



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



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Philatelic Overprints

An overprint is an additional layer of text or graphics added to the face of a postage stamp or postal stationery after it has been printed. Post offices most often use overprints for internal administrative purposes such as accounting but they are also employed in public mail. The most well recognized varieties are commemorative overprints which are produced for their public appeal and command significant interest in the field of philately.

Surcharges



The term "surcharge" describes any type of overprint that alters the price of a stamp. Surcharges raise or lower the face value of existing stamps when prices have changed too quickly to produce an appropriate new issue, or simply to use up surplus stocks. Any overprint which restates a stamp's face value in a new currency is also described as a surcharge. Some postal systems have resorted to surcharge overprints when converting to a new national monetary system. Stamps have occasionally been overprinted multiple times. A famous example of repeated surcharging happened during the German hyperinflation of 1921–1923. Prices rose so fast and dramatically that postage stamps which cost five or ten pfennigs in 1920 were overprinted for sale in the values of thousands, millions, and eventually billions of marks.

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THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Here we are again and Spring has sprung. There's lot's of things to do! Usually in March we'd be getting ready for our annual club show, but with pandemic ongoing our show venue still has their meeting space still closed. Things are getting better with the vaccine now available and infection rates dropping. So we'll trying having our stamp show in August and let's look forward to better year!

Matt Benward, President NPS

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Nashville Stamp Show 2021

I spoke to the person at the Gallatin Civic Center who's in charge of the meeting rooms and I have reserved the gym for our club's annual stamp show. It is scheduled for August 28 and 29 with dealers' setup on the 27th from 2 to 6pm. Of course we need volunteers to help setup and take down the show as always. Show setup will on August 27th from noon to 6pm and take down will be from 4pm on August 29 until we are finished. Also we need people to help during the show too. We need two people at the club table to greet visitors and a few people to fix and deliver lunch to the dealers. Please volunteer!!!

Roger Hunt asks for donations of old albums

Roger Hunt asked the members to donate old, partially-filled stamp albums for the "children's stamp table" our forthcoming stamp show. As you may remember during our 2019 show there were tables setup between the dealers tables and exhibits with loose stamps for children and some adults to pick through. So if you have any old albums just sitting around the house please think about donating them to help get children interested in stamp collecting again. You may contact Roger at the club meetings or contact the club and we'll get your message to him. Please email: show@nashvillephilatelic.org.

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.

All club meetings now at the Bavarian Bierhaus

Since the Bavarian Bierhaus has worked out so well all future club meetings will be held there. It is located at Opry Mills around back across from the General Jackson marshalling area.

New Members

Walter Whinnery

The Volunteer State
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #106 Spring 2021

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 Bavarian Bierhaus, 121 Opry Mills Drive, 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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Please visit our web page at <http://www.nashvillephilatelic.org>

The Nashville Philatelic Society is a non-profit organization.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for January 2021 – March 2021

The NPS held its 1/11/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members were present. Minutes of the 11/23/2020 meeting were read and approved. Also an informal report was given on our Christmas meeting held on December 14, 2020. Rudy Caduff won the door prize and Bill Bowman 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 our Facebook site had 536 “likes” and our Twitter site had 1161 “followers”. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation and handout by Matt and others on “Philatelic Overprints on Stamps”.

The NPS held its 1/25/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twelve members were present. Minutes of the 1/11/2021 meeting were read and approved. Roger Hunt won the door prize and Bill Bowman won the Participation Prize. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp, and Social Media committees! It was reported that our Facebook site had 534 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 1168 “followers”. Matt mentioned that our Stamp show could be scheduled in August. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS held its 2/8/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members were present. Minutes of the 1/25/2021 meeting were read and approved. Mike Gillespie 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. It was reported that our Facebook site had 534 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 1170 “followers”. Matt mentioned that our Stamp show could be scheduled in the last weekend of August 2021. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting presentation and handout on “COVID-19 on Stamps” by Matt and other members.

The NPS held its 2/22/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 2/8/2021 meeting were read and approved. Rudy Caduff won the door prize and Bill Bowman won the Participation Award. Walter Whinnery’s application for NPS membership received first reading. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. It was reported that our Facebook site had 530 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 1176 “followers”. Matt mentioned that our Stamp show would be scheduled on the 28th and 29th of August. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

NPS held its 3/8/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members were present. Minutes of the 2/22/2021 meeting were read and approved. Walter Whinnery’s application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to the club. Linda Boyd won the door prize and 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. It was reported that our Facebook site had 530 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 1178 “followers”. Matt mentioned that the location for our Stamp show, scheduled for the last weekend of August, was still to be finalized. The business session was then adjourned for an excellent presentation and handout on “Postage Stamp Forgeries and Fakes – Part 1” by Matt and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 3/22/2021 meeting at the Bavarian BehrHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Fourteen members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 3/8/2021 meeting were read and approved. Ray McIntire won the door prize and Jim Young won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Al Bollmeier reported on the St. Louis Stamp Show. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. It was reported that our Facebook site had 535 “likes” and that our Twitter site had 1181 “followers”. Matt mentioned that the location for our Stamp show was still to be determined. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for October 2020 – December 2020

