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Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on January 25, 2016 at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Gary Hendren, Frank Kollinger, Wayne Youngblood, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Tom DeGroot, Alan Barasch, Mark Bassett, Norb Wright, Mike Marian, John Deutch, David Sullivan, Marcus Meyerotto, Dan Baugher, Tom Minor.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:31pm with 21 members in attendance.

November Minutes: Guy introduce the Minutes for consideration and discussion. A motion was made to accept by Roger and seconded by Phil and were approved as written.

Attendance drawings: Guy won the 50/50 cash prize and David Sullivan won the attendance drawing of \$10 box for use at Stampfest.

Treasurer report:

- Gary said our Checking account balance at Dec. 1, 2015 was \$11,136. Income during December was \$345 [mostly Christmas Party receipts]. December expenses were \$1,103 leaving a Dec. 31, 2015 balance of \$10,378. The club's Savings account balance was \$12,367 at end December.

Secretary report:

- Dave Marsh thanked members for paying their 2016 in a timely manner. All but 23 of our 60 members had paid prior to tonight. 9 more paid this evening. He is in the process of updating our member roster and will distribute a new Member Information form in February asking all members to revise/provide any missing or incorrect contact details and list their possible interest in presenting at club meetings or preparing an exhibit for future stamp shows.

Visitors: Mary Patton arrived late intending to sell her large collection in our club auction. Guy urged she bring it to the Stratford Inn bourse for dealer comments plus more and higher bidders.

Announcements:

- Guy showed the expanded Auction Bux form which includes more ways members can earn bux during the year. Space permits for the addition of new categories as needed. He encouraged members to donate ATA 25 stamp packets with a maximum of 20 packets per year.
- Guy & Wayne reminded us that APS officer elections are fast approaching. The nomination process requires each candidate to have support from at least 10 stamp club affiliates. Each club can second only 1 candidate so we need to think about who GMCSA should support.
- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, February 13. An auction is scheduled.
- Gary announced that 2 of our members, Wayne Youngblood & T.G. Rehkop, will be teaching courses this summer at APS "stamp camp". He encourages us to attend this week of classes at APS headquarters where we'll learn and meet other knowledgeable collectors.

New Business:

- Dan Baugher asked that someone volunteer to handle the "5 cent" box of stamps that are sold by the club and purchased by interested attendees at our Stampfest show in August. All proceeds help support our youth programs.
- 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.
- our bi-monthly club auction started at 7:57pm, successfully sold 13 lots and ended at 8:12pm. Five sellers, including club donations, submitted lots for sale. The next club auction will be at our March club meeting.

Program

- Katrina introduced Alan Barasch whose PowerPoint presentation entitled "The Picture is the Same" featured a wide variety of stamps issued jointly by 2 countries depicting the same design. There was some fun discussion as to why any country agrees to issue a stamp featuring the other country's design or picture.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

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

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

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on April 25, 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, Mark Bassett, John Deutch, Bob Ogrodnik, Larry Reutter, Jerry Schultz, Tom Minor, Wayne Youngblood, Frank Kollinger, Mimi White.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with 18 members in attendance.

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

Drawings: Norb Wright won the 50/50 cash prize drawing and Frank Kollinger won the attendance drawing of \$10 box for use at Stampfest.

Treasurer report:

- Gary said our Checking account balance at March 1, 2016 was \$10,663. Income during March was \$77 from 2016 club dues + auction receipts less March expenses of (\$141) for printing bills leaving a Checking balance of \$10,599 at end March. The club's Savings CD balance was unchanged at \$12,375. \$340 is in the 2 cash boxes. Grand total on March 31 is \$23,314.

