

# WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

**MARCH 2008  
VOLUME 7  
NUMBER 7**

**This month's meeting is on the 10th only,  
because of the holiday season.**

**Business meeting at 2 PM.  
Meeting at the Churchill  
Borough Building, 2300  
William Penn Highway,  
Churchill, PA 12 noon to 4 PM  
on the 2nd and 4th Sunday  
except where noted.**

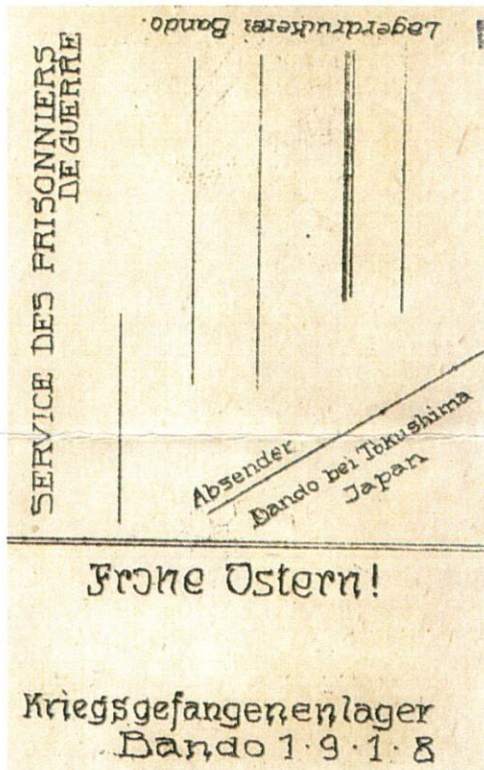
**PRESIDENT: JIM SENKEWITZ  
VICE-PRESIDENT: ANDY NOVOTNY  
SECRETARY: GRANT LATIMORE  
TREASURER: RAY DAMICO  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: BILL BADALI  
MEMBERSHIP: ANDY NOVOTNY  
LIBRARIAN: FRED LEWIS**

**APS# 122934**

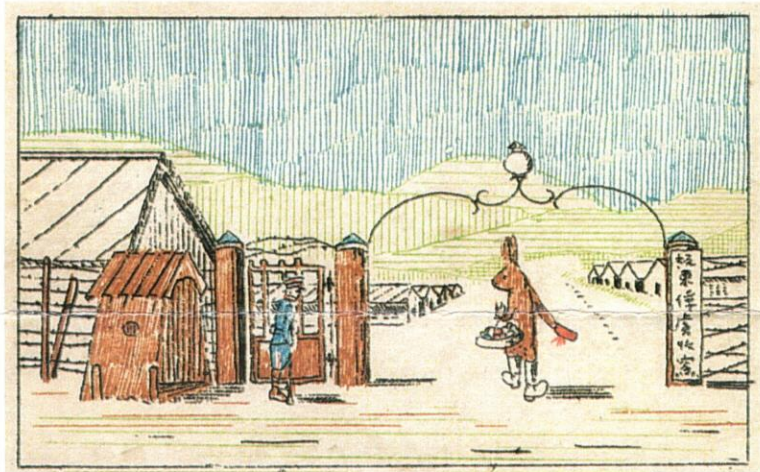
P.O. BOX 239, APOLLO, PA 15613-0239

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**BACK COVER**



**FRONT COVER**

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**\*\*\* THE POSTAL WORKERS STRIKE OF 1970 \*\*\***

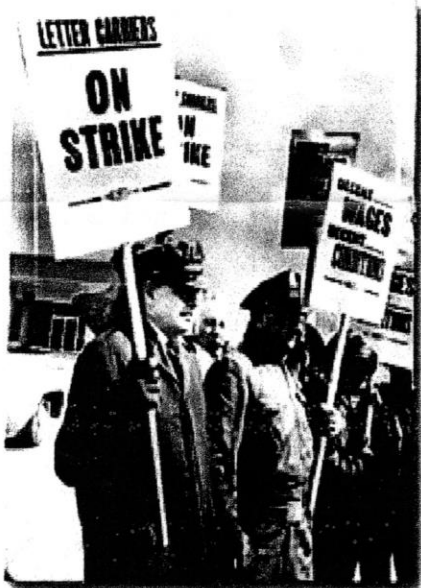
In 1969 and 1970, a series of dramatic failures in communication and negotiation between NALC national leaders, the White House and NALC membership led to the climatic postal strike of March 15-18, 1970.

At 12:01 a.m. on March 17, 1970, branch 36 of the New York Post Office made history. By a count of 1,555 to 1,055 the postal workers of branch 36, which served Manhattan and the Bronx, voted to go on strike. Word spread quickly and by the 18th, there were more workers picketing not only in New York, but also in the surrounding states. In response, President Nixon appeared on television ordering the postal employees to go back to work or face federal felony charges. The President's demands backfired. The address served only to rally oppressed postal workers and embolden those whom were already picketing.

