



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

# Volunteer State

## Philatelic Gazette



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CHAPTER 0431

## Covers

The term cover pertains to the outside of an envelope or package with an address, typically with postage stamps that have been cancelled and is a term generally used among stamp and postal history collectors. The term does not include the contents of the letter or package, although they may add interest to the item if still present. Cover collecting plays an important role in postal history as many covers bear stamps, postmarks and other markings along with names and addresses all of which help to place a cover at a given time and place in history.

The term originates from the practice of covering a letter by folding a separate sheet about it to physically protect it and prevent infringement of confidentiality. In the first half of the 19th century it became the fashion to cut the cover into a diamond or lozenge shape. This was the precursor of the version of the envelope known today. Its convenience and popularity led to the lozenge design being adopted for the special pre-paid postage envelopes and covers issued in 1840 after postal reforms were introduced by Rowland Hill and others.

There are several different basic categories for covers. Names for cover types are also terminology usually used by collectors of stamps and postal history. There exist a wide variety of covers that can fit into several basic categories. The categories begin with the most common types of collectible covers, such as first day covers or first flight covers. Sometimes there will be an area of overlap in the subject of categories. For example, there are First day covers that were also sent with mail aboard airplanes on First flight mail runs. Event covers can also include First flights, or other types of covers. A military cover sent to a head of state can also be referred to as a Historic cover.

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Summer is over and Fall is just begun and it's finally cooling off. It seems like 2017 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 2018. Things to look forward to:

- 1) Higher postal rates (Again!!!) - 50 cents in Jan.
- 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 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 2018  
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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. Hopefully this will be our home for years to come. 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 2018 stamps show a great success! Have fun and make the dealers happy.

NPS Moved Our Meeting Location  
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The Madison Public Library was closed October 1 for renovations lasting for a year or more. We've started meeting at the Inglewood Library. It's located at 4312 Gallatin Pike. There may be other possibilities too later on. We'll let you know.

Theme for our 2018 stamp show  
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The votes are in and the membership selected the theme for our 2018 show to be 'Airmail' for 100th anniversary of First Airmail Delivery. So get those airmail stamps for your exhibits at the show!

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 Goodall

The Volunteer State  
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #94 Fall 2017

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. Philatelic fellowship at 5:30p.m., business meeting 6:30, program at 6:45, and done by 7:30.

Meetings are held at the Inglewood Branch Library, 4312 Gallatin Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37216.

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

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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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The Nashville Philatelic Society is a non-profit organization.

# **Nashville Philatelic Society**

## **Minutes Review for August 2017 – October 2017**

The NPS held its 8/14/17 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 7/24/17 meeting were read and approved. John Goodall's application for NPS membership received first reading. Ora 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 and Stamp committees. A note from Julian Hosnedl was read indicating that he appreciated the stamps and notes sent to him and that his injured knee was healing, but that he probably would not return from New York until April or May of 2018. A report was given on our social media websites with 958 "followers" on Twitter and 165 "likes" on Facebook. The 2018 Show theme of "the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Airmail" was reviewed. Matt announced that the Show would be held on March 10 – 11 and that the completed contract had been delivered to Fifty Forward. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent talk on "the Anatomy of a Stamp: Substrate (Paper)" by Al Bollmeier and Matt.

The NPS held its 8/28/17 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Nine members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/14/17 meeting were read and approved. John Goodall's application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to NPS membership. Mark Thompson won the Door Prize. John Horgan won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Mark Thompson reviewed the APS and Cover Society shows that he had attended. Mark won a vermeil and APS Congress Awards for his exhibit in these shows. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. A stamp donation was received from Larry Pacl. Thank you! Matt gave a report on our social media websites with 958 "followers" on Twitter and 164 "likes" on Facebook. Al Bollmeier mentioned that a copy of a recalled Audrey Hepburn Stamp mentioned in an earlier meeting had sold at auction for \$276,000. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 9/11/17 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 8/28/17 meeting were read and approved. Ben Price 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. A stamp donation was received from Janet Erbach. Thank you! A report was given on our social media websites with 956 "followers" on Twitter and 170 "likes" on Facebook. Nick Munn proposed that the theme for the 2019 Stamp Show be "Space" since it would be 50 years since the "First Moon Walk". The NPS membership voted and agreed to this proposal. Members were reminded that our 2018 Show theme is the "100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Airmail". The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation by Al Bollmeier and Matt on "Stamp Printing Methods".

The NPS had its 9/25/17 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. NPS moved its meeting site to the Inglewood Library due to the pending closing of the Madison Library for repairs and upgrade. Twelve members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 9/11/17 meeting were read and approved. Steve Meyer 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. Our social media websites had 956 "followers" on Twitter and 171 "likes" on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting presentation by Al Bollmeier and Matt on "Stamp Adhesives".

