



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



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CHAPTER 0431

Merry Christmas!!!

The Story of the Christmas Tree ... author unknown

The Christmas tree came into general use in comparatively recent times. The custom began in Germany and was first mentioned in an anonymous chronicle in 1605. There is a story, however, that Martin Luther started the custom much earlier, putting candles on an evergreen to represent the stars on Christmas Eve.

Another story tells of Saint Boniface when he was a missionary in Germany in the eighth century. He was trying to stamp out the pagan rite of sacrificing people to the oak tree. He led his followers into a forest at Yule time. Showing them a fur tree, he said it pointed straight upward to the Christ child. "Take this tree into your homes," he said, "as a sign of your new worship. It lives when the earth is darkest and has no sign of blood. Celebrate God's power no more in the forest with shameful rites, but in the sanctity of your homes with laughter and love."

By the beginning of the ninetieth century, all Germany had adopted the Christmas tree. The custom soon spread to most countries of northern Europe, but is still unusual in Italy, Spain, and Latin America. The date of the first Christmas tree in the United States has been given as 1804 at Fort Dearborn in Illinois, but research has failed to substantiate it; the date now accepted is 1832 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Here we are again with another year coming to a close. Christmas too is just around corner with all the joy it brings and the new year brings its new challenges for us to overcome. There will be new stamps to find, new friends to be made, and shows to attend. So have a great holiday season and look forward to better new year!

Matt Benward, President NPS

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* STAMP CLUB NEWS *

New Home for Our Stamp Show

A new location has been found for the club's 2014 stamp show. It will be located at the Fifty Forward senior center in Madison. The address is 301 Madison Street; Madison, TN 37115. The show space has about 8000 square feet. Fifty Forward has a supply of tables and all the chairs we'll need for the show. We will still need to rent about 40 8 foot tables. If anyone knows where we could borrow them please let myself or any club officers know. Invitations have been sent out to dealers and many have indicated that they will setup at our show. I think we should have between 15 to 17 sign up and there will be several new dealers that have never attended our show previously. For more details about show please contact Tom Tribke at the club's information email info@nashvillephilatelic.com or visit our web page at www.nashvillephilatelic.org.

Theme for the Nashville Stamp Show 2014

The vote for the theme for our 2014 stamp show has tallied and the 200th Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner was chosen. This theme will be used as the cache on the show cover. The show covers will be available at the show and can be ordered by mail from Tom Tribke at 2911 Windgate Avenue Nashville TN 37211. Also, a show cover for the Brentwood Philatelic Society was chosen with the theme of the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Nashville. This will be available from Tom.

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. I have been getting some articles during the last few months, but I still need some more. If you see interesting articles in the philatelic press, please let me know. You may contact me at the club meetings or at mhenward@aol.com. Thanks.

New Members

Fred Eisenhauer
John Jencik

The Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

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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

Meetings: Second and Fourth Mondays of each month. Buy and swap at 5:30 p.m., Business meeting at 6:30 p.m., and Program at 6:45 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Madison Branch Library, 610 South Gallatin Road, Nashville, Tennessee 37216.

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, emailing using the info email address on our web page, or by download from our webpage.

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 August 2013 – November 2013

The NPS held its 9/9/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/26/13 meeting were read and approved. Applications for NPS Membership from Fred Eisenhower and John Jencik received first readings. Nick Munn won the door prize. Steve Meyers won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. A report was presented from the Phone committee. Matt mentioned that the search for a location for our 2014 Stamp Show continues and that several checked hotel locations were just too expensive for our show. Tom Tribke mentioned that the voting on the 2014 Show theme would soon be held. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation and computer program by Matt on “the 50th Anniversary of Mister Zip”.

