



SCOTT #977



SCOTT #121P (PROOF)



SCOTT #1094



SCOTT #2419

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB

P.O. Box 97903 Pittsburgh, PA 15227-0303 (APS #122934)

WEBSITE: <http://www.wilkinsburgstampclub.netfirms.com>

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Volume 4, No. 10

May-June, 2005

Meeting Day/Time: 2nd and 4th Sundays – Noon to 4 P.M.
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 Editors: 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
May-June Contributors: Tom Reiff, David McConaha, Various Internet Websites

*** 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.

Meeting May 22nd Only – June 12th and 26th

July 10th and 24th – August 14th and 28th – September 11th and 25th

Cookies and coffee are available at the meetings.

May 8th: *** NO MEETING – MOTHER'S DAY ***

May 22nd MEETING: Regular business meeting. PROGRAM: Slide Show: Tonga Tin Can Mail

June 12th: MEETING: Regular business meeting

June 26th MEETING: No business meeting. PROGRAM: To be determined.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Club now publishes the newsletter 10 times a year instead of 12. Newsletters are published monthly from September through April and bimonthly issues are published for MAY-JUNE and JULY-AUGUST. That means that you will NOT receive a newsletter in JUNE or AUGUST.

WILKPEX 2005:

Thanks to all of the Club members who helped make the show a success.

The show was busier on Saturday but attendance slacked off on Sunday. Weekend temperatures in the high 70's may have been a factor.

There were 20 frames of exhibits with four competitive and four non-competitive exhibits. Exhibit winners were:

First Place: Tom Reiff (5 frames) "U. S. Presidential Series Stamps & "Combo" Postal History"

Second Place: Eugene Bujdos (2 frames) "Nevis 1980-1982"

Third Place: Laverne Wagner (1 frame) "This n' That"

We wish to thank all of the exhibitors for their participation.

****** WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO EXHIBIT!!! ******

ANNUAL MEMEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

Adult Dues: \$8.00

Additional Adult Member at the same address: \$4.00

Junior Member (age 16 and under): \$2.00

It's that time of year. Your membership dues are due by **July 1st** for **Fiscal Year 2006**.

1. If your newsletter contains a **DUES STATEMENT**, that means that you need to pay your dues or you have paid only partial dues and need to pay the balance.

2. If this newsletter contains a membership card, your dues have been **PAID** for 2006 or beyond.

Note: If you already have a membership card from last year with an expire date of 2006 or beyond, you most likely will NOT receive one as that card is still valid.

3. If you have been given a membership card at a Club meeting or at WILKPEX 2005 your dues have been **PAID** for 2006 or beyond.

4. Membership cards for paid dues, if received before mailing of the **JULY-AUGUST** newsletter, will be mailed with the newsletter or given to you at one of the meetings in May or June.

Please report any discrepancies to the Treasurer via e-mail, phone, or mail to the Club P.O. Box... **THANK YOU!**

DID YOU KNOW - INTERESTING PHILATELIC FACT:

Although it doesn't mention stamps, it appears that any American flag stamp that is used is in violation of "Flag Rules". The flag code in Section 8 "**RESPECT FOR THE FLAG**" states in the following areas:

Section 8e - The flag should never be fastened, displayed, **used**, or stored in such a manner as to permit it to be **easily torn, soiled, or damaged** in any way.

Section 8g - The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it **any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture, or drawing of any nature**.

Section 8i - The flag should never be used for advertising purposes in any manner whatsoever. It should not be embroidered on such articles as cushions or handkerchiefs and the like, printed or otherwise impressed on paper napkins or boxes or **anything that is designed for temporary use and discard**. Advertising signs should not be fastened to a staff or halyard from which the flag is flown.

TRIVIA QUESTION:

What was the first U.S. commemorative of a military character.

If you think you have the answer, let us know at the May 22nd meeting.

Answer will be published in the July-August, 2005 newsletter

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB:

Part of the Lou Yagle estate that was turned over to The Club was an accumulation of Stamped Envelopes in various denominations. Fred Hummert, one of our members, took them to the Post Office in Monroeville and had them exchanged for 1000 37-cent legal size Stamped Envelopes (Total \$370.00). Many of us did not even know that the U.S.P.S. had an exchange policy. By doing this, the Club now has envelopes for mailing the newsletters for FREE (or almost free if the rates go up in 2006) for the next 10 issues and we will have some left over. **THANK YOU FRED!!!**

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 these and additional shows):

MAY 1 – 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)

MAY 14 -15 – BUTLER, PA – BUTLERPEX 2004. Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Avenue, Lyndora.
Bourse Hours: 10AM – 5PM (Saturday); 10AM – 4PM (Sunday)

JUNE 19: CRANBERRY, PA – Cranberry Four Points Sheraton
Bourse Hours: 10AM – 4PM (Sunday)

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATED IN MAY

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays), though several southern states have an additional separate day for honoring the Confederate war dead: January 19 in Texas, April 26 in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Mississippi; May 10 in South Carolina; and June 3 (Jefferson Davis' birthday) in Louisiana and Tennessee. In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies.