Secretary report:

- Dave reviewed information gleaned from the MI forms completed by 33 active members or 60% of total members. 5 members dropped their membership at the end of 2015, Bob Hanson died this month and 2 new members have joined the club in 2016. We now have 56 members. 2 active members joined in 1976 + 1977.....3 joined in the 1980's.....8 joined in the 1990's.....19 joined in the 2000's [2009 added 11 members].....from 2010 to date we have added 23 new members. Memberships in other clubs/societies include APS, ATA with 8, Webster Groves with 7, GPS/Perfins/Monsanto with 3 each, STL Bears with 5, Polonus/CH.4/Postal History with 2 each. 7-8 members expressed interest in making club Presentations and/or preparing Exhibits. Countries collected are numerous and members are invited to examine the MI forms at their convenience.

Vice President report:

- Katrina thanked all who volunteered their time preparing the Youth Room on Thursday and for leading over 200 grade schoolers thru 4 stations Friday and for manning the club table at STL Stamp Expo. Special thanks to Bob Ogrodnik for signing up 1 of our 2 new members at Expo. Gary then thanked our 8 volunteers who helped run the Boy Scout merit badge testing on Saturday.

Announcements:

- Guy circulated a letter received from Scott Ward thanking GMCSA for so many members spending so much time helping out in the Youth Room at Expo.

- Phil asked members if they prefer to continue receiving the monthly Newsletter via email or in the US mail. The vast majority prefer the US mail and agree it is fine to begin using new Forever stamps. Guy said anyone who wants it via email should contact Phil with their email address. No one noticed the April envelopes failed to include the State as part of each recipient's address.
- Roger has a young friend who is excited about collecting stamps after receiving 1 of the goodie bags packed with information on "how to get started" at Expo. He urged us to retain a supply of these bags for handouts at future club shows.
- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, May 14. An auction is scheduled.
- A club auction will be held at our May 23 meeting.
- 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, May 9.

Old Business: None

New Business:

-Guy said we must begin planning for **Stampfest** which will again take place at Parkway Central HS on August 20 & 21. Volunteers are needed to set up on Friday night. Tom Minor has agreed to be Show Chairman again this year but wants to train a co-chair volunteer who will assume full responsibility in 2017. Dave Marsh has volunteered to oversee the concession stand again. Roger's wife Jeanette has offered to spearhead publicity again and Guy is willing to spend \$\$ on print ads. He has already given interviews live on 3 local radio stations (KMOV + KMOX + KTRF). It was suggested we post a flier at local Post Offices, place ads in the Ladue News and West newspaper. Forget the STL Post-Dispatch as they are too expensive. Tom wants us to again prepare post card reminders for mailing to all club members and those who completed a questionnaire at the close of our 2015 show. Gary is busy mailing contracts to all potential dealers.

Program:

-Katrina introduced Jerry Schultz who shared with us his vast collection of materials related to Sherlock Holmes. They included personal covers, all known stamps that exist from 1972 thru today on Holmes, Arthur Conan Doyle [he wrote the first SH story in 1888] and related interests, playbills from all Sherlockian movies, 14 of the 60 existing Cinderella's, 60 short stories and 4 novels, 95% of all movies produced, etc. Jerry has been collecting this subject for over 30 years and has travelled to England [where the majority of members reside] that often in search of additional memorabilia. He is 1 of the earliest members of the largest int'l. Holmes clubs and believes his collection is 1 of the most extensive.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on May 23, 2016
at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Gary Hendren, Mark Bassett, Tom Minor, Wayne Youngblood, Frank Kollinger, Alan Banks, Mike Marian, Scott Ward, Paul Miles.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:33pm with 14 members in attendance.

Minutes: Our Secretary neglected to bring copies of the April meeting Minutes tonight so they will be presented for approval at our June club meeting.

Drawings: Phil Schorr won the 50/50 cash prize drawing and Mike Marian won the attendance drawing of \$10 box for use at StampFest.

Treasurer report:

- Gary said our Checking account balance at April 30 increased slightly to \$10,795. The club's Savings CD balance was unchanged at \$12,375. \$357 is in the 2 cash boxes. Grand total on April 30 is \$23,527. More details are included in the 3 ring binder maintained by our Secretary for any member to examine.

