



FRANCE
SCOTT J11



GREAT BRITAIN
SCOTT J3



CZECHOSLOVAKIA
SCOTT J12



UNITED STATES
SCOTT J78



U.S. CANAL ZONE
SCOTT J3

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB

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

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

E-MAIL: wilkinsburgstampclub@yahoo.com

Volume 6, No. 3

October, 2006

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: Joc 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
October Contributors: Tom Reiff, David McConaha, Gene Bujdos, Marty Cooper, Various Internet Web Sites

*** 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 October 8th and 22nd

November 12th and 26th – December 10th ONLY

Cookies and coffee are available at the meetings.

Color TV available for the Pittsburgh Steelers Games

October 8th MEETING:

Regular business meeting.

October 22nd MEETING:

Regular business meeting. After the meeting we will be holding an auction. You are welcome to bring any philatelic items that you wish to part with. Please have lots described and your starting bid price. You will receive 100% of the selling price, if sold.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER PROGRAMS/ACTIVITIES:

November 26th – Regular business meeting. After the meeting there will be a slide show on the United States Columbians.

December 10th – Christmas Party.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

***** A FRIENDLY REMINDER *****

Your membership expire date is on your mailing label. As of September 25, 2006, there are 12 members who have not paid their dues for 2007. If your expiry date is "highlighted" on your mailing label, it indicates that your dues have NOT been PAID for the current year.

Annual Dues are only \$8.00 for the first family member and only \$4.00 for additional members at the same address. Junior members, 16 and under are only \$2.00.

If your dues are not received by October 31st, 2006 the Club will regretfully drop you from the Membership.

CLUB LUNCHEON:

The Club is having a luncheon at 12:00 NOON on Saturday, November 11th at the Garden City Hall in Monroeville. This is where we will be having our 2007 show. Cost is \$15.00 for members and \$20.00 for non-members. For reservations and information regarding the menu, directions, etc., please contact Marty Cooper at 412-371-8578. Reservation forms will be available at the October 8th & 22nd meetings. DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25th.

2007 WILKPEX CACHET:

In keeping with our local sports themes for our show cachet Gene Bujdos has informed the Club that our 2007cachet will honor Roy Face, pitcher for the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team from 1953 through 1968.

2007 WILKPEX SOUVENIR SHEET IDEAS NEEDED:

We are accepting ideas for our "satirical" souvenir sheet. Please present any idea at one of the meetings or contact one of the officers.

STAMP TRADING E-MAIL RECEIVED:

The Club has received an e-mail from Bill Martin of Redding, California inquiring if anyone wants to trade stamps with him by mail. Bill states that he is retired and is a member of the APS. He has been collecting stamps of the British Empire for the last several years and recently has started to work on his used United States. For information please contact him via e-mail at: baldeag122@earthlink.net.

SEPTEMBER 24th SHOW AND TELL PROGRAM:

A show and tell program was held after the September 24th meeting. Two items each were brought in by Marty Cooper and Tom Reiff.

DID YOU KNOW – INTERESTING PHILATELIC FACT:

****** OCTOBER IS STAMP COLLECTING MONTH ******

Since 1981, October has been officially designated as National Stamp Collecting Month. It is an annual event that began in 1981 as a joint venture of the Council of Philatelic Organizations and the United States Postal Service

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

Please welcome new member William Daniel Kundin. When you see him at the meetings, give him a warm welcome.

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS RECEIVED:

Dorothy A. Officer from Tracy, California and Ernest J. Bryant, Jr. also from Tracy, California.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE CLUB:

Member Bill Whigham has made a donation to the Club. Thank you, Bill.

Andy Novotny has informed the Club that, by changing suppliers for our 2007 Scott catalogue purchases, the Club realized a savings of \$50.00 or more over the 2005 purchases (and that is even with all catalogues now in COLOR). Thank you Andy!

FYI – We purchase the U.S. Specialized catalogue every year and all other volumes every other year.

