

2022-01-perf-dispatch	2
2022-02-perf-dispatch	4
2022-03-perf-dispatch	7
2022-04-perf-dispatch	9
2022-05-perf-dispatch	13
2022-06-perf-dispatch	17
2022-07-perf-dispatch	19
2022-08-perf-dispatch	21
2022-09-perf-dispatch	25
2022-10-perf-dispatch	27
2022-11-perf-dispatch	29



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



Volume XXVIII Number 1



January 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

JANUARY MEETING

One of our newer members, Keith Stevenson, has stepped up to present the January program. He will enlighten us about 19th Century French Revenues.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

February...	My Stories of Collecting.....	Greg Hake
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 PRESIDENTÉ

Happy New Year everyone! I hope that everyone had a joyous Christmas and that the New Year will be healthy and prosperous for all.

It's a new stamp year and time to get things cranked up again. This year promises to be busy and packed full of philatelic fun and frolic. My hope is that we will all enjoy what the year has in store for us and that more members of the club will be able to participate in the club's activities!

I want to start the new year off with the results of the election of the two club officers from the November meeting. Let's all congratulate our new club Treasurer, Pat Morgan. Congratulations Pat! Pat is on board and ready to get at it. I also want to thank Gary Hendren, who opted not to run again for Treasurer, for his long and faithful 28 years of service to the club as its treasurer. Well done, Gary, well done. The second officer elected was the reelection of myself as your President. It was a tough race, but somehow I managed to pull the votes to win going away! Oh wait. I ran unopposed. I guess it wasn't as close as I thought. So much for the big victory party! Either way, I thank you all for your support and look forward to leading the club for another 2 years. My goal is to only make the club better for everyone.

The annual Christmas bash went off without a hitch last month, and fun and frolic was had by all who attended. As I always seem to say, and I will continue to say, if you didn't attend you missed a great time. We had 33 signed up and 28 who attended. The sick bug got three of them and the other two just mysteriously didn't make it. I will say that the total who signed up was the most we have had in the past several years. I hope that the upward trend continues at the next club Christmas party. Let's all also thank our VP, Katrina Whitaker, for the excellent job she did putting on this shindig. She always does a good job, and I look forward to what

she has in store for us this year. Thank you, madam Vice President.

Now, here we go. This month we'll start off with the club auction. I hope that we had several who submitted lots. Then we get to do our annual voting on last year's stamp issues. We are doing that a month early this year because the deadline to submit ballots is 28 February, which is also the day of our February meeting. Those who get *Linn's Stamp Monthly*, please bring your December issue so that we will have several for everyone to look at, which will help speed up the voting process. Then last, but not least, Keith Stevenson will tell us everything we ever wanted to know about 19th Century French Revenues. I'm looking forward to learning about this seldom mentioned side of philately. I hope everyone else is too.

Phil continues to do well and will be joining us this month. He will also be collecting dues for this year from those who haven't yet paid. If you're coming to the meeting, and I hope that many are, 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! And don't try to pay by PayPal or a cash app. Phil's head might explode if you do! Right now, we only have ten who still have not paid for this year. Let's get this done so we can move on to other things.

See everyone at the meeting! That is all.

Guy

Did you know: The USPS estimates that it is losing about \$200 million a year through the use of counterfeit stamps. If one sees forever stamps or high value stamps offered anywhere at steep discounts, you can bet that they are counterfeit.

DUES

Dues for the 2022 club year are due. Over 80% of our members have already paid them, and I hope at least half the remaining members will pay them at the January meeting. You can give them to Phil Schorr during the meeting. Otherwise, you can mail them to Greater Mound City Stamp Club, 12718 St. Lazare Ln., St. Louis, MO 63127. If you still have the green dues sheet from last October, please complete it and include it. If you aren't sure if you have paid them, simply look at the left front of the green mailing envelope. If it says "Thru 2021", you haven't paid for 2022.

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PERF-DISPATCH
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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

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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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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.



PERF-DISPATCH
GREATER MOUND CITY STAMP CLUB
Established 1884
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Volume XXVIII Number 3



March 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

MARCH MEETING

Jerry Schultz will begin his two-part program on Oil this month. It apparently will be quite complete, since it requires two months to cover it all. Come to the meeting to take a deep dive into the topic to see why it intrigues Jerry so much.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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 PRESIDENTÉ

Happy Spring everyone! Spring is here and since I'm writing this before the big shew, when everyone reads this the Expo will be just starting. When we meet next, the show will be over except for the shouting. The fun and frolic never ends!

Here's another reminder for the show location, times, and where to go for more information. 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.

I sent out an email earlier this week seeking more volunteers. If anyone who didn't respond can now help, just show up at the registration desk and let whomever is there know that you're there to help. They'll direct you to me or someone who can let you know what is needed then. I know that the Youth Room and taking down the exhibit frames is where the show needs the most help right now. We could also use some club members to sit at the club table to promote our club, answer questions, and sign people up.

I also want to thank in advance everyone who volunteered to help out at the show. A show this size doesn't go well without volunteers! Thank you club members!

Moving on after the Expo. The next main event is our club show, StampFest, August 13-14, 2022, at the Kirkwood Community Center. Planning behind the scenes has already started. Tom Minor has once again agreed to be the show chairman. Thank you

again, Tom! We'll need many volunteers for StampFest too. There will be more info coming out about volunteers as we get closer to the show date. However, I'm throwing this out now that we will need someone to take charge of the concession stand. The sooner Tom knows the better. Who will step up now?

Our club meeting this month features our monthly club auction along with an interesting program. I hope that we had several who submitted lots. Then Jerry Schultz will educate us about oil with a program that will span two meetings. Yet again here's another topic that I have no idea what it has to do with philately. However, I doubt that Jerry will be able to tell us when the price of gasoline is going to go back down to a reasonable price. Then again, maybe he has the answer? That in itself is worth the price of admission!

