

STAMP & TONGS



(JANUARY 6, 2018 | VOLUME 61)

We welcome members with all levels of experience, from beginners to advanced membership is open to all persons of good character who are interested in philately.

IN THIS ISSUE:

NORTH KOREA'S POSTAGE STAMPS OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE LOOK INTO THE COUNTRY



North Korea has marked the anniversary of the Korean War -- and its annual "Struggle Against US Imperialism Month" -- by releasing two anti-American postage stamps.

Featuring warheads pointed at Capitol Hill, and a fist crushing a US missile, the stamps continue Pyongyang's long tradition of issuing enemy-baiting collectors' items.

But anti-American imagery forms just a fraction of the pantheon of bold, bizarre and, in some cases, extraordinarily mundane designs issued by the reclusive state each year.

An online catalog maintained by the

country's stamp-issuing authority, the Korea Stamp Corporation, lists over 70 different design categories. Topics like "revolutionary history" and "Respected Comrade Kim Jong-un" appear alongside soft power celebrations of transport, infrastructure, and innovation. But there are some unexpected categories too, including "mushrooms," "crustaceans," and "chess." Keen philatelists have also drawn attention to North Korea's apparent fondness for depicting cute kittens.

Targeting collectors

With its eyes firmly on the collectors'

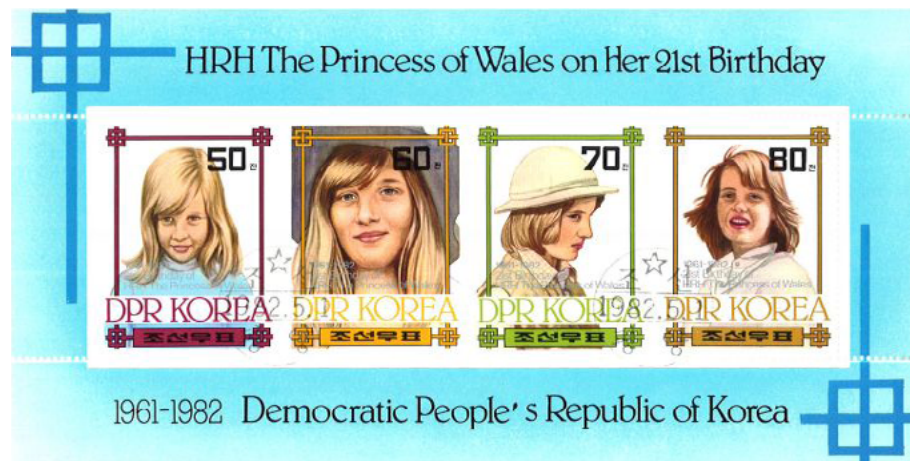
NORTH KOREA'S POSTAGE STAMPS OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE LOOK INTO THE COUNTRY-CONTINUED

market, Pyongyang has turned the stamp industry into a steady source of income, according to the head of Asia studies at the University of British Columbia, Ross King.

"In the broad scheme of things, collector-oriented stamps far outweigh those with a political message," King said on the phone.

Much like Western countries' postal services, the reclusive state also designs stamps to commemorate national achievements and world events. Typical subjects include the Ryugyong Hotel, a 105-story pyramid-shaped structure that dominates Pyongyang's skyline, and the 2014 World Cup -- a tournament that North Korea failed to qualify for. But despite their low value, stamps are

to reflect shifting demand. In the 1980s, images of Princess Diana and German tennis star Steffi Graf were used to attract Western collectors. Today, China is the main target, according to King. "Nobody in Europe or North America collects stamps anymore," he said. "Now, (North Korea's) stamps are pushing Chinese themes because they know that Chinese collectors are buying them."



"They even had Princess Diana on the stamps back in the 80s when they thought that Brits were buying stamps."

King believes the country is "right up there with the United States" as one of the most prolific stamp-issuing authorities in the world.

"The US is another example of a country that uses the postal service to make a ton of money from gullible collectors," King said.

"North Korea and the United States are very similar in that respect."

cheap to produce and thus very profitable, according to Dutch collector and stamp dealer, Willem van der Bijl.

Related:

North Korea: Take a 3D tour of one of the world's most isolated countries

"Most of them don't have a high market value," he said on the phone from his stamp shop in Utrecht. "New issues, in mint condition, sell for around 50 (US) cents a stamp -- though that's just an average.

