

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on January 23, 2017 at Parkway Central Middle School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gary Hendren, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Norb Wright, Larry Reutter, Mimi White, Mark Bassett, Tom DeGroot, John Deutch, Frank Kollinger, Tom Minor, Paul Miles, Alan Banks, Sieg Stange, Ken Grothoff, Marcus Meyerotto, Nathan Esbeck.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:36pm with 19 members in attendance. Gene will bring the 2017 auction box attendance sheets to our next meeting.

Minutes: A motion was made by Katrina to approve the November Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mark and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Drawings: Norb again won the 50/50 cash prize [\$8.00] drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at a future Stampfest was won by John Deutch.

Guests/Visitors: Guy introduced our new member Rick McCoy who mentioned his focus is on fancy cancels.

Treasurer report:

- Gary provided complete updates on both the club's finances and Stampfest. At December 31, 2016, the checking account balance was \$9,973; 2 cash boxes contained \$300; the savings CDs still total \$12,390 for a grand total of \$22,663. These figures exclude \$405 we recently spent for a new laptop and Microsoft OFFICE. Guy encouraged us to download onto the laptop any philatelic materials and articles we believe are of interest to our members. Gary explained that Parkway HR recently tripled to \$90/night the rent we would incur in the High School room we had been using. So he negotiated a \$30/night rate on room 710 in the Middle School for our future monthly meetings. This prompted Norm to recommend we clarify soon the gym rental price we'll pay for Stampfest in August. The custodian gets \$25/hour.

Secretary report:

- Dave mentioned he is now collecting club dues for 2017. Submission deadline is March 31. He will remind Alan Barasch that Stampfest is scheduled for August 19 & 20, 2017

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked us to say a prayer for both Phil Schorr who had cataract surgery this morning and for Jerry Schultz who had a hip replaced today. She reviewed the list of presenters now committed for 2017 and urged any member to please offer to present in either June or July. She wants to have a firm/full agenda by February 28. She also requested volunteers to assist with a workshop at our May meeting.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn/Fenton is Saturday, February 11. An auction is scheduled. Gary will be traveling but Jerry Schultz should be well enough to cover.
- Guy reminded us the Breakfast Club meets at Hilary's Roadhouse on the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting is February 13.

Old Business:

- Guy has examined the club's LIBRARY and discarded most of the outdated catalogs. Phil Schorr has offered to be the club librarian and store the remaining material in his home. Volunteers will be needed to help move all the materials out of Alan's basement in March or April. Gary has 2 or 3 bank boxes of materials that should also be moved into our library.

New Business:

- -Gary showed us 21 album pages containing about 900 Japan stamps. He sold all of them tonight for \$2 per page. Proceeds of \$42 go to the club.
- -Guy reminded us that Stamp Expo will take place March 31 thru April 2 at the airport Renaissance Hotel. Volunteers will again be needed to assist with the youth room, the Boy Scouts merit badge course, the club's front desk, etc.

Club Auction:

- Guy conducted the bidding with 7 or 8 lots being sold during 9 minutes of spirited bidding. The next club auction will take place at our March meeting.

Program:

- -Norb began his PowerPoint presentation at 8:23pm on **The Shanghai Overprints**. He explained the brief history and usage of these stamps and showed us many examples. They were first issued by the U.S. Postal Agency in China and placed on sale in Shanghai in 1919. They were valid only for mail moving from China to the USA. The local post office closed in 1922. Norb and Katrina clarified the difference between an overprint and a surcharge. The \$1 and \$2 overprints [K17 & K18] are very pricy. Only 18 stamps exist in the series. Counterfeits are not known to be prevalent.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh