



APS CHAPTER #122934



WWW.WILKINSBURGSTAMPCLUB.COM

**WILKPEX '16**  
 Wilkinsburg Stamp Club  
*salutes... former Pittsburgh Steeler*  
**ROCKY** Bleier  
 Exhibition Station  
 Monroeville, PA 15146  
**April 9, 2016**

2016 EXHIBITION SOUVENIR  
 APRIL 9, 10

WE ♥ DELIVERING THE MAIL AND NEED MORE

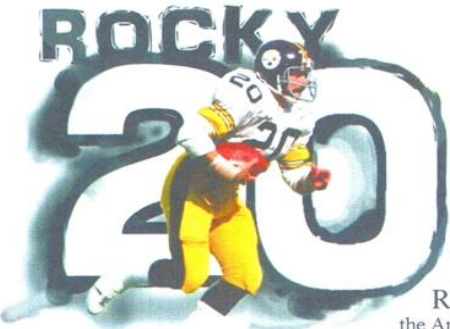
MAIL SOMETHING, EVEN IF IT IS TO YOURSELF

FOREVER (MAYBE) UPPER SLOBBOVIA WE DO SUNDAYS  
 SEND REGULAR MAIL

'SNAIL MAIL LIVES!'

FOREVER (MAYBE) UPPER SLOBBOVIA WE DO HOLIDAYS  
 FROM ME TO ME

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB  
 P.O. BOX 10552  
 PITTSBURGH, PA 15235-0552

**ROCKY**  


Rocky Bleier - While serving with the Army in Viet Nam he suffered a severe foot injury and was awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. They said the former Notre Dame star would never play football again. He was a running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers 1968, 1971 - 80. He ran for over 1000 yards for the Steelers in 1976. He was a four time AFC and Super Bowl Champion in 1974, 1975, 1978, 1979, and a member of the Pittsburgh Pro Football Hall of Fame. When he retired in 1980, he was the Steelers' 4th all-time leading rusher. I guess you could say "they" were wrong. -Rock On!!

WILKPEX 2016 Pittsburgh, PA 15235-0552.

ABOVE IS A "PREVIEW" OF OUR 2016 WILKPEX CANCEL, CACHET AND SOUVENIR SHEET. THERE IS A CANCEL FOR BOTH SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2016 (PICTURED) AND SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2016

**WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB - APRIL, 2016**

**OFFICERS / ADDRESS / WHEN WE MEET**

**President:** Andy Novotny  
([email: novoand@hotmail.com](mailto:novoand@hotmail.com))

**Vice-President:** Laura Kaczynski  
([email: laurakac13@verizon.net](mailto:laurakac13@verizon.net))

**Secretary:** Tom Reiff    **Treasurer:** Danielle Weaver

**MAILING ADDRESS:** Wilkinsburg Stamp Club  
P.O. Box 10552  
Pittsburgh, PA 15235-0552

We meet on the second and fourth Sunday (except holidays and fourth Sunday in June, July and August) of each month. Meetings are from 12:30 P.M. until close of business, with the business meeting at 2:00 P.M. Meeting at the Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill, PA 15235.

**DUES ARE ONLY \$8.00 PER YEAR (JULY-JUNE)**

**Newsletter Editor:** Tom Reiff  
([email: treiffer@msn.com](mailto:treiffer@msn.com))

**Mailing Coordinator:** Eugene Bujdos  
([email: gbujdos@yahoo.com](mailto:gbujdos@yahoo.com))

**THE EDITOR WRITES...**

Our annual exhibition and bourse is this month. Please try to attend to find some items to add to your collection(s). It will be fun!

**APRIL, 2016 MEETING DATES**

April 24th ONLY  
No meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> (WILKPEX)  
On April 24th we will have "SHOW and TELL" before the meeting. Bring one of your "favorites."  
\*\*\*\*\* **PLEASE JOIN US** \*\*\*\*\*

**DID YOU KNOW?** It was **200 years** ago this month, on April 11 that, In Philadelphia, the African Methodist Episcopal Church was established by **Richard Allen** and other African-American Methodists, the first such denomination completely independent of White churches. A stamp was issued, this year on February 5, for Richard Allen (Black Heritage Series.)

This newsletter is published ten times per year. Eight issues are published monthly for the months of January, February, March, April, September, October, November and December. For the months of May through August, two issues are published, one for the months of MAY-JUNE and one for the months of JULY-AUGUST.

\*\*\*\* **OUR FISCAL YEAR IS JULY 1 – JUNE 30** \*\*\*\*

**CLUB NEWS**

**OFFICER ELECTIONS:** Elections for office of President and Secretary were held at the March 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. We are happy to report that Andy Novotny was re-elected President. Tom Reiff had previously announced his retirement as Secretary at the end of his term on June 30, 2016. Lorraine Vincent has volunteered to "give it a try".

