

The Messenger



September 2018

Jim McKinzie, President & Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)
Armen Hovsepian, Treasurer & Secretary

Waldo Public Library
Gather at 1:00, Meeting Starts 2:00
Saturday, September 1st

Our Secretary Reports What You Missed:

Meeting Attendance: 37

The President opened the meeting at 2:00pm and the officers presented their reports to the members. There were no visitors, and no new membership applications were presented.

Under the new business, having a "Membership Directory" was discussed. A list of members with their e-mail and area of collecting (no address, but phone number optional) was suggested. This list will be available to the members either through the Club's website, or the printed version which can be picked up from the Secretary at each meeting. If urgently needed, any member can contact the President or the Secretary for this Membership Directory list.

The program was presented by Bob Baltzell and was titled "K.C. Early Airmail History". It was interesting to find out why the Airmail rates were discontinued in July 1919, and how the Beacon Lights were used to navigate the planes carrying mail at night.

14 members sold their duplicate stamps and collections at the club auction and over 20 members left happily with stock books and boxes of stamps they had purchased at bargain prices.

The tradition continues. The **October luncheon** will be catered by Joe's Kansas City Bar-b-que. Members may vote for their favorite meat: pulled pork, brisket, ham, turkey, or sausage. The top two meats will be ordered. Included in the meal will be coleslaw, potato salad, bbq beans and bread. Barbara will be collecting your share of the luncheon at the September meeting, members and guests will each pay \$17. Lunch will be served at noon in the library meeting room.

What You Will Miss (if not there):

The program for this month will be "Quit Your Wining..." by Roger Reynolds. You might need a corkscrew for this one.

As always there will be an interesting Show & Tell (sign up on clipboard near podium) plus an exciting auction of great philatelic materials.

Philatelic Happenings:

September 7th & 8th-

41st Annual Stamp & Coin Show-Mountain Home Stamp Club

Ramada Inn Convention Center
11127 Hwy 62, Mountain Home, AR

September 8th & 9th-

Omaha Stamp Show

Metro Community College-South Campus
2909 Babe Gomez Ave., Omaha, NE

September 15th-

Tulsa Stamp Club Show

Case Community Center
1050 West Wekiwa Rd., Sand Springs, OK

Upcoming New U.S. Issues:

August 26th– **Global Forever Poinsettia**, pane of 10

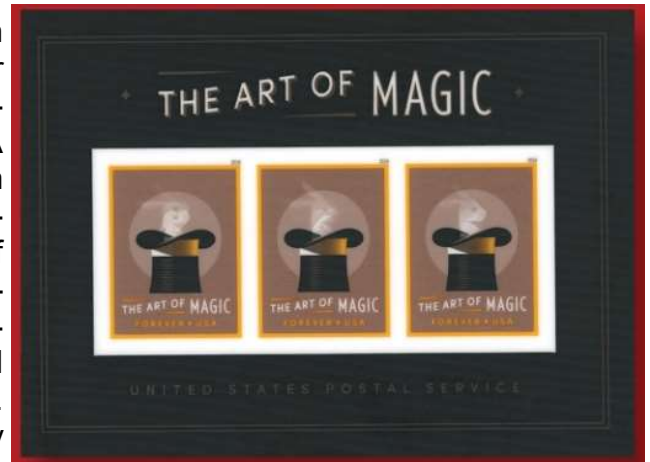
September 7th- **John Lennon Forever**, pane of 16, 4 different color designs

September 13th– **First Responders Forever**, pane of 20, 1 design

September 22nd– **Birds of Winter Forever**, Booklet of 20, 4 designs

Philatelic Ramblings:

Why go to stamp shows. First of all you can see and touch (with tongs) what you are wanting to fill in that space in your stamp album. Next you can converse with dealers and buyers from around the region or the nation about the hobby. A great way to gain more knowledge. But sometimes you can get something more. Some recent attendees to the Las Vegas show bought from the post office booth the new Art of Magic Sheet. Several buyers walked away with error versions of the sheets with all die cuts missing. One person actually complained that the stamps could not be removed and was trying to return it to the post office official at the booth. Another attendee overheard the conversation and quickly came up with an offer to buy it from the disgruntled customer. Must not have been a very knowledgeable collector. So attending a show can also be profitable if not lucky. The Omaha Show has had the USPS there in the past. As of this publication, I could not find out if they will be or not. But who knows it might be worth the drive to find something special.



