







WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB

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Volume 5, No. 8

March, 2006

Meeting Day/Time: 2nd and 4th Sundays – Noon to 4 P.M.

(No 4th Sunday meetings in JUNE, JULY, AUGUST)

Business Meeting: 2 P.M. (MAY-4th Sunday only),

(JUNE, JULY, AUGUST 2nd Sunday only).

Meeting Place: Churchill Borough Building

2300 William Penn Highway

Churchill, PA.

President: David McConaha Vice-President: Joe Bayuk

Second Vice-President: Jim Senkewitz

Secretary: Grant Latimore Treasurer: Tom Reiff

Newsletter Editor: Tom Reiff

Membership Info: Andy Novotny 412-351-4954 e-mail: novoand@hotmail.com

Tom Reiff 412-881-8045 e-mail: treiffer@msn.com

Website Manager: Dave McConaha

March Contributors: Tom Reiff, David McConaha, Marty Cooper, Gene Bujdos, Andy Novotny, Grant Latimore, Joe Bayuk

Meetings March 12th and 26th

April 23rd Only – May 28th Only
Cookies and coffee are available at the meetings.

March 12th MEETING:

Regular business meeting. Elections.

March 26th MEETING:

Regular business meeting. WILKPEX 2006 Preparation.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Election of officers will be held during our March 12, 2006 meeting. Nomination of officers will NOT be accepted at this meeting, unless the February 26, 2006 meeting is cancelled. The office of President and Secretary will be voted on. All regular members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.

*** CIRCUIT BOOKS ***

Circuit books are available at every meeting. Members are encouraged to examine the circuit books, except when business meeting is in progress, to find items for their collection(s).

Circuit books contain stamps, covers, etc. You never know what you will find and based on what you see, you may even decide to start a new collection.

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WILKPEX 2006:

The show is now less than 2 months away. Show dates are April 8th and 9th at the Wilkins Elks Club in Wilkins Township. Show times are Saturday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. and Sunday 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

DEALERS:

Bourse Chairman, Martin "Marty" Cooper, has done and is continuing to do, a great job with the dealers. This year we have nine dealers and 15 tables. There are 7 dealers returning from 2005 and 2 "new" dealers.

PUBLICITY/ADVERTISING:

David "The Prez" has taken over as Advertising Chairman. The advertisement has been sent to Linn's Stamp News for publication in their March 20th, March 27th and April 3rd issues. Also our annual mailing of post cards to previous show registrations, flyers sent to the USPS and flyers left at other stamp shows, collectible shows, etc. will also be done. We are also exploring other areas to advertise our show.

SOUVENIR SHEET:

The show souvenir sheet is in the final preparation stages. This year we are "spoofing" the USPS Sporty Cars stamps. It will picture stamp images with four of our "own" Upper Slobbovian" cars. This year, our sheet is a combination of hand drawn images of the cars by our artist Grant Latimore and a computer sheet designed by Tom Reiff, where Grant's images will be "inserted" into the sheet. It should also be mentioned once again that Marty Cooper's entry for using Sporty Cars, with his ideas for the different cars was the "winning" entry.

EXHIBITS:

Due to the response for exhibits, we may need to increase the number of frames from 20 to 22 or 24 provided there is floor space available. As of this newsletter, there are currently two exhibits "committed". Exhibits will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis. If not filled up by members, non-member exhibits will be accepted. Entries need to be received by March 26, 2006 in order to have them included in the program. Andy Novotny is your contact for any exhibit questions or comments.

CANCEL & CACHET:

Gene Bujdos, our cachet "guru", along with Joe Bayuk have informed the Club that the cachet and cancel is "ready to go", pending Myron Cope's approval of the finalized designs. We are confident that Mr. Cope will give that approval. Myron also has been/will be contacted in regards to his appearance at the show.

THE PHLEA MARKET:

The show Phlea Market is looking for items. If you have any items you wish to sell, NOW IS THE TIME to be preparing them. The Club does NOT take a fee. Sellers receive 100% of their sales.

VOLUNTEERS:

While we have two volunteers, Anna McConaha and Sylvia Latimore for the sign-in registration desk, we need additional volunteers to help at the reception area. It does not have to be all day, but just for an hour or two during both Saturday and Sunday. PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING HERE!

Paul Holtman, Fred Hummert, Don Smith, Laverne Wagner and others have done their usual outstanding job at the Phlea Market but could use some more help. We also are looking for additional help with setting up and takedown of the tables, exhibit frames, etc. on Friday evening (April 7th) and Sunday afternoon (April 9th).

