

The Messenger



September 2026

Next Meeting

Saturday-August 29th
Room available 10:00AM
Meeting starts 2:00PM
See Details on pg 9

The Greater Kansas City, Missouri Area's Stamp Club

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Dear Members,

Back-to-School, Fall and Santa-Cali-Gon is all upon us. It is hard to believe it is that time already. The year has flown by. Which brings up why this newsletter is going out earlier than normal. Because of the big event on the Independence Square Labor day weekend, Santa-Cali-Gon, it is necessary for us to meet the week before.

Also, this only gives us this meeting to collect for the annual BBQ luncheon. Lunch will be served at Noon on October 3rd.

Philatelic Events in our area are as follows:

August 23

E and D Stamp Auction

79 East 69 Hwy

Claycomo, MO

Gavel Drops at 1:30pm

Viewing this week 1pm to 6pm

Catalog online

September 19-20

Omaha Stamp Show

Metropolitan Community College South Campus

2709 Edward Babe Gomez Ave

Omaha, NE

Saturday--9:30am - 4:30am

Sunday--9:30 - 4am

The Wichita Show is this weekend, the info was listed in the last newsletter. Come if you can. I will be there and I believe Scott Couch will be there. There has been a lot of confusion about this show and we finally discovered why, Ralph Lott who has been in charge of their show for many years has been in the hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery. This just shows how important it is to have more than one person in charge of an event or club activity.

Also, I have decided to eliminate the print quantity for the new issues. At least until the USPS gets its act together and releases that information in a more timely manner. I will include the print quantity if announced before I publish.

See you soon, Jim Mc

New Issues for September 2026:

US Coast Guard Academy

Forever First Class Rate

One Design, Pane of 20

Issue Date September 12th

First Day of Issue City:

New London, CT

Print Quantity - 12,000,000

The stamp art features photographs of the USCGC Eagle, the Coast Guard Academy's primary training vessel since 1946, and USCGC Bertholf, a Legend-class national security cutter whose missions include maritime drug interdiction and securing the maritime border. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed this stamp with photographs courtesy of the U.S. Coast Guard.



Winter Wreath Global Forever

Forever Global Rate (\$1.75)

One Design

Pane of Ten

Issue Date September 18th

First Day of Issue City:

Humble, TX

Print Quantity -20,000,000



The new holiday Global stamp features a snowy, decorated wreath, a wintertime symbol associated with the festivities of the season. Showcasing a soft color palette, the wreath was created from artificial branches and craft-store materials by photographer Natalia Kostikova, who painted the decorative ornaments and sprayed the wreath with baking soda to simulate snow. The stamp was designed by Greg Breeding, an art director for USPS.

Christmas Cookies

Forever First Class Rate

Four Designs, Booklet of 20

Issue Date September 19th

First Day of Issue City:

Washington, D.C. @ The Smithsonian National Postal Museum



This booklet of 20 Christmas Cookies Forever stamps includes images of four frosted sugar cookies appearing on alternating red and blue backgrounds.

Greg Breeding, art director and designer for USPS; designer Kyrie Johnson; and artist Sarah Cramer Shields created the booklet from photographs of sugar cookies baked by Johnson.

Kwanzaa

Forever First Class Rate
One Design, Pane of 20 (?)
Issue Date September 23rd
First Day of Issue City:
Norfolk, VA



This stamp, the 11th Kwanzaa stamp issued by USPS, honors the pan-African holiday observed by millions of Americans each year from Dec. 26 to Jan. 1. Featuring a digital illustration of a father holding his young daughter, the artwork incorporates two of the seven Kwanzaa symbols: the gift (zawadi) held by the daughter and the unity cup (kikombe cha umoja) held by the father. The color scheme — lime green, pink and yellow — is an updated take on the customary black, red and green. USPS art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp with art by Cannaday Chapman.

Squirrels & Chipmunks

Forever First Class Rate
Four Designs, Booklet of 20
Issue Date September 25th
First Day of Issue City:
Brookfield, WI

The designs capture the resourcefulness and adaptability that help these animals thrive when temperatures drop. From busy foragers to cozy hibernators, they remind us that winter can be full of charm. “When you see the booklet as a whole, the animals’ faces popping up from the snow has a playful effect,” explains Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS who designed the issuance. “The stamps are fun and uplifting. I hope they make people smile, especially in the heart of winter.”



