

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on February 22, 2016 at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Gary Hendren, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Tom DeGroot, Alan Barasch, Mark Bassett, John Deutch, David Sullivan, Marcus Meyerotto, Dan Baugher, Sieg Stange, Alex Haimann, Bob Ogrodnik, Larry Reutter, Alan Banks, Paul Miles.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:33pm with 22 members in attendance.

January Minutes: Guy introduced the Minutes for consideration and discussion. A motion was made to accept by Gene, seconded by Alan Barasch and were approved as written.

Attendance drawings: Ken Grothoff won the 50/50 cash prize and Roger Grider won the attendance drawing of \$10 box for use at Stampfest.

Treasurer report:

- Gary said our Checking account balance at January 1, 2016 was \$10,378. Income during January was \$225 from Fenton bourse plus \$174 in 2016 club dues + \$14 from 50/50 drawing for total \$10,791. January expenses were \$172 leaving a Jan. 31, 2016 balance of \$10,619. The club's Savings account balance was \$12,367 at end January. About \$51 is in the cash box.

Secretary report:

- Dave Marsh again thanked members for paying their 2016 dues and for completing the new Member Information survey. All but 8 of our 61 members are now current on dues. Guy, Gary and Katrina encouraged members to seriously consider making a presentation and preparing an exhibit. Numerous members can assist with either task.

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked for volunteers to work our club table at STL Stamp Expo coming April 1-3. Guy said we need better coverage there, esp. during the first 2-4 hours each day. She also explained that presentations need not be formal, fancy nor in PowerPoint. The idea is to share your collecting interests with club members. We need volunteers soon – no presentation is finalized yet for March however Gary has offered to present on his current Exhibit.

Visitors: None

Announcements:

- Gary Hendren entered his newest exhibit "St. Louis Pioneer Air Mail" at the show in Phoenix last weekend. He was surprised but delighted to win a deserving Gold Medal and even more jubilant to then receive a Reserved Grand award at the show's conclusion.
- Guy asked for volunteers to work as long as possible at STL Stamp Expo. We need to help Scott Ward prepare the Youth Room on Thursday, lead visiting grade school children thru the show exhibits on Friday and help Gary & Katrina with the Boy Scout Merit Badge process on Saturday.

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, March 12. An auction is scheduled with 10% of sales proceeds going to our club. Gene asked that we submit no more than 5 lots each.

Old Business:

- At our January club meeting, Guy asked that a member consider volunteering to gather the awards to be presented to Exhibit winners at STL Stamp Expo in early April. This position reports to the Awards Chairman and is behind the scene making phone calls, sending emails and attending committee meetings. Member Nathan Esbeck has agreed to fill this position....thank you Nathan.
- Guy said he hopes to finalize our new club logo art work in the next few months.

New Business:

- As in previous years, Guy asked if the club is interesting in providing volunteers to handle the APS Stamp Buddy Program at STL Stamp Expo. He described the task as being a "mentor on the fly" who will answer any questions about stamps, conduct tours of the show, distribute hand outs and encourage attendees to become a philatelist. The table should be placed at the show's front door. Guy will have a sign up sheet at our March meeting.
- After some discussion, attendees voted on the candidates our club will support in the pending APS elections. Basically we are seconding nominations. Alex Haimann provided brief insights into some of the candidates with whom we might be unfamiliar.
- Guy distributed ballots for each attendee to complete in voicing our opinions of the best and the worst stamps issued in several categories during 2015. It is Linn's annual US Stamp Popularity Poll.
- Alex asked if we are interested in purchasing address labels from APS for mailing a letter to local APS members urging them to join and/or attend future GMCSC meetings and shows. Roger Grider made a motion in favor and Marcus seconded it. In discussion, Alex offered to write the letter in coordination with Dave Marsh & Katrina. Estimated cost is \$50. The motion passed.
- Bob Ogradnik discussed several highly acclaimed stamps that were issued by Iran in connection with the US embassy hostage debacle. Despite their high initial value, both currently have little value and he offered to sell both for \$1.
- The next club auction will be at our March meeting.

Program

- Katrina introduced Alex Haimann whose 40 minute PowerPoint presentation focused on covers he has been collecting with a leap year, February 29 cancel. His research on the subject is impressive and provided interesting and obscure details unknown to most philatelists. Members asked many questions which led to further explanations. Alex urges and inspires us to collect philatelic material that has a special connection to our personal background.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:06pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh