

# WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

# Volume 23, Issue 8, August 2025

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293

www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

Meeting Schedule: 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Doors open at 12:30 PM and meetings start at 2:00 PM.

Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill PA 15235

WILKPEX 2026 – Friday and Saturday April 10 & 11 (10 AM-4 PM; 10 AM-3 PM), 2026 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA.

# Wilkinsburg Stamp Club News

#### **Christmas in July!!!**

A huge thank you to everyone who attended our Christmas in July Party on 7/27. We had 22 members, with family and friends, in attendance. Everyone had a good time!



(Ron & Paula Becker, Jay, Dave D, and Joyce)

Special thank you's to Toby, John & Joyce, Ron and Paula, Mike R, Greg, Jay, Danielle and Maureen for helping get everything set up, running games, bringing prizes and food and cleaning up at the end.

We will have our traditional Christmas Party in December as well! Hope to see everyone there then!





#### (2025 Winter Cheer Stamps!)

Treasurer's Report – As of the end of June 2025 we have \$9714.88 in the bank, before paying for the party.

The first 4 volumes (8 books) of the 2026 Scott Catalog have arrived. The rest should come over the next few months. We will decide how we will dispose of the old set later (Christmas prize anyone?).

Shout out to Wylie for finding screws that will fit our exhibit frames, to keep the contents in place and safe!

Davidson's Stamp Service (where Danielle had long gotten her odd-shaped stamps) is retiring so another mail-order dealer was recommended. It is Bombay Philatelic Inc, PO Box 301, Wake Forest NC 27588, email sales@bombaystamps.com or call 561-499-7990.



Member Gene Bujdos asked that the following be placed in the newsletter:

Dear WSC Members,

I am looking for some WSC members AND A PARTNER who have some time on their hands and like to play cards. I play a game you probably never heard of, "HAND AND FOOT". NO BETTING OR MONEY INVOLVED. I have been doing this for the last three years. I provide drinks, snacks, and music from the 50's, 60's and 70's. NO RAPP CRAP. No contracts to sign. No betting involved. Try it once, if you do not like it, no feelings hurt.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE AN EXPERT CARD PLAYER, or a good card shuffler. I have a card shuffler, and card holders, that can be bought on Amazon.

I live in the city, in "beautiful downtown Lincoln Place", two blocks into the city from West Mifflin, or 5 minutes from Kennywood. If you know where it is, you either live here, or were lost here once. We have only a pizza joint, gas station, and MIFFLIN SCHOOL, no kidding. We are the 2<sup>nd</sup> safest area of the city. (I don't know what is in first place.) My address is 1104 Diller Ave,

Pittsburgh 15207. (There is a Diller Ave in West Mifflin. But the two Diller Avenues are not connected – there is a HOUSE between them.) If you have any questions please call me for directions at 412-461-0289 or gbujdos@yahoo.com.





Please feel free to write at the address below, especially if you don't usually make it to meetings. Your letters are read aloud at our meetings.

#### **Philatelic News**

### **Prices for Forever Stamps are now 78 cents!!!!!!!**

Stay tuned for surprise stamp issues through the year!

- August US Stamps currently scheduled for release:
  - Spongebob Squarepants (Aug 1) Who lives in a pineapple under the sea? Spongebob and his bestie Patrick, with their friends, on 4 – forever stamps.
  - Boston 2026 (Aug 14) 2 stamps to get us ready for the World Stamp Show in 2026.
  - Luna Moth (Aug 16) \$1.27 non-machine sortable surcharge stamp.







The US Postal Service is having a contest! Stamp Encore is an exciting opportunity for the public to vote from 25 previously issued stamp **panes**. We plan to announce the winning stamp pane during the Boston 2026 World Expo in May 2026!

Voting will begin at 12:00 a.m. EST on Wednesday, July 23, 2025, and closes on Tuesday, September 30 at 11:59 p.m. EST.

Ballots may be submitted online or through mail – no purchase is necessary to vote:

**Online:** Go to www.stampsforever.com/vote and follow the instructions to submit your ballot.

By Mail: Complete the paper ballot, print it out, and mail it to the following address:

Attn: Stamp Encore U.S. Postal Service

475 L'Enfant Plaza SW #3300

Washington, DC 20260

Mail-in ballots must bear a postmark dated on or before September 30, 2025. Only one (1) vote per mail-in ballot will be counted. Multiple selections on a single mailin ballot will render the ballot invalid. To submit additional votes via mail, separate ballots must be mailed individually. You can vote as many times as you want!













The stamps you can vote for are:

Art of Disney: Magic (2007) Bugs Bunny (1997)

DC Comics Super Heroes (2006)

Flag Act of 1818 (2018) Have a Ball! (2017)

Mail a Smile (2015) Peanuts (2001)

Star Wars: Droids (2021) Wonder Woman (2016)

Batman (2015)

Charles M. Schulz (2022)

Disney Villains (2017)

Frozen Treats (2018) Heritage Breeds (2021)

Message Monsters (2021)

Send a Hello (2011)

Total Eclipse of the Sun (2017)

Bioluminescent Life (2018)

Classics Forever (2016)

Emancipation Proclamation (2013)

Happy Birthday (2021) Let's Celebrate (2020)

Mister Rogers (2018)

Star Trek (2016)

Transcontinental Railroad (2019)

# USPS closing locations in multiple states: What we know

Story by Aliss Higham - Newsweek - 7/25/25

Numerous independent postal units are closing down after receiving notice from the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), according to local reports.

Contract postal units (CPUs) are independent businesses under contract to the USPS to provide postal products and services to the public.

Such contracts can be terminated with 120 days notice from the USPS - but many sites impacted by the decision have warned the closures could negatively impact the local community and their businesses. Some have been operating in their local community for decades.

# The House votes for 76 new ZIP codes: What cities would see changes to their postal digits

Story by Ally Goelz, Washington Examiner 7/21/25

The <u>House</u> passed two bills Monday night that would authorize the United States Postal Service to create 76 new ZIP codes for communities around the country.

These two bipartisan bills, led by Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart (R-FL), and Lauren Boebert (R-CO), could help smaller communities by having faster mail delivery and faster emergency response times. Diaz-Balart's bill passed by voice vote and Boebert's legislation passed in a 278-121 vote.

Both of the bills have support from both sides of the aisle, with a total of 32 cosponsors. Many of the co-sponsors are from the impacted districts, hoping to solve timeliness issues with updated ZIP codes.

U.S. Sens. Rick Scott (R-FL), Joni Ernst (R-IA), and Alex Padilla (D-CA) are co-sponsoring a bill—introduced in April—in the Senate to establish new ZIP codes as well. There has been no movement on this bill yet.

Why are ZIP codes important?

The ZIP code system was implemented in the U.S. in the 1960s. While it's utilized by the Postal Service to deliver mail, economic developers, insurers, and emergency personnel also rely heavily on ZIP codes.

Boebert's office told the Washington Examiner that in the affected areas, first responders have slower response times, businesses go through the wrong city or town for permitting, sales tax revenue from online sales is miscalculated, and mail gets to residents slower.

"Residents in these communities will see clear benefits through a unique ZIP code for their town, from more of their tax revenue staying and benefiting their communities to improving the response times of first responders, which could save lives and reduce crime," Boebert said in a <u>press release</u>. "We haven't had an updated ZIP code bill pass through Congress in almost two decades."

None of the new ZIP codes are in Pennsylvania; the closest ones are in Ohio (Green) and New York (Flanders, Glendale, Riverside, Pendleton, and Wheatfield).

There are many changes happening in the US Government right now. The USPS has not been left out. Stay tuned for more news.

#### Collector's Corner

Show and Tell is at the second meeting of each month. Please bring an item to show and talk about. It can be about a topic other than stamps. Sharing the story is the important part.

Please take some time before the August 24th meeting and see if you have something fun to share from your collection!

# Be prepared!



It's not just the Scout Motto! As we head into fall this is a great time to start thinking about and organizing your 2026 WILKPEX exhibits and Phlea offerings!

Pick a fun topic and find stamps and ephremera to show everyone why you love ships! Or teddy bears! Or circuses! Extra materials can be packaged for sale! Now is the time!

Did you know that your phone can help you ID stamps, without a special app?



The steps may vary depending on the type and age of your phone.

For an Android device, on the home page find the Google Lens image in the Google Search bar (see above). Point your camera at the stamp, steady your hand, and press the translate button. The picture will have the English translation superimposed on the stamp. This was you can know the country and text on the stamp. Search for how to do this on your phone!

# **Upcoming Events Nearby**

- August 14 17, 2025 Great American Stamp Show Schaumburg IL
- Sept 7, 2025 K2 Show Churchill PA
- November 2025 PITTPEX, Bridgeville PA (More to come)
- April 10 11, 2026 WILKPEX, Plum PA

For more details google the stamp club or look at the latest issue of the American Philatelist Magazine or the calendar at APS - (https://stamps.org/events/events-calendar)





Boston 2026 World Stamp Show will be the 12th International Philatelic Exhibition hosted in the United States. The show will be held at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center from May 23-30, 2026, to celebrate America's Semiquincentennial (250th anniversary). There is no separate GASS in 2026.

#### **Book your rooms NOW!**

# Wilkinsburg Stamp Club Information:

Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Doors open at 12:30 PM and meetings start at 2:00 PM.

Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill PA 15235

All are welcome! Free admission! Wonderful snacks! Stamps! Fun for all!

# WILKPEX – Our Annual Stamp Show

2026 – Friday April 10 & Saturday April 11 (10 AM-4 PM; 10 AM-3 PM) – Holiday Park Fire Hall, Plum PA.

# Officers:

President, Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Maureen McKeever

(maurmomck@gmail.com)

Vice President: John Harding (<a href="mailto:hardingeb@gmail.com">hardingeb@gmail.com</a>)

Acting Treasurer: Danielle Weaver

Membership & Circuit Manager: Danielle Weaver (<a href="mailto:dmm742000@yahoo.com">dmm742000@yahoo.com</a>)

Web Tech: Dave Duggins (<u>davidfduggins@gmail.com</u>)

WSC c/o Danielle Weaver, 3710 Henley Drive, Pittsburgh PA 15235

#### Newsletter:

Original articles for the newsletter can be submitted from any member to Maureen at a meeting or emailed to her (see above) or via regular mail:

Maureen McKeever, 118 Larchwood Drive, Turtle Creek PA 15145.

Club members will be mailed a black and white copy of the newsletter each month. Anyone can request a color copy to be delivered at a meeting, but please let Scott Shaulis (<a href="mailto:scottshaulis@comcast.net">scottshaulis@comcast.net</a>) know ahead of time.



(Ahoy the mighty tariff ship!)