



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

# Volunteer State

## Philatelic Gazette



APS 037461  
CHAPTER 0431

## Merry Christmas!!!

### Where the twelve days for Christmas originated

The twelve days of Christmas, a carol evocative of rich Christmas fare, was used as a British Victorian fireside forfeits game played before families took down their Christmas decorations.

A parlor game before eating mince pie and Twelfth Night Cake, and the carol was sung on the Twelfth and final night of Christmas, the Epiphany.

The Twelve Days of Christmas is now accepted as part of the canon of holiday carols. But, it originated long ago as a gentle parody by 13th century French minstrels poking fun at some solemn chant of their day.

The song dates back, as far as the British are concerned, to a 13th century manuscript stored in the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, and called 'Twelfth Day.'

No one can say when the carol rose from relative obscurity, but in 1780, a miniature children's book called 'Mirth Without Mischief', published it as a folk song.

As a Victorian parlor game, the carol involved a test of memory and concentration. Players had to forfeit if they failed to get the verses' wording correct, or in the right order.

As the carol progressed, feats of memory and concentration became more demanding and players found it hard to escape forfeits.

The carol is common in Great Britain, France, Canada, and the United States and different versions contain a variety of strange gifts.

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Summer is over and Fall is just begun and it's finally cooling off. It seems like 2016 has just flown by. I hope everyone has done OK so far this year. Only a few more months and we'll be looking forward to 2017. 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)
- 5) the economy (you don't want to know my prediction)
- 6) A new President and Congress - Uh oh.....
- 7) 23 stamp club meetings!!! :>)

Matt Benward, President NPS

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 \* STAMP CLUB NEWS \*  
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Nashville Stamp Show 2017  
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Our annual stamp show will be 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. The dates are March 18 & 19 (Mark your calendars!). Lastly, as always we can't have our annual stamp shown without volunteers. So if you help out please let us know so we can make our 2017 stamps show a great success! Have fun and make the dealers happy. The theme will be World War I.

Randy Coble in Bulgaria  
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Our auctioneer as part of his National Guard duties is in Bulgaria. I assume this is part of the NATO move to the east to contain the Russians. Anyway when I went to the club's post office box to pick the mail I found a post card from Randy. He writes: It's dated 10/10/2016. Greetings from beautiful Bulgaria! Hope all is well at the club and all my friends are in good health. I miss being an auctioneer. Sincerely, Randy Coble. Unfortunately there isn't a return address so I guess it's a secret! Remember lose lips sink ships!!!

Nick Munn needs "Cool Postage" items  
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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  
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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.

New Members  
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John Horgan

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 Dues are due  
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The Volunteer State  
 Philatelic Gazette

Issue #91 Winter 2016

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  
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The Nashville Philatelic Society is  
 a non-profit organization.

# **Nashville Philatelic Society**

## **Minutes Review for September 2016 – November 2016**

The NPS held its 9/12/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 8/22/16 meeting were read and approved. An Application for NPS Membership from John Horgan received second reading and he was approved and welcomed to NPS membership. Ben Price won the door prize. Richard Stimek won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps Committees. A report was given on our social media websites with 836 “followers” on Twitter and 144 “likes” on Facebook. Ray McIntire provided a brief Treasurer’s Report update. Richard Mellinger suggested an informal system to gather and share philatelic knowledge among NPS members. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation by Ray McIntire on “Stamp Certification (Expertizing).”

The NPS had its 9/26/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 9/12/16 meeting were read and approved. Bill Bowman won the door prize. Ora Eads 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! Ray McIntire provided a brief Treasurer’s Report update. Nick Munn presented the 2016 Stamp Show Door Prize to Marie Farmer. Mark Thompson reported on the 1<sup>st</sup> Day ceremony for the new Kwanza Stamp that was to be issued on 10/1/2016. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 10/10/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 9/26/16 meeting were read and approved. Julian Hosnedl won the door prize. Rudy Caduff won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. Rudy Caduff donated Stamp catalogues for the Door Prize container. Thank you!!! A report was given on our social media websites with 862 “followers” on Twitter and 144 “likes” on Facebook. The business session then adjourned for an excellent talk on “NYC International Stamp Show – Part 1” by Mark Thompson and Nick Munn.

The NPS held its 10/24/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 10/10/16 meeting were read and approved. Ora Eads won the door prize. Bill Bowman won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported on his article in the US Stamp News Journal about the dull gum 4 cent US postage due stamps that he had found. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Social media reports that our sites had 144 “likes” on Facebook and 862 “followers” on Tweeter. NPS members were reminded about our 2017 Show theme is the “1917 US Entry into World War I”. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 11/14/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 10/2/16 meeting was read and approved. Steve Meyer won the door prize. Rudy Caduff won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Rudy Caduff donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Social media reports that our sites had 143 “likes” on Facebook and 878 “followers” on Tweeter. The business session then adjourned for a continuing presentation on the “NYC International Stamp Show – Part 2” by Mark Thompson and Nick Munn.

The NPS meeting for 11/28/16 was held at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members were present. Minutes of the 11/14/16 meeting was read and approved. John Horgan won the door prize. Ora Eads won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Social media reports that our sites had 145 “likes” on Facebook and 886 “followers” on Tweeter. Matt mentioned that help would be needed for setup and takedown of the 2017 Stamp Show. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction.

