

# The Messenger



January 2025

*The Greater Kansas City, Missouri Area's Stamp Club*

Next Meeting

Jeff Jaax, President (jeff.jaax@gmail.com)  
Armen Hovsepian, 1st Vice President (info@armenstamp.com)  
Rodger McReynolds, 2nd Vice President (rodger\_mcreynolds@hotmail.com)  
Hans Vergara, Treasurer (iwc1868@yahoo.com)  
Perry Kilpatrick, Secretary (kilpatrickp61@gmail.com)  
Jim McKinzie, Newsletter Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)

**January 4th**  
**Room available 10:00AM**  
**Meeting starts 2:00PM**  
See Details Inside  
On page 2



## **What You Missed at Our December Meeting:**

**Attendance:** 37 members and 1 guest.

**Guest:** Jim Maxwell collects China and is a very active member in the China society club. He was happy to join the club and is asking and looking for others that would be excited to help in the society meetings. After a vote Jim was accepted into the club.

**President:** Rodger announced the next meeting will be January 4<sup>th</sup> at this same place opening at 10am with the meeting starting at 2pm.

**First Vice-President:** No report.

**Second Vice-President:** No report.

**Secretary:** No report.

**Treasurer:** Hans has begun collecting membership dues for 2025. Single rate is \$25, family rate is \$35 and there is an additional \$10 for any member needing the newsletter not wanting it sent by e-mail, this is to defray the cost of printing and mailing it out. Please try to get the membership dues in as early as possible this year we are trying to put together a directory and we need to get the dues in so we can produce the directory in a reasonable time.

**Librarian:** No report.

**Historian:** Scott had a donation of a First Day from an old MIDAPHIL show.

**Newsletter:** Jim McKinzie was recognized for his outstanding Newsletters. He placed Gold and received 146 points out of 160. Please congratulate Jim and help him keep this up by submitting your articles. Also if any of the officers can send him a paragraph from time to time this may help Jim reach the full 160 points to have his hard work properly recognized.

**Web site:** No report.

**Old Business:** The slate of officers for 2025 was presented to the membership. The members were asked for any others that may be interested in running for one of the positions. After no other member stepped forward, a motion was made to accept the slate of members as stated. There was a first and a second for the motion and the vote was unanimous.

The following were elected as officers for 2025:

President – Jeff Jaax  
First VP – Armen Hovsepian  
Second VP – Rodger McReynolds  
Treasurer – Hans Vergara  
Secretary – Perry Kilpatrick

*Continued on pg 4:*

**Join us on**  
**January 4, 2025**  
**Rick Karlslyst's program**  
**"Going Postal"**

# ***Meeting Location and Time:***

## ***MEETING PLACE & TIME for Midwest Philatelic Society***

**MPS Meeting Schedule for Saturday, January 4th.**

**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 club auction.

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

### ***What you will find if you come early to the meeting:***

Several members with material for sale. Bring your want lists. Let those members know what you are looking for ahead of the meeting. It is hard to bring it all, for some.

### ***Philatelic Happenings:***

Nothing in January but the first weekend of February is the following:

**February 1-2**

**MSDA St. Louis Stamp Show**

**Westbury Center (Knights of Columbus)**

**20 Westbury Drive**

**Saint Charles, MO 63301**

**11 Dealers with 18 tables scheduled**

### ***You Can Receive This Award Winning Newsletter Too!:***

How, you may ask! If you are reading this from our website or picked up an old copy at our annual May Stamp Show then why not join our group. With membership you will receive a digital copy by email, at the end of each month. Or if you prefer a printed copy, pay the extra \$10 to receive it by mail each month. Beware that it can be delayed by mail due to the post office's current deficiencies.

If you are a resident in the Greater Kansas City Area, you should be a part of our group. We offer interesting programs at our monthly meeting. Members bring interesting items for show-n-tell each month. There is ample time to buy, sell and trade with other members and member dealers before each meeting. Then to finish off the day, we have an auction. Members bring items to put up in the auction each month. You never know what will show up. Over the years members have acquired great stamps and supplies in the monthly auction.

We invite you to join today! See application at the end of this newsletter.



**The Midwest Philatelic Society Website, Marketplace & Blog is**

**[www.midwestphilatelicociety.com](http://www.midwestphilatelicociety.com)**

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

## ***President Jaax Appoints the Following:***

The following offices are appointive positions. The new President each year appoints a member to that committee or position if he and the board determines it is a needed and functioning office or committee.

**Librarian – Neil Becker**  
**Historian – Scott Couch**  
**Newsletter – Jim McKinzie**  
**Website – Rodger McReynolds**

Other positions may be created at anytime by the President with the Board's approval. Announcement of the three Members-at-large for the board will be announced at a later date.

