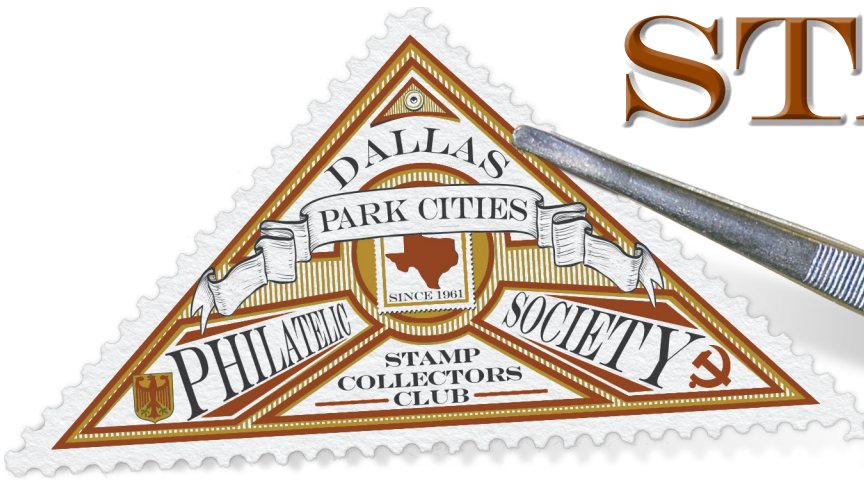


STAMP & TONGS



JULY-AUGUST 2020

DALLAS-PARK CITIES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

VOL. 59, NO. 4

NEW DPCPS WEBSITE DEBUTS

By Arthur P. von Reyn

The Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society has a new website online, dallasstamps.org. Our society's board of directors approved the new website during a special internet meeting held on May 7.

The website will be refreshed several times monthly with meeting notices and philatelic news of interest to members and anyone else who wants to learn more about stamp collecting in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Currently, the new website will serve as a supplement to the small website the American Philatelic Society maintains for the club. That one is designed to attract new members as changes are restricted to four times annually.

The primary purpose of the home page, shown above, is to feature upcoming DPCPS meeting activities, area philatelic events and serve as a gateway to other website features, such as a club history, how to join the club and whom to contact.

CLUB INTERNET MEETINGS TO CONTINUE

At this time, there is still no timetable for when the club will be able to resume meeting at the Edgemere Retirement Community. Consequently, virtual internet meetings are continuing using the Zoom application.

Members can participate with a desktop computer, tablet, smart phone or a landline telephone.

Invitations to participate are sent by email prior to each session along with instructions on how to access. Members having only landline telephones are sent instructions with each newsletter.

For new visitors to the website, there are links to the resources section that cover commonly asked questions on how to collect stamps, how to deal with an inherited stamp collection, and where to donate stamps. Also in the resource section is a list of stamp dealers.

Another purpose of the resources section is to assist members in their collecting pursuits. One item now partially available are charts with historical U.S. postage rates. Members are encouraged to lend suggestions as to what additions they would like to see to the resources section.

An additional area of interest to members is the repository of past *Stamp & Tongs* newsletters. More recent issues are available in a high-resolution format; emailed copies sent to members are lower resolution in order to avoid rejection due to attachment size restrictions. Older newsletters are needed for posting on the website; members having ones not listed should let the webmaster know.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Due to the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, all DPCPS meetings at the Edgemere Retirement Community have been canceled until further notice. Meetings will be held instead on the internet. In the event meetings at the Edgemere resume before the September-October edition of *Stamp and Tongs*, members will receive either an email or postcard notice. As of this bulletin's publication date, the TSDA bourse listed below has not been canceled. Check the listed TSDA website for updated information.

- July 8** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING**, Program: *Overview of the Straits Settlement Stamps*, presented by Geoff Owens.
- July 22** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING**, Program: *U.S. Joint Issues, Part I*, presented by Arthur von Reyn.
- July 25-26** **ARK-LA-TEX COIN, STAMP AND CARD EXPO**. This event has been canceled.
- August 12** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING**, Program: *Philatelic Subjects Related to the Letter L*, presented by Don and others.
- August 20-23** **GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SHOW**. This event has been canceled.
- August 21-22** **DALLAS TSDA**, Richardson Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd, Richardson, TX 75080 (Friday 10-5, Saturday 9-4). <https://www.tsdstamps.com/stamp-show-schedule/>
- August 26** **DPCPS INTERNET MEETING**, Program: *U.S. Joint Issues, Part II*, presented by Arthur von Reyn.

STAMP & TONGS

Newsletter of the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society

Arthur von Reyn, Editor (apvr@msn.com)

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2020 DPCPS OFFICERS

President – Stan Bartnikowski (stan.bartnikowski@gmail.com)

Vice-President – Bill Laupus (walsr4005@juno.com)

Secretary – Joe Baker (jebaker350@sbglobal.net)

Treasurer – Rod Gabel (gabelassoc@sbglobal.net)

Past President – Geoff Owens

DPCPS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stuart Barzune • Ben Schkolne • George Clayton

Membership in the Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society is available to all persons of good character who are interested in philately. Dues are \$12 per year (higher for mailed newsletters). For more information, contact: (972) 956-6840 or: apvr@msn.com. For a membership application, write to: Dallas-Park Cities Philatelic Society, c/o Joseph E. Baker, 1623 Lake Travis Dr., Allen, TX 75002.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY STAN BARTNIKOWSKI



Due to the pandemic and the unavailability of the Edgemere, we have been holding meetings via Zoom video conferencing. Participants have enjoyed seeing and talking with other members, and, to a limited extent, participating in member activities. I was pleased to see some folks whom we have not seen at in-person meetings, due to distance or other commitments, such as Harry Pederson and Chris Titus. I anticipate we will continue to meet this way in the months to come.

While we are not conducting auctions or trading sessions, Jack Urish (214) 349-6372 has a bunch of albums for you to go pick up and bring home to view and select stamps for your collection.

One bright note for me is the resumption of air mail service from Poland. Now I can receive my auction winnings and order new issues from Poczta Polska.

During the first four virtual meetings, we've seen presentations by Art von Reyn on the 1937 Pan-American Exposition, yours truly on the stamps and postal history of Poland, and several members on stamps related to the letters "J" and "K."

In preparing my presentation on Poland, I found myself learning a lot more about the country and its history as well as its stamps. If you have a specialty, consider preparing a presentation on that specialty and you'll find yourself digging up facts and material and learning more. It does not need to be PowerPoint; scans or digital photos from your collection would suffice.

Stay safe and healthy and enjoy your stamps!

EDITOR'S MUSINGS

BY ARTHUR VON REYN



The American Philatelic Society's journal has in recent months contained discussions about the lack of female participation in our hobby, or at least in organized philately.

It looks like our membership is completely male, with one exception. Does an absence of females attending meetings prompt any who might show up to feel they are not welcome? Perhaps if we could just get one woman to come to our meetings consistently, then others would feel more comfortable in attending. What are your thoughts?

It's a scam that just won't go away. I received this email on June 9: "I am David Bäck, I am a banker with Danske Bank here in Sweden. I have a Business Proposal of USD\$6.2M for you to handle with me from my bank. I need you to assist me in executing this Business Project from Sweden to your country. upon completion of the transaction, our sharing ratio will be 50/50 of the total amount. If interested, do reply to my personal email more details." However, the email sender's name was Jander Santiago da Frota. Note also the Danske Bank is located in Denmark.

Believe it or not, the first documented case of a 419 Scam, the "419" referring to an article of the Nigerian criminal code, occurred back in 1920. It was a mail scam back then. Americans began to receive the letters by the late 1940s. I remember that in the 1980s the letters potential victims received were sometimes franked with counterfeit Nigerian stamps!

Find us online at:

DALLASSTAMPS.ORG



Instagram **DALLAS STAMP**



@DALLASSTAMP

PARADE OF CORONAVIRUS STAMPS MARCHES ON

By Arthur P. von Reyn

The parade of Coronavirus (COVID-19) stamps continues with almost a dozen more countries having issued or planning to issue stamps related to the disease that has swept around the world. More have been issued now than are shown here. The themes are for the most part related to prevention of infection or salutes to those on the front lines of defense against the pandemic.