"But they're just printing paper -- which is worth nothing -- and receiving valuable dollars. It's more or less free money. The ones featuring sports and animals are just made to please collectors and get foreign currency."

Having regularly visited North Korea before being reportedly detained there for two weeks, Van der Bijl likes the "simplicity" of the designs. He claims to own "almost all" of the stamps ever issued by the country.

A changing market

The world's stamp market is changing, and North Korean designs are evolving

"There's been a clear shift towards designs that will be attractive to collectors in China. A lot of the designs in recent years have been celebrating North Korea-China friendship or Chinese pop culture and cultural icons."

King explained that the trend dates back to the 1990s, referencing a stamp issued to celebrate the handover of Hong Kong. More recent designs include the cockerel, marking the Year of The Rooster.

China is believed to be home to about 20 million stamp collectors, about one-third of the world's total. But stamp dealer Van der Bijl is uncertain whether they'll be wooed by Pyongyang's strategy.

"I told the North Koreans not to use Chinese topics," said Van der Bijl, who maintains contact with some of the insular country's stamp dealers. "The collectors' market wants stamps that are related to the country that they're from."

"Through stamps we can see the history of a country. I don't think it's wise to start making topics about other countries."

A sign of the times

Although anti-American art is of negligible value to North Korea's business model, it can still shine a light on diplomatic relations, according to Koen de Ceuster, a Leiden University lecturer who recently created an online database of North Korean posters.

"The images you see (in the newly issued



NORTH KOREA'S POSTAGE STAMPS OFFER AN ALTERNATIVE LOOK INTO THE COUNTRY-CONTINUED

stamps) speak to the recent developments in rocket missile technology -- the fact that North Koreans now claim that they have the White House in sight and that they can reach the American continent with their missile systems," he said on the phone. "Propaganda images also often present American presence in South Korea as a form of occupation, and demand the departure of US troops to achieve reunification."

North Korea's artwork has, historically, provided insight into tensions between Pyongyang and Washington. During the Vietnam war, stamps were issued in

solidarity with anti-American communists, while a 1969 issue officially titled "International Conference of Journalists Against US Imperialism," shows Richard Nixon being attacked by pens. Stamps depicting the USS Pueblo, an American spy ship captured by North Korea in 1968, is another common trope.

But while art may imitate life, it does little to help us foresee events, King said.

"You can use North Korea's postal imagery as a kind of diagnostic for policy directions, or to confirm certain suspicions about the party line. But unfortunately you can't use it to predict policy."

Written by Oscar Holland, CNN

<http://www.cnn.com/style/article/north-korea-stamps/index.html>

VATICAN RELEASES POSTAGE STAMPS ON REFORMATION, ST. FRANCIS OF SALES

the 500 years of the Protestant Reformation in October, and the 450th anniversary of the birth of Saint Francis de Sales in August. Reformation

The Vatican Philatelic Office that released the stamps explained that the €1 stamp on the 5th centenary of the Reformation, marked on October 31, 2017, "depicts in the foreground Jesus crucified and in the background a golden and timeless view of the city of Wittenberg," where on the church door Martin Luther put up his 95 theses on October 31, 1517, marking the start of the Reformation. In the stamp, Martin Luther is depicted on the left side of the Cross, kneeling in "a penitential disposition" and holding "the Bible, source and destination of his doctrine". On the other side is "Philipp Melanchthon, theologian and friend of Martin Luther, one of the main protagonists of the reform," who is holding the "'Augsburg Confession' (Confessio Augustana), the first official public presentation of the principles of Protestantism written by him."

Division

The 16th Protestant Reformation triggered the second major split within Christianity, after the Great Schism of 1054 that split the followers of Christ into Eastern

Orthodoxy and Western Catholicism. But after Vatican Council II, the Church has taken up the cause of unity among Christians as a prime mission. Since his election in 2013, Pope Francis has been involved in fresh efforts in this regard. Pope Francis and Protestant Reformation Last year, he travelled to Sweden on October 31 to join Lutheran leaders for a common commemoration of the Protestant Reformation in the Lutheran Cathedral of Lund, kicking off a yearlong celebration that concluded on Oct. 31, 2017. Part of that commemoration included Lutherans and Catholics signing a joint statement pledging to pursue their dialogue in order to remove the remaining obstacles that hinder them from reaching full unity.