## ***Minutes continued from pg. 1***

### **New Business:**

1. Armen presented the idea that with the large amount of funds in the treasury it would be more profitable if we put a large portion of these funds in an account that may draw more interest than the standard account we have the money in at present. All the members seemed to agree with this. One exception was to keep the Stamp Show funds in a separate account. Everyone agreed this was a good idea and this should be investigated closer to determine the best direction to take for the year 2025.
2. Armen presented the idea that we purchase a set of Scotts catalogs for the club to have at the meetings. Armen said he would be willing to bring them with him to each meeting. The members thought this would be a good idea, but no motion was made at this time.
3. Jim McKinzie spoke about the CHICAGOPEX show mentioning that the APS was in good financial standing, and that Scott English gave a good presentation at the show.
4. Fred also added to the discussion and mentioned Bill Johnson one of the MPS's long-standing members also has put a lot into the philatelic society. He wanted to remind everyone to prepare for the World Philatelic Exhibition in Boston May 23<sup>rd</sup> of 2026. This is a show that only comes to the United States every 10 years and it would be a shame for any of the members to miss it.

At this time the meeting took place with Jeff Jax leading the group through the various Exhibits. Of the eight frames presented three of them were competitive. The judges presented the following awards from these three presentations.

Scott Couch "Playing Cards" – Won the ATA one frame topical award.

Scott Couch "Playing Cards" – Won the most popular award from the members votes.

Bill Johnson "Confederate Stamps" – Won the Finkelstein award.

Also, the vote for the best presentation for this year was a tie. Bill Johnson and George Corney received the same number of votes from the members. After a coin flip of the coin, it was determined that: George Corney's presentation was the best presentation for the year of 2024.

Respectfully submitted  
Perry Kilpatrick

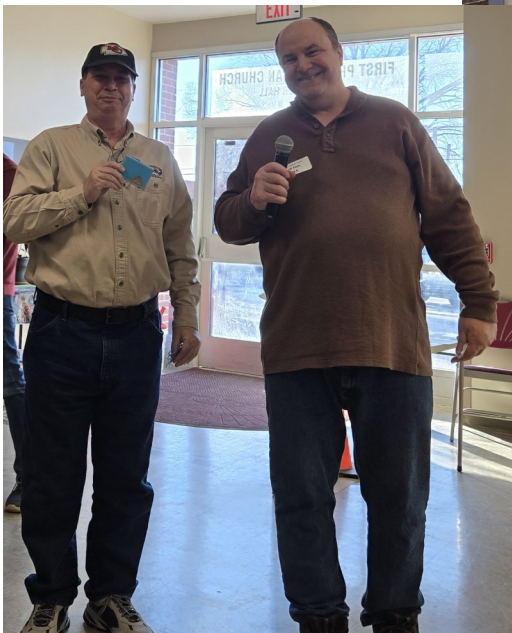
*Happy New Year*

## ***Winners from December's Club Exhibits:***

**Dale Smith presents Scott Couch the American Topical Association Award for best topical exhibit for his "Playing Card Tax Stamps" exhibit.**



**Dale Smith presents Bill Johnson the Martin Finkelstein MPS Research Award for his exhibit on "Confederate Stamps"**



**Jeff Jaax presents Scott Couch with the Membership Most Popular Award on his exhibit**

## Philatelic Ramblings:

This time of year brings good memories of a past Christmas and remembrances of good times and hangovers bringing in the new year. With the fun times, this time of year also brings the not so fun part of the new year. Taxes! As a resident of Missouri, we have both property taxes and personal property taxes (cars, trucks, boats & trailers) to pay. Which then reminds me of the other taxes that will come due within a few months. As this is my first year of retirement, I am not sure what to expect. While I think I know, I also know that the federal government and the ridiculous tax code that is in place will throw a few curves my way.

What else comes due at the end of each year? Well, every organization that you may belong to. Besides being a member of this organization (MPS), I currently belong to APS, USSS, ATA, EFOCC and France & Colonies Philatelic Society. All have dues. I hope I have paid them all but I am sure I have missed one of them. Please don't forget to fill out the form at the end of the newsletter and renew your dues for MPS. While it is a nominal fee each month, we do pay the church to use their wonderful facility unlike the days we were in the library. Besides that fee, we subsidize the annual October luncheon. Yes, you pay \$10 to attend but it costs the club a little more than another \$10 a person to have it. It is a great group event that I know all of us look forward to each year. We also are contributing, along with the St. Joe and Gladstone stamp clubs, funds to mount the May stamp show. The committee's goal is to grow this show over time. But that takes money. We also have other expenses through the year. We are careful with our funds and we want to make your stamp club experience to always be greater than what you put into it. If you have an idea of something that we could do as a club, please contact one of the elected officers with your suggestion.