Secretary report:

- Dave is finalizing our updated Member Roster and will include it with the mailing of our June Newsletter. To date we have 2 new members in 2016. Total members 56.

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked that members begin thinking about side dishes they can bring for the Saturday night dinner at StampFest.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, June 11. An auction is scheduled and Gene expects a new dealer, Scott Couch to have a table.
- Scott Ward personally thanked all our members who assisted him with the Youth Room at Stamp Expo. He also mentioned that dealer Damian Johnson recently purchased E&D Auctions located in Kansas City.
- Roger Grider [currently VP of Webster Groves Stamp Club] asked how many of us are interested in chartering a bus [spouses are welcome] to attend larger stamp shows for 2-3 days in relatively close surrounding areas i.e. Chicago, KC, Indianapolis, Omaha, Milwaukee, Nashville, etc. He will move the idea forward with members of WGSC and keep us informed.
- Guy invited us to join him for desserts at a nearby Steak n' Shake after these monthly club meetings and reminded us that our June + July club meetings will again be held in the basement at Tropicana Lanes just east of Clayton Rd. and Brentwood Blvd.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- **StampFest** will again take place at Parkway Central HS on August 20 & 21. Tom Minor has agreed to be Show Chairman again this year but wants to train a co-chair volunteer who will assume full responsibility in 2017. Duties include handling advertising, promotion, registration, concession stand and responding to general questions. This role is different from the Bourse Chair that Gary continues to handle. We will ask for volunteers at our June club meeting.
- Gary has 8 dealers already under contract and Guy is expecting a dealer from Indianapolis to have a table.
- In addition to each member having a personal vote for new APS officers, our club can submit a vote. Guy called for a show of hands as we selected the majority's choice for each office. The Secretary will mail our ballot before the deadline.

Club Auction: 16 lots were sold for a total of \$41. Approximately 12 other lots received no bids. The next club auction is scheduled for our July meeting.

Program:

- Katrina introduced Nate Esbeck who spoke about Fakes & Forgeries. His presentation compared numerous original stamps with problem copies and explained the often minute differences we should look for. Sources of information were provided i.e. www.stamp/forgeries.com. Nate closed with an interesting discussion on the lives of well-known philatelists who produced these items, many of which are in demand and collectible today.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on June 27, 2016
at Tropicana Lanes in Clayton, MO

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Gary Hendren, Tom Minor, Frank Kollinger, Bob Ogradnik, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Larry Reutter, Marcus Meyerotto, Nathan Esbeck.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:59pm with 15 members and 2 guests in attendance. One guest was Tom Dawson of Webster Groves Stamp Club. The second guest was David Rosenstock who found our club on the internet. Reason for the late start was problems loading the Program PowerPoint slides into our new projector.

Minutes: A motion was made by Norb to approve both the April and the May Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Marcus and approved by all attendees.

Drawings: Norb Wright won the 50/50 cash prize drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at Stampfest was won by Roger Grider. Gary brought a handful of small philatelic items home from a recent APS show and each attendee's name was drawn to take home an item of their choosing.

Treasurer report:

- Gary has been on the road extensively attending stamp shows and arrived home earlier today. He will provide details of all banking activity for May & June at our July club meeting. He said we have purchased a new projector for \$400 and have relinquished our partial ownership in the old projector we shared with WGSC. Guy mentioned we are paying \$50/meeting to hold our 2 summer meeting [June & July] in Tropicana Lanes

Secretary report:

- Dave distributed an updated Member Roster with the mailing of our June Newsletter. He asked members to inform him of any needed changes. We added 1 new member tonight bringing total membership to 57.

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked that members begin thinking about side dishes they can bring for the Saturday night dinner at Stampfest. Spouses are welcome to attend the dinner.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, July 9. An auction is scheduled.
- Guy named our members who recently attended the World Stamp Show in NYC and urged all of us to seriously consider and plan to attend the next International show scheduled for Boston in 2026. It is well worth the cost to attend.