They also stressed their commitment to common witness on behalf of the poor, the needy and the victims of injustice.

Francis of Sales

The other postage stamp of €2.55 celebrates the birth of St. Francis of Sales on August 21, 1567 in the French border town of Haute-Savoie. The portrait of the Bishop of Geneva in stained glass window style is depicted with a pen in his hand, as he regarded the patron of writers and journalists.

The Philatelic Office said the saint "lived his ministry with a strong

will to save the Church of Rome from the Calvinist Reformation" in the 17th century. "It is for the love of God that he brought back to communion with the Catholic Church many of the faithful who had separated themselves from it."

120,000 copies have been printed of each stamp. The Vatican's Philatelic and Numismatic Office (UFN) is responsible for issuing Vatican postal stamps and Euro coins. The office was established in 1929, issuing its first stamps that year featuring the image of Pope Pius XI.

http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/11/23/vatican_postage_stamps_reformation_francis_of_sales/1350689

SOUTH AMERICAN STAMPS SHOW STRENGTH

While stamp prices of Europe and North American countries have shown significant weakness over the last five years, South American countries are showing continued appreciation with little or no price erosion during that time. There is no one single reason for this since economics, politics and currency values factor into the mix in many cases. The accompanying table demonstrates widely different results, differences which require some wider searching to explain them. Note that the table's analysis is based on price movements for stamps issued up to 1950 and having a current catalog value of \$25 or more. A country by country view will perhaps help clarify the picture. The only global explanation at work in most of these countries is that the middle class in these countries is growing thanks to world trade. This means stamp collecting is growing there, but collectors are forced to buy in the US market since local dealers and inventories are limited by the low previous level of interest. Here are my views on each country:

ARGENTINA – This country is one of the more prosperous ones, but has an unstable political situation, a weak currency and limited access to foreign exchange. In this situation, wealthy people buy stamps as a repository of wealth, limited local investment options and as a way to export funds or bring them back in without using the restrictive banking system. This is likely to continue for some time.

VENEZUELA – The same problems as Argentina, only ten times worse. I expect their stamps to follow what happened in Iran, i.e. stamps become an underground currency for those wanting to get money out and others to send money back to support family members or take advantage of the turmoil which will continue even if President Maduro is ousted.

BRAZIL – Also is much like Argentina with a broken political system riddled with corruption, a declining economy and a currency in trouble. Stamps cataloging over \$1000 have appreciated 44% within the more modest 14-15% overall numbers. Stamps as an inflation hedge have a long history here.

BRITISH GUIANA – No, their stellar used numbers are not due to the famous penny red which sold for \$9 million last year. That stamp does, however give confidence to the investor market that other pricey stamps from this former colony will share in the provenance.

URUGUAY – I am at a loss to explain this country's stellar numbers and invite anyone with more insight to write us and let us in on the secret. The same can be said for CHILE.

COLOMBIA – This country has shown stability of late and may even be benefiting from the drug trade. Another plus has been the expanded coverage of

the SCADTA airmail issues as well as the pre-postal British consular issues, both long ignored by the Scott Catalogue until recently.

PERU & ECUADOR – These two countries showed practically no price changes by Scott in the 2010 to 2015 time period. Maybe Scott will find time to remedy this in the near future so don't write them off just yet. In fact, it may represent a good speculation, albeit these are not wealthy countries. BOLIVIA may also fall in this category.

PARAGUAY should be avoided since the number of high value stamps is too limited to get a true reading on their potential and local demand is weak. SURINAM and FRENCH GUIANA suffer from the fact that their main collectors are in the Netherlands or France where the home market and their colonies are all suffering from weak demographics and the number of local collector is constrained by slow economic growth. If you collect with investment potential as a consideration, stay focused on Venezuela, Argentina, Brazil and Colombia. They are my candidates for above average growth.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/richardlehmann/2017/12/08/south-american-stamp-show-strength/#c40b4382e0df>