**WILKPEX 2016 UPDATE – APRIL 9 & 10**

**Dealers:** We currently have 11 dealers using 19 tables. This is the maximum number of tables that was can accommodate.

**Cachet & Cancel:** Both the cachet and cancel are complete and ready for the show. As stated in previous newsletters, this year is former Pittsburgh Steelers great, Rocky Bleier.

**Souvenir Sheet:** This year's souvenir sheet is "spoofing" the 2015 "From ME to YOU" stamp and an Upper Slobovia "SEND REGULAR MAIL" stamp. It has been printed and will be available at the show.

**Exhibits:** We will have nine members who will be exhibiting and will fill 15 or 16 frames. One exhibitor has two exhibits. The Club will fill the remaining frames with non-competitive exhibits.

**Advertising:** The show ad has been in the last several issues of the APS Journal. Linn's Stamp News has and will have show advertising. Members also took advertising fliers to distribute at various local places and newspapers, etc.

**Advance Mailing:** The advance mailing show postcards to non-members were mailed on March 28<sup>th</sup>. This year we are mailing 140 postcards, an increase from 115 mailed in 2015.

**WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB - APRIL, 2016**

**FIRST MODERN OLYMPIC GAMES – APRIL 6-15, 1896**

It was 120 years ago this month that the 1896 Summer Olympics, (Modern Olympic Games) were held. On April 6, 1896, the Olympic Games, a long-lost tradition of ancient Greece, are reborn in Athens 1,500 years after being banned by Roman Emperor Theodosius I. At the opening of the Athens Games, King Georgios I of Greece and a crowd of 60,000 spectators welcomed athletes from 13 nations to the international competition.

The first recorded Olympic Games were held at Olympia in the Greek city-state of Elis in 776 B.C., but it is generally accepted that the Olympics were at least 500 years old at that time. The ancient Olympics, held every four years, occurred during a religious festival honoring the Greek god Zeus. In the eighth century B.C., contestants came from a dozen or more Greek cities, and by the fifth century B.C. from as many as 100 cities from throughout the Greek empire. Initially, Olympic competition was limited to foot races, but later a number of other events were added, including wrestling, boxing, horse and chariot racing, and military competitions. The pentathlon, introduced in 708 B.C., consisted of a foot race, the long jump, discus and javelin throws, and wrestling. With the rise of Rome, the Olympics declined, and in 393 A.D. the Roman Emperor Theodosius I, a Christian, abolished the Games as part of his efforts to suppress paganism in the Roman Empire.

With the Renaissance, Europe began a long fascination with ancient Greek culture, and in the 18th and 19th centuries some nations staged informal sporting and folkloric festivals bearing the name "Olympic Games." However, it was not until 1892 that a young French baron, Pierre de Coubertin, seriously proposed reviving the Olympics as a major international competition that would occur every four years. At a conference on international sport in Paris in June 1894, Coubertin again raised the idea, and the 79 delegates from nine countries unanimously approved his proposal. The International Olympic Committee (IOC) was formed, and the first Games were planned for 1896 in Athens, the capital of Greece.

In Athens, 280 participants from 13 nations competed in 43 events, covering track-and-field, swimming, gymnastics, cycling, wrestling, weightlifting, fencing, shooting, and tennis. All the competitors were men, and a few of the entrants were tourists who stumbled upon the Games and were allowed to sign up. The track-and-field events were held at the Panathenaic Stadium, which was originally built in 330 B.C. and restored for the 1896 Games. Americans won nine out of 12 of these events. The 1896 Olympics also featured the first marathon competition, which followed the 25-mile route run by a Greek soldier who brought news of a victory over the Persians from Marathon to Athens in 490 B.C. In 1924, the marathon was standardized at 26 miles and 385 yards. Appropriately, a Greek, Spyridon Louis, won the first marathon at the 1896 Athens Games.

Pierre de Coubertin became IOC president in 1896 and guided the Olympic Games through its difficult early years, when it lacked much popular support and was overshadowed by world's fairs. In 1924, the first truly successful Olympic Games were held in Paris, involving more than 3,000 athletes, including more than 100 women, from 44 nations. The first Winter Olympic Games were also held that year. In 1925, Coubertin retired. The Olympic Games have come to be regarded as the foremost international sports competition. At the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney, more than 10,000 athletes from 200 countries competed, including nearly 4,000 women. In 2004, the Summer Olympics returned to Athens, with more than 11,000 athletes competing from 202 countries. In a proud moment for Greeks and an exciting one for spectators, the shotput competition was held at the site of the classical Games in Olympia.

As we know, there are many, many stamps, covers, postcards, etc. that commemorate the Olympics. Unfortunately, the USPS has, once again decided NOT to issue an Olympic Games stamp or stamps. I can't figure that one out. Below are a few examples of Summer Olympic Games and related stamps. Greece issued a set of 12 stamps (Scott #117-128) in 1896 to commemorate these 1<sup>st</sup> International Olympic Games of the modern era. Six of these stamps (Scott #159-164) were surcharged with new values in 1900-01. Counterfeit surcharges exist. Below are images of some of the 1896 & 1900-01 stamps.