Old Business:

- Roger Grider [VP of Webster Groves Stamp Club] is still investigating options for the club to attend a future out of town, weekend stamp show. Many cities were discussed and it would have to be within a 10-hour drive from St. Louis. He is currently discussing the idea with members of WGSC and will keep us informed.
- Guy will follow up with Alex Haimann who had offered to draft a letter for mailing to all local APS members reminding them of the benefits of joining GMCSG and urging their attendance at our annual Stampfest Show in late August.
- Stampfest** will take place at Parkway Central HS on August 20 & 21. Tom Minor is Show Chairman again this year but wants to train a co-chair volunteer who will assume full responsibility in 2017. Duties include coordination and oversight for advertising, promotion, registration, concession stand and responding to general questions. This role is different from the Bourse Chair that Gary continues to handle. Guy again made an appeal for 1 of our members to step up and assume the role of Co-Chair with Tom for 2016. Tom wants to prepare post cards for mailing at our July club meeting. Dave Marsh will bring sign-up sheets for members to work any aspects of Stampfest. Gary reminded us there will be an auction at Stampfest and he needs to receive within the next 3 weeks a brief description and minimum \$ bid on any lots our members plan to enter in the auction. He already has 46 lots.

New Business:

- Katrina introduced our newest member, David Rosenstock. Dave mentioned that he inherited a box of stamps and found our club history and information on the internet. He has minimal knowledge of philately but is anxious to learn and has already read our previous meeting Minutes as well as 2016 Newsletters.

Club Auction: The next club auction is scheduled for our July meeting.

Program:

-Katrina introduced Bob Ogrodnik who spoke in depth about the history of stamps in Poland. Bob is current President of the Polonus Philatelic Society. It was unfortunate that our new projector could not coordinate with Bob's extensive PowerPoint presentation but he skillfully discussed with us the contents of his recent article in the London Stamp & Coin Magazine. In 966, the dynasty became part of Western Europe and was combined with Lithuania until 1572. The Republic endured many political changes and did not exist on a map of Europe from 1795 to 1918. The country survived several occupations during war years and has been the 3rd Republic since 1989. Bob also described the postal history of Poland from its early private system on horseback, the use of Austrian, Russian and German stamps/overprints, Plebiscite postal issues, military and camp posts, stamps made in ghettos and some issued in Italy plus the highly collectible and valuable covers from these eras. He encouraged us to seriously consider collecting Poland and to join the PPS.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:18pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on July 25, 2016
at Tropicana Lanes in Clayton, MO

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Gary Hendren, Tom Minor, Frank Kollinger, Bob Ogrodnik, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Larry Reutter, Marcus Meyerotto, Nathan Esbeck, John Deutch, Mark Bassett, Tom Degroot, Wayne Youngblood, Jerry Schultz.

Guy called the meeting to order at 8:28pm with 20 members in attendance. For about 1-hour prior, members prepared letters and post cards for mailing to remind local philatelists [and APS members] of Stampfest and the value of joining GMCS. The letter was graciously prepared by member Alex Haimann.

Minutes: A motion was made by Gene to approve the June Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Ken and approved by all attendees.

Drawings: Bob Ogrodnik won the 50/50 cash prize drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at StampFest was won by John Deutch.

Treasurer report:

- Gary mentioned our checking account balance at April 30 was \$10,794 and the only significant expense during the following 2 months (May & June) was our new projector costing \$438. At June 30, the account balance was \$10,189. The Savings CD remain almost unchanged at \$12,375 at June 30. More details will appear in the July 31 report.

Secretary report:

- Dave had nothing new to announce.

Vice President report:

- Katrina asked that members bring side dishes for the Saturday night dinner at Stampfest. Spouses are welcome to attend the dinner. Our annual Christmas holiday party will again be held at Syberg's Restaurant on Thursday, December 8, 2016.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, August 13. An auction is scheduled.