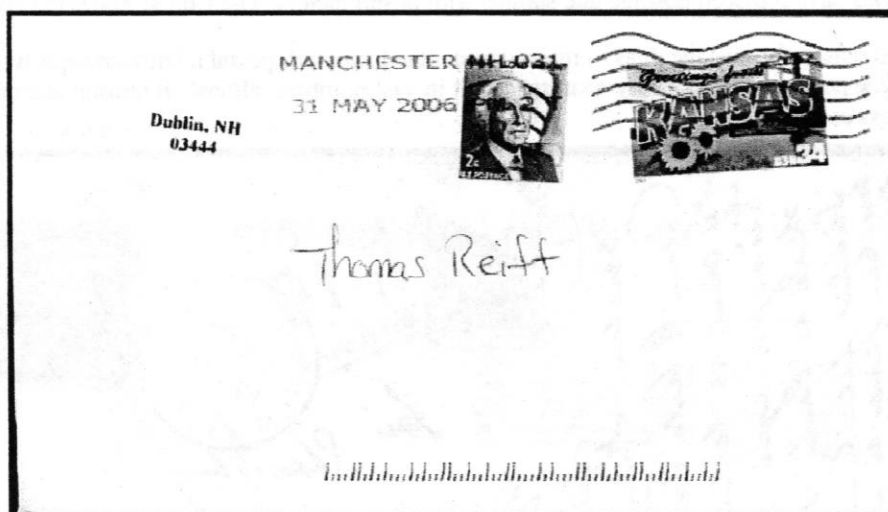
The Club, for the most part, uses the copy services of Office Depot for its newsletters, membership cards, souvenir sheets, etc. One reason is that Office Depot offers a “Rewards Points” program. By utilizing this program, the Club recently has been able to have the September newsletter copies made, purchase a box of 3,000 mailing labels and a frame for the 2005 Newsletter Award all free of charge.

The Club has changed banks for the checking account from National City Bank to First Commonwealth Bank. By doing so, we received one hundred fifty (150) free checks. They also purchased our remaining old checks and deposited \$25.00 into the checking account.

IS THE USPS REALLY WATCHING?

Benjamin Franklin said “A penny saved is a penny earned”. Someone saved three times that on this mailing.

This past June yours truly received a piece of mail in this cover postmarked on May 31, 2006 containing only 36 cents in postage, short paid by 3-cents and without any postage due. The first class one ounce rate changed on January 8, 2006 to 39-cents. I have heard, but have not confirmed that the USPS allows a “grace period” of up to one month on mail that was franked with the old rate, but this one was over 140 days after the rate change. As this cover was “uprated” with a 2-cent stamp, I feel that the sender thought that the State Greetings stamp was actually 37-cents as this series of stamps was re-issued with the new values when the rate changed from 34-cents and may have had some 34’s mixed in with the 37’s. I wonder though, did this one “make it through” undetected because the “automated machinery” of the USPS cannot detect different values, especially with the same designs, multiple franked mail or ??? Name and/or address have been removed for privacy reasons.



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):

OCTOBER 8 – CRANBERRY, PA – Cranberry Stamp and Postcard Show, Four Points Sheraton, 910 Sheraton Drive
Sandra & Jan Harris.
Bourse Hours: 10 AM – 4 PM (Sunday)

OCTOBER 14-15 – WEIRTON, WV – STEUPEX '06, Holiday Inn, 350 Three Springs Drive. Fort Steuben Stamp Club.
Bourse Hours: 10AM – 6PM (Saturday); 10AM – 4PM (Sunday)

OCTOBER 21 – PITTSBURGH, PA – Pittsburgh Area Stamp Show, Wilkins Township Volunteer Fire Department #3, 109
Powell Street (off Greensburg Pike).
Bourse Hours: 10AM – 4PM (Saturday)

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

***** "COLLECTING POSTAGE DUE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY" *****

Postage due is the term used for mail sent with insufficient postage. While the problem of what to do about letters not paying the full correct fee had existed since the creation of regular postal systems, it was greatly heightened by the advent of postage stamps, since customers were now making their own decisions about the right amount to pay, without the assistance of a presumably-knowledgeable postal clerk.

