



The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

APS 037461
CHAPTER 0431

Pioneer Rocket Mail Overview



With selected "Gerhard Zucker" items presented
by Scott Simon

Summer is over and Fall's just begun and it's finally cooling off. It seems like 2014 has just flew by. I hope everyone has done OK so far this year. Only a few more months and we'll be looking forward to 2015. Things to look forward to:

- 1) Higher postal rates (Again!!!)
- 2) more stamp shows (hey!)
- 3) a new year (hopefully a better one)
- 4) prices (up, down, right, left - who knows)

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- 5) the economy (you don't want to know my prediction)
- 6) 23 stamp club meetings!!! :>)

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Matt Benward, President NPS

 * STAMP CLUB NEWS *

Nashville Stamp Show 2015

Our annual stamp show is being held next year at 50 Forward Madison Station and is located at 301 Madison Street in Madison Tennessee. It is located behind Madison Square shopping Center. This is the same location as last year and will be for many years to come. Lastly as always we can't have a without volunteers. So if you help out please let us know so we can make our 2015 show a great success! Have fun and make the dealers happy.

Frank Yost shot at ATM

Frank Yost was shot after refusing to give a robber his money that he'd just withdrawn from an ATM in Murfreesboro. Frank told me that after he walked away and got in his car the robber opened his car door and shot him in the left thigh. The robber then ran away. Frank was first taken to the St Thomas Hospital in Murfreesboro and then by ambulance to Vanderbilt Trauma Center. Frank is doing good and recovering at home. The suspect was a black male, approximately 5-foot 10-inches tall, weighing around 150 pounds, and was wearing a gray hoodie and dark colored slacks.

Nick Munn needs "Cool Postage" items

Nick needs some "Cool Postage" items for exhibits at our show. "Cool Postage" items are envelopes with lots of old stamps. Bring them to the club.

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 mbenward@aol.com. Thanks.

Adventure Science Center Collectors' Fair

The Cumberland Science Museum is having its annual Collectors' Fair on March 7th, 2015. The hours will be 10am to 3pm. The Cumberland Science Center at 800 Fort Negley Blvd here in Nashville.

New Members

The Volunteer State Philatelic Gazette
 Issue #82 Fall 2014
 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.
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 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 December 2013 – February 2014

The NPS had its 6/9/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 5/27/14 meeting were read and approved. An application for NPS Membership from Charles Jorgensen received first reading. Nick Munn won the door prize. Dave Horton won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported upon the recent Louisville Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Stamp committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 400+ "followers" and Facebook had 71 "likes". Ray McIntire gave a partial Treasurer's Report that showed a checking account balance of \$2082.10. Matt said that the 2015 Stamp Show would be again held in the Fifty-Forward facility in Madison. The 2015SShow was scheduled for March 14-15. Nick Munn suggested "the Battle of New Orleans" as a theme for the show. The business session then adjourned for a talk on "Collecting the Philippines" by Matt and Tom Tribke.

The NPS held its 6/23/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 6/9/14 meeting were read and approved. An Application for NPS Membership from Charles Jorgensen received second reading and he was approved and welcomed to NPS membership. Nancy Hiehle won the door prize. Marie Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. NPS was saddened to learn of the death of past member Clark Hicks on June 15, 2014. Matt and Al Bollmeier reported upon the recent Huntsville Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Al Bollmeier, Janice Erbach and Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! The search for a theme for our 2015 Stamp Show continues. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction conduct by Bill Vance and Randy Coble.

The NPS had its 7/14/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 6/23/14 meeting were read and approved. Rudy Caduff won the door prize. Virginia Smith 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 Al Bollmeier for the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Nick Munn suggested that dealers be asked for donations for door prizes for the 2015 Nashville Stamp Show. The business session was then adjourned for an "Ice Cream Social".

