



October 2018

Monthly Newsletter

Issue no. 612

President - Stephen Schmidt Vice President - Don Ashley Secretary - Pat Koppel Treasurer - Dick Jackson

President's Dispatch

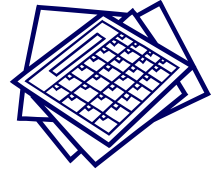
It seems like I never have enough time to do everything I would like to do and what I need to do. I just finished mowing the grass a couple of days ago, and it is already time to start mowing again. This will have to wait, along with my many other tasks and responsibilities as I am taking a short, but much needed five day vacation. When I return, it will be time to prepare for October's meeting of the Holston Stamp Club.

I received a phone call the other day from a Mrs. Caruthers in Gray, TN. She had a small stamp collection to donate to our club. It consists mostly of modern US stamps from U.S. Postal Services' subscription programs. I will have a list of what is in the boxes and will bring some of the material to the next meeting. Nothing of any great value, but, I hope that we can find a good home for the material she donated. She said she asked her daughter what her daughter would do with the stamp collection when Mrs. Caruthers passed on. Her daughter's response was that she would put it out in the trash, hence, the donation to our club.

I am not sure if we have anyone giving a talk on stamps this month. My schedule says "TBD" for October. Hopefully we will have another interesting topic. Because the APS has discontinued its special circuit book program, we will no longer be trying to coordinate the presentation topic with the theme of the monthly circuit books. That is Ok, but it was a neat way to come up with ideas for presentations. November is also a "TBD" month, so if you have a presentation you would be willing to share with the club, please let me know. I do have a little tidbit I will share with you at the meeting, but it will only take a couple of minutes.

I received a letter the other day that was franked with a new World War I stamp. It was a nice looking stamp and I am going to see if I can purchase some at my local post office to use in my

Club Calendar



Guests and Visitors

always Welcome!

October 18th - 7 p.m.

Monthly Meeting at
Northeast State Community College
Student Services Building Cafeteria

outgoing mail. I think that this is the kind of stamp that we should have available to us rather than things like the Simpsons or Jimmy Hendrix (Yes, I do have an opinion, that that is all it is - My opinion.) This WWI stamp is below.

I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting, and don't forget, there will be more of the Yugoslavia purchase in this month's auction.

Steve



Presentations during Monthly Meetings

Please consider volunteering to make a presentation during one of our monthly meeting. Presentation topics are completely up to the member who wishes to do the presentation. It can include visual elements like Richard Jackson used during his presentation on how the Balkan countries (where the west meets the east) have changed names and boundaries numerous times over



history or not. Just talking about a subject that is interesting to you that has a connection to stamp collecting will also be interesting to club members,



Monthly Treasury Report

Beginning Balance Sept. 11, 2018		\$3,169.94
Beginning Cash on Hand		\$3,181.16
checking account balance	\$2,526.97	
cash box	\$654.19	
APS Circuit Sales owned	\$0.00	
Total Income		\$338.50
HSC Auction sales	\$333.65	
Other Sales	\$4.85	
2018 Membership Dues	\$0.00	
Total Disbursements		(\$22.25)
HSC Bucks Redeemed	(\$13.00)	
APS Circuit Expenses	(\$9.25)	
Ending Balance Oct. 3, 2018		\$3,497.41
Ending Cash on hand Oct. 3, 2018		\$3,515.02
checking account balance	\$2,939.93	
cash box	\$575.09	
issued checks not cleared	(\$0.00)	
APS Circuit Sales owed	(\$0.00)	
Adjustment		\$17.61

During the October special auction five members sold 27 lots for a total of \$88.35. HSC material sold for \$333.65.

Philately Challenge by your club vice president

Don Ashley came up with a challenge for all of our club members. Have you ever given thought about lists of countries that have issued postage stamps alphabetically? His challenge to members this month is to come up with the names of countries that have issued stamps that begin with the letter "I". Don says there are actually ten countries that fit this criteria. He invites you to write down a list of these names and give him the list during the October meeting and he will tell you if your are correct. He said most people can come up with seven countries that have names that begin with the letter "I". Take up Don's challenge and see if you can come up with all ten country names.



Unless otherwise indicated by announcement in the newsletter, Holston Stamp Club conducts its regular meeting on the 3rd Thursday each month at 7 p.m.

Hope to C. U. there

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OUR INTERNET WEBSITE
www.sefsc.org/holston-stamp-club.html

Don Ashley will bring sheets of the Tennessee Ernie Ford PhotoStamps that he helped get printed to the October meeting to sell to members. Below is a scan of a sheet.

These stamps make great gifts or maybe you would like to hold them until next February. February 13, 2019 will be the centennial of Tennessee Ernie Ford's birth.

PhotoStamps are valid postage for first class letters.

The cost of a sheet is \$21.00. He asks sales be limited to one sheet per person for now.



Stamps From Nowhere – Karelia

Continuing the theme from last month, the focus this month is on Karelia which was a Soviet breakaway republic two times during the 20th century. Living on the border between Russia and Finland, Karelians have long claimed to be the original Finnish people. However, Finland has only been an independent country since 1917. Prior to that the area was heavily contested and claimed by both Sweden and Russia and for over 100 years prior to the Russian Civil War Finland was a subject state in the Russian Empire. In 1917 Finland rejected Bolshevik claims and declared its independence. A 2 year war for control between “Reds” and “Whites” followed. During that time the short-lived and never recognized Kingdom of Uhtua was established in Eastern Karelia with support from Finnish partisans. Russia did not formally recognize Finland independence until 1920 when the Treaty of Tartu was signed to establish a firm border between Finland and Russia. Karelia was split in two and East Karelia was incorporated into Russia. The Karelians felt betrayed by their Finnish kindred and in 1921 rebelled and established the sovereign Republic of Karelia (Karjala).



Genuine Scott #1



Fake Scott #1

In 1922 Karelia issued a set of 15 stamps in different denominations. The stamps picture a raging bear swinging a hooked blade called a vesuri against a backdrop of northern lights and standing on the broken shackles of Russian oppression. The stamps were only valid between Jan 31 and Feb 15, 1922 and examples of genuinely used stamps are rare and valuable.

Most stamps were postmarked in Uhtua (the capital) on Feb 3 with the month in Roman numerals.



Uhtua Feb 3, 1922

Uhtua was captured by Russia on Feb 6 and stamps postmarked from Uhtua after Feb 5 are fake. The stamps are valued by collectors and counterfeits are common. Genuine stamps are cleanly printed with letters sharply formed.

Unrest between the Soviet Union and Finland continued and in 1939 war again broke out along the border when the Soviet Union invaded Finland in a clear land-grab. Soviet losses were staggering in the so called Winter War and although Finland lost territory the reputation of the vaunted Soviet army was severely tarnished. This undoubtedly influenced Hitler's decision to attack Russia in 1941. Finland joined this attack and as a co-belligerent with Germany occupied Eastern Karelia.

Under Finnish occupation Karelia again issued stamps between 1941 and 1943. In 1943 the Soviet Union regained control of Eastern Karelia and Karelia has been a federated state within the Soviet Union and current Russian Federation ever since



1943 Karelia Semi-Postal