

The Messenger



March 2024

The Greater Kansas City, Missouri Area's Stamp Club

Next Meeting

Rodger McReynolds, President (rodger_mcreynolds@hotmail.com)
Armen Hovsepian, 1st Vice President (info@armenstamp.com)
Jeff Jaax, 2nd Vice President (jeff.jaax@gmail.com)
Hans Vergara, Treasurer (iwc1868@yahoo.com)
OPEN, Secretary
Jim McKinzie, Newsletter Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)

**Saturday,
March 2nd**
Room available 10:00AM
Meeting starts 2:00PM
See Details Inside
On page 2

Our Secretary Reports What You Missed at the February Meeting:

Attendance: 33 members in attendance.

President: Rodger opened the meeting and introduced two new members. Gary Murphy, who collects US and Ireland. William Loudon, who collects worldwide international. Rodger noted that before the next meeting we will be open from 10 until 2 for dealer member interactions. The meeting will start at 2:00

First Vice President Report: Armen thanked everyone for using the APS booklets. This month was Germany. It was agreed upon to get Great Britain next month.

Second Vice President report: No report

Secretary Report: No report. Still looking for a secretary.

Treasurer Report: Hans reported the final balance for 2023 was \$11,408.05. Then he gave a breakdown of income and payments. The dues are \$25 please pay if you haven't. Also, please let Hans know if you are an APS member. Jim McKinzie suggested putting that question on the renewal form.

Librarian report: No report.

Historian: No report.

Newsletter: Jim asked for the members to please send in articles for the newsletter. He also thanked everyone for dealing with the cold due to the church's heating system is out which may be for a few months. He asked those that want to be dealers to please call before the meeting so we can set up enough tables. A discussion was had on the circular tables being left up. It appears that the club members think this is a good idea.

Website: No report.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: Fred Reynolds presented the collaboration of societies at various shows. He is looking for groups to work together for joint booths. An example would be the Third Reich group working with the Zeppelin group. A signup was passed around. Jim McKinzie mentioned the stamp shows which are listed in the newsletter and urged everyone to support these shows or they will disappear.

What are you looking for? Jeff Jaax is looking for the 3¢ Mount Rainier Block of 20; William corrected that he is looking for the 106c Syria overprint.

Show and Tell: The presenter could not make the meeting so show and tell was the presentation.

Jim McKinzie – New Sailboat post card counterfeits

Mike Keil – Binder of Polar covers which he had not catalog yet. With a rare Admiral Byrd.

Dale Smith – Talked about being a pharmacist and filling a prescription for Lydon Johnson.

Fred Reynolds – Presented a Zeppelin cover and a photo of the commander L-12 navy ship.

Stephen Slack – Talked about the search for the sacred cow and a full discussion on Ebay Bidding.

Neal Becker – Presented International reply coupons and a Happy Birthday to the UPU (150 years).

Neal Becker – Australian Stamp #28 with a small, embossed crown.

Victor Ellison – Presented a binder of Lunar New Year stamps and a letter from easter island.

Jessie Hykes – Presented a couple US stamps, one displaying the Key Marco Cat and how he was able to visit the actual statue displayed on the stamp.

Respectfully submitted by,
Perry Kilpatrick

**Join us on
Saturday, March 2nd
for George Corney &
"Philatelic Pub Trivia"**

Meeting Location and Time:

NEW MEETING PLACE & TIME

MPS Meeting Schedule for Saturday, March 2nd

Meeting is to be held at 1st Presbyterian Church-Westminster Hall
417 W Lexington Ave
Independence, MO 64050

10:00am—1pm Dealers and members, buy, sell and trade.

1:00pm— 2pm Auction Lots displayed and available to view.

2:00pm— 5pm Business meeting, show-n-tell and program with Auction to follow.

We must be out by 5pm, so be ready to bid, pay with cash and pickup your auction lots.