The NPS had its 7/28/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Nineteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 7/14/14 meeting were read and approved. Jim Young 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. David Erbach and Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 8/11/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 7/28/14 meeting were read and approved. Jim Cate 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. Marie Farmer reported that a stamp donation was received from Larry Pacl. Thank you! Matt again asked for theme recommendations for the 2015 Stamp Show. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent talk on "Collecting the Stamps of Switzerland" by Al Bollmeier and Rudy Caduff.

The NPS held its 8/25/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-three members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/11/14 meeting were read and approved. Richard Smith won the door prize. Ben Price won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. The Erbachs and Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Matt gave a partial report on our social media websites with 470+ "followers" on Twitter and 70+ "likes" on Facebook. Suggestions for our 2015 Show theme were again requested. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 9/8/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/25/14 meeting were read and approved. An application for NPS Membership from Clay Morgan received first reading. Rudy Caduff won the door prize. Marie Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. A report was presented from the Phone and Stamps Committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! A report was given on our social media websites with 488 "followers" on Twitter and 74 "likes" on Facebook. Tom Tribke mentioned that the voting on the 2015 Show theme would be held during our next meeting. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation and computer program by Matt and Al Bollmeier on "How to Find and Buy Stamps".

The NPS had its 9/22/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 9/8/14 meeting were read and approved. An Application for NPS Membership from Clay Morgan received second reading and he was approved and welcomed to NPS membership. Marie Farmer 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! Voting on the 2015 Show theme was held and the "Battle of New Orleans" was the winning theme selection. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

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Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for March 2014 – May 2014

The NPS held its 3/10/2014 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and 2 guests were present. Minutes of the 2/24/14 meeting were read and approved. An application for NPS Membership from Terry and Trudy Cornwell (T & T Stamps) received first reading. Steve Meyer 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. Matt reported for Ken Auerweck that our Twitter site had 395 "followers" and Facebook had 69 "likes". Matt also reported that our 2014 Nashville Stamp Show had 165 visitors sign-in and an estimated 200+ attending. Members who assisted with Stamp Show setup and takedown and manning of the Welcome Table were thanked for their help! Nick Munn presented medals for Show exhibits. Tom Tribke advised that he had a supply of Stamp Show covers for sale. The business session was then adjourned for a talk by Al Bollmeier on "Postal Security".

The NPS had its 3/24/2014 meeting at the Madison Library with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 3/10/14 meeting were read and approved. Vitram Nayar's application for NPS membership received first reading. An application for NPS Membership from Terry and Trudy Cornwell (T & T Stamps) received second reading and they were approved and welcomed to NPS membership. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Rudy Cadiff won the Participation Award. Forthcoming stamps and stamp shows were discussed. NPS members were saddened to learn from Rudy Cadiff that long-term member Bob Becker had died. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Marie Farmer mentioned that twenty stamp packets were provided to children at the Nashville Stamp Show. Randy Coble suggested upgrades to the NPS trailer that would cost approximately \$300.00 and new tires. These improvements were approved. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 4/14/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 3/24/14 meeting were read and approved. Vitram Nayar's application for NPS Membership received second reading and he was approved and welcomed to NPS membership. Ellie Eads 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. Flowers and a card were provided in memory Mr. Smith, NPS's "Senior Official Visitor" and long-time friend of NPS, who died April 1, 2014. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 414 "followers" and Facebook had 71 "likes". Nick Munn distributed a list of frames used for the 2014 Stamp Show and any fees due for their use. Mark Thompson was congratulated for his Bronze Award for his Stamp Show exhibit. The business session was then adjourned for a program on "Stamp Printing Methods" by Al Bollmeier, Matt and Tom Tribke.

The NPS held its 4/28/14 meeting at the Madison Library with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 4/14/14 meeting were read and approved. Janice Erbach won the door prize. Ellie Eads won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. A "Get Well" card was sent to Emmett Sullivan. Richard Smith advised that our Twitter site had 460 "followers" and Facebook had 71 "likes". Richard also handed out a philatelic based "Word Search" game. Janice Erbach was congratulated on her receiving the Kitterson Award, an APS Gold Award and a "Novice" Award for her exhibit in the 2014 Stamp Show. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 5/12/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members were present. Minutes of the 4/28/14 meeting were read and approved. Bill Bowman won the door prize. Matt Benward won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt mentioned that our next meeting would be held on Tuesday, May 27, due to the Memorial Day Holiday. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Matt reported that a refund check was received from Fifty-Forward for our Stamp Show deposit. The business session then adjourned for an excellent presentation on "Civil War Adversity Cover from Chattanooga" by Jim Cate.

