



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

The

Volunteer State

Philatelic Gazette



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Federal Duck Stamps



The Federal Duck Stamp, formally known as the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, is an adhesive stamp issued by the United States federal government that must be purchased prior to hunting for migratory waterfowl such as ducks and geese. It is also used to gain entrance to National Wildlife Refuges that normally charge for admission. It is widely seen as a collectable and a means to raise funds for wetland conservation, with 98% of the proceeds of each sale going to the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

President Herbert Hoover signed the Migratory Bird Conservation Act in 1929 to authorize the acquisition and preservation of wetlands as waterfowl habitat. The law, however, did not provide a permanent source of money to buy and preserve the wetlands. On March 16, 1934, Congress passed, and President Roosevelt signed, the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, popularly known as the Duck Stamp Act.

Issuance

The issuing authorities within the various governments that release duck stamps are usually conservation and wildlife departments. These programs must be created by some form of legislation for the resulting stamps to be accepted as a valid governmental issue. Labels featuring ducks also are issued by various special interest groups, such as Ducks Unlimited and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Their issues are referred to as "society stamps." These items technically are not duck stamps because the fee structure and disposition of funds are not legislated. However, society stamps are very collectible and often appreciated. Funds raised by these organizations are also used for waterfowl and conservation efforts. Valid organizations and societies of this type perform a major service to conservation by their donations and efforts, and they merit public support.

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well, spring is over and the long long hot summer is here! Not to worry because Summer is the best time to work on your stamp collection! There are several stamp shows coming up in the area. Also, Bill Vance's 'Just my Stock' is coming up on the first weekend in August. There are several stamp shows coming up in the local area too: Indianapolis, Evansville, and Memphis. And don't forget our club - we'll have lots of fun things coming up during this Summer!

Matt Benward, President NPS

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 * STAMP CLUB NEWS *

Nashville Stamp Show 2023

Our annual stamp show will be held next year on March 18-19 at the Gallatin Civic Center located at 320 Albert Gallatin Avenue in Gallatin Tennessee. This is a same location we used in August and it seems be our new home for years to come. I've sent out the contracts to all the dealers in all the states nearby Tennessee and have received positive responses from previous dealers and a few new ones too! Thanks to everyone who volunteered at our stamp show this year and we couldn't have been such a successful one without you! Of course we'll need people for next year's show too. 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.

Honorary Member Bruce Tribke passes away

Bruce Tribke passed away on Tuesday afternoon April 5th, 2022. He was a faithful member and attended every meeting with his brother Tom. He collected Queen Elizabeth on stamps and always helped draw the names for the door prizes. He will be sorely missed.

Our New Members

Courtney Cochran
 Stanley Doles
 Buzz Bolton
 John Kwasniewski
 Jack Payne
 Daveen Robinson

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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. Philatelic Fellowship at 5:30 p.m., Business meeting at 6:30 p.m., Program or Auction at 6:45 p.m., out by 8:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Bavarian Bierhaus, 121 Opry Mills Drive, Nashville, Tennessee 37214.

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 April 2022 – June 2022

NPS held its 4/11/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members were present. Minutes of the 3/28/2022 meeting were read and approved. Courtney Cochran's application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and she was welcomed to the club. Dennis Fielding won the door prize. Linda Boyd won the Participation Award. NPS members were saddened to learn of the death of Honorary Member Bruce Tribke. His funeral service was to be held on 4/12/2022 at the Harpeth Hills Memorial Gardens. It was also mentioned that postal rates were to go up again on July 10th. 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 589 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1200 "followers". Matt thanked everyone again who participated in our Stamp show for the good job done. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting presentation on "Searching for Philatelic Gems in Postage Stamp Collections" by Ray McIntire.

The NPS held its 4/25/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 4/11/2022 meeting were read and approved. Stanley Doles' application for NPS membership received first reading. Courtney Cochran won the door prize. Mike Gillespie 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 592 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1200 "followers". The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by David Perry.

The NPS held its 5/9/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 4/25/2022 meeting were read and approved. Buzz Bolton's application for NPS membership received first reading. Stanley Doles' application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to the club. Jim Young won the door prize. Dimples 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 1203 "followers" on Twitter and 594 "likes" on Facebook. The business session then adjourned for an interesting program and handout on "Stamp Watermarks" conducted by Matt, Tom Tribke and other members.

