



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



APS 037461
CHAPTER 0431

The U.S. Entry in the First World War

At the outbreak of the war, the United States pursued a policy of non-intervention, avoiding conflict while trying to broker a peace. When the German U-boat U-20 sank the British liner RMS Lusitania on 7 May 1915 with 128 Americans among the dead, President Woodrow Wilson insisted that "America is too proud to fight" but demanded an end to attacks on passenger ships. Germany complied. Wilson unsuccessfully tried to mediate a settlement. However, he also repeatedly warned that the United States would not tolerate unrestricted submarine warfare, in violation of international law. Former president Theodore Roosevelt denounced German acts as "piracy". Wilson was narrowly reelected in 1916 as his supporters emphasized "he kept us out of war".

In January 1917, Germany resumed unrestricted submarine warfare, realizing it would mean American entry. The German Foreign Minister, in the Zimmermann Telegram, invited Mexico to join the war as Germany's ally against the United States. In return, the Germans would finance Mexico's war and help it recover the territories of Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona. The United Kingdom intercepted the message and presented it to the US embassy in the UK. From there it made its way to President Wilson who released the Zimmermann note to the public, and Americans saw it as casus belli. Wilson called on antiwar elements to end all wars, by winning this one and eliminating militarism from the globe. He argued that the war was so important that the US had to have a voice in the peace conference. After the sinking of seven US merchant ships by submarines and the publication of the Zimmermann telegram, Wilson called for war on Germany, which the US Congress declared on 6 April 1917.

Welcome to the Nashville Stamp Show 2017. Our theme for our show is the 100th anniversary of the U.S. entry into World War I. This year we have 16 stamp and 2 post card dealers from all over the country. They have varied stocks of stamps and post cards from the US and the rest of the world. Please stop by for a visit and have a look. The dealers are always ready to help and answer your questions. Our stamp club maintains tables at the entrance to help our fellow stamp collectors with any questions, problems, or just stop by and chat. But first and foremost have a lot of fun at our stamp show!

Matt Benward, President NPS

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* STAMP CLUB NEWS *

Nashville Stamp Show 2017

Our annual stamp show is being held this 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 2017 stamps show a great success! Have fun and make the dealers happy.

NPS moving meeting Location (maybe)

The Madison Public Library might be closing in May for renovations lasting for a year or more. There's a possibility that this may not happen, but if it does we will start meeting at the Inglewood Library at 4312 Gallatin Pike in April. We'll let you know.

Theme for our 2018 stamp show

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

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.

New Members

none this quarter

The Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #92 Spring 2017

Matt Benward
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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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The Nashville Philatelic Society is a non-profit organization.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for December 2016 – February 2017

NPS held its annual Christmas party on 12/12/2016 at the Madison Branch Library. Over thirty NPS members, their guests and invited library patrons joined together for fellowship and plenty of good food!!!

The NPS held its 1/9/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fifteen members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 11/28/2016 meeting were read and approved. Also an informal report was also given on our Christmas meeting held on December 12, 2016. Bill Bowman won the door prize. Richard Stimek won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp, Social Media and the Stamp Show committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! It was reported that our Facebook site had 146+ “likes” and that our Twitter site had 896 “followers”. Nick Munn handed out Stamp Show 2017 Exhibit Prospectuses for potential exhibitors. Nick also provided a schedule to insure that our 2018 Stamp Show theme was selected by the time of our 2017 show. Al Bollmeier reported and discussed a “Linn’s article on “stamp expertizing” especially for stamps with values exciding \$50.00. Matt reported that twelve stamp dealers were committed for the NPS 2017 Show. Matt asked for help with the setup and takedown of the Show. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation and handout by Matt and other NPS members on "Stamp Exhibit Preparation".

The NPS held its 1/23/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 1/9/2017 meeting were read and approved. Ken Owen 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, Social Media, and Stamp Show committees. Ken Owen and Rudy Caduff donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! It was reported that our Facebook site had 151 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 906 ‘followers’. Nick Munn handed on Stamp Show 2017 Exhibit Prospectuses for potential exhibitors. Nick also continued efforts to select a 2018 Stamp Show theme by the time of our 2017 show. Matt reported that fourteen stamp dealers were committed for the NPS 2017 Show. Matt asked for help for show setup and takedown. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

The NPS held its 2/13/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 1/23/2017 meeting were read and approved. Rick Mellinger won the door prize. Ora Eads won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt advised that the Madison Library was scheduled to close for renovations starting in May 2017 and that several alternate sites were being considered for our NPS meetings. Both the Inglewood Library and a nearby Madison location that Ken Owen had offered were being considered. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp, and Social Media committees. Larry Pacl donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Nick Munn distributed and reviewed lists of prizes for the 2015 and 2016 Stamp Shows and presented Jim Cate with the awards for both Shows. Congratulations Jim!!! Nick Munn also continued efforts to select a 2018 Stamp Show theme by the time of our 2017 show by handing out ballots for theme voting. Matt asked for help with the setup and takedown of the Show. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation on “Stamps That Never Were” by Al Bollmeier and other NPS members.

NPS held its 2/27/2017 meeting at the Madison Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 2/13/2017 meeting were read and approved with amendments. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp, Social Media, and Show committees. Matt donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! It was reported that our Facebook site had 151 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 926 “followers”. Ray McIntire provided a brief Treasurer’s Report and indicated that he would be making a Show-related deposit of \$1,900.00 to our NPS account. Show posters and flyers were provided for distribution. Nick Munn advised that 40+ frames of exhibits were committed for our 2017 show. Matt reported that the number of stamp and postcard dealers at our 2017 show would be similar to last year’s show. Matt asked for help with the setup and takedown of the Show. Al Bollmeier added one more example for his 2/13/2017 presentation on “Stamps That Never Were”. Nick Munn collected ballots for voting for selecting a 2018 Stamp Show theme. Voting results are to be announced at our next meeting. The business session was then adjourned for the monthly auction.

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 1st 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.

A STAMP THAT NEVER WAS

By Al Bollmeier



The 1980 Olympic Games were held in Moscow, USSR. In 1979 the USSR invaded Afghanistan. In retaliation President Carter called for a boycott of participation which 60 nations including the German Bundesrepublik joined.

A semi postal stamp prepared by the German Post Office to provide funding for the German team was withdrawn and never sold to the public. Shortly after this Kurt Gscheide, the Bundespost head, left the agency. He apparently had in his papers 50 to 150 of the unissued stamp. His wife found the stamps and used some to enter mail contests. The entries in such contests often are dumped into kiloware sold to collectors. When found the origin was readily traced because her name was on the entry.

A used example of the stamp was exhibited at Philatelia "83. The 2010 Michel Specialized Catalog listed this stamp with a value of 30,000 Euros used and 50,000 Euros on cover. A reproduction of this stamp was used on a souvenir card available at the show and is reproduced above.

The U.S. Entry in the First World War

Continued

Text of the U.S. declaration voted on by the United States Congress

WHEREAS, The Imperial German Government has committed repeated acts of war against the people of the United States of America; therefore, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the state of war between the United States and the Imperial German Government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States, is hereby formally declared; and that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the Government to carry on war against the Imperial German Government; and to bring the conflict to a successful termination all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States.

Votes

In the Senate, the resolution passed 82 to 6. The negative votes were cast by Asle J. Gronna, Robert M. La Follette Sr., Harry Lane, George W. Norris, William J. Stone, and James K. Vardaman. Eight senators did not vote: John H. Bankhead, Nathan Goff, Thomas P. Gore, Henry F. Hollis, Francis G. Newlands, John Walter Smith, Charles S. Thomas, and Benjamin R. Tillman.

The United States was never formally a member of the Allies but became a self-styled "Associated Power". The United States had a small army, but, after the passage of the Selective Service Act, it drafted 2.8 million men, and, by summer 1918, was sending 10,000 fresh soldiers to France every day. In 1917, the US Congress gave US citizenship to Puerto Ricans when they were drafted to participate in World War I, as part of the Jones Act. If Germany believed it would be many more months before American soldiers would arrive and that their arrival could be stopped by U-boats, it had miscalculated.

The United States Navy sent a battleship group to Scapa Flow to join with the British Grand Fleet, destroyers to Queenstown, Ireland, and submarines to help guard convoys. Several regiments of US Marines were also dispatched to France. The British and French wanted American units used to reinforce their troops already on the battle lines and not waste scarce shipping on bringing over supplies. General John J. Pershing, American Expeditionary Forces (AEF) commander, refused to break up American units to be used as filler material. As an exception, he did allow African-American combat regiments to be used in French divisions. The Harlem Hellfighters fought as part of the French 16th Division, and earned a unit Croix de Guerre for their actions at Château-Thierry, Belleau Wood, and Sechault. AEF doctrine called for the use of frontal assaults, which had long since been discarded by British Empire and French commanders due to the large loss of life that resulted.

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