



APS CHAPTER #122934



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## FEBRUARY & MARCH ISSUES FOR 2015

### STARS & STRIPES PRESORTED STANDARD (FIRST DAY OF ISSUE WAS FEBRUARY 27)

Many business and personal mailers prefer using stamps featuring the American Flag. To meet volume business use, the U.S. Flag theme is played out in a Stars and Stripes issue featuring three stamps that together form elements of a waving flag. The stamps feature wavy red and white stripes, a blue field, and five-pointed stars. Along the bottom of each stamp are the words "USA Presorted Standard." Art director Greg Breeding designed the stamps illustrated by Nancy Stahl.



### GARDEN WATERLILIES (FIRST DAY OF ISSUE IS MARCH 20)

This set of four stamps features close-ups of classic garden water lilies, based on photos from the Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens in Washington by Cindy Dyer. Water lilies are aquatic herbs that live in both temperate and tropical climates around the world; they are found in still freshwater habitats. There are more than 50 species in the water lily family and hundreds of hybrids. Their flowers sit at or slightly above the water's surface. Although delicate looking, the flowers are tough, and grow well throughout the U.S.



### ARTIST MARTIN RAMIREZ (FIRST DAY OF ISSUE IS MARCH 26)

This set of five honors artist Martin Ramirez. Per a 2007 New York Times review of a Folk Art exhibition, in which he was described as "simply one of the greatest artists of the 20th century," Mexican-born Martin Ramirez came to the U.S. to work on the railroads that were being built in Northern California, was found to suffer from schizophrenia in the 1930s and confined to State Hospitals for the rest of his life. Fortunately, a psychologist and artist, Tarmo Pasto, discovered Ramirez and began to save the large drawings he was making on bits of paper glued together from a paste made of bread or potatoes and saliva.

### BELOW IS ONE OF THE FIVE DESIGNS



### FROM ME TO YOU LETTER WRITING (FIRST DAY OF ISSUE IS SCHEDULED FOR SOMETIME IN MARCH)

April is National Letter Writing Month, and San Francisco artist Michael Osborne has created one of the simplest stamp designs ever to encourage folks to write letters to loved ones. The marginal decorations and messages around the sheet are intended to be used as decorations on the envelope or letter.



## WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB – MARCH, 2015

### OFFICERS / ADDRESS / WHEN WE MEET

**President:** Andy Novotny

(email: novoand@hotmail.com)

**Vice-President:** Laura Kaczynski

(email: 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)

**Mailing Coordinator:** Eugene Bujdos

(email: gbujdos@yahoo.com)

### THE EDITOR WRITES...

Happy that spring is almost here.  
First Day of Spring is March 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Watch out for those POTHOLES!

### MARCH, 2015 MEETING DATES

March 8th and March 22<sup>nd</sup>

On March 22<sup>nd</sup> we will have "SHOW and TELL" before the meeting. Bring one of your "favorites."

\*\*\*\*\* PLEASE JOIN US \*\*\*\*\*



**SPRING FLOWER FESTIVAL (JUNE 4, 1960  
TURKEY – Scott #1480-1483)**

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 NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS:

Nominations for office of Vice-President and Treasurer were held at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. Elections for those offices will be held at the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Term of office is from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017.

**NEW CLUB LIBRARIAN:** Laura, Kaczynski has found it necessary to resign at club librarian. Tom Donohue has volunteered to take over the club librarian duties. **THANK YOU, TOM!**

#### CORRECTION FROM FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER:

Based on an inquiry from member Lorraine Vincent in regards to the article on Black History events in the February 2015 newsletter, your editor, based on additional research, has discovered that the information about Hattie Carraway should **NOT** have been included. Please accept my apologies for the error and thank Lorraine for bringing it to my attention.

**SHOW HELD:** Kevin Kellman (K2-Collectibles) held his first stamp show in the Pittsburgh area on February 21<sup>st</sup>. While the weather did not cooperate until later in the day, some brave souls ventured out in the snowy, slippery conditions to find some treasures for their collections. Kevin has informed your editor that his next show is scheduled for August, 2015 saying "there will be no snow then."

**APS ROAD TRIP:** On Friday, January 20 2015 members Laura Kaczynski, Jim Senkewitz and Danielle Weaver made a road trip to the APS in Bellefonte, PA. Everyone had a great time finding items for their collections and talking with some of the APS associates. The Club is sure to have more trips in 2015. We will keep you informed.

### WILKPEX 2015 UPDATE – APRIL 18 & 19

Less than 2 months away. All phases are moving along as planned and we are looking forward to another successful show.



**FIRST COMBAT AIR MISSION OF THE CURTISS JENNY AGAINST PANCHO VILLA IN 1916**

On September 22, 2013 the USPS issued the \$2.00 Inverted Jenny 6-stamp pane along with imperforate (no die-cuts) press sheet panes. Also for the normal panes, there was a distribution of 100 random panes with the plane in the "upright" position. As of this article, I believe there have been 20+ of these "upright" panes found and going for big money.

As there has been constant talk and written articles about these panes of the Curtiss Jenny I thought it would be interesting to have an article about what the Curtiss Jenny was involved in 99 years ago this month..

On March 19, 1916, eight Curtiss "Jenny" planes of the First Aero Squadron took off from Columbus, New Mexico, in the first combat air mission in U.S. history. The First Aero Squadron, organized in 1914 after the outbreak of World War I, was on a support mission for the 7,000 U.S. troops who invaded Mexico to capture Mexican revolutionary Pancho Villa.

On March 9, 1916, Villa, who opposed American support for Mexican President Venustiano Carranza, led a band of several hundred guerrillas across the border on a raid of the town of Columbus, New Mexico, killing 17 Americans. On March 15, under orders from President Woodrow Wilson, U.S. Brigadier General John J. Pershing launched a punitive expedition into Mexico to capture Villa. Four days later, the First Aero Squadron was sent into Mexico to scout and relay messages for General Pershing.

Despite numerous mechanical and navigational problems, the American fliers flew hundreds of missions for Pershing and gained important experience that would later be used by the pilots over the battlefields of Europe. However, during the 11-month mission, U.S. forces failed to capture the elusive revolutionary, and Mexican resentment over U.S. intrusion into their territory led to a diplomatic crisis. In late January 1917, with President Wilson under pressure from the Mexican government and more concerned with the war overseas than with bringing Villa to justice, the Americans were ordered home.

Glenn Hammond Curtiss (May 21, 1878 – July 23, 1930) was an American aviation pioneer and a founder of the U.S. aircraft industry. He began his career as a bicycle racer and builder before moving on to motorcycles. As early as 1904, he began to manufacture engines for airships. In 1908 Curtiss joined the Aerial Experiment Association (AEA), a pioneering research group, founded by Alexander Graham Bell at Beinn Bhreagh, Nova Scotia to build flying machines.

Curtiss made the first officially witnessed flight in North America, won a race at the world's first international air meet in France, and made the first long-distance flight in the United States. His contributions in designing and building aircraft led to the formation of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Company, now part of Curtiss-Wright Corporation.

As 1916 approached, it was feared that the United States would be drawn into World War I. The Army's Aviation Section, U.S. Signal Corps ordered the development of a simple, easy-to-fly and -maintain two-seat trainer. Curtiss created the JN-4 "Jenny" for the Army, and the N-9 seaplane version for the Navy. It is one of the most famous products of the Curtiss company, and thousands were sold to the militaries of the United States, Canada and Britain.

**WE ALL KNOW THE STAMPS OF THE USA FEATURING THE CURTISS JENNY AND GLENN CURTISS BUT BELOW ARE SOME FOREIGN STAMPS FEATURING THE CURTISS JENNY AND PANCHO VILLA**



**1983 BERMUDA**



**1998 BRIT. VIRGIN ISL.**



**1980 CANADA**



**1929 CHINA**



**1979 LIBERIA**



**1978 MEXICO**



**2014 MEXICO**



**2014 MEXICO**

**WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB – MARCH, 2015****MARK YOUR CALENDARS****Upcoming  
Stamp, Postcard and Collectible Shows**

**ANTIQUE & COLLECTIBLE SHOW** – Castle Shannon Fire Hall, **CASTLE SHANNON, PA**  
**REMAINING WINTER DATES ARE:** March 8 and April 12.  
 8AM – 3PM FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – March 7-8 – **NORTH CANTON, OHIO** –  
 McKinley Stamp Show McKinley Stamp Club, St. George  
 Serbian Orthodox Social Hall, 4667 Applegrove St., NW