The NPS held its 10/9/17 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eight members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 9/25/17 meeting were read and approved. Rudy Caduff 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 Stamps committees. Larry Pacl and Matt donated stamps for the Stamp Committee. Thank you! An update was given on our social media websites with 952 "followers" on Twitter and 169 "likes" on Facebook. It was reported that notices had been sent out for our 2018 Stamp Show scheduled for March 10 & 11, 2018. The business session then adjourned for an excellent talk on "Stamp Gums" by Matt Benward.

The NPS held its 10/23/17 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Six members were present. Minutes of the 10/9/17 meeting were read and approved. Bill Bowman 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. It was reported that stamps had been donated to several local schools for their programs. Social media reported that our sites had 169 "likes" on Facebook and 956 "followers" on Tweeter. Matt mentioned that so far five dealers had committed for our 2018 Stamp Show. NPS members were also reminded about the need for volunteers for Show setup and take-down. The business session then adjourned for an excellent talk on "Stamp Gums" by Al Bollmeier and Matt.

# Nashville Philatelic Society

## Minutes Review for March 2017 – July 2017

The NPS had its 4/10/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Sixteen members and six guests were present. Minutes of the 3/27/17 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. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamps and Social Media committees. Matt advised that our Facebook site had 157 “likes” and Twitter had 939 “followers.” Members who assisted with the Stamp Show were again thanked for their help! Nick Munn continued his presentation of medals and Stamp Show awards. The business meeting was then adjourned for an interesting talk and displays on “South-Eastern Stamp Expo 2017” by Nick Munn, Mark Thompson and Jim Cate.

The NPS held its 4/24/2017 meeting at the Madison Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and five guests were present. Minutes of the 4/10/17 meeting were read and approved. Dove won the Door Prize and Dimples won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! It was reported that our Facebook site had 158 “likes” and Twitter had 946 “followers.” Ray McIntire gave a preliminary report on our stamp show that indicated a positive result of about \$1,500. It was mentioned that in relation to our 2018 show theme that Airmail postal service began officially on May 15, 1918. It was also mentioned that theme for the 2019 Stamp Show should be “The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Moon Landing.” This 2019 Stamp Show theme was approved by the NPS membership. Matt reported that the search for a site for our auction meetings continues. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 5/8/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and 5 guests were present. Minutes of the 4/24/17 meeting were read and approved. Ora Eads won the door prize. Maria Farmer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Social Media and Stamp committees. Matt donated stamps to the Stamp Committee. Thank you! Our Facebook site had 160 “likes” and our Twitter site had 958 “followers. Matt reported that the search for a site for our auction meetings continues and that our next meeting would be held at the Madison Hibachi Grill. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation on “A Survey of German Stamps” by Al Bollmeier and others.

The NPS held its 5/22/2017 meeting at the Madison Hibachi Grill with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 5/8/17 meeting were read and approved. Tom Tribke 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 Social Media committees. Our Facebook site had 161 ‘likes’ and our Twitter site had 958 “followers”. Due to the busy nature of the meeting site formal meeting records were not maintained. The business session then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 6/12/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and three guests were present. The informal minutes of the 5/22/17 meeting were read and approved. Larry Pacl won the door prize. Ken Owen won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt reported on the Louisville and Huntsville Stamp Shows. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Stamp donations were received from Larry Pacl, Al Bollmeier and Matt. Thank you! Matt advised that our Twitter site had 960 “followers” and Facebook had 160 “likes”. It was reported that APS had exhibit frames for sale at approximately \$150 apiece and that we needed ten additional frames for our shows. It was decided to wait for a better price. Matt reported that the search for a site for our auction meetings continues. Rudy Caduff mentioned that a new Bavarian Bier Haus restaurant had opened and that he would see if NPS could hold our auction meetings there. The business session then adjourned for an interesting talk on “Philatelic Literature” by Al, Matt and others.

The NPS held its 6/26/2017 meeting at the Madison Hibachi Grill with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 6/12/17 meeting were read and approved. Due to the busy nature of the meeting site formal meeting records were not maintained. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS had its 7/10/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and three guests were present. The informal minutes of the 6/26/17 meeting were read and approved. Stephen Williams applied to rejoin NPS after over a 60 year absence. He was welcomed back with his old member no. 320. Marie Farmer won the door prize. Ray McIntire won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Social Media committees. Al Bollmeier reported that Julian Hosnedl had injured his leg and provided pre-addressed cards to send to him. Thank you! An update was given on our social media websites with 960+ “followers” on Twitter and 162 “likes” on Facebook. Matt reported that the search for a site for our auction meetings continues. The business session was then adjourned for our annual “Ice Cream Social”.

The NPS had its 7/24/2017 meeting at the Bavarian Bier Haus at Opry Mills with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 7/10/17 meeting were read and approved. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Social Media committees. An update was given on our

social media websites with 958 “followers” on Twitter and 162 “likes” on Facebook. Due to the busy nature of the meeting site formal meeting records were not maintained. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

## Covers Continued

*First day covers* are typically an envelope with a postage stamp canceled on its first day of issue. The design or theme of the stamp may be printed on the cover to enhance its appeal to the philatelic community.