Old Business:

- Stampfest** will take place at Parkway Central HS on August 20 & 21. We still have no member volunteering to be Co-Chair with Tom Minor so Guy will approach several who we believe will do a good job going forward. This role is different from the Bourse Chair that Gary continues to handle. Tom brought post card reminders which we all prepared for mailing. He brought sign-up sheets for members to work the various tasks at Stampfest. Gary expects close to 100 lots in the auction at Stampfest. He needs to receive within the next few days a

brief description and minimum \$ bid on any lots our members still plan to submit. 16 dealers have now committed to have a table and several more are considering. Gary expects the Parkway gym to be available for us to begin set-up around 5:15pm – 5:30pm on Friday, August 19. We are reminded to bring a friend to the show.

-John Deutch asked if there has been any progress on relocating the club's library [some 800-900 pieces of research material] which is currently housed in Alan's basement. Guy is working on several options and hopes to have a solution by our next meeting. We are not renewing the homeowner insurance rider.

New Business:

-the scheduled club auction started at 8:45pm with Guy and Katrina as auctioneers. A total of \$46.70 was realized on the sale of 13 lots. The next club auction is scheduled for our September meeting.

Program:

-Katrina introduced Wayne Youngblood at 9:00pm. He spoke in depth about Color in Philately and wants us to realize there exists no totally accurate color guide. His PowerPoint slides helped him explain how colors are either additive or subtractive and differ by hue, value and chroma. Wayne showed us a wide variety of errors, freaks and oddities from his personal collection and feels the most accurate guide was printed by Stanley Gibbons in the 1920's but today he relies more on guides offered by Roy White and Scott's. Indeed, determining and agreeing on a stamp's color is a most confusing & confounding conundrum. Wayne has been expertizing material for over 30 years for numerous societies and today processes almost 90% of errors that are submitted for authentication.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:34pm. The next club meeting will be August 2 back at Parkway Central High School.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

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

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Tom Minor, Frank Kollinger, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Marcus Meyerotto, John Deutch, Mark Bassett, Wayne Youngblood, Dan Baugher, Mimi White, Dave Rosenstock

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with 17 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Gene to approve the July Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mark and approved by all attendees.

Drawings: Mimi White won the 50/50 cash prize [\$8.50] drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at StampFest was won by Dave Marsh.

Guests: Dave Rosenstock introduced his friend John Stephens who retired from Monsanto, has collected US Commemoratives off and on for many years and thought he would enjoy attending one of our meetings. We gave John a Member Information form and hope he will consider joining. Ken brought friends Ken & Diane George who brought their young grandson Alex Norienberns after he expressed an interest in stamp collecting.

Treasurer report:

- Gary was away on a much deserved vacation and unable to attend. He will provide updates on the club bank accounts and financial results for StampFest at our September club meeting. Guy said 15 of the promised 18 dealers showed up. 1 of the 3 missing, Nancy Moellering was in the hospital. Those 3 represent \$390 of lost revenue but Guy hopes we broke even for the show.

Secretary report:

- Dave said that he was able to slightly reduce concession stand costs while providing quality food offerings at StampFest. He thanked all who helped make the stand a success.

Vice President report:

- Katrina thanked all our members who worked at the show and brought a side dish. We underestimated the fried chicken count but had the proper amount of beef and pulled pork. We picked up 2 new members which brings a total of 5 new members in 2016. She confirmed our annual Christmas holiday party will again be held at Syberg's Restaurant on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Price of \$20 per person in unchanged for drinks, games and a buffet dinner.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, September 10. An auction is scheduled.
- Guy reminds us the Breakfast group continues to meet at 8:30am at Hillary's Roadhouse on the 2nd Monday of each month – next meeting Sept. 12. All members are welcomed.