Hanukkah

Forever First Class Rate
One Design
Pane of 20
Issue Date September 29th
First Day of Issue City:
New Orleans, LA



This year, the Postal Service issues its ninth Hanukkah stamp honoring the eight-day Jewish holiday observed by millions of people in the United States and around the world. The new stamp features a digital illustration of a dreidel that reflects both artist Lisa Perrin’s Jewish heritage and Eastern European folk-art traditions. “I hope that people who celebrate Hanukkah will be excited to see a new and colorful stamp for the occasion,” Perrin said. “The dreidel is used as part of a game and has a playful connotation — I hope it makes people smile!” The stamp was designed by Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS.

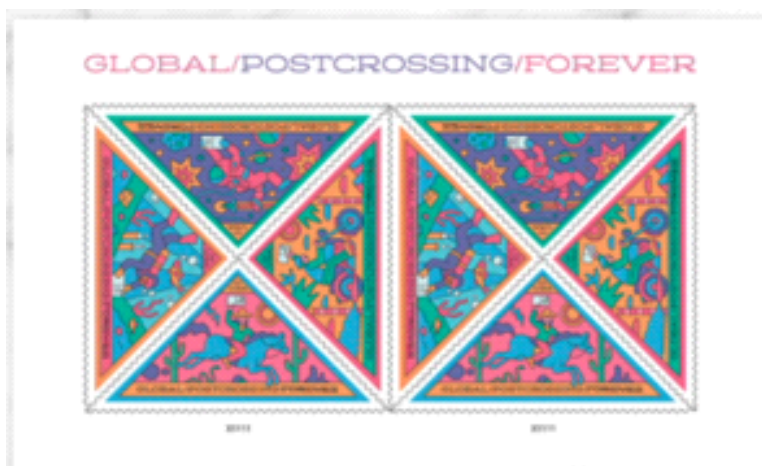


Another Way to Connect the World by Andrea Smith R.N.B.S.N.

The recent stamp show sponsored in-part by MPS, was a fun, two-day event that was held in Independence, MO on July 24 and 25. Many members seemed to find a treasure and enjoyed the camaraderie of sharing their hobby with others. While the majority of attendees were older adults, several younger customers also attended the show. Many of these younger customers were looking for U.S. Postage. In fact, several of them purchased large quantities of discounted postage, for their hobby of Postcrossing.

Do you remember having a Pen Pal when you were a kid? How excited you were when you went to the mailbox and there was a letter addressed to you? Postcrossing is similar, but much more organized and involves the use of postcards.

This philatelic hobby is rapidly catching on, and at the Boston World stamp Show, the U.S.P.S issued a new stamp honoring Postcrossing. In fact, I attended the first day ceremony and received a collectible pin of the stamp.



What is Postcrossing?

As explained on the website <https://www.postcrossing.com/> Postcrossing it is a way to send and receive postcards back from random people around the world. It is free to sign up on the website and members request an address and a Postcard ID. A Postcard ID is a little code that uniquely identifies a postcard in the Postcrossing database. It is composed of two parts: two letters (the country code) and a number. For example: US-12345678.

This is a random address that allows you to connect with others. This information is then entered onto a postcard and mailed to that address.

The recipient of that postcard enters the ID number on the website which makes you eligible to receive a postcard from another member. And the process starts all over again. Meanwhile you begin receiving postcards from all over the world in your mailbox.

The website not only explained the process, but had helpful tips about WHAT to write, and how to affix the postage. There were links to a blog, a forum and a very interesting map of the world with a list of countries and territories and numbers of members in each one.

So how popular is Postcrossing?

There are 806,040 members in 207 countries

- 87,635,758 postcards received
- 653 received in the last hour
- 430,117 postcards traveling
- 279,215,094,796 miles traveled
- 11,212,804 laps around the world

It seems like a great way to use up those old postcards and postage stamps!

Editor's Note: The Postcrossing stamp that was issued this year, is the First Class Global Rate of \$1.75. Remember older postal cards are not big enough. The USPS requires that the cards must be 3 1/2" by 5 1/2" or bigger.

The Greater Kansas City Stamp Show: Photos by Andrea Smith

A great turnout for this year's show. It is estimated about 90 people showed up for the two day show. We thank those that came to the show, the dealers that came and those that worked hard to make it happen.

Here are a few pictures of that weekend.



Sign In Please!



What to look at next?



Whose that guy with the ugly Tiger tablecloth?



Was Armen giving out dollar bills?



Finally, a French customer!



Our friend Winston, from St. Louis with his Dad.



That's where all the customers were!



And at that Tiger's Table!!



Even non-collector wives can have fun at a stamp show!