The end of March closes out the renewal year for the club. As of this writing, we only have two people who have not yet renewed or let us know if they plan to renew. Hopefully we'll have the answer at the meeting.

See everyone Monday. That is all!

Guy

Did you know: There have been over 8,000 episodes of the TV game show Jeopardy! Stamps has appeared as a final jeopardy clue once.

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 nine of our members have received stamps from this massive collection. If you are a beginning collector, or not too far beyond that level, 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.

DUES

If you are one of the very few who haven't yet paid your dues for this year, this will be the last copy of the Perf-Dispatch you will receive. Why not send in your dues today to keep the goodness coming?

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PERF-DISPATCH
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Established 1884
Saint Louis, Missouri



Volume XXVIII Number 4



April 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

APRIL MEETING

Jerry Schultz will complete his two-part program on Oil this month. The first half was great, so don't miss the second instalment.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

May.....London, 2022.....Ed Pieper
June.....TBD.....???

July.....StampFest Prep.....Guy Gasser

August.....Imperial German Navy during the
Boxer Rebellion.....Ed Bayham

September.....TBD.....???

October.....Philatelic Jeopardy.....Guy Gasser

November.....Auction Bux Auction.....???

December....Christmas Party.....Katrina Whitaker

2023

Speakers needed for next year.

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. One of the dealers just might have that stamp you have been seeking.

WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Greetings everyone! Well, it's Tax Day. I hope that everyone filed their taxes on time and didn't end up owing anything to Uncle Sam or the Governor.

Now that Expo's fun and frolic is over and the results are in, I can say that the show went very well and was a big success. Almost all of the dealer and exhibitor feedback was positive, which is important for the future success of the show because they will look forward to coming back. Attendance was still down from pre-COVID, which was not a surprise as all shows across the country are down. However, the attendance this year was more than the last 2 years, which is a positive trend. This year we had 320 paid attendees, which was up by about 50 from last year. If one counts those that came to the show more than one day, attendance was easily over 400 for the 3 days. There was no way to really count how many attended more than one day so this is a best guess, but whatever that number was I think this is close. Attendance pre-COVID was running around 600 paid for comparison.

I want to thank everyone who volunteered to do the myriad of tasks required to make the show a success. The list is long and I don't want to miss anyone so let me just say thank you all. The show relies on the volunteers to happen. A special thanks Tom Minor and Nathan Esbeck, both Board members of Expo, for all of their hard work behind the scenes over the past year. The hours that they put in are many, and those on the outside looking in can't fathom what has to be done each year. I also want to thank our committee members for their work, Bob Mahoney for the Youth Room, Larry Weisz for security, Katrina Whitaker, VP, for registration and Expo administration, and Alan Barasch for keeping the exhibitors on track, in the right place, and making sure they had the resources they needed. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Now that the big event is over, it's time to look forward to the next big event for the club, and that is StampFest. I know that StampFest seems like a

long way off, but everyone knows that time flies when we're having fun and August will be on us before we know it. The show dates this year are 13-14 August 2022, and will once again take place at the Kirkwood Community Center. Please mark your calendars now. The club officers have already begun planning for this show.

Tom Minor has once again volunteered to be the show chairman, and Jerry Schultz has once again volunteered to head up the auction. Thank you, Tom and Jerry. I'll have more information in the coming months to include the help the club will need to put on this show. Once again, the show will need someone to chair the concession stand. See the column elsewhere in this newsletter for details on just what this task requires. Who would like to volunteer for that? Please let me know. One can contact me for more information.

The program this month sees the return of Jerry for part two of his presentation on oil and philately. Last month he left us hanging as to what this month will bring. I don't know about the rest of you, but I am looking forward to what Jerry has in store for us.

Speaking of programs, I think the VP still needs one more person to volunteer to fill out this year. She is also taking signups for next year. Sign up early and get your pick of the month you want.

See everyone at the meeting! That is all!

Guy

Did you know: Postage rates are going up again July first. The cost to send a 1-ounce letter will rise to 60 cents, additional ounce to 24 cents, and post cards to 44 cents. Ugh!

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 nine of our members have received stamps from this massive collection. If you are a beginning collector, or not too far beyond that level, 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.

STAMPFEST

I'm sure you will hear a great deal about the upcoming StampFest in the next few months. One thing we badly need is for someone to step up and agree to chair the Concession stand. Being Chair doesn't mean you have to spend all your time during the show working the stand. In fact, you probably won't have to spend much time there on Saturday and Sunday. Your work would mostly come before the weekend of the show. Among the duties would be seeing what supplies we already have, looking at the standard list of supplies to see what needs to be purchased, coordinating with the officers on the food to be purchased and the pricing, doing the purchasing or finding a volunteer to do it, making sure everything is there and working when the show opens both days, and closing it down each day when the show closes. Show Chair Tom Minor and VP Katrina Whitaker will be glad to answer any questions you may have and point you in the right direction on things. The Concession stand really is an important part of the show. Why not step up and give it a go?

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Ukraine: A Postal History

By Ed Bayham

To appreciate Ukraine postal history, one must consider its geography, political history, and aspirations. The present-day territory is comprised of the Black Sea Coast on the south, the open steppes on the east, and the mixed forest-steppe of the north central and west, and the mountainous Carpathian region of the southwest. Its cultural identity can be traced back to the reign of Volodymyr the Great and his son, Yaroslav the Wise, at the end of the 10th Century, when their rule extended from the Baltic to the Black Sea. The Kyiv principality, situated upon the Dnieper River, profited from the Baltic-Byzantine trade route. During the 13th Century, its rule was challenged by other Rus' principalities, by Mongol invasions from the East; and over the following centuries by other kingdoms, including Poland, Lithuania, Austria, Hungary, and Rumania. The Ukrainian language and political structures were generally suppressed during these times. At the onset of World War I, the administration and postal systems were split between Austria, Hungary, and Russia; and stamps of those countries were used.