A souvenir sheet of six stamps from New Zealand departs from the recurrent themes of prevention admonitions and depictions of medical heroes. The Bear Hunt 2020 stamps feature teddy bears, which were placed in windows and other places to create "a magical experience for children (and big kids) during a stressful time," according

to a May 28 New Zealand Post news release. The stamps cost NZ \$14.70, an amount that included a NZ \$3.00 donation to the Red Cross. One of the stamps from the souvenir sheet is shown here.

It was announced on March 19 that Prince Albert of Monaco had tested positive for COVID-19. Reportedly the first head of state so afflicted, he recovered from the disease and appeared on a stamp issued June 3 with these words from a speech: "patience;" "trust;" "courage;" and "solidarity."



The Peoples' Republic of China canceled the April 7 release of a pair of COVID-19 due to criticism of the design, which is shown at top right. The re-worked stamp, issued May 11, is depicted just below the rejected design.



Besides the color change from black to brown, there are at least seven (and possible more) changes for readers to try and spot.

A stamp pair from the Czech Republic that debuted June 24 has five masks representing health workers, the army, the police, the post, and firefighters involved in the fight against COVID-19. The polka dot



sixth mask at the center bottom represents everyone else.

Uruguay was the first South American country to distribute a pandemic related stamp.



Inscribed *Plan Nacional Coronavirus* (National Coronavirus Plan) and issued on May 24, the adhesive includes a phone number to call as well as a twitter hashtag at the bottom that reads, "#Wetakecare of each other."

Ukraine came out with a coronavirus stamp on May 29. The design is a split face, one side representing a medical worker, and the other, a soldier. The word *PEREDOVA* below the face means "front line."



On May 7, Morocco issued a semi-postal stamp picturing, as many other issues have, frontline workers in the fight against COVID-19. The stamp costs 8.75 dirhams, an amount that includes five dirhams for a COVID-19 fund.

Due out on July 21 are a pair from the Republic of China. "Taiwan Can Help" is inscribed on a label



COVID-19 DELAYS AIR MAIL



In early March, DPCPS President Stan Bartnikowski won some items at an auction in Poland. The auction house tried to send the items, but the envelope was quickly returned to the sender with the "Zwrot do nadawcy..." (Return to sender, Airmail operations suspended to the USA by the airlines) label at the upper left. The suspension was due to the lack of flights because of COVID-19. When flights resumed, the auction house resented the winnings in another envelope, enclosing the one shown above.

Continued on Page 7

AM POST SERVED DEVASTATED POST-WAR GERMANY

By Arthur P. von Reyn

Part 1 of this article, appearing in the May-June issue of *Stamp and Tongs*, explored the reestablishment of postal services in Germany after World War II. It was noted that the country was divided into four zones, but only in the American and British zones were stamps ready for use as the postal system reopened. These stamps, inscribed "AM POST," had been printed well in advance for use in all four zones, but the French and Russian raised objections, and opted out. Because the AM POST stamps were used almost exclusively in two zones, collectors also refer to them as the "Bizone Issue" or "Bizonal Issue."