It's BBQ Time!

Where can you get a great BBQ meal for \$10. You can not get a Hamburger, Fries and a Coke under \$10 anymore. So bring your \$10 to the September meeting to reserve your spot at the October luncheon. If you will not be able to attend the next meeting, then contact Hans, our treasurer and make arrangements for payment. His email address is on the front page of this newsletter. We need a total number by September 15th, so don't procrastinate.

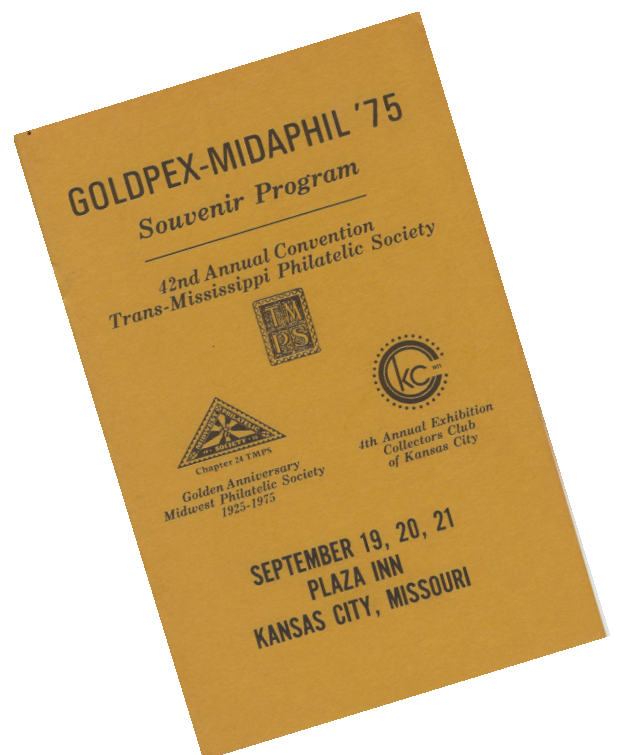


A Little BBQ Joint is catering this event. There will be pulled pork, brisket, beans and slaw. Bring your own drink! Desert is included.

History of the Midwest Philatelic Society

It is interesting what turns up in collections. At right is the show booklet cover for the 1975 joint convention and show of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society and MPS. It was also the 4th Annual Exhibition of the Collectors Club of Kansas City. Lots of old familiar names are throughout the show catalogue. Including Don Kuske, John Timmons, Tom Alexander and our old friend Mickey Marks.

On the next page is a history of the MPS that was included. I thought everyone might enjoy this.



50 Years of the Midwest Philatelic Society

In the summer of 1893 the Kansas City Philatelic Society was organized. On November 15, 1894 this club became *Chapter No. 10* of the American Philatelic Association (now Society). The present Midwest Philatelic Society maintains this APS Chapter membership which is the fourth oldest APS Chapter in existence in the United States and was kept alive "on paper" through the years by a loyal APS member. The club was discontinued about 1897.

In February, 1905 another club was formed under the name of Kansas City Stamp Club. This club had silver membership pins in the form of replicas of the triangular Cape of Good Hope stamp, which is the *present seal* of the Midwest Philatelic Society. After the Kansas City Stamp Club was discontinued it was not until 1913 that another club was formed under the name of Kansas City Philatelic Society. This club survived until after the start of World War I.

On October 29, 1920 another club was formed under the name of The Kansas City Stamp Club with 20 charter members. This club was discontinued in 1923.

The present Midwest Philatelic Society was organized in 1925 as the Kansas City Precancel Club with Walt Black as President. Two of the original charter members of KCPC are MPS members — Les Oberholtz (No. 2) and Osborne Morse (No. 5). There was no other stamp club in Kansas City, and as the need of having broader stamp interests arose the precancelites were soon outnumbered. The club first met in the homes of the members but soon outgrew this. Meetings over the years were in various churches and hotels, with meetings in recent years at the Hotel Muehlebach.

The Society was incorporated in 1925 under the name of Midwest Philatelic Society. In 1931 women were first admitted and Mrs. A. L. Johnston, Jr. was the first woman secretary.

During the past 50 years MPS has held many fine stamp exhibitions and has hosted the following national conventions: 1929, Precancel Stamp Society; 1941, 8th Annual Convention of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society; 1949, 16th Annual Convention of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society; 1966, 72nd Annual Convention of the Society of Philatelic Americans; 1975, 42nd Convention of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society.