Old Business:

-**StampFest** took place at Parkway Central HS on August 20 & 21. Guy mentioned the 2 day attendance was 157 as compared with 134 attendees in 2015...a 17% increase. Attendance on Saturday was 110 but fewer seemed to attend on Sunday. This prompted Katrina and Guy to ask for suggestions on how we can increase attendance on Sunday i.e. hold a 50/50 cash drawing around 3:50pm for those present? distribute coupons redeemable only on Sunday? We all agree the auction at 1:30pm on Sunday is a primary reason many attendees remain for that afternoon.

Tom thanked all the club members who volunteered their time [esp. Mark Bassett who did double duty] and he agreed to continue as Show Chairman in 2017. Katrina recommends we begin shutting down the snack bar at 3:30pm in the future.

Gene Stewart complained that numerous dealers near his table began closing and packing up as early as 3:10pm while 3 interested collectors were actively examining his offerings. This discourages other attendees from staying longer. Guy agreed we should make it clear to dealers they cannot begin closing down before 3:30pm in the future.

-John Deutch asked if we received favorable comments from all of the 15 dealers who were present. Guy said he heard all were happy and did OK except the 1 dealer here from Minneapolis

New Business:

-the next club auction is scheduled for our September meeting.

Program:

-Katrina arranged for us to play Stamp Bingo as a backup plan since our scheduled presenter Sean Sunderlage has not communicated with her and did not attend the meeting. We played 4 games, 2 of which were won by guests Alex and John. Ken and Roger also won a round.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on September 26, 2016
at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Tom Minor, Frank Kollinger, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, John Deutch, Wayne Youngblood, Mike Marian, Larry Reutter, Nathan Esbeck, Gary Hendren

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:39pm with 16 members in attendance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Roger to approve the August Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Gene and approved by all attendees.

Drawings: Wayne won the 50/50 cash prize [\$7] drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at a future StampFest was won by Phil Schorr.

Guests/Visitors: none

Treasurer report:

- Gary provided financial details on StampFest which showed a total net profit of \$2,397. This figure does not include the gym rent expense which could approximate \$800. The largest revenue items were \$3,260 from dealer tables and \$627 from Sunday's auction commissions. Expenses totaled \$2,016 which includes \$236 for concession stand and \$187 for BBQ meats and \$425 for 2 security guards. No custodian showed up so that expense will not be paid.
- At end September, the club's checking account balance was \$12,028. Petty cash of \$400 sits in 2 cash boxes. Our Savings CDs are unchanged at \$12,236

Secretary report:

- Dave said the concession stand at StampFest showed a modest \$62 net profit. Several selling prices will be increased nominally at the 2017 show. The Sub sandwiches were very popular and more will be offered next year. He thanked all who helped make the stand a success.

Vice President report:

- Katrina confirmed our annual Christmas holiday party will again be held at Syberg's Restaurant on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Price of \$20 per person is unchanged for drinks, games and a buffet dinner. She again thanked those members who helped make the Saturday dinner at StampFest a success. Guy asked for members to volunteer to give a presentation at meetings during 2017.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn is Saturday, October 8. An auction is scheduled.
- Wayne mentioned that David Beech, curator of the National Philatelic Library of London is visiting APS during October. He will come thru St. Louis and perhaps be available to give a presentation at a joint meeting of GMCSC and WGSC on October 21 or 22. Wayne or Alex will keep us informed.

-Wayne informed us that he will be leaving Regency Superior and St. Louis by October 31 and moving with Dorothy to their home in Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin to be closer to their son and grandchildren. He will continue writing columns for APS and Linn's. We will miss his presence and contributions to the health of our clubs in St. Louis.

Old Business:

- Status of the club's research Library relocation was again raised by John Deutch who recommended we either distribute it to members or sell it off in various club auctions. Guy said we need to find an accessible storage place where members can come see what material is there or liquidate it. None of the meeting attendees have seen it since it was moved to Alan's basement several years ago. Several asked "is it really worth paying rent to store it?" Roger will send Guy the last known inventory listing to include with our October Newsletter. Then we'll decide who is interested in looking at the volumes...or sell it off.