COUNTRY	# MINT ITEMS	\$ MINT	5YR MINT APPRC %	# USED ITEMS	\$ USED	5YR USED APPRC %
ARGENTINA	406	\$369,615	57.2%	261	\$908,036	44.8%
BOLIVIA	128	\$30,117	6.1%	92	\$27,390	8.1%
BRAZIL	279	\$113,076	15.4%	217	\$1,050,083	13.7%
BRITISH GUIANA	225	\$450,773	16.9%	218	\$1,363,228	77.8%
CHILE	88	\$38,386	17.0%	73	\$18,987	24.3%
COLOMBIA	242	\$205,889	27.0%	186	\$125,341	25.9%
ECUADOR	112	\$13,755	-0.6%	84	\$11,045	2.0%
FRENCH GUIANA	98	\$50,606	8.5%	70	\$34,276	8.7%
PARAGUAY	23	4537	23.4%	16	\$4,065	11.9%
PERU	121	\$38,713	-1.5%	83	\$24,013	0.4%
SURINAM	81	\$14,391	5.4%	55	\$9,863	4.3%
URUGUAY	140	\$23,458	30.3%	59	\$7,521	37.8%
VENEZUELA	166	\$64,420	6.5%	135	\$111,457	25.2%
SOUTH AMERICA TOTALS	2109	\$1,417,736	22.3%	1549	\$3,695,305	29.6%

THE CONTROVERSIAL ZEPPELIN STAMPS THAT ENRAGED 1930S COLLECTORS



The rarest and most expensive of the 1930 Graf Zeppelin stamps.
U.S. POST OFFICE/PUBLIC DOMAIN

ON MAY 21, 1930, THE world's biggest airship, the Graf Zeppelin, floated over the Cape Verde Islands and slowed down over an unusual target: the Porto Praia post office. When the ship had maneuvered to just the right spot, its crew threw something out of the gondola, attached to a small parachute. As frightened crowds gathered below to watch, the mysterious object fluttered down from the sky and landed right on the building's roof. It was a big sack of mail.

Over the next few weeks, the Graf Zeppelin would complete its first Pan-American tour, flying to Rio de Janeiro, Ohio, and New Jersey, and then back over the Atlantic to Spain and its home country, Germany. Although much glitz and glamour accompanied the airship's comings and goings, its journey was funded by something more mundane: those sacks of mail, via the stamps affixed to the letters inside.

At 775 feet from nose to tail—about as long as the Golden Gate Bridge is tall—the Graf was the largest flying machine the world had ever seen. Its operating costs

were proportionate, clocking at about \$4 per mile (or \$54 per mile in today's money). Although passengers paid steep ticket prices, especially on early flights, the ship could only hold about 20 of them at a time, limiting that revenue stream. And despite the fanfare

that greeted its every move, attempts to charge admission to view it on the ground didn't go over well with the public, who were generally hurting from the Great Depression, and who wanted their close-ups for free.

Airship Works.

After some debate, the U.S. Post Office decided to get in on the game as well, designing and printing a run of Graf Zeppelin stamps in a matter of weeks. They called this a gesture of goodwill toward Germany, and pledged to also contribute 93 percent of the revenue to the Airship Works. Secretly, though, they expected that an enthusiastic population of American collectors would snap up most of the stamps, keeping them out of circulation, and ensuring that the Post Office held onto most of the money.

So on April 19, 1930, the USPO issued three stamps, each with a different design and for a particular amount. The first, a 65-cent stamp, was green, and showed the Graf cruising eastward above the sea.



This letter's three Graf Zeppelin stamps let it travel across the ocean twice.

Instead, the Graf's parent company, German Zeppelin Airship Works, decided to recoup costs by commissioning special stamps from the countries on the tour route. Only letters with these stamps on them would be accepted onto the airship, which would then deliver them to their destinations. This was the only commercial transatlantic air mail option available at the time, and was days faster than sending a letter by boat. Brazil, Bolivia, Germany, and Spain all made the Zeppelin stamps, and 93 percent of the proceeds from each stamp was funneled back into German Zeppelin

This stamp would get a postcard over the ocean once, from the U.S. or Brazil to Spain or Germany. The second, a \$1.30 stamp, was brown, and featured the zeppelin heading west over a cropped map of the world labeled with the tour's three main cities (although New York, here, stands in for New Jersey). That one would get a letter across the sea.

The last stamp, in a bright sky blue, cost \$2.60, and displayed the Graf high in the clouds, superimposed over a small globe. This one was more fun than practical—it would get your letter round-trip, over to Europe and then back again. (One young



The Graf Zeppelin itself, flying over Brazil during its 1930 Pan-American Tour. DESCONHECIDO/PUBLIC DOMAIN

THE CONTROVERSIAL ZEPPELIN STAMPS THAT ENRAGED 1930S COLLECTORS-CONTINUED

boy from Ontario sent himself a letter this way, and made the papers.) The stamps' release was trumpeted in newspapers from New York City to Santa Cruz.

