



The

# Volunteer State

## Philatelic Gazette



"The Postage Stamp is Our World"

APS 037461  
CHAPTER 0431

## Merry Christmas!!!

A Philatelist's Psalm  
by Herman Herst, Jr.

Stamp collecting is my hobby, I shall not be bored.  
 It maketh me to do research on far places.  
 It causeth me to correspond with odd people.  
 It keepeth me alert.  
 It leadeth me into areas of understanding for curiosity's sake.  
 Yea, though I live through a winter of inclement weather.  
 I will feel no boredom, for my stamps are with me.  
 They provideth me a means of escaping from the tensions of my  
responsibilities.  
 They filleth my house with books.  
 My cash runneth lower.  
 Sureth interest and knowledge shall follow me all the days of my life and  
 I will be listed in the ranks of Philatelists forever.

Source: Column published in the British magazine "Stamps". Reprinted by "Phil-A-Telly", official newsletter of the Philatelic Society of Pittsburg.

### THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!!

Here we are again with another year coming to a close. The holidays are just around corner with the new year soon to follow! We look back on the old year passing and forward to the promise of the new year to come. The new year brings challenges to be overcome. Our annual stamp show is just around the corner (which is always a challenge ;>) There will be new stamps issued by the Post Office and old ones to be found from our favorite dealers. So have a great holiday season and be looking forward to a better new year!

Matt Benward, President NPS

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\* STAMP CLUB NEWS \*  
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Nashville Stamp Show 2025  
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Our annual stamp show will be held next year on March 8-9th at the Gallatin Civic Center located at 320 Albert Gallatin Avenue in Gallatin Tennessee. This is a same location we used in 2023 and it will be our new home for years to come. We'll be sending out contracts to the dealers in all the states nearby Tennessee and we've already heard from some dealers that they will return next year 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  
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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  
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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.

Christmas Party Meeting  
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Our Christmas Part meeting is scheduled for December 16th. We will also have a small auction too. Members please bring lots and we'll see you on the 16th!!!

Donation to the our Club  
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The Hendersonville Stamp Club has donated their treasury to our club! Thank you very much!

The Volunteer State  
Philatelic Gazette

Issue #119 Winter 2024

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.

This publication is free and copies may be requested by writing to our PO box, emailing using the info email address on our web page, or by download from our webpage.

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 October 2024 – December 2024**

The NPS held its 10/14/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-four members and three guests were present. Minutes of the 9/23/24 meeting were read and approved. Tom Bain won the door prize. Steve Meyer won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone, Stamps and Social Media committees. An update was given on our social media websites with 1196 “followers” on Twitter and 1056 “likes” on Facebook. Matt mentioned that our next Nashville Stamp Show would be March 8–9, 2025. The business session then adjourned for an interesting presentation and handout on “The 1915 Pan-Pacific Expo” and ‘How a Set of 4 Stamps Became 9” by Tom Tribke and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 10/28/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 10/8/24 meeting were read and approved. Buzz won the door prize. Roger won the Participation Award. It was reported that Bill De Salvatore’s ward had passed away and NPS members expressed their sympathy. 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 1194 “followers” on Twitter and 1056 “likes” on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with David Perry as auctioneer.

The NPS held its 11/11/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 10/28/24 meeting were read and approved. Val won the door prize. Courtney won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. David Perry asked that NPS recognize all vets in our membership. Reports were presented from the Phone and Social Media committees. An update was given on our social media websites with 1154 “followers” on Twitter and 1054 “likes” on Facebook. Mark Thompson reported that he had been representing NPS with the Southeastern Stamp Conference and asked to continue in this roll. NPS agreed that he should continue. Mark also mentioned that the SE Conference was asking for agreement to support higher level cooperation with other philatelic organizations. NPS agreed. And further the SE Conference is considering replacing stamp show exhibits with non-judged displays. NPS also agreed. Dennis Fielding was appointed to participate in a “Committee to Advocate for Better Stamps.” The business session then adjourned for a well-done presentation on “A Grabbag of Stamp Identifications” by Dennis Fielding.