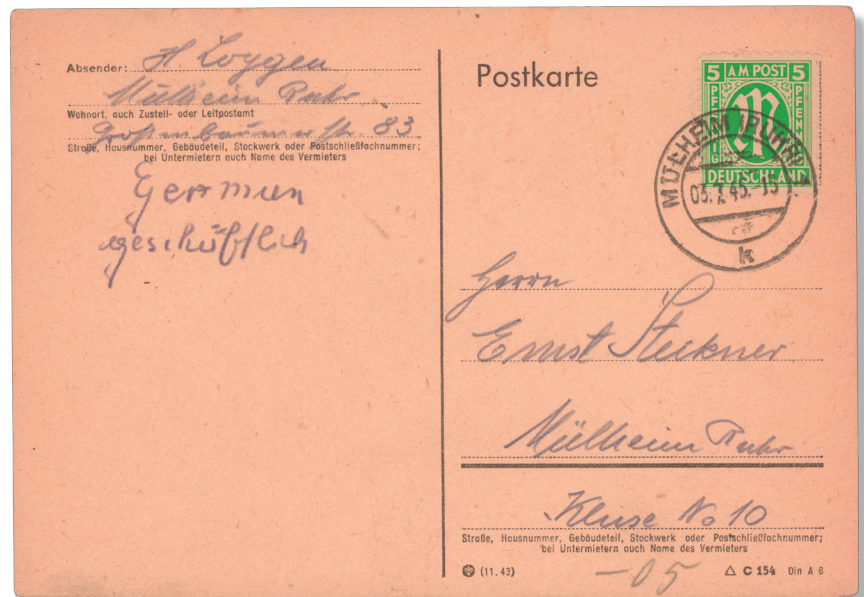
THE AM POST STAMPS

The era of AM POST stamps began on March 19, 1945, the day when Aachen civilians were allowed access to the postal system. Four denominations of stamps went on sale: 5 and 6 pfennig to meet postcard rates and 8 and 12 pfennig for letter rates.

Beginning in mid-June of 1945, other postal authorities in the American and British zones acquired the AM POST stamps, initially the same four denominations available in Aachen, then the five other denominations. Remarkably, the pre-war German postage rates remained in effect, and the American printed AM POST stamps were denominated accordingly. Three of the stamps even conformed to the Universal Postal Union's



The nine denominations of stamps printed by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in Washington, D.C. were based on German postage rates in effect before and during World War II. They were all perforated 11, but exist in three different paper varieties due to wartime shortages.



The first AM POST stamps made an appearance on March 19, 1945 in Aachen and by early July of 1945, local civilian postal service had expanded to most of the British zone. This post card, dated July 3, 1945, was posted from Mülheim an der Ruhr on July 3, 1945, at the local rate of 5 pfennig. The stamp is from the Washington, D.C. printing.

recommended green, red and blue color scheme for single rate printed matter, postcards and letters mailed to international destinations.

Although 800 million AM POST stamps were eventually printed by the U.S. Bureau of Engraving and Printing, the quantities needed to service the 40 million German civilians living in the two zones and in Berlin far exceeded expectations.

The situation was eventually eased somewhat by finding new sources of stamps to use in the British occupation zone, with remaining supplies of the BEP produced stamps reserved for the American zone.

The British firm of Harrison & Sons received a contract to print the six most needed denominations, using the same AM POST design as the American printed stamps. These become available beginning in late August of 1945.

It was also discovered that that a printing company located in the Brunswick, also in the British zone, had the capability to print stamps because its product line included gummed shipping labels for boxes. Georg Westermann's first stamp, a 6 pfennig value that mimicked the AM POST design, went on sale July 8, 1945, well before any of the Harrison & Sons stamps arrived.

The company subsequently produced AM POST stamps in 20 denominations, 11

GERMAN POSTAL RATES

	Until	Effective
INTRACITY	2/28/1946	3/1/1946
Letter to 20 grams	8 pf	16 pf
>20g to 250g	16 pf	32 pf
>250g to 500g	20 pf	40 pf
>500g to 1,000g	30 pf	60 pf
Postcard	5 pf	10 pf
Express Delivery	+ 40 pf	+80 pf
INTERCITY		
Letter to 20 grams	12 pf	24 pf
>20g to 250g	24 pf	48 pf
>250g to 500g	40 pf	80 pf
>500g to 1,000g	60 pf	120 pf
Postcard	6 pf	12 pf
Printed Matter		
to 20 grams	3 pf	6 pf
>20g to 100g	4 pf	8 pf
>100g to 250g	8 pf	15 pf
>250g to 500g	15 pf	30 pf
>500g to 1,000g	30 pf	60 pf
Postcard	6 pf	12 pf
Registered	+30 pf	+60 pf
Return Receipt	+30 pf	+60 pf
Express Delivery	+ 80 pf	+160 pf
INTERNATIONAL		
Letter to 20 grams	25 pf	75 pf
Postcard	15 pf	45 pf

German postage rates, some of which had been in effect since the 1920s, did not change until March 1, 1946, when they were doubled, or in the case of international destinations, trebled.

more than the original Washington printing. A larger size was accorded 30 pfennig to 80 pfennig values, capped by an extra-large size for a one reichsmark denomination.

