

The Messenger



March 2026

Next Meeting

The Greater Kansas City, Missouri Area's Stamp Club

Jeff Jaax, President (jeff.jaax@gmail.com)
Armen Hovsepian, 1st Vice President (info@armenstamp.com)
Rodger McReynolds, 2nd Vice President (rodger_mcreynolds@hotmail.com)
Hans Vergara, Treasurer (iwc1868@yahoo.com)
Perry Kilpatrick, Secretary (kilpatrickp61@gmail.com)
Jim McKinzie, Newsletter Editor (jimmckinzie1@att.net)

March 7th
Room available 10:00AM
Meeting starts 2:00PM
See Details on pg 7

Dear Members,

We are back to our regular schedule. We will meet on the 1st Saturday of March, which is late this month. The 7th! The weather should be good, so get out early and come join us for a day of philatelic fun. I am sure there will be the usual dealers plus circuit books and a surprise or two.

The program will be another stamp quiz by fellow member George Corney. It should be fun and entertaining.

Philatelic Events in our area for March are as follows:

February 27-28
LINPEX 2026
Country Inn & Suites
5353 North 27th Street
Lincoln, NE
Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

March 20-21
Omaha Postcard Show
Westside Community Center
3534 S. 108th St
Omaha, NE
Friday 4pm-7pm
Saturday 9am-4pm

March 20-22
St Louis Stamp Show
Airport Renaissance Hotel
9801 Natural Bridge Rd
Berkley, MO
Friday 10am-6pm
Saturday 10am-6pm
Sunday 10am-3pm

What does it mean "our area"? The question has been asked in the past, so here you go: Our area includes the following states, Missouri and Kansas but also can include Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Big shows like G.A.S.S. are included no matter where they are being held that year.

The biggest show close to the KC metro area is the St. Louis Show each year. Lots of dealers, programs and exhibits. This is a great show to go to if you are able.

Hope you like the new format of the newsletter. Please let me know. Is there something you would like to see included that is not presently in the newsletter? Your submissions each month truly make this a better newsletter than I could possibly get out each month, so keep them coming. I thank each and everyone of you that takes the time to submit an article or info for the newsletter.

Sincerely, Jim

New Issues for 2026:

Crab Nebula & Galaxy Pair

Priority (\$11.95) & Express (\$33.25) Rates
One Design each
Pane of 4 for each
Issue Date February 24th
First Day of Issue City:
Kansas City, MO
Print Quantity—unknown

Continuing with astronomical designs, the USPS is issuing their new stamps for the priority and express rates. Few details have been released at this time.



Lowriders

Forever First Class Rate
Five Designs
Pane of 15
Issue Date March 13th
First Day of Issue City:
San Diego, CA
Print Quantity—unknown

Low and slow: that's the lowrider. When in motion, these customized automobiles appear to glide over the road surface, only to suddenly levitate and bounce up and down. These new stamps celebrate the lowrider culture that is rooted in 1940s-era working-class Mexican American/Chicano communities throughout the American Southwest.

Sunflowers

Forever First Class Rate
One Design
Double-sided Booklet Pane of 20
Issue Date March 14th
First Day of Issue City:
Strongsville, OH at The Garfield-Perry Stamp Show (March Party)
Print Quantity—?????

The stamp is a stylized illustration of four sunflowers with blossoms rendered in gold and brown and leaves and stems in shades of green against a pale yellow background. Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamp with original art by Nancy Stahl



Netherlands Christmas Flight of 1933 by Rick Karlslyst:

KLM, the Royal Dutch Airlines, had been serving the far eastern colony of Netherlands Indies since early the 1930's. In 1933 the Fokker F series aircraft were the KLM workhorses, carrying passengers and lots of mail between Amsterdam and Batavia. Passenger tickets were very cheap and did not generate much income... but flying the mail was where you got rich! The Dutch Postal Service was paying 50 guilders per Kg for mail transport...and KLM was guaranteed 500 Kg's per flight.

Well, since the owners prefer profits, a larger airplane was needed to bring in the cash. KLM started looking for another aircraft. KLM had been using Fokker aircraft for its early flights and by early 1933 they had settled on building a new model, the F-XX, nicknamed "Zilvermeeuw". KLM wanted this aircraft to be built, tested and ready for an end of year flight from Amsterdam to.