I have added a new feature to the U.S. new issues section of the newsletter. If the information is available, I will have a small paragraph about why the stamp was issued or the subject of the stamp. I hope you will enjoy this new feature.

Do you make New Year Resolutions? I use to try but I gave it up years ago. I do make goals toward something I would like to achieve. Such as stamp collecting goals. I've locked myself into a goal of increasing my 3 frame EFO exhibit, into a 5 frame exhibit by the St. Louis Show in March. I have the material, I just have to get to work on putting it together. It is a lofty goal, if you have ever worked on an exhibit, you know what I mean! What do you want to achieve with your collection this year. Or do you want to start a new country or topic? This is a great time to think about what and how you collect. Share with us thru this newsletter or a future program or show-n-tell what you are working on.

Speaking of show-n-tell's, when I was president of this organization in the past, I used to say, "If your show-n-tell is longer than 5 minutes, then it should be a program or an article in the newsletter. Keep that in mind when you are doing a show-n-tell. If there is a lot of information to share on your item(s) at show-n-tell then it should be a newsletter article or program. Do you not do a program because you don't believe you have the skills or computer access? Remember there are several people in this group that would be happy to help you put together a program. I am always happy to work with you on a newsletter article. As I am in a forever need of newsletter articles. This month is a good example. I have not had the time to write much extra for this month and Neil's article is all that was submitted. Thanks, Neil!



Japan #644 var  
Toy Dog (Inuhariko)  
New Year 1958  
Issued December 20, 1957

## #24 Transvaal

Transvaal means, literally, across the Vaal (River). That was the goal of many of the Boers who migrated north out of Cape Colony, starting in the 1830s. The country's size ranged from 74,000+ to over 110,000 square miles during its existence. Landlocked, it was bordered by (clock-wise): Mozambique, Natal, Orange Free State, Griqualand West, Bechuanaland and Rhodesia on the north.

The first organized government, established in 1852, was called South African Republic. The first postage stamps were printed in 1869 with three denominations issued both imperforate and rouletted. In 1871 a 3 pence in a similar design was introduced, followed in 1874 with a 6 pence stamp. Between 1870 and 1876 there were 41 local printings of both the 1871 and 1869 designs, both imperf and rouletted and with a variety of papers and colors.



#7, 1871

The British annexed Transvaal in 1877. They overprinted the existing stamps with "V. R." (meaning Victoria Regina) with "Transvaal" on a second line. Scott lists 47 different stamps bearing 4 styles of the overprint between 1877 and 1879. A new design featuring the side view bust of Queen Victoria appeared in 1878 in 6 denominations. A ½ pence was added in 1880.



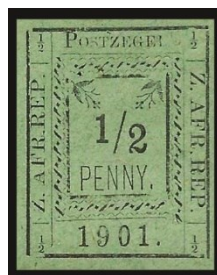
#118, 1882



#124, 1885



#151, 1894



#175, 1901

Following the 1881 British loss in First Boer War, the second South African Republic was reestablished as a free nation. The next year, the 4p Victoria stamp was overprinted "EEN PENNY" and in 1883 the 1869 and 1871 designs were reprinted with a 1p black, 3p red, 3p black on rose and 1sh green. A new design appeared in 1885 and was used up to 1894. A total of twelve different stamps were produced. Twelve stamps from that set were also given surcharges with new values in various arrangements. 1894 brought another new design with 5 denominations. Thus far, all of the S.A.R. issues have had the coat-of-arms in the center with different frames. However, the 1895-96 issues had only a change in the center – the wagon at the bottom of the coat-of-arms had two shafts in 1894, but was changed to a single pole on 9 different stamps. This set was repeated in 1896 with new colors and/or new denominations. 1895 also saw a revenue overprinted "Postage" and a stamp commemorating "Penny Postage". The last issues of the Republic were in 1901 during the Second Boer War when the government was forced to move to Pietersburg. Typeset provisional stamps were printed on colored paper, both imperf and perf. (a total of 37 different stamps) and were valid for about a month.

For the second time, in 1900 the British occupied the country and insisted on naming it Transvaal. The first 48 listings were stamps from the S.A.R. overprinted "V. R. I.," "V.R." and "E. R. I." (for Victoria or Edward). 1902-03 saw the bust of Edward VII on 15 stamps with the name Transvaal at the bottom, on Crown and CA watermark paper. In the years 1904-09 13 stamps with similar colors were issued on Multiple Crown and CA paper. Finally, four of the previous denominations were issued in new colors between 1905-10.