Because the Brunswick printed stamps encompass the entire range of denominations of AM POST stamps eventually produced, the *Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue* assigns them major numbers of 3N1-3N20 in the German Occupation Stamps section. The Washington and London printings are accorded minor numbers.

Even the basic Michel catalogue for German stamps does a much better job listing the AM POST stamps. All three printings have major numbers and German stamp albums usually give all three printings equal billing.

Scott does not provide spaces for minor numbers in its specialty albums, so collectors only option is to add blank pages to their albums if they want to include stamps from all the printings.

DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN THE AM POST PRINTINGS

The three printings of AM POST stamps are easily distinguishable. Stamps with a perforation range of 14 to 14¾ are always the London printing.

It's slightly trickier with the American and Brunswick printings since they have similar perforations in the 11 to 11½ range. Scott suggests comparing the thickness of paper, which is okay if you have plenty of examples and they are mint. However, it's



Tremendous demand for stamps resulted in six denominations of the AM POST being printed in Great Britain by Harrison & Sons. They are perforated in ranges from 14 to 14¾, resulting in 29 perforation varieties.



The quantity of AM POST stamps printed Washington and in London were insufficient, so additional ones were printed in Germany. The German set consisted of 20 stamps, printed by a company in Brunswick (Braunschweig). In addition reproducing the nine original denominations printed in U.S., 11 more stamps were released to meet rates for heavier weight items as well as specific services such as registration and express delivery fees. The stamps were sold in the British zone occupation zone.

much easier to get out a magnifying glass and see if there are extra embellishments in the scrollwork, the most visible being a small flattened triangle in the scrollwork to the left of the "P" in the word "PFENNIG" on the right side of the stamp. Stamps having that triangle are always from the Brunswick printing. The American produced stamps never have it. [See the illustration for the difference.]

The Michel catalogues for Germany further break down the AM POST issues by color, paper and perforation varieties that total more than 120 stamps. For specialists, there are also marginal markings, plate varieties and random design variations to consider.

Since the 1870s, the German post office had followed a policy of limiting the period of validity for stamp issues. In times of economic distress, such as post war periods, the result was many stamps "expired" before they could be used on significant quantities of mail. The result was postally used stamps sometimes became much more valuable than unused examples. Such was the case with a number of the AM POST stamps.

Mint, never hinged versions of the 35 basic stamps in all three printings are inexpensive, with a 2016 Scott catalogue value of \$43.90. However, used copies are a different story, topping out at \$766.20. Much of that cost for used copies is attributable to the 80 pfennig and one reichsmark values, which had 2016 Scott catalogue values of \$225 and \$400 respectively.

Since genuine postally used copies of some stamps can be hard to come by, especially those with a high catalogue value, there is a greater likelihood that most offerings on the market will have either philatelic or fake cancels. These are usually the stamps that Scott values in italics.

Due to inflation, domestic postage rates and fees were doubled effective March 1, 1946. International rates were tripled, but as was noted in part one of this article, sending mail out of the country by German civilians was for the most part not allowed until a month later. Thus, foreign-destined covers and postcards dropped in the mail

Continued on Page 6



There are numerous design differences between the Washington and Brunswick printing, examples of which are shown at left and right respectively. Brunswick stamps have numerous additional embellishments in the scrollwork, three of the most prominent being shown here.

AM POST SERVED DEVASTATED POSTWAR GERMANY *Continued from page 5*

when the 25 pfennig rate was in effect were invariably marked "return to sender" unless such mail was sent by displaced persons [non-Germans stranded in Germany during the war] or through the Red Cross.

THE AM POST ERA ENDS

Like other regular stamps series issued for use in Germany prior to 1950, the lifespan of the AM POST stamps was relatively brief. Replacement began in February of 1946 with the appearance of the first 23 denominations of the Numeral series. These stamps were available for sale not only in the American and British zones, but also the Soviet zone; the French still refused to sell any stamps but their own in the areas they occupied. The last day of validity for the AM POST stamps was October 31, 1946, although they were tolerated in the mail for a week after that without penalty.