WWI brought invasion and battles between Austrian and Hungarian armies, and Russian forces. Following the collapse of the Russian Empire, a national assembly met at Kyiv and declared the Ukrainian National Republic on January 22, 1918. Its first set of stamps was issued in July, 1918.



Russian stamps were commonly used in the early months of independence. To protect postal revenue, local offices were required to have existing stocks overprinted with the trident-shaped arms of Grand Prince Volodymyr. Examples are depicted below.



During three years of civil war, armies of Ukraine, Bolshevik, White Russian, Allies, and Poland fought back and forth across the country. By November, 1920 central and eastern Ukraine was occupied by Soviet forces, and Soviet stamps were used there. Parts of Western Ukraine remained occupied by Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Poland. Overprinted stamps of Austria, Bosnia. Poland, and Romania were issued for use in those territories.



The Ukrainian government-in-exile in Warsaw, in 1923 prepared an 11-value set overprinted with the Cyrillic “УПР.” It was supposedly intended as a field post issue for a planned invasion of Ukraine that never happened, and the stamps were never issued. Scott assigns a value of \$15 for this set.



World War II again turned Ukraine into a battlefield with a variety of postal arrangements. With the invasion of the Soviet Union by Germany, two postal agencies were created, the General Government, which handled Western Ukraine, and the German Dienstpost, which handled Reichkommissariat Ukraine. Romanian forces operated a postal system in Transnistria. By the end of the war, the Soviet Forces pushed the opposing forces out and established the modern borders of post-war Soviet Ukraine.



In the wake of an attempted coup in Moscow in August 1991, the Ukraine parliament declared the full independence of Ukraine. This was ratified overwhelmingly by popular referendum in December. The first stamps of the newly independent republic were issued on March 1 1992.



Now Ukraine’s independence is again threatened. After centuries of oppression, their fierce commitment to remain free is demonstrated by the recent release of a stamp commemorating the defiance of Russian threats against the Snake Island troops.



References: Ukraine Postal History 1900-1945, Andrew Oleksiuk, prepared as an APS exhibit, 2001



PERF-DISPATCH
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Established 1884
Saint Louis, Missouri



Volume XXVIII Number 5



May 2022

Where Kirkwood Community Center
Room 200
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Kirkwood, MO 63122

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

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

MAY MEETING

Ed Pieper attended the big international show – London, 2022 - earlier this year. At the May meeting he will give us a report on the show. If you have always wondered what international shows are like, now is your chance to learn about one.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

June.....Ephemera.....Michael Karasick
July.....StampFest Prep.....Guy Gasser
August.....Imperial German Navy during the
Boxer Rebellion.....Ed Bayham
September.....Capex.....Ed Pieper
October.....Philatelic Jeopardy.....Guy Gasser
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NEWS

NEWS from Tom Minor:

There will be a STAMP DEDICATION ceremony June 16 at 10AM in the Gateway Arch Museum. It is the Mighty Mississippi set of 10 designs that actually has its first day in Memphis May 23. Don't know why we were robbed on the First Day of Issue ceremony, considering the Arch is prime photo #5 in the set.

STAMPFEST

I'm sure you will hear a great deal about the upcoming StampFest in the next few months. One thing we badly need is for someone to step up and agree to chair the Concession stand. Being Chair doesn't mean you have to spend all your time during the show working the stand. In fact, you probably won't have to spend much time there on Saturday and Sunday. Your work would mostly come before the weekend of the show. Among the duties would be seeing what supplies we already have, looking at the standard list of supplies to see what needs to be purchased, coordinating with the officers on the food to be purchased and the pricing, doing the purchasing or finding a volunteer to do it, making sure everything is there and working when the show opens both days, and closing it down each day when the show closes. Show Chair Tom Minor and VP Katrina Whitaker will be glad to answer any questions you may have and point you in the right direction on things. The Concession stand really is an important part of the show. Why not step up and give it a go?

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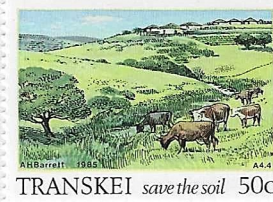
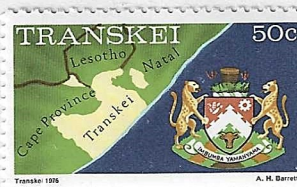
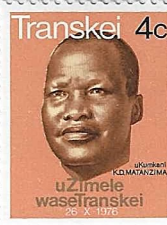
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By Phil Schorr

The Union of South Africa, a country located on the southern tip of Africa, was heavily invested in the system of apartheid, legally separating the native black residents from the ruling white residents. In 1959 the white government declared a number of non-independent "homelands" for the various native tribes. These were largely in the northeastern part of the country. In the 1970s South Africa gave these homelands the opportunity to become "independent" countries. Over the next several years four of these homelands declared their independence. However, only South Africa and the homelands themselves recognized this independence. The United Nations took the position these "countries" were not really independent and were just an attempt by the South African government of continuing with apartheid. This continued until 1994 when South Africa adopted a new constitution outlawing apartheid. At this point these homelands again dropped their claim of independence and became part of South Africa.

Transkei

Transkei lies along the southeast coast of South Africa, bordering on the Indian Ocean. Transkei was administratively created in 1959 by the South African government as a home for the Xhosa speaking people. In 1976 it was made nominally independent to serve as a homeland for the Xhosa speaking people living anywhere in South Africa. They thus became citizens of Transkei and lost their South African citizenship. The Organization of African Unity urged the countries of the world to shun Transkei on the grounds that recognition would imply acceptance of apartheid. The United Nations agreed. The only countries to accept Transkei were South Africa and the other homelands. The residents of Transkei celebrated their independence and began establishing a government. They soon began issuing stamps for use in Transkei. As with all the homelands who became independent, their first stamp issue featured the leaders of their government. They then issued stamps featuring various aspects of the country and issued several sets every year. In 1994 the new South African constitution abolished the apartheid system, thus eliminating the need for the homelands to be independent, and they again became part of South Africa, ending their stamp issues.