The NPS held its 11/25/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-one members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 11/11/2024 meeting were read and approved. David Perry won the door prize. Jackie 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 1191 “followers” on Twitter and 1059 “likes” on Facebook. Matt advised that our only meeting in December, our Christmas Meeting scheduled for 12/11/2024, had to be revised due to meeting room scheduling problems. An e-mail notice will sent out as soon as a firm schedule date is known. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with David Perry as auctioneer.

NPS held its annual Christmas party on 12/16/2024 at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall. Twenty-six NPS members and seven guests joined together for fellowship and plenty of good food!!! There were 2 applications for membership. We showed several videos about Christmas stamps during the party. We had a giveaway of philatelic items that had been donated to the club. Everyone signed a get well and Christmas cards for Tom Tribke. We also had Christmas games - toss the ring on the reindeer's antlers!!! There was Black Forest cake, hors d'oeuvre, and free beer for everyone!!! The Hendersonville Stamp club donated their treasury to the Nashville Philatelic Society. Thank you!!! We held a short auction with 23 lots and 21 were sold.

# **Nashville Philatelic Society**

## **Minutes Review for July 2024 – September 2024**

The NPS had its 7/8/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Nineteen members and four guests were present. Minutes of the 6/24/24 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 1201 “followers” on Twitter and 1000 “likes” on Facebook. It was mentioned that our next premium auction would be held on August 26, 2024. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting program and handout on “EFO’s – Errors, Freaks and Oddities on Stamps” by Tom Tribke.

The NPS had its 7/22/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-four members and two guests were present. The minutes of the 7/8/24 meeting were read and approved. Bill Bowman won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Sachaye Walker’s application for NPS membership received first reading. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. An update was given on our social media websites with 1201 “followers” on Twitter and 1030 “likes” on Facebook. Mark Thompson provided the Treasurer’s Report and a list showing NPS members with 2024 paid dues. It was asked that items for the next premium auction be coordinated with Dennis Fielding. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with David Perry as auctioneer.

The NPS held its 8/12/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-six members and seven guests were present. Minutes of the 7/22/24 meeting were read and approved. Sachaye Walker’s application for NPS membership received second reading and she was approved and welcomed to the NPS membership. Sachaye Walker won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. Reports were presented from the Phone and Stamps committees. Our social media websites had 1201 “followers” on Twitter and 1036 “likes” on Facebook. Matt mentioned that our 2025 Stamp Show was scheduled for March 2025 at the Gallatin Civic Center. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting program and handouts on “The Louisiana Purchase” and “Jamestown” Expo Issues by Tom Tribke and other NPS members.

The NPS held its 8/26/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-nine members and one guest were present. Minutes of the 8/12/24 meeting were read and approved. Nick Munn won the Door Prize. Rudy Caduff won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. A report was presented from the Phone and Stamp committees. Our social media websites had 1199 “followers” on Twitter and 1039 “likes” on Facebook. The business session was then adjourned for our 4th Premium Auction with David Perry as auctioneer.

The NPS held its 9/9/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-seven members were present. Minutes of the 8/26/24 meeting were read and approved. Al Terhorst’s application for NPS membership received first reading. Mark Thompson won the door prize. Tom Bain 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 1200 “followers” on Twitter and 1050 “likes” on Facebook. Also members were asked to provide a brief description of their favorite stamp in preparation for a future program. The business session was then adjourned for an interesting presentation and handout on "Allied Military Government After World War II" by Matt and Al Bollmeier.