#249, 1901



#258, 1902

In 1910 Transvaal was joined with the Union of South Africa as a province.

\*Note: Many of Transvaal's (S.A.R.s) issues were extensively reprinted or forged. Be sure to read the fine print below the listings in the catalogue.

## ***New issues for January 2025:***

U.S.P.S. has announced the first new issues of the year. Expensive group of stamps!



### **Lunar New Year-Year of the Snake**

Forever First Class Rate  
One Design-Pane of 20  
Issue Date January 14th  
First Day of Issue City:  
Boston, MA  
Print Quantity—21,000,000

*Sixth stamp in the current Lunar New Year Series. Each entry has featured a mask that brings to mind the decorated masks used in the dragon or lion dances often performed at New Year Lunar Day parades. Designer Camille Chew constructed a three-dimensional snake mask out of hand printed paper. Then cut, scored and folded it into shape. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for the USPS, designed the stamp from a photograph of the mask by Sally Anderson-Bruce*



### **Love (2025)**

Forever First Class Rate  
One Design-Pane of 20  
Issue Date January 17th  
First Day of Issue City:  
Kutztown, PA  
Print Quantity—175,000,000

*The new Love stamp celebrates the universal experience of love. The design is from original artwork of Keith Haring's (1958-1990) Untitled drawing from 1985.*



### **Spiral Galaxy**

Priority Mail Flat Rate (\$9.85)  
One Design-Pane of 4  
Issue Date January 21st  
First Day of Issue City:  
Big Sky, MT  
Print Quantity—not yet released

*Issued in celebration of the continued exploration of deep space. An extremely high-definition image of a spiral galaxy 32 million light-years from Earth is represented on this new priority stamp.*

***More new issues on pg. 8***

**Continued from pg 7:**



### **Star Cluster**

Priority Mail Express Rate (\$30.45)

One Design-Pane of 4

Issue Date January 21st

First Day of Issue City:

Big Sky, MT

Print Quantity—not yet released

*This stamp shows a star cluster approximately 1,000 light-years from Earth. The image used was captured by NASA's James Webb Space Telescope. Hidden within the cloud of celestial dust are floating brown dwarfs. Brown dwarfs are objects too small to be stars but large than most planets. Studying these brown dwarfs will help scientists explore how star-formation processes operate for very small masses.*

**Space is still a very popular topic in stamp collecting. The new priority and priority express stamps should increase in value over time. Especially when you consider fewer are issued, few dealers stock them deep and many collectors don't buy the higher denominations.**



### **1794 Compass Rose**

Global Forever International Rate

One Design-Pane of 10

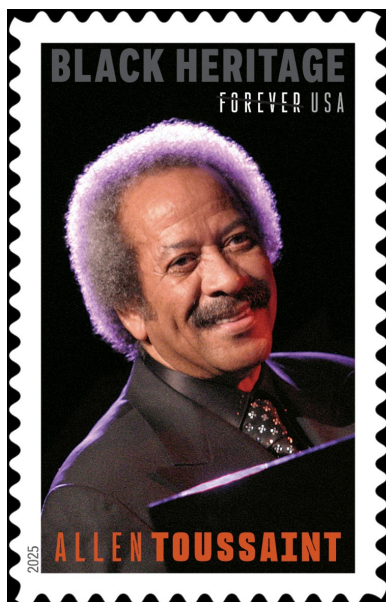
Issue Date January 24th

First Day of Issue City:

Peachtree Corners, GA

Print Quantity—40,000,000

*This colorful compass rose was drawn in a school geography notebook by Lucia Wadsworth, the aunt of poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, when she was only 10 years old. USPS Art Director, Greg Breeding, designed the stamp.*



### **Allen Toussaint (Black Heritage Series)**

Forever First Class Rate

One Design-Pane of 20

Issue Date January 30th

First Day of Issue City:

New Orleans, LA

Print Quantity—30,000,000

*This is the 48th stamp in the series and honors Allen Toussaint (1938-2015). He was a virtuoso pianist, singer, songwriter, composer, arranger and producer responsible for scores of hits across multiple genres. He was a producer for Dr. John's hit, "Right Place, Wrong Time" and "Lady Marmalade" by Labelle. Toussaint collaborated with Paul McCartney and Wings for their hit album Venus and Mars and played on the song "Rock Show". Glen Campbell's hit "Southern Nights" was written by Toussaint. The song was number one on the pop, country and adult contemporary charts in 1975.*

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Thanks to Neil B. for his contribution. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the February issue will be January 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

☐ 2025 dues (individual) .....\$25.00.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 2025 dues (family).....\$30.00.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Life Member (contact Hans first for eligibility) \$175.00...\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 2025 Donation to My MPS Club .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ 2025 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.**