NPS held its 5/23/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 5/9/2022 meeting were read and approved. Buzz Bolton, John Kwasniewski and Jack Payne's applications for NPS membership all received second readings and they were approved and welcomed to the NPS membership. Steve Meyer won the door prize. 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 1201 "followers" on Twitter and 601 "likes" on Facebook. The business session then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS had its 6/13/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-four members and two guests were present. The minutes of the 5/23/2022 meeting were read and approved. Daveen Robinson's application for NPS membership received first reading. Steve Meyer won the door prize. Linda Boyd won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and any 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 1198 "followers" on Twitter and 614 "likes" on Facebook. The business session then adjourned for an excellent program on "Stamp Perforations and Roulettes" by Matt, Tom Tribke and other NPS members.

NPS held its 6/27/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 6/13/2022 meeting were read and approved. Daveen Robinson's applications for NPS membership received second reading and she was approved and welcomed to the NPS membership. Ruse Tucker won the door prize. RG Wolf 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 1196 "followers" on Twitter and 620 "likes" on Facebook. Matt mentioned that our 2023 Stamp Show would be held on March 18 – 19 at the Gallatin Civic Center. The business session then adjourned for an Auction conducted by David Perry.

Nashville Philatelic Society

Minutes Review for December 2021 – March 2022

NPS held its annual Christmas party on 12/13/2021 at the Bavarian Behrhaus at Opry Mills Mall. Approximately twenty-nine NPS members and guests joined together for fellowship and plenty of good food!!! Also, Lee Sullivan's membership application received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed into NPS membership.

NPS's 1/10/2022 meeting was postponed until 1/17/2022 due to floor repair work being done at the Bavarian Behrhaus. The re-scheduled meeting for 1/17/2022 was cancelled due SNOW and ICE conditions.

The NPS held its 1/24/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members were present. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Roger Hunt 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 573 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1190 "followers". Matt mentioned that our Stamp show would be held on March 19 – 20 at the Gallatin Civic Center and that help would be required with show set-up and take down. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

The NPS held its 2/14/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-two members were present. Minutes of the 1/24/2022 meeting were read and approved. Gerry Speich won the door prize. Steve Meyer won the Participation Award. Charles Alge's and Roland Hart's applications for NPS membership received first readings. 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 573 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1195 "followers". Mark Thompson presented the 2021 Treasurer's Report. Matt mentioned that our Stamp show would require help with set-up and take down. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting program by Matt on "Air Transportation as Shown on Stamps" with a handout provided.

The NPS held its 2/28/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Eighteen members were present. Minutes of the 2/14/2022 meeting were read and approved. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Roger Hunt won the Participation Award. Val Lawrence's and Dan Paul's applications for NPS membership received first readings. Charles Alge's and Roland Hart's applications received second readings and were approved and they were welcomed to NPS membership. 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 573 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1197 "followers". Matt mentioned that our Stamp show would need help with set-up and take down. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier.

NPS held its 3/14/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members were present. Minutes of the 2/28/2022 meeting were read and approved. Doug Almy's application for NPS membership received first reading. Al Bollmeier won the door prize. Bruce Tribke won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Tom Tribke mentioned that an Estate Sale at 1411 Acklen Avenue on March 17–19 would have a small lot of stamps for sale. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamp, and Social Media committees. It was reported that our Facebook site had 573 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1201 "followers". Matt mentioned that our Stamp show to be held on March 19–20 would need help with show set-up and take down. The business session was then adjourned for an Auction conducted by Al Bollmeier. Note - Our Auction was held on our 1st monthly meeting date due to a schedule conflict regarding our normal meeting space.

The NPS held its 3/28/2022 meeting at the Bavarian Behrhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members were present. Minutes of the 3/14/2022 meeting were read and approved. Rocco DelNegro's application to return to NPS was approved and he was welcomed back. Courtney Cochran's application for NPS membership received first reading. Doug Almy's application for NPS membership received second reading and was approved and he was welcomed to the club. Bob Winters won the door prize. Val Lawrence 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 584 "likes" and that our Twitter site had 1201 "followers". Matt thanked everyone who participated in our Stamp show for the good job done. The business session was then adjourned for a well-done presentation and handout on "An Introduction to Postal Stationery" by Matt and other members.

