The
Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

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CHAPTER 0431

Grading of Postage Stamps
By Bob Allen

The most widely accepted terms in the grading of stamps are: Very Good, Fine, Fine to Very Fine, and Extremely Fine.

Centering is probably the most generally accepted criteria used in the grading stamps. The following would apply:

Very Good - Perforations cut the design.

Fine - Perforations are very close to the design on one side or reasonably close on two sides.

Fine to Very Fine - Fairly close only on one side.

Very Fine - Very well centered with no sides being close and reasonably balanced.

Extremely Fine - Almost perfectly centered.

Color is another factor to be considered in the grading of stamps. Any fading, oxidation, or chemically altered colors should be considered. Anything short of the fresh color in which it was issued detracts from the grade.

Perforations are still another considerations in the grading of stamps. A pulled perf detracts more from the grade than a short perf. An Extremely Fine

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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 year). 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

Grading of Postage Stamps	1
The President's Corner	1
Nashville Stamp News	2
Club Information	2
Minutes of the Society	3&4
Nashville Stamp Show 2014 Awards	5
Nashville Stamp Show 2014 Awards	6

STAMP CLUB NEWS

Nashville Stamp Show 2014

Our annual stamp show was held this year at 50 Forward Madison Station located at 301 Madison Street in Madison Tennessee and is located behind Madison Square shopping Center. This was a new new location and will be our home for our 2015 as well (and hopefully for many year in future too). We had an attendance of approximately 200 stamp and post card collectors. Lastly I'd like to thank our volunteers who made our show happen. Thanks!!!

Robert 'Bob' Becker

Bob Becker passed away on February 15, 2014. He was born in Zurich, Switzerland on February 21, 1924. He is survived by his loving wife, Sonja Becker and his two sons Robert and Frank. Bob began his professional work in the hotel industry at age 15, working throughout Switzerland, New York City, Bermuda, Dallas, Washington, DC and ended his exceptional career in Nashville's Opryland Hotel. Bob was known for his pristine service, numerous social activities and travels throughout the world. Bob had been a member of our stamp club for many years he was diagnosed with macular degeneration.

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

Terry and Trudy Cornwell

The Volunteer State Philatelic Gazette

Issue #81 Summer 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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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 2/24/14meeting 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 Bollmeieron "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.

Minutes Review for December 2013 – February 2014

NPS held its annual Christmas party on 12/9/2013 at the Madison Branch Library. Approximately eighteen members and guests joined together for fellowship and plenty of good food!!!

The NPS held its 1/13/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 11/11/13 meeting were read and approved. Our 11/25/13 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather. An informal report was also given on our Christmas meeting held on December 9, 2013. David Erbach won the door prize. Janice Erbach won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Mention was made of the increase in postal rates as of 1/26/2014. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp Show committees. Matt reported that thirteen stamp dealers were committed for the NPS 2014 Stamp Show. Show posters and flyers were provided for distribution. Nick Munn brought up a concern about the availability of judges for our show exhibits. Matt asked for articles for the newsletter and for help with the setup and takedown of the Show. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation by Matt on "Preparing Exhibits".

The NPS had its 1/27/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 1/13/14 meeting were read and approved. Karl Schaube won the door prize. Virginia Smith won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone committee. Nick Munn brought up the issue about the availability of judges for our show exhibits and the budget to support this service. Further study of this matter was needed. Show posters and flyers were provided for distribution. Nick also asked for "Cool Postage" items to help him prepare an exhibit. Steve Meyer mentioned that the "Collectors' Fair" at the Science Museum was the same weekend as our Stamp Show thus making our participation unlikely. Matt reported that thirteen stamp dealers had committed for the show. Matt asked for help for show setup and takedown. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 2/10/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 1/27/14 meeting were read and approved. Ben Price 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 Social Media committees. Ken Auerweck reported that our Facebook site had 65 "likes' and that our Twitter site had 390 "followers". Ray McIntire gave a preliminary Treasurer's Report for the show and 4th Quarter and 2013 Annual Reports. Matt reported that fifteen stamp dealers had committed for the show. Show posters and flyers were provided for distribution. Nick Munn distributed Show Exhibit forms for exhibitors. Nick also expressed concern about sufficient room for the Show exhibits. Matt asked for help with the setup and takedown of the 2014 Stamp Show. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation on "Thurn and Taxis" by Al Bollmeier.

NPS held its 2/24/14 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and five guests were present. Minutes of the 2/10/14 meeting were read and approved. Ora Eids won the door prize. Randy Coble won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Show committees. Ken Auerweck reported that our Facebook site had 67 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 391 "followers". Show posters and flyers were provided for distribution. Tom Tribke displayed the Cacheted cover formats for 2014 Show covers. Matt asked for help with the setup and takedown of the Show. Matt reported that fifteen stamp dealers had committed for the show. Nick Munn advised that thirty-six frames of exhibits had been committed. Nick also reported that a qualified judge had been found for our Stamp Show exhibits. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

Nashville Stamp Show 2014

March 8-9, 2014

Nashville, Tennessee

Nashville Philatelic Society
Exhibits: npsexchr01@gmail.com
Website: nashvillephilatelic.org
http://www.facebook.com/NashvillePhilatelicSociety

NPS Grand Award and Gold

From Russia With Love
Raymond Peitruszka

NPS Henson Award and Gold

Coccinellidae – Ladybird Beetles
Janice Erbach
also
Apfelbaum Best Exhibit for a First Time Exhibitor
AAPE Novice Award
ATA One Frame
ATA Best in Topicals
NPS Novice First Place
NPS Public Interest First Place

Gold

Camp Dennison Ohio Civil War Covers
Andrew J. Burkman
also
United States Stamp Society President's Award

Gold

Stamps Issued by the Allies During the Occupation of Germany May 1945-August 1949
David Kiehn
also
APS Certificate of Award
NPS Public Interest Second Place

Small Gold

British Railroad Stamps
Ora Eads
and
AAPE Silver Award of Honor
NPS Novice Second Place

Small Gold

Guam Guard Mail

Mathias Benward

Small Gold

All My Love for a Penny: Holiday Greetings on Penny Postcards
Arthur Cole

Silver

A Philatelic Alphabet: An Introduction to Stamp Collecting
Arthur J. Cole
also
Women Exhibitors Sterling Achievement Award
NPS Public Interest Third Place
NPS Theme Award

Silver

First Day of Issue – 10.9 Cent Hansom Cab
James C. Cate
AFDCS Best FDC Exhibit

Silver

French Art
David Erbach
NPS Novice Third Place

Silver

Philippines – Japanese Occupation 1943
Discovery of Double Surcharge
Andrew J. Burkman

Bronze

The Regular Issues of Germany from 1977 to 1982
Al Bollmeier

Bronze

Pages from a Collection of Swedish Postage Stamps

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