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one, and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit servicemen in need. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by disabled veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it (Scott #977).

Please see image of that stamp at the top of this newsletter.

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

***** FLAG DAY CELEBRATED IN JUNE – FLAG STAMPS *****

BRIEF HISTORY

The idea of an annual day specifically celebrating the Flag is believed to have first originated in 1885. BJ Cigrand, a schoolteacher, arranged for the pupils in the Fredonia, Wisconsin Public School, District 6, to observe June 14 (the 108th anniversary of the official adoption of The Stars and Stripes) as 'Flag Birthday'.

Following the suggestion of Colonel J Granville Leach, the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames of America on April 25, 1893 adopted a resolution requesting the mayor of Philadelphia and all others in authority and all private citizens to display the Flag on June 14th. Leach went on to recommend that thereafter the day be known as 'Flag Day', and on that day, school children be assembled for appropriate exercises, with each child being given a small Flag.

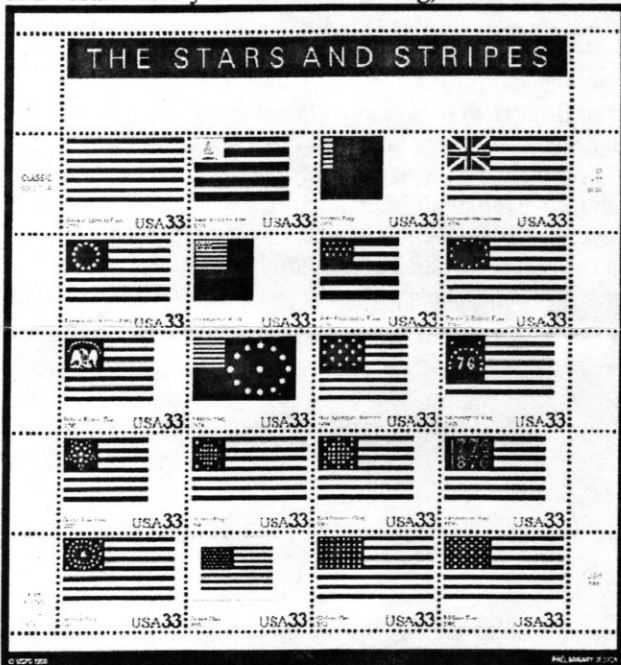
Two weeks later on May 8th, the Board of Managers of the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution unanimously endorsed the action of the Pennsylvania Society of Colonial Dames. As a result of the resolution, Dr. Edward Brooks, then Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia, directed that Flag Day exercises be held on June 14, 1893 in Independence Square. School children were assembled, each carrying a small Flag, and patriotic songs were sung and addresses delivered.

In 1894, the governor of New York directed that on June 14 the Flag be displayed on all public buildings. In Illinois on June 14th, 1894, the first general public school children's celebration of Flag Day in Chicago was held in Douglas, Garfield, Humboldt, Lincoln, and Washington Parks, with more than 300,000 children participating. Adults, too, participated in patriotic programs.

Inspired by these three decades of state and local celebrations, Flag Day - the anniversary of the Flag Resolution of 1777 - was officially *established* by the Proclamation of President Woodrow Wilson on May 30th, 1916. While Flag Day was celebrated in various communities for years after Wilson's proclamation, it was not until August 3rd, 1949, that President Truman signed an Act of Congress designating **June 14th** of each year as **National Flag Day**.

STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY

There are many stamps, both from the United States and foreign countries that show the American flag. Three are shown at the top of this newsletter. The first U.S. "flag" stamp appears to be from the 1869 definitive series (Scott #121). Stamps, FDC, FDI and Postal History of the American flag, with both historic and current designs, is a much collected topic for collectors.



SCOTT #3403 PANE OF 20 – JUNE 14, 2000



**SCOTT #UXC5 FDI – MAY 27, 1966
MELISSA FOX "VISIT USA" ADD ON CACHET
BACK HAS 1 OF 1 MADE. (Author's Collection)**

"...AND ALWAYS REMEMBER – COLLECT WHAT YOU LIKE AND ENJOY YOUR HOBBY"