Directions to new location can be found on our website. Check out the January or February newsletters on the site.

Philatelic Happenings:

St. Louis Stamp Expo

St. Louis Renaissance Airport Hotel
9801 Natural Bridge Road
St. Louis, MO
March 22-24
Friday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 10-3

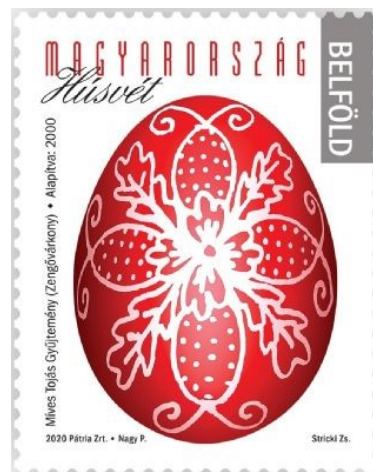
The St. Louis show is the largest show held each year that is the closest to the Kansas City Metro Area. This is a great opportunity to see dealers and material that you might never see up close. Many exhibits and seminars. There are usually some of the specialized clubs in attendance where you can talk with members, see their journals and join, if interested.

Don't miss out on this opportunity!

Happy St. Patrick's Day and Happy Easter



From U.S. Booklet BK155,
Special Occasions
Best Wishes! #2271



Hungary
Easter 2020
#4542

Philatelic Ramblings:

The heat is back on! The church got the furnace fixed. It was working the other night when I was at a meeting in Westminster Hall. And recently at that church meeting, I had an epiphany. We were discussing the declining membership and what to do about it. Some members were lamenting the lack of young families. But as I looked around the room, I realized that where we had growth in the past few years was in people over 50 years of age. This seems to be a trend in the traditional churches nationally. Young families and singles have not found the need or desire to belong to a church or they join some mega-church for a time, where they can be anonymous. My epiphany or discovery, realization was that this is not confined to the church today. How many younger people belong to the Lions, Rotary, Kiwanis or similar organization? Not many, those organizations are struggling also.

We have the same problem in the world of philately. But yet, we bemoan the fact that we can not get our kids, grandkids or other younger people interested in our world of stamps. Although, we have sustained our membership with older individuals that have either come back to the hobby later in life or have found a new interest to fill their time. Perhaps we should be targeting those that are over 50 and forget about the youth. Their interests just don't align with our world. There are many reasons for that and we are not about to solve those cultural differences. Start thinking about how we should be reaching out to our older population. I know that we can grow this club by focusing on this age group.

I talked with a member of the Wichita Stamp Club at the recent Wichita show. They are struggling in leadership but yet they have 70 some members. They currently have no secretary and they have not produced a newsletter in over a year. Yet they mount two bourses each year. Increasing membership should solve our leadership problem if people that join are willing to step up. Organizations require leadership or they will die. The organization doesn't run itself. I appreciate that Perry has stepped up to fill in as secretary on a temporary basis. If we can't talk Perry into filling that roll on a permanent basis then one of you must step up. It is not a difficult position but it is important for the record and history of the club. It is also required to keep our non-profit status. By the way, thanks Perry, you are doing a great job!

Every where I turn, counterfeit stamps is all the talk. The biggest concern is how "perfect" they are becoming. Older counterfeit stamps were fairly easy to detect. But with new printing methods, they are getting better and better. Will the USPS step up their enforcement and stop the flood of counterfeits or will they give up and continue to absorb their losses. Or will they just stop producing stamps all together and force you to the post office to get your letter or package metered.

After collecting new issues, singles and plate blocks for nearly sixty years, I decided with my recent retirement to quit collecting the new issues. I have not liked most of the new issues for many years and the expense of collecting them is just not in the budget right now. I know many of you decided that many years ago. It has been a hard decision to make but this way I can focus on other areas of my collections. Who knows, I may change my mind later. I can always catch back up, through dealers like fellow member Scott of Tiger Collectibles. And my suggestion if you decide to buy the newer U.S. issues, either buy from the USPS or from a dealer like Scott. Otherwise, you could end up with counterfeit issues in your collection and not know it.