The NPS had its 10/12/20 meeting at the Bavarian BierHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members and one guest were present. The minutes of the 9/28/20 meeting were read and approved. Bill Young's and Pam Manley's applications for NPS membership received second readings and were approved. They were welcomed to the club. Mark Thompson won the door prize and Steve Meyer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and any stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 1162 "followers" and Facebook had 525 "likes". A Treasurer's Report by Mark Thompson was presented and copies were given out. On Old Business Matt Benward's birthday was announced and on New Business a virtual program would be held on October 13 at 11am Eastern for the new Kwanzaa stamp issued in Nashville. The business session then adjourned for a program on 'Operation Cornflakes' by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS had its 10/26/20 meeting at the Bavarian BierHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Ten members and two guests were present. The minutes of the 10/12/20 meeting were read and approved. There were no new applications for NPS membership. Rudy Caduff won the door prize and Nick Munn won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues (The 'Drug Free American' coming out on October 27 was mentioned) and any stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone (Mark Thompson twisted his knee), Stamp, and Social Media committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 1164 "followers" and Facebook had 528 "likes". On Old Business it was mentioned that the NPS stamp show for 2021 would be held on March 20 – 21 and there was no New Business. The business session then adjourned for an auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

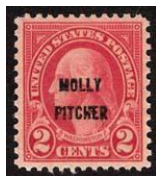
The NPS had its 11/9/20 meeting at the Bavarian BierHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and one guest were present. The minutes of the 10/26/20 meeting were read and approved. There were no new applications for NPS membership. Dimples won the door prize and Rudy Caduff won the Participation Award. It was mentioned that there were no new issues for the rest of the year and any stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media committees. There were no new applications for NPS membership. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 1163 "followers" and Facebook had 528 "likes". On Old Business there was none and on the New Business it was mentioned that the NPS stamp show for 2021 would remain on March 20 – 21. The business session then adjourned for a program on 'Space on Stamps' by Al Bollmeier, Roger Hunt, and Matt Benward.

The NPS had its 11/23/20 meeting at the Bavarian BierHaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eleven members and one guest were present. The minutes of the 11/9/20 meeting were read and approved. There were no applications for NPS membership. Steve Meyer won the door prize and Al Bollmeier won the Participation Award. It was mentioned that there would no more stamps issued this year. Also it was announced that the Gallatin Coin show scheduled for December 11th and 12th was cancelled. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp (Ruse Tucker donated stamps – thanks!!!), and Social Media committees. Matt advised that our Twitter site had 1164 "followers" and Facebook had 529 "likes". On Old Business there was none and on New Business there was also none. The business session then adjourned for an auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

NPS held its annual Christmas party on 12/14/2020 at the Bavarian BehrHaus at Opry Mills Mall. Approximately thirteen NPS members and guests joined together for fellowship and plenty of good food!!!

Philatelic Overprints cont'd

Commemorative overprints



Overprints have often been used as commemoratives, providing a faster and lower-cost alternative to designing and issuing special stamps or postmarks. The United States, which historically has issued relatively few commemorative overprints, did this in 1928 for issues celebrating Molly Pitcher and the discovery of Hawaii. In some rare cases, commemorative overprints have been applied to souvenir sheets. When these postal commodities are overprinted, they are always very carefully positioned for aesthetic appeal, usually on the blank outer border ("selvage") of the paper.

Change of function overprints



Regular stamps were also overprinted to indicate exclusive usage for a special function or combination of functions; intended for airmail, official mail, newspapers, postage due, special delivery, telegraph and so on. The official stamps of some countries like Great Britain had an overprint which defined the specific official usage; for inland revenue, government parcels, office of works, military, admiralty, war tax (see below). The opposite occurs as well, in this case special function stamps are overprinted to serve as regular stamps.

Security measures



Overprints have been used as security measures to deter misuse and theft. In the nineteenth century, Mexico was plagued by thefts of stamps on their way to remote post offices. To address this, stamps were shipped from Mexico City to the local districts where they were overprinted with the district name – they were not valid for postage without the overprint. In El Salvador a significant quantity of stamps was stolen from the San Salvador post office in 1874. As a result all remaining stock was officially overprinted 'Contrassellos' preventing usage of the non-overprinted stamps. The United States used a similar strategy to deal with thefts in Kansas and Nebraska in 1929, overprinting the current definitive issue with "Kans." and "Nebr." before they were shipped from Washington, to make it more difficult to sell stolen stamps outside the indicated state.

Philatelic Overprints cont'd

Colonial overprints



Nations overprinted stamps for use in their colonies mainly for the same reasons as for their domestic use. Due to poor planning, supply problems, faster than anticipated changing postal rates, changes in currency or other reasons they ran out of stamps, and demand had to be met. Some overprints were used to establish the first stage of postal service in a new territorial possession or colony however. If preparations had not been made, the controlling nation's regular homeland stamps would be overprinted with a local name, local currency or 'abroad' indication. In a similar fashion a nation's domestic stamps may be overprinted for use in foreign post offices under that power's control. For example, from 1919-22 the United States overprinted 18 postage stamps at double value and marked for its office in Shanghai.

Transitional government overprints



New states or states in transition have sometimes found it necessary to recirculate stocks of stamps printed by a previous government. Some historical perspective may be gleaned from the study of such stamps: some transitional government overprints blend neatly with their predecessors' designs, while others attempt to totally obscure or even deface the older markings. In several European nations in 1944-45, Nazi occupational stamps were overprinted for the provisional governments, and those which depicted Adolf Hitler were most heavily overprinted, obliterating his face.

Continued in the Summer issue

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