The joke, though, was on the post office. The economic hardship that led so many Depression-era Americans to be buoyed by the sight of a massive airship also made it difficult for any of them to pay \$4.55—50 times the cost of a loaf of bread—for a set of three collectible stamps. The U.S. printed 1,000,000 of each color, but only sold about 227,000 zeppelin stamps total,

most of which actually did end up on mail delivered by the Graf.

The Post Office eventually destroyed the remainder of the stamps, making collectors, who quickly accused them of creating artificial scarcity, even angrier. But that's what happens when you try to cross the world's biggest zeppelin.

Stamp of Approval is an occasional column that explores the designs and backstories of the world's strangest

stamps. Have a stamp you want investigated?

Stick it in an email to cara@atlasobscura.com.

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/graf-zeppelin-stamp-history>

The U.S. Post Office ended up destroying most of them.

BY CARA GIAIMO MARCH 20, 2017



TOP 5 DPCPS INSTAGRAM POSTS



♥ 122

90 posts
680 followers
249 following

Since our first post January 20, 2016

www.instagram.com/dallas_stamp/



♥ 114



♥ 111



♥ 109



♥ 101

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2017 HOLIDAY DINNER

2018 BOARD MEMBERS

At the holiday dinner the nominated slate for 2018 board members was unanimously approved by the members in attendance. They are:

President - Geoff Owens

Vice President and Program Chairman - Stan Bartnikowski

Secretary and Membership Chairman - Joe Baker

Treasurer - Rod Gabel

Director through 2018 - Chris Titus

Director through 2019 - Ivan Zuniga

Director through 2020 - Bill Laupus

In addition the following appointed positions will serve:

Album Acquisition and Sales Chairman - Jack Urish

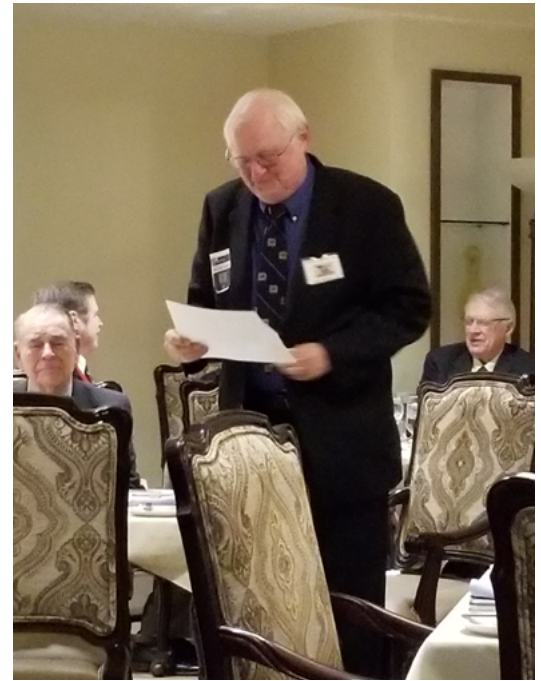
Newsletter Editor & Publicity Chairman - Chris Titus

Edgemere Liaison - George Clayton

Display Chairman - Paul Witthoeft

Estate Appraisal Chairman - Rod Gabel

Rod Gabel continues as Past President by default.



THE MINUTES

The September 13th, 2017

meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM., Geoff Owens, President, presiding. 16 members were present.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Secretary's report – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – None.
- Program VP's report – September 13, Program: "APS DVD: Anatolia, or Turkey in Asia". September 27, Program: "The Story Behind the Stamp", Five volunteers needed. October 11: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery. Program: "APS DVD: Jamaica in World War II". Begin Christmas Dinner Reservations – Reservation Form Handout. October 25, Program: "Quarterly Auction". November 8: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery (nominate slate of officers for

2017). Program: "Letter of the Alphabet: C Exhibits". November 10-11: Mid-Cities Stamp Expo at Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 8-9: TSDA Richardson Stamp Show at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75), Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4.

- Editor's/Publicity report – Dallas Stamp has 589 followers on Instagram. Working on the newsletter, expected mid-September to October 1.
- Membership report – No change.
- Exhibit – Paul is circulating signup sheet for 1 page exhibit for the November 10-11 Mid-Cities show.