One of KLM competitors, is a gentleman called Dirk Asjes, who contacted Pander Furniture factory to build an aircraft for him. Pander, who was breaking into the airplane building boom, came up with a 3 engine aircraft design which would fly at 300 km/h. This would cut flying time from Amsterdam to Batavia from 12 days to 50 hrs. The new aircraft was called the "Pander Postjager" and needed to be ready by December 1933 so it could compete with KLM.

Flying mail was a lucrative business, which is why Pander and KLM were keen on getting and keeping mail contracts. Both competitors were looking at rolling out the aircraft in time to make a "Special Christmas Flight" between Amsterdam and Batavia that had been set up by KLM.

The KLM Silvermeeuw is completed first with its last test flight in November of 1933, but the plane still has teething problems with its engines, but at least KLM was flying its new aircraft.

The December 18th date for the Christmas Flight is approaching as Pander rolls out its plane (the Pander Postjager) but the plane has many problems and is far from ready to fly. By 9 Dec, Postjager takes off on its attempt to fly the Christmas Mail. The Postjager makes it as far as Rome with no issues. Upon leaving Rome, the right engine fails and the Postjager returns to Brindisi where it is discovered there are NO spare engines in Europe!! Expected arrival date for a new engine from the USA will be December 22, much too late for the Christmas Mail flight.

KLM had been flying the F-XX for testing and was well prepared for it's Dec 18 takeoff. On the 18th, morning dawns, the plane is rolled out of the hangar, and the engines are fired up. Within minutes, the center engine sputters and quits. The trouble is found but the re-assembly of the engine will take 24 hours. The F-XX cannot make the flight!

With both the new aircraft out of the running, KLM scrambles to get an older aircraft ready to take off. An old version Fokker (F-XVIII) named "Pelikaan", is loaded with crew and mail and takes off within 2 hours. 100 hours later, the Pelikaan lands in Batavia making a record for the fastest mail flight!

Both the Zilvermeeuw and the Pander Postjager were "One of a Kind" aircraft. The F-XX was sold to France, who passed it off to Spain, where it was used briefly in Spanish Revolution by Republican forces and was destroyed in 1938. The Pander Postjager did not fare much better as it was involved in a collision with a vehicle during taxiing at the McRobertson Air Races in 1934, and was destroyed by fire.

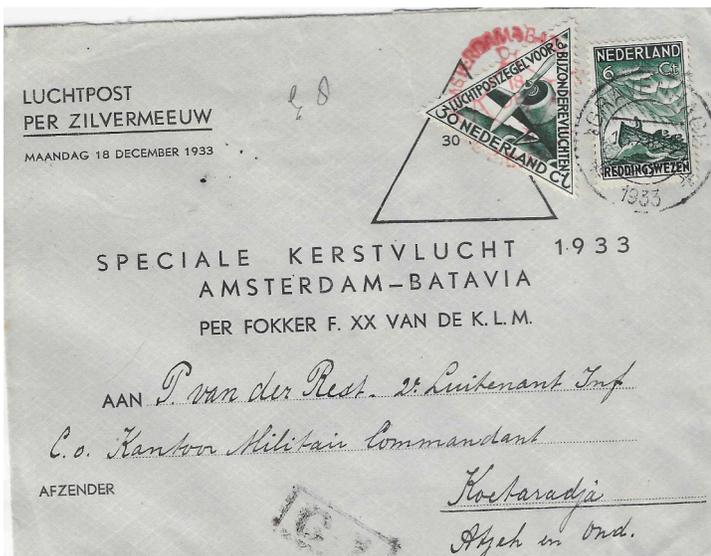
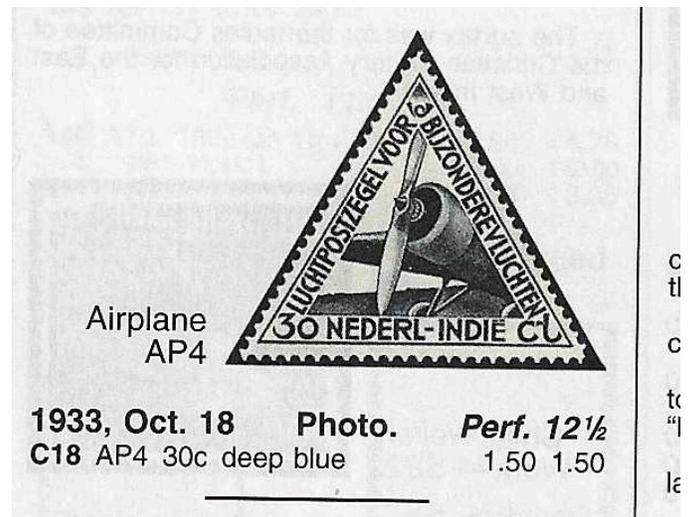
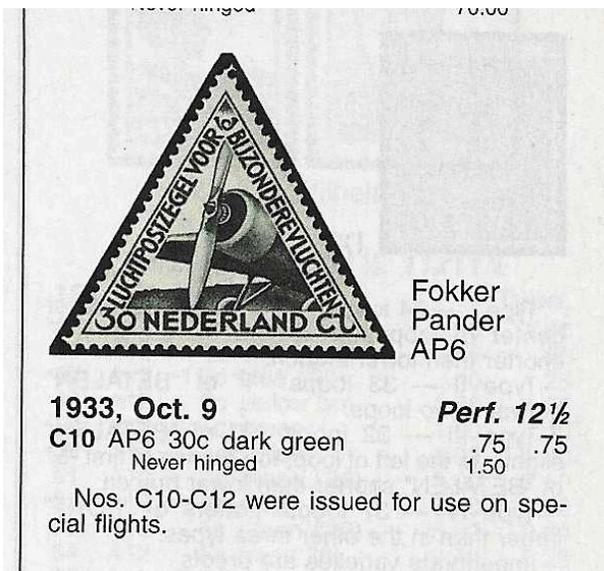
A special triangular airmail stamp was produced for the Christmas flight and once the flight was over, it was no longer made available. Both the Netherlands and Netherlands Indies produced versions of this stamp. Another special flight to the Netherlands Antilles was made a year later and at that time these