Bophuthatswana

Bophuthatswana was made up of a number of areas along the north central border of South Africa, near the border with Botswana. It was established for the Tswana people and established as a "homeland" for them in the 1960s. It had a legislative assembly with some governing ability from 1961 to 1972, when it was officially self-governing. In December 1977 it was declared an independent republic. Its postage stamps reflected the primary economy of farming and small-scale industry. As with Transkei, once the new South African constitution abolishing apartheid took effect in 1994, Bophuthatswana again became a part of South Africa.



Venda

Venda is located in the far north eastern corner of South Africa, just across the border from Zimbabwe. The Venda people migrated from what is now Zimbabwe in the 1700s. They came into conflict with the Transvaal Republic in the late 1800s, and the area was annexed into the Transvaal in 1898. In 1962 it was designated as a "homeland" for the Venda people and a territorial authority was established. The territory was granted partial self-rule in 1973, and on December 13, 1979 South Africa proclaimed Venda an independent republic. The following week the United Nations Security Council met and unanimously condemned the creation of the three black republics (Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda) as an attempt to legitimize apartheid.



Ciskei

Ciskei is located in the southeast of South Africa, just south of Transkei along the Indian Ocean. It is located between the Great Kei river and the Great Fish river. In fact, the name Ciskei means "this side of the Kei" while Transkei means "across the Kei". After a series of wars between the Xhosa people and the European settlers, Ciskei was completely incorporated into the Cape Colony by the end of the 1800s. Ciskei became an administratively distinct territory with South Africa in 1961 and acquired a legislative assembly and executive council ten years later. In 1972 it was declared self-governing and in 1981 it became an independent republic. It functioned as an official homeland for millions of Xhosa speaking natives until 1994, when it again became a part of the Union of South Africa.





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Saint Louis, Missouri



Volume XXVIII Number 6



June 2022

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JUNE MEETING

Our new member, Michael Karasick, has a large collection of poster stamps and other ephemera, mostly focusing on railroads. He will give us a look at some of the collection during our June meeting. Maybe he will inspire you to start a new collection of poster stamps on a topic that interests you.

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July.....StampFest Prep.....Guy Gasser
August.....Imperial German Navy
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A big "Thank you" to Ed Bayham for agreeing to chair the concession stand. If he asks you to help with something, please be willing to step up. The concessions are an important part of having a good and successful show.

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JULY MEETING

The July meeting will focus on preparing the mailings for StampFest. Volunteer sign-up sheets for helping at the show will also be available. A large turnout and willing helpers will make the work go faster and help the show be a success.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

August.....Imperial German Navy
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WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Hello everyone! I hope all is well and that everyone is enjoying their summer. It's hot, then it's not; well, not as hot anyway, then it's hot again, then it's not again, and the cycle continues. The problem is that the hot stretches are longer than the not hot stretches. It's looking like another long hot stretch over this next week too. I guess that's a typical St. Louis summer.

General quarters! General quarters! All hands on deck. Mann your battle stations! I mean man your licking stations! That's right. The most anticipated month of the year is now upon us! Okay, probably not the most anticipated month of the year. It might be the least desirable month of the year. Wherever one places it amongst the things we do each month of the year, it is here. I know that it's not the most exciting thing we do during the year, but it is necessary and very important to the success of StampFest.

When looking back at monthly attendance during the year, I have found that July is the least attended month of the year. I wonder why that is? That's a rhetorical question as everyone knows why that is. We need to change that this year. So...bring your sponge or other moistening device and support the club this month like every other month. Look at it this way. While licking and sticking leaves something to be desired, the opportunity to just sit and talk for an hour or so with fellow club members is priceless!

This will be our last club meeting before the main event. Yes, that would be StampFest, and it arguably is the club's main event of the year. This is the meeting where we have volunteers sign up to help support the show. The officers and committee members will meet Thursday before the club meeting to tie everything together and make sure we are not forgetting anything. There may be some minor changes to what the club needs to provide from volunteers than I will list below, but if so, we should be able to adjust fire easily. Again, the show dates this year are 13-14 August 2022, at the

Kirkwood Community Center. Another reminder to mark your calendars in case that has slipped your mind.

Club requirements for StampFest. The following are the areas that we will need volunteers to support the show. Six each for setup and teardown (the CC took care of teardown last year, but that is not a guarantee). If everyone signs up for just one hour, and one can certainly sign up for more, we'll need seven each on Saturday and five each on Sunday for registration desk and concession stand. We'll need a minimum of two to help with the auction from noon until complete on Sunday. Finally, we'll need all we can get to bring something and stay for the pot luck dinner after the show closes on Saturday. Phil will have sign up lists at the meeting this month for these areas. I know that many can't attend meetings, but are willing to help. Those wishing to volunteer, but can't be at the meeting to sign up can contact Phil anytime and let him know what you want to do and when.

Who else would like to give a program? The VP has filled the months for this year and is now working on next year. Sign up early and pick the month.

My foray to Las Vegas for the National Bowling Tournament last month was filled with a lot of fun and frolic, but I didn't come back any richer than I was when I went out there. I actually bowled well, played hard, and ate too much. Yep, sounds like a good time to me!

That is all!

Guy

Did you know: The first stamp catalog was published in France in 1861 by Oscar Berger-Levrault. Even though it was titled as a catalog, it was really nothing more than a dealer's price list.

AUTHORS NEEDED

All of us know something interesting connected to our collections. Why not share it with our members? Including an article on page 3 of the Perf-Dispatch on something about philately is a good way to share with our club members and make our hobby more interesting. Whether you want to write two paragraphs or two pages, your Editor will be happy to include it in the newsletter. C'mon, give it a try. And don't forget, you get 20 AuctionBux for each article you write.

