



# WILKINSBURG STAMP CLUB NEWS

## Volume 22, Issue 2, February 2024

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

[www.wilkinsburgstampclub.com](http://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 2024** – Friday and Saturday April 12 (10 AM – 4 PM) & 13 (10 AM – 3 PM), 2024 – Holiday Park Fire Department, Plum PA.

## Wilkinsburg Stamp Club News

### Officer Election:


The following offices are up for election as of January 1, 2024:

- President (2024 only) – Maureen has been acting President and agreed to finish the current term.
- Vice President (2024 – 2025) – John has agreed to take the position.
- Treasurer (2024 – 2025) – Lois has agreed to take the position.

We will have the elections later in February (aiming for the 2/11 meeting after examining the rules for elections). If anyone else wants to put their names in for an office please come to the meeting. The offices of President and Secretary will be up at the end of 2024.



## WILKPEX 2024:

- Dates and times are Friday 4/12 10 – 4 and Saturday 4/13 10 – 3. The down payment for the hall has been submitted.
- Scott has obtained a few more dealers but we still have some open slots, Please let him know if you know of someone for him to contact.
- If you'd like to show an exhibit please let Maureen know the name, topic and how many frames you'll need. You can have anywhere from 9 – 16 pages per frame.
- Gene announced that Jim Leyland will be the subject of the 2024 cachet.
- We will have at least 2 large jars of various stamps to raffle off at the greeting table. All donations accepted!
- Stay tuned for more details! 

2023 Treasurer's Report – David delivered a summary report of all income and expenses for last year. The largest source of income for the club was circuit sales, followed by cachet sales and donations. A copy will be sent to anyone who asks for one.

## Philatelic News

- February 2024 US Stamps issues (as of now):
  - Saul Bellow – 3 ounce rate - (2/6) – Part of the continuing 3 ounce Literary Arts series.
  - Radiant Star - Presorted Standard First Class Coils - (2/19)



**Don't forget – On Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup> first-class postage went up to \$0.68!**

## 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.
- Show and Tell from 1/28/24:
  - Dave R showed a stamp decoder from 1997 – you held it over certain USPS stamps to reveal hidden messages. He also had a sheet showing which stamps had the messages (visible on the right below).
  - Maureen had a Frozen Treat stamp from 2018 that was from the first “scratch & sniff” stamps issued in the US. They used microencapsulation to hold the scent until scratched.
  - Ron had 2 WILKPEX programs from 1989 and 1990 – it was cool seeing how many dealers and exhibits there were back then.
  - Scott had several boxes of covers for the members to go through and buy.
  - Wylie had Bob G's briefcase and had items for the members to go through as well.



## USPS to Install Thousand of Chargers to Support Electrified Delivery Fleet

Story by Chris Teague – The Truth about Cars - 1/23/24

The United States Postal Service has been moving toward electrification for a while now, though it's not made the progress some had initially hoped. The EVs are coming, however, and the [USPS is looking to support](#) that fleet with thousands of chargers located at post offices across the country.

The USPS will convert 400 post offices into hubs that can deploy EVs along delivery routes. Working with Siemens, ChargePoint, and others, the government agency will install 14,000 chargers at strategic locations. The USPS agreed to buy 9,250 Ford E-Transit vans, which offer significantly improved capability over the now-antique Grumman LLV mail delivery vehicles.

Almost 12,000 more EVs will join the fleet by 2028, and the USPS said it will add another 45,000 electric next-generation delivery vehicles by 2028. At the end of the day, the \$40 billion effort will yield one of the country's largest EV fleets and should significantly change how the USPS does business.

While EVs aren't the best for road trips, their torque and near-silent operation make them ideal for delivery routes and in-town driving. The E-Transit is a huge improvement over the current mail vehicles, and almost any vehicle would bring more comfort and safety than the boxy, loud Grummans roaming our streets today.

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## **Richmonders are still having mail issues, and USPS still won't hold a town hall**

Story by Karri Peifer - Axios - 1/19/2024

For the second time in [recent weeks](#), the U.S. Postal Service has refused to hold a town hall in Richmond to address residents' mail delivery concerns.

The latest [request to hold a forum](#) came from Virginia Sens. Tim Kaine and Mark Warner and Rep. Jennifer McClellan, [WTVR reports](#).

- Their request came after USPS declined to show up for a town hall the city's Commonwealth's Attorney Colette McEachin [scheduled last month](#).

**Why it matters:** Residents continue to report mail issues, all over town, including undelivered mail, lost packages, late jury summonses and mail theft since at least last year, [per WRIC](#).

- The commonwealth's attorney office "has received literally hundreds of emails, Facebook posts, texts [and] phone calls," McEachin told the station.

[In their letter](#) to the Virginia district USPS manager, lawmakers noted one Richmonder whose package was held for six weeks before delivery.

- In another instance, they said a Bellevue business owner is racking up credit card late fees because her outgoing payments are never delivered.
- In Church Hill, locals say their neighborhood post office closes on random days or sometimes for weeks at a time with no notice, [NBC12 reported](#).
- And 8th District Richmond City Council member [Reva Trammell told the Times-Dispatch last week the city threatened](#) to cut off her water because it hadn't received payments she mailed in for her monthly utility bill.

Meanwhile, residents in north Richmond and parts of Henrico [said they had gone months](#) without receiving mail, with undelivered mail periodically discovered discarded in alleyways.

- And [McEachin warned city residents](#) to stop using USPS's big, blue outdoor collection boxes, saying "your mail is not safe if you deposit it" due to theft.

**What we're watching:** If USPS won't meet with the public, McEachin is now calling on the organization to at least communicate with her office so they can better respond to Richmonders' concerns.

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Stay tuned for the latest information on the USPS and their issues and upgrades!

## Upcoming Events Nearby

- March 2 – 3 – McKinney Stamp Show, Canton OH
- March 15 – 17 – The Garfield-Perry 2024 March Party – Strongsville OH
- March 23 – 24 – BUFFPEX, Cheektoaga NY
- April 12 – 13 2024 – WILKPEX. Plum PA
- May 2024 – Butlerpex, Butler (Lyndora) PA

For more details google the stamp club or look at the latest issue of the American Philatelist Magazine.



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

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

## WILKPEX – Our Annual Stamp Show

2024 – April 12 (10 AM – 4 PM) & 13(10 AM – 3 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))  
Web Tech: Dave Duggins ([davidfduggins@gmail.com](mailto:davidfduggins@gmail.com))  
Membership & Circuit Mgr: Danielle Weaver ([dmm742000@yahoo.com](mailto:dmm742000@yahoo.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 Stevan or Chris ([stevanw2020@gmail.com](mailto:stevanw2020@gmail.com)) know ahead of time.



(This ship survived the storm – and has all her containers!)