

# The Chattanooga Stamp Chronicle

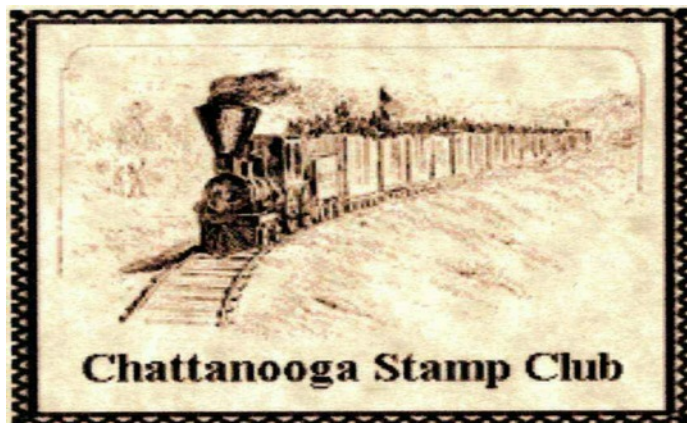
January, 2018



Southeast Federation  
Of Stamp Clubs



American Philatelic Society  
Chapter 731  
[www.stamps.org](http://www.stamps.org)



## Official Journal of the Chattanooga Stamp Club

MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE HICKORY VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 6605 SHALLOWFORD RD., CHATTANOOGA, TN.

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM, MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30 PM -- VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

January 11..... Monthly Meeting  
Program ..... Delayed Christmas Dinner  
February 8 ..... Monthly Meeting  
Program..... Ray Tessmer:How to Make a Profit  
on Your Stamp Collection.

### CLUB OFFICERS

|                      |               |  |
|----------------------|---------------|--|
| President .....      | Mike Ezell    | <a href="mailto:mhezell@gmail.com">mhezell@gmail.com</a>                     |
| Vice-president ..... | Jim Hogue     | <a href="mailto:jlhoguejr@charter.net">jlhoguejr@charter.net</a>             |
| Secretary .....      | Tom Matuszak  | <a href="mailto:tommytwosocks@comcast.net">tommytwosocks@comcast.net</a>     |
| Treasurer .....      | Carl Anderson | <a href="mailto:connie_anderson195@epbf.com">connie_anderson195@epbf.com</a> |
| Newsletter .....     | Gene Bricker  | <a href="mailto:gbricker@catt.com">gbricker@catt.com</a>                     |
| Circuit Books .....  | Mike Ezell    | <a href="mailto:mhezell@gmail.com">mhezell@gmail.com</a>                     |

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Chattanooga Stamp Club memberships are on a calendar year basis. Yearly dues are \$10.00; send all monetary donations and membership dues to the club's Treasurer:

Mr. Carl Anderson, 919 Dunsinane Rd.  
Signal Mountain, TN 37377

### THE CHATTANOOGA STAMP CHRONICLE

The Chattanooga Stamp Club is affiliated with the American Philatelic Society. The club has been dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of the philatelic hobby since 1932.

### SOUTHEAST FEDERATION OF STAMP CLUBS

The Southeast Federation web site is a source for information about stamp collecting activities in the region. Visit at:  
[www.sefsc.org/stamp-clubs.html](http://www.sefsc.org/stamp-clubs.html).

### AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

American Philatelic Society (APS) is the largest nonprofit stamp collecting Foundation of philately in the world. With about 31,000 members as of 2017 worldwide. Visit at: [www.Stamps.org](http://www.Stamps.org).

### DECEMBER MEETING NOTES

For the December meeting 12 members came and reviewed Circuit Books.

Some members brought stamps to sell and in general I heard a lot of good discussions going on about the stamps that were available.

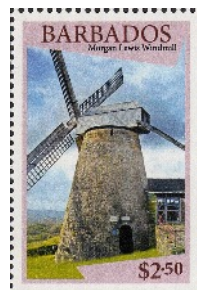
Snacks and drinks were available as usual.

Next meeting will be in January and will be our Christmas Party.

Please make sure you let Mike Ezell know what you are bringing for a passing dish.

The club will be furnishing Ham and Turkey, like last year.

Tom



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Greetings to all. I trust that each of you and your families had a very good Christmas. My wife and I surely did. I am excited about the coming new year. I want 2018 to be one of the greatest years yet that we have ever had.

