WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

Volume 24, Issue 12, December 2026

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club is a member of APS #12293

www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com

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

WILKPEX 2027 – Friday and Saturday April 9 & 10 (10 AM-4 PM; 10 AM-3 PM), 2026 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA (Pittsburgh 15219)

Wilkinsburg Stamp Club News

We regret to inform the Club that Connie (Conrad) Folytn has passed away. Connie, along with wife Deb and daughter Rebecca are long time Club members. He was an Army Veteran and former City of Pittsburgh Police Officer. Connie had a wide knowledge base for stamps and coins (and so much more). We will remember Connie for his great stories and and bad (groaner) jokes.



Their address is: The Foltyn's (Deb and Rebecca), 1023 Brintell St, Pittsburgh PA 15201

Christmas/Winter Holiday Party 2026:

We will be having our Annual Christmas Party on Sunday Dec. 13th (regular meeting day) at the usual place (Churchill Borough Building) eating around 12 noon-ish. Setup will be at 10:30 AM. The cost will be $10 per person and guests are welcome. Jaden's will again cater. A sign up sheet is going around at the meetings and if you'd like to come to the party but don't regularly come to meetings, **please RSVP** to Maureen (email at the end of newsletter) ***by Monday December 7th*** with how many attending.



Dues

Dues are due by December 30, and can be mailed in or brought to a meeting. The price is $8 for a single member, $12 for 2 members (family) then any additional family members are $4 each. Several members have paid for 2027 already (and some for longer!). Maureen will have the updated list of who has paid already at the next meeting (Dec. 13).



Election of Officers for 2027:

The Club has not held elections for the past few years, mostly because of dwindling attendance at meetings. We will have elections in January at our second meeting on 1/24. We must have volunteers to run. We will have the slate of candidates set on Jan 10th (next meeting after New Year's), so if anyone is interested please speak up then. The current officers are listed on the last page of the newsletter.

WILKPEX 2027:

- Please save stamps for our Raffle Jar! These can be US or World-wide. You can bring these to meetings and give to Maureen.
- As you go through your treasures new and old, and realize that you don't want something, throw it in a box labeled "To Sell" – that way when we get into 2027 you can see what you can put in the Phlea or give to the jug. If you have any questions please ask an experienced club member!
- Exhibits are a great way to show your collecton, and a fun way to learn more about a partiular stamp, topic or event. Consider doing an exhibit for WILKPEX – see Wylie, Maureen or Danielle for tips and advise



Please feel free to write to the address below, especially if you don't usually make it to meetings. Your letters are read aloud at our meetings.

Winter weather reminder – As we get colder and the days shorter, please watch the weather. We have several members who drive a good way to come to meetings, and we want everyone to be safe. Use your best judgement about driving to meetings if it is snowing etc. If you can't come that is fine – stay home snuggled up with your newest bag of stamps!





At each meeting we have 2 contests where members can win prizes! In November the winners were Alan and Scott (for 2 contests).



Philatelic News

Two final Holiday stamps from the USPS:





These will be sold in kiosks in selected post offices.

U.S. Postal Service Announces Stamp Subjects for 2027

Sports legends, mythical creatures and celebrations featured

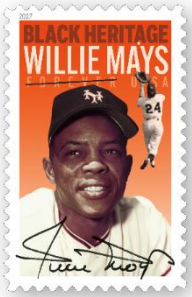
WASHINGTON — The U.S. Postal Service today announced some of the stamps it will release in 2027.

This is a partial list, with additional subjects to be announced in the coming weeks and months. These designs are preliminary and may change.



Pat Summitt
In her 38 years at the helm of the University of Tennessee women's basketball program, Pat Summitt (1952-2016) led her team to 1,098 victories and eight national championships. Demanding, disciplined and fiercely competitive, Summitt pushed her players to excel on and off the court. Her success helped elevate women's basketball nationally while raising expectations for how women athletes and their coaches should be supported. The stamp art features an oil-on-primed-linen portrait of Summitt created by Roberto Parada. Ethel Kessler, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp.

Willie Mays (Black Heritage)



Often called the greatest all-around baseball player ever, Willie Mays (1931-2024) is celebrated with the 50th stamp in the USPS Black Heritage series. Known for his elite defense, he won 12 MLB Gold Glove Awards. The stamp design is an homage to classic baseball cards. It features two photos: a portrait of Mays as a New York Giant and a photo of Mays making an over-the-shoulder catch. That play from Game 1 of the 1954 World Series, known as "The Catch," is widely considered baseball's most famous play and led to a New York Giants win. The orange background of the stamp is a reference to the color that followed Mays through his career, from the New York and San Francisco Giants to the New York Mets. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp with photographs from Getty Images.