New Business:

- Gary reminded us that he is accepting donation lots for Bux Auction to be held at the November 28 club meeting and asks that we send him our lot descriptions prior to the October 24 club meeting. He & Guy asked for a member to volunteer to prepare in Excel the multi-page lot description listing...the reward is 100 Bux.
- John Deutch reviewed his visit to a recent stamp show in Houston, TX where he picked up an interesting 1800's cover mailed from the Pontifical States to New Orleans for half its value. He heard that Fred Boatwright no longer buys a table at StampFest claiming "attendees are not willing to spend enough money"!

Club Auction:

- Of the 10 lots offered, only 4 were sold for a total of \$10.75. The auction started at 8:15pm and ended 8 minutes later.

Program:

- Katrina and others tried to configure our new projector to accept Norb's scheduled presentation on Shanghai Overprints but it could not read his flash drive contents. He agreed to present at our January 2017 meeting. As a fallback, John Deutch spoke more about covers he collects from the Vatican States. He warned us those stamps are frequently counterfeit and what little is written about them is never in English. Fortunately, John can read and write Latin. Wayne headed a discussion regarding US stamps that have actually been invalidated by the USPS since 1861. Only 3 are known = Special Delivery + Certified Mail + Registry stamps.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:36pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on October 24, 2016
at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Ken Grothoff, Norb Wright, Vic Silver, Larry Reutter, Mimi White, Mark Bassett, Jerry Schultz, Tom DeGroot.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:30pm with 14 members in attendance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Katrina to approve the September Minutes. The motion was seconded by Roger with a provision they be AMENDED to show "the price of our Christmas party remains \$10 per person" and not \$20 per person as appears inaccurately in the September Minutes. With this Amendment, the revised Sept. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Drawings: Roger won the 50/50 cash prize [\$5] drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at a future Stampfest was won by Mimi White.

Guests/Visitors: none

Treasurer report:

- Gary is traveling out of town and will provide us updated financial details at our November meeting.

Secretary report:

- Dave thanked Gene Stewart for helping bring former member John Mattler back into the club.

Vice President report:

- Katrina confirmed our annual Christmas holiday party will be held at Syberg's Restaurant on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Price of \$10 per person is unchanged for drinks, games and a buffet dinner. Syberg's needs a head count soonest and she asked us to bring our \$\$ to the November club meeting. She and Guy asked for members to volunteer to give a presentation at meetings during 2017. Both Nate Esbeck and Norb Wright are already scheduled to present in 2017.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn/Fenton is Saturday, November 12. An auction is scheduled.
- Roger invited us to attend the Webster Groves Stamp Club meeting Nov. 4 to hear Alan Barasch give a detailed tutorial on how to prepare a presentation. Katrina urged our attendance.
- Guy showed a list of 61 lots already donated for Auction Bux to be held at our November meeting. More lots are desired so please submit some plus descriptive details to Gary by November 15.

Old Business:

- Guy led a discussion on what to do with the club's Library materials and asked each of us to examine the 8 page 1999 inventory list we all received with the Newsletter. We must decide if enough of the material is still beneficial to the club and is any member able to store it free in their home. Vic Silver mentioned that he previously served as club Librarian and believes it still contains valuable pamphlets and writings but all the old catalogues should be trashed. Guy asked if he should appoint a Librarian and an Assistant Librarian to examine everything and prepare a clean updated listing. Then let our members decide what to retain and what to destroy. Mimi has spoken with Mercantile Library and they expressed an interest in accepting our material. Vic and Tom cautioned us that public libraries usually want freedom to dispose of seldom used items, esp. with remodeling and reduced storage space. Guy wants to make a final decision in early 2017.
- New Business:
- Gene shared with us a rare and valuable 1907 Zeppelin post card that traveled from Germany to Zurich. It was part of a large collection of post cards he purchased at a recent small show.
- -Phil called our attention to the seldom used 68 cents US stamp required to mail our recent Newsletter.
- -Jerry brought several binders for us to examine containing a wide variety of Air Mail stickers and unusual cancellations that he has collected over many years.