Federal Duck Stamps continued

Time of issue

Duck stamps are issued once a year. In most states, hunters are required to purchase both a federal and state stamp before hunting waterfowl. Waterfowl hunting seasons vary, but most begin in September or October, so naturally, stamps are needed prior to opening day of the hunting season. Currently, the Federal stamp and more than half of the state stamps are issued by July. Many are issued on the first day of the new year and a few at the last minute in September or early October.

Cost

The annual federal duck stamp had a face value of \$1 in 1934, jumped to \$2 in 1949, and to \$3 in 1959. In 1972 the price increased to \$5, then up to \$7.50 in 1979, \$10 in 1987, \$12.50 in 1989 and to \$15 in 1991. In 2015 the price of federal duck stamp rose to \$25. For every \$15 stamp sold, the federal government retains \$14.70 for wetlands acquisition and conservation, so very little gets lost in the system for overhead.

Format

The Federal stamp is presently issued in panes of 20 stamps. Originally, the stamps were issued in panes of 28, but because of a change in the printing method (and to make stamps easier to count) a 30 stamp format was adopted in 1959. In 2000, the format was again changed to the present sheet of 20. Beginning in 1998, a single self-adhesive stamp was issued. This stamp and surrounding backing is approximately the size of a dollar bill. Most states and foreign governments follow the Federal format. Many states issue a 10-stamp pane for ease of handling and mailing to field offices.

Types

Plate blocks or control number blocks are designations given to a block of stamps, usually four, with a plate or control number present on the selvage. Such a block is usually located in one or all four corners of a pane. Federal stamps prior to 1959 plus the 1964 issue are collected in blocks of six and must have the selvage on two sides. The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Program is a non-profit program sponsored by the Federal Government and designed to promote interest in conservation and wetlands preservation among students in grades K-12. The program includes a conservation and education curriculum that helps students of all ages. It focuses on wildlife conservation and management, wildlife art and philately. All proceeds from sales support conservation education.

Artist signed stamps are mint examples of duck stamps autographed by the artist responsible for the artwork on the stamp. Such stamps are rapidly gaining popularity with collectors, and most can be purchased for a small premium over mint examples. Early federal stamps are particularly valuable and difficult to acquire and signed stamps by artists now deceased also command a substantial premium. Remarqued stamps are quickly gaining in popularity with a worldwide audience. Original art on the actual stamp is seen as adding a spectacular flair to collections, making each stamp unique. These are very special, one-of-kind stamps on which an artist has personally drawn or painted a dog, decoy, lighthouse and/or duck.

Federal Duck Stamps continued

The artwork is obtained by commissioning the artist for their work, and generally the stamps take time to complete. All are either signed or initialed by the artist. Through the efforts of Jeanette C. Rudy, the Smithsonian Institution's National Postal Museum has received a complete remarked set for display to the public. Stamps of deceased artists will bear a remarque by a living federal artist, as a "tribute" to the artist and their work.

Errors

With the printing of such a large number of stamps year after year by many different states and printing agencies, errors do occur, but are seldom found. A few federal stamps are known to exist with major errors, but only a few, namely on the 1934, 1986, 1990, 1991, 1993, and 2003 issues.

Stamps without perforations, with missing or incorrect color, missing or inverted writing on the reverse are all major errors. Smaller flaws, such as color shifts, misplaced perforations, hickeys (or doughnuts) and other such anomalies are termed freaks, rather than errors. These, too, are collectible and have value, but they do not command the same attention as major errors. Major errors are extremely rare and exist in small numbers. All errors and freaks on duck stamps are very desirable and add a great deal of interest and value to a collection. There was a typo in one of the phone numbers on the back of the 2008-09 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. The correct 1-800 number is supposed to direct people wanting to order another copy of the stamp to the appropriate department in the Duck Stamp Office.

Federal Duck Stamp Contest

The first Federal Duck Stamp, designed by Jay "Ding" Darling in 1934 at President Franklin D. Roosevelt's request, depicts two mallards about to land on a marsh pond. In subsequent years, other noted wildlife artists were asked to submit designs. The first contest in 1949 was open to any U.S. artist who wished to enter. Sixty-five artists submitted 88 design entries that first year. The number of entries rose to 2,099 in 1981. One artist, Maynard Reece from Arnolds Park, Iowa, has won the competition a record five times as of 2011, winning in 1948, 1951, 1959, 1969 and 1971. This is the only art competition of its kind sponsored by the U.S. Government.

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