



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



APS 037461
CHAPTER 0431

Merry Christmas!!!

The Story of the Christmas Tree ... author unknown

The Christmas tree came into general use in comparatively recent times. The custom began in Germany and was first mentioned in an anonymous chronicle in 1605. There is a story, however, that Martin Luther started the custom much earlier, putting candles on an evergreen to represent the stars on Christmas Eve.

Another story tells of Saint Boniface when he was a missionary in Germany in the eighth century. He was trying to stamp out the pagan rite of sacrificing people to the oak tree. He led his followers into a forest at Yule time. Showing them a fur tree, he said it pointed straight upward to the Christ child. "Take this tree into your homes," he said, "as a sign of your new worship. It lives when the earth is darkest and has no sign of blood. Celebrate God's power no more in the forest with shameful rites, but in the sanctity of your homes with laughter and love."

By the beginning of the ninetieth century, all Germany had adopted the Christmas tree. The custom soon spread to most countries of northern Europe, but is still unusual in Italy, Spain, and Latin America. The date of the first Christmas tree in the United States has been given as 1804 at Fort Dearborn in Illinois, but research has failed to substantiate it; the date now accepted is 1832 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Summer is over and Fall is just about over and it's getting close to Winter. It seems like 2019 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 2020. Things to look forward to:

- 1) Higher postal rates?
- 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) New elections - Uh oh.....
- 7) 23 stamp club meetings!!! :>)

Matt Benward, President NPS

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* STAMP CLUB NEWS *

Nashville Stamp Show 2020

Our annual stamp show will be held next year on March 21-22 at the Gallatin Civic Center located at 320 Albert Gallatin Avenue in Gallatin Tennessee. This is a same location and hopefully one that will be our new home for years to come. Thanks everyone who volunteered at our stamp show this year. We couldn't have had such a successful without you! Of course we'll need volunteers for our show next too. So if you can please volunteer!

Steve Chambers presents program on November 12th

Steve Chambers came to our club meeting on November 12th and presented his program 'Stamps prepared by Master Engraver Czeslaw Slania.' He's a member of our sister stamp club in Brentwood and we'd like to give him a big **thank you** for taking time to do it.

Ken Owen Moving to Chattanooga

During the November 25th stamps club meeting Ken Owen announced that he was moving to Chattanooga and this would be his last meeting. Ken, whenever you in town on a Monday night come by and see us!!!

Mark Thompson needs "Cool Postage" items

Mark 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.

Annual dues raised to 10 dollars

Our annual club due were raised to 10 dollars and was approved unanimously by all members present during our June 10th meeting.

New Members

None

The Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #101 Winter 2019

Matt Benward
Editor-in-Chief

Tom Tribke
Associate Editor

Editorial Consultants:

Matt Benward President
Al Bollmeier First Vice-President
David Bodkin Second Vice-President
Madeline Seibert Jr. Vice-President
Tom Tribke Secretary
Mark Thompson Treasurer

Meetings: Second and Fourth Mondays of each month. Buy and swap at 5:30 p.m., Business meeting at 6:15 p.m., and Program at 6:30 p.m.

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!

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 September 2019 – November 2019

The NPS held its 9/9/19 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 8/26/19 meeting were read and approved. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Roger Hunt won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media Committees. Matt reported that social media websites had 1102 “followers” on Twitter and 261 “likes” on Facebook. Nick Munn asked that a new location be found for the NPS Trailer. Matt indicated that new trailer locations would be investigated. The business session was then adjourned for a presentation on “Zeppelins on Stamps” by Al Bollmeier, Matt, Tom and other NPS members.

The NPS had its 9/23/2019 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 9/9/19 meeting were read and approved. Roger Hunt 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. Matt reported that social media websites had 1102 “followers” on Twitter and 261 “likes” on Facebook. The NPS membership voted to make Bruce Tribke an honorary member. The business session was then adjourned for a presentation on “Postcards, Postal Cards and Philatelic Covers” by Al Bollmeier, Matt, Tom, and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 10/14/19 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members were present. Minutes of the 9/23/19 meeting were read and approved. Doug Flatter won the door prize. Maria Flatter won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamps and Social Media committees. It was reported that Al Bollmeier was recovering from knee surgery and a “Get Well Card was sent. An update was given on our social media websites with 1110 “followers” on Twitter and 301 “likes” on Facebook. Mark Thompson gave a formal Treasurer’s report. The business session then adjourned for an interesting presentation on “Postcards, Postal Cards and Covers” by Matt, Tom and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 10/25/19 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members were present. Minutes of the 10/14/19 meeting were read and approved. Roger Hunt won the door prize. Mark Thompson won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. An update for our social media websites showed 1117 “followers” on Twitter and 321 “likes” on Facebook. Matt mentioned that the Gallatin Civic Center was the location for our 2020 show on March 21 & 22, 2020. The business session then adjourned for our Auction.

The NPS held its 11/12/19 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Thirteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 10/25/19 meeting were read and approved. Roger Hunt won the door prize. Mark Thompson won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Jim Young donated stamps to the Stamps Committee. Thank you! Social media reported that we had 1117 “followers” on our Tweeter site and 321 “likes” on Facebook. Matt mentioned again that the 2020 Stamp Show was on March 21 & 22, 2020. The business session then adjourned for an excellent presentation on “Stamps prepared by Master Engraver Czeslaw Slania” by Steve Chambers from the Brentwood Philatelic Society.

The NPS meeting for 11/25/2019 was held at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members were present. Minutes of the 11/12/2019 meeting were read and approved. Jim Young won the door prize. Ken Owen won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Ken Owen reported that he was moving to the Chattanooga area and wouldn’t be able to attend our meetings. We were all sorry to see him leave! Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Mark Thompson reported that \$120 was paid to the American Philatelic Society for the APS circuits. Matt mentioned that help would be needed for setup and takedown of our March 21 & 22, 2020 Stamp Show. The business session then adjourned for our Auction with Al Bollmeier as the auctioneer.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for June 2019 – August 2019

The NPS had its 6/10/2019 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members and one guest were present. The minutes of the 5/27/19 meeting were read and approved. Jay Quincy's application for NPS membership received first reading. Mark Thompson won the door prize. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Matt and others reported on the Huntsville Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 1099 "followers" and Facebook had 266 "likes". A vote was held to confirm Mark Thompson as NPS Treasurer. His appointment was approved by all members present. Mark then presented a Treasurer's report to the club showing our current financial position. An additional vote was held to raise the NPS membership fee to \$10 per year. This fee increase was also approved by all members present. The business session then adjourned for an excellent program on "Internet Philatelic Resources and Tools – Part 1" by Matt, Al Bollmeier and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 6/24/2019 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 6/10/19 meeting were read and approved. Jay Quincy's application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to NPS membership. 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, Stamp and Social Media committees. An update was given on our social media websites with 1098 "followers" on Twitter and 266 "likes" on Facebook. Nick Munn reported that his granddaughter, Madeline Seibert, had won an award for her exhibit at the Huntsville Stamp Show. The business session then adjourned for a continuing program on "Internet Philatelic Resources and Tools – Part 2" by Matt, Al Bollmeier and other club members.

The NPS had its 7/8/2019 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 6/24/19 meeting were read and approved. Ken Owen 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 Social Media committees. An update was given on our social media websites with 1097 "followers" on Twitter and 229 "likes" on Facebook. Mark Thompson provided a Treasurer's Report showing almost \$4,000 on hand as of the end of May 2019. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with Al Bollmeier as auctioneer.

The NPS had its 7/22/2019 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Eight members and one guest were present. The minutes of the 7/8/19 meeting were read and approved. Mark Thompson won the door prize. Jim Cate won the Participation Award. 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 1099 "followers" on Twitter and 265 "likes" on Facebook. It was also reported that a new site for our 2020 Stamp Show was being investigated. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting program on "Detecting Watermarks" by Al Bollmeier, Matt, Tom and other members.

The NPS held its 8/12/19 meeting at the Inglewood Branch Library with Matt Benward presiding. Nine members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 7/22/19 meeting were read and approved. Mike Gillespie's application for NPS membership received first reading. Steve Meyer won the Door Prize. Jim Cate won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Social Media committees. Our social media websites had 1100 "followers" on Twitter and 257 "likes" on Facebook. The 2020 stamp show dates of 3/21 and 3/22/2020 were reviewed. An alternate site for our 2020 Show found to be not suitable. The business session was then adjourned for our annual "Ice Cream Social".

The NPS held its 8/26/19 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Seventeen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 8/12/19 meeting were read and approved. Mike Gillespie's application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to NPS membership. Rudy Caduff won the Door Prize. Steve Meyer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. Ken Owen donated stamps. Thank you! Mark Thompson reported that NPS Treasury had \$3,928.76 on hand. Matt reported that our 2020 Stamp show location would remain the Gallatin Civic Center. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with Al Bollmeier as auctioneer.

Post Card

A postcard or post card is a rectangular piece of thick paper or thin cardboard intended for writing and mailing without an envelope. Shapes other than rectangular may also be used. In some places, one can send a postcard for a lower fee than a letter. Stamp collectors distinguish between postcards (which require a postage stamp) and postal cards (which have the postage pre-printed on them). While a postcard is usually printed by a private company, individual or organization, a postal card is issued by the relevant postal authority.

Cards with messages had been sporadically created and posted by individuals since the beginning of postal services. The earliest known picture postcard was a hand-painted design on card, posted in Fulham in London by the writer Theodore Hook to himself in 1840, and bearing a penny black stamp. He probably created and posted the card to himself as a practical joke on the postal service.

