



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



APS 037461
CHAPTER 0431

Our 125th Anniversary!!!

1893: The First U. S. Commemorative Stamps

Postmaster General John Wanamaker stirred up quite a commotion back in 1893 when he issued the nation's first commemorative postage stamps. He was rebuked by a congressional joint resolution that protested the "unnecessary" stamps. Wanamaker, an astute businessman, defended his actions by saying that the commemorative stamps could become money-makers. History proved him right.

The controversial first commemorative stamps were the Columbian Exposition Issue. Printed by the American Bank Note Company, the stamps were issued to commemorate the World Columbian Exposition held in Chicago, Illinois, from May 1 to October 30, 1893. The stamps celebrated the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's voyage to the New World.

The series consisted of 15 stamps with face values ranging from one cent to five dollars. Each bore the dates 1492 and 1892. Postmaster General Wanamaker added a 16th, eight-cent stamp to the series when the fee for registering a letter was reduced from 10 cents.

Well Spring is over and the long long hot summer is here. Not to worry because summer is the best time to work on your stamp collection! There are several stamp shows coming up in the area. Bill Vance's dealers browse is coming up in August at the Music Valley Event Center (the same place the as the club show last March). The Evansville, Lexington, and Memphis club shows will be coming up in the next few months. Also, many large stamp auctions are soon being held live or via the internet. Many stamps seldom seen are available from these auctions. Give a try maybe you'll get lucky and get those stamps you've been looking for. And don't forget the club - we have lots of fun things coming up during the Summer!

Matt Benward, President NPS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1893:First US Commemorative Stamps	1
The President's Corner	1
Nashville Stamp News	2
Club Information	2
Minutes of the Society	3&4
PITCAIRN ISLAND	5
1893:First US Commemorative Stamps	6

* STAMP CLUB NEWS *

Nashville Stamp Show 2012

Our annual stamp show was held in March at The Music Valley Event Center located at 2416 Music Valley Drive, Suite #144 near the Opryland Hotel. I would like to thank all the club members that helped out. We had as in previous years 20 stamps dealer and post card dealers. The stamp exhibits were run by Nick Munn and he did an excellent job. This year the judge gave a program on how to do a stamp exhibit which was attended by about 10 people.

Nashville Stamp Show 2013

At the end of May The Music Valley Event Center has shut down. Therefore we must find a new place to hold the stamp show in 2013. We are looking at several places: The Maxwell House Hotel, Airport Holiday Inn at Briley Parkway and Elm Hill Pike, and the Airport Embassy Suites on Donaldson Pike. If anyone has know of any other hotels or other venues with 9 to 10,000 square feet of space with tables provided place email me at mbenward@aol.com.

Nashville Summer Stamp Show

The Nashville Summer Stamp Show run by Bill Vance will be held on August 11-12 at REIN Educational Center, 2416 Music Valley Drive, Suite #151, Nashville, TN 37214. The hours are Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 10am - 3pm. Contact information: B&W Stamp Company Bill Vance, POB 968, Joelton, TN 37080; Phone (615) 584-4234; email:bwstamps@aol.com There will be six dealers in attendance.

Articles for the newsletter

I need articles for this newsletter on any aspect of stamp collecting. They can be hand written, typed, or by computer in any format. I would be willing to help write them too. Please contact me at the club meetings or at mbenward@aol.com.

New Members

Jim Cate

The Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #73 Summer 2012

Matt Benward
Editor-in-Chief

Tom Tribke
Associate Editor

Editorial Consultants:
Marie Farmer

Matt Benward President
Al Bollmeier First Vice-President
David Bodkin Second Vice-President
Wesley Lepter Jr. Vice-President
Tom Tribke Secretary
Ray McIntire Treasurer
Marie Farmer Delegate-at-Large

of each month. Buy and swap at 5:30 p.m., Business meeting a 6:30.m., and Program at 6:45 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Madison Branch Library, 610 South Gallatin

Kids under 17 get a FREE stamp packet at their first attendance. Ages 6 and up are WELCOME!

THE Volunteer State PHILATELIC GAZETTE is an official Publication of the Nashville Philatelic Society

Opinions expressed in THE GAZETTE are those of the writers. These opinions do not necessarily reflect the views of the Nashville Philatelic Society or its members.

This publication is free and copies may be requested by writing to our PO box or emailing using the info email address on our web page.