stamps were available to the public for that flight.

The Scott Specialized catalogue numbers the Netherlands stamp as C10, with the Netherlands Indies stamp is C18. Curiously they call the C10 stamp "Fokker Pander" which makes NO SENSE as the Fokker and the Pander are two completely different 3 engine aircraft! Both are shown below. One of the strangest things about these two stamps is the fact that the airplane represented on the stamp is a single engine plane! All three of the Christmas flight aircraft involved had 3 engines...so where did this design come from??

The cover I have shows the Netherlands C10 and is marked 18 Dec 1933 for the flight. There is a special Amsterdam-Batavia cancel in red on the C10 as well. On the reverse is a special cachet showing a 3 engine plane representing the Zilvermeeuw.

The cover is also addressed to a military Commandant making it special and covering another of my interests!



Pleasant Surprises and Fond Memories by Steve Stratton:

Our stamp collecting hobby provides pleasant surprises and refreshes fond memories. While many examples exist, one stands firmly in my mind.

As I enjoyed my Hungary stamp collection one day, I came across an art stamp:

The image sparked a memory: I think I've been there, so I dug deeper and discovered the stamp depicted Mary's Well in Nazareth, a painting by the Hungarian artist Tivadar Csontváry Kosztka (oil on canvas, 1908).



Hungary 1973 Scott #2232.

Sure enough, I've been there. During my first trip to Israel in 2014, we toured Nazareth and saw Mary's Well. I found my photo of it, and it looks surprisingly similar to the scene Kosztka painted in the early 20th century, albeit with a few more buildings on the background hill but no people milling around:



(sds 3/20/2014)

Mary's Well sits about 1400 feet northeast of the Church of the Annunciation, which was built over the grotto/cave that traditionally is believed to be Mary's home. In Mary's time, women and girls walked to water sources to bring water home, so Mary daily would have walked to this well. While some believe the angel's announcement to Mary occurred around her home, most believe the angel's visit to Mary took place around this water source, which today is memorialized as Mary's Well. Luke records in his gospel (Luke 1:26-38) the story about the angel telling Mary she will be the mother of Jesus. I love how Luke concludes his story, emphasizing the faith and boldness of Mary:

"I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled." Then the angel left her. Luke 1:38 (NIV).



(sds 3/20/2014)

A mosaic outside outside the Church of Annunciation shows the angel Gabriel giving the message to Mary.