More on Show or Bourse:

Bob Baltzell weighed in on last month's article about the word bourse.

What "bourse" means to me.

My first encounter with the word "bourse" was about 25 years ago when I had a picture of the big mural in the Truman Library that was signed by the artist, Thomas Hart Benton and President Harry S Truman. When I read an ad in the Star for free appraisals to be held at a Holiday Inn in Overland Park I decided to have it appraised.



The "bourse", as the dealers called it, was one of those affairs where a group swoops into a city like a flock of vultures with offers to buy or appraise, gold, silver, watches, coins, jewelry, paintings, antiques, etc. Imagine a gypsy version of Antiques Roadshow. There was a sign in the lobby pointing to an information desk where someone would tell you what room to go to depending upon what you brought. The dealers all had their room doors open and you walked in to sell or obtain an appraisal. They called this a bourse.

I recently heard this term when I bought a souvenir sheet from France that was issued in 2010 for the 150th anniversary of the Paris Stamp Bourse (see picture). Cary Grant and Audrey Hepburn made this stamp market famous for American audiences in the 1963 romantic thriller, "Charade." It is the best postage stamp movie ever made in my humble opinion.

Scott # 3817
Michel Catalogue #126

Getting to be that Time of Year:

Yes, it is that time of year that we start selecting a new slate of officers for the club. Before your eyes gloss over and you skip to the next page, let me recommend to everyone to continue reading. I will be announcing who the nominating committee is at the next meeting. So you say, "So what, that does not involve me." But it does.

First, the nominating committee will need suggestions and input from the membership and will welcome it. Second, the committee may be calling on you to serve and I hope you will consider it. Think about the listed offices below that we will be electing at the December meeting and who will be good in each of those roles. Maybe you would like to take on a leadership role in the club. Tell the committee. Nothing wrong with that.

It takes a lot of people to pull off what we do each month and we are capable of so much more. We are a large group, with lots of talent. Read the officer duties that are to be elected and let's help the committee bring a great slate to us for the October meeting.

The following offices are up for election:

President-The President shall preside at all regular and special meetings of the Society, including the Board of Directors. He or she shall appoint all committees, with the approval of the Board of Directors, and be an ex officio member of all committees.

First Vice President-The First Vice President shall act for the President in case of temporary absence, and shall be responsible for the programs at Society meetings.

Second Vice President-The Second Vice President shall be responsible for club auctions, and shall act for the First Vice President in case of temporary absence.

Secretary-The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all regular and special meetings of the Society and present them for approval of the Society at the next regular meeting. He or she shall also keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors. A summary of the minutes will be sent to the Editor for insertion in the following month's newsletter (not to include the actual treasury balance), and shall be posted to the Society's website.

Treasurer-The Treasurer shall keep the financial records of the Society, making regular reports to the Society which shall be incorporated into the minutes. He or she shall be empowered to collect all dues and receipts and to pay the bills and disburse the funds of the Society. He or she shall be the custodian of the Bylaws of the Society.

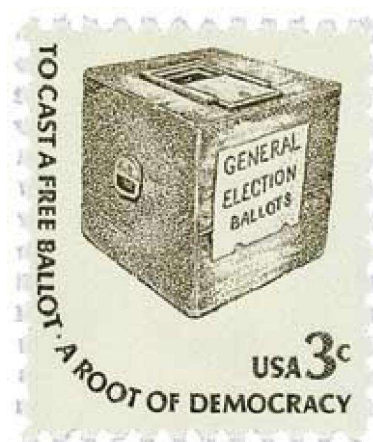
All other positions are appointed by the new President with the board's approval. He or she will be needing suggestions for those positions at the end of the year. We will include a list of those positions in a later newsletter. *JMC*

If you have a suggestion but for some reason would like to be anonymous, here is your chance:

Office _____ Name _____

Office _____ Name _____

Email your suggestion or mail it to me and I will forward it to the nominating committee.