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Can you spare an hour or two during the show to help with set-up on Friday, tear down on Sunday, and/or registration or the concession stand on Saturday or Sunday? I know I have trouble spending a full 8 hours talking with dealers. Why not take a break by helping out with one of these needed duties?

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AUGUST MEETING

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WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Hello everyone! That's a wrap! StampFest that is; another show in the books. I think that the show went well, and the general consensus of the many I talked to thought it was a good show. The weather cooperated, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and there was much fun and frolic at the pot luck dinner Saturday night. Now that the show is over, we start the process all over again as we look forward to next year's show. However, our focus will first be on our next big event, which is the Christmas party in December.

I said that the show went well, but how did the show really go, one might ask, and most probably are? Well, I'll tell you. We are in the black. The show made money this year. How much money I don't know because as I write this, our treasurer is still in the process of crunching the numbers. I know that he will have the bottom line for the meeting. I'm guessing though that it will probably be close to a \$1,000. I do know that we made a little over \$200 in the auction and the 10 cent stamp sales each, and about \$100 in the concession stand. The concession stand operates on the premise of breaking even so anything the club makes there is gravy. The largest amount of income comes from the dealer table fees.

What about attendance this year? The attendance this year was a few more than last year. The attendance last year was 121. The attendance this year was 128. That is going in the right direction, but still about 30 shy of pre-COVID. Inside of that total number, fourteen were repeat attendees on Sunday, which leaves 114 different attendees. Also, inside the numbers, 33 club members attended or 55% of the club, which is down from 62% last year. I would have like to have seen that number be at least 80%. I do know that a few that would have attended couldn't this year due to illnesses and family gatherings. Given the diminishing attendance at shows nationwide, the fact that we actually went up this year is a very positive result. And on an even better note, the club picked up six, yes, I said six, new members at the show! I also saw where three or

four others asked for more information about the club on their sign in sheets. Let's hope that this upward trend continues.

Many to thank. Where do I start as there are many to thank for all the work they did in putting the show together, and taking care of the many tasks before, during, and after the show. I start with our show chairman, Tom Minor, who besides all the things a show Chairman does, he did the post cards, signage, and show program. Ed Bayham for taking on the concession stand and making sure that it ran smoothly. Jerry Schultz and his sidekick Richard Thies for putting together and running a vibrant auction. My fellow club officers, VP Katrina Whitaker, secretary Phil Schorr, and treasurer Pat Morgan for all things that their duties entail in planning, coordinating, executing, and capturing the details of the show. A special thanks goes out to all of our volunteers who stepped up to make the show happen; setup and tear down, registration booth, and the concession stand. It takes a concerted effort to pull this off, and our volunteers did their part.

One of the ways to know how the show went is by comments from the dealers and patrons of the show. I received several accolades from dealers and show attendees on how well the club did in putting on the show. Thank you all very much!

Now it's time to move on and get ready for the Christmas party. Planning is already taking place for that event. The Christmas party this year will once again take place at Syberg's on Dorsett on Thursday, 8 December 2022. Put it on your calendars now, please, and plan on attending. The Christmas party is always a lot of fun. I would also like to see more participation this year than last, which will keep the upward trend going.

Philatelic Jeopardy is coming up in a couple months. If anyone has a specific category they would like to see, let me know soon, or even now, so I have time to put it together. Talking about programs, who else would like to give a program? The VP has filled the months for this year and is now working on next year. Sign up early and pick the month.

That is all!

Guy

LOST & FOUND

A nice pair of dark glasses were found when the show was being taken down on Sunday. If they are yours, let the Secretary know.

DID YOU KNOW?

Australia's first stamps, issued in 1902, were postage due stamps. Even more oddly they borrowed the same design from colonial New South Wales postage due stamps, who borrowed the design from the first United States postage due stamps.

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Cachet Media: OIL PAINT

By Pat Morgan

As collectors know, a first day cover (FDC) is very often made more valuable by adding a “cachet.” Cachet is a French word that means “seal” or “stamp.” Thus, a cachet is any kind of inscription, artwork, or design, handmade or machine-made, used to decorate a cover. Anyone can add a cachet an envelope. A cachet usually is added to enhance the subject of the stamp but in the case of an “event” cover it is to enhance the date or location of the postmark.

Individual collectors began making cachets by hand in the early 1900s. Some cachet-makers made quite a name for themselves (Knapp, Weigand, Collins, etc.) and their designs became very collectable. Now, of course, many illustrators design them with computers and sophisticated graphic software and copy onto the envelope using color copiers.

Over the years cachets have been added using pencil, colored pencil, ink, rubber stamps, watercolors, acrylic paint, oil paint and or any combinations of these media.

Here I am going to quickly highlight the rarest of these media, OIL PAINT. The reason that oil paint is rarely used is that paper envelopes soak up the oil from the paint and make a total mess out of the envelope. Secondly, oil painting is a more difficult media primarily due to the time it takes to dry completely (potentially up to 6 months).

The list of Cachet Artists that have even attempted to use oil paint is quite small; Art Kober (Fig. 1), Clara Walker (Fig. 2), Mae Luhta (Fig. 3), DD Jagyi (Fig. 4), Lois Hamilton (Fig. 5), Julian Pugh (Fig. 6), and Tom Mueller (Fig. 7 & 8). Julian Pugh and Lois Hamilton painted on canvas and then mounted the canvas to the envelope in order to get past the issues with the oil permeating the paper envelope. Tom Mueller, of Elsberry MO, is the only Cachet Artist that produced the majority of his work in oils on paper envelopes. Tom figured out a process and technique to prepare the paper to accept the oil paint without ruining the envelope. Tom's biography was documented by this author in the AFDCS, First Days Nov-Dec 2021. Tom's work, in my opinion, is similar in quality to what D. Knapp produced using other media.

