

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on March 28, 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, Mark Bassett, John Deutch, Marcus Meyerotto, Sieg Stange, Bob Ogrodnik, Larry Reutter, Alan Banks, Jerry Schultz, Nathan Esbeck, Wayne Youngblood, Frank Kollinger, Tom Minor.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:39pm with 22 members in attendance.

February Minutes: Guy introduced the Minutes for consideration and discussion. A motion was made to accept by Bob Ogrodnik, seconded by Phil Schorr and were approved as written.

Attendance drawings: Larry Reutter won the 50/50 cash prize and Alan Banks won the attendance drawing of \$10 box for use at Stampfest.

Treasurer report:

- Gary said our Checking account balance at February 1, 2016 was \$10,619. Income during February was \$45 from 2016 club dues + \$7 from 50/50 drawing for sub-total \$10,671. February expenses were \$8 leaving a February 29 balance of \$10,663. The club's Savings account balance was \$12,375 at end February. \$357 is in the cash box. Grand total = \$23,395.

Secretary report:

- Dave thanked members for completing the new Member Information survey, results of which will be explained at our April meeting. The 5 members who have not yet paid 2016 dues will be dropped if still unpaid after April 1. Dave will follow up with 1 prospective member who found us via the internet.

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked for volunteers to work our club table at STL Stamp Expo coming April 1-3. She circulated sign up sheets asking members to help stuff attendance goodie bags and set up the youth room on Thursday afternoon, March 31. She also requested a member to give a presentation at our June meeting.

Visitors: None

Announcements:

- Guy asked again that all of us make a serious effort to attend Expo, visit the dealers and consider participating in the Regency Superior auctions on Saturday & Sunday. Gary urged us to take time to examine the Exhibits at Expo as 3 of our club members will have entries.
- Gary expects to have 8-9 youngsters go thru the Boy Scout merit badge process on Saturday morning. Don Woodworth will lead tours of the Expo floor but Gary would like input on when to conduct these tours as required in the merit badge program.
- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, April 9. An auction is scheduled.

- Roger Grider & Wayne reminded us that Webster Groves stamp club will hold their next meeting at 8:00pm Friday at Expo where Fred Baumann will speak. They also mentioned the early April meeting of WGSC will switch to Thursday April 14 when Michael Sefi will be in St. Louis to present on "Keeper of the Queen's Collection".
- Bob Ogradnik mentioned that he wrote a personal letter some 60 years ago to Princess Elizabeth hoping to receive her autograph. He received a somewhat modified response.
- Guy would like more of us to attend the club's monthly breakfast at Hillary's Roadhouse on Dorsett Road.... next at 8:30am on Monday, April 11.

Old Business:

- At our February meeting, Alex proposed writing a letter for mailing to all known stamp collectors in APS's data base for the St. Louis region. This motion passed. We will purchase mailing labels from APS for an estimated cost of \$50. Guy will obtain an update from Alex.
- Guy thinks Linns will release the results of their 2015 US Stamp Popularity poll sometime in May.

New Business:

- We are still searching for a place to store the club's archives and 850 plus books that presently sit in Alan's and Gary's basements. STL City and County libraries do not have space available. The only interest we have is from the Mercantile Library on the UMSL campus. We hope to resolve this issue at our next meeting.
- A club auction will be held at our May 23 meeting.

Club Auction:

-22 lots were sold for a total of \$90.75 which includes club donations of \$31. The auctioneers were lively and spirited.....started at 8:20pm and ended 24 minutes later.

Program:

-It was time for another Round Table discussion hosted by member dealers: Gary, Roger, Guy and Jerry. Gary got things rolling by explaining the value dealers bring with their ability to locate difficult stamps/covers that most collectors need. Open communication was stressed. Gene urged us to use email. Roger said we should bring items we wish to sell to the shows. Marcus has concerns about making very low counter offers and discount requests. Guy reminded us to compare similar items when judging grading, faults, and pricing versus dealer costs. Bob urged we get a certification before buying rare, high graded stamps. A dealer should dip such stamps and list all faults up front. Katrina does not hesitate to inquire about a dealer's policies on certifications and returns, esp. when just starting to collect a new area. Numerous difficult issues were openly addressed.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:38pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh