

WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB

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WEBSITE: WWW.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

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PAGE 1



LOVE RIBBONS



DANNY THOMAS



SUNSHINE SKYWAY BRIDGE and CARMEL MISSION



CHERRY BLOSSOM CENTENNIAL – 2 STAMPS

*** IN THIS ISSUE ***

- Page 2
1. Club Officers / When We Meet
 2. The Editor Writes
 3. Meeting Dates
 4. Publishing Months
 5. Club News

- Page 3
1. Tom's Topic:
The Alaska Purchase-March 30, 1867

- Page 4
1. Mark Your Calendars
 2. Internet Connections (Websites)
 3. 50 Years ago – March 1962

LOVE RIBBONS

The newest entry in the long-running Love series. ISSUED "EARLY" ON FEBRUARY 2. FIRST DAY OF ISSUE CANCEL WAS STILL FEBRUARY 14

DANNY THOMAS

As the star of the popular sitcom *Make Room for Daddy*, Danny Thomas (1912–1991) was the consummate entertainer and humanitarian. In 1962, in gratitude for prayers answered, Thomas opened St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, where children receive treatment for catastrophic diseases regardless of race, religion, or a family's ability to pay. ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 16.

PRIORITY & EXPRESS MAIL

The \$5.15 Priority Mail stamp featuring the Sunshine Skyway Bridge in Florida and the \$18.95 Express Mail stamp featuring Carmel Mission in California. BOTH ISSUED ON FEBRUARY 28.

CHERRY BLOSSOM CENTENNIAL

On March 27, 1912, in a modest ceremony at the Tidal Basin, in Washington, DC, First Lady Helen Herron Taft and Viscountess Chinda, wife of the Japanese ambassador, planted the first two trees, delighting a city for decades to come. SCHEDULED ISSUE DATE IS MARCH 24,

MARCH, 2012**OFFICERS / ADDRESS / WHEN WE MEET**

President: Andy Novotny
(email: novoand@hotmail.com)

Vice-President: Jim Senkewitz
(email: senkewitz2012@verizon.net)

Secretary: Tom Reiff **Treasurer:** Ray Damico

MAILING ADDRESS: Wilkesburg Stamp Club
P.O. Box 239
Apollo, PA 15613-0239

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.

Newsletter Editor: Tom Reiff
(email: treiffer@msn.com)

Mailing Coordinator: Eugene Bujdos
(email: gbujdos@yahoo.com)

THE EDITOR WRITES...

Spring is just around the corner. So far we haven't had much of a winter season? If you missed all the snow and cold, please see my topic on the Alaska Purchase where lots of snow and cold temperatures exist.

MARCH 2012 MEETING DATES

March 11th and March 25th
On March 25th we will have an "AUCTION" after the meeting. Bring any items that you wish to sell. You keep 100% of the winning bid prices.

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

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.

CLUB NEWS

OFFICER NOMINATIONS: Nominations for office of President and Secretary were held at the February 25th meeting.

OFFICER ELECTIONS: Elections for office of President and Secretary will be held at the March 11th meeting. Term of office is from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014.

LINN'S STAMP POLL: Fred Lewis received eleven (11) ballots for the Linn's 2011 U.S. Stamp Popularity Poll. Fred will mail the ballots to Linn's. Fred and the Club thanks to all who participated.

SCOTT U.S. SPECIALIZED CATALOGUE: The Club has purchased the 2012 (most current) Scott U.S. Specialized Catalogue. It is available at the meetings for your reference.

WILKPEX 2012 UPDATE

Dealers: We currently have 12 dealers using 19 tables.

Cachet & Cancel: Gene Bujdos reports that the cachet for former Pittsburgh Steelers great, Jack Butler, who is now part of the Football Hall of Fame Class of 2012, has been finished. The cachet is still in progress. Gene reports that he has asked Jack if he would be interested in attending our show to sign a few cachets and other collectibles. Jack is considering it.

Souvenir Sheet: This year's souvenir sheet "spoofing" the FOREVER stamps. It is ready to be printed.

Exhibits: We currently have five (5) members who have committed to exhibit. We still have three (3) frames available. Please consider exhibiting this year. Voting is by popular vote by the attendees. If you want to exhibit and need some direction on how, please contact one of the Club officers. **THANKS!**

Advertising: Jim Senkewitz, Jim Baird, Bill Badali and possibly others have worked together to set up a stamp display at the Penn Hills Library to help promote 2012 WILKPEX and the stamp collecting hobby. **THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED GET THIS DONE!**



1909 ALASKA-YUKON-PACIFIC EXPOSITION
PICTURING WILLIAM H. SEWARD



1937 TERRITORIAL ISSUE



1959 STATEHOOD AIRMAIL



2002 GREETINGS ISSUE



2008 FLAGS OF OUR NATION



1967 ALASKA
PURCHASE (AIR)



1984 STATEHOOD
25th ANNIV.



1982 BIRDS AND
FLOWERS ISSUE



ALASKA HWY
50th ANNIV.



1976 BICENTENNIAL ISSUE



2009 STATEHOOD CENTENNIAL



1984 DOGS
ALASKAN MALAMUTE, COLLIE



1987 NORTH AMERICAN WILDLIFE
ALASKAN BROWN BEAR

A BRIEF HISTORY

On March 30, 1867, Secretary of State William H. Seward agreed to purchase Alaska from Russia for \$7.2 million. Do you think this was too much to pay for a piece of land that was mostly unexplored? At the time, critics thought Seward was crazy and called the deal "Seward's folly." Seward was laughed at for his willingness to spend so much on "Seward's icebox" and Andrew Johnson's "polar bear garden."

But Seward had wanted to buy Alaska for a long time. Alaska is so large that the addition of this land would increase the size of the U.S. by nearly 20 percent. Russia had established a presence in Alaska in the early 18th century and offered to sell it to the United States during President James Buchanan's administration. But the Civil War stalled negotiations. After the war, it was not easy for Seward to convince the Senate that Alaska would be an important addition to the United States. The Senate ratified the treaty that approved the purchase by just one vote.

Ultimately, buying Alaska proved to be a very good move. Major discoveries of gold were made there in the 1880s and 1890s. These discoveries brought attention and people to Alaska. Today, petroleum transported across the state through a pipeline is Alaska's richest mineral resource.

In 1946, Alaskans approved statehood and adopted a constitution in 1955. On January 3, 1959, President Eisenhower announced Alaska's entrance into the Union as the 49th state.



WILLIAM H. SEWARD (1801-1872)

12th GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK
(1839-1842); U.S. SENATOR FROM
NEW YORK (1849-1861); 24th U.S.
SECRETARY OF STATE (1861-1869)