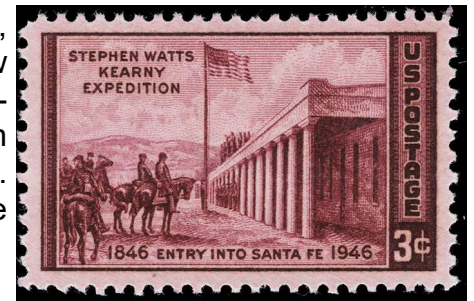


Scott #1584
From the Americana Series

Queen City of Trails

Santa-Cali-Gon will be celebrated by the City of Independence for the 46th time this Labor Day Weekend. The festival was started to honor and commemorate the cities role in the western expansion of our country. Three trails converged and thousands were outfitted in Independence before they embarked on to their destination.

The Santa Fe Trail had its beginnings with William Becknell in Franklin, Missouri in 1821. He and 5 other men were determined to trade with New Mexico by establishing a trade route to Sante Fe. In 1846, war with Mexico made the Santa Fe Trail the major route of invasion. Colonel Stephen Watts Kearney led the "Army of the West" down the trail to New Mexico. The initial invasion was peaceful and successful and the trail then became a military supply route.



Scott #944
Capture of Santa Fe,
by Kenneth M. Chapman



Scott #2747
Oregon Trail
Designed by Jack Rosenthal

175 years ago the "Great Migration" of wagon trains started out from Independence to Oregon in what became the Oregon Trail. In 1843 approximately 1,000 pioneers made the 2,170 mile journey to Oregon. Over the next 25 years, 400,000 people traveled west from Independence with dreams of a new life, gold and lush farmlands.

With the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill in California more people pushed westward from Missouri first following along the Oregon Trail then jumping off at Fort Hall along the Snake

River in present day Idaho. This route is considered the "regular" California Trail, although there were many different routes over the years.



Scott #954
Sutter's Mill,
Coloma, California
Designed by
Charles R. Chickering

The trails demise began with the completion of the Trans-Continental Railroad and other rail lines. Then our highway system paved over much of the trails. For example, Highway 24 from close to Franklin, Missouri to Independence follows the Santa Fe Trail. U.S. Highway 40 and later Interstate 80 follows much of the California-Oregon route. Ruts from the wagon wheels can be seen in Independence just south of the Bingham-Waggoner Estate and at City Rocks National Reserve in southern Idaho along with ruts, you can see names of emigrants, written with axle grease on the rocks.



Scott #2252
From the Transportation Issues
The Iconic Conestoga Wagon

When you consider the contribution that our region played in the development and expansion of the west, it is ironic that there is only one stamp directly commemorating the trails. Many stamps indirectly commemorate the trails and the events that surrounded the trails but where is the direct commemoration. The problem could be that the trails developed over time and many Missouri to Nebraska river towns became jumping off points for the expansion west. But still it would be nice if a series of stamps showing the importance of these three trails along with Franklin, Independence, Raytown and Westport, Missouri, plus areas in Johnson County, KS and Lawrence could be recognized.

I would invite you to come to Independence and visit the National Frontier Trails Museum for more information on the trails. It is a great resource for information on the trails and an exciting part of our great regional history.-JMC

Holey Stamps – By Dale Smith

There are many different “topics” that collectors are known to collect. In the past I have given a program about my collection of the U.S. Pharmacy stamp, Scott# 1473 on First Day Covers. But I'd like to discuss one of my stamp collecting passions that I have collected for years. That is “Perfins”.

I realize that some probably don't consider Perfins a Topical. But it is one of my interests that I have collected for years. I have always been amazed by these “holey” stamps. Some consider them damaged stamps because they have been punctured with initials or symbols of companies. But I consider them works of art. Perfins served a purpose in the past for a company to show the stamps belonged to them and also to discourage pilfering by employees. On company covers I also consider them as a form of advertising.