The 1975 officers of the MPS are: Ted C. Bland, President; Willard Lassiter, 1st Vice President; John Timmons, 2nd Vice President; Adolph Pearson, Treasurer; and Vivian Green, Secretary and Editor of the monthly bulletin. Meetings held the first Thursday in each month at the Hotel Muehlebach, 12th and Baltimore, Kansas City, Missouri. MPS is Chapter No. 10 of the American Philatelic Society, Chapter No. 24 of the Trans-Mississippi Philatelic Society and Chapter No. 120 of the Society of Philatelic Americans.

Meeting Location and Time:

MEETING PLACE & TIME for Midwest Philatelic Society

MPS Meeting Schedule for August 29th

**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, show-n-tell, program and club auction.

This month's program will be "What's On the Back of Your Stamps" by Neil Becker

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.

Meeting Dates for the Remainder of the Year:

September Date--Saturday, August 29th **CHANGE OF DATE**

October Date--Saturday, October 3rd

November Date--Saturday, November 7th

December Date--Saturday, December 5th

The September date has been changed due to Labor Day Weekend and the event that is held each year on the Independence Square. Santa-Cali-Gon causes severe traffic jams around the square all weekend. The church rents out the parking lots to festival attendees. This precludes us from using Westminster Hall that weekend. Mark your calendars accordingly.

The October meeting date is as normal. We ended up NOT having to change that date.

Jim will be taking pictures for the membership directory. Please attend. If unable, send a jpg. of your headshot to jimmckinzie1@att.net so that you will be included in the next membership directory. And if you did not fill out a new membership application, please send to the same email address your collecting interests. The membership directory is a great way for us to keep in touch between meetings but it is only useful with current information that you provide.

The Midwest Philatelic Society Website is

www.midwestphilatelicsociety.com

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

What You Missed at the August Meeting:

Attendance – 37 members attended.

New Member – New Member Richard R. Collets several countries. Plate Blocks and Precancels.

Visitor – Mike collects US and Canada. Referred to the club by Scott Couch

Presidents report – Apologized for no one stepping up to take notes.

First VIP – No report.

Second VIP – No report.

Secretary – No report.

Treasurer – No report.

Librarian – No report.

Historian – No report.

Stamp Show – Rick K. stated we had 90 people at the end of the 2 day stamp show. He also noted that several of the workers did not sign in but purchased stamps so that number is a little larger. He thought the show was a success as did many other workers and club members. Jim M. thanked all those that helped and Kathleen Johnson for her wonderful design for the show cover. He also mentioned there are some covers left if anyone would like to purchase one. We have given one cover to the historian. If all of the covers are not sold at the meeting today the rest will be put on HIP Stamp for purchase. We only had one dealer not show, and all the fees have been collected from the dealers.

Going forward we will have two club members from each club as representatives for the show. The group will decide a chairman and set the person for booking the dealers. This will be the person all dealers should go through to sign up for the show.

The group did purchase three tables for the show to be stored at the church. These are lighter-weight tables and should not be used for back tables, just use them for the front tables.

Jeff Jaxx thanked all involved for making this a great show.

Newsletter – No report. But please do not stop sending articles we need as many as possible.

Old Business – None

New Business – There will be a few changes to meeting dates due to conflicts with the church.

September and October. More information will be in the newsletter. It was discussed and BBQ is great for the October meeting all money will be collected at the next meeting. We are also looking to create a membership chairman position; these types of positions are appointed by the President and not voted on. Remember that this club will not stay strong and growing if members do not volunteer and help out. E&D is looking to hold its next auction on the 23rd of August.

Looking for -Jeff J. is looking for a 1939 souvenir MPS cover, Dave is looking for First Flight covers, Betsy is looking for Junior Duck stamps in Mint condition, and Rick K. is looking for Airmail covers that commemorate J.D. Brock first flight.

Show and tell – Armen showed a package sent for \$8 which weighed up to 20 lbs, this is a form of gross mailing. He discussed how companies sell their extra bulk gross mailing. Bill Johnson showed an HG Harris catalog and a Postmaster provincial certificate. Rodger M. Thanked all involved for helping to improve his new software and explained a little of how it worked.

This Month's Program – Mike did a presentation on covers from mobile Ice post stations.

The title to his program was Drift Stations: Russia and The United States: A Philatelic Story

Submitted by Perry Kilpatrick

Hope you enjoyed this month's newsletter. Thanks to Andrea S. for her contributions. You can contribute too by emailing me for next month's issue. **Deadline for the October issue will be September 10th.** Happy stamping! *Jim McKinzie*