The NPS had its 9/23/2024 meeting at the Bavarian Bierhaus at Opry Mills Mall with Matt Benward presiding. Twenty-eight members and two guests were present. Minutes of the 9/9/24 meeting were read and approved. Al Terhorst’s application for NPS membership received second reading and he was approved and welcomed to the NPS membership. Rudy Caduff won the door prize. Mark Thompson won the Participation Award. Forthcoming new issues and stamp shows were reviewed. A report was given on the recent Indianapolis Show by Matt, Al Bollmeier and Mark. Reports were also presented from the Phone, Stamp and Social Media Committees. Matt reported that social media websites had 1152 “followers” on Twitter and 1098 “likes” on Facebook. Matt mentioned that our next Nashville Stamp Show would be in March of 2024. The business session was then adjourned for our auction with David Perry as auctioneer.

# Different services used to send the mail

**First-Class** - postcards, letters, large envelopes (flats), and small packages, providing each piece weighs 13 ounces or less.

**Second-Class** - newspapers and magazines

**Third-Class** - bulk advertisements

**Fourth-Class** - books and media mail packages

**Registered** - First-class mail with a numbered receipt, including a valuation of the registered item, for full or limited compensation if the mail is lost. Registered mail is signed by each postal employee who handles it.

**Certified** - Certified Mail allows the sender proof of mailing via a mailing receipt and, upon request electronic verification that an article was delivered or that a delivery attempt was made. Some in-transit tracking and delivery confirmation information may be provided, but there is no formal chain of custody. Certified Mail is only available for Priority Mail and First Class Mail letters mailed within the United States and its territories (including APOs and FPOs). Each piece of Certified Mail is assigned a unique label number which serves as an official record of mailing of the item by the Postal Service.

**Insured** - A service which offers coverage for damaged or lost articles of mail for an additional fee and within certain mailing provisions of the Post Office.

**Special Delivery** - a postal service paid for with additional postage for urgent letters and postal packets which are delivered in less time than by standard or first class mail service. Essentially it meant that a postal packet was delivered from a post office to the addressee immediately once it arrived at the post office responsible for delivering it, rather than waiting for the next regular delivery to the addressee. On June 7, 1997, the United States Postal Service terminated Special Delivery mail service.

**Special Handling** - A service that secured accelerated processing of fourth class mail (mostly parcels), so that it would be delivered as promptly as first-class material. This was to protect perishable items, with specific mention of live animals, from loss in the mails. It was considered a separate service from special delivery.

**Express Mail** - accelerated mail delivery service for which the customer pays a surcharge and receives faster delivery. Express mail is a service for domestic and international mail and is in most countries governed by a country's own postal administration. Since 1998, the international accelerated delivery services are governed by the Express Mail Service (EMS) Cooperative. Express Mail Service (EMS) is an international express postal service offered by postal-administration members of the Universal Postal Union (UPU). These administrators created the EMS Cooperative in 1998 within the framework of the UPU to promote the harmonization and development of postal services worldwide.

**Priority Mail** - A 1 to 3 day shipping service that features one flat rate for delivery of a package or envelope to its destination. Items must weigh 70 lbs or less and measure 108 in. or less in combined length and girth for each envelope or package.

**Airmail** - A mail transport service branded and sold on the basis of at least one leg of its journey being by air. Airmail may be the only option for sending mail to some destinations, such as overseas, if the mail cannot wait the time it would take to arrive by ship, sometimes weeks. The Universal Postal Union adopted comprehensive rules for airmail at its 1929 Postal Union Congress in London. Since the official language of the Universal Postal Union is French, airmail items worldwide are often marked *Par avion*, literally: "by airplane". On May 1, 1977, two weeks shy of its 59th birthday, United States domestic airmail service ended.

**A Certificate of Mailing** - a receipt that provides evidence of the date that your mail was presented to the Post Office for mailing. It can only be purchased at the time of mailing. A certificate of mailing cost one cent per item from July 1, 1929 until February 1, 1954.

**Postal cards** - Postal stationery with an imprinted stamp or indicium signifying the prepayment of postage.

**Return Receipt** - A postcard-sized paper that is mailed back to the sender by the post office upon receipt by the addressee as proof of delivery. It is purchased at the time of mailing with Certified Mail, Registered Mail, Collect on Delivery (COD), Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery, or insurance (more than \$500).