I have been a member of the Perfins Stamp Club as long as I have been a member of ATA, over 20 years! I have back copies of their newsletter “The Perfins Bulletin” lining a whole shelf in my philatelic office at home.

The reason I am writing this article is because I wanted to share my excitement after purchasing the brand new “Catalog of United States Perfins”. I have spent some hours reading through it. This work of philatelic art is a result of 6 long years of finite review of the former catalog that was issued in 1998. This new catalogue was edited by current Perfins Club President Steve Endicott. He was assisted by seemingly scores of Perfin Club members that proofed every word, reviewed every one of the thousands of examples of perfinned stamps pictured in the catalog.

As a result, ninety two (92) new patterns have been added; eighty six (86) patterns have been deleted; the pattern numbers of one hundred sixty nine (169) perfins have been revised; and one hundred sixty four (164) ratings have been updated.

Each picture is extremely useful in helping to identify seemingly duplicates of the same Perfin. But that is where the wonderful challenge begins. There are many different offices throughout the U.S. where a company like the New York Life Insurance Company used their perfinned stamps for mailing. Each location has a different hole located on the stamp to denote that office.

Should you or your stamp club acquire a new copy of this catalog I recommend the following. And especially if you are new to collecting perfins. Review the appendix in the back of the catalog first to familiarize yourself with the terminology used in Perfin collecting. Then read the Introduction concerning the history of how Perfins came about early in the 20th century. It clearly explains how stamps are punched with specific Perfin designs and the mechanics of a perforator. This is a clear concise history about perfins written in 5 easy to read pages.

Then turn to the first of pages starting with the letter A and advancing to the letter Z of wonderful larger than life pictures of each of the known 6,450 perfins used by a multitude of U.S. companies for 5 decades from 1908 to 1950's. The catalog ends with those Perfins that had numbers or designs punched into the stamp. The pictures are vivid showing perfins that would seem the same to our eyes but different when viewed closely. Each Perfin has a catalog number, its rarity rating, the dates the company name that used this Perfin, and location of each office. The corresponding Perfin example is on the opposite page giving the reader a quick comparison of each identified description.



**A Large Block of US
Perfinned Stamps**

Continued on pg 5

You better have a strong back to carry the voluminous loose leaf edition. I placed mine in a three inch thick, 3 ring binder. I wanted this format because new information and discoveries are published by the Perfin Club and I can easily add those pages to this catalog. They also print a two-volume hardbound edition, especially suitable as a philatelic reference text for philatelic libraries and stamp clubs. For those that are tech savvy there is an electronic Acrobat PDF edition. There is also an electronic "database" edition presented as an excel spread sheet. This gives the collector the ability to search and sort in Excel.

If you are considering purchasing this new catalog please contact the editor about costs and shipping.

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Scott #121
From France's
Liberty and Peace Series



Scott #239
From Austria's
Arms Series

The U.S. wasn't the only country with companies to perfin stamps. Many countries did so, such as France and Austria.

Stamp Tip

I found the French stamp on the left in a recent collection bought at auction. While I don't actively collect perfins as Dale and perfin expert Ken Masters do, I do find them interesting. You can find many variations in collections from perfins, color varieties to untagged stamps if you spend the time looking. That is the great fun of collecting, when you find that something special or a different stamp in a collection you have acquired. It doesn't hurt to go back through your collection and re-catalogue what you have either. You may find you have identified a stamp or two incorrectly. Gems are found in collections all the time.

If you have a stamp tip you would like to share, please send it to the editor for a future publication of this newsletter.

Thanks for the Donation

Thanks to Margorie Durkee for a nice box of stamps and old children's albums. We are evaluating the best way to utilize this donation.

If you or someone you know has something to donate to the club, please contact us or bring it to the club meeting.

In Memoriam-Thomas Baltzell:

Sad news to report, that MPS member and son of member Bob Baltzell has passed away. We extend our condolences to Bob and his family.

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter and thanks to Bob Baltzell and Dale Smith for their contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the October issue will be September 15th.** Happy stamping and see you Saturday. *Jim Mc*