
Issue Date January 27

U.S. Flag, Forever, First Class  
Single Design, Booklet of 20 and Coil of 100  
Issue Date January 27

Dogface Butterfly, Nonmachineable 2oz rate  
Single Design, Pane of 20  
Issue Date January 27

Gregory Hines-Forever, First Class  
Single Design, Pane of 20  
Issue Date January 28

## **December Club Exhibiting:**

If you missed the meeting in December, you missed some wonderful exhibits. The Club thanks Barbara Crompton for all her hard work in getting it put together with the awards etc. Below is listed the exhibits presented and the winners of the different categories.



### **2018 Midwest Philatelic Society - Club Exhibiting Program**

1 December 2018

#### **PALMARES**

Kansas City Public Library – Waldo Community Branch  
201 East 75th Street, Kansas City, MO

Exhibit Chairman: Barbara A. Crompton  
Website: [www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com](http://www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com)

#### **1st Place Gold Medal – Grand Award**

*Frame 7: The First Stamp Issues of the German Empire*  
Neil Becker

#### **2nd Place Silver Medal – Reserve Grand Award**

*Frame 1: United States Postal and War Savings Stamp*  
Scott Couch

#### **3rd Place Bronze Medal – Member’s Choice Grand Award**

*Frame 6: Presidential Widow Free Franks – 20<sup>th</sup> Century*  
Linda Johnson

#### **Midwest Philatelic Society**

#### **“Annual President’s Program Award”**

*Naval Cancellations with Authentic and Fake Covers*  
Michael Keil

#### **Midwest Philatelic Society**

#### **“The Martin Finkelstein MPS Research Award”**

*Frame 7: The First Stamp Issues of the German Empire*  
Neil Becker

#### **United States Stamp Society**

#### **“Silver President’s Award”**

*Frame 1: United States Postal and War Savings Stamp*  
Scott Couch

#### **The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors**

#### **“AAPE Silver Award of Honor Pin”**

*Frame 8: Soviet Antarctic: Brief Philatelic History*  
Michael Keil

#### **Women Exhibitors**

#### **“Sterling Achievement Award”**

*Frame 4: TACA Airways: 1943 First Flight Covers*  
Michael A. Miklovic

American Topical Association

“One Frame Ribbon”

*Frame 3: United States Olympic Games Issues: 1932-1972*  
Tomas L. Griebing

American Topical Association

“First Award & Ribbon”

*Frame 2: What’s Under Your Feet?*  
Barbara A. Crompton

“Midwest Philatelic Society”

Certificate of Participation

Competitive Exhibits

*Frame 1: United States Postal and War Savings Stamp, Scott Couth*

*Frame 2: What’s Under Your Feet?, Barbara A. Crompton*

*Frame 3: United States Olympic Games Issues: 1932-1972, Tomas L. Griebing*

*Frame 4: TACA Airways: 1943 First Flight Covers, Michael A. Miklovic*

*Frame 5: Dr. Brock’s Amazing Aviation Achievement, Bob Baltzell*

*Frame 6: Presidential Widow Free Franks – 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Linda Johnson*

*Frame 7: The First Stamp Issues of the German Empire, Neil Becker*

*Frame 8: Soviet Antarctic: Brief Philatelic History, Michael Keil*

*Frame 9: The U.S.S. Indianapolis: 30 July 1945, David Joyce*

Non-competitive Exhibits

*Frame 10: Feathers & Fur on Stamps & Hooks, Robert T. Burney*

*Frame II: Saudi Arabia – History, Michael Keil*



It is not too early to start working on your exhibit for December 2019. Think about what you could share of your knowledge and collection.

**The new postal rates start on January 27th.**  
**First Class goes from 50c to 55c**  
**Additional Ounces go from 21c to 15c (a decrease)**  
**Postcard rate is unchanged**  
**Media Mail rates go up 2.95%**  
**Priority Mail from \$6.70 to \$7.35**  
**Express Priority from \$24.70 to \$25.50**

## Which Comes First Christmas or New Year? by Armen Hovsepiyan:

Pope Gregory XIII was 10 years into his reign as leader of the Catholic church. He had a problem with Easter. The Julian calendar that the church (and large swaths of the world) used at the time measured a year as 365 days and 6 hours long.

That's close, but not quite right. The average length of a year is 365 days, 5 hours and 49 minutes. The 11 minutes difference might not seem like all that much, but compounded over 1300 years, it begins to add up. So Pope Gregory XIII released a papal order and cut 11 days from the calendar, thus Monday Sept 2 was followed by Tuesday Sept 14, 1752.



The followers of the Orthodox church, mostly in Russia, Greece and Armenia, did not accept the decree, and continued celebrating Christmas according to the OLD calendar and tradition. Thus in those countries Christmas is celebrated on January 6, following the New Year. So Christmas follows the New Year.



## ***Philatelic Ramblings:***

The following could also be considered a stamp tip. Patience has never been a virtue of mine. Especially if it is something I really want. And if it is something I am obsessed with, such as collecting then I really get impatient. Although since getting back into the stamp world many years ago, I have learned that patience in this hobby can be rewarding and beneficial to the pocket book.