Program:

- -our annual Philatelic Jeopardy game began at 8:15pm under Guy's direction. Three separate teams competed aggressively with some members speaking out of turn and without the team captain's approval. With a star studded roster, team Treasury came in first with 385 Bux going to each team member. In second place was team Secretary with 50 Bux going to each member, one of whom claimed the officiating was unfair and rigged. In third place was team VP who finished with a sizable deficit but each losing member came away with 25 Bux. Everyone seemed to enjoy the event and looks forward to the 2017 game.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

Submitted by Dave Marsh

Greater Mound City Stamp Club

Minutes from General Membership meeting on November 28, 2016
at Parkway Central High School

Present: Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gary Hendren, Gene Stewart, Roger Grider, Dave Marsh, Phil Schorr, Norb Wright, Larry Reutter, Mimi White, Mark Bassett, Jerry Schultz, Tom DeGroot, John Deutch, Frank Kollinger.

Guy called the meeting to order at 7:37pm with 15 members in attendance.

Minutes: A motion was made by Phil to approve the October Minutes. The motion was seconded by Gene and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

Drawings: Norb won the 50/50 cash prize [\$6.50] drawing. The attendance prize \$10 certificate for use at a future Stampfest was won by Phil.

Guests/Visitors: none

Treasurer report:

- Gary provided complete updates on both the club's finances and Stampfest. At Oct. 31, 2016, the checking account balance was \$11,879; 2 cash boxes contained \$300; the savings CDs total \$12,390 for a grand total of \$24,569. Stampfest income totaled \$4,387 [mostly dealer table rent] with expenses totaling (\$3,116), leaving a net club profit of \$1,271.

Secretary report:

- Dave had no news to report.

Vice President report:

- Katrina reminded us of the Christmas party on December 8 at Syberg's Restaurant. Pay tonight or at the door and let's invite Webster Groves Stamp Club members to attend. Doors open at 6:30pm, buffet dinner served at 7:00pm followed by games and prizes. Syberg's requires a minimum of 30 and 18 have already signed up.

Announcements:

- Gene Stewart's next stamp bourse at Stratford Inn/Fenton is Saturday, December 10. An auction is scheduled. This is the annual Christmas party. All are invited to bring goodies to share. Gene is unsure if there will be entertainment.
- Guy reminded us the Breakfast Club meets at Hilary's Roadhouse on the 2nd Monday of each month. The next meeting is December 12.

Old Business:

- John Deutch prepared observations and recommendations on what to do with the club's LIBRARY after examining the list included with our October Newsletter. He noted much material is out dated or has limited appeal. John's interests are narrow but he would possibly purchase a few items if the library is to be sold. Accessing the material seems to be a major concern and finding a member willing to be librarian appears slim. He suggests –

- 1] send a copy of the list to APRL to see if they want anything, sell what's left to club members.
- 2] ask Phil Banser and Len Hartmann if they want to purchase the entire library.
- 3] sell or auction the library to our members.
- 4] offer the materials in our 2017 Stampfest auction.
- 5] offer the material to a dealer to put in his shop.
- Guy will visit Alan Barasch to measure the space required to house the materials. If we find a place to store it, that person will be the Librarian. Guy is confident that one or more members are willing to be Librarian.

New Business:

-Guy made a motion to accept nominations for officers from the floor. It was seconded by Larry and passed. Roger then made a motion to nominate our 4 existing officers and John Deutch seconded it. Guy asked 3 times if there were any other nominations for President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. There were none and Roger's motion to retain all 4 existing officers for 2017 then passed = Guy Gasser, Katrina Whitaker, Gary Hendren, Dave Marsh.

Program:

-our annual Auction Bux began at 8:09pm with Guy & Katrina describing almost 100 lots.

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

Submitted by Dave Marsh