If you are lucky enough to find an oil painted cachet, stop and appreciate the detail and effort taken by the artist because they took the extra effort to use one of the most difficult combinations to create it, oil paint on a bond paper envelope!

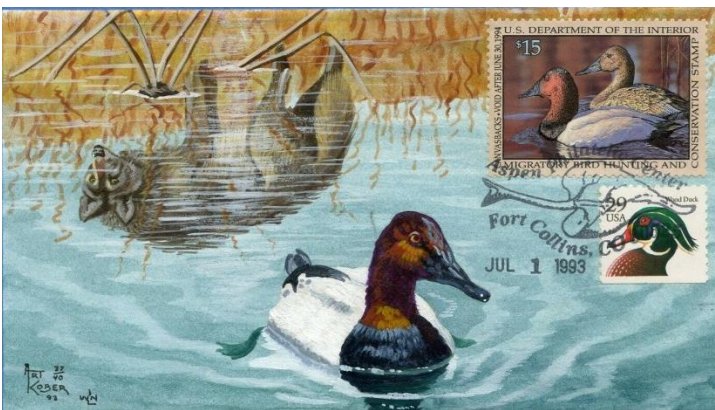


Figure 1. Art Kober (FDC)

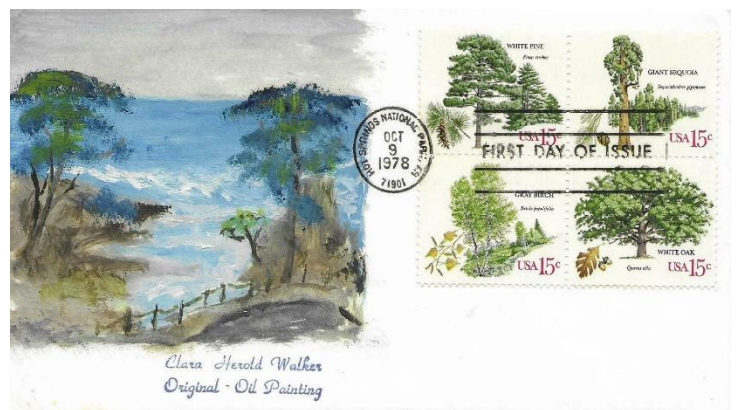


Figure 2. Clara Walker (FDC)

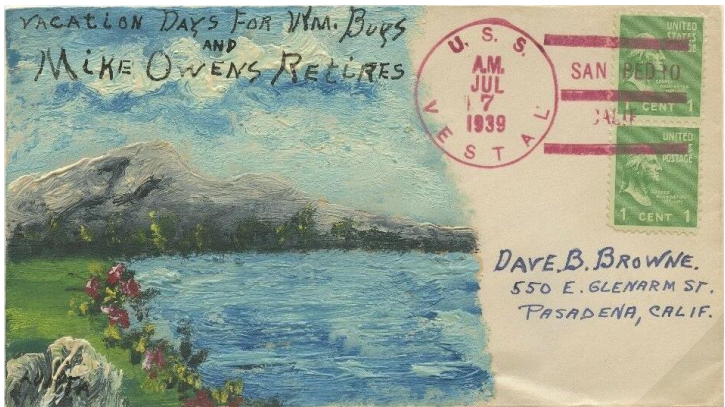


Figure 3. Mae Luhta (Event)



Figure 4. DD Jagyi (Event)



Figure 5. Lois Hamilton (FDC)



Figure 6. Julian Pugh (FDC)



Figure 8. Tom Mueller (FDC)

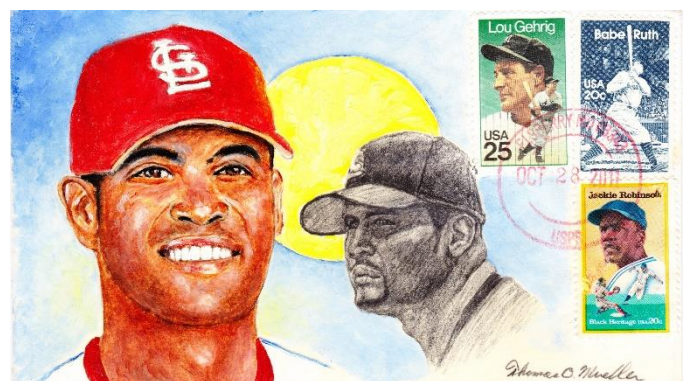


Figure 9. Tom Mueller (Event)



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



Volume XXVIII Number 9



September 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

SEPTEMBER MEETING

During the September meeting Ed Pieper will report on the Capex show held June 9-12, 2022 in Toronto. It's always interesting to hear about what happens at other big philatelic shows and meetings.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

October.....Philatelic Jeopardy.....Guy Gasser
November....Auction Bux Auction.....Jerry Schultz
December....Christmas Party.....Katrina Whitaker

2023

March.....TBD.....Norb Wright

Speakers needed for next year.

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. One of the dealers just might have that stamp you have been seeking.

WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Hello everyone! That's a wrap! StampFest that is; another show in the books. I think that the show went well, and the general consensus of the many I talked to thought it was a good show. The weather cooperated, everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, and there was much fun and frolic at the pot luck dinner Saturday night. Now that the show is over, we start the process all over again as we look forward to next year's show. However, our focus will first be on our next big event, which is the Christmas party in December.

I said that the show went well, but how did the show really go, one might ask, and most probably are? Well, I'll tell you. We are in the black. The show made money this year. How much money I don't know because as I write this, our treasurer is still in the process of crunching the numbers. I know that he will have the bottom line for the meeting. I'm guessing though that it will probably be close to a \$1,000. I do know that we made a little over \$200 in the auction and the 10 cent stamp sales each, and about \$100 in the concession stand. The concession stand operates on the premise of breaking even so anything the club makes there is gravy. The largest amount of income comes from the dealer table fees.