Please visit our web page at <http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org>

The Nashville Philatelic Society is a non-profit organization.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for May 2012 – June 2012

The NPS had its 5/14/12 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 4/23/12 meeting were read and approved. Tom Tribke won the door prize. Julian Hosnedl won the Participation Award. Virginia Smith with her husband, Joe, and son, Richard, were welcomed back to our meetings after a long absence for illness. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt mentioned that our next meeting would be held on Tuesday, May 29, due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Nick Munn presented an APS Member Exhibit Award to Jim Cate for his exhibit at our 2012 Stamp Show. Matt provided a box of stamps from APS for the use of NPS members. The business session then adjourned for a presentation on “Sheets of Stamps” by Al Bollmeier, Matt and Tom. At the end of the meeting, Jim Cate’s Application for NPS Membership received a first reading.

The NPS held its 5/29/12 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 5/14/12 meeting were read and approved. Jim Cate’s Application for NPS Membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to NPS membership. Ora Eds won the door prize. Ben Price won the Participation Award. Bill Edwards passed around a humorous article that he found on “Unusual Posts”. Matt read a “Thank you” letter from the Nashville Adventure Science Museum regarding our participation in the “Collector’s Day” program. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Ken Auerweck advised that our Twitter site had 80 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. Matt asked that anyone who had ideas on a location for our Stamp Show 2013 to please provide them for consideration. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 6/11/12 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 5/29/12 meeting were read and approved. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Jamie Auerweck won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported upon the recent Huntsville Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Stamp committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! Ken Auerweck advised that our Twitter site had 82 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. Ray McIntire advised that the NPS Checking Account would be charged a \$15 monthly fee unless maintained above a specific balance. To stay above that level money had to be frequently transferred from the NPS Certificate of Deposit. Due to the low interest now being paid for the NPS CD, Ray suggested and received approval to transfer all monies from the CD into a new NPS savings account that would automatically maintain the required balance in the checking account. Matt said that he was continuing to check on possible sites for our 2013 Stamp Show. The business session then adjourned for a talk and computer program on “Zeppelins Around the World” by Al Bollmeier, Matt and Tom Tribke.

The NPS held its 6/25/12 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 6/11/12 meeting were read and approved. Norma Pacl won the door prize. Ellie Eads won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Stamp committees. Ken Auerweck advised that our Twitter site had 83 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. Matt asked for ideas for the 2013 Stamp Show site and advised that about 10,000 sq. ft. space at a cost below \$3,200 would be needed. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction conduct by Bill Vance.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for March 2012 – April 2012

The NPS held its 3/12/2012 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 2/27/12 meeting were read and approved. Larry Pacl won the door prize. Matt Benward won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported on the Nashville Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Marie Farmer mentioned that fifteen stamp packets were provided to children at the Nashville Stamp Show. Bill Vance was thanked for stamp donations for the Nashville cacheted show covers. Tom Tribke advised that he had a supply of Stamp Show covers for sale. Members who assisted with Stamp Show setup and takedown and manning of the Welcome Table were thanked for their help! Matt also mentioned that a new location for our Stamp Show 2013 would be required because the current location was to be closed and reassigned to another function. The business session was then adjourned for a talk by Al Bollmeier and Matt on “AMG - Germany”.

The NPS had its 3/26/12 meeting at the Madison Library with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 3/12/12 meeting were read and approved. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Karl Schwabe won the Participation Award. Forthcoming stamps and stamp shows were discussed. Matt and Steve Meyer advised that there was to be a “Collectors Show” at the Adventure Science Center on May 19th. NPS was saddened to learn of the death of Mrs. Robert Picirilli and sent a card expressing our sympathy. Al Bollmeier reported on the St. Louis Stamp Show and Bill Vance reported on the Tallahassee Show. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Marie Farmer reported that a stamp donation was received from Larry Pacl. Thank you! Tom Tribke reported for Ken Auerweck that our Twitter site had 76 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. One of the Facebook “likes” was the editor of the Scene magazine. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction conducted by Bill Vance.

The NPS had its 4/9/12 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members and six guests were present. Minutes of the 3/26/12 meeting were read and approved. Jim Cate won the door prize. Marie Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Marie Farmer reported that stamp donations were received from Larry Pacl and Frank Yost. Thank you! Ken Auerweck advised that our Twitter site had 76 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent program on “Early Postage History of Ireland” by Heath Bryant. Meeting attendees also enjoyed tasty snacks and desserts provided by Mrs. Bryant and family. Thank you!