*Event covers* celebrate an event or notes an anniversary.

*Stamp on cover*. This is a cover that is collected as an example of a given stamp postally used on a cover, however older stamps with recent cancellations are usually philatelic (mailed with the intention of recovering and collecting the item).

*A pre-stamped cover* is a cover that already has an imprinted stamp.

*First flight covers* are those carried on an aircraft, usually authorized by a government or postal administration, for the first time on a particular route.

*Commemorative covers* can include a wide variety of subjects and usually have a commemorative design and often a special postmark that designates the place and date of the specific event.

*A stampless cover* is an envelope or folded outer sheet bearing an address and manuscript or ink-stamped postal markings without prepaid adhesive postage stamps, normally from the period before adhesive postage stamps became available or common in the mid-to-late 19th Century.

*Military covers* can include a wide variety of subjects that may include first flight covers, and prisoner of war covers. Mail sent from an Army Post Office (APO) or a Navy Post Office (Fleet Post Office, FPO) are common types of military covers.

*Railroad covers* is mail that was processed aboard special rail cars outfitted with an official post office where mail is processed en route to its general destination.

*Historical covers* are those that have special historical significance above and beyond that of the average collectible cover. These can include mail sent by Kings, Presidents or other heads of state. If the historical cover is i.e. to or from a General in an Army the cover then can also be classified as a military cover. Names for cover categories are usually used as general reference in philately. If aspects of a cover (date+postmark, name+address) are referenced in a historical capacity the category of the cover may not even be mentioned.

The availability of the different types of covers varies considerably and is something that often adds perspective to the historical and philatelic significance of the cover. For example, First Day covers and First Flight covers are generally common because the events that inspired the creation of these covers were somewhat common. In other examples, various types of military and historical covers are often scarce or rare because the circumstances or events that prompted the creation of these covers were conversely uncommon. While covers sent in recent decades tend to be common, they can also prove to be scarce simply because the circumstance that created these covers were (sometimes very) uncommon, as are the various examples of historical covers i.e. sent by a head of state to another officially prominent individual.

At the same time there exist covers that are quite old but are still common and not very difficult to find, as are various types of post cards or commercial covers.

## Covers Continued

Patriot covers are generally common because the practice of sending these was popular, especially during periods of war. Patriotic cover availability here can vary also depending on the country and time period in question. Covers collected for the stamp on cover can vary greatly in availability and generally depends on the availability of the stamp issue itself along with the demand for the use of a particular denomination. The denomination of a stamp often determines the availability of the issue on cover as the use of some usually higher denominations were uncommon because of the low demand for a particular postage rate. There are a number of circumstances that can affect the availability of a given cover type and which often contribute to a cover's historical and philatelic value.

Covers tell the philatelic history of communication and structured systems of mail delivery within and among countries. When a patron deposits a piece of mail into a drop box, the creation of a cover begins. The term cover generally refers to any item that has passed through a mail system and so is postally used.

A piece of mail receives postal markings as it travels through the system postmarks, backstamps, transit markings, registered marks, ship marks, and so on that testify to its routing, what postal services were used, when it was picked up and delivered, and what transportation was employed. Decoding the marks involves retracing how this piece or parcel got from point A to point B. The postage paid or due whether a manuscript mark, a postage stamp, or a meter marking or label documents the postal rate demanded for carrying and delivering the item for the period in which it was mailed. (Weight and delivery distance have more recently been the basic factors in determining the price.)

It's this evidence of 'postal history' that generates so much interest in collecting and studying covers. Colorful terms that relate, for example, to the type of postal service (such as 'steamboat covers', 'Tin Can Mail covers', and 'RPO covers') classify the components of this group. However, social, economic, and political events as they affect the post and are mirrored on covers and in letters also have their proponents. Terms related to these collecting groups abound. 'Adversity', 'inflation', and 'turned covers' refer to downturns in national economies. 'Quarantine' and 'disinfected covers' refer to public health crises. 'Crash', 'wreck', and 'earthquake covers' speak of disastrous events. 'Mourning covers' suggest public and private sentiments of grief. 'Patriotic', 'propaganda', 'prisoner-of-war covers', and 'V-mail' suggest ideologies. 'Blockade covers' imply the instability of governments.

The physical nature and design of the cover is yet another category of collecting. Because a cover is an enclosure for a message (or an object) or a non-enclosure (like a post card), the possibilities for size, shape, and material are endless. Physical oddities of the past such as shirt cuffs and coconuts and two-inch-long envelopes have tested the boundaries of what postal systems can process. Now automated processing technologies limit that kind of creativity but offer a new avenue of collecting based on imbedded 'intelligence'. Unused envelopes of historic significance due to design or cachet and so forth have been included in this section.

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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 <http://twitter.com/#!/NashPhilatelic> \*

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