Readers interested in the German Allied Military Government issues, as well as other AMG stamps and postal history, should check out a specialty society for this niche of philately, the Allied Military Government Collectors' Club, formed in 2012. Its quarterly journal, *AMG Courier*, covers not only the Austrian, French, German and Italian AMG issues, but also those for Trieste, the Ryukyu Islands and Korea.

In addition to the stamps, there

were six basic versions of postal cards printed, three for the American zone and three for the British zone. Five of these replicated the basic AMG design. These will be explored in part 3 of this article, which will appear in the September-October issue of *Stamp & Tongs*.

FOR FURTHER READING

https://stamporama.com/discboard/disc_main.php?action=20&id=7444

<http://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=75589>

https://www.rund-um-briefmarken.de/postgebuehren/postgebuehren_ddr_sbz_vgo.html

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allied-](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Allied-occupied_Germany)



The AM POST stamps postal validity lapsed on October 31, 1946, with some denominations having seen little use. Shown above is the 80 pfennig value that is scarce postally used. The stamp at left appears to have a genuine cancel; the cancel on the copy at right is not the typical double ring cancel and therefore is of dubious origin.

http://www.germanyphilatelicsocietyusa.org/exhibits/AMG/Rahmen1_English.pdf

<https://esirc.emporia.edu/bitstream/handle/123456789/2447/Wagner%201977.pdf?sequence=1>

<https://esirc.emporia.edu/bitstream/handle/123456789/2447/Wagner%201977.pdf?sequence=1>



▲ Of the AM POST denominations, the Scott catalogue assigns the highest catalogue value to the used one reichsmark stamp, which is also the top value of the series. In the 2016 Scott catalogue, the price for the one mark stamp was \$400.00 used, but only \$1.90 for mint, never hinged. Used single stamps are often seen with questionable cancellations. This cover, dated May 30, 1946, was posted from Minden, Westphalia, a town in the British zone.

◀ Although the cancel is indistinct, the rubber stamped "May 12 1947" date indicates the 25 pfennig AM POST stamp was used well past the stamp's October 31, 1946, demonetization date. Since the letter was bound for the United States and not within Germany, civilian postal officials probably so no need to note what otherwise would be postage due.

PARADE OF CORONAVIRUS STAMPS MARCHES ON *Continued from page 3*

between each stamp pair. One stamp focuses on frontline workers, and the other on prevention of the contagion.

The United Arab Emirates issued on May 10 a small souvenir sheet containing one stamp. Once again, frontline workers are depicted.

It didn't take long for philatelic agents for a number of African countries to enter the COVID-19 derby. Souvenir sheets titled "The Penny Black Against COVID-19" join the prolific issues of Central African Republic and Sierra Leone; each sheet depicts six penny black stamps with a masked Queen Victoria. Round



"Stop COVID-19 sheets, each containing one or more round stamps appeared for Guinea-Bissau and the aforementioned Central African Republic. Other African countries having issued stamps include Djibouti and Togo.

The U.N. will issue on July 24 "We Are in this Together – COVID-19" stamps. Many others countries have stamps on the way as well.

The link below is different than the one published in the last newsletter, as that webpage is no longer being updated.

FOR FURTHER READING

<https://www.postoveznamky.sk/tribute-to-first-line-warriors-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic-and-philately>

NEW POSTMASTER GENERAL NAMED

Businessman Louis DeJoy, who has worked with the U.S. Postal Service for many years, was selected on May 6 to serve as the 75th postmaster general. According to a news release, "As Chairman and CEO of New Breed Logistics, DeJoy spent decades in collaboration with the U.S. Postal Service, Boeing, Verizon,



Disney, United Technologies and other public and private companies to provide supply chain logistics, program management and transportation support."

A top Republican Party donor, De Joy began serving as postmaster general on June 15th.

"As Chairman and CEO of New Breed Logistics, Inc., he transformed a small, family owned, transportation company with 10 employees into a nationwide provider of highly engineered, technology-driven, contract logistics solutions em-

ploying more than 9,000 people." the news release continued.

DeJoy replaces Megan Brennan, the first woman to serve as postmaster general. A former letter carrier, she announced her retirement in October 2019 to be effective in January, but stayed on until a successor could be found.