The NPS held its 4/23/12 meeting at the Madison Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 4/9/12 meeting were read and approved. Steve Meyer won the door prize. Al Bollmeier won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. New members Annette Wheeler and Gerald Payne announced that they had been married this day. The Paynes were congratulated by the membership. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Marie Farmer reported that a stamp donation was received from Larry Pacl. Thank you! Ken Auerweck advised that our Twitter site had 81 “followers” and Facebook had 13 “likes”. Ray McIntire presented the first Quarter 2012 and Stamp Show Financial Reports which were read and approved. The Stamp Show report indicated that the 2012 Stamp Show had a loss of approximately \$210.00. Steve Meyer reminded the membership that the “Collectors Show” at the Adventure Science Center would be on Saturday, May 19th. Matt mentioned that he and Tom Tribke would participate in the program. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

PITCAIRN ISLAND and the BOAT BOUNTY

from *Annette*



Collecting Pitcairn stamps is my passion. The top left stamp is Pitcairn Island and the stamp on the right is the Bounty which played an important part in the Pitcairn Island story. Perhaps you have seen the movie mutiny on the Bounty.

Captain Bligh of the Bounty was a mean man. He chose to have the crewmen on the Bounty flogged and Mr. Fletcher Christian could not accept this behavior. Captain Bligh was so mean that Mr. Christian called for a mutiny, and Captain Bligh and 18 of his followers were set adrift in a small boat with food and water. The mutiny leader Mr. Christian landed 8 of the remaining crew members on Pitcairn Island and 6 other men were taken on board from Tahiti. Sixteen crewmen of the original crew were left on Tahiti and 3 were eventually executed in England. Mr. Christian also got 8 women on board, one for each of the crewmen mutineers.

Every day Mr. Christian would go up a mountain and look out over the ocean to see if a boat was anywhere in sight that might come and find the mutineers.

Pitcairn Island was not on a map so it had no name. The man who spotted the Island was named Pitcairn so the island was then named Pitcairn.

The boat Bounty was striped and set on fire to prevent any contact with the outside world. Today they are going to look for pieces of the Bounty by scuba diving. Everything went along fine on Pitcairn until one man learned to make alcohol and while gathering eggs one woman fell to her death.

Within ten years violence broke out and all of the men but one died. He had named himself John Adams. There were also 11 women and 23 children on the Island.

Today Pitcairn has 38 people living on it. The Island is 4,212 miles from Los Angeles California and 4,695 miles from Sydney Australia. Pitcairn Island is one mile long and two miles wide. The Island has a church, post office and each family has a Ham Radio. You can actually talk to the people on Pitcairn by this means.

The people today sell hand carved items, honey, baskets and stamps to people on passing ships. Ships cannot be counted on to come. Some months may see several ships and some months may see no ships.

If you would like to collect Pitcairn Island stamps just do a Google search for the Pitcairn Island Philatelic Society.

1893: The First U. S. Commemorative Stamps continued

The stamps were immensely popular with collectors and customers, but critics denounced them. The designs were based on paintings by various artists who visualized Columbus differently. The one-cent Columbian showed Columbus as clean-shaven, spying land from aboard his ship. The two-cent, taken from the Landing of Columbus painting in the Rotunda of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., showed him landing, presumably a few hours later, with a full beard. These discrepancies were quickly pointed out.

Even the denominations of the stamps were condemned. Because First-Class postage was only two cents per ounce and only four pounds could be mailed, the Chicago Tribune pointed out that even with the addition of the eight-cent stamp for registration fees, the most that could be spent on anything mailed First-Class was \$1.36. This made the two-, three-, four-, and five-dollar Columbian stamps useless for mailing. Further, the only way to get the full value for the five-dollar Columbian would be to mail a 62-pound, eight-ounce package of books at the book-rate class of postage.

Wanamaker replied that regular stamps also were available and that nobody had to buy the Columbians. Further, some people did mail packages of books abroad using the First-Class stamps. To show his confidence in the stamps, Postmaster General Wanamaker spent \$10,000 of his own money to buy 5,000 of the two-dollar stamps and put them in his safe as an investment. The stamps, still in the safe when Wanamaker died in 1926, were valued at \$4.50 each.

In spite of the criticism, the new Columbian stamps were a sensation. Hundreds of people stood in line at the Columbian Exposition and elsewhere to buy the stamps. Two billion commemorative Columbian stamps were sold for 40 million dollars and were credited as a factor in the Exposition's success.

Continued in next issue

* Please visit our web page at <http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org/> *
* Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nashville-Philatelic-Society/207106846013774> *
* Twitter <http://twitter.com/#!/NashPhilatelic> *