While at various times some countries have simply adopted the expedient of returning the letter to the sender, many others have taken the approach of delivering the letter and collecting the fee from the recipient. Initially the process was handled by a clerk writing something like "Due 3 cents" on the cover, but this was subject to abuse by mail carriers, who might write it on themselves and pocket the difference.

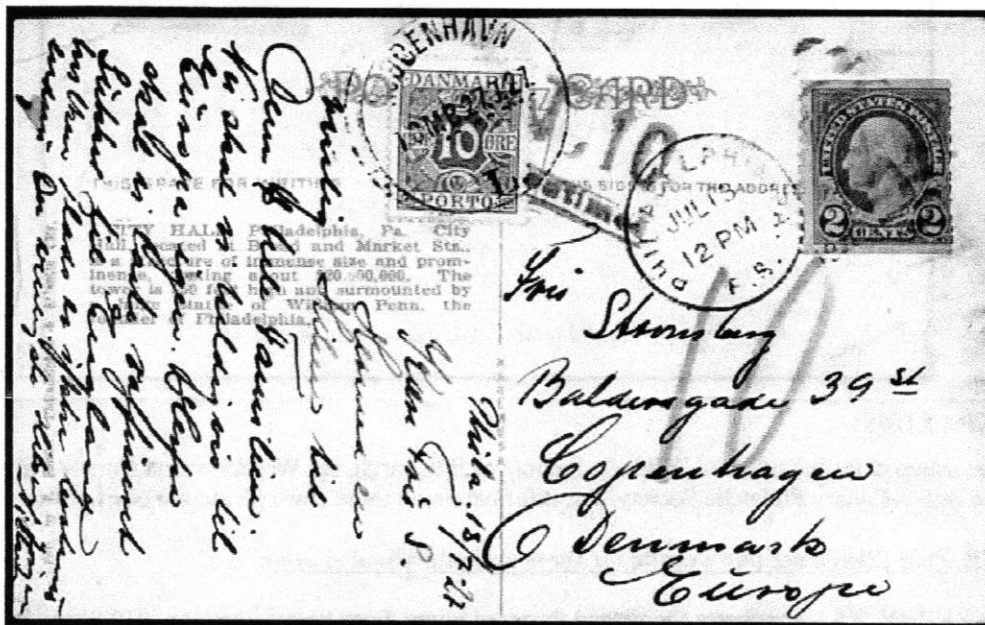
The problem was solved by France in 1859, with the issuance of official postage due stamps, affixed at the delivery office before being taken out to the recipients. Many other countries followed suit.

Postage due stamps (or "labels", to clarify that they have no value of their own) are not always affixed to individual letters; in the case of business mail, the total due might be summed, and the appropriate stamps added to the top letter in a bundle, or to a bundle's wrapper. The labels have also been used to collect money for other purposes, such as magazine subscriptions.

Since postage due stamps are almost always used only within a single country, they are usually quite simple in design, mostly consisting of a large numeral, and an inscription saying "postage due", "porto", etc; often there is no country name. As with definitive stamps, a variety of values are needed to make up specific amounts.

More recently, many countries have replaced postage due stamps with postal meters. The United States did so in 1986.

While technically there is no reason for postage dues to reach private hands unused, postal administrations have always been willing to sell them to collectors, and the postage dues of many countries exist in vast numbers, almost all unused and of negligible value. Valid usages on cover are much less common.



POST CARD SENT IN 1927 FROM PHILADELPHIA, PA U.S.A. TO COPENHAGEN, DENMARK. INSUFFICIENT POSTAGE, SURFACE RATE WAS 3 CENTS. ASSESSED 10-CENTIMES (2 CENTS) POSTAGE DUE (POSTAGE DUE WAS ASSESSED AT DOUBLE THE SHORT PAID VALUE). (Tom Reiff collection)

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