**Scott #117**  
**Boxers**



**Scott #125**  
**Stadium and Acropolis**



**Scott #128**  
**Acropolis and Parthenon**



**Scott #160**  
**Vase Depicting**  
**Minerva**  
**(Double Surcharge)**



**Scott #161**  
**Statue of**  
**Hermes**



## WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB – APRIL, 2016

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### Upcoming Stamp, Postcard and Collectible Shows

**POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW** – April 2 – **PITTSBURGH, PA** - Three Rivers Postcard Club, Fairhaven United Methodist Church, 2415 Saw Mill Run Blvd. (Route 51), Pittsburgh, PA 15234. 9AM – 4PM Admission \$2.00

**STAMP SHOW** – April 9-10 – **MONROEVILLE, PA** - WILKPEX Wilkensburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370 Northern Pike, Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146. Saturday 10AM – 4PM; Sunday 10AM – 3PM Special Cachet, Special Cancel. Admission FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – April 29 - 30 – **LANCASTER, PA** – LANCOPEX 2016 - Lancaster County Philatelic Society, Farm & Home Center/Lancaster County, 1383 Arcadia Rd., Lancaster, Pennsylvania 17601 Friday 10AM – 5PM; Saturday 10AM – 4PM. Admission FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – May 6-7 – **BUTLER, PA** – BUTLERPEX Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center, 10 Austin Avenue, Lyndora, PA Friday 10AM – 5PM; Saturday 10AM – 5PM Admission FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – May 20 - 22 **ROCHESTER, NY** – ROPEX - The Greater Canandaigua Civic Center, 250 North Bloomfield Rd, Canandaigua, New York 14424 Friday/Saturday Daily Admission \$2; Sunday FREE; RPA Members and Youth under 18 Free. Friday 11-6, Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-3.

**STAMP SHOW** – June 10 -11 – **COLUMBUS, OHIO** - COLOPEX 2015 – Rhodes Center, Ohio Expo Center, 717 East 17th Avenue Columbus, Ohio. Fri 10AM – 6PM, Sat 10AM – 6PM, Sun 10AM – 3PM.

**STAMP SHOW** – June 18 - 19 – **BELLEFONTE, PA** – SCOPEX 2016 - Mt. Nittany Philatelic Society. American Philatelic Center, 100 Match Factory Place, Bellefonte, Pennsylvania 16823. Saturday 10AM – 5PM; Sunday 10AM – 4PM.

And don't forget, during the year, weather permitting, Trader Jack's Flea Market (every Sat-Sun), Hannastown (MAY-SEP 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday), Bull Creek (MAY-OCT 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday), Washington Antiques Fair (Consol Energy Park – Last Sunday of the month), etc.

### ATTEND A SHOW – FIND A TREASURE

### PITTSBURGH AREA STAMP CLUB WEBSITES

Here are some interesting Internet Web Sites. Once you access this URL, you may be able to navigate to other parts of the web site.

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
<http://www.muleshoepa.com/WCPS/WCPS.HTM>

**PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF PITTSBURGH**  
<http://www.presidentdrive.com>

### 50 YEARS AGO – APRIL 1966



**FRANK SINATRA STAMP – 2015 HUNGARY**

**B-52 STAMP – 1996 FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA**

**MARATHON STAMP – 1996 UNITED STATES**

#### HISTORICAL FACTS WITH PHILATELIC CONNECTIONS OVER THE YEARS, STAMPS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR FRANK SINATRA, THE B-52 BOMBER AND THE MARATHON

**APRIL 11, 1966** - Frank Sinatra records "Strangers in the Night" single for his album of the same name. Later reaches #1 on the Billboard charts.

**APRIL 12, 1966** - For the first time, North Vietnam was bombed by American B-52 planes, after years of bombing runs by smaller planes. In the largest bombing mission by any nation since World War II, 29 B-52s dropped 585 tons of bombs on the Mu Gia Pass through the Annamese Mountain Range, in an attempt to break the supply line that was nicknamed the "Ho Chi Minh trail"

**APRIL 19, 1966** - Roberta Gibb of San Diego became the first woman to run in the Boston Marathon, though unofficially, because the foot race was officially limited to men at the time. Gibb had applied to the Amateur Athletic Association in 1965 to run for that year's Marathon, and was rejected with a letter explaining that it was "not physiologically possible for a woman" to run the distance of more than 26 miles. On the day of the 1966 race, Gibb dressed in a hooded sweatshirt and sweatpants, hid near the starting line, then jumped in with the other runners as the race began in Hopkinton. Unofficially, Gibb (whose married name was Mrs. Roberta Bingay) finished in 124th place in the field of more than 500 contestants, completing the course in 3 hours, 21 minutes and 25 seconds.