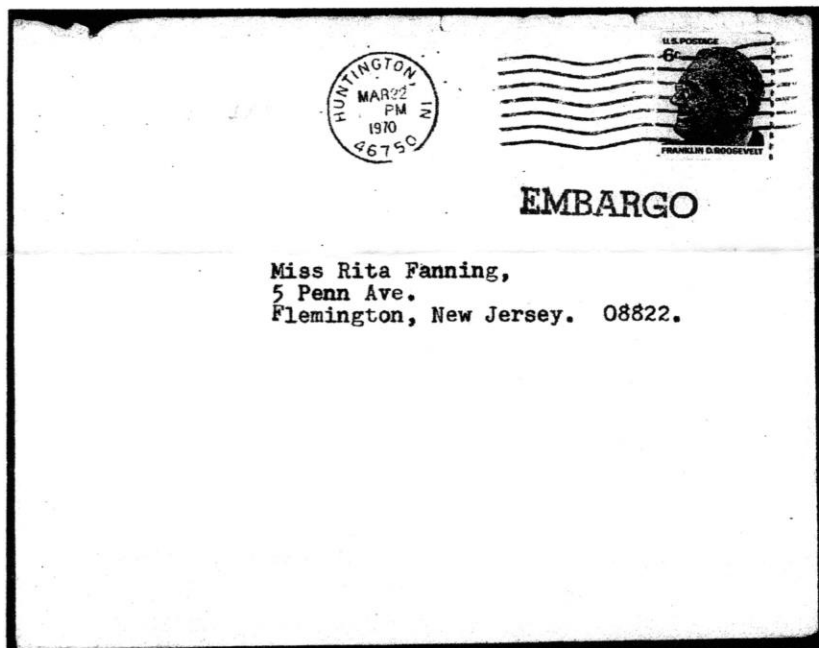
On March 20th, Winton M. Blount, Postmaster met with union leaders and promised concessions only if the striking employees returned to work. Facing imprisonment union leaders urged the northeastern postal workers to return to work so bargaining could be arranged. At the same time, however, postal workers in other cities voted to join the strike. Other government workers communicated that they would strike in support if the government pursued legal action against the postal employees. Once the news had spread, roughly 200,000 postal workers went on strike from more than 671 locations throughout the United States. The strike was in full effect and the nation's mail system was absolutely crippled.

The strike was successful in completely disrupting the daily business of the country. The well timed strike managed to disrupt the mailing of pension and welfare checks along with tax refunds, census forms, jury summonses, and draft notices. Businesses scrambled to send information by whatever means were available including planes, helicopters, telegrams, and even bicycle messengers. From the government's standpoint, action had to be taken. President Richard Nixon took action by speaking on television regarding the issue and ordering a 24,000 man force codenamed "Operation Graphic Hand" to begin distributing the mail. The pressure on the federal government along with the military being ineffective at distributing the mail led the push for a quick resolution. The postmaster general agreed to negotiate with the seven exclusively recognized unions upon the employees' return to work. The postal workers returned and they negotiated an agreement which stipulated a six percent raise for government workers along with an additional eight percent if the two sides could agree on a way to reorganize the postal system. An agreement was reached between the two sides and congress drafted the Postal Reorganization Act. The new legislation provided the postal workers with a long overdue raise (14%). The Post Office Department became the United States Postal Service. With this change the USPS became a part of the executive branch of the government and the Postmaster General left the cabinet of the President. Also, the USPS gained the ability to change rates to allow for changes in cost and inflation and the postal employees gained the ability to collectively bargain on wages and working conditions just like the private sector.

President Nixon signed the Postal Reorganization Act on August 12 1970 and became effective on July 1, 1971.



**"POSTAL STRIKE PHOTO"**



**"COVER DURING THE STRIKE POSTMARKED MARCH 22, 1970  
HANDSTAMPED 'EMBARGO' APRIL 7 IN PENCIL (DELIVERED?)"**

## **Philatelic Events**

Show Dates: Mar 30, Apr 20, May 18 and Jun 29, 2008

Baltimore Friendly Monthly Stamp & Coin Show  
2004 Greenspring Drive  
(Exit 16A-183)  
Timonium 21093  
Show Hours 10-4pm

Show Dates: Mar 8 and Jun 14, 2008  
Pittsburgh Area Stamp & Coin Show  
Wilkins TWP Volunteer Fire Dept #3  
109 Powell Street (just off Greensburg Pike), east Pittsburgh, PA 15112  
Show Hours 10-4pm  
**WSC will have a table there.**

Show Dates: Mar 29, May 17 and June 20, 2008  
Winchester Stamp & Coin Show  
Shoney's Inn  
1347 Berryville Ave (exit 315-181)  
Winchester, VA 22601  
Show Hours 12-5pm

Show date: Mar 16, 2008  
Cranberry Stamp and Post Card Show, Four Points Sheraton, 910 Sheraton Dr. Pittsburgh, PA  
Show Hours: 10 am to 4 pm.

Show dates: Apr 26-27, 2008 Lancaster  
LANCOPEX '08 Farm & Home Center, 1383 Arcadia Rd. Lancaster, PA  
Show hours: 10 am - 5 pm Sat., 10 am - 4 pm Sun.