What a wonderful surprise. A late 19th/early 20th century Hungarian painter can refresh a 21st century memory and bring to life an event from over 2000 years ago, only through philately. What pleasant surprises and fond memories have you discovered through your stamp collecting experiences?

#35 Prince Edward Is. and British Columbia & Vancouver Is.

Prince Edward Island can be found in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, off New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. The 2100 square mile island was first colonized by the French in 1604 (named Isle St-Jean or St John's Island) and later ceded to Britain in 1763 when it became part of Nova Scotia. In 1769 it became a separate colony and later changed its name to Prince Edward Island (1798.) It became Canada's seventh province in 1873.

All sixteen stamps issued by PEI bore the image of Queen Victoria with the first being typographed 2p, 3p and 6p, appearing in 1861, perforated 9 on yellowish paper. Most of these first issues will be found with rough perforations and are expensive to attain (which may explain why subsequent issues were perforated 11 or 11½-12.) 1862-65 saw these three along with a 1p and 9p on the same paper and the new perforations. A 4p was added in 1868. The 2p, 3p and 4p also appeared on white paper in 1870, along with an engraved 3d/sterling-4 1/2p stamp. A set of six stamps was issued in 1872 bearing values in cents, 1c through 12c. These were replaced the following year with the stamps of Canada.



British Columbia and Vancouver Island occupy Canada's Pacific coastline with a total area of over 357 square miles. Spain first visited the area in 1774 and 1775, claiming it as theirs. Captain Cook arrived on the coast in 1778 and claimed the area north of the Columbia River for Britain. Eventually Spain, through negotiations, conceded its claims to the Pacific Northwest. Since the fur trade was the only important value of that area, it took Britain until 1849 to establish Vancouver Island as a Crown Colony. British Columbia followed in 1858 and in 1866 Vancouver was combined with them. Five years later British Columbia joined the Canada Confederation.

In 1860 a 2 ½p stamp was issued inscribed British Columbia at the top and Vancouver Island at the bottom, perforated 14. (The stamp, imperforated, listed #1 by Scott Catalogue, is generally considered a proof.) Vancouver Island issues 5 cent and 10 cent stamps in their name only, both imperf. and perf., when it was decided to change to the dollar in 1865. That same year British Columbia came out with a 3p stamp depicting their Colonial Seal. In 1867-69, six 3p of that design, in different colors, were surcharged from 2c to \$1, perf.14. In 1869 five of the same surcharged stamps appeared perforated 12 ½. Stamps of Canada were used beginning 1871.



Meeting Location and Time:

MEETING PLACE & TIME for Midwest Philatelic Society

MPS Meeting Schedule for Saturday, March 7th
Meeting is to be held at 1st Presbyterian Church-Westminster Hall
417 W Lexington Ave
Independence, MO 64050



10:00am—1pm Dealers and members, buy, sell and trade.
1:00pm— 2pm Auction Lots displayed and available to view.
2:00pm—5pm Business meeting, Officer Elections, show-n-tell, program and club auction.

We must be out by 5pm, so be ready to bid, pay with cash and pickup your auction lots.

What you will find if you come early to the meeting:

Several members with material for sale. Bring your want lists. Let those members know what you are looking for ahead of the meeting. It is hard to bring it all.

Rodger's New Philatelic Tool:

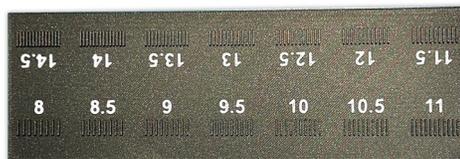
We are lucky to have several talented members in our organization. If you have not been to a meeting recently, Rodger McReynolds has shown and demonstrated his new invention. It is a perforation gauge that he has developed that is really great. The new tool has been featured in Linn's Stamp News and on a YouTube video. Rodger reports that within 24 hours of Geoff Young posting the video, Rodger had 5 orders for the new tool.

Below are the links to both:

The Linn's article can be found at [A collector's tactile approach to perforation matching](#)

The video review is at [Perforation Gauge Game Changer - You Need to See This! #stampcollecting](#)

Congrats Rodger and good work!



It is time to pay your membership dues. Thanks to all that have already paid. Membership form is attached to this newsletter. The dues help us pay for this newsletter, our meeting place, the annual BBQ and other projects throughout the year. Please pay promptly. The newsletter email and mailing list will be updated by the March newsletter so if you have not paid, no newsletter. YOUR LAST CHANCE TO STAY UP-TO-DATE!