Lunar New Year — Year of the Goat
In 2027, the U.S. Postal Service marks the Year of the Goat with the eighth stamp in its third Lunar New Year series, which began in 2020. Traditionally associated with new beginnings and the coming of spring, Lunar New Year is one of the world's most widely celebrated holidays. For this series, artist Camille Chew created cut-paper masks representing the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamp using Sally Andersen-Bruce's photograph of the Year of the Goat mask.

Love (2027)
Whether it's a colorful rainbow or a warm, sunny day or a playful pinwheel spinning in the breeze, this year's Love stamp is a reminder of the many gifts that hold important places in our hearts. Influenced by the pared-down color palettes and symbolism of folk art, artist and stamp designer Lisa Congdon organized the stamp design on a grid with simple and bright colors using geometric shapes and other symbols that evoke joy. Greg Breeding provided art direction for the stamp.





Unicorns
Featuring dreamlike scenes that suggest a gentle forest of enchantment and peace, these stamps feature unicorns, the legendary creatures that hold the promise of magic to those who have the rare good fortune to encounter them. This pane of 16 stamps features four scenes of unicorns by Kendra Binney, whose mixed-media artwork employs watercolor, acrylic, pencil and digital effects. Derry Noyes, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps.



Colorful Blooms
This issuance continues our annual tradition of offering stamps with beautiful, unique floral designs. Each of these four new stamps showcases a close-up illustration of an abstract flower rendered in a mix of watercolor — providing a translucent, ethereal quality — and gouache (a less translucent watercolor) for opaque touches. Antonio Alcalá, an art director for USPS, designed the stamps with illustrations by Magrikie Berg.

As always there will be more stamps issued through the year. I will put that information in as we get it, and when we have the release dates.

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.

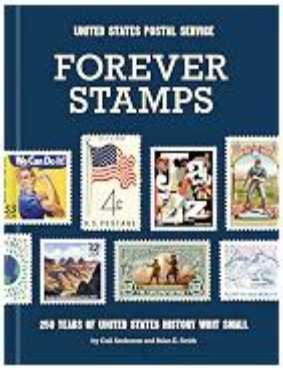
November's Show & Tell:

a. Alan brought some of his variations that he collected as he went through stamps. Most were from the early 20th century. Most were identified by Scotts, some not. Most were printing errors caused by 2 color printing with each color being a separate printing, and several were "fatigue" errors caused by overusing the plates. He had US220 A & C, the 2 cent Columbus, Pan Am stamps and a few others.
b. Maureen brought the envelope Dawn had sent her Christmas card in – it had been postmarked at the North Pole Station Alaska. You can send a big envelope of ready-to-go cards to Anchorage and they will put the special mark on for you, no extra charge. She also had the bracket for the Division III Football Championship, where her alma mater USMMA is playing!
c. Mike R brought a brochure showing that you can indeed buy anything with stamps printed on it – it was for ladies underwear.
d. Marti brought her collection of America 250 rubber ducks.
e. Ron brought his copy of the "Forever Stamps – 250" book published by USPS that he got as a gift. He said the initial print had run out. He also had the envelope an ornament came in, looking like an airmail envelope.









(PS – This book is currently available on Amazon)

Please take some time before the January 24th meeting and see if you have something fun to share from your collection. We all love the stories!



We received a letter from Dawn Richards, our Tennesee member. She talked about the Christmas events in Kingsport TN including the Christmas Parade and the carousal with hand-crafted animals!



Upcoming Events Nearby

- December 5 – Stamping with Santa – Erie PA
- December 13 – K2 Lancaster Stamp Show – Lancaster PA
- February 26 & 27 – Toledo Stamp Expo – Perrysburg OH
- March 20 & 21 – BUFPEX – Cheektowaga NY
- April 9 & 10 – WILKPEX – Plum PA

For more details Google the stamp club or look at the latest issue of the American Philatelist Magazine or the calendar at APS - (https://stamps.org/events/events-calendar)

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

WILKPEX – Our Annual Stamp Show

WILKPEX 2027 – Friday and Saturday April 9 & 10 (10 AM-4 PM; 10 AM-3PM), 2026 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA (Pittsburgh 15219)

Officers:

President, Secretary & Newsletter Editor: Maureen McKeever (maurmomck@gmail.com)

Vice President: John Harding (hardingeb@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Danielle Weaver

Membership: Maureen McKeever

Circuit Manager: Danielle Weaver (dmm742000@yahoo.com)

Web Tech: Dave Duggins (davidfduggins@gmail.com)

WSC c/o Danielle Weaver, 3710 Henley Drive, 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 Scott Shaulis (scottshaulis@comcast.net) know ahead of time.



(Christmas time is here!)