The President’s Dispatch

I am sorry that I missed our March meeting. There was an emergency at home and I had to take my wife to a hospital emergency room. Everything is okay and she is doing fine.

I did make it to the fifth Thursday bourse on the 29th of March. There were several club members there with material for sale and I had the nickle binders, which continue to be quite popular. Around 160 stamps were purchased from them. After the bourse I added several pages of stamps from the classic era to the Austria binder. So if you have any holes in your collection that you need to fill, you may want to check out this binder. Sometimes the inexpensive stamps can be more difficult to locate than the more expensive stamps. After all, who wants to try to sell minimum catalog value stamps. (P.S: I do not check the catalog values of the stamps that I put in the nickel binders, so, you might get lucky and find stamps in them that catalog at one, two, or even three or more dollars.) I hope to be able to add a few hundred more stamps to the nickel binders before the next club meeting.

I will have some retired APS circuit books at the April meeting and all items in these books will be half off the marked price, which for these books is 20% of Scott catalog prices. That makes your cost for the stamps 10% of catalog value.

Dan Hubbard should bring to the April meeting some covers he purchased for the club. They will be priced at 15¢ and 25¢ each. I will bring a small box of worldwide covers that was donated to the club by a former member (Sam Hendrix). These will be available at 15¢ each. Also there will be more club country collections in the auction at the end of the meeting with opening bids starting at 2¢ per stamp in each collection.
The President's Dispatch  continued

Please remember that HOLPEX 2018 will be held at the Best Western in north Johnson City on the Friday and Saturday (May 11 & 12) just before Mother's Day. We will learn about Bill Vance's most recent plans for HOLPEX. We will also spend some time during the April meeting organizing our participation in HOLPEX.

That's about all I have for now. See you at the April meeting on the 19th.

Steve

Upcoming Monthly Meetings

Apr. APS Circuit Books topic - USA Revenues
Apr. Topic by Bob Smith: "What the Heck is This?"

May APS Circuit Books topic - Southern African Nations
May Topic by Paul Benson: Southern Africa subjects

Jun. APS Circuit Books Topic - Iran (Persia)
Jun. Topic by Charlie Bartlett: Geology/Oil & Gas/Minerals

Jul. APS Circuit Books Topic - Portugal
Jul. Topic by Dick Odum: Portugal

Aug. APS Circuit Books Topic - Danzig
Aug. Need a volunteer to make a short presentation

Sept. APS Circuit Books Topic - USA Possessions
Sept. Topic by Dick Jackson: Danish West Indies

Monthly Treasury Report

Beginning Balance Mar. 1, 2018 $3,400.06
Beginning Cash on Hand $3,519.23
check account balance $3,034.71
cash box $556.82
APS Circuit Sales owned $72.30

Total Income $187.80
HSC Auction sales $133.15
Other Sales $39.55
2018 Membership Dues $15.00

Total Disbursements ($150.09)
Dick Odum stamp purchase ($15.84)
APS Circuit Expenses ($9.25)
Newsletter Envelopes ($50.00)
Circuit Book Returns (KnoxPEx) ($75.00)

Ending Balance Apr. 3, 2018 $3,556.94
Ending Cash on hand Apr. 3, 2018 $3,470.39
check account balance $2,832.06
cash box $760.14
issued checks not cleared $0.00
APS Circuit Sales owed ($121.81)
Adjustment ($86.55)

More about Diamonds by Pat Koppel

In the February newsletter I wrote about the history of the largest blue white diamond ever found and the philatelic portions of its history.

There is another famous diamond that has a philatelic connection. The history of the Hope Diamond, a blue diamond (blue because of traces of boron), goes back to a larger blue diamond known as the French Blue, owned by King Louis XIV of France. The French Blue was stolen from the royal family in 1791 and recut. A large blue diamond (45.52 carats) appeared in the gem collection catalog of the Hope family (a banking family in London) in 1839 and it was later determined to have come from the French Blue. It was given the name the Hope Diamond. It went through many owners until 1949 when it was purchased by Harry Winston. In 1958 Mr. Winston donated it to the National Museum of Natural History. Mr. Winston sent it to the Smithsonian via U.S. Post Office registered mail with $2.44 of postage and $1 million of insurance for $142.85. The brown paper envelope it was mailed in is held in the National Postal Museum.

Hope to C. U. there

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