The Midwest Philatelic Society Website & Blog is
www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com

Find previous newsletters, links to other stamp info and more on our website.

What You Missed at the Last Meeting:

Attendance – 29 members attended.

New Member – None

Presidents report – Jeff Jaax noted there has been a lot of discussion on the new method of performing the auction. A discussion was had with several points being presented. Two items were mentioned worth noting. First, if time is a concern we can enforce the rule of 10 items per member and second, the pickup of the items should not be too soon so members can review them after the presentation. A vote was taken to determine if the new method should continue. The vote was 12 for keeping the new system and 11 for the old system.

First VIP –No Report

Second VIP – No Report

Secretary – No Report

Treasurer – Membership dues are due please get them in or you will be dropped as well as your newsletter. Lifetime status was reviewed and if you would like to obtain this you need to be a member for 15 years or longer and talk with Hans on the full required payment. At this time 40 members have paid, and 20 to 25 members have yet to pay.

Librarian – No report.

Historian – Scott Couch showed business cards that say Waldo library. Discussion of creating a new business card that have the present address and the web site on them. These are a good way to recruit new members.

Newsletter – Jim reported that Microsoft publisher will be gone soon so anyone that uses this program will need to migrate their archived items to a new program if you want to open them. He is now using Affinity by Canva as a test he sent this last month's newsletter to check how it works. Please keep sending articles, Jim used the last one and needs more.

Old Business – No old business.

New Business – Part of 435 is closing so please check your route so you do not have issues. Rick Karlslyst noted the stamp show in June needed to be moved due to the soccer tournament causing high cost in hotels for the dealers. The show is moving to July 24th and 25th. We will open and move in dealers on the 23rd. More talk about getting a cover together for the show and working on getting a cancel.

Show and tell – Bill Johnson showed a morning cover that has a local stamp from Baltimore, MD. Stephen Slack completed his saga about buying his sacred cow stamp. It cleared customs but disappeared in the mail. Others had show and tell but the Secretary had to leave for an appointment so these will not be reported.

Presentation this week – Jim Mc presented an ATA program by Wayne Youngblood entitled "The Most Pernicious of Album Weeds: Modern US Postal Counterfeits".

Submitted by Perry Kilpatrick

Last month the stamp issues data from the post office was lacking. Here is the info:

The First Day Ceremony for the Harriot Powers issue was held at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) Luncheon, JW Marriott, Washington DC, Capitol Ballroom (D&E), 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. Quantity printed 15,000,000.

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Thanks to Neil Becker, Rick Karlslyst & Steve Stratton for his contribution. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the April issue will be March 15th.** Happy stamping! *Jim McKinzie*

YES ✓ I would like to JOIN OR CONTINUE my membership in Midwest Philatelic Society.

Copy and save this form as a pdf or jpg document and send to: Bring to meeting with dues.

Or mail to: Hans Vergara
Treasurer
11916 W 109th St #204
Overland Park, KS 66210

- 2026 dues (individual).....\$25.00.....\$ _____
- 2026 dues (family)\$30.00.....\$ _____
- Life Member (contact Hans first for eligibility) \$175.00...\$ _____
- 2026 Donation to My MPS Club\$ _____
- 2026 Donation to MPS Library.....\$ _____
- Upcharge for Mailing Newsletter \$10.00.....\$ _____
-Total Remittance \$ _____

Current Life Member
(As outlined in By-Laws)

We are updating our records and will appreciate if you complete the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ST: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

My collecting interests: _____

ALL MEMBERS WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY, IF YOU WANT TO BE INCLUDED BUT WANT SOME INFORMATION TO BE WITHHELD PLEASE INDICATE WHAT YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE INCLUDED:

I ONLY WANT MY NAME and COLLECTING INTERESTS TO BE INCLUDED IN MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY _____ Include picture of myself in directory YES _____ NO _____

YOUR COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER WILL COME BY EMAIL UNLESS YOU WOULD PREFER IT TO COME BY TRADITIONAL MAIL.

I AM UNABLE TO RECEIVE EMAIL, SEND MY NEWSLETTER BY MAIL _____

There is an additional \$10 charge to receive the newsletter by mail.