APS CANCELS STAMP SHOW

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic finally caught up with the Great American Stamp Show, forcing cancellation of the American Philatelic Society's signature event for the first time since 1943.

Previously known as APS Stampshow, the mid-August affair had been renamed last fall to reflect the American First Day Society and the American Topical Association both being cohosts.

The next show is scheduled for August 12-15, 2021, in Rosemont, Illinois, a suburb of Chicago.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

BY JOE BAKER

Editor's Note: Minutes are edited due to space considerations.

May 6th, 2020

The special meeting, held by video conference, was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Arthur von Reyn, who hosted the session. Board members present were Stan Bartnikowski, Joe Baker, Rod Gabel, George Clayton, Paul Witthoeft, Bill Laupus, and Stuart Barzune.

Old Business - None

New Business - Art set up the meeting to demonstrate Zoom, a video conferencing application, so the board could discuss the feasibility of using the application to conduct club meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Also discussed was the club hosting its own internet website.

The fee to use Zoom for our meetings would be about \$15.00 per month. The cost for the club to host its own website would be a \$100.00 plus tax per year. The club would have to also obtain a domain name at a one-time cost of \$100.00 plus tax for nine years.

The board approved using Zoom for virtual club meetings for a two month trial. Art paid the cost of the two months. The board approved Art proceeding to set up the club's own website, which would provide more local stamp collecting information than the current arrangement with APS.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

2020 U.S. NEW ISSUES CALENDAR

This is a list of U.S. new issues expected to debut in the next few months. Items are forever stamps with the current value in parenthesis, unless otherwise noted.

- 7/17/2020 **FRUITS & VEGETABLES** (55¢) special booklet stamps, 10 designs. Charleston, WV.
- 7/27/2020 **BUGS BUNNY 80TH ANNIVERSARY** (55¢) commemorative stamps, 10 designs. Location to be announced.
- 8/13/2020 **RUTH ASAWA** (55¢) commemorative stamps, 10 designs. San Francisco, CA.
- 8/21/2020 **THANK YOU** (55¢) special booklet stamps, four designs. Hartford, CT.
- 8/26/2020 **19TH AMENDMENT: WOMEN VOTE** (55¢) commemorative stamp, Seneca Falls, NY.
- 9/17/2020 **MAYFLOWER IN PLYMOUTH HARBOR** (55¢) commemorative stamp, Plymouth, MA.
- 10/?/2020 **DRUG FREE USA** (55¢) commemorative stamp. Location to be announced.
- 10/?/2020 **KWANZAA** (55¢) special stamp. Location to be announced.
- 10/?/2020 **HANUKKAH** (55¢) special stamp. Location to be announced.

CLUB MEETING MINUTES

BY JOE BAKER

Editor's Note: All meetings listed below are being held on the internet using the Zoom video conferencing application. Minutes are edited due to space considerations.

May 13th, 2020

This meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Stan Bartnikowski, President, and presiding. 15 members were present. This is the first meeting in two months. Zoom, a video conferencing application, is being used to hold meetings until COVID-19 pandemic is over.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read. The club executives held an unscheduled meeting May 6th to have a trial run using Zoom and for the club to setup and operate its own website in place of the one with APS. The board approved moving forward with the website development and to hold virtual club meetings on a trial basis in May and June using Zoom.

Treasurer – Treasurer's report made and sent under separate cover.

Program VP – May & June meeting schedule:

May 27th - *The Story Behind the Stamps, Letter J* - Stan, Stuart, Jack, George and Bill will be presenting.

June 10th - Stan is presenting the stamps and history of Poland.

June 24 - *The Story Behind the Stamps, Letter K*. We will need volunteers to present.

Upcoming stamp shows:

The June **TSDA** and the June **OKPEX** have been canceled due to COVID-19.

Editor – The March/April newsletter was released May 7 and included instructions for using Zoom to hold our May and June meetings.

Membership – Membership renewals: 33 members have paid 2020 club dues.

Exhibiting – OKPEX show canceled. Received an invitation from Mid-Cities to participate in their Club Single Frame competition at their November show.