# Nashville Philatelic Society

## Minutes Review for June 2016 – August 2016

The NPS had its 6/13/2016 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Seven members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 5/23/16 meeting were read and approved. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Larry Pacl won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. It was reported that a First Day Ceremony would be held in Nashville at the Ellison Place Soda Shop for a new issue of Soda Fountain Stamps. Reports were presented from the Phone and Social Media committees. Matt reported that Tom Tribke was out with a bad leg and a Get-Well card was sent from the membership. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 767 “followers” and Facebook had 136 “likes”. The business session then adjourned for an interesting talk on “Postal Covers” by Matt, Al and Mark Thompson.

The NPS held its 6/27/2016 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 6/13/16 meeting were read and approved. Alyssa Morgan won the door prize and Kaylee Morgan won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. It was reported that a First Day Ceremony would be held in Nashville at the Ellison Place Soda Shop for a new issue of Soda Fountain Stamps. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Stamp committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 780 “followers” and Facebook had 139 “likes”. Matt again advised that a contract was signed for the Fifty-Forward facility for the 2017 Stamp Show for March 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Also it was mentioned that our show theme would be the First World War. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 7/11/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and one guest were present. Madeline Seibert won the door prize. Makenzie Deitrick won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. It was again mentioned that a First Day Ceremony would soon be held in Nashville at the Ellison Place Soda Shop for a new issue of Soda Fountain Stamps. A report was presented from the Phone committee. An update was given on our social media websites with 770 “followers” on Twitter and 143 “likes” on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for our annual “Ice Cream Social”.

The NPS had its 7/25/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 7/11/16 meeting were read and approved. Mark Thompson won the door prize. Richard Mellinger won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt and a number of other NPS members told about the First Day Ceremony that was held in Nashville at the Ellison Place Soda Shop for a new issue of Soda Fountain Stamps. Matt shared an article in U. S. Stamp News about the new variety of the last US 4 cent postage due that he had found with dull gum that was previously unknown. A report was presented from the Phone committee that advised that Karl Schwabe was improving and that Marie Farmer was still home-bound with a back brace. An update was given on our social media websites with 807 “followers” on Twitter and 141 “likes” on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 8/8/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members and five guests were present. Minutes of the 7/25/16 meeting were read and approved. Peter Holingren’s application for NPS membership received first reading. Bill Bowman won the door prize. Rudy Caduff won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. A stamp donation was received from Larry Pacl. Thank you! A report was given on our social media websites with 817 “followers” on Twitter and 141 “likes” on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent talk on “German Hyper-inflation Stamps” by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS held its 8/22/16 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 8/8/16 meeting were read and approved. An application for NPS Membership from John Horgan received first reading. Peter Holingner’s application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to NPS membership. Julian Hosnedl won the Door prize. Ora Eads won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. A report was presented from the Phone committee indicating Marie Farmer was improving and hoped to return by our next meeting. Matt gave a report on our social media websites with 826 “followers” on Twitter and 143 “likes” on Facebook. Ray McIntire gave a partial Treasurer’s Report indicating a \$140 increase in total NPS assets. Al Bollmeier provided a “Show & Tell” session by showing some of the international correspondence envelopes that he has been receiving. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

# Pioneer Rocket Mail Overview

With selected "Gerhard Zucker" items presented  
by Scott Simon



30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary "Brockenhexe II" Rocket Start issue 1DM + .10 pfg  
flown from Hasselfelde (Harz) to Steige, Germany 31 August 1963. This is one card of the 1,250  
cards.



30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary “Brockenhexe I” Rocket Start issue 3DM+.10pfg flown from Hasselfelde (Harz) to Steige, Germany 31 August 1963. This is one cover of the 2,500 covers. Considered to be his last successful rocket start.

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## Where the twelve days for Christmas originated continued

American versions offer Bulls-a-roaring, hounds-a-hunting, bears-a-leaping, hares-a-running, wolves-a-howling, and deers-a-running. Other versions include Limerick oysters, gold finches, grey elephants, an Arabing baboon, and a papingeyey, peacock, and a goose that was grey. Colleybirds, meaning black birds, became calling birds or colored birds.

In the British versions, the lady of the carol would eventually receive 12 leaping lords, 22 dancing ladies, 30 pipers piping, 36 drummers, 40 milk maids, 42 swimming swans, 42 laying geese, 44 gold rings, 36 blackbirds, 30 French hens, 22 turtle doves and 12 partridges in 12 pear trees. In all there are 364 gifts, one for every day of the year but one, and that one is reserved for the gift of true love.

### ON THE TWELFTH DAY OF CHRISTMAS

My true love sent to me,  
 Twelve lords-a-leaping  
 Eleven ladies dancing  
 Ten pipers piping,  
 Nine drummers drumming  
 Eight maids-a-milking  
 Seven swans-a-swimming  
 Six geese-a-laying  
 Five gold rings  
 Four colly birds  
 Three French hens  
 Two turtle doves

... And a partridge in a pear tree.

\* Reprinted from Yule Log March/April 1989.



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

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