JMc

The Midwest Philatelic Society Website, Marketplace & Blog is

www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com

Find previous newsletters, links to other stamp info and more on our website.

Flight of the DO-X (German Dornier Seaplane by Rick Karlslyst:

In 1925 Germany's Dornier Flugzeugwerke started building the worlds largest seaplane. It was completed in July 1929. Her 70th flight was in Oct of 1929, and 169 people were aboard her for the flight. Due to Versailles Treaty restrictions it was technically built on Lake Constance in Switzerland. This massive aircraft had 12 engines...in a tractor/pusher configuration.

The aircraft contained 3 decks, the upper deck had a cockpit for the pilots, navigator station, radio room and engine control room.

The main deck contained a smoking room, wet bar, dining salon, seats for 66 (convertible to sleeping berths) an electric galley, lavatories and cargo space.

The lower deck contained fuel tanks and 9 watertight compartments. (Shades of Titanic!!)

The pilots only had control of wing surfaces and the flight engineer had total control over engine operation. The engineer had to control the throttles and monitor 12 sets of gauges in his room, relying on voice commands from the pilots.

In 1930 the DO-X was scheduled for a transatlantic test flight to New York. The route was through Netherlands, UK, France, Spain and Portugal then down the west coast of Africa to Cape Verde for a crossing to Brazil.

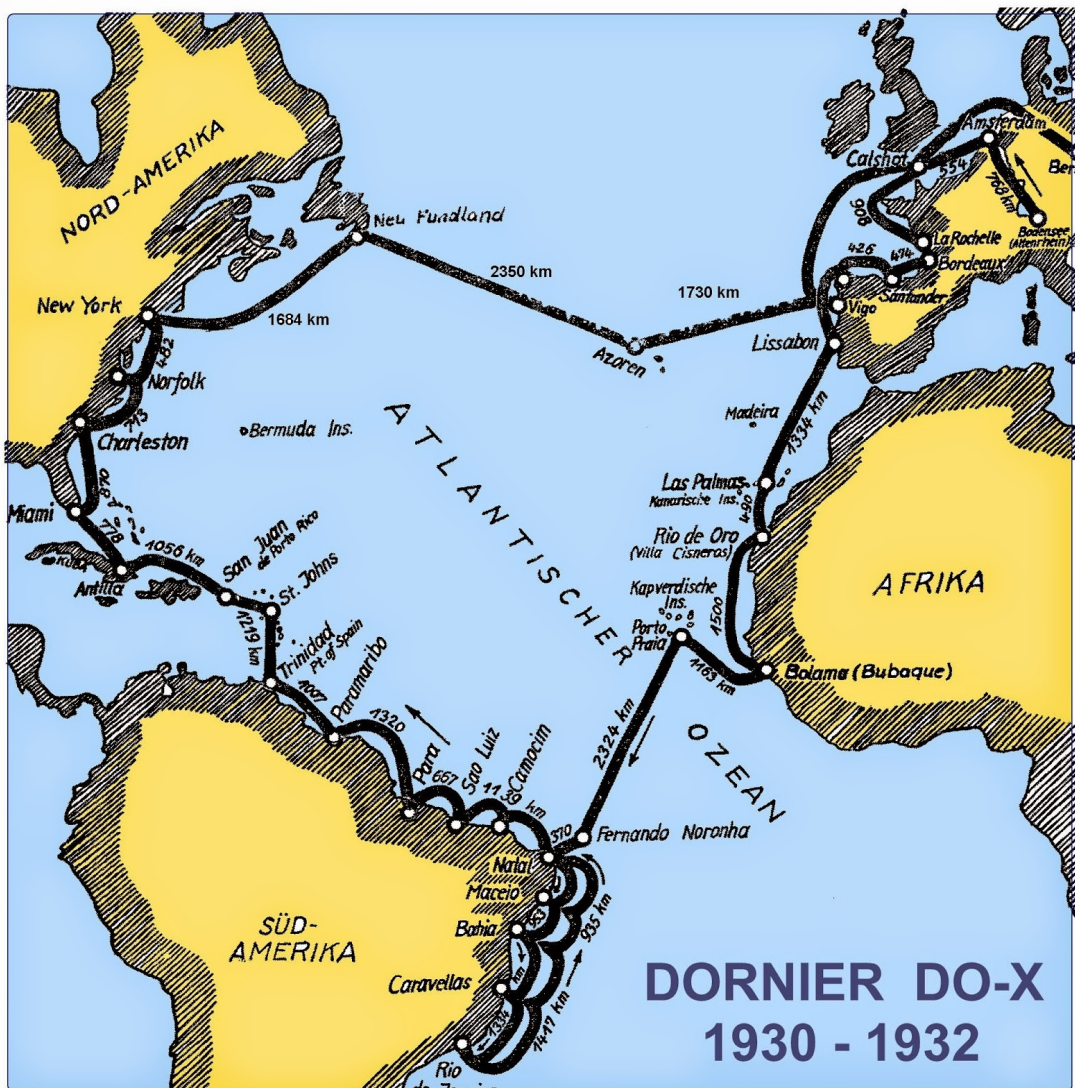
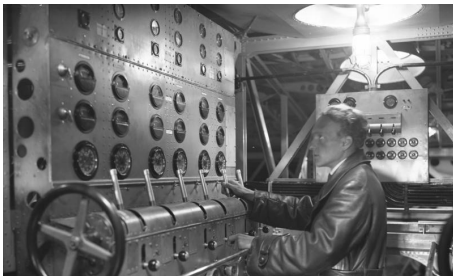
Departing Friedrichshafen on 3 November, the DO-X made it successfully to Lisbon Portugal on the 29th, where it promptly caught fire and destroyed a wing section. 6 weeks were required to repair damages and the plane continued down the west coast of Africa, arriving in Cape Verde on 5 June 1931, after encountering more problems and delays.