Old Business

- Club Polo Shirts have arrived.

New Business

- Proposed that the club pay for the members Christmas dinner meal. Item added to next Board meeting.

Announcements

- George Clayton announced the downstairs dining room at The Edgemere is open and better.

Trivia/Show & Tell

1. Tom Siegel, Displaced Person Mail with paid cancellation;
2. Paul Witthoeft, a Stonewall Jackson and Robert E Lee FDC with Washington DC Cancellation.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- No door prizes this meeting. The album drawings were held.

Program

- Program: "APS DVD: Anatolia, or Turkey in Asia".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

The September 27th, 2017

meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM., Geoff Owens, President, presiding. 18 members were present.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Secretary's report – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – None.
- Program VP's report – September 27, Program: "The Story Behind the Stamp", Five volunteers needed. October 11: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery. Program: "APS DVD: Jamaica in World War II". Begin Christmas Dinner Reservations – Reservation Form Handout. October 25, Program: "Quarterly Auction". November 8: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery (nominate slate of officers for 2017). Program: "Letter of the Alphabet: C Exhibits". November 10-11: Mid-Cities Stamp Expo at Grapevine Convention

Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 8-9: TSDA Richardson Stamp Show at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75), Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4.

- Editor's/Publicity report – Dallas Stamp has 606 followers on Instagram. Working on the newsletter, expected mid-September to October 1.
- Membership report – No change.
- Exhibit – Paul is circulating signup sheet for 1 page exhibit for the November 10-11 Mid-Cities show.

Old Business

- Club Polo Shirts have arrived and cost \$8.

New Business

- None.

Announcements

- None.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- None.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- No door prizes this meeting. The album drawings were held.

Program

- Program: "The Story Behind the Stamp". Participants:
 1. Ivan Zuniuga, Chess on Stamps;
 2. Chris Titus, Dr. John Bull pattern medicine stamps;
 3. Geoff Owens, Story Behind "Fort Jameson British South Africa Company Postmark".
 4. Joe Baker, Mailing keys at Third Class rate effective June 28, 1926.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.

THE MINUTES CONTINUED

The October 25th, 2017

meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM., Geoff Owens, President, presiding. 24 members were present.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Secretary's report – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – None.
- Program VP's report – October 25: Program: "Quarterly Auction". November 8: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery (nominate slate of officers for 2017). Program: "Letter of the Alphabet: C Exhibits". November 10-11: Mid-Cities Stamp Expo at Grapevine Convention

Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 8-9: TSDA Richardson Stamp Show at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75), Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 13, Holiday dinner at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery.

- Editor's/Publicity report – Dallas Stamp has 606 followers on Instagram. Working on the January newsletter.
- Membership report – Stephen Mitchell has returned to club.
- Exhibit – Paul needs 5 additional pages for the November 10-11 Mid-Cities show exhibit.

Old Business

- Club Polo Shirts have arrived and cost \$8.
- New Business
- None.
- Announcements
- David Kyser passed away.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- Geoff Owens discussed Audie Murphy cover.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Chris Sortwell and Bill Laupus graciously door prizes. The album drawings were held.

Program

- Program: "Quarterly Auction".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

The November 8th, 2017

meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM., Geoff Owens, President, presiding. 23 members were present.

OFFICER REPORTS

- Secretary's report – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.
- Treasurer's report – The Treasurer's report will be distributed separately.
- Program VP's report – November 8: Board Meeting at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway and Thackery (nominate slate of officers for 2017). Program: "Letter of the Alphabet: C Exhibits". November 10-11: Mid-Cities Stamp Expo at Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 S. Main Street, Grapevine, Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 8-9: TSDA Richardson Stamp Show at Richardson Civic Center, W. Arapaho and Central (75), Friday 10-5 and Saturday 9-4. December 13, Holiday dinner at The Edgemere on Northwest Highway

and Thackery.

- Editor's/Publicity report – Working on the January newsletter.
- Membership report – Club dues for 2018 are due.
- Exhibit – Be sure to go see our club exhibit at Mid-Cities show.

Old Business

- Club Polo Shirts have arrived and cost \$8.
- New Business
- Discussed club officer slat. Added 2 new abbreviated club meetings on November 22nd and December 20th.
- Announcements
- David Kyser passed away.