**STAMP SHOW** – March 19-21 – **CLEVELAND, OHIO** –  
 Garfield Perry March Party – 125th Annual Stamp Exhibition  
 & Bourse – Thursday 11AM – 6PM; Friday 10AM – 5:30PM;  
 Saturday 10AM – 4PM La Villa Conference and Banquet  
 Center, 11500 Brookpark Road, Cleveland OH (Near I-480 &  
 West 130th)  
**NOTE: THIS SHOW IS BEING HELD THURSDAY  
 THROUGH SATURDAY IN 2015**

**STAMP SHOW** – March 22 – **CRANBERRY, PA**, Four  
 Points Sheraton, Cranberry, PA 10AM – 4PM FREE

**POSTCARD SHOW** – March 27 - 28 – **LANCASTER, PA**  
 The Morlatton Postcard Club, Inc., Fall Show, Farm & Home  
 Center, 1383 Arcadia Rd., Fri. 10AM – 6PM, Sat. 10AM –  
 4PM Admission charged.

**POSTCARD & PAPER SHOW** – April 11 – **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 11 – **CHAMBERSBURG, PA** –  
 Cumberland Valley Philatelic Society Spring Stamp Expo.  
 Chambersburg Recreation Center. Route 30 at I-81 Exit 16.  
 Go West to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street; turn left at Post Office; go 2 ½ blocks,  
 on right. Sat. 10AM – 5PM. Admission FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – April 18-19 – **MONROEVILLE, PA** –  
**WILKPEX** Wilkinsburg Stamp Club, Gateway Firehall, 4370  
 Northern Pike, Monroeville, Pennsylvania 15146. Saturday  
 10AM – 4PM; Sunday 10AM – 3PM Special Cachet, Special  
 Cancel. Admission FREE

**STAMP SHOW** – May 8-9 – **BUTLER, PA** – **BUTLERPEX**  
 Butler County Philatelic Society, Tanglewood Senior Center,  
 10 Austin Avenue, Lyndora, PA Friday 10AM – 5PM;  
 Saturday 10AM – 5PM Admission FREE

**ATTEND A SHOW – FIND A TREASURE****PITTSBURGH AREA STAMP CLUB WEBSITES**

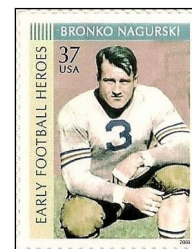
Here are some interesting Internet Web Sites. Once you  
 access this URL, you may be able to navigate to other parts  
 of the web site.

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

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

**50 YEARS AGO – MARCH 1965**

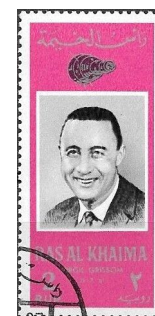
1999 USA – VIETNAM WAR



2003 USA – FOOTBALL



1965 RUSSIA SPACE (LEONOV)

1960'S RAS AL  
KHAIMA SPACE  
(GRISSOM)**HISTORICAL FACTS WITH PHILATELIC CONNECTIONS  
OVER THE YEARS, STAMPS HAVE BEEN ISSUED FOR  
THE VIETNAM WAR, FOOTBALL AND SPACE PROGRAMS**

**MARCH 8, 1965** – Some 3,500 United States Marines arrive in  
 South Vietnam, becoming the first American combat troops in  
 Vietnam.

**MARCH 10, 1965** – Rod Woodson is born in Fort Wayne,  
 Indiana. Played professional football for the Pittsburgh Steelers  
 (1987-1996); San Francisco 49ers (1997), Baltimore Ravens  
 (1998-2001) and the Oakland Raiders (2002-2003)

**MARCH 18, 1965** – Soviet cosmonaut Aleksei Leonov, leaving  
 his spacecraft *Voskhod 2* for 12 minutes, becomes the first  
 person to walk in space.

**MARCH 23, 1965** – NASA launches Gemini 3, the United  
 States' space program's first 2-person crew (Gus Grissom, John  
 Young) into Earth orbit.