**Collect on Delivery (COD)** - The sale of goods by mail order where payment is made on delivery rather than in advance. If the goods are not paid for, the package is returned to the retailer.

# Coiled Postage Stamps

The first US government-produced coils appeared in 1908, produced by pasting together enough imperforate sheets to make rolls of 500 or 1,000 stamps, cutting them into strips and perforating between. The 1-cent, 2-cent and 5-cent values in the Series of 1902 (Second Bureau Issue) were produced in coil versions, but relatively few copies exist because in late 1908 the series was superseded by the Washington-Franklin Issues.

Coil waste is a type of U.S. stamp made from damaged or unusable printing stock intended for use as coil stamps and is a term applied to several stamp issues of the late 1910s and early 20s. Sometimes in the printing of coils on rotary presses, a number of stamps from the run were deemed unusable for coil production. Instead of discarding these, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing processed them through the flat-plate perforating machine to finish them as fully perforated stamps. These finished products are known as coil waste. While seemingly identical to normal fully perforated issues (which were printed on flat plate presses), coil waste stamps are distinguishable by their size: their designs are slightly wider or longer than normal because rotary press printing slightly stretches an image.

Later a rotary press was adopted, which eliminated the pasting stage. The cylindrical plate used on a rotary press has a seam where ink tends to accumulate, resulting in joint line pairs. The coiling equipment processes the printed web down to finished products of precisely 100, 500, or 3,000 stamps, as desired. Today, the Bureau has 6 of the examining units in regular use, together with 4 perforator-coilers, and 14 coil wrapping machines. About 39 million coil stamps are printed and processed each day.

The perforations of coil stamps are usually found along the right and left sides ("vertical perf"), but they have also been produced with perforations along the top and bottom ("horizontal perf"). Longer perforations on one side than the other, and separation by cutting rather than tearing, are indications that a stamp may have come from a coil.

A recent innovation enabled by self-adhesive technology is the linerless coil stamp. While most self-adhesive stamps have backing paper, linerless coils are like a roll of adhesive tape. Such rolls tend to be enormous, with thousands of stamps, and tend to be used only by large mailing operations.

A plate number coil (PNC) is a United States postage stamp with the number of the printing plate or plates printed on it. The plate number typically appears as one or more small digits in the margin at the bottom of the stamp. The plate number may be centered or, on some coil issues, located toward the right. Although most plate numbers are composed of just numbers, both a combination of letter and number may be used. In the case when a letter is represented in the plate number, an upper case letter usually appears at the beginning or at the end of the sequence with the former serving as a good identifier of the stamp printer.

In the United States, vending machine companies began to experiment with the automated dispensing of stamps. Early efforts to break sheets into strips manually did not work well, since they were prone to tearing and jamming, and soon the companies began to request imperforate sheets from the post office, cutting those into strips and punching holes of various shapes between each stamp. A variety of these "private coils" is known, some quite rare.

Beginning on January 3, 1911 the Bureau of Engraving and Printing issued the 1-cent and 2-cent denominations in imperforate form on single-line watermarked paper specifically for use by at least seven different private coil-stamp vending machine companies. Each company used its own distinctive types of perforations, and most firms continued to experiment with them. Thus on the 1-cent issues, these five companies employed a total of 18 different types of private perforations, while 19 types exist on the 2-cent denomination. These private perforations, designed to fit the specific mechanisms of the various vending machines, were applied to imperforate sheets of 400 stamps after those sheets had been cut into either vertical or horizontal strips (the first such sheets had been issued in 1906 at the request of various vending machine companies). Joseph Schermack is generally credited with producing the first coil stamp vending machine. Privately applied perforations continued to be used well into the 1920s, and comprise a distinctive segment of U.S. postal history.

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