Trivia/Show & Tell

- Geoff Owens discussed the label and special cancelation given to the 1907 Spanish Expo in Madrid.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing

- Chris Sortwell and Bill Laupus graciously

door prizes. The album drawings were held.

Program

- Program: "Letter of the Alphabet: C Exhibits".
1. Jack Urish talked about Croatia capital Zagreb and islands Pola and Lussin Piccolo
 2. Geoff Owens talked about Cameroon.
 3. Stan Bartnikowski talked Polish compser Fredrick Chopin.
 4. Stuart Barzune talked about 3 postal cards which depicted the Woolworth Bldg., 972 feet in height, built in 1911.
 5. Mike Smith talked about different canoes depicted on Fiji stamps.
 6. Chris Titus talked about Camels on stamps.
 7. George Clayton talked about Calvin Coolidge.
 8. Bill Laupus talked about US Constitution FDC cover.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

December 13, 2017

Tonight was the annual Holiday Party. 20 members and 16 guests were in attendance. All enjoyed a very nice evening.

2015 Officer and Director Elections

- The Nominating Committee Chairman, Stan Bartnikowski, thanked Jack Urish for his service as club Treasurer the past few years and presented the following officers and directors, who were elected

unanimously:

- President – Geoff Owens
- Vice President – Stan Bartnikowski
- Secretary – Joe Baker
- Treasurer – Rod Gabel

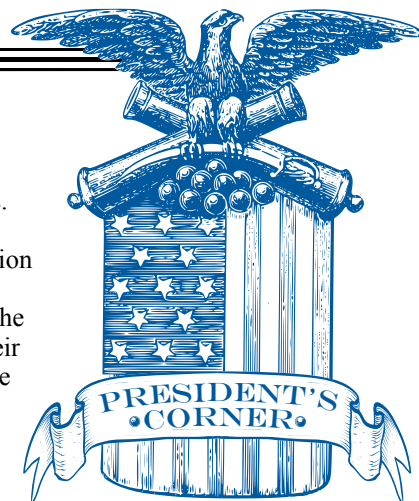
• Directors:

- Bill Laupus (3 year term)
- Ivan Zuniga (2 year term)
- Chris Titus (1 year of existing term)

Door Prizes

- Several gifts donated by club members were raffled off.

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 pm.



Members,

We've come to the end of another successful year for our club, and it is appropriate for me to thank several individuals for special contributions. A big thanks to George and Janet Clayton for working with Edgemere in planning and hosting our annual holiday dinner. A word of appreciation to Stan Bartnikowski for a fine job as nominating chairman. Thanks to all the members of the 2017 board who collectively guided us through the year, and especially to Jon Cagley and Perry Denton who completed their terms and are rolling off the board. Finally, thanks is hardly an adequate word to express my appreciation for Jack Urish's many years of service as our treasurer.

On another subject, long time members will remember that we used to charge 20% of current catalog price for stamps purchased from Jack's albums. Several years ago the board voted to lower that amount to 15% and monitor the affect for a period of time. Two years ago it was apparent that 15% was not enough to recover the cost of the albums, and the board increased the charge to 18% of current catalog price. We now know that this is enough to make a small profit and still provide excellent value to all of us members. I am very pleased to report that Jack has presented a check for \$1,000 to the club once again after several years of no income to our treasury from album sales.

Happy New Year and happy collecting.

Geoff Owens

President

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone of good character who is interested in stamps and learning more about them. Annual dues for membership are \$12.00

CLUB MEETINGS SCHEDULE.

Meetings are held second and fourth Wednesday of each month. 7:30 pm
Edgemere Retirement Center
8523 Thackery Dallas, TX

UPCOMING SHOWS

January 5-6

HOUSTON TSDA, Crowne Plaza Hotel,
7611 Katy Freeway (IH-10 West), Houston, TX 77024. (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4)

March 16-17

DALLAS TSDA, Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson, TX 75080-4551 (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4)

April 13-14

HOUSTON TSDA, Crowne Plaza Hotel, 7611 Katy Freeway (IH-10 West), Houston, TX 77024. (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4)

SPECIAL THANKS TO

Jack Urish
Jon Cagley
Perry Denton

For their services to the club.

President:

Geoff Owens

Vice President:

Stan Bartnikowski

Secretary:

Joe Baker

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