In the United States, the custom of sending through the mail, at letter rate, a picture or blank card stock that held a message began with a card postmarked in December 1848 containing printed advertising. The first commercially produced card was created in 1861 by John P. Charlton of Philadelphia, who patented a postal card, and sold the rights to Hymen Lipman, whose postcards, complete with a decorated border, were labeled "Lipman's postal card". These cards had no images.

In Britain, postcards without images were issued by the Post Office in 1870, and were printed with a stamp as part of the design, which was included in the price of purchase. These cards came in two sizes. The larger size was found to be slightly too large for ease of handling, and was soon withdrawn in favor of cards 13mm ($\frac{1}{2}$ inch) shorter. The first known printed picture postcard, with an image on one side, was created in France in 1870 at Camp Conlie by Léon Besnardeau (1829–1914). Conlie was a training camp for soldiers in the Franco-Prussian war. The cards had a lithographed design printed on them containing emblematic images of piles of armaments on either side of a scroll topped by the arms of the Duchy of Brittany and the inscription "War of 1870. Camp Conlie. Souvenir of the National Defence. Army of Brittany". While these are certainly the first known picture postcards, there was no space for stamps and no evidence that they were ever posted without envelopes.

Collecting postcards, known as Deltiology, is a widely spread hobby. The value of a postcard is mainly determined by the image illustrated on it. Other important factors for collectors can be countries, issuers, and authors. Online catalogs can be found on collector websites and clubs. These catalogs provide detailed information about each postcard alongside their picture. In addition, these websites include collection management tools, trading platforms, and forums to assist with discussions between collectors.

Old picture postcards are primary source records of places. Postcards document the natural landscape as well as the built environment- buildings, gardens, parks, cemeteries, and tourist sites. Postcards also commemorate major events, popular humor, and many other aspects of daily life – transportation, entertainment, sports, work, religion, or advertising. Postcards also give insight into how new forms of communication media are adopted, adapted, and discarded. Museums and archives have extensive collections of picture postcards; many of the postcards in these collections are digitized.

Specialist marketing companies in many countries produce and distribute advertising postcards which are available for free. These are normally offered on wire rack displays in plazas, coffee shops and other commercial locations, usually not intended to be mailed.

Postal Card

Postal cards are postal stationery with an imprinted stamp or indicium signifying the prepayment of postage. They are sold by postal authorities. On January 26, 1869, Dr. Emanuel Herrmann of Austria described the advantages of a Correspondenz Karte. By October 1, 1869 the world's first postal card was produced by Austria-Hungary. They caught on quickly. By the end of 1870, Great Britain, Finland, Switzerland and Württemberg joined the countries issuing postal cards. In the United States, they were first produced in 1873. Some of the forms taken by postal cards include the regular single card which may be commemorative or definitive, attached message-reply cards, airmail postal cards, and official postal cards used for official government business with a "penalty for private use".

To the post office, there were positive advantages to postal cards as opposed to correspondence in envelopes. The cards were lighter and less bulky than letters and they were all the same size. The result was that they occupied less than one third of the space required by the same number of letters. To the public there were also advantages. They were simple and cheap making them an instant success. Britain had a half-penny rate to begin with. The U.S. 'penny postcard' rate lasted through 1951.

Presumably for the purpose of getting a prompt reply, a sender was given the opportunity to pay for postage both ways with an attached message-reply card, first introduced by Germany in 1873. Other European countries quickly followed suit. Spain furnished message-reply cards to her Colonies: Cuba (1880), Philippines (1889) and Puerto Rico (1898). The U.S. issued them first in 1892. Message-reply cards were attached tête-bêche and likely to be perforated or rouletted to facilitate separation once in the hands of the recipient. The recipient could then tear them apart and use the prepaid reply card to correspond with the original sender. Normally the message card would be identical to the reply card except with the distinction of having additional language such as "WITH REPLY CARD" or "La otra tarjeta es para la respuesta" or "Carte Postale Réponse" or similar words to distinguish the two. In the U.S., message and reply cards have been identical since 1968.

Different types of postal cards:

- 1) Single postal card – a rectangular piece of thick paper or thin cardboard intended for writing and mailing without an envelope.
- 2) Message/reply postal card – attached tête-bêche and likely to be perforated or rouletted to facilitate separation once in the hands of the recipient. The recipient could then tear them apart and use the prepaid reply card to correspond with the original sender.
- 3) Airmail postal card – like a postal card, but only intended to be sent by airmail
- 4) Official postal card – like a postal card, but only intended for official government business with a "penalty for private use".
- 5) Postal Buddy postal card – Postal card printed on demand by a Postal Buddy Corporation automated kiosk. These machines operated from July 31, 1990 to September 17, 1993.

* Please visit our web page at <http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org/> *
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* Twitter: <https://twitter.com/NashPhilatelic> *