What about attendance this year? The attendance this year was a few more than last year. The attendance last year was 121. The attendance this year was 128. That is going in the right direction, but still about 30 shy of pre-COVID. Inside of that total number, fourteen were repeat attendees on Sunday, which leaves 114 different attendees. Also, inside the numbers, 33 club members attended or 55% of the club, which is down from 62% last year. I would have like to have seen that number be at least 80%. I do know that a few that would have attended couldn't this year due to illnesses and family gatherings. Given the diminishing attendance at shows nationwide, the fact that we actually went up this year is a very positive result. And on an even better note, the club picked up six, yes, I said six, new members at the show! I also saw where three or

four others asked for more information about the club on their sign in sheets. Let's hope that this upward trend continues.

Many to thank. Where do I start as there are many to thank for all the work they did in putting the show together, and taking care of the many tasks before, during, and after the show. I start with our show chairman, Tom Minor, who besides all the things a show Chairman does, he did the post cards, signage, and show program. Ed Bayham for taking on the concession stand and making sure that it ran smoothly. Jerry Schultz and his sidekick Richard Thies for putting together and running a vibrant auction. My fellow club officers, VP Katrina Whitaker, secretary Phil Schorr, and treasurer Pat Morgan for all things that their duties entail in planning, coordinating, executing, and capturing the details of the show. A special thanks goes out to all of our volunteers who stepped up to make the show happen; setup and tear down, registration booth, and the concession stand. It takes a concerted effort to pull this off, and our volunteers did their part.

One of the ways to know how the show went is by comments from the dealers and patrons of the show. I received several accolades from dealers and show attendees on how well the club did in putting on the show. Thank you all very much!

Now it's time to move on and get ready for the Christmas party. Planning is already taking place for that event. The Christmas party this year will once again take place at Syberg's on Dorsett on Thursday, 8 December 2022. Put it on your calendars now, please, and plan on attending. The Christmas party is always a lot of fun. I would also like to see more participation this year than last, which will keep the upward trend going.

Philatelic Jeopardy is coming up in a couple months. If anyone has a specific category they would like to see, let me know soon, or even now, so I have time to put it together. Talking about programs, who else would like to give a program? The VP has filled the months for this year and is now working on next year. Sign up early and pick the month.

That is all!

Guy

DID YOU KNOW?

Australia's first stamps, issued in 1902, were postage due stamps. Even more oddly they borrowed the same design from colonial New South Wales postage due stamps, who borrowed the design from the first United States postage due stamps.

HELP NEEDED

The club is in need of a new Club Stamp Custodian. The job involves; storing the club stamps, occasionally organizing new stamps, bringing some to club meetings and setting up/breaking down a table at Stampfest each year. The job comes with extra Auction Bux each year for taking it on. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!

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Volume XXVIII Number 10



October 2022

Where Kirkwood Community Center
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Kirkwood, MO 63122

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

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

OCTOBER MEETING

It's time for Jeopardy! Study up and be ready for the big contest with Philatelic Jeopardy. Correct answers bring big Auction Bux for use in the November auction. Just a hint – it might be a good idea to read all the “Did You Know” items from past issues of Perf-Dispatch.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

November....Auction Bux Auction.....Jerry Schultz
December....Christmas Party.....Katrina Whitaker

2023

March.....TBD.....Norb Wright

Speakers needed for next year.

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. One of the dealers just might have that stamp you have been seeking.

WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Hi all! It's that time again! No, not for cold weather, although that has already fallen upon us for a day or two. It's time for that annual event filled with lots of fun and frolic that everyone has been waiting for all year, Philatelic Jeopardy!

Once again, the teams of VP, Secretary, and Treasurer will compete to see who takes home the crown. Will last year's champions, team VP, retain the title or will team Secretary or Treasurer rise up to steal it away? However it turns out, it promises to be a fun filled battle that tests the philatelic knowledge of each team. The best part about the game is that each team has a chance to win a large amount of extra auction bux for next month's annual auction. This is the month you don't want to miss. It's a program where everyone participates, challenges everyone, and there is lots of laughter and silliness.

This month also includes a report from the Nominating Committee, a committee of one under the leadership of Dennis O'Brien, on any nominees for the two officer positions of Vice President and Secretary. The club will vote for these two offices at next month's meeting. Who would like to run for one of these offices? Don't be bashful. Step right up and throw your hat in the ring.

Not only does the club hold its annual elections next month but, as also mentioned earlier, next month is the big annual auction for the club. Remember that most lots are donations from you, the club members. The club also usually receives some donated lots from people or organizations outside the club. Who has something to donate to the cause? It does not just have to be philatelic items. It can be supplies, ephemera, or really just about anything. The key part of this is to let Jerry Schultz, our auctioneer for this event, know what the lots are ahead of time so that he can put together the list of lots. Please let him know no later than the 21st of next month (November). Those submitting lots can

bring them this month, get them to Jerry later, or just bring the lots with you to the auction.

This is also the time of year to renew the 'ol membership. See Phil's blurb elsewhere in this newsletter.

The Christmas party is on track and the good news is that our vendor is not raising the price on us this year! Once again, Syberg's on Dorsett at 7:00PM, Thursday, 8 December 2022. The doors will open at 6:30PM. On your calendar? We are on the hook for 30 so please plan on attending.

The VP is working on programs for next year. Sign up early and pick the month.

I told Phil I would leave him room for his spiel this month so that is all!

Guy

■ DID YOU KNOW? ■

Australia's first stamps, issued in 1902, were postage due stamps. Even more oddly they borrowed the same design from colonial New South Wales postage due stamps, who borrowed the design from the first United States postage due stamps.