YOUTH AREA:

John Rose will once again handle this area.

DID YOU KNOW - INTERESTING PHILATELIC FACT:

The first colonial stamp in the world was issued by Mauritius on the 21 September 1847. There were two stamps, 1 penny and 2 pence. They have been given the nickname "Post Office stamps" because of the text on both sides of the motif depicting Queen Victoria.

Mauritius is an island in the Indian Ocean, to the east of Madagascar, and was a British colony at the time these stamps were issued. The Governors wife, Lady Gomm, wanted to invite a large number of guests to a ball. She commissioned the English engraver and miniature painter James Barnard (1816-1865) to design the stamps that would be used to decorate the envelopes with the invitations to the ball.

Barnard worked in his home at Port Louis, and used a very original production method. He engraved both of the stamps side by side on a copper plate. Then the stamps were printed one at a time. In this way, pairs and other greater units could not be produced.

Due to the nature of the assignment the issue was very limited; 500 of each stamp were made. But only 27 have been preserved. Of the 1 penny value, there are 15 known stamps of which two are in mint condition. And of the 2 pence stamp, there are 12 of which four are mint.

This stamp production caused a deficit for Mauritius. The manufacturing costs exceeded the revenue because the issue was very small and with relatively low face values.

The first time that a philatelist came across these stamps was in 1864, when Mme Bouchard at Bordeaux discovered both of the stamps on letters from her husband. She had difficulty placing them in her album and therefore swapped them for two stamps from Montevideo.





SCOTT #1

SCOTT#2

LOCAL AREA STAMP CLUBS:

Other local area stamp clubs include The Philatelic Society of Pittsburgh, the Westmoreland County Philatelic Society and the Butler County Philatelic Society. For information on these clubs please see our website.

UPCOMING AREA SHOWS (Please see our website for this and additional shows):

MARCH 18-19 CORTLAND, OH – TRUMPEX 2006. 15th Annual Spring Stamp Show. Garden Brook Banquet Hall, 4820 State Route 5 NE. Warren Area Stamp Club.

Bourse: 10AM - 5PM (Saturday); 10AM - 4PM (Sunday)

MARCH 19 - PITTSBURGH, PA (CRANBERRY) - Cranberry Stamp and Postcard Show, Cranberry Four Points Sheraton

Bourse Hours: 10AM - 4PM (Saturday)

MARCH 24-26 – CLEVELAND, OH – MARCH PARTY 2006, Garfield-Perry Stamp Club, Masonic Auditorium, E. 36th and Euclid Avenue.

Bourse Hours: 11AM - 6PM (Friday); 10AM - 6PM (Saturday); 10AM - 4PM (Sunday)

MARCH 26 – TIMONIUM, MD - Baltimore Friendly Bourse, Holiday Inn, Timonium Plaza, 2004 Greenspring Drive (I-83, EXIT 16). Sponsored by James Reeves.

Bourse Hours: 10AM - 4PM (Sunday

TOM'S TOPICS" from your Treasurer, Tom Reiff SHORT ARTICLES RELATING TO PHILATELY: NEWS, STAMPS, POSTAL HISTORY, COLLECTIONS, ETC.

*** UNITED STATES PARCEL POST STAMPS OF 1912-1913 ***



On August 24, 1912, Congress approved a law providing for parcel post service and authorized the production of stamps to pay the parcel fees, to be effective January 1, 1913. Other stamps were not usable on parcel post starting in that date.

Twelve stamps were authorized for this service, in three sets of four, with the first four stamps representing the workers that delivered the mail (see those stamps at the top of this newsletter), the second four representing the transportation methods for delivering that mail, and the final set of four representing the industries which would be using this new service. Nine stamps were released to Post Offices prior to the January 1 date. Three other stamps were issued after the January "deadline", the 3¢, 50¢ and \$1 stamps.

The twenty cent stamp holds the special distinction of being the first stamp in the world to depict an airplane, some six years prior to the institution of the U.S. airmail stamps.

On July 1, 1913, only six months after the Parcel Post regulations went into effect, the Parcel Post stamp lost its distinction, ordinary postage stamps were now valid for paying the parcel fee and the Parcel Post stamps were valid on ordinary mail.



USAGE OF THE 5-CENT PARCEL POST STAMP PAYING THE U.P.U. RATE TO TURKEY ON MAR 30, 1914"

"ALWAYS REMEMBER - COLLECT WHAT YOU LIKE AND ENJOY YOUR HOBBY"