The NPS had its 9/23/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 9/9/13 meeting were read and approved. Applications for NPS Membership from Fred Eisenhower and John Jencik received second readings and they were approved and were welcomed to NPS membership. Chuck Hiehle won the door prize. Al Bollmeier won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Ken Auerweck reported that the NPS sites had 250 “Followers” on Twitter and 53 “Likes” on Facebook. Matt reported that the 2013 Stamp Show location was being investigated as a possible site for the 2014 Stamp Show as well. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 10/14/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and six guests were present. Minutes of the 9/23/13 meeting were read and approved. Janice Erbach won the door prize. Ben Price won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. The Membership was saddened to learn of the 7/22/2013 death of Tom Grimes, a long-time NPS member. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. Larry Pacl and Frank Yost donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! The search for the 2014 Show location continues. Ballots were handed out to vote on the theme for the 2014 Show. It was mentioned that intentional imperforated copies of the new “Inverted Jenny” were on sale by the USPS. The business session then adjourned for an excellent talk and computer presentation on “Topical Collecting and the American Topical Association (ATA)” by Vera Felts, Executive Director of the American Topical Association.

The NPS held its 10/28/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and five guests were present. Minutes of the 10/14/13 meeting were read and approved. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Dave Bodkin won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Karl Schwabe donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Ballots were again handed out to vote on the theme for the 2014 Show. The theme selected will be announced at our next meeting. A discussion was held on the 2014 Stamp Show location. Nick Munn advised that he had checked the Fair Grounds and found it would not be available for 2014 and would be too costly. Matt advised that we would continue to look for a show location. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 11/11/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 10/28/13 meeting was read and approved. David Erbach won the door prize. Larry Pacl won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Copies of the new NPS newsletter were assembled and distributed. Tom Tribke announced the theme selections for the 2014 Stamp Show. NPS selected the “200th Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner” and the Brentwood Philatelic Society selected the “150th Anniversary of the Battle of Nashville”. Matt advised that the Madison Senior Center looked like a good location for the 2014 Stamp Show and that he would contact the Center manager to work-out arrangements. The business session then adjourned for an interesting talk and computer presentation by Ray McIntire on “Determining Actual Stamp Colors”.

The NPS meeting for 11/25/13 was cancelled due icy weather and road conditions.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for June 2013 – August 2013

The NPS had its 6/10/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 5/28/13 meeting were read and approved. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Tom Tribke won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported upon the recent Huntsville Stamp Show. NPS members who attended the “Johnny Cash” stamp first day ceremony at the Ryman Auditorium on June 5th reported their enjoyment of the program. 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 208 “followers” and Facebook had 50 “likes”. Matt said that he was continuing to check on possible sites for our 2014 Stamp Show. The business session then adjourned for a talk International Reply Coupons by Matt and on “Federal Natural Forest Camping Permits” by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS held its 6/24/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 6/10/13 meeting were read and approved. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Emmett Sullivan won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Jim Young donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! Frank Yost reported that he had recently become a Great Grandpa. Congratulations! The searches for a site and a theme for our 2014 Stamp Show continue. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction conduct by Bill Vance and Randy Coble.

The NPS had its 7/8/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Nineteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 6/24/13 meeting were read and approved. John Jensen won the door prize. Marie Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. A donation of stamps was received from Larry Pacl for the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Matt discussed the need for a theme and the search for a new location for the 2014 Nashville Stamp Show. The business session was then adjourned for an “Ice Cream Social”.

The NPS had its 7/22/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 7/8/13 meeting were read and approved. Ben Price won the door prize. Norma Pacl won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Al Bollmeier and Ray McIntire donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Ken Auerweck reported that the NPS sites had 250 “Followers” on Twitter and 53 “Likes” on Facebook. Ray McIntire presented a partial Treasurer’s Report and cautioned that the NPS checking account only held \$706.00. It was requested that NPS CD’s be placed into the checking account to avoid monthly low balance bank charges. Matt reported that the search for a 2014 Stamp Show location continues. Several hotel locations were checked, but were too small and too costly. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 8/12/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 7/22/13 meeting were read and approved. Nick Munn won the door prize. Bill Bowman won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. The Membership was saddened to learn of the 7/22/2013 death of Chuck Samsel, a long-time NPS member. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. A get-well card was sent to Bob Lancashire who was recovering from a heart-attack. Matt mentioned that the search for a location for our 2014 Stamp Show continues. The business session was then adjourned for computer-based videos on “the 125th Anniversary of the National Postal Museum”, “Stamp Collecting” and “Stamp Rarities of the World”.

The NPS held its 8/26/13 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-three members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/12/13 meeting were read and approved. Bill Vance won the door prize. Marie Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Karl Schwabe donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Matt mentioned that the search for a location for our 2014 Stamp Show continues. A suggestion for the 2014 Show theme was received for “the 60th Anniversary of the Start of Elvis Presley’s Career”. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

1893: The First U. S. Commemorative Stamps continued By Tom Tribke

Related Releases - Postal Envelopes



A series of four [envelopes](#), or preprinted [postal stationery](#), was issued along with the stamp set. This series included 1-cent, 2-cent, 5-cent, and 10-cent values depicting the heads of Columbus and [Liberty](#).

Related Releases - Postal Cards

A [postal card](#) was also issued to commemorate the Exposition. There were 10 different designs related to the Exposition. The cards were sold individually or as a set in a paper wrapper. One, depicting the Women's Building, is known in two slightly different versions. The preprinted stamp was not specifically designed for the Exposition, and was the same on all versions.

Related Releases - The Special Delivery Stamp of 1893

The stamps used to pay the 10-cent [special delivery](#) fee were printed in blue. There were concerns that the 1-cent Columbian, also printed in blue, might be too similar for post office employees to distinguish quickly, resulting in confusion or underpayment for services. It is not clear if this problem ever actually occurred; no [covers](#) are known using a 1-cent Columbian to pay for the special delivery charge. However, the Post

Office Department issued a new special delivery stamp, colored orange, to remedy the potential problem. Although not officially part of the Columbian Issue, this stamp is sometimes referred to as the "Orange Columbian" by collectors due to its origin.

1893: The First U. S. Commemorative Stamps continued **By Tom Tribke**

Commemoratives Commemorated

In 1992, in an international postal endeavor of unprecedented scope, the United States, Italy, Spain and Portugal—the four nations most closely associated with Columbus—each issued a set of six souvenir sheets on which all sixteen of the 1893 U. S. Columbian stamps were replicated. The sets of all four countries had been jointly designed and proved largely identical, differing only in details relating to language and national postal usage. The American issues reproduced the original stamps almost exactly but altered the date in the upper right corner from 1892 to 1992.

Three stamp-images appeared on each of the sheets except for the sixth, which was devoted entirely to the original \$5 Columbian. The American and Italian sets each offered sixteen perforated stamps, denominated in sixteen values. The Spanish and Portuguese sets, by contrast, included many imperforate images, for only one stamp on each sheet was perforated, and in each of these two sets, all the perforated stamps bore the same denomination—respectively, 60 Spanish pesetas and 260 Portuguese escudos (no denominations appeared on the imperforate images).

On each of the first five sheets, the overall title "The Voyages of Columbus" is followed by an individual subtitle that ostensibly characterizes the sheet's background art and the trio of the stamp-subjects included on it:

- 1. First sighting of Land (U. S. 1¢, 4¢, \$1)
- 2. Claiming a New World (2¢, 3¢, \$4)
- 3. Seeking Royal Support (5¢, 30¢, 50¢)
- 4. Royal Favor Restored (6¢, 8¢, \$3)
- 5. Reporting Discoveries (10¢, 15¢, \$2)

(It cannot be said every stamp-image is consonant with its sheet's subtitle). The final sheet is titled simply Christopher Columbus and its single stamp is accompanied by

text that cites the 500th anniversary of Columbus's first voyage and the upcoming 100th anniversary of the first commemorative United States Stamps.

In all four countries, these sheets were offered for sale only between May 22 and September 27, 1992.

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