From Cape Verde, the aircraft made its Atlantic crossing to Natal, Brazil at a harrowing height of 30 meters. The flight headed north and FINALLY reached New York in August...10 months after leaving Germany!! DO-X and its crew spent a further 9 months performing MORE maintenance as well as becoming a tourist attraction before spending 4 days making the Atlantic crossing back to Germany, where they received a heroes welcome!

Needless to say the German-US service never "took off" as planned and the aircraft was only used on local German flights in 1932. On a planned 1933 flight to Austria, Hungary and Turkey the tail section broke off in a landing accident, and was out of service for 3 years. It reappeared in Berlin at the German Aviation Museum where it resided until a bombing raid in WWII destroyed it.

These are some of the covers and stamps which commemorate its flight.





APS Circuit Books Report:

What we did for the February meeting:

We received a total of 17 circuit books covering Germany and its colonies.
7 members purchased anywhere from \$6.00 to \$40.00
Total sales were \$132.50
There was a small discrepancy of 35 cents.
All books were returned on time to APS.

For the March meeting:

We have received a total of 16 books which will be at our March 2nd club meeting.

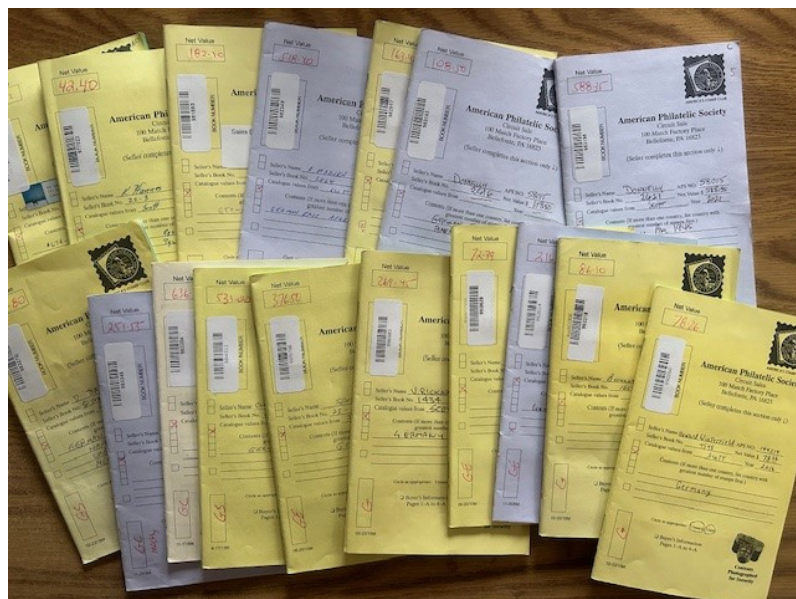
The books cover the following,
Great Britain, British Commonwealth, British North America, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Queensland, Cyprus, Malta, Gibraltar and many others.

Everything from the 19th century classics to modern colorful sets.

Come to the "MPS Table", more information and directions at the MPS meeting.

Thanks,

Armen Hovsepien
APS Circuit representative



**Circuit books from APS
Who knows what you will find!**

Certifications: A Great Thing or a Waste of Money?

Do you have some valuable stamps in your collection? Do you have stamps that you have had trouble identifying? Do you use a particular certification service? And why that service over another? Then do you pay extra to have an item graded and why? Do you feel the cost of cert is worth the money spent?

These are just some questions that would be interesting to hear from the members as to their thoughts. Please send me your thoughts on the subject. I will develop an article or future program on your answers.

On the right is an example of a cert from APS/APEX that I recently received on a purchase from GASS last August.

Let me know what you think.

jimmckinzie1@att.net or mail to: 806 N. River Blvd
Independence, MO 64050

American Philatelic Society
Expert Committee Report

Members of the American Philatelic Expertizing Service have examined the item submitted and it is their opinion that it is:

United States, Scott 37, used, red circular grid cancel, small thins at bottom. Genuine.



No. 249015
Date: 1/2/2024

William J. D.
APEX (Affiliated Signature)
John M. M.
Administrator Signature

The American Philatelic Expertizing Service
A Service to Philately Since 1903
100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, PA 16823 USA
Phone: 814-933-3803 • Fax: 814-933-6128
Website: www.stamps.org

apex

Dead Countries: Stamp Issuing Countries That No Longer Exist by Neil Becker

#16 Tibet

You might want to read up about the elusive Yeti and then pack your parka 'cause we are going to Tibet this month. For this visit we will look at the period from 1912 to 1951 when Tibet was an independent Theological Government headed by the 13th, then the 14th Dalai Lama. During that period Tibet's less than one million people were mostly isolated from the rest of the world.

Tibet's area at that time was around 463,000 square miles and consisted of a central plateau mostly surrounded by mountains. The livable areas were an average of 2 ½ miles above sea level, with the Himalayas, including Mt. Everest (29,032 ft.), taking up the western half of the country.



Tibet #1



Tibet #7

Due to its isolation and small population, Tibet had little need for a postal service until the 20th century. Prior to 1912 any outside mail was serviced with hand-overprinted stamps of India. With the new government, a postal division was established. However Tibet was never admitted to the U.P.U. (Universal Postal Union) so the issued stamps were only used locally. Five denominations of postage stamps picturing a snow lion in the center, on crude native paper, imperforate, were printed. Two higher denomination stamps (4 and 8 Tranka) were printed in a new design in 1914. (In 1920, the same designs were reprinted using a shiny enamel paint, instead of ink.)