The first exciting event coming up is our Christmas party on January 11th at 6:30 PM. We are looking for a great turn-out for this event. The ham and turkey will be provided for us by the club and we would love for everyone to bring two dishes. Come join us for a good time of fellowship. I have heard that there may be some door prizes.

We will also be voting on and installing the new officers for 2018. We will be holding the circuit books over to the February meeting.

Finally, we wish you a very happy New Year

Mike



## **2018 YEAR OF THE DOG STAMP**

USPS has announced the issue for the Chinese New Year stamp for 2018. It is the Lunar Year of the Dog.

Lucky bamboo, a popular houseplant associated in many countries with good fortune, is featured on a new forever stamp. The stamp will be issued Jan. 11 in Honolulu, Hawaii, according to information announced Dec. 19 by the U.S. Postal Service.

2018 is the Year of the Dog according to Chinese zodiac. This is a Year of Earth Dog, starting from Feb. 16, 2018 (Chinese New Year) and lasting to Feb. 4, 2019.

Dog is the eleventh in the 12-year cycle of Chinese zodiac sign. The Years of the Dog include 1922, 1934, 1946, 1958, 1970, 1982, 1994, 2006, 2018, 2030, 2042...

Dog is man's good friend who can understand the human's spirit and obey its master, whether he is wealthy or not. The Chinese regard it as an auspicious animal. If a dog happens to come to a house, it symbolizes the coming of fortune. The invincible God Erlang in Chinese legend used a loyal wolfhound to help him capture monsters.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **JANUARY MEETING**

The January meeting of the Chattanooga Stamp Club is our delayed Christmas dinner. Dinner will be served at 6:30. See December meeting notes on page 1. All are requested to bring a dish of vegetables or dessert to share with all.

Meeting items to be covered:  
Election of 2018 officers

## **SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS**

**January 26-28 Southeastern Stamp Expo 2018**  
Southeast Federation of Stamp Shows, An APS World Series of Philately Show, Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia, 30092-3416  
Contact Scott Mark, sestampexpo@gmail.com, or <http://www.sefcs.org/>

**February 23-25 APS AmeriStamp Expo 2018**  
American Philatelic Society, Sheraton Birmingham Hotel, 2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd., North, Birmingham, Alabama 35203-1101, Barb Johnson, stampshow@stamps.org, 814-933-3803 ext. 217, <https://stamps.org/AmeriStamp-Expo-ASE>

**June 16-17 HUNTSPEX 2018**  
Huntsville 2018 Stamp and Postcard Show, Huntsville Philatelic Club, University of Alabama in Huntsville, Conference Training Center, 1410 Ben Graves Drive, Contact: Michael O'Reilly, mcoreilly@att.net, 256-527-4601, [www.stampshows.com/huntsville\\_hpc.html](http://www.stampshows.com/huntsville_hpc.html)

**August 3-5 Americover 2018**  
American First Day Cover Society, An APS World Series of Philately Show, Hilton Atlanta Northeast, 5993 Peachtree Industrial Blvd., Norcross, Georgia 30092-3416, Contact Chris Lazaroff, showinfo@afdcs.org, <http://www.afdcs.org/show>

## **PREXY COLLECTORS TAKE NOTE!**



Inspired by the U.S. Presidential Series stamps once used in the Marshall Islands, the Marshall Islands Postal Service issued a set of "Prexies" on January 20, 2005.

Maintaining historic continuity with the earlier stamps, these stamps are visually similar to the original U.S. Prexies, but now every U.S. President from George Washington to George W. Bush appears on his own stamp. Two additional stamps depict the White House.



# VIA AIRMAIL

Steve B. Davis  
20 Martin Crossing Bay NE  
Calgary, AB T3J 3Y1, Canada  
stamperdad@yahoo.ca

## THE 1928 FIVE CENT BEACON AIRMAIL STAMP

The domestic airmail rate for the first half ounce was ten cents in 1928. In order to kick-start the relatively new airmail service, the USPOD reduced the rate to five cents for the first ounce effective August 1, 1928. This was a substantial decrease in those days. In effect the US-POD department began offering more for less, something that would be highly unlikely today.

The "Beacon Airmail Stamp of 1928" or the "Beacon" (Scott C11) was issued on July 25 to meet the new rate. More than one hundred and six million stamps were printed with the frames in carmine and the vignettes in blue. It was expensive to produce because it was bi-colored and non-standard size. This eventually contributed to its demise.