■ DUES ■

Everyone should have received a dues notice with this mailing. If you have already paid your dues for 2023, you will get a green form saying you don't owe any dues. If you haven't yet paid your dues for 2023, you will receive a green form to fill out and return with your dues payment for 2023. You can hand your dues payment to me at a meeting, or you can mail it to me. In either case, please fill out the green form and return it with your payment.

● CHRISTMAS PARTY ●

A white Christmas Party reservation form is also included with this mailing. Please complete it and return it with your payment if you plan to attend. As with dues, you can hand them to me at a meeting or mail it to me. Please include the completed form with your payment. Lots of good food, Katrina's contests and, as Guy says, lots of fun and frolic.

● HELP NEEDED ●

The club is in need of a new Club Stamp Custodian. The job involves; storing the club stamps, occasionally organizing new stamps, bringing some to club meetings and setting up/breaking down a table at StampFest each year. The job comes with extra Auction Bux each year for taking it on. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!

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- Secretary.....Phil Schorr (314-843-8493)
- Secretary@GreaterMoundCity.org
- Treasurer.....Gary Hendren (314-576-5261)
- Treasurer@GreaterMoundCity.org

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■ CLUB WEBSITE ■

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Volume XXVIII Number 11



November 2022

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

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\$10 for email only

NOVEMBER MEETING

It's time for the big AuctionBux auction. Use all the Bux you have accumulated during the year to buy some of the great items included in the auction. Your Bux don't carry over to next year, so now is the only time you can use them. Don't miss out!

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

December....Christmas Party.....Katrina Whitaker

2023

January.....Usage of the F stamp....Christina Esbeck
.....Odd Shaped Stamps.....Philippa Esbeck
February.....TBD.....Ed Bayham
March.....TBD.....Norb Wright

Speakers needed for next year. Contact Katrina to volunteer and reserve the month when you would like to share your philatelic knowledge with the club.

SHOWS

Sadly the 2nd Saturday bourse **is coming to an end**. The last one will be on December 10 from **9AM to 3PM**. It is located at The Aviator South County on the northeast corner of I-55 and Lindbergh, behind The Mattress Firm. Don't miss out.

WORDS FROM EL PRESIDENTÉ

Season's Greetings everyone! It's hard to believe that another year is coming to a close. Where oh where do the days go. By the time everyone reads this Thanksgiving will be here, one more meeting, the Christmas shindig, Christmas, and the New Year. That all takes place in the next 5 weeks! I hope that everyone is ready. Oh, and Winter will officially arrive too. Brrrrr!!!

Those that didn't attend last month's meeting missed out on a rousing game of Philatelic Jeopardy! I think that everyone had a great time. I know I did as the host. Once again, team VP came out on top retaining the crown. One of the other team's needs to knock them off. Perhaps that will happen next year.

This will be the last formal meeting of the year and it will again be a busy one. This month we vote for a Vice President and a Secretary. Based on Dennis's drawn-out report from the nominating committee, which included waaay too much mundane and personal information that we all really didn't need to know, he finally announced that our current incumbents said that they would run again. As of right now, no one else has thrown their hat in the ring. The club can still accept nominations from the floor before votes are cast. Anyone thinking about one of these positions, let your desires be known and get a member to nominate you at the meeting.

This is also the month of our big annual auction box auction. Now everyone gets to spend all the box earned throughout the year. I hope that many of you plan to donate lots and that you have sent your lot descriptions to our auctioneer, Jerry Schultz. If you have not yet done that, please do that soonest so he can put the lots together and get everything set up. Any lots now will be late and depending on the number of lots Jerry has already received, he may not have room for them, but I haven't heard so go ahead and send them. Jerry will take anything anyone wants to donate. Gag lots are okay and a lot of fun too.

It's time to renew the 'ol membership. Several members did that last month at the meeting. Thank you! Phil will also take renewals this month at the meeting along with payment for the Christmas party, which is the same this year as last year, \$15.00 per person. Anyone that is not going to be at the meeting, please get your checks in the mail soon so Phil can wrap this all up sooner than later. See Phil's blurb elsewhere in this newsletter.

Speaking of the Christmas party, our VP, Katrina, has a great night of fun and frolic planned. Anyone who plans on attending needs to let her know so that she has as accurate a headcount as possible. If that doesn't work for some reason, then let any officer know. You can pay at the door, if you prefer; we just need to know who's going to attend.

I want to remind everyone that the club is on the hook for a minimum of 30 people. I would think that we could easily get more than 30. The doors will open at 6:30 and the bar is pay as you go. This event has plenty of fun and frolic, and I don't think anyone will be disappointed. Everyone who has attended in the past have all said that they had a great time. Once again, Syberg's on Dorsett at 7:00PM, Thursday, 8 December 2022. The doors will open at 6:30 PM.

The VP is working on programs for next year. Sign up early and pick the month.

That is all!

Guy

■ DID YOU KNOW? ■

The APS had no library from 1929 until 1968. Really? Wow. Then Daniel Vooy's, one of the founders, got it started back up. Look at the library now!

HELP NEEDED

The club is in need of a new Club Stamp Custodian. The job involves; storing the club stamps, occasionally organizing new stamps, bringing some to club meetings and setting up/breaking down a table at Stampfest each year. The job comes with extra Auction Bux each year for taking it on. THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT!

DONATED COLLECTION

Late last year a large collection of U.S. and worldwide stamps was donated to the club with the proviso that beginning collectors would be allowed to receive stamps for their collection at no cost. By late this year we will have had the collection for about one year, so at that point we will sell the collection. If we have beginners who still would like to go through the collection before that happens, please contact the Secretary to arrange a time to look through it and add to their collections.

■ DUES & PARTY ■

I'll be accepting dues payments and reservations for the Christmas party during this meeting. Over half our members have already paid their dues for next year, and we have over 20 reservations for the party. Don't miss out. Please include the completed form for each so I know who paid me for what.

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