Case in point, albums. I love my stamp albums. They are organized and I can immediately look through one and know what I am missing. But albums are expensive now, especially a really good one of a specific country or topic. I will make album pages, as I have done for my world collection of the American Bicentennial issues but it takes time and research to make even one page. I may not be patient in acquiring something but I will spend a lot of time making an album page so as to get it just right. So buying a ready made album to mount your stamps is a great time saver. My time is very important to me because time is not something I have a lot to spare on my passions and stamp collecting is only one of my passions.

France was a country I had been thinking about collecting more earnestly. I had always loved the French stamps that I had. Great art work, the cathedrals, the history and they were very pretty stamps for the most part. Also it seemed like a natural extension, in my mind, to collect our biggest ally from the Revolution. Some of our founding fathers were enamored with France and the French culture. Namely Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson in particular brought much over to our country and incorporated those ideas into architecture, furniture design and horticulture. So I started looking into albums. Scott, Palo and Davo companies. Scott's were cheaper but I liked the idea of Palo or Davo being hingeless mounted pages. Which would over time be a savings since mounts are not cheap. I do not and will not use hinges. The only thing that was stopping me was the price. Davo's price for the 2-post binder with slipcase is currently \$230. That is just for the first set of pages 1849-1949. Another \$220 for the next set, 1950-1969. I had stamps in my current collection well into the late 1970's, which that next set of pages 1970-1983 was another \$230. So for \$680 plus shipping I could get a nice set and remount my French collection from my old Harris world album. Each month I would look it up online and start to buy but I would think Scott Couch is having a show next week, the club north of the river is having a show or Jim is having his next auction. I would not be able to buy anything if I bought the album(s). So I wouldn't bite the bullet. Then at a club meeting Armen had two Davo albums, no stamps. They were the first two volumes of France but no slip covers. They were in very good shape except they smelled of smoke. Really bad! But the price was too good to pass up and I had been experimenting with removing mildew and smoke smells from album pages and stamps. So I bought them. It took a lot of work and time getting rid of the smell but I did.

I finished recently mounting what I had of French stamps and what a nice collection it has become. So by being patient I found something that I wanted at a considerably reduced price. Dealers are a great resource to find old albums. They have picked clean the stamps to sell and usually have trouble getting rid of the albums. Auctions such as Jim's E & D is another good resource although you will be buying stamps to go with it that you may already have. But there is our auction to get rid of the excess stamps and recoup some of your investment.

My advice is do your research, know what is available and at what price. Then wait if you have the patience. You may get a great addition to your collection at a great price. *JMC*

***The June 2018 newsletter had the stamp tip about removing smoke and other smells from a collection.***

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter and thanks to Armen for his contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the February issue will be January 15th.** Happy stamping and see you Saturday. *Jim Mc*



***Keep reading, there is one more page.***

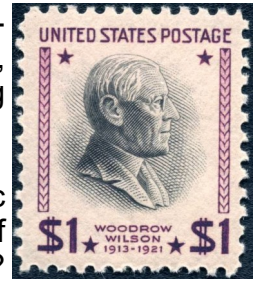
**What To Pay and Not:**

The end of the year brings many challenges for a lot of us. Many of us may have large families with all the expenses that go with the holidays from Thanksgiving through to New Years. The local taxman(or woman) has their hand out . If you belong to almost any organized religion they are wanting your commitment or pledge for the next year. And of course, there are the many organizations that you may belong to with their hand out wanting you to renew your dues.



**Mourning Stamp  
Woodrow Wilson  
Scott #623 & 697**

So if you belong to APS, ATA, USSS or any other philatelic organizations, you are being hit up for those dues this time of year. Why does everyone want money at the end of the year? We can probably thank Woodrow Wilson for that. The income tax was created under his administration and so as a consequence all organizations and businesses are trying to budget for the coming year. Charitable groups know that monies donated by the end of the year, the individuals can claim on their taxes. So it becomes this year end problem for everyone.



**From the Prexie Series  
Scott #832**

We are no different except that we have very modest dues. \$10 for the year and you get 12 newsletters and the many privileges that come with your membership. We have had 26 members to date pay their dues. Thanks to you that have. Please consider sending Armen your dues or bring them to our next meeting. *JMC*



**From the Liberty Series  
Scott #1040**

*There was one other stamp issued in honor of Wilson. Do you know what it was?*

YES ✓ I would like to continue my membership in Midwest Philatelic Society. Here is my 2019 dues:

Bring this slip and your cash/check to monthly meetings, or mail your check (Payable to MPS) to:

Armen Hovsepian  
Treasurer,  
P. O. Box 24222,  
Overland Park, KS 66283

- 2019 dues (individual) ..... \$10.00 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2019 dues (family)..... \$13.00 .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2019 Donation to My MPS Club ..... \$ .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- 2019 Donation to MPS Library ..... \$ .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total Remittance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

We are updating our Records and will appreciate if you complete the following:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ My collecting interests: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER WILL COME BY EMAIL UNLESS YOU WOULD PREFER IT TO COME BY TRADITIONAL MAIL.

I AM UNABLE TO RECEIVE EMAIL, SEND MY NEWSLETTER BY MAIL \_\_\_\_\_