First day covers required that two stamps be affixed to cover the ten-cent rate that was still in effect (Figure 1). These are relatively uncommon and command a premium. The first day of rate covers canceled August 1, 1928, at the five-cent rate are much more common and relatively inexpensive (Figure 2).

What is it about this stamp that so attracts collectors? I believe there are several key reasons: It was a bi-colored; the size was non-standard; large quantities were issued and used so it can be inexpensive to collect; and collectors consider the stamp one of the more beautiful US issues.

The stamp can be collected in several ways. Some collectors seek printing and color varieties. These resulted from plate wear and ink shifting due to the large volumes of stamps printed. Others collect plate blocks or essays and proofs.

### KEY DATES IN THE BEACON'S LIFE

- July 25, 1928 — Beacon issued in Washington, D.C.
- August 1, 1928—Airmail rate reduced to five cents for the first ounce
- February 10, 1930 — Beacon replaced with single-color violet five cent Winged Globe (Scott C12)
- July 6, 1932 — Airmail rate increased to eight cents for the first ounce (Scott C17)

### BEACON STAMP FACTS

- Designed by A. R. Meissner of the US Bureau of Printing and Engraving
- Printed by the US Bureau of Printing and Engraving
- Flat Plate printing in 100 subject plates
- Perforated 11
- Scott Catalogue No. C11
- There are no known Inverted errors, but lots of color or design shifts

Cover collectors are able to collect first day of issue, first day of usage, first flight, "National Airmail Week" cachets, or commercial usage. Within the commercially used covers it is also possible to collect domestic rate covers or international rate covers.

Airmail to other areas of the world from the US required higher rates; thus the collector can find examples of these with multiples or singles of C11 in combination with other stamps. The Beacon stamp was usually used to pay for the airmail service within the US.

## US. DOMESTIC AIRMAIL RATES BEFORE AND AFTER THE BEACON

- Ten cents — February 1, 1927 to July 31, 1928 per 1/2 oz.
- Five cents — effective August 1, 1928 through July 5, 1932 for first ounce, Ten cents — for each additional ounce.
- Eight cents—effective July 6, 1932 for first ounce, thirteen cents for each additional ounce.

### THE DEMISE OF THE BEACON STAMP

Airmail service had become so popular by late 1929 that the Bureau could not produce the stamp fast enough. It was proposed to print the stamp in blue only like its predecessor, the 10 cent Scott C7. It was pointed out that the non-standard size was a factor that slowed production as there were only one hundred stamps per sheet.

Earlier airmail stamps particularly the narrow map stamps were printed in sheets of two hundred. The new design, the "Winged Globe" (Scott C12), was printed in sheets of two hundred in violet.

The airmail beacons became obsolete with the advent of radio and other technologically advanced navigational aids. The last lighted beacon from the transcontinental system begun in the 1920s was dismantled in 1973.

### REFERENCES

- Goodkind, Henry M. *The Five Cent Beacon Airmail Stamp of 1928*, Collectors Club of New York handbook, ©1958
- Kobersteen, Kent J. "Beacon Airmail Rates to Foreign Destinations," *Via Airmail*, American Air Mail Society ©1992
- McFarlane, Andrew. *Usage of the 1928 U.S. Beacon Airmail*, exhibit at APS STAMPSHOW2003, WWW.AAPE.ORG/DOCS/SYNOPSIS/USAGEOFTHE1928USBEACONAIRMAIL.PDF (accessed October 26, 2016)
- Silver, Philip. "The United States Beacon Air Mail Stamp of 1928," *American Philatelist*, May 1983
- Messy Nussy Chic. *The Forgotten Giant Arrows that Guide you Across America* (photos) WWW.MESSYNESSYCHIC.COM/2013/11/15/THE-FORGOTTEN-GIANT-ARROWS-THAT-GUIDE-YOU-ACROSS-AMERICA (accessed October 26, 2016) •



Figure 1



Figure 2

\*\*\*\*\*

The U.S. Postal Service has just given us a sneak peek at the many iconic people, places, and things that will be commemorated with their own stamps in 2018, and one in particular to send out a few birthday cards, Mister Rogers.

In celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood, Fred Rogers's groundbreaking PBS series that the USPS says "inspired and educated young viewers with warmth, sensitivity, and honesty."