Old Business – Voted on Nelson Barry's new member's application. Club members approved his application.

New Business – None.

Announcements – The club still has Polo shirts for sale.

Trivia/Show & Tell – Ellie created a new stamp issuing country for her flower stamps. Joshua displayed his certificate he received from The Royal Philatelic Society London when he was elected a member, March 1, 2020. Stan added a Celebrate FDC with a Beethoven cachet and ARIPEX cancellation, Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata, to his collection. Art had an interesting envelope

from Canada that was inspected and sealed by the Canadian Postal Authorities.

Door Prize/Album Drawing – No album or door prizes drawings will be held during our virtual meetings.

Program – Art von Reyn presented a very interesting talk about the Dallas Pan Am Exposition of 1937 that followed the 1936 Texas Centennial Exposition. During his talk, he showed interesting covers, pamphlets and ephemera from the Expo.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

May 27th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Stan Bartnikowski, President, and presiding. 19 members were present.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.

Treasurer – None.

Program VP – June meeting schedule:

June 10th - Stan is presenting the stamps and history of Poland.

June 24 - *The Story Behind the Stamps, Letter K*. We will need volunteers to present.

Upcoming stamp shows:

The June TSDA and the August **APS Show** have been canceled due to COVID-19.

Editor – The next newsletter will be published around July 1.

Membership – Membership renewals: 35 members have paid 2020 club dues.

Old Business – None.

New Business – Only 8 people have taken advantage of Jack's albums since March. Contact Jack at (214) 349-6372 to make arrangements to get your stamp album.

Announcements – The club still has nice polo shirts with our logo for sale at \$8.00.

Trivia/Show & Tell – Stan Bartnikowski displayed a cover from Poland to U.S. affected by the COVID-19 pandemic due to lack of airplane flights

Door Prizes/Album Drawing – No drawings are currently being held.

Program – The story behind the stamps, Letter J: **Stan Bartnikowski** J for Jazz on Polish stamps depicting well known artists. **Stuart Barzone** J for Joint issue; in 1896, the UPU agreed on green, red, and blue as standard colors for mailing standard printed matter (green), postcard (red), and letter rates (blue) when sent aboard. **George Clayton** J for 1st Lady Jackeline and John Kennedy; wedding on Granada souvenir

sheet. **Bill Laupus** J for Japanese sailing ships used to train merchant marine cadets. **Jack Urish** J for Japanese WWII overprints on Sarawak stamps. **Paul Witthoeft** J for Jamaican military troops boarding ship during WWI.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

June 10th, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Stan Bartnikowski, President, and presiding. 14 members and one guest were present.

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted without being read.

Treasurer – Treasurer's report made and sent under separate cover.

Program VP – June through August meeting schedule:

June 24th - *Philatelic Subjects related to the Letter J* - Stan, Rod, Jack, George, Bill and others will be presenting.

July 8th - *Overview of the Straits Settlement Stamps*, presented by Geoff.

July 22nd - *U.S. Joint Issues, Part I*, presented by Art.

August 12th - *Philatelic Subjects related to the Letter K* - Don and others will be presenting.

Upcoming stamp shows:

TSDA Richardson/Dallas Show: Friday August 21st, 10-5 and Saturday August 22nd, 9-4.

The June **TSDA**, June **OKPEX**, and July **ARK-LA-TEX** shows have all been canceled due to COVID-19.

Editor – The next club newsletter is due out around July 1st.

Membership – Membership renewals: 35 members have paid 2020 club dues.

Exhibiting – The next Club Single Page Frame Exhibit is scheduled for The Mid-Cities show in November.

Old Business – Art said the club's new website will go live July 1st. The club still has Polo shirts for sale at \$8.00.

New Business – None.

Announcements – None.

Trivia/Show & Tell – Don discovered a Spanish West Indies stamp that is listed under Cuba in the Scott catalogue.

Door Prizes/Album Drawing – No stamp album drawings were held. Jack continues to make albums available from his home. Contact him at (214) 349-6372.

Program – Stan's presentation of the stamps and history of Poland provide key references, dates and maps of the territory covered by Poland. Discussed were different areas to collect, with interesting examples from his collection.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.