



# WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

## Volume 21, Issue 4, April 2023

*Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293*

[www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com](http://www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com)

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Meeting Schedule: 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Doors open at 12:30 PM and meetings start at 2:00 PM.

Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill PA 15235

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**WILKPEX 2023** – Friday and Saturday April 14 (10 AM – 5 PM) & 15 (10 AM – 4 PM), 2023 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA.

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### Wilkinsburg Stamp Club News

- **SCHEDULE CHANGE**: No meeting Sunday April 9<sup>th</sup> (Easter). For May we will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> (May 7) and 3<sup>rd</sup> (May 21) Sundays of the month due to holidays.
- WILKPEX 2023 – Updates:
  - Things are finalized for dealers and exhibits. The souvenir sheet and cachet are set.
  - Set up will be Friday 8 AM and anyone who can come is welcome. There will be donuts and coffee every morning!
  - Gene has placed an ad (started 3/27) and submitted an article (in 4/10 edition) to Linn's Stamp News for the show.
  - Please make sure that all of your Phlea Market items are labeled with a price before you come to the show. Have the sheet ready as well listing everything.
  - After take down on Saturday all members are invited to Pugliano's for dinner, a new tradition. Let Danielle know if you intend to come.
  - Please consider making an exhibit about your favorite stamp or cover! Let Maureen know the title, subject and how many frames

will be needed ASAP. Each frame can hold up to 16 pages. Last date to be included is March 31<sup>st</sup>.

- So far 38 members have returned their votes on the updated Constitution and by-laws. The final results will be announced in the May Newsletter.
- Circuits will be available again in May. Danielle is working to return all that our members have gone through, and with her move it will take a bit.
- For 2024, Deb Foltyn has volunteered to be the WILKPEX chairman, with Scott Shaulis as dealer chairman. Thank you to both!
- The Club picnic will take place on Sunday Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon, at the Westinghouse Lodge in Forest Hills (where we had some pandemic meetings). The club will buy hamburgers, hot dogs and buns, and everyone can bring sides and desserts, as well as cheese, lettuce, onions and pickles. Everyone should also bring their own condiments.



## Philatelic News

- New US Issues for April:
  - Tulip Blossoms (April 5) – Another series (10) of flower stamps
  - Freedom US Flag (April 10) – Another US Flag stamp (reg, booklet, coil)
  - Roy Lichtenstein (April 24) – A series (5) depicting works by the US Pop artist



- Scott Shaulis (WSC member) is the new president of the American Stamp Dealers Association. He is working to ensure that everyone knows that dealers cater to all stamp collectors, not just the rich. There is a letter about this in Linn's (4/10 and article 3/13/23).
- The USPS is acting to try to counter the surge of counterfeit Forever stamps. They are changing their "Domestic Mail Manual" to treat any mail with a counterfeit stamp as "Abandoned" which means it will be disposed of. These changes take effect April 1<sup>st</sup>. They define counterfeit postage as "any marking or indicia that has been made, printed, or otherwise created without authorization from the Postal Service that is printed or applied, or otherwise affixed, on an article placed on mail that indicates or represents that valid postage has been paid to mail the article."



In mid-March, United States Customs and Border Protection officers confiscated more than 4,000 counterfeit U.S. postage stamps at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport in Texas. Customs officials said "The fraudulent stamps were discovered after CBP officers inspected packages that were manifested as 'hand account/self-adhesive sheets.' "

A total of 4,080 counterfeit stamps were discovered in 12 shipments from China, one of which contained 200 forever stamps with a declared value of \$10, Customs and Border Protection said. The current face value of 200 nondenominated (63¢) forever stamps is \$126.

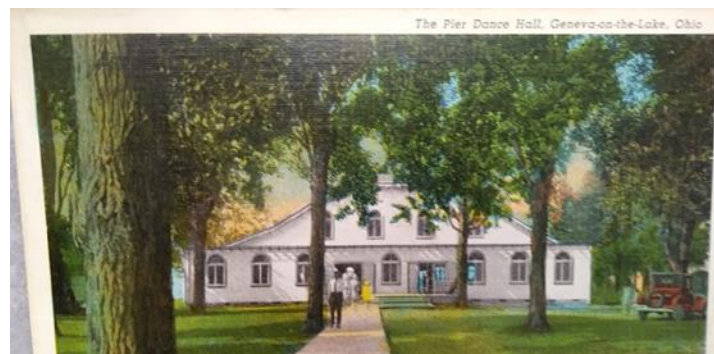
"When examining the shipment, CBP officers found sheets of really poor quality stamps and the value for those was suspicious at \$10," Yolanda Choates, a public affairs specialist for Customs and Border Protection, told Linn's Stamp News. "We notified the US Postal Inspection Service of our exam and they confirmed that those were counterfeit stamps," Choates said.

Some of the stamps in the seized shipments were counterfeits of the 2016 Patriotic Spiral stamp in booklet panes of 10, 2019 Coral Reefs stamps in panes of 20, and 2022 U.S. Flag stamps in double-sided panes of 20 and coil rolls of 100. (Linn's March 27, 2023)



## Collector's Corner

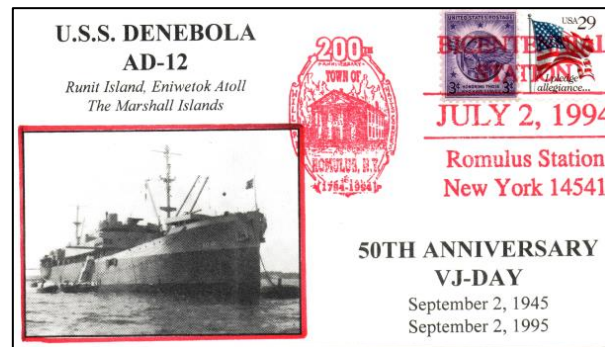
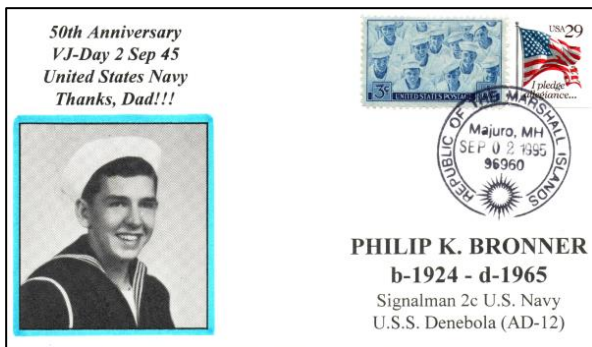
- Show and Tell is at the second meeting of each month. Please bring an item to show and talk about. It can be about a topic other than stamps. Sharing the story is the important part.
- The following members shared at the March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting:
  - John had some Ukrainian stamps he recently received – they were from the period after the Russian invasion, including the second Snake Island stamp, first day covers honoring the bomb-sniffing dog and a Christmas cover.
  - Maureen had a postcard from Geneva-on-the-Lake OH from July 1940, where the sender mentioned that they were going to hear Gene Krupa that week!
  - Bill brought Easter postcards from the soldiers of WWI, from several countries, plus a sheet explaining how some of the Easter traditions came to be.
  - Stevan had gotten several cachets from the Anchorage Stamp Show, commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Alaskan Railroad. (Let him know if you'd like to purchase one!)







- A followup to last month's Show & Tell – Member Phil Bronner, of Oregon, told me that his father also went to the Sampson Naval Base NY for basic training during WWII (not too long before my father). He makes military covers and sent me some cool examples honoring his father's service during WWII. Notice that he used the WWII Victory stamps honoring the Navy and Veterans ("Ruptured Duck" pin).



- The Taiwan Postal Museum has expanded their Covid-19 Stamp Exhibit which now runs through August 27<sup>th</sup> (in case you are planning a trip to the Far East). They will show over 145 sets of stamps and covers from the 110 countries that issued Covid 19 stamps through the end of 2022 (the US still has not issued any stamps honoring those on the front lines of the pandemic). Find more information on their website <https://museum.post.gov.tw>.



- John Hotchner had an interesting article in the March 27<sup>th</sup> Linn's about the 1898 Trans-Mississippi stamps. Some of you may have noticed that the reissues of 1998 are bicolored, while the originals are single color only, with no black. The originals were planned with the black ink, but when the USS Maine blew up and the Spanish-American War began, the Bureau of Engraving was suddenly overwhelmed by war printing demands including revenue stamps. Because the bicolor printing would have required essentially a second press run, it was decided to just do the color printing with no black, to save time. In 1997 it was decided that the centennial stamps would be printed as originally planned 100 years before.



## Upcoming Events Nearby

- April 14 – 15, 2023 – WILKPEX – Plum PA
- May 12 – 13, 2023 – Butlerpex, Butler (Lyndora) PA
- ~~June 9 & 10 – COLOPEX 2023, Columbus OH cancelled for 2023~~
- June 12 – 16 – APS Summer Seminar, Bellefonte PA
- Aug 10 – 13 – Great American Stamp Show, APS, American Topical Assn. & American First Day Cover Society, Cleveland OH
- Sept 2 – 4 – BALPEX 2023, Hunt Valley MD
- November 2023 - PITTPEX – Bridgeville PA

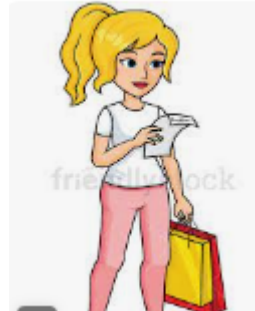
For more details google the stamp club or look at the November 2022 American Philatelist Magazine.



Some things to shop for at WILKPEX:

- Postcards – maybe for your topical area?
- Stamps – Fill in holes in your collections.
- Covers – Some of the coolest covers can be found in the “bargain bins” of our dealers.
- Covers with letters – Who doesn’t love reading someone else’s mail!
- Collecting Supplies – Need mounts? Albums? Filler pages? All are available including hinges, tools like tongs, and everything in-between!
- Phlea Market – Support your fellow club members. Most of us price our stuff to sell, and you can find good stuff for cheap!

Make wish lists for things to look for. Even if you are helping at the Phlea or front table, you can take time to shop.





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Churchill Borough Building, 2300 William Penn Hwy, Churchill PA 15235

*All are welcome! Free admission! Free snacks! Stamps! Fun for all!*

## WILKPEX – Our Annual Stamp Show

2023 – April 14 (10 AM – 5 PM) & 15 (10 AM – 4 PM) – Holiday Park Fire Hall, Plum PA.

### Officers:

President (Acting): Maureen McKeever ([maurmomck@gmail.com](mailto:maurmomck@gmail.com))  
Vice President: Laura Kaczynski ([laurakac13@verizon.net](mailto:laurakac13@verizon.net))  
Treasurer: David Albert ([ddalbert@aol.com](mailto:ddalbert@aol.com))  
Secretary/Newsletter Editor: Maureen McKeever ([maurmomck@gmail.com](mailto:maurmomck@gmail.com))  
Membership: Dave Pressler ([dave.pressler47@gmail.com](mailto:dave.pressler47@gmail.com))  
Web Tech: Dave Duggins ([davidfduggins@gmail.com](mailto:davidfduggins@gmail.com))  
Circuit Mgr: Danielle Weaver ([dmm742000@yahoo.com](mailto:dmm742000@yahoo.com))

WSC, PO Box 10552, Pittsburgh PA 15235

### Newsletter:

Original articles for the newsletter can be submitted from any member to Maureen at a meeting or emailed to her (see above) or via regular mail:

Maureen McKeever, 118 Larchwood Drive, Turtle Creek PA 15145.

Club members will be mailed a black and white copy of the newsletter each month. Anyone can request a color copy to be delivered at a meeting, but please let Stevan or Chris ([stevanw2020@gmail.com](mailto:stevanw2020@gmail.com)) know ahead of time.



(As long as the ships sail & get unloaded, no supply chain issues!!)