Show dates: Apr 19-20, 2008 Monroeville, PA  
WILKPEX '08 Monroeville Fire Hall, Garden City  
Show hours: 10 am - 5 pm Sat., 10 am - 3 pm Sun.

## **Pennsylvania club bourse March 8-9**

The Bux-Mont Stamp Club bourse will be held March 8-9 at the Benjamin H. Wilson Senior Citizen Center, 580 Delmont Ave., Warminster, PA.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4p.m. Sunday.

Admission and parking are free. The bourse will have 17 dealers.

A club cacheted (decorated) envelope will feature a design showing Pittsburgh Pirates baseball legend Roberto Clemente. A baseball cancellation with a bold outline "21" (Clemente's jersey number) will be used the cover.

Covers are also available by mail at \$2 each or three for \$5.50. An addressed stamped return envelope is requested with orders, mailed to Bux-Mont Stamp Club, 420 Cedar St., Jenkintown, PA 19046. For additional information, contact Michael Fesnak, 6733 N. Lawrence St., Philadelphia, PA 19126, or call 215-549-9998.

## **STAMP OF APPROVAL**

**Charles W. Chestnutt**, considered the first black writer to receive major acclaim, has been honored by the Postal Service as the 31<sup>st</sup> person in the Black Heritage stamp series, joining legendary black leaders including Harriet Tubman, Ella Fitzgerald and Martin Luther King, Jr. The stamp was introduced at the Harambee Read

Aloud, sponsored by the August Wilson Center for African American Culture and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

## **Club Business**

**Attention club members. The new club address is on the front of this cover some correspondences are being sent to the wrong address, and E-mail is read on only the last Monday of each month before printing on the last day of the same month, mailings to follow on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the next month, unless a Sunday or holiday.**

## **LIBRARY**

The new library has over two hundred titles and covers a broad number subjects and single country identifications. There are some very old Scott catalogs (1975) which will be sold off at the Club's show on April 19-20, 2008.

## **APS TRIP PLANNED Date changed.**

The Club is planning another trip to the A.P.S.; the date is set for May 23rd, 2008. Instead of the 16<sup>th</sup>, with a show of hands there are six to eight club members committed. For more details contact club President Jim Senkewitz.

## **COVER: P.O.W. Easter Post Card**

Sent in by **Bill Brieton**  
#233

This Easter Post Card was created by an Austrian P.O.W. in Kiautschou; a district of China on the south side of the Shantung Peninsula, at the Bando Prison Camp, sometime during WW I. The Japanese were allied with Entente, British, Belgium, French and United States troops.

## **Show and Tell**

There was a show tell at the last meeting. Ray Damico, had baseball collectable cards and Naval ship coins and patches. Andy Novotny had a large topical collection of trains, rolling stock, mounted, stock book and on covers; still looking for more.

## **STILL WANTED! One WSC 1965 Souvenir Sheet**

So if anyone has an extra 1965 souvenir sheet...Do not send it to Gene, but contact him at (412) 461-0289 or at [gbujdos@yahoo.com](mailto:gbujdos@yahoo.com) or in care of Gene Bujdos, P.O. BOX 5649, Pittsburgh PA 15207

## **2008 Cachet cover named**

Former Pittsburgh Pirate Steve Blass will be on WILKPEX '08 cachet cover.

## **Sold Out Sheets**

Some of the former "Sold Out" souvenir sheets will be sold at WILKPEX 2008.

This the second and last time that club members will have a chance to buy some of the former "Sold Out" souvenir sheet, before they are sold to the public.

Over one hundred order forms for the club's souvenir sheets will be included with orders for this year's souvenir sheet, when the mailing goes out April 20<sup>th</sup> 2008. Many of the former sheets will be bought out so get your while supplies last.

The Club only has eleven 1961 issues that are still available and are being sold for \$5.00 each. For the years 1962, 1966 and 1967 the Club is selling them for \$2.50 each. If you are interested in buying one or more of the above before April 19<sup>th</sup>, Please contact Gene Bujdos, by mail at P.O. Box 5649, Pittsburgh, PA 15207.

Gene Bujdos and Joe Bayuk will have a table at WILKPEX '08 where they will be selling the old sheets along with the NEW 2008 Souvenir Sheet; which is quite a surprise!

See you at the show.

## **APS CAC NEWSLETTER**

The CAC Newsletter is now an all-digital publication. They are hoping this will allow for a wider distribution and readership.

Any club member wishing to receive this newsletter

please send your E-Mail address to APS headquarters at [cacnews@stamps.org](mailto:cacnews@stamps.org).

## **The April W.S.C. Show**

We are getting down to the dead line. Still looking for volunteers to help with manning tables and other stuff, a sign up sheet will be at next month's meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **EDITOR'S POST CARD**

*Well everyone there sure was a lot of information in this letter, hope I didn't miss anything.*

*There will be no second meeting in March because of Easter.*

*We will have a meeting on April 13<sup>th</sup> the week before WILKPEX '08, April 19-20.*

*Watch Linn's Stamp News for the Club's Ad.*

*Hope to see you all at the show, bring your friends and family.*

*Bill*