

THE CHATTANOOGA STAMP CHRONICLE

JUNE
2019



Southeast Federation Of Stamp Clubs
www.sefsc.org/federation-clubs.html



American Philatelic Society Chapter 731
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

June 13 Picnic
Annual Picnic River Park Pavilion 4
July 11 Monthly Meeting
Program Stamps of the Trans-Mississippi Issue of 1898

CLUB OFFICERS

President Mike Ezell mhezell@gmail.com
Vice-president Jim Hogue jlhoguejr@charter.net
Secretary Randy Patterson randypatterson52@yahoo.com
Treasurer Carl Anderson connie_anderson195@epbf.com
Newsletter Gene Bricker gbricker@catt.com

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/federation-clubs.html

AMERICAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

American Philatelic Society (APS) is the largest nonprofit stamp collecting Foundation of philately in the world., With about 30,000 members worldwide. Visit at: www.Stamps.org.

Minutes of May Meeting

Mike was out sick, so Jim opened the meeting with the pledge.

Old Business:

Shirts are still available to be ordered and members were told to contact Mike, if interested.

We were reminded of the picnic next month and the sign-up sheet was passed around.

The treasurer report stated that we have \$675 on hand, the secretary report was given and both were approved.

New Business:

The semi-annual auction was tonight and it was announced that any club lots not priced would have an opening bid of \$1.

The Huntsville Stamp Show will be June 8th and 9th and the Marietta Stamp Show will be May 11th and 12th.

The meeting was adjourned followed by refreshments and the auction.

Randy Patterson, Secretary

PICNIC THIS MONTH!

The June meeting is the annual picnic at River park. The picnic will begin around 4:00-4:30 when the food is scheduled to arrive. All members and their family are invited. The club furnishes the chicken and drinks. Each member is requested to bring 2 side dishes of vegetables or dessert. If you did not sign the sheet passed around at the May meeting, please let Carl Anderson know so he will know the correct amount of chicken.



SOUTHEAST REGION STAMP SHOWS

June 8-9 HUNTSPEX 2019
 Huntsville 2019 Stamp and Postcard Show, Huntsville Philatelic Club, Calhoun Community College, Sparkman Building, 102 Wynn Dr. at Old Madison Pike, Contact: Michael O'Reilly, mcoreilly@att.net, 256-527-4601, www.stampshows.com/huntsville_hpc.html

June 14-15 LOUIPEX 2019
 Metro Louisville Stamp Society, St. Leonard's Catholic Church (Gym), 440 Zorn Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40216, German Dillon, germandillon35@gmail.com 502-558-0046, <http://www.metrolouisvillestampclub.org>

September MEMPEX 2019
 Memphis Stamp Collector's Society, Agricenter International; Wing "C" Banquet Room, 7777 Walnut Grove Road, Memphis, Tennessee 38120, Contact: Andrew J. Burkman, andburk@usit.net, 901-382-1772 <http://www.memphisstampcollectorsociety.org>

FACEBOOK?

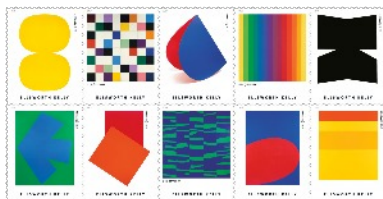
Many stamp clubs have a Facebook page. Chattanooga Stamp Club does not! Is there any interest in establishing a Facebook page for Chattanooga Stamp Club? Is anyone interested in setting one up?

MAY 2019 U.S. STAMPS



Transcontinental Railroad
 May 10

Wild and Scenic Rivers
 May 21



Ellsworth Kelly
 May 31

SOURCES OF NEW STAMP COLLECTORS

The actual number of people participating in our hobby is certainly a major factor in attendance at stamp shows. Show organizers can have auctions, exhibits, prize drawings, etc., to make the shows more of an event and draw more people.

But how can they try to get more people to become actual stamp collectors who may wish to attend philatelic shows? Here are some ideas of how this can be accomplished.

To begin with, there may be two major groups of people who we might actively recruit — young children and those who collected as youngsters, but have not been active in the hobby since for many years.

A recent sports card show displayed the demographics of the crowd (about two hundred attended this one-day show.) Most were close in age to the stamp collecting crowd — men in their 50s, 60s, 70s, and 80s. They were motivated by nostalgia and were trying to acquire cards and memorabilia from their youth.

Also noticed was another smaller but significant group attending the show — men in their 30s and 40s with their children, grandfathers with their grandchildren, and entire families with small children. In these cases, the older generations were encouraging the kids to be active collectors.

BRING A YOUNGER RELATIVE

Ask yourself this question: Do you try to take your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews to a stamp show? Presenting the fun, relaxation, enjoyment, and educational aspects of stamp collecting to these youngsters may result in more future philatelists. It certainly can't hurt and is great bonding time.