The final design for Tibet appeared in 1933. Five stamps (Scott 9-13) were printed on thin white native paper and were pin-perforated. The following year the same denominations in different colors were printed, imperf. on heavy toned native paper. Finally, a 1 Sang high value was added to the first set (Scott #6) in 1950.



Tibet #9-13

In 1951 Tibet was annexed by the Peoples Republic of China and remains under their authority today.

Fraudulent copies of all issues as well as fake cancellations are plentiful.

On page 8, you can see how a variety was created on Scott #18.



Scott # 18 sheet of twelve is shown with #18a (25 x25 mm instead of 24 x 24 mm) in the lower right corner, (position 12) .

The following went into effect on Jan 21st, 2024.

Product	Current Prices	Proposed Prices
Letters (1 oz.)	66¢	68¢
Letters (metered 1 oz.)	63¢	64¢
Domestic Postcards	51¢	53¢
International Postcards	\$1.50	\$1.55
International Letter (1 oz.)	\$1.50	\$1.55

Tell your friends and family of the current first class rate. You will find that since the advent of Forever stamps, they have no clue what they should be paying for a stamp.

Your dues are now past due if you have not already paid for this year. What does that mean? This is your last newsletter, if so.

Please contact Hans by email or at the meeting to verify if you are up-to-date with your membership, if you are unsure.

Renewal form is included in this newsletter.

New Issues for March 2024:

Underground Railroad

Forever First Class Rate

Ten designs, Pane of 20

Issue Date March 9th

First Day of Issue City is: Church Creek, MD

Print Quantity– 20,000,000



Bluegrass

Forever First Class Rate

One design, Pane of 20

Issue Date March 15th

First Day of Issue City is: Owensboro, KY

Print Quantity– 15,000,000

Garden Delights

Forever First Class Rate

Four designs, Double-sided Booklet of 20

Issue Date March 16th

First Day of Issue City is: Strongsville, OH

Print Quantity– 525,000,000



Wedding Blooms

Two Ounce Rate, Non-denominated, Mail Use

One design, Pane of 20

Issue Date March 22nd

First Day of Issue City is: St. Louis, MO

Print Quantity– 55,000,000



Celebration Blooms

Forever First Class Rate

One design, Pane of 20

Issue Date March 22nd

First Day of Issue City is: St. Louis, MO

Print Quantity– 225,000,000

Save Manatees

Forever First Class Rate

One design, Double-sided Booklet of 20

Issue Date March 27th

First Day of Issue City is: Silver Springs FL

Print Quantity– 175,000,000



Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Thanks to Armen H., Rick K. & Neil B. for their contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the April issue will be March 15th.** Happy stamping! *Jim Mc*

YES ☐ I would like to JOIN OR CONTINUE my membership in Midwest Philatelic Society.

Copy and save this form as a pdf or jpg document and send to: Bring to meeting with dues.

Or mail to: Hans Vergara

Treasurer

11916 W 109th St #204

Overland Park, KS 66210

☐ 2024 dues (individual).....\$25.00.....\$ _____

☐ 2024 dues (family).....\$30.00.....\$ _____

☐ Life Member (contact Hans first for eligibility) \$175.00...\$ _____

☐ 2024 Donation to My MPS Club.....\$ _____

☐ 2024 Donation to MPS Library.....\$ _____

☐ Upcharge for Mailing Newsletter \$10.00.....\$ _____

.....Total Remittance \$ _____

Current Life Member ☐
(As outlined in By-Laws)

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

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

My collecting interests: _____

ALL MEMBERS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED BUT WANT SOME INFORMATION TO BE WITHHELD PLEASE INDICATE WHAT YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE INCLUDED:

I ONLY WANT MY NAME and COLLECTING INTERESTS TO BE INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY _____ Include picture of myself in directory YES _____ NO _____

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 _____

There is an additional \$10 charge to receive the newsletter by mail.