The NPS held its 5/27/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-four members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 5/12/14 meeting were read and approved. Steve Meyer won the door prize. Larry Pacl won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were

presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Linda West donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! Randy Coble mentioned that NPS trailer repair was awaiting a full study of repair needs. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction by Bill Vance and Randy Coble.

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Pioneer Rocket Mail Overview

With selected "Gerhard Zucker" items presented
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Pioneer Rocket Mail Start's Key Dates

- ◇ Earliest known - "Siege of Paris" 1870-1
- ◇ Niuafu'ou (Northern Island of Tonga) – ship to shore 1902
- ◇ Early 20th century USA and European starts began 1928-1934

Pioneer Rocket Mail Constructors

- ◇ Friedrich Schmiedel rocket starts & catapults 1928-1931
- ◇ Schmiedel-Weihs one start in to Yugoslavia August 1935
- ◇ Reinhold Tiling starts 1931 - ended 1932
- ◇ Gerhard Zucker starts 1933 ended 1970
- ◇ British experiment - G. Zucker Apex Postal rocket start 1934
- ◇ Italy G. Zucker starts at Trieste 1934
- ◇ Switzerland G. Zucker start 1935
- ◇ India – Steven H. Smith start 1934
- ◇ Friedrich Schmiedel rocket starts & catapults 1928-1931
- ◇ Schmiedel-Weihs one start in to Yugoslavia August 1935
- ◇ Reinhold Tiling starts 1931 - ended 1932
- ◇ Gerhard Zucker starts 1933 ended 1970
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- ◇ Switzerland G. Zucker start 1935
- ◇ India – Steven H. Smith start 1934

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Pioneer Rocket Mail References of Interest for Collectors

Dr. Max Kronstein, "The Air Post Collector" volumes 1-2
R. E. R. Dalwick, Bournemouth, England 1933-195

Stephen H. Smith, "Rocket Mail Catalogue"
Imperial Stamp Company LTD., Allahabad, India 1943

Stephen H. Smith, "Rocket Mail Catalogue"
Imperial Stamp Company LTD., Allahabad, India 1943

Stephen H. Smith, "Rocket Mail Catalogue"
Imperial Stamp Company LTD., Allahabad, India 1943

Pioneer Rocket Mail Gerhard Zucker

Gerhard Zucker (1908 – 1985) was a German furniture dealer and rocket engineer. Born in Hasselfelde in 1908, his first public launch started in June 1933.

In 1933 he performed several experiments at Harz mountain in lower Saxony, Germany and at Cuxhaven in Northern Germany. In 1934, he also performed rocket starts in Hasselfelde, Germany and outside London, England, and also at Trieste, Italy. After 1934, he served in the Luftwaffe through WWII. After World War II was over, he moved across the border to West Germany, to the western part of the Harz mountains in Lower Saxony, where he continued as a furniture dealer and rocket constructor. He continued his rocket experiments until the day of his 131st rocket start on May 7, 1964 at the Hasselkopf mountain area near Braunlage, Germany. It was on this day that all ten of his rockets exploded. Three spectators were seriously injured and one spectator was killed by debris from his last rocket launch and rocket explosion. This catastrophe led to legal law suits in the German courts.

Gerhard Zucker is a credited experimenter & constructor thought to have caused the start of numerous rocket clubs throughout Europe. Many of these clubs have held ceremonies honoring his efforts as an experimenter with his attendance during launches and events during the 1950s – 70s. He died in 1985 at the age of 77.

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

* Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Nashville-Philatelic-Society/207106846013774> *