WELCOME THEM BACK

The other group that might be mined for recruits are those who collected at one time, but are not currently active. To reach these people, we have to advertise in non-philatelic publications and get them to come to a stamp show or a club meeting to get them to remember the positive aspects of collecting. Such people are really out there.

Recently, a gentleman about sixty years old came into a stamp shop and identified himself as a former collector who had been inactive for many years. He wished to pick it up again, and purchased stamps and other materials for several hundred dollars, so it was obvious that he was serious. There may be more like him that may become future collectors, if we can just make contact with them (advertising.) thoughts? ●

(Edited from The President's Page, by Thomas Auletta, Stamp Insider, January/April, 2018)

SUGGESTION FOR USED STAMPS

(Suggestion from Dan Chaij: "They are not promoting stamp collecting but are using stamps for a very creative idea. We could give them the ton of stamps we have which are going nowhere on condition that they make a map for our Club. "

Should we agree to donate the stamps, Dan can take the stamps to this Middle School in August when their next school year begins and present them in the name of our Club.)

COLLEGEDALE ADVENTIST MIDDLE SCHOOL STAMP PROJECT

by Selena Trott

"Thank you to everyone who donated stamps to the CAMS 7th grade stamp project.

That stamp project was a combination of art project, math scale project, and community service.

We took used stamps, trimmed them, and then glued them on to mat board. Next we glued the individual states back together and added an ocean made of another kind of stamp. Black yarn outlined them and then we shellacked over them. We then placed it in a frame and donated it to the Collegedale Post office. They were thrilled and we already have orders for other Post Offices.

Save your used postage stamps and drop off at CAMS." ***



Riverpark Map - Picnic Location!



Pavilion 4 is reached from Amnicola Highway behind the Naval Reserve Center. The crowd will begin to arrive around 4:00 to 4:30 p.m. The meal will be served at a later time to allow for the arrival of those coming from work.

(Though this is too late for the 2018 taxes, it is likely that it will apply to your 2019 taxes. Be aware that there has been changes in the tax law in the last couple of years. This article appeared in the January/April Issue of *Stamp Insider*.)

Philately and the 2018 Tax Law

By Steve Swain

The information below should not be construed as tax advice. Please consult a tax professional for a complete assessment of your individual tax situation.

The recently enacted 2018 tax reform bill made major revisions to the US tax code for corporations and individuals. It represents the most significant changes in more than thirty years. Are there provisions in the law that potentially affect philatelists? I believe two are noteworthy.

Many organizations are recognized as tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Your donations to such organizations are tax deductible to the full extent that the law allows. The tax law did not make any changes to the requirements for any advantages of 501(c)(3) status. However, whether you choose to report philatelic donations as itemized deductions on your 2018 tax return will depend on a comparison calculation.

Taxpayers have an option of using the standard deduction or itemized deductions when determining how much to subtract from their income before their tax is calculated. The new law almost doubles the standard deduction. For single filers, the standard deduction increased from \$6,500 to \$12,000. For married couples filing jointly, a standard deduction of \$24,000 is available.

Before filing your 2018 tax return, make a comparison calculation. For itemizing to make sense on the tax return you file in 2019, your total itemized deductions will have to be more than the new standard deduction. For example, if you are a married, filing jointly taxpayer and contributed philatelic items with a market value of \$3,000 to a 501(c)(3) organization, and had additional itemized deductions (e.g., mortgage interest and property taxes) of \$25,000, your total itemized deductions of \$28,000 would be larger than the new standard deduction. However, if the only deductions you had were the \$3,000 donations, then you would definitely take the \$24,000 standard deduction. Given the increased standard deduction, it is anticipated that significantly fewer taxpayers will itemize their deductions going forward.

The second provision of the new law that may affect philatelists is also associated with itemized deductions, specifically "hobby losses" included in the "Miscellaneous" deductions category. Because hobbies are not businesses, hobbyists (e.g., philatelists) have never been allowed to take the tax deductions to which business people are entitled. However, for decades the tax law did permit hobbyists to claim as an itemized deduction their hobby-related expenses up to the amount of income the hobby earned during the year. An additional provision was that in order to qualify as a deduction, the allowable hobby loss amount had to be greater than two percent of your adjusted gross income. So, not much of a deduction, but at least possibly something.

All miscellaneous deductions, including hobby losses, have been eliminated under the 2018 law. This means that philatelists will not be able to deduct any expenses from their hobby, but they still must report and pay tax on any income they earn from the hobby.

Most of the changes to individual taxes made by the 2018 law are temporary and are set to expire after the 2025 tax year. It will be interesting to see what, if any, lobbying in the interim is successful for the reinstatement of tax provisions that could be favorable for philatelists.

Steve Swain is a Senior Manager in the Tax and Accounting division of Thomson Reuters