



PERF-DISPATCH
GREATER MOUND CITY STAMP CLUB
Established 1884
Saint Louis, Missouri



Volume XXVIII Number 2



February 2022

Where Kirkwood Community Center
Room 200
111 South Geyer Rd.
Kirkwood, MO 63122

When 4th Monday each month at **7:30**
PM

Membership \$15 for Regular members
\$10 for email only

FEBRUARY MEETING

There has been a change in the program for February. Tom Minor will present a program on Esperanto. Tom's programs are always interesting, so you won't want to miss it. He might even say a few words for us in the language.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

March.....	Oil.....	Jerry Schultz
April.....	Oil (cont.).....	Jerry Schultz
May.....	London, 2022.....	Ed Pieper
June.....	TBD.....	???
July.....	StampFest Prep.....	Guy Gasser
August.....	TBD.....	???
September.....	TBD.....	???
October.....	Philatelic Jeopardy.....	Guy Gasser
November.....	Auction Bux Auction.....	???
December....	Christmas Party.....	Katrina Whitaker

SHOWS

Gene Stewart has a bourse the 2nd Saturday of each month from **9AM to 3PM**. It is now located at The Aviator South County on the northeast corner of I-55 and Lindbergh, behind The Mattress Firm. Don't miss out, and be sure to wear your mask unless you have been fully vaccinated.

WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTE

Hi all! The new year is off and running and things are heating up. Club meetings are off and running and Expo is next month. The fun and frolic never ends! I would say that is a good thing.

Everyone by now knows, or should know, that next month is the big shew, the St. Louis Stamp Expo, which will take place at its usual location, which is the Renaissance St. Louis Airport Hotel located at 9801 Natural Bridge Road, Berkely, MO 63134. The show dates are March 25-27 and the show hours are Friday and Saturday 10-6, and Sunday 10-3. Admission is \$5.00 which is good for all 3 days. Children under 16 are free. Parking is free with paid admission. There will be 37 dealers this year selling just about anything philatelic that one can think of trying to find. The show will also have 160 frames of exhibits. Show cachets with the exclusive show cancel, designed and produced by our very own Tom Minor, will be available for a small, nominal fee. One can find more information about the show on the show website at www.stlouisstampexpo.com.

As everyone should also know, a show this size requires a lot of manpower to pull off successfully. That's where the club comes into play by providing volunteers to take care of many of the tasks necessary to run the show. I have been prepping everyone for the past several months to think about what they could do to help support the show. Now is time to step forward especially since after this month's meeting the club will not meet again until after the show is over.

Volunteers. The Expo is looking for volunteers to do these things.

Wednesday, 23 March, 1:00PM until complete, 8 volunteers to set up exhibit frames.

Thursday, 24 March, noon until complete, 1 volunteer to help set up the youth room.

Thursday, 24 March, 2:00 – 6:00PM, 1 volunteer to check in dealers.

Friday – Sunday, show hours, 1 volunteer at the registration desk (2-hr minimum signup).

Friday – Sunday, show hours, 1 volunteer in the youth room (hourly signup).

Sunday, 3:00PM until complete, 8 volunteers to take down exhibit frames.

Sunday, 3:00PM until complete, 1 volunteer to help take down the youth room.

As everyone can see the Expo needs many people. The critical need on this list is the setup and take down of the exhibit frames on Wednesday and Sunday. Please come to the meeting this month ready to sign up to help. If you can't make the meeting this month, but want to help, please contact me by March 1st and let me know what you would like to do and when so that I know if the Expo has enough volunteers or not.

Now for this month. This month we'll sign up volunteers to support Expo followed by our monthly club auction. I hope that we had several who submitted lots. Submissions for the auction seem to be growing, which is good, but we need more active bidding. Then Tom Minor will enlighten us all about Esperanto. Here's another topic that I have no idea what it has to do with philately. We are getting some great programs about all kinds of new things. I'd say that we are learning all sorts of new things, and there is only one way to find out just what they are. Come to the meeting!

Phil will still be collecting dues payments from anyone who has not yet paid. If you're coming to the meeting and you haven't paid your dues (you know who you are), please bring your money and pay your dues. If you are not coming to the meeting, please mail your dues to Phil now, today! We want to close out membership renewals for this year as soon as possible. As of this writing, we are down to 4 who still have not paid for this year. Let's get this done so we can move on to other things.

See everyone Monday. Out!

Guy

Did you know: Revenue stamps known as tax paid stamps got their name from how the tax is shown paid on goods. Rather than a monetary amount of tax, the stamps show quantities of a product for which the tax was paid. Most tax paid stamps are issued by the States. A few do come from the IRS.

CONTRIBUTION

The club received the contribution of a large stamp collection recently, with the requirement that we use it to help beginners with their collections. It includes stamps from many countries, both mint and used. So far six of our members have received or will soon receive stamps from this massive collection. If you are a beginning collector and haven't yet received any of these stamps, please contact me and let's see what we can do about adding to your collection.

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CLUB WEBSITE

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Dead Countries

Danish West Indies

The Danish West Indies were made up of the islands of Saint Thomas, St. John and Saint Croix. The Danish West India Guinea Company annexed the uninhabited island of Saint Thomas in 1672 and St. John in 1718. In 1733 Saint Croix was purchased from the French West India Company. When the Danish company went bankrupt in 1754, the king of Denmark-Norway took direct control of the three islands.

As with many of the other islands of the Caribbean, Denmark used the islands as part of the profitable triangle of trade. They traded guns and other goods to Africa in exchange for slaves. The slaves were sent to their islands to work on the sugar plantations. Sugar, molasses and rum were then sent to Denmark. After a rebellion, slavery was officially abolished in 1848. This made the plantations unprofitable and by 1852 Denmark began looking for someone to buy the islands, with little success.

In 1856 Denmark issued their first stamps for the Danish West Indies. They were simple, square stamps as shown here.



Following this, in 1874 they began issuing stamps with an oval central area showing the value and an intricate frame around the oval. Interestingly, some of the stamps were printed with the frame inverted. For some, this was an error, while for others it was intentional. There is a way to tell the difference between the upright and inverted, but it is subtle. Here are two stamps, the first with the upright frame and the second with the frame inverted. Look closely at the upper left section of the frame to see the difference.



Denmark continued to struggle to find someone to buy the islands, with no success. In 1905 they issued stamps for DWI with a silhouette of King Christian IX, and with the higher values showing St. Thomas harbor. In 1908 they issued a set showing a photo of King Frederik VIII and in 1915 showing a photo of King Christian X. Finally, in 1917, the United States bought the islands for 25 million dollars and took over administration of the newly named United States Virgin Islands on March 31, 1917.

Shown here is a Cinderella stamp published by someone in Denmark encouraging people to vote against the proposed sale of the islands. It is attractive, but clearly didn't have the desired effect.



Some may wonder why I consider this a dead country since it still exists with just a name change. The United States has never issued a special postage stamp for the islands. They use the same U.S. stamps as those of us living on the mainland